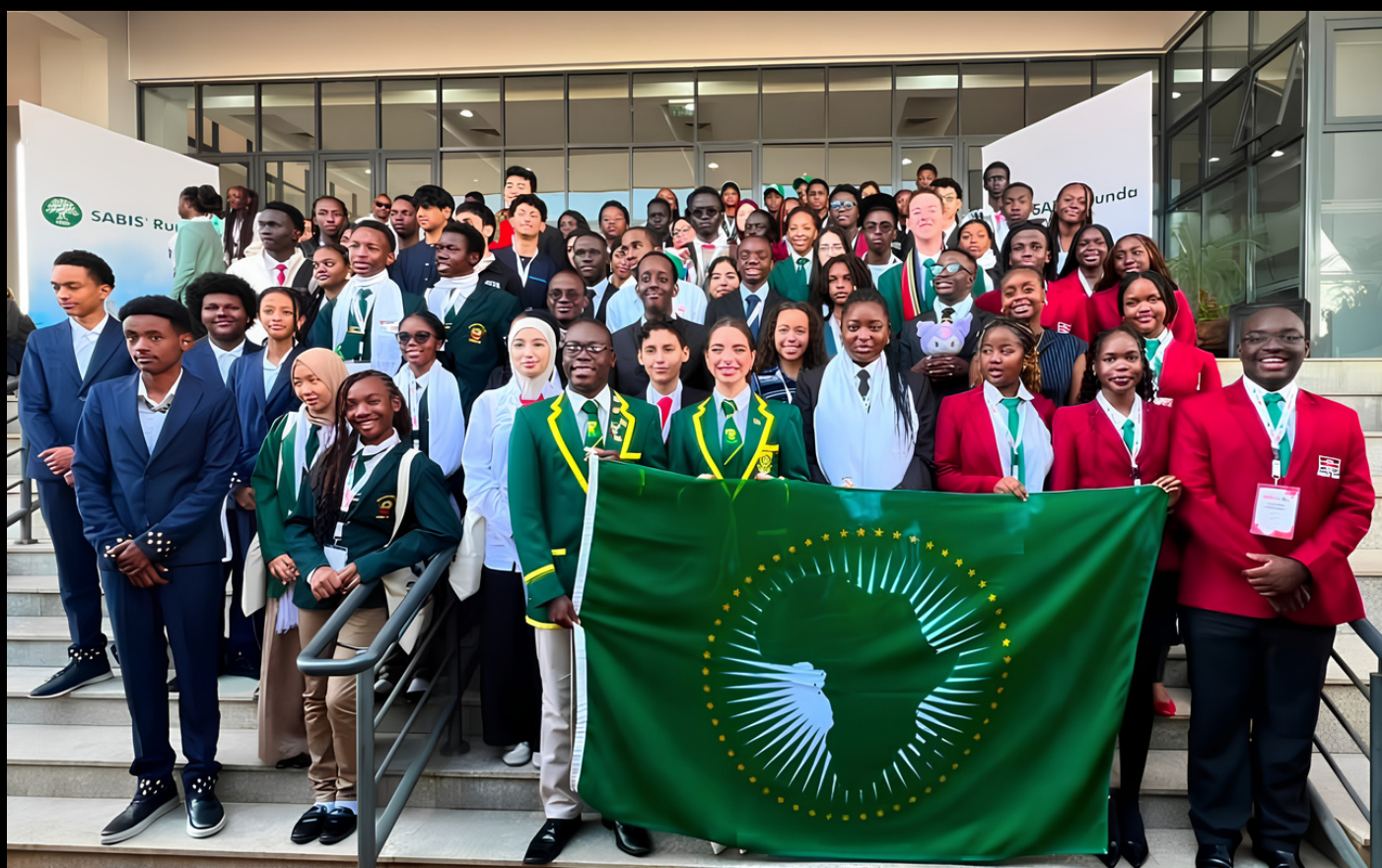
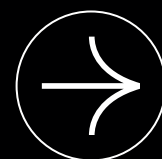


THE BARAZA

African
Schools
Debate
Foundation

DEBATING TODAY. DEFINING TOMORROW.

