The Journal offers a quarterly survey of politics, economics, and related topics in contemporary Africa.

The main emphasis is upon the peoples and policies, the problems and progress of this dynamic and disparate continent; upon the many societies that are evolving rather than the essential characteristics of the old; upon the present, not on the more distant past. The best current work is sought from specialists in different academic disciplines, whose contributions can illuminate and cross-fertilise one another.

The Journal seeks to promote a deeper understanding of what is happening in Africa today. It is intended for both the political scientist and the practical politician, the administrator and the advocate, the economist and the educator, the banker and the businessman, the diplomat and the technocrat, the civil servant and the nationalist leader. All have something to contribute to these pages and, it is hoped, much to learn from them.

Editorial policy avoids commitment to any political viewpoint or ideology, whether imperialism, pan-Africanism, capitalism, socialism, or nationalism. Such concepts, however, have relevance to the modern African situation, and merit serious discussion, often from several different points of view, in order that controversial issues may be fairly examined.