International Symposium on Security and Peace

March 02, 2023

Program and Abstracts

Welcome

Dear Colleagues,

Welcome to the International Symposium on Security and Peace where actionable knowledge is shared to address the human suffering caused by war and insecurity. This symposium is an opportunity to listen to presentations and exchange ideas with policymakers, diplomats, peace-building experts, civil society leaders, senior academics, and students. The 2023 edition is co-hosted by the Center for Peace and Violence Prevention (CPVP) and Babes-Bolyai University's Conflict Studies Center (CSC).

The conference gratefully acknowledges the support of partners and the ISSP Communications team in coordinating the event.

We are thankful to all participants for sharing your knowledge with us at the 2023 Symposium. We look forward to seeing you next year.

Thank you,

Charles Wratto

Founder and President
Center for Peace and Violence Prevention

International Symposium on Security and Peace

11:00 AM EET (10:00 AM WAT)

March 2nd, 2023

OPENING SESSION

Moderator: Prof. Fidelis Allen, Head of Department,

Political and Administrative Studies,

University of Port Harcourt

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89341877120?pwd=aFV6MWkxOHVkM0g2MWo3ODdxQmJ5UT09

Names and Titles	Institutions	Functions	Time
Dr. Charles Wratto	Founder and President, Center for Peace and Violence Prevention and Associate Prof. at Babes-Bolyai University (FSPAC)	Welcome Address	11:00 – 11:05
Prof. Christian Chereji	Director, Conflict Studies Center, Babes-Bolyai University (FSPAC)	Opening Remarks	11:05 – 11:10
Prof. Calin Hintea	Dean, Faculty of Political, Administrative, and Communication Sciences, Babes-Bolyai University	Opening Speech	11:10 – 11:15

KEYNOTE SPEECHES

Speakers	Institutions	Topics	Time
Dr. Safiya Ahmed Nuhu	Ambassador, the Federal Republic of Nigeria to Romania	Forced Migration in an Interdependent World: Improving support structures and mechanisms for addressing the global crisis of internal displacement.	11:20 – 11:40
Professor Patrick Bond	Distinguished Professor of Sociology, University of Johannesburg, Department of Sociology	Multilateralism in Crisis, the 'BRICS+' Challenge and Internationalism from Below	11:40 – 12:00
Ionut Raita	Head of Delegation Terre des hommes, Ukraine	Coping with War. Fear, Courage and Routine in Ukraine	12:00 – 12:20
Prof. Christian Radu Chereji	Director, Conflict Studies Center, Babes-Bolyai University	Building Harmonious Societies: The Role of Education in Conflict Management	12:20 – 12:40

International Symposium on Security and Peace

PANEL DISCUSSIONS

Moderator: Prof. Fidelis Allen, University of Port Harcourt

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89341877120?pwd=aFV6MWkxOHVkM0g2MWo3ODdxQmJ5UT09

Authors	Institutions	Paper Titles	Time
Hauwa Mohammed Sani, Ph.D.	Ahmadu Bello University Zaria	Language as a Tool of Conflict Mediation in Kaduna State, Nigeria	12:40 – 12:55
Professor Yakubu Mukhtar And Jamilu Ibrahim Mukhtar	Centre for the Study of Violent Extremism, University of Maiduguri	Out of the Frying Pan into The Fire: The Ordeal of Nigerian Migrants in Libya	12:55 – 1:10
Oyebamiji, Sunday Israel Ph.D., Ashe, Muesiri Obaro Ph.D. & Kiyala Jean Chrysostome Ph.D.	University of KwaZulu-Natal & International Centre of Nonviolence, Durban University of technology	Russia's War in Ukraine: Trauma, Victory, Future in The EU & NATO	1:10 – 1:25
Subair Alexandra, Ph.D. Popoola Olusoji, Ph.D. and Daikwo Jimoh, Ph.D.	Igbinedion University Okada	Poor Governance and Resurgence of Military Coup in Africa: Implication for Sustainable Peace and Security	1:25 – 1:40
Kialee Nyiayaana, Ph.D. and Lawrence Dube	University of Port Harcourt	Beyond Environmental Remediation: The Ogoni Clean-up Programme and Dynamics of Social Conflicts and Insecurity in Nigeria	1:40 – 1:55
Charles Akale and Blessing Owan	Centre for Strategic Research and Studies, National Defence College, Abuja	Gender Mainstreaming in The Armed Forces of Nigeria: Challenges and Prospects	1:55 – 2:10

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PANEL DISCUSSIONS

Moderator: Dr. David Popoola, Igbinedion University Okada
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Authors	Institutions	Paper Titles	Time
Martin Abimbola Ogunbanjo	Estam University, Cotonou	Conflict and Post-Conflict Issues in Contemporary Africa: A Critical Evaluation	2:10 – 2:25
Mukhtar Bello, Ph.D. and Uche Okpara, Ph.D.	Bayero University, Kano,	The prospects and Challenges of Building a Lake Chad Basin Conflict and Environment Observatory (LCBCEO) for Prosperity and Peace Project for the Lake Chad Region	2:25 – 2:40
Rufus Aisedion, Ph.D.	Ambrose Alli University Ekpoma Edo State	The Effects of Terrorism, Banditry, and Militant Groups on National Development in Nigeria	2:40 – 2:55
Abdulrasheed Abdulyakeen	Al-Qalam University, Katsina. Katsina	Managing Herders and Farmers Conflict in Northern Nigeria: Policies, Legislations and Convention	2:55 – 3:10
Professor Adam Adem Anyebe	Ahmadu Bello University Zaria	Banditry and Security Challenge in Nigeria: A Study of Selected States in Northwest Geo-Political Zone	3:10 – 3:25
Juliana Ekonyohe Ogbe, Ph.D.	University of Port Harcourt	Forced Displacement and Socio-Economic Development in Benue State	3:25 – 3:40