The Home of African Debating & Public Speaking



WSDC 2026
(Kenya)

AIDPSC 2026
(Online)

WIDPSC 2026
(England)

ASDC 2026
(Online)



2026

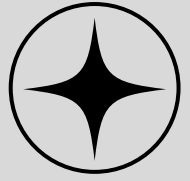
ISSUE NUMBER: #1

THIS ISSUE



07	AIDPSC 2026
10	WSDC 2026
12	ANNUAL AWARDS
13	HISTORICAL SPEECHES
15	WIDPSC 2026
17	PAUDC

THE BARAZA



EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

SOUFIANE CHOUBANI

IG: @CHOUBANI
CHOUBANI.M5@GMAIL.COM

SPONSORS

**EUROPEAN SPEECH & DEBATE
ACADEMY**

www.EuropeDebate.org
EuropeSDA@gmail.com

ASDF SOCIAL MEDIA

IG: @AFRICANSDF
YT: @AFRICANSDF
X: @AFRICANSDF
TIKTOK: @AFRICANSDF
FB: @AFRICANSDF

ADEBATECOUNCIL@GMAIL.COM

@AFRICANSDF

WWW.AFRICANSDF.ORG

FROM THE EDITOR

Soufiane Choubani is an Moroccan-American entrepreneur, educator, and international debate coach. He is best known for pioneering competitive academic debating in North Africa and expanding his educational frameworks globally.

1. International Debate Pioneer

- **Founding Team Morocco:** He is the mastermind behind the Moroccan National Debate Team (MNDT), the Morocco Debate Association (MDA), and the Moroccan-Youth Debate Camp. Under his guidance, Morocco became the first North African nation to compete in the World Schools Debating Championship (WSDC).
- **Expanding to Poland:** He founded the Poland Debate Academy and successfully coached the first-ever Polish team to qualify for the World Individual Debating & Public Speaking Championship (WIDPSC).
- **Global Leadership:** He has established debate clubs and educational initiatives stretching from Ukraine and Japan to his work as the Chair of the African Schools Debate Foundation.

2. Background & Other Achievements

- **Education:** He grew up in New Jersey, competing on a top-tier high school Model UN team before earning a degree in Education from Kean University and studying psychology in Belgium.
- **Anti-Doping Work:** In a completely different field, he also served as a certified Doping Control Officer, working on drug prevention for major sports federations (like IAAF and ATP) including during the 2012 Olympic Games.



**“BE A VOICE FOR
THOSE WHO
DON’T HAVE A
VOICE”**

Baraza is a Swahili term meaning a public meeting, community assembly, or council. It also describes a traditional raised veranda or open platform attached to a house used for sitting, socializing, and welcoming guests.

Swahili (also called Kiswahili) is a major Bantu language of East Africa and an ethnic group. The word originates from the Arabic term sawāḥil (plural of sāḥil), which means "coast" or "border," translating literally to "people of the coast".

A premier Pan-African publication dedicated to rigorous analysis, high-level debate, and intellectual clash. We bring together the continent's sharpest minds, policymakers, and academics to dissect the most pressing political, economic, and philosophical questions facing Africa today. Moving beyond surface-level news, we provide deep, multi-perspective commentary to challenge assumptions and shape the continental narrative.



Editor-in-Chief

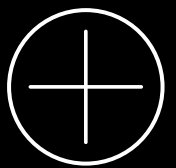
AVAILABLE
ADVERTISEMENT
SPACE





THE 2026 AFRICAN INDIVIDUAL DEBATING & PUBLIC SPEAKING CHAMPIONSHIP

HOSTED BY THE AFRICAN SCHOOLS DEBATE FOUNDATION



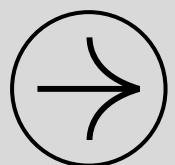
The 2026 AIDPSC Championship will take place from February 20th to the 22nd of 2026. We aim was to host an AIDPSC featuring some of the most talented and experienced judges from around the world.

The championship included two rounds of Parliamentary Debate (PD), Impromptu Speaking (IS), After-Dinner Speaking (AS), Interpretative Reading (IR) and Persuasive Speaking (PS). Following the preliminary rounds, there were semi-finals and grand final rounds.

Speakers register individually but will be paired with a different debater in each round for the parliamentary debate rounds only. The AIDPSC follows the same format and adjudication ballots as the WIDPSC.



THE 2027 AIDPSC WILL TAKE PLACE IN
FEBRUARY. AFRICANSDF.ORG/AIDPSC



AIDPSC 2026 THE RESULTS



Champions

Overall Champion: **Jorja Hoppé (South Africa)**

Debate Champion: **Mohammed Mujahid Hansa (South Africa)**

After Dinner Speaking Champion (mixed): **Estelle Yu Qi Sia (Malaysia)**

Interpretive Reading Champion: **Jorja Hoppé (South Africa)**

Impromptu Speaking Champion: **Olothando Mphumanto (South Africa)**

Persuasive Speaking Champion: **Sophie Latimer (South Africa)**

International Division Champions

After Dinner Speaking Champion (mixed): **Estelle Yu Qi Sia (Malaysia)**

Interpretive Reading Champion: **Erica Yip Pei Yuan (Malaysia)**

Impromptu Speaking Champion: **Erica Yip Pei Yuan (Malaysia)**

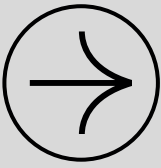
Persuasive Speaking Champion: **Yandisiwe K. Chisenga (Singapore)**

