



JANEK SUNGA

**POLITICAL ANALYST | GOVERNANCE & PUBLIC POLICY
COMMENTATOR**

Kenyan Politics • Political Strategy • Governance • Public Policy • Political
Economy • African Affairs



MEDIA PROFILE

Janek Sunga is a Kenyan political analyst, governance and public policy consultant with a background in Political Science and Public Administration.

His work brings together political research, university teaching, government experience and political writing. His analytical interests include Kenyan politics, democratic governance, political institutions, elections, political parties, public administration, political economy and African affairs.

He focuses on explaining not only **what is happening**, but **why it is happening**, **what it means**, and **what may happen next**.

“Understand the politics. Understand the power. Understand what comes next.”

MEDIA CONTACT

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Areas I Can Help Audiences Understand

Janek's commentary is designed for television, radio, podcasts, print and digital platforms. The emphasis is on clear explanation, institutional context, political incentives and forward-looking analysis.

KENYAN POLITICS	Political coalitions • Opposition strategy • Presidential politics • Political parties • Elections • Political realignment • Political strategy
GOVERNANCE & INSTITUTIONS	Executive–legislative relations • Devolution • County governance • Public administration • Accountability • Constitutional governance • State capacity
PUBLIC POLICY	Government policy • Taxation • Public finance • Education • Health • Housing • Youth and employment • Policy implementation
POLITICAL ECONOMY	Political incentives • Elite bargaining • Political settlements • Government spending • Economic policy • Business–government relations • Development politics
DEMOCRACY & POLITICAL INSTITUTIONS	Democratic consolidation • Elections • Representation • Political parties • Youth participation • Democratic governance • Institutional change
AFRICAN & REGIONAL AFFAIRS	African politics • East African regional politics • Governance • Democratic transitions • Regional institutions • Geopolitics

THE ANALYTICAL LENS

WHO?	Who benefits and who has influence?
WHY?	What interests and incentives are driving the actors?
POWER	Who can actually shape the outcome?
INSTITUTIONS	What formal and informal constraints matter?
WHAT NEXT?	What is the most plausible next political move?

AVAILABLE FOR

Television interviews • Political panels • Radio interviews • Podcasts • Print commentary • Expert Q&As; • Moderation and public discussions

A Research-Driven Public Commentary Profile

MEDIA & POLITICAL WRITING

People Daily Kenya	Op-ed Columnist	2015–2018
Nairobi Law Monthly	Contributor	2018
The Stylus	Staff Reporter and Writer	2012–2014

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

- **Sharmin, Farzana & Sunga, Janek (2024).** “#BlackLivesMatter: Where Do the Paradigms of Public Administration Fit?” *Journal of Social Equity and Public Administration*, 2(2), 20–45.
- **Sunga, Janek (2024).** Book review of Matthew Graham's *Contemporary Africa*, published in *African Studies Review*, 67(2), 473–474.

SELECTED CONFERENCE & RESEARCH PRESENTATIONS

- Vanguard Nationalist Parties as Barriers to Democratic Consolidation in Sub-Saharan Africa — African Politics Conference Group Workshop, 2024.
- The Barriers of Democratic Consolidation in Sub-Saharan Africa — Midwestern Political Science Association, 2024.
- The Barriers of Democratic Consolidation in Sub-Saharan Africa — Phi Beta Delta Rising Scholars Lecture Series, Northern Illinois University, 2024.
- Discussant — Mid-Midwest African Politics Conference Group Workshop, 2023.
- The Barriers of Democratic Consolidation in Sub-Saharan Africa — Illinois Political Science Association, 2023.

SELECTED WRITING AWARDS

- Missouri College Media Awards — Editorial Writing, 1st Place, 2017.
- Missouri College Media Awards — Editorial/Op-Ed Page, 1st Place, 2017.
- Column, 1st Place, 2015–2016.
- Column, 2nd Place, 2014–2015.
- Column, Honorable Mention, 2013–2014.

ACADEMIC FOUNDATION

M.P.A., Public Management — Park University; passed comprehensive examination with distinction.

B.A., English (Writing) — Park University.

Doctoral-level training in Political Science — Northern Illinois University, with concentration in Comparative Politics and a minor in Public Administration.

BOOK JANEK FOR COMMENTARY

FOR PRODUCERS & EDITORS

Janek is available for scheduled and short-notice commentary on significant political and policy developments. He can provide concise on-air analysis, panel participation, interviews, written commentary and background briefing.

PRODUCER INTRODUCTION

"I'm a political analyst and governance consultant specializing in Kenyan politics, political strategy, governance, public policy and political economy. My approach is to explain what is happening, why the actors are behaving as they are, and what the likely implications are."

CONTACT

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**STRATEGY.
INFLUENCE.
IMPACT.**

Political analysis that connects institutions, incentives and outcomes.