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Authors	Institutions	Paper Titles	Time
Hassan Abdulazeez Ph.D. & Sule Magaji	Kaduna State University, Kaduna & University of Abuja, Abuja	Banditry and Kidnapping in Northwest Nigeria: Implications for Democratic Governance and Development	3:40 – 3:55
Ayamba, Itojong Anthony	University of Calabar, Calabar	Energy for Food Security: Exploring the Critical Linkage	3:55 – 4:10
Busari, Jamiu Muhammad & Prof. Akintola, Ishaq Lakin	Islamic Studies Unit, Lagos State University	Muslim Children and Ḥijāb Conflicts in Yorubaland, Southwest Nigeria: An Examination of Fundamental Human Right Question and Intimidation	4:10 – 4:25
Dolapo Michael Oyedokun	Lead City University, Ibadan	Transnational Organised Crime in a Globalised World: Arguments for and Against the Realist Perspectives	4:25 – 4:40
Oluwasegun Ogunsakin	Ekiti State University, Ado-Ekiti	Should Refugee Camps Be Abolished?	4:40 – 4:55
Emmanuel E. Salami, Ph.D. & Abdulsalami L. Tijani, Ph.D.	Igbinedion University	Threats and Nature of Cyber Insecurity Impact on the African Economy	4:55 – 5:10

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Authors	Institutions	Paper Titles	Time
Professor Yakubu Mukhtar & Jamilu Ibrahim Mukhtar	University of Maiduguri & Federal University Dutse	Population Growth and Cyber Insecurity in Nigeria	5:10 – 5:25
Ozioma Holy Laka, Ph.D	University of Port Harcourt, Choba	Family Instability, Child Abuse and Child Development in Nigeria	5:25 – 5:40
Tunde Agara, Ph.D. & Alexander Subair, Ph.D.	Ambrose Alli University, Ekpoma & Igbinedion University, Okada	The Root and Nature of Conflicts in Africa: A Focus On 'Then' And 'Now'	5:40 – 5:55
Boma Amaso, Ph.D. & Nte Timothy Ph.D.	University of Port Harcourt	US Foreign Policy and the alteration to the dynamics of the Arab/Israeli Peace Process by the Trump Administration.	5:55 – 6:10

CLOSING REMARKS

Dr. Charles Wratto, Center for Peace and Violence Prevention
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89341877120?pwd=aFV6MWkxOHVkM0g2MWo3ODdxQmJ5UT09
(6:10 – 6:15)

Contact

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FORCED MIGRATION IN AN INTERDEPENDENT WORLD

Improving International Support Structures and Mechanisms for Addressing the Global Crisis of Internal Displacement

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ABSTRACT

Forced migration scenarios have become increasingly complex and complicated in contemporary times. Multiple factors force people to flee their homes to find safety elsewhere. Whereas some flee across international borders and become refugees, many are forced to remain within internal borders and live as internally displaced persons (IDPs). When situations of internal displacement remain unaddressed, it leads to flight across borders. With conflicts raging across the globe, and exacerbated situations caused by the triple plenary crisis, it is increasingly pertinent to reassess, reevaluate, and re-strategize the approach to internal displacement and means of addressing it. Two distinctions and clear demarcations are drawn in respect of the two major classes of forced migrants -refugees and IDPs. Whereas refugees are considered the responsibility of the international community and protected under the 1951 UN Refugee Convention, IDPs are primarily the responsibility of their states and lack a binding legal framework for their protection. The reality is that most IDPs are considered "unwanted refugees," and are majorly nationals of third-world countries, that struggle with political, economic, and social problems. The challenge however is that if internal displacement situations become protracted, and remain unaddressed, then it ultimately leads to refugee flows/influx, and may become a problem of a higher magnitude. Hence, it is important and strategic for developed countries to support developing countries in addressing their internal displacement crisis. In Africa, a regional framework for protecting IDPs has been adopted since 2009 and came into force in 2012, but implementation strides are truncated by a lack of capacity, poor coordination, and limited resources. The Kampala Convention on IDPs mandates African states to protect and assist IDPs but is slow in being actualized. This paper appraises the recent escalation in the crisis of forced displacement and recommends the need for more collaboration and support to countries and frameworks seeking to address internal displacement.

Keywords: Forced Migration, Support Structures, Global Crisis, Displacement

BUILDING HARMONIOUS SOCIETIES
THE ROLE OF EDUCATION IN CONFLICT MANAGEMENT

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ABSTRACT

Interpersonal conflicts and their impacts are an everyday reality in our societies. Even so, the refusal of governments around the world to integrate conflict management education into school curricula remains incomprehensible. This presentation draws a comparison between traditional communities, where conflict management was a community-wide activity and educating young people about peaceful conflict resolution was front and central, and modern society, where citizens have for centuries been encouraged to use a confrontational mode of conflict resolution, that of justice, focused on law and punishment rather than reparation and reconciliation. We see the results every day, online and in real life. This presentation proposes a possible remedy to the sad situation, a solution that could lead to building a more harmonious society, where people are more resilient to conflict by acquiring effective conflict management skills.