Debate Champion: **Sai Natth Rau (Malaysia)**

Overall International Champion: **Elizabeth Goh Eening (Malaysia)**

Overall EFL Champion: **Lukas Starkus (Lithuania)**





The 2026 World Schools Debating Championships (WSDC 2026) was the premier global high school debate tournament.

Quick Facts

- Host City: Nairobi, Kenya
- Dates: July 14–24, 2026
- Format: 3-on-3 World Schools Style
- Reigning Champion: Canada

Tournament Overview

The 2026 championship marked a historic milestone as the tournament's first-ever iteration in East Africa and its long-awaited return to the African continent after 14 years. The landmark event drew over 700 elite young speakers, coaches, and adjudicators hailing from more than 80 countries.

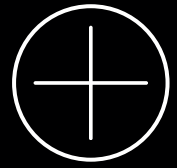
Throughout the ten-day competitive bracket, national teams tackled complex, fast-paced global motions spanning international justice, economics, sustainability, and technology. Ultimately, Team Canada secured the prestigious world title as the reigning tournament champions.

“It is so inspiring seeing an African country hosting this event” Hiba (Team Morocco)



Kenya is only the second African country to host a WSDC.

THE IMPACT OF AFRICA



A RECORD 15 AFRICAN NATIONAL TEAMS
PARTICIPATED IN THE 2026 WSDC!

2026 WSDC African National Debate Teams - Final Ranking

- 1st - Kenya
- 2nd - South Africa
- 3rd - Zimbabwe
- 4th - South Sudan
- 5th - Tanzania
- 6th - Ethiopia
- 7th - Morocco
- 8th - Zambia
- 9th - Uganda
- 10th - Zanzibar
- 11th - Ghana
- 12th - Mozambique
- 13th - Nigeria
- 14th - Sudan
- 15th - Cameroon

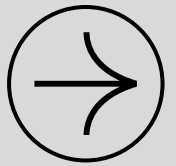


AfricanSDF.org

BY ASDF

Please note that this list only shows their ranks relative to other African teams.

2026 ASDF Annual Awards



Debater of The Year: Cameron J. Gaddin (South Africa)

EFL Debater of The Year: Kimberly P. Marecha (Mozambique)

ESL Debater of The Year: Ryan A. Nkengasong (Kenya)

Team of The Year: Kenya

New Team of The Year: South Sudan

ESL Team of The Year: Zimbabwe

EFL Team of The Year: Morocco

Public Speaker of The Year: Samuel Clarke (South Africa)

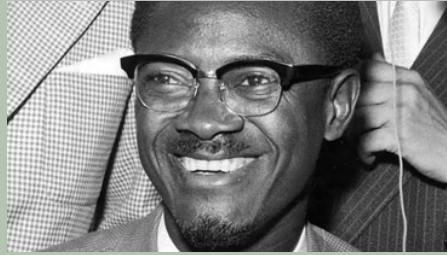
ESL Public Speaker of The Year: Yusra Khalil (Morocco)

Coach of The Year: Garang Kuot (South Sudan)

Judge of The Year: Alek Becky (South Sudan/Kenya)

INSPIRING SPEECHES - AFRICAN HISTORY

PATRICE LUMUMBA'S CONGOLESE INDEPENDENCE SPEECH, DELIVERED ON JUNE 30, 1960



"Men and women of the Congo, victorious fighters for independence, I salute you in the name of the Congolese Government.

To all of you, my friends, who have fought tirelessly at our sides, I ask you to make this June 30, 1960, an illustrious date that you will keep indelibly engraved in your hearts...

For this independence of the Congo, even as it is celebrated today with Belgium, a friendly country with whom we deal as equal to equal, no Congolese worthy of the name will ever be able to forget that it was conquered by struggle, a daily struggle, an ardent and idealistic struggle, a struggle in which we were spared neither our forces, nor our deprivations, nor our sufferings, nor our blood. This struggle, which was of tears, of fire, and of blood, we are proud of it to the depths of our beings, for it was a noble and just struggle, an indispensable struggle to put an end to the humiliating slavery which was imposed upon us by force.

