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Could ANC attack on US derail trade relationships?

South Africa's tenuous inclusion in the newly extended United States' African Growth and Opportunity Act (Agoa) – which is still subject to restrictions – could once again be in jeopardy following a strongly worded critique against US foreign policy by the African National Congress (ANC).

Last week, ahead of the 14th Agoa Forum in Gabon, the ANC released its policy discussion document for the National General Council meeting noting that the US “does not appreciate the resurgence of China and Russia as dominant factors in the arena of international power relations”. The document went on to say that instead, the US had “declared a cold war against these two emerging powers”.

Frans Cronje, CEO of the Institute for International Race Relations (IRR), described the “attack” on the US as “unfortunate and damaging”, telling FTW Online that this could result in South Africa being sidelined in trade and diplomatic relations with Western economies such as the United States and Europe, including Agoa negotiations.

To read the full FTW article, go to FTW Online

FTW www.ftwonline.co.za