Elections and Conflict Management in Africa

Managing Conflicts in Africa's Democratic Transitions—Akanmu G. Adebayo 2012-08-31 This book explores the nascent and complex terrain of democratization and peaceful political transitions in Africa. It analyzes major election-related conflicts across the continent, explains their root causes and major consequences, and offers measures that may be undertaken to prevent, manage, and resolve election-induced conflicts. It charts a path for the future political and democratic stability in Africa.

Elections and Conflict Management in Africa—Timothy D. Sisk 1998 Elections have emerged as one of the most important, and most contentious, features of political life on the African continent. In the first half of this decade, there were more than 20 national elections, serving largely as capstones of peace processes or transitions to democracies. The outcomes of these and more recent elections have been remarkably varied, and the relationship between elections and conflict management is widely debated throughout Africa and among international observers. Elections can either help reduce tensions by reconstituting legitimate government, or they can exacerbate them by further polarizing highly conflictual societies. This timely volume examines the relationship between elections, especially electoral systems, and conflict management in Africa, while also serving as an important reference for other regions. The book brings together for the first time the latest thinking on the many different roles elections can play in democratization and conflict management.

Elections and Conflict Management in Africa—Timothy D. Sisk and Andrew Reynolds 1998

Elections and Conflict Management in Africa ... Ballot Paper—1999*

Elections and Conflict Management in Africa—1998

Voting in Fear—Dorina Akosua Oduara Bekoe 2012 Eighteen African countries held presidential, primary, or legislative elections in 2011. Elections in eleven of these countries were marked by violence that ranged from low-level intimidation and harassment to more intensely violent displacement and death. Electoral violence of any kind can deter citizens from voting, discourage candidates from running for office, weaken civil society's scrutiny of elections, and hurt the legitimacy of a government. In "Voting in Fear," nine contributors offer pioneering work on the scope and nature of electoral violence in Africa; investigate the forms electoral violence takes; and analyze the factors that precipitate, reduce, and prevent violence. The book breaks new ground with findings from the only known dataset of electoral violence in sub-Saharan Africa, spanning 1990 to 2008. Specific case studies of electoral violence in countries such as Ghana, Kenya, and Nigeria provide the context to further understanding the circumstances under which electoral violence takes place, recedes, or recurs. Combining issue-driven research with in-depth empirical insights, contributors link electoral violence to past histories of violence, close elections, a state's declining economic fortunes, and weak institutions. Filling a gap in the existing literature on electoral violence, "Voting in Fear" offers concrete recommendations on how international, regional, and
local institutions can help reduce or prevent electoral violence. The volume concludes on a hopeful note: Electoral violence is not inevitable, and understanding the political context in which an election takes place is critical to predicting and forestalling violence.

Resolving Election Related Conflicts in Africa. Role and Challenges of the National Peace Council of Ghana - Caeser Nibelli 2020-02-21 Master's Thesis from the year 2017 in the subject Politics - International Politics - Topic: Peace and Conflict Studies, Security, grade: 3.00, course: Msc Defence and International Politics, language: English, abstract: This study examines the causes of electoral conflicts in Ghana and Africa, and the role and challenges of the National Peace Council in resolving election-related conflicts. In many African countries, both the economic and political authorities are confiscated and held in the hands of some corrupt leaders who through the use of force control the destiny of their countries. Since the adoption of multiparty systems in some African countries, most elections have been tarnished by violence and by political antagonists who continue to question not only the fairness and the transparency of elections but also the validity of the electoral systems of their countries. Ghana's elections for some time now have become violent resulting in disputes. A typical case of this situation was the 2012 elections which ended up in the Supreme Court as a dispute. In all of these conflicts, the role of the National Peace Council cannot be over-emphasized. The Council played an important role before, during and after elections. This contributed in the peace that the Ghana experienced during and after elections. In the light of the key role of the Council in playing an important role before, during and after elections, there are a number of challenges that confronted the Council. This study examines the specific role played by the National Peace Council (NPC) in ensuring peace in elections. The study discussed the challenges that affected the work of the Council such as limited funding to initiate activities and inadequate staff to help carry out its functions. The methodology adopted in this study is the qualitative case study approach which enabled the study to analyze the findings by relying mostly on secondary data to make its findings. Literatures from secondary data were reviewed to answer research questions. The findings of this study confirm that, the role played by the National Peace Council (NPC) yielded positive results in ensuring the peace of the country throughout the electoral period which other Africa countries can emulate to prevent election-related conflicts.