Keywords: *Harmonious Societies, Education, Conflict Management*

LANGUAGE AS A TOOL OF CONFLICT MEDIATION
IN KADUNA STATE, NIGERIA

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ABSTRACT

This study investigates language's usually overlooked role as a tool of peace communication, particularly in mitigating conflict and deploying its positive aspects in pursuing peace in Kaduna State, Nigeria. The study adopts the Everyday Peace Indicators methodology (EPI). Data were collected through in-depth semi-structured interviews, observations, Focus Group Discussions (FGD) and key informants Interviews(KII)with selected households, community leaders, and persons directly affected by conflicts in the selected communities. The study draws its examples from the *Hausa* language, predominantly spoken in Northern Kaduna, and the Atyapp and Pullo languages, widely used in Southern Kaduna. The study argues from the ethnographic perspective that habits of thinking and speaking, leading to the use of violence, are learned through language and culture. Working within the framework of Nonviolent Communication Theory, the study answers these questions; what is the relationship between language, culture and violence? ii) What linguistic keys affect social relationships amongst members of Kaduna State communities? and iii) What are the language mediation techniques used by the community members to prevent confrontations, resolve conflicts and facilitate peace in the selected speech communities in Kaduna State? The study establishes that language is critical to conflict resolution because human beings use words as an accelerator of harmonious living or to ignite war and destruction. The study concludes that because language is a transactional process of exchanging views, mediating and negotiating meaning to establish and maintain a peaceful relationship, it can play a crucial role in resolving the perennial conflicts that have too often been associated with Kaduna State. The study, therefore, recommends and advocates the injection or mainstreaming of Peace Linguistics and its essence in the schools' curriculum to help inculcate a culture of peace among young people in Kaduna State.

Keywords: Language, Tool, Conflict Mediation, Kaduna State, Nigeria

OUT OF THE FRYING PAN INTO THE FIRE: THE ORDEAL OF NIGERIAN MIGRANTS IN LIBYA

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ABSTRACT

This paper investigates the plight of Nigerian migrants in Libya. The paper adopts the theory of failed states to explain the present condition of Libya which underlies the current social, economic and political crises in the country. Methodologically, the paper uses desk review to examine the cases of massive migration from Sub-Sahara African countries (especially Nigeria) to Libya and the dehumanization they are facing; such as slavery, where a human is sold for U$400; sex slavery extra-judicial penalties in detention centers, etc. The paper finds that the deplorable economic and political conditions of many African countries have for decades been compelling their nationals to seek for greener pasture in Europe and America (legally and illegally). Libya is apparently the main exit route for migrants from most of Sub-Sahara Africa to Europe via the Mediterranean Sea. However, this voyage of desperation by thousands of Nigerians is a migration depicting the proverbial saying: "out of the frying pan into the fire", because thousands of Nigerians are maltreated by the so-called Libyan authority and human traffickers or modern-day slave traders. The horrible experiences they pass through are hardly imaginable in their poor country. To tackle these illegal migrations and the inhuman treatment received by the Nigerian migrants in Libya, the paper recommends intervention by transnational institutions; the need for Nigerian government to identify and address the push factors motivating her to seek greener pasture elsewhere; and the Libyan government to abide by the international protocols for handling asylum-seekers and immigrants.

Keywords: Immigrants; Libya; Migrants; Ordeal of Nigerian migrants.

RUSSIA'S WAR IN UKRAINE
TRAUMA, VICTORY, FUTURE IN THE EU & NATO

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ABSTRACT

The supremacy of Russia (formerly Soviet Union) in the Eastern World, including its hegemony in the Warsaw Pact until the collapse of socialism in the 1990s, has created a national pride that the country is determined to sustain even through warfare, particularly as its rival military camp, NATO, is rapidly expanding its horizon. Apart from the loss of lives, the war is affecting a host of strategic issues in the economy, including food production, energy supply and science, both regionally and globally. Scholarly study of the event is therefore required as one means of providing relevant facts and figures to guide policymakers for future projection and the way forward. Relying on documentaries and other records from the war front and similar records from international agencies as well as those from Non-Governmental Organisations, this article examines the trend in the traumatic scenes and perspectives on the expectation of victory to assess the probable future outcome and impact of the warfare for stakeholders and their supporters. It recommends that Russia and the Western powers prioritise global peace over national and ideological pride since only peace benefits all.

