THE ROLE OF THE MILITARY IN NIGERIA'S POLITICAL EVOLUTION AND SECURITY LANDSCAPE

BY

[1]Bolarin Najeeb Haroon & [2]Yusuf Suleiman
[1]Centre for Peace and Security Studies, Al-Hikmah University, Kwara State, Nigeria

[2]Department of Educational Management and Counseling, Al-Hikmah University, Kwara State, Nigeria
Email: **Merit.bola007@gmail.com**

Abstract

The military has been instrumental in shaping Nigeria's political trajectory and security dynamics over its history. This paper examines the multifaceted influence of the Nigerian military from colonial origins to contemporary times, highlighting its impact on governance, stability, and national security. Drawing from a comprehensive review of literature, both published and unpublished, this study analyzes key historical events such as military coups, transitions to civilian rule, and the military's role in managing internal security threats. It explores the complexities of civil-military relations, emphasizing challenges such as human rights abuses and the balance of power between civilian authorities and military leadership. Furthermore, the paper addresses contemporary security challenges including insurgency, ethnic conflicts, and regional instability, where the military's interventions have been critical. The study advocates for a nuanced understanding of the military's role, proposing strategies to enhance its effectiveness in promoting democratic governance and sustainable security practices. By contextualizing these issues within theoretical frameworks of civil-military relations and security studies, this paper provides insights into how Nigeria can navigate its future political evolution while ensuring robust national security frameworks.

Keywords: Military, Political, Evolution, Security, Landscape

Introduction

The role of the military in a nation's political and security landscape is a subject of significant academic and practical interest. Across the globe, military institutions have played diverse roles in the political evolution of countries, ranging from guardians of state sovereignty to instruments of internal repression. The unique trajectories of military involvement in governance and security provide crucial insights into the broader dynamics of state-building and political development(Zaman, 2023). In particular, the historical and contemporary experiences of Nigeria offer a compelling case study of the military's profound impact on political and security structures. Globally, the military's involvement in politics has often been a double-edged sword. In some instances, militaries have acted as stabilizing forces, stepping in to restore order in times of political crisis. Examples abound from Latin America, where military coups were frequent during the Cold War era, to parts of Asia and Africa, where military rule has shaped political landscapes. However, the legacy of military intervention is not uniformly positive; while some countries transitioned smoothly back to civilian rule, others have struggled with prolonged periods of authoritarianism and instability(Chapman, 2023).

In the African context, the military has frequently played a central role in politics, often stepping in during periods of perceived governmental failure. The post-colonial period in Africa was marked by numerous military coups as newly independent states grappled with governance challenges. Countries like Ghana, Uganda, and Egypt witnessed military interventions that significantly altered their political trajectories (Fagbadebo, 2024). Nigeria, Africa's most populous nation, presents a particularly complex and illustrative case of military involvement in politics and security. Nigeria's political evolution since independence in 1960 has been deeply intertwined with military influence. The country experienced its first coup in 1966, which set off a series of military takeovers that would dominate its political landscape for decades. This era of military rule saw significant shifts in governance, economic

policies, and national security strategies. The military's involvement was often justified by the need to maintain order and stability amid political corruption and civilian incompetence. However, these justifications frequently masked deeper issues of power consolidation and authoritarian control (Openiyi, 2020).

The transition to civilian rule in 1999 marked a significant milestone in Nigeria's political development. This period saw the military retreat to the barracks, ostensibly relinquishing its direct grip on political power. However, the legacy of military rule has left an indelible mark on Nigeria's political institutions and culture. Issues of civil-military relations remain pertinent, as the military continues to play a vital role in addressing internal security challenges such as insurgency, terrorism, and communal violence (Oyewole, 2020). Today, the Nigerian military is a critical actor in the country's security landscape, engaged in various operations to combat Boko Haram in the northeast, address banditry in the northwest, and quell separatist agitations in the southeast. These security challenges have tested the military's capacity and highlighted the ongoing need for reform and professionalization. Moreover, the military's role in these operations raises important questions about human rights, accountability, and the balance between security and civil liberties (Matthew, 2023).Understanding the historical and current roles of the military in Nigeria requires a nuanced analysis that considers both the political and security dimensions. This paper aims to explore the military's influence on Nigeria's political evolution and its ongoing role in the security landscape. By examining key historical events, the dynamics of civil-military relations, and contemporary security challenges, the paper seeks to provide a comprehensive overview of the military's impact on Nigeria's development and future prospects.