The Resolution of African Conflicts - Alfred G. Nhema 2008 “These two volumes clearly demonstrate the efforts by a wide range of African scholars to explain the roots, routes, regimes and resolution of African conflicts and how to re-build post-conflict societies. They offer sober and serious analyses, eschewing the sensationalism of the western media and the sophistry of some of the scholars in the global North for whom African conflicts are at worst a distraction and at best a confirmation of their pet racist and petty universalist theories.” — From the introduction by Paul Tiyambe Zeleza This book offers analyses of a range of African conflicts and demonstrates that peace is too important to be left to outsiders.

Democratisation and Electoral Conflict Management In Sub-Saharan Africa: The Ghanaian Experience - Osei Baffour Frimpong 2014 Elections are undoubtedly a quintessential of democratization process and Africa is not an exception to this. Elections have thus been a preeminent factor in Africas democracy since the 1990s. Indeed, it has been the medium through which African people participate in the decision making process in their respective states. Apart from this, elections have played a key role in democratic transitions in Africa and opened the political space in most African States. This notwithstanding, elections have also been a source of cataclysmic conflicts, tensions, polarization and hostilities among others in sub Saharan African states such as Kenya, Cote d'Ivoire, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Nigeria, Togo, Sierra Leone and central African Republic among others. For this reason, while elections are important, they are not in themselves conducive to emerging democracies in Africa. Ghana is geographically located in the West African sub region which has been a scene of preponderant electoral conflicts. Therefore, political observers have been concerned about the spill over effect of these electoral conflicts on Ghana. In spite of this, Ghana has successfully organised...
six competitive elections over the past two decades. These elections have led to power alternation and smooth transfer of power between Ghanas two major political parties, the ruling National Democratic Congress (NDC) and the opposition New Patriotic Party (NPP) in 2000 and 2008. This significant achievement has earned Ghana both international and domestic recognition as a beacon of democracy and a bastion of peace and stability in Africa. However, elections in Ghana have not been conflict free. Ghana has witnessed disputes, tensions and violent conflicts at hotspots in almost all the elections the country has had. In spite of this, Ghana has been relatively successful in managing its electoral conflicts. Against this background, the study seeks to investigate democratisation and electoral conflict management in sub Saharan Africa with the Ghanaian experience as a case study. In the case of Ghana, the study specifically examines the role of Ghanas Electoral Commission in the management and prevention of electoral conflict. The study further investigates the challenges confronting the EC in its quest to manage and prevent electoral conflict in Ghanas nascent democracy. More importantly, the study looks at how to strengthen the capacity of the EC in order to make it efficient in the management and prevention of electoral conflict. The study is predicated on the hypothesis that an independent, transparent, credible electoral administration and involvement of stakeholders in the electoral process are critical to the management and prevention of electoral conflicts. Also, the study is hinged on the liberal democratic theoretical matrix which explains the role of democratic institutions such as the electoral management body in the management and prevention of conflict in a democratic dispensation. The thematic concerns of the study were achieved through in depth analysis of secondary data which constitutes the findings of the study. The study has established that the constitutional autonomy of the EC granted by the 1992 Constitution of the Republic of Ghana, ECs ability to assert its autonomy, introduction of confidence, trust and transparent measures are the main conflict management tools employed by the EC in the management of electoral conflict in Ghana. The study particularly discovered that the establishment of Inter Party Advisory Committee (IPAC) to create the platform for the EC, political parties and civil society organisations to dialogue on issues regarding the electoral process and involvement of both domestic and international election observer groups in the electoral process by the EC have been a catalyst in the ECs role in the management of electoral conflicts in Ghana. The study however notes bloated voter register, inadequate civic education, weak early warning system, insufficient resources and institutional weaknesses among others as the challenges militating against the ECs quest to manage and prevent electoral conflict in Ghana. In the concluding reflections, the need for adequate funding, investment in civic education, establishment of conflict management panels, thorough cleaning of the voter register and establishment of early warning systems are proposed by the study to enhance the ECs role in the management of electoral conflict in Ghana.