Keywords: Global, Military, Peace, Rivalry, Strategic, Warfare

POOR GOVERNANCE AND RESURGENCE OF MILITARY COUP IN AFRICA: IMPLICATION FOR SUSTAINABLE PEACE AND SECURITY

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ABSTRACT

Scholars have argued that humans are naturally resilient and adventurous due to their enormous inherent capacities and endowment. Their resilience manifest across all human endeavors (including governance) and most times with grave consequences for peace and security of mankind. On governance and democratizations, Africa has witnessed mixed experiences according to different indicators of good governance. Although, government is the major actor to bring about governance, other non-state actors such as the civil society, trade union, religious, tribal leaders, and the community-based groups often play important roles to influence the governance of the State. Unfortunately the outcome overtime continues to spur resurgence of the military in some African countries through coup d'états. The paper examined some democratic African states and the alleged regression of socio-economic indicator, such as poor democratic quality, and flagrant misdemeanor by political elites via widespread corruption. Custodian theory was adopted for the resurgence of military rule in Africa. While using extant literature, the paper drew attention to the basis of the allegation of poor democratic governance and caution power shareholders on dare consequences of this emerging trend. The study concludes that there is the need to recalibrate and reinvigorate the process of Peace building, and the Security Architecture of the African union by critical stake-holders. However, promotion of democratic ideals by political elites, respect for the rule of law, provision of good governance, conduct of periodic and credible elections were recommended as panacea.

Keywords: Africa, Military Coup, Poor governance Resurgence, Sustainable Peace a, Security

BEYOND ENVIRONMENTAL REMEDIATION

THE OGONI CLEAN-UP PROGRAMME AND DYNAMICS OF SOCIAL CONFLICTS AND INSECURITY IN NIGERIA

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ABSTRACT

In 2012, the Nigerian State began the process of environmental clean-up in Ogoni. Conceived and implemented as a technical effort in the physical cleaning of oil-impacted communities with broader goals of remediating and restoring the damaged Ogoni environment. The clean-up has, however, generated social conflicts that revolve around competing struggles for benefit capture and benefit sharing of the social and economic gains accruable from the project. This paper examines the nature of the conflicts, the factors that underline the conflicts and how the conflicts have impacted the implementation of the clean-up exercise. Based on observational and field data, the paper identifies court litigations, competing formation and factionalization of socio-cultural groups in Ogoni, the politics of resumption of oil production and inter-ministerial rivalries amongst the Ministries of Environment, Petroleum Resources and Niger Delta Affairs over who controls the clean-up project as major sources and manifestations of the conflicts. The central argument is that the interactions of grievances, power and extraversion have transformed the clean-up project as a continuation of contentious extractivist politics in Nigeria in ways that not only consolidate the nexus between local and extra-local political and economic dynamics of oil, but also, create entanglements that undermine the effectiveness of the clean-up process.

Keywords: *Conflicts, Ogoni clean-up, extraversion, grievances, extractivist politics*

GENDER MAINSTREAMING IN THE ARMED FORCES OF NIGERIA CHALLENGES AND PROSPECTS

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ABSTRACT

The integration of women into the armed forces reveals a pattern of significant diversity, while some countries have integrated women, granting them real (and not only formal) access to a wide range of positions and occupations, others keep women in little more than symbolic spaces. In Nigeria, Women constitute about 49.39 per cent of Nigeria's population. Nigeria ranks 114 out of 130 economies in the Global Human Capital Index for 2021 by the World Economic Forum. Gender equity and balance in opportunities are good for society to the extent that it allows women to contribute to the development and progress of society. Indeed, the National Gender Policy states that 'the attainment of gender equality is not only an end in itself and a human rights issue but a prerequisite for the achievement of sustainable development. But in spite of gender mainstreaming efforts in Nigeria that sometimes results in the rising number of educated women and professionals in other sector in Nigeria. The Armed Forces of Nigeria is made up of the Nigerian Navy (NN), Nigerian Army (NA), and Nigerian Air force (NAF) with over 150,000 active personnel on active duty. However, women's active participation in the AFN is low and it remains a male-dominated space. Women are continually hindered by discrimination, legal barriers and harassment at their workplace that restricts their ability to meaningfully participate within key positions leading to their marginalization or exclusion. It is in this context that this paper examines gender mainstreaming in AFN and how it has helped in solving the problem of women representation in theMilitary.

Keywords: Gender, Mainstreaming, Armed Forces, Policy, Nigeria

CONFLICT AND POST-CONFLICT ISSUES IN CONTEMPORARY AFRICA A CRITICAL EVALUATION

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ABSTRACT

Since the late 1990s, there has been a growing awareness of the interrelationship between conflict and development, as well as peace and development, that has led to a greater understanding of correlations between the outbreak of violent conflict and under- or uneven development. Studies have revealed how developmental factors can trigger violence, but also, on a more positive note, how developmental factors can be instrumental in either preventing or ending violence and initiating post-conflict reconstruction. This paper sheds some useful light on conflict and post-conflict issues in Africa. It explores African development through the lens of violent conflict, highlighting the role of development in conflict as well as the effects of conflict on development. This paper briefly examines non-developmental and developmental explanations for violent conflict in Africa, specifically intra-state wars, before discussing the orthodoxy that development is an essential component of peace-building, focusing on the role of development in responding to violent conflict situations through the specific examples of peacekeeping and aid. This paper concludes that the poor understanding of the complex roots of Africa's violent conflicts ensures that the continent is likely to continue to experience and suffer from violent intra-state wars.

Keywords: Africa, Conflict, Post-Conflict, Violence, Intra-State Wars, Development.