Literature Review

Theoretical Framework

The paper is based on two primary theoretical frameworks, forming the basis for various themes. The initial emphasis is onTheory of Civil-Military Relations, pioneered bySamuel P. Huntington, an American political scientist. Huntington's work, particularly his book titled "The Soldier and the State: The Theory and Politics of Civil-Military Relations," published in 1957, is foundational in the study of civil-military relations.In this influential work, Huntington explores the relationship between civilian authority and the military establishment, advocating for a professional military that is subordinate to civilian control and operates based on expertise rather than political interference. Huntington's concepts of "objective control" and "military professionalism" have shaped scholarly and policy discussions on how democracies can effectively manage their armed forces while preserving civil liberties and democratic governance(Eberhart, 2023). Theory of civil military relations as a scholarly framework that examines the interaction and dynamics between civilian authorities (e.g., government, elected officials) and military institutions within a society (Mishra, 2023).This theory provides a framework for analyzing how the Nigerian military has influenced political stability and governance throughout its history, particularly through periods of military rule and transitions to civilian democracy. By applying Huntington's concepts of civilian control and military professionalism, the paper can examine the impact of military interventions in Nigerian politics, the effectiveness of civilian oversight mechanisms, and the challenges of maintaining a balance between military authority and democratic governance. Additionally, it allows for an evaluation of reforms aimed at improving civil-military relations in Nigeria, thereby contributing to a deeper understanding of the military's role in shaping Nigeria's political and security dynamics.

The second isSecurity Sector Reform (SSR) Theory. According to Jonyo (2023), Security Sector Reform (SSR) Theory refers to a comprehensive approach to transforming and improving the effectiveness, efficiency, accountability, and transparency of a country's security sector. SSR aims to ensure that security institutions such as the military, police, intelligence agencies, and justice sector agencies operate in accordance with democratic principles, respect human rights, and serve the needs of the population. It involves institutional reforms, capacity-building initiatives, and changes in policies and practices to strengthen governance, enhance civilian oversight, and promote sustainable peace and security.In the context of "The Role of the Military in Nigeria's Political Evolution and Security Landscape," Security Sector Reform (SSR) Theory provides a crucial framework for understanding and

evaluating the Nigerian military's historical and contemporary role. SSR theory underscores the need for comprehensive reforms within Nigeria's security sector to enhance its effectiveness, professionalism, and adherence to democratic governance principles. Given Nigeria's history of military coups, civil unrest, and ongoing security challenges such as terrorism and insurgency, SSR offers insights into how the military can be restructured to better support democratic governance and uphold human rights standards. By applying SSR principles, this paper can assess the impact of reforms on the military's role in political stability, its interactions with civilian authorities, and its ability to address internal security threats.

Conceptual Clarification

Concept of Military

The military refers to the organized, armed forces of a nation, tasked with defending the country from external threats, ensuring national security, and maintaining internal order. It typically comprises branches such as the army, navy, air force, and sometimes specialized units like marines or national guards (Jibril, 2023). The military operates under a hierarchical structure, emphasizing discipline, training, and professionalism. Beyond defense, the military can also engage in national development projects, disaster relief, and international peacekeeping missions. In certain contexts, especially in countries with histories of coups or military governance, the military may also wield significant political influence, impacting civil governance and policy-making (Siniciato Terra, Robinson & Valdetaro, 2024).

Military's Role

The military plays several critical roles in a nation's functioning and security, encompassing a wide range of responsibilities. According to Lutfie et al. (2024), there are three classifications of Military's role:

1. Defense and Protection:Defense and protection constitute the core responsibilities of the military, focused on safeguarding a nation's sovereignty and ensuring the security of its citizens. This involves defending against external threats and aggression from hostile entities, whether they be other nations or non-state actors such as terrorist groups. The military is tasked with protecting the nation's territorial integrity, maintaining secure borders, and preventing incursions or invasions. This role requires a well-trained and equipped armed force capable of rapid deployment and effective combat operations. Beyond immediate threats, the military's defense and protection mandate extends to deterrence, employing strategies and capabilities that discourage potential adversaries from initiating conflicts. Through these efforts, the military ensures a stable and secure environment, essential for the nation's overall well-being and development.

2. Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief: Humanitarian assistance and disaster relief constitute a crucial role of the military, involving the provision of immediate and effective support in response to natural disasters, emergencies, and humanitarian crises. The military's logistical capabilities, organizational structure, and rapid deployment potential make it uniquely equipped to deliver aid, conduct search and rescue operations, and provide medical care in affected areas. This role includes establishing emergency shelters, distributing food and water, and aiding in the reconstruction and rehabilitation of communities devastated by events such as earthquakes, floods, hurricanes, and pandemics. By leveraging its resources and expertise, the military plays a vital part in alleviating human suffering, stabilizing affected regions, and supporting the efforts of civilian agencies and international organizations in restoring normalcy and ensuring the well-being of affected populations.

3. Peacekeeping and international security: are vital roles played by the military to promote global stability and peace. Military forces often participate in peacekeeping missions under the auspices of international organizations such as the United Nations, where they work to prevent and resolve conflicts, protect civilians, and support the implementation of peace agreements. These missions involve diverse activities, including monitoring ceasefires, demilitarizing conflict zones, facilitating the delivery of humanitarian aid, and helping to rebuild war-torn societies.

Additionally, the military collaborates with international coalitions and alliances like NATO to address broader security challenges, including counterterrorism, piracy, and the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction. By engaging in these efforts, the military contributes to a more secure and stable international environment, fostering conditions necessary for sustainable development and the protection of human rights worldwide.

Concept of Political evolution

Political evolution refers to the gradual development and transformation of political systems, structures, and processes over time. It encompasses the shifts in governance models, the establishment and refinement of political institutions, and the evolution of political thought and ideologies. Additionally, political evolution can be driven by various factors including social changes, economic development, technological advancements, and interactions with other political entities. It also involves the adaptation to internal and external pressures, such as civil unrest, wars, and international influences. In many cases, political evolution is marked by significant events such as revolutions, reforms, and constitutional amendments that redefine the relationship between the state and its citizens(Baća, 2024).

Concept of Security

Security encompasses the protection of individuals, communities, and nations from various threats that jeopardize their well-being, stability, and sovereignty. Security extends beyond traditional military defense to include economic stability, social cohesion, environmental sustainability, and political resilience. Moreover, it involves safeguarding against diverse challenges such as armed conflict, terrorism, organized crime, cyber threats, natural disasters, and pandemics(Tsymbal et al., 2024). Security is often pursued through a combination of preventive measures, preparedness, effective governance, and international cooperation. Ultimately, security aims to ensure the safety and rights of individuals and societies, promoting conditions for peace, prosperity, and sustainable development(Ochoga& Mazdli, 2023).

Historical Overview of the Military in Nigeria

The history of the Nigerian military is deeply intertwined with the nation's journey from colonial rule to independence and its subsequent struggles with governance and stability. According to Ogbonna, Ayoola & Odeyemi (2023), the formation of the Nigerian military can be traced back to the colonial era, where it initially served as a colonial force under British rule. However, its role would soon evolve significantly as Nigeria approached independence.During the pre-independence period, the Nigerian military played a crucial role in maintaining colonial order and security. It was structured primarily to serve British interests, often used to suppress dissent and maintain control over the diverse regions and peoples within Nigeria. This period marked the beginning of the military's institutional presence in Nigerian society, albeit under colonial command.

Duyile (2023) emphasized that a pivotal moment for the Nigerian military came with the country's independence in 1960. The military, now predominantly composed of Nigerian officers, began to assert itself within the newly formed nation. However, this period also saw early signs of instability and political intervention by the military. In 1966, Nigeria experienced its first military coup, marking a turning point in the nation's political trajectory. Subsequent years saw a series of military coups and countercoups that deeply affected Nigeria's political stability. Additionally, The military, often citing corruption, inefficiency, and ethnic tensions within civilian governments, justified its interventions as necessary for national unity and progress. Leaders such as General Yakubu Gowon, who took power after the 1966 coup, attempted to steer Nigeria through turbulent times, though not without controversy and challenges.