Managing Conflicts in Africa's Democratic Transitions - Akanmu Gafari Adebayo 2012 This book explores the nascent and complex terrain of democratization and peaceful political transitions in Africa. It analyzes major election-related conflicts across the continent, explains their root causes and major consequences, and offers measures that may be undertaken to prevent, manage, and resolve election-induced conflicts. It charts a path for the future political and democratic stability in Africa.

Electoral Systems and Conflict in Divided Societies - National Research Council 1999-05-20 This paper is one of a series being prepared for the National Research Council's Committee on International Conflict Resolution. The committee was organized in late 1995 to respond to a growing need for prevention, management, and resolution of violent conflict in the international arena, a concern about the changing nature and context of such conflict in the post-Cold War era, and a recent expansion of knowledge in the field. The committee's main goal is to advance the practice of conflict resolution by using the methods and critical attitude of science to examine the effectiveness of various techniques and concepts that have been advanced for preventing, managing, and resolving international conflicts. The committee's research agenda has been designed to supplement the work of other groups, particularly the Carnegie Corporation of New York's Commission on Preventing Deadly Conflict, which issued its final report in December 1997. The committee has identified a number of specific techniques and concepts of current interest to policy practitioners and has asked leading specialists on each one to carefully review and analyze available knowledge and to summarize what is known about the conditions under which each is or is not effective. These papers present the results of their work.
Constitutions and Conflict Management in Africa - Alan J. Kuperman 2015-06-18 Each of Africa’s countries has a different constitutional design, is characterized by a unique culture and history, and faces different stresses that threaten to undermine political stability. Presenting the first database of constitutional design in all African countries, along with seven original case studies, Constitutions and Conflict Management in Africa explores the types of domestic political institutions that can buffer societies from destabilizing changes that otherwise increase the risk of violence. With detailed comparative studies of Burundi, Ghana, Kenya, Nigeria, Senegal, Sudan, and Zimbabwe, contributing scholars identify key turning points at which a state’s political institutions either mitigated or escalated the effects of economic, environmental, demographic, and political shocks. They find that stability can be promoted by various constitutional designs—not only by accomodative institutions that encourage decentralization and multiculturalism, but also by the integrative, centralized designs that characterize the constitutions of most African countries. The greatest danger may arise from partial or inequitable accommodation that can exacerbate societal tensions, culminating in violence up to and including civil war and genocide. Accordingly, Constitutions and Conflict Management in Africa cautions against the typical international prescription for radical reform to replace Africa’s existing constitutions with accomodative designs, instead prescribing more gradual constitutional reform to strengthen liberal institutions, such as strong judiciaries and independent electoral commissions. This detailed and methodical volume provides vital lessons for fostering democracy and reducing civil conflict via constitutional reform in Africa and beyond. Contributors: Justin Orlando Frosini, Gilbert M. Khadiagala, Alan J. Kuperman, Karly Kupferberg, Eli Poupko, Eghosa E. Osaghae, Andrew Reynolds, Filip Reyntjens, Arame Tall, Hillary Thomas-Lake, Stefan Wolff, I. William Zartman.