What was our fate for eighty years of a colonial regime? Our wounds are too fresh and too painful still for us to drive them from our memory. We have known harassing work, exacted in exchange for salaries which did not permit us to eat to our hunger, nor to clothe ourselves, nor to lodge ourselves decently, nor to raise our children as creatures dear to us... We have known ironies, insults, blows that we had to endure morning, afternoon, and night because we were blacks...

We are going to put an end to all of this together. We are going to establish the law of justice and ensure that everyone receives the fair reward for their labor... We are going to show the world what the black man can do when working in liberty.

Long live independence and African unity! Long live the independent and sovereign Congo!"



Another highly famous is Burkina Faso's revolutionary leader Thomas Sankara's "Freedom Can Be Won Only Through Struggle" speech, delivered on October 4, 1984, before the United Nations General Assembly in New York.

"I speak on behalf of the mothers of our destitute countries who watch their children die of malaria or diarrhea, unaware that simple means exist to save them. The science of the oligarchs does not offer these means to them, preferring to invest in colonial laboratories and finance cosmetics and nuclear power...

I speak on behalf of the child. The child of a poor man, who is hungry and who looks furtively at the wealth piled up in the shop windows for the rich. The window that is protected by thick glass. The window that is defended by an unassailable grille. The window that is guarded by a policeman in a helmet and boots...

We wish to be the heirs of all the revolutions of the world, of all the struggles of liberation of the peoples of the Third World. We want to draw lessons from the American Revolution, the French Revolution which taught rights to man.

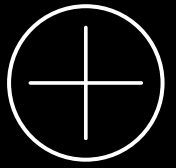
We want to be the collective consciousness of this world...

There is no longer any deceit. The New International Economic Order for which we are fighting and will continue to fight can be achieved only if we manage to overthrow the old order that destroys us...

Our revolution in Burkina Faso is open to the suffering of all peoples. It is inspired by all the human experiences since the first breath of man. We want to be the masters of our own house. We want to achieve a world where human solidarity will finally triumph over exploitation and greed.

Homeland or death, we shall win!"

WIDPSC 2026



Current World Champion:
Flora Pan (Canada)

Individual Events Champion

- Jemma Tresling: South Africa
(Parliamentary Debate)
- Madelyn Li: China
(Impromptu Speaking)
- Siddharth Chopra: USA
(Interpretive Reading)
- Samuel Clarke: South Africa
(Persuasive Speaking)
- Salar Sekhavat: USA
(After-Dinner Speaking)

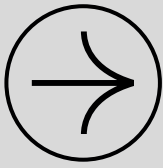


The most recent event was hosted in April 2026 in Bristol, United Kingdom and crowned Canada's Flora Pan as the overall world champion.