THE PROSPECTS AND CHALLENGES OF BUILDING A LAKE CHAD BASIN CONFLICT AND ENVIRONMENT OBSERVATORY FOR PROSPERITY AND PEACE PROJECT FOR THE LAKE CHAD REGION

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ABSTRACT

The Lake Chad Basin region was once considered as a heaven of opportunities and prosperities to most of its population due to the abundance of the Lake Chad freshwater. Unfortunately, climate change and other associated environmental degradations as well as decades of armed conflicts occasioned by radical extremist of ISWAP/Boko Haram have turned the region in to mosaic of various humanitarian crises. Despite of these teeming challenges, the region is suffering from acute poor data sources that document the timely unfolding of these events as well as their drivers. It is by virtue of this, the paper is geared toward exploring the feasibilities of building an observatory that can track, monitor, collect, document; and analyse data in a way that would provide the region with action-driven information. Methodologically, the paper reviews various existing observatories within and outside Lake Chad region with the essence of making a reflection from their works so as to draw relevance and sense the expected challenges of the Lake Chad Basin Conflict and Environment Observatory. The paper believes that the successful establishment of the observatory will help in solving the protracted challenges in relation to violent conflict as well as facilitate the recommendation of innovative pathways to tackling the pervasive impacts of climate change in the region. It will also serve as a decision-support tool contributing to European Wind Energy Association (EWEA) systems, and peace-conducive recovery that will be linked to relevant government departments.

Keywords: Lake Chad Basin, Observatory, Conflict, Environment

THE EFFECTS OF TERRORISM, BANDITRY, AND MILITANT GROUPS ON NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT IN NIGERIA

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ABSTRACT

Nigerians have been inundated by the appalling activities of terrorist, bandit, and militant groups. This is evident given their adverse effects on Nigerians ranging from loss of lives and property, displacement of citizens, unabated chronic hunger, and abject poverty, high level of illiteracy to widespread diseases, among others. The study examined the causes of terrorism, banditry and militancy, their activities and their effects on national development. Furthermore, social movements and relative deprivation were employed as the theoretical framework underpinning the study. Similarly, the study utilised qualitative data sourced from textbooks, the internet, and journals, among others, and were historically analysed. The findings revealed that the presence of terrorist, bandit and militant groups in Nigeria was informed by lack of good governance, deprivation and exploitation of the citizens, who act of lack were provoked to organized themselves into different illegitimate social movements to ventilate their discontent and anger that have become an adverse cog in the wheel of national progress. It was also revealed that their activities have resulted in loss of lives and wanton destruction of property, bombing of government strategic installations, mass displacement of people from their dwelling homes to refugees camps leading to chronic hunger, mass illiteracy and open spread of diseases. To this end, the cumulative effect has negatively affected national development, in the sense that human beings who are agents of development are killed on daily basis with reckless abandon, government resources which would have been used for development are being diverted to the procurement of militarily hardwares to fight insecurity among others. It is recommended that the political class should be more concerned with the provision of basic human needs to the citizens, and ensure inclusive governance, among others to reduce the incidences of terrorists, bandits and militants attacks.

Keywords: Banditry, Development, Militant, National, Terrorism.

MANAGING HERDERS AND FARMERS CONFLICT IN NORTHERN NIGERIA POLICIES, LEGISLATIONS AND CONVENTION

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ABSTRACT

This study looked at the causes, various players, and gender-related aspects of the ongoing conflict between farmers and herders, as well as the effectiveness of the methods currently used to resolve disputes. Focus group discussions (FGDs) and key informant interviews (KIIs) were utilized in the study to qualitatively collect data (KIIs). Benue, Kaduna, Katsina, Zamfara, and Nasarawa are five states that are among those adversely touched by the violence and were chosen as case studies. 48 FGD sessions and 46 KII interviews were used to gather the data, and content analysis was performed to highlight the study's key findings. It was recognized that the violence was aggravated by the proliferation of light and small weaponry, biased security responses, dishonest behavior on the part of traditional leaders, drug and hard substance use, preexisting ethnic and community divisions, and mistrust. Findings also highlight that the Nigerian government needs demonstrate political will and implement policies that would lead to a resolution that is acceptable to all sides in order to adequately address the conflict. In its final report, the study urges the government to adopt a community-based approach that fosters open dialogue between the two parties and provides a suitable setting for farmers and herders to frequently interact without bias or favor.

Keywords: Conflict, Convention, Farmers, Herders, Policies, Legislations

BANDITRY AND SECURITY CHALLENGE IN NIGERIA
A STUDY OF SELECTED STATES IN NORTHWEST GEO-POLITICAL ZONE

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ABSTRACT

Banditry is a major security challenge in Nigeria and is rapidly spreading across the length and breadth of the country but is dominant in Nigeria's Northwest geo-political zone. This study attempted to examine banditry and its challenge to security in purposively selected states of Zamfara, Katsina, and Kaduna, being the most traumatized in the Northwest region. Research questions are, what factors are motivating banditry in the three focal states in the Zone and what are the security challenges? Studies were reviewed to identify gaps in knowledge while secondary data were sourced from textbooks, journals, publications of agencies, newspapers, unpublished works, and internet materials. The data collected were reviewed and contextually analyzed to provide insight into the three focal states in terms of origin, activities, and security challenges posed by banditry. The activities of these bandits have been building up challenges, ranging from abduction for ransom to injuries and deaths, destruction of livelihoods, services, and displacement of residents in the states which among others, compelled the Federal Government to designate the terrorist groups as terrorists in January 2022. The reviewed bandits' violence elicited both combative and non-combative responses from the state governments concerned. Some affected state governments have discarded the peace deals hitherto negotiated with some bandit groups and focused on a full-blown military action. Despite the number of incidences recorded in these states, it was noticed that the level of insecurity dropped since the President's directives to security chiefs in September, 2022 to end the insecurity ravaging the country by the close of the year. It was therefore, recommended among others, that there should be a transformation from the usual security architecture to involve all citizens of the country, using intelligence and the use of other support security services such as vigilante and community policing services to combat banditry.