Folarin (2024) affirm that 1970s and 1980s witnessed Nigeria under various military regimes, each leaving its mark on the nation's political landscape. General Murtala Mohammed's brief but impactful rule in the mid-1970s attempted to tackle corruption and reform the political system. However, his assassination in 1976 highlighted the volatility and personal risks associated with military leadership. General Muhammadu Buhari's regime, following a coup in 1983, focused on anti-corruption measures and discipline within government ranks. Despite these efforts,

Buhari's tenure was marked by economic challenges and a return to civilian rule within two years. According to Ogunwa & Ogunwa (2023),the military's role in Nigeria's political evolution culminated in the prolonged military rule under General Ibrahim Babangida, who seized power in 1985. Babangida's regime attempted political liberalization through the establishment of two-party systems and economic reforms. However, his annulment of the 1993 presidential elections, which were widely regarded as free and fair, sparked national unrest and marked a turning point towards a return to civilian rule. Orhero & Okolie (2023) assert thatNigeria's political trajectory has been significantly influenced by the military, whose interventions were often justified by concerns over corruption and instability. However, these interventions also ushered in periods of authoritarian rule and civil unrest.

Military's Role in Political Evolution

The military has played a pivotal role in shaping Nigeria's political landscape since gaining independence in 1960. From the outset, the Nigerian military's involvement in governance has been marked by a series of coups and transitions, each leaving a lasting impact on the country's trajectory. Nigeria's post-independence history is characterized by several military coups that significantly altered the course of political stability. The first major coup occurred in 1966, leading to the overthrow of the civilian government and the rise of military rule under Major General Johnson Aguiyi-Ironsi. This marked the beginning of a tumultuous period where military interventions became a recurrent feature of Nigerian politics. Subsequent coups in 1975, 1983, and others further entrenched military influence, often citing corruption, inefficiency, or ethnic tensions as justifications for intervention (Duyile, 2023).

Each military regime brought with it distinct policies and reforms aimed at addressing perceived shortcomings of civilian governance. For instance, General Yakubu Gowon's regime (1966-1975) emphasized national unity and economic development through the "Three Rs" policy—Reconciliation, Rehabilitation, and Reconstruction—following the Nigerian Civil War. Conversely, General Muhammadu Buhari's regime (1983-1985) focused on anti-corruption measures and discipline, albeit with controversial human rights practices (Awopeju, 2023). The military's repeated interventions have had profound implications for Nigeria's democratic development. While some regimes initially promised to restore civilian rule, the transition to democracy often proved elusive, with military leaders extending their tenures or being ousted by subsequent coups. This instability undermined institutional continuity and hindered the consolidation of democratic norms and practices. Furthermore, the military's involvement in electoral processes raised concerns about fairness and transparency. Instances of electoral manipulation and coercion under military-backed governments eroded public trust in democratic institutions, perpetuating cycles of political instability and social unrest (Ibrahim et al., 2023).

The relationship between civilian governments and the military has been fraught with tension and mutual distrust. Civilian leaders often viewed the military as a coercive force that threatened democratic governance and civil liberties. Conversely, military leaders justified their interventions as necessary to address governance failures and maintain national security. The Fourth Republic, inaugurated in 1999, marked a significant milestone in Nigeria's democratic journey, with the military finally relinquishing power to civilian leadership through transparent elections (Orhero& Okolie, 2023).The legacy of military rule continues to influence Nigeria's political dynamics. Lingering challenges such as corruption, weak institutions, and ethnic tensions underscore the enduring impact of past military regimes on Nigeria's governance framework. While the Nigerian military has played a decisive role in the country's political evolution, its interventions have been a double-edged sword, fostering stability in some instances while undermining democratic processes in others (Aliyu & Ibrahim, 2024). The path towards a stable and vibrant democracy requires continued efforts to strengthen civilian institutions, uphold the rule of law, and foster a culture of political accountability. Only through sustained commitment to democratic principles can Nigeria overcome its historical challenges and chart a course towards inclusive development and national unity.

Military's Role in Nigeria's Security Landscape

The Nigerian military plays a pivotal role in safeguarding national security amidst a complex and challenging environment characterized by various internal and regional threats. Internally, the Nigerian military is extensively engaged in counterinsurgency and counterterrorism operations, particularly against groups like Boko Haram in the northeast region of the country. Boko Haram's insurgency, marked by its brutal tactics and ideological extremism, has posed significant challenges to national stability and security (Lenshie et al., 2024). The military's operations, often in collaboration with other security agencies, aim to contain and neutralize these threats while also protecting civilians and restoring order in affected regions. These internal security operations are not limited to combating terrorism but also extend to addressing communal conflicts, banditry, and other forms of criminal activities that threaten public safety. The military's presence and interventions in such situations are crucial for preventing escalation and maintaining law and order, especially in areas where state institutions may be weak or ineffective (Kelly, 2023).