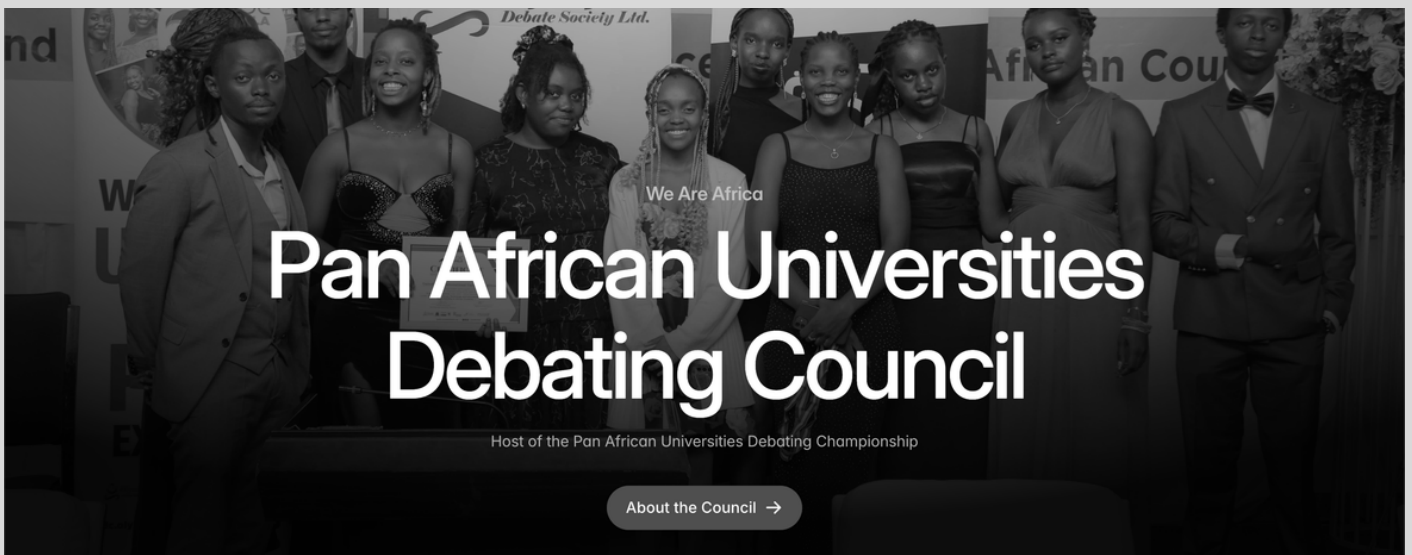
EUROPEAN
— SPEECH & DEBATE —
ACADEMY

EuropeDebate.org



The PAUDC website is
officially live!

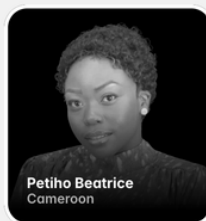
www.PAUDC.com



National Delegates



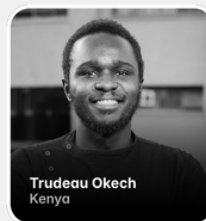
Augustine Mudzudza
Zimbabwe



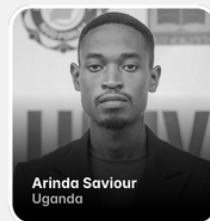
Petiho Beatrice
Cameroon



Morore Sekhukhune
South Africa



Trudeau Okech
Kenya



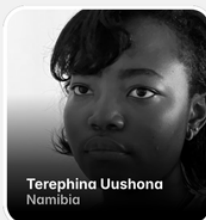
Arinda Saviour
Uganda



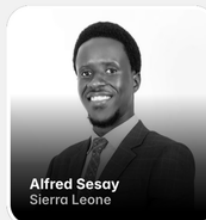
Eben Mnzava
Tanzania



Coreen Gaathobogwe
Botswana



Terephina Uushona
Namibia

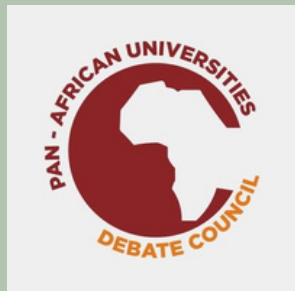


Alfred Sesay
Sierra Leone



Soufiane Choubani
Morocco

PAUDC



**THE PAST FIVE PAN-AFRICAN
UNIVERSITIES DEBATING
CHAMPIONSHIPS.**

2026

01

2025

02



Location: Abuja, Nigeria
TBD



Location: Johannesburg, South Africa
Won by University of Ghana

2024

03

2023

04



Location: Kampala, Uganda
Won by University of Cape Town,



Location: Lome, Togo
Won by Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and
Technology (KNUST)

*First-ever participation by a North African team.

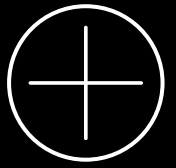
2022

05



Location: Nairobi, Kenya
Won by Veritas University (Nigeria)

ONLINE RESOURCES



**DEBATE PODCAST: *WORLD CLASS DEBATES*
(AVAILABLE ON SPOTIFY & APPLE PODCAST)**

ASDF YOUTUBE CHANNEL: *YOUTUBE.COM/@AFRICANSDF*

TRAINING MATERIAL

PAUDC.COM/TRAININGRESOURCES

WSDCDEBATING.ORG/ABOUT-9

INSPIRING AFRICAN ART

This piece, titled "Rosie," is by Canadian artist Tim Okamura. Based on the original artwork "Rosie the Riveter," this is a testament to both empowering women and the black community as a whole.

Behind Every Great Man by WAK

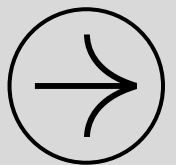


AFRICAN SCHOOLS DEBATING CHAMPIONSHIP

The 2026 African Schools Debating Championship is taking place from October 9th to the 11th. The event will be online and the CAP team features Eric Kazadi, Henry Kyewalyanga & Peace John-Kalio. Thanks to the generous sponsorship by the European Speech & Debate Academy, the participation fee is only 15USD per team.

For more information and registration, visit

www.AfricanSDF.org/ASDC





OUR MAGAZINE AT YOUR DOORSTEP



NEVER MISS AN ISSUE!

Free home delivery
Get your copy before everyone else

VISIT US ONLINE

Catch the freshest features
Updated annually
Read anytime, anywhere



www.AfricanSDF.org

**AVAILABLE
ADVERTISEMENT
SPACE**



**THE
BARAZA**

THE AFRICAN
DEBATE MAGAZINE