Keywords: *Banditry, Security, Challenges, Terrorism*

FORCED DISPLACEMENT AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN BENUE STATE

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ABSTRACT

Forced displacement is an impediment to socio-economic development of many societies today. This study aims at analyzing effects of forced displacement on socio-economic development in Benue State, Nigeria. Consequently, the Relative Deprivation Theory was used in explaining how forced displacement deprives affected citizens certain rights and opportunities enjoyed by others and how forced displacement also constitutes impediment to the socio-economic development of Benue State, Nigeria. Descriptive research design was adopted for this study. The analysis revealed that factors such as farmers-herders' conflict, floods, communal clashes among others, are responsible for continued forced displacements in Benue State with numerous socio-economic setbacks. This study found that forcefully displaced persons in Benue State often end up in internally displaced people's (IDP) camps and are vulnerable and exposed to harsh and undesirable conditions. Oftentimes, these forcefully displaced persons loose their means of livelihood and find it challenging to engage in activities that will engender socio-economic development. This study recommended dynamic and proactive intervention by government in dealing with issues that trigger forced displacement and deliberately enacting laws that will promote socio-economic development in Benue State, Nigeria.

Keywords: Forced displacement, Socio-economic development, flood, Farmers-herders' conflict.

BANDITRY AND KIDNAPPING IN NORTHWEST NIGERIA: IMPLICATIONS FOR DEMOCRATIC GOVERNANCE AND DEVELOPMENT

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ABSTRACT

The years between 1999 to the present, marked the period when Nigerians have a full glimpse of the democratic experience where elections have been held every four years. The study is a one-stop shop that aimed to examine the causes of banditry and kidnapping which have resulted in the wanton destruction of life and property, (with its concomitant effect on migrations, unemployment, and uncertainties of elections) as well as the duos' concomitant implications on democratic governance and development of Nigeria. Theories of frustration and routine activity were employed to explain the questions raised as well as literature reviews on the characterizations and realities of the challenges the country faces today, especially the northwest, Nigeria where the menace has an adverse effect on food security and sustainability. Furthermore, secondary data was obtained from global bodies like the international country risk guide (ICRG), the world bank, the United Nations development database of development indicators as well as local newspaper reports. The study finds that these challenges have adverse implications for the democratic governance and development of Nigeria. And if the issues of banditry and kidnapping are not resolved a dangerously seeming Rwandan experience is looming in the form of inter/ intra-ethnic agitation campaign in Northern Nigeria, especially between the mainly native Hausa and the Fulani. The studies recommended among others need for government to seek more interactive or alternative models of conflict management, especially on issues bordering on national security rather than the military approach which this study believes only escalates some of the problems. The use of the military for internal security should be reviewed. In addition, government and state holders should provide an enabling environment for citizens to achieve their socio-political and political aspirations irrespective of their ethnic sectional or religious background.

Keywords: *Banditry, Kidnapping, Development, Democratic Governance.*

ENERGY FOR FOOD SECURITY: EXPLORING THE CRITICAL LINKAGE

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ABSTRACT

Energy is an engine of transformative socioeconomic development that affects many critical aspects of human existence. Energy security has been an important policy issue for more than four decades, especially since the outbreak of the global food crisis. The ability to access energy is very crucial to achieving food security and zero hunger because not only is energy necessary to consume food, since most foods require cooking before consumption, but also throughout food systems for producing, processing and preserving it. Basic Needs Theory and Institutional Theory were deployed as theoretical framework for the study. The methodology adopted for the study was entirely qualitative. Thus, there was no quantitative analysis of data. The study found that energy is vital in every human setting for production, transformation, and consumption of food, thereby enhancing both food security and nutrition. Hence, rising energy prices currently witnessed across the globe have in turn significantly impacted on food prices and livelihoods of people in almost every country of the world. The study recommends among other things that governments must scale up energy production in order to guarantee food security. In doing so, monopolies should be broken, and many energy options other than the current reliance on fossil fuel must be explored. A viable option remains cleaner, renewable energy, including biofuels.

Keywords: Energy, Food, Energy Security, Food Security, Agriculture, Policy

MUSLIM CHILDREN AND *ḤIJĀB* CONFLICTS IN YORUBALAND, SOUTHWEST NIGERIA: AN EXAMINATION OF FUNDAMENTAL HUMAN RIGHT QUESTION AND INTIMIDATION