Violence in African Elections - Mimmi Söderberg Kovacs 2018-04-15 Multiparty elections have become the bellwether by which all democracies are judged, and the spread of these systems across Africa has been widely hailed as a sign of the continent’s progress towards stability and prosperity. But such elections bring their own challenges, particularly the often intense internecine violence following disputed results. While the consequences of such violence can be profound, undermining the legitimacy of the democratic process and in some cases plunging countries into civil war or renewed dictatorship, little is known about the causes. By mapping, analysing and comparing instances of election violence in different localities across Africa - including Kenya, Ivory Coast and Uganda - this collection of detailed case studies sheds light on the underlying dynamics and sub-national causes behind electoral conflicts, revealing them to be the result of a complex interplay between democratisation and the older, patronage-based system of ‘Big Man’ politics. Essential for scholars and policymakers across the social sciences and humanities interested in democratization, peace-keeping and peace studies, Violence in African Elections provides important insights into why some communities prove more prone to electoral violence than others, offering practical suggestions for preventing violence through improved electoral monitoring, voter education, and international assistance.

Managing Ethnic Conflict in Africa - Donald S. Rothchild 1997 In this book, Donald Rothchild analyzes the successes and failures of attempts at conflict resolution in different African countries and offers comprehensive ideas for successful mediation. The book demonstrates how negotiation and mediation can promote conflict resolution, along with a political environment that fosters development.

Democratization in South Africa - Timothy Sisk 2017-03-14 Timothy Sisk presents a new way of conceiving the transition to democracy in South Africa. Unlike authors such as Horowitz and Lijphart, who have sought to prescribe an ideal set of post-apartheid political institutions, Sisk asks what kinds of institutions show signs of actually emerging, given recent history and present realities. He treats the problem of constructing a democratic post-apartheid society in South Africa as part of a larger condition common to societies deeply divided by ethnic, religious, racial, or national discord. Though its profound cleavages of race and class make it a "least likely" candidate for conflict resolution through democratization, Sisk argues that the centripetal pull on moderate politicians of all parties was greater.
than the seemingly natural polarizing trend in a divided society. This centripetal pull led to the adoption of an interim constitution in 1993 after protracted negotiations. An American Fulbright scholar sent to South Africa after the end of the 21-year rupture of official scholarly exchanges between the two countries, Sisk analyzes the changes in the strategic calculations of the white minority government, the black liberation movement, and other parties over the course of negotiations since 1990. He concludes that intermittent upsurges of violence often reinforced, rather than reduced, the incentives of leaders on both sides to negotiate a settlement that would avoid mutually damaging outcomes. Drawing on extensive interviews with political figures, as well as other primary and secondary sources, Sisk finds reason for hope that a democratic social contract can evolve, balancing majority rule with minority representation and guaranteeing equal economic opportunity and social justice. Originally published in 1994. The Princeton Legacy Library uses the latest print-on-demand technology to again make available previously out-of-print books from the distinguished backlist of Princeton University Press. These editions preserve the original texts of these important books while presenting them in durable paperback and hardcover editions. The goal of the Princeton Legacy Library is to vastly increase access to the rich scholarly heritage found in the thousands of books published by Princeton University Press since its founding in 1905.

**Beyond History**- Elijah Nyaga Munyi 2020-09-18 Moving beyond a self-indulgent attitude about Africa’s historical victimhood, the book seeks to capture how African states individually and Africa’s collective institutions (the AU) are providing agency in Africa’s international relations. While African states have been trailblazers in such ideas as ‘The Responsibility to Protect’, as conceived in the African Union Constitutive Act (2001) which preceded the United Nations (UN) Secretary General’s report “In Larger Freedom” (2005) in which the UN adopted the concept, African agency in international relations has not always been captured proactively. This volume seeks to document Africa (and African states) in a state of proactivity as opposed to a reactionary mode of international relations which has long been the case due to the discipline’s heavy concentration on the West. The main themes explored are: African agency in international relations and commerce, agency in Africa’s balancing of big and regional powers, reshaping Africa-EU relations beyond the Cotonou Agreements, Africa and international human rights institutions, African efforts in elections and conflicts in Africa and relationship building among African leaders.

