

**Are Angola and Morocco Benefitting from the Fallout from the Russia-Ukraine War?**  
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The research conducted centered on discovering how small, seemingly unrelated to the conflict states were affected by the Russia-Ukraine war. Angola and Morocco were chosen due to both being located in Africa but how different they are from each other; politically, culturally, geopolitically, etc. This project is far from finished, but I am very grateful for the start this summer, and I will be continuing it this fall as an Independent Study. Over the summer, I discovered economic and political ways Morocco and Angola were benefitting. For instance, due to the sanctions on oil from Russia, Europe is looking for alternative oil sources and has turned to Africa. Angola has the potential to become a major gas and potentially oil exporter and has received funding from several European countries to strengthen its oil manufacturing infrastructure. A lot of Morocco's land is desert; therefore, Morocco has made moves to add solar panels and wind turbines to become a major exporter of renewable energy. Due to the desire for sway in the UN General Assembly vote many countries have been generous in their praise and gifts to both Morocco and Angola, as both countries have had different but seemingly neutral, due to their own political interests, reactions to the Russia-Ukraine war. This fall I will continue to unearth ways Morocco and Angola are benefitting but plan to spend most of my time delving into the idea of neutrality for small states and what that means for Morocco and Angola. I also plan to focus time on learning and discussing the varied histories of Morocco and Angola and how those relate to their current actions. I would like to emphasize how even if Morocco and Angola are both benefitting, they are different countries with distinctive backgrounds.

**Faculty Mentor: Professor Elias**

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