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ABSTRACT

The Nigerian 1999 Constitution as amended guarantees all citizens freedom of speech, religions and political affiliation without any hindrance; thus, the fundamental human rights of each citizen is sacred. Therefore, the citizenries are unreservedly expected to practise their faiths in accordance with precepts of what they believed in, either as Muslims or non-Muslims. This is enshrined under the nation's legal system as bestowed on it by the British imperialists and the subsequent Constitutions after the independence of 1960. However, Muslim women of Yorubaland, southwest Nigeria have been under immense denials of their God-given rights of adorning *Ḥijāb*, the Islamic apparel which is meant to cover their nudity as enjoined by Allah in the Holy Qur'an either in offices, schools and other public places. This trend has become an unprecedented conflict for decades while Muslim female children have been the epicentre of intimidations in both private and public schools. Unequivocally, this has led to protests and counter-protests, political manoeuvres, legal tussles and dramas among Muslims and non-Muslims in Yorubaland. This in no measures has affected these children psychologically, religiously, academically and calls their fundamental human rights into questioning as citizens of Nigeria and as Muslims. This study therefore through analytical method examines the crescendo of *Ḥijāb* crises in Yorubaland as it affects Muslim children and chronicles all the intrigues and politicking that culminated in the recent judgement as delivered by the Supreme Courts of Nigeria *per* the permissibility of *Ḥijāb* usages in schools and public places. It was then revealed that the Nigerian Constitution and legal system need total review and amendment in order to uphold the fundamental human rights of all Nigerians without fear or favour. The study also sues for peace among various adherents for Nigeria as a country to move forward.

Keywords: *Conflicts, Ḥijāb, Human Right Question, Muslim Children, Yorubaland*

TRANSNATIONAL ORGANISED CRIME IN A GLOBALISED WORLD ARGUMENT FOR AND AGAINST THE REALIST PERSPECTIVES

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ABSTRACT

Transnational organised crime is one of the significant topics within the study of international relations. It is regarded as one of the many non-traditional threats that challenges states authority. Drug trafficking, one of the most advanced forms of transnational organised crime, has affected the society by increasing the number of people with substance abuse disorders and has also trigger violence, corruption, and instability in countries that produce and transit drugs. Globalisation allows criminal organisation activity to spread into the global marketplaces by providing access to new telecommunications technologies and by facilitating people with freedom of movement. A complicated network of illegal trade, ranging from drug and weapon trafficking to human trafficking into slavery and prostitution, is the unforeseen and unpleasant side of globalisation. Although, on the positive side, globalisation paved ways for innovations, collaborations, business models, and so forth. These elements also stimulate increase in trade across borders that resulted in a spike in the quantity of illicit commodities. The Realist view of international politics, which sees globalisation as a force that undermines state sovereignty and drugs as a threat to national security, serves as the theoretical foundation of this article. In conclusion, transnational organised crime networks have enjoyed considerable benefits from globalisation and will do so for some time to come. However, if the world is going to get rid of drug issues (or at least mitigate the effects), globalisation which has been described as the driving force seems the best solution. Partnerships at all levels are necessary to combat a global phenomenon like transnational organised crime. governments, transnational corporations, civic society, international organisations, and people everyone in the world all have a role to play.

Keywords: Drug Trafficking, Globalisation, Realism, Transnational Organised Crime, UNODC

SHOULD REFUGEE CAMPS BE ABOLISHED?

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ABSTRACT

This paper will examine the question, "Should Refugee camps be abolished? With a critical need to answer a set of questions related to refugees in the global sense. Refugee camps remain the sole settlement providing shelter for displaced people through conflict, war, and natural disasters. It is important to understand that refugee camps are temporary settlements built to accept refugees and people in refugee-like situations. With the need to understand the value and importance of refugee camps, the urgency for the safety of displaced people, including migrants, on a global scale cannot be overemphasized. This study will critically maintain that refugee camps should not be abolished. Refugee camp serves as the point of solace for many people that are forced from their homes and livelihood. As this is important, a case study of the IDP camp in the middle belt of Nigeria will be a yardstick for demonstrating my argument. The research study will be centered on four subsets. First, the study will give a full introduction to the meaning of refugee camps and the importance of supporting the protection of refugees who are forced from their homes. There will be engagement in the importance of refugee camps and how they serve as refugees' resorts. Further review the critical challenges that people living in refugee camps face. Lastly, the paper examines the various suggestions that can provide solutions to refugees' challenges in the camp. In conclusion, there is a need to understand the challenges and crises faced by IDPs and refugees who are forced from their home country and the prevailing need to protect them from dangers and insecurity.

Keywords: Refugees, IDP Camp, Security, United Nations, Nigeria

THREATS AND NATURE OF CYBER INSECURITY
IMPACT ON THE AFRICAN ECONOMY

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ABSTRACT

As digitalization continues to proliferate and new technologies are introduced cyber risk will inevitably grow however this is not without some attendant threats. Though the threats impact were not expected to grow geometrically as observed today, these threats are becoming a course of worry both to the domain experts and government around the globe. The entire human ecosystem is either directly or indirectly managed through the adoption ICT and the benefit are indeed evident in the healthcare system, economy, education, political and businesses sectors globally. Cyberspace has become the converging point for information sharing and management as well as providing a platform for governments, cooperate organizations and individuals to harmonize their common goals. It has also become a platform for information warfare involving state actors, business managers, domain experts. The estimated cost of cyber-crime in Africa is put at $895m which has continued to soar with Nigeria losing $550 million to cybercrime, Kenya ($175 million), Tanzania ($85 million), Ghana ($50 million) and Uganda ($35 million) each on a yearly basis. The research investigates the threats and natures of cybercrimes and the impact it has on the African economy with particular focus on the Nigeria, south Africa and Ghana's economy. An expository methodology was adopted to uncover the threats and nature of how or why these phenomena are on the increasing, the strategies used for such offensive attacks and what the African continent can learn from them. The study recommends the adoption of a more proactive and defensive cybersecurity resilience approach rather than the reactive approach which has been the case in most developing countries and the need to be more deliberate in developing the right manpower (Domain experts).