**Electoral Conflict Management in Kenya**- Solomon P. K. Muhindi 2019

**African Journal on Conflict Resolution**- 2010

**Ballots of bullets**- 2000

**Sovereignty as Responsibility**- Francis M. Deng 2010-12-01 The authors assert that sovereignty can no longer be seen as a protection against interference, but as a charge of responsibility where the state is accountable to both domestic and external constituencies. In internal conflicts in Africa, sovereign states have often failed to take responsibility for their own citizens' welfare and for the humanitarian consequences of conflict, leaving the victims with no assistance. This book shows how that responsibility can be exercised by states over their own population, and by other states in assistance to their fellow sovereigns. Sovereignty as Responsibility presents a framework that should guide both national governments and the international community in discharging their respective responsibilities. Broad principles are developed by examining identity as a potential source of conflict, governance as a matter of managing conflict, and economics as a policy field.
for deterring conflict. Considering conflict management, political stability, economic development, and social welfare as functions of governance, the authors develop strategies, guidelines, and roles for its responsible exercise. Some African governments, such as South Africa in the 1990s and Ghana since 1980, have demonstrated impressive gains against these standards, while others, such as Rwanda, Somalia, Liberia, Nigeria, and Sudan, have failed. Opportunities for making sovereignty more responsible and improving the management of conflicts are examined at the regional and international levels. The lessons from the mixed successes of regional conflict management actions, such as the West African intervention in Liberia, the East African mediation in Sudan, and international efforts to urge talks to end the conflict in Angola, indicate friends and neighbors outside the state in conflict have important roles to play in increasing sovereign responsibility. Approaching conflict management from the perspective of the responsibilities of sovereignty provides a framework for evaluating government accountability. It proposes standards that guide performance and sharpen tools of conflict prevention rather than simply making post-hoc judgments on success or failure. The authors demonstrate that sovereignty as responsibility is both a national obligation and a global imperative.


International African Bibliography - 2005

Political Management of Ethnic Conflict in Africa - S. Amoo 2002

Managing Ethnic Conflict in Africa - Donald S. Rothchild 1997 In this book, Donald Rothchild analyzes the successes and failures of attempts at conflict resolution in different African countries and offers comprehensive ideas for successful mediation. The book demonstrates how negotiation and mediation can promote conflict resolution, along with a political environment that fosters development.

South Africa's Second Democratic Election, 1999 - 2001

Electoral Violence in Sub-Saharan Africa - Stephanie M. Burchard 2015 After decades of experimentation with various forms of dictatorship and autocracy, most sub-Saharan African countries adopted multiparty elections in the 1990s—a development widely celebrated as a sign that the region was moving toward democracy. This embrace of elections, however, has often been accompanied by unanticipated violence, raising important questions: Are violent elections a normal part of the process in new democracies? Does the quality and conduct of elections matter for democratic consolidation? Most fundamentally, what does the persistence of electoral violence mean for the future of democracy in Africa? Addressing these questions with a combination of rigorous qualitative and quantitative approaches, Stephanie Burchard explores both the causes and consequences of electoral violence in sub-Saharan Africa. Stephanie M. Burchard is on the research staff of the Africa Program at the Institute for Defense Analyses.
E lecting Peace - Aila Matanock 2017-07-31

Settlements to civil conflict, notably difficult to secure, sometimes contain clauses enabling the combatant sides to participate as political parties in post-conflict elections. This book presents a theory that explains both the causes and the consequences of these provisions. It draws on new cross-national data on these electoral participation provisions, case studies, and interviews with representatives of all sides of the conflicts (including militants themselves) in Central America. Matanock shows that electoral participation provisions, non-existent during the Cold War, are now in almost half of all peace agreements. Moreover, she demonstrates that these provisions are associated with an increase in the chance that peace endures, potentially contributing to a global decline in civil conflict which challenge prevailing pessimism on post-conflict elections. The book also implies a broader conception of international intervention than currently exists, identifying how these inclusive elections can enable external enforcement mechanisms, providing an alternative in some cases to sending peacekeeping troops.