Keywords: Cyberspace, Insecurity, Threats, cybersecurity

POPULATION GROWTH AND CYBER INSECURITY IN NIGERIA

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ABSTRACT

This paper examines the impact of population growth on cyber insecurity. It uses Space Transition Theory which is deemed instrumental in understanding the multivariate link between population growth, urbanization, unemployment and cyber-crime. The theory argues that,people behave differently when they move from one space to another. The paper uses secondary material to gather relevant data related to the problem under study. The findings of the study reveal that population growth has serious consequences on social and economic lives of the people, because it amounts to high pressure on the available resources as well as available job opportunities in thesociety. Consequently, some types of crime are increasing, and others emerging, because ofthe rise in population. In Nigeria, the culture of fraud and corruption prevalent within the larger society is believed to have facilitated the institutionalization of *yahooboyism* as a subset. The three demographic variables - birth rate, death rate and rate of rural-urban (as well astransnational) migration - are competing with one another in the country. Young people in Nigeriaas a developing country are attracted to migration. Economic factors are the major push and pull factors of the migration. While Nigerian youths migrate more than the aged people, most of these youths are computer literate, using personal computers or cell phones. High rate ofunemployment among these youths lead to criminal activities in the cyberspace. The paper concludes that the incidence of cyber insecurity in Nigeria is one of the latent effects of high population growth in the country. It is therefore recommended that, Nigeria's effort to address corruption and youth unemployment should be balanced with rural-urban development andeffective national population plan.

Keywords: Cybercrime; Cyber insecurity; Nigeria; Population growth.

FAMILY INSTABILITY, CHILD ABUSE AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT IN NIGERIA

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ABSTRACT

The world has witnessed more far-reaching transformations in social life than occurred in the vast span of human history. This transformation is evident and character of the spread of modern urbanism which has resulted in increase of family instability. The increase of family instability in our contemporary society has become a challenge. Despite the importance of the arrival of a child in Africa, the severe economic and social desperation in Nigeria has led to the abandonment of our traditional and cultural family responsibilities with serious effect on the under-privileged and children. The study is to examine family instability, child abuse and child development in Nigeria. Objectives of the study were to examine factors associated with family instability, to investigate the impact of family instability on child development and to examine effects of child abuse. Methodologically, the study used literature review and conducted a content analysis. The study revealed that psychological factor, economic and poverty factors and communication-based factor were major factors associated with family instability. The study recommends that religious leaders should do a thorough counseling to couples before joining them. Government should provide effective policies protecting the rights of the Nigerian child by establishing free and universal mandatory education for these children. Children are leaders of tomorrow and a good child today will be a good leader tomorrow. This is the reason why in spite of all economic difficulties, the government has to ensure that the minimum amenities like free education, health care services, nutrition, recreation, to mention but a few are provided for these children to enhance their growth both physically and psychologically.

Keywords: Family, Instability, Child Abuse, Child Development, Nigeria

THE ROOT AND NATURE OF CONFLICTS IN AFRICA
A FOCUS ON 'THEN' AND 'NOW'

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ABSTRACT

Going by the past and present experience, one may be justified to say that Africa is a much-convoluted continent, given the many instances emanating from the economic, political and social developmental setbacks occasioned by perennial conflicts and ecological disasters. The disturbing manifestation of all these is perhaps in the area of insecurity and conflicts and these stench is conspicuously becoming more apparent, invariably giving credence to the fact that conflict is inherent to human nature and has taken a turn for the worse in Africa. However, violence may be an instrument for securing political power and for private gains by individuals. The study historically interrogated the nature, tren,d and sources of conflicts in Africa and theoretically periodised these conflicts into 'then' (before) and 'now'. Basicall,y the root causes and nature of these conflicts have not radically changed, 'now' new dimensions have been added overtime, thereby making the nature and sources of conflicts, thus more complex. Macrocosmic theory of conflict was adopted for the study, using an analytical research method. The study concluded that the new trend of conflicts across Africa is an anathema against every African peace-seeking channel, especially on the capacity to build viable regional peace and security systems. Continental and regional cooperative security and solidarity to collectively respond to both the military and non-military sources of threats to peace, security and development were recommended as solutions.

Keywords: *Africa, Armed, Conflict, Violence, War*

US FOREIGN POLICY AND THE ALTERATION TO THE DYNAMICS OF THE ARAB/ISRAELI PEACE PROCESS BY THE TRUMP ADMINISTRATION

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ABSTRACT

The study investigated how the Trump administration isolated the Palestinians, choosing to deal directly with selected Arab states in the Middle East, and successfully making peace deals with countries such as Bahrain and the UAE in the process. The study adopted the Ex Post Facto research design and the qualitative data data analysed showed that the US incentivised these selected countries by the provision of military supplies to protect them from the threat of Iran. These countries in return tacitly endorsed the Trump peace plan, and could not aggressively oppose the US on a peace plan that gave advantage to Israel over the Palestinians because of the military support being given them by the United States.

Keywords: *Foreign Policy, Peace Process, Israel, Palestinians*