Conflict and Peacebuilding in the African Great Lakes Region - Kenneth Omeje 2013-06-19

Driven by genocide, civil war, political instabilities, ethnic and pastoral hostilities, the African Great Lakes Region, primarily Uganda, Rwanda, Democratic Republic of the Congo, and Burundi, has been overwhelmingly defined by conflict. Kenneth Omeje, Tricia Redeker Hepner, and an international group of scholars, many from the Great Lakes region, focus on the interlocking conflicts and efforts toward peace in this multidisciplinary volume. These essays present a range of debates and perspectives on the history and politics of conflict, highlighting the complex internal and external sources of both persistent tension and creative peacebuilding. Taken together, the essays illustrate that no single perspective or approach can adequately capture the dynamics of conflict or offer successful strategies for sustainable peace in the region.

The Handbook of Electoral System Choice - J. Colomer 2016-01-05

The topic of electoral reform is an extremely timely one. The accelerated expansion of the number of new democracies in the world generates increasing demand for advice on the choice of electoral rules; at the same time, a new reformism in well established democracies seeks new formulae favouring both more representative institutions and more accountable rulers. The Handbook of Electoral System Choice addresses the theoretical and comparative issues of electoral reform in relation to democratization, political strategies in established democracies and the relative performance of different electoral systems. Case studies on virtually every major democracy or democratizing country in the world are included.

Living in Wartimes, Living in Post-wartimes - Hartmut Quehl 2002

Conflict Resolution in Africa: The Case of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) - Marvin Nii Ankrah 2014-02-01

The objective of this research is to investigate the causes of conflict in Africa. Further, it discusses the role played by the Organization of African Unity (OAU) in ensuring political order during its period of existence. The study employs content analysis of historical documents, academic works, internet sources and also current conflict situations in Africa as a baseline for its argument. Mainly, the study shows which major sources of tension need to be resolved to enjoy a sound, stable, peaceful, political and economic environment in the new millennium.

The Fabric of Peace in Africa - Pamela Aall 2017-06-05

Africa has experienced dozens of conflicts over a variety of issues during the past two decades. Responding to these conflicts requires concerted action to manage the crises - the violence, the political discord, and the humanitarian consequences of prolonged fighting. It is
also necessary to address the long-term social and economic impacts of conflict, to rebuild communities, societies and states that have been torn apart. To accomplish this requires the involvement of institutions and groups rarely considered in formal official African conflict management activities: schools, universities, religious institutions, media, commercial enterprises, legal institutions, civil society groups, youth, women and migrants. These groups and organizations have an important role to play in building a sense of identity, fairness, shared norms and cohesion between state and society – all critical components of the fabric of peace and security in Africa. This volume brings together leading experts from Africa, Europe and North America to examine these critical social institutions and groups, and consider how they can either improve or impede peaceful conflict resolution. The overarching questions that are explored by the authors are: What constitutes social cohesion and resilience in the face of conflict? What are the threats to cohesion and resilience? And how can the positive elements be fostered and by whom? The second of two volumes on African conflict management capacity by the editors, The Fabric of Peace in Africa: Looking beyond the State opens new doors of understanding for students, scholars and practitioners focused on strengthening peace in Africa; the first volume, Minding the Gap: African Conflict Management in a Time of change, focused on the role of mediation and peacekeeping in managing violence and political crises.

Managing Conflict of Interest in the Public Sector A Toolkit - OECD 2005-08-30 This Toolkit provides non-technical, practical help to enable officials to recognise conflict of interest situations and help them to ensure that integrity and reputation are not compromised.


Contextual Determinants of Electoral System Choice - Krister Lundell 2005


The Architecture of Democracy - Andrew Reynolds 2002 This volume brings together leading scholars in the discipline to discuss the critical theme of the successes and failures of constitutional design. Leading lights of the discipline, Arend Lijphart and Donald Horowitz, debate their own contributions to the field. Emerging scholars then present important new evidence from Europe, the CIS, Latin America, and Africa. Chapters analyse the effect of presidential and parliamentary systems, issues of federalism and autonomy, and the varying impact of electoral systems. The book concludes with case studies of Fiji, Ireland, Eritrea, Indonesia, Nigeria, and India.
Linking Conflict Diagnosis, Conflict Prevention, and Conflict Management in Contemporary Africa - J. 'Bayo Adekanye 2007

Multiethnic Vs. Deeply Divided Societies in Africa - Shaheen Mozaffar 2002

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