Beyond internal threats, the Nigerian military plays a critical role in securing the country's borders and addressing regional security challenges. Nigeria shares borders with several countries, making it vulnerable to transnational crimes such as arms smuggling, human trafficking, and illicit trade activities. The military's efforts to secure these borders are essential for controlling the flow of goods and people, thereby reducing security risks and enhancing national sovereignty. Moreover, Nigeria's leadership role within the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) necessitates its active participation in regional peacekeeping missions and interventions (Awosusi& Valery, 2024). The Nigerian military has been instrumental in contributing troops and resources to stabilize conflict-prone areas within the West African region, demonstrating its commitment to regional security cooperation and collective defense against common threats (Nwohu, Ikwuoma & Oyinloye, 2023).

Challenges and Future Prospects

Nigeria confronts a multitude of security threats that test the capabilities and resilience of its military forces. Foremost among these challenges is the persistent threat posed by Boko Haram and its various factions in the northeastern region. Despite significant military operations aimed at combating insurgency, the group continues to launch sporadic attacks, targeting civilians and security personnel alike. Additionally, banditry and kidnapping for ransom have escalated in the northwest and central regions, posing significant threats to local populations and economic activities. Ethnic and communal conflicts further strain the military's resources and mandate, requiring delicate intervention strategies to prevent escalation and foster reconciliation. The proliferation of small arms and light weapons exacerbates these conflicts, challenging the military's ability to maintain law and order effectively. Moreover, environmental degradation, exacerbated by climate change, contributes to resource conflicts that often require military involvement in peacekeeping and humanitarian roles.

In response to these challenges, the Nigerian military has conducted numerous operations aimed at neutralizing insurgent groups and restoring stability in affected regions. Operations such as Operation Lafiya Dole in the northeast and Operation Safe Haven in the Middle Belt demonstrate the military's commitment to addressing internal security threats. These efforts have seen some success in reclaiming territory and reducing the frequency of large-scale attacks. Additionally, collaborations with neighboring countries through multinational task forces have enhanced regional cooperation in counterinsurgency efforts. However, the effectiveness of these operations is tempered by logistical challenges, inadequate equipment, and sometimes insufficient intelligence capabilities. The military's ability to sustain gains made in conflict zones remains a concern, as does the need for improved coordination between military and civilian authorities to address the root causes of instability comprehensively.

Looking forward, the modernization of the Nigerian military presents a critical pathway to enhancing its operational capabilities and response effectiveness. Investments in advanced weaponry, surveillance technology, and cyber defense capabilities are essential to countering evolving threats such as cyber warfare and asymmetric warfare tactics employed by insurgent groups. Furthermore, training programs focused on human rights, international

humanitarian law, and civilian-military relations are crucial to improving the military's professionalism and accountability. Regional and international partnerships also play a significant role in bolstering Nigeria's defense capabilities. Collaborations with allies in intelligence sharing, joint military exercises, and capacity building initiatives can strengthen the military's operational readiness and contribute to regional security architecture.

Recommendations

To navigate these challenges and capitalize on future prospects, Nigerian policymakers and military leadership must prioritize several key strategies:

1. Enhanced Coordination and Civil-Military Relations: Enhanced coordination and civil-military relations are pivotal for Nigeria's military to effectively address its current security challenges and future threats. Clear communication channels and collaborative frameworks between military forces and civilian authorities are essential for strategic planning, resource allocation, and timely response to crises. Strengthening these relations not only fosters mutual understanding and trust but also ensures that military interventions are conducted within the framework of democratic governance and respect for human rights. By promoting transparency and accountability, Nigeria can better integrate military efforts with broader national development goals, ultimately enhancing stability and resilience against internal and external threats.

2. Investment in Technological Infrastructure: Investment in technological infrastructure is crucial for enhancing the operational effectiveness and adaptive capabilities of Nigeria's military in addressing contemporary security challenges. By prioritizing advancements in surveillance technology, cyber defense systems, and modern weaponry, the military can significantly improve its intelligence gathering, situational awareness, and response capabilities. Additionally, robust technological infrastructure strengthens resilience against emerging threats such as cyber warfare and facilitates more precise and targeted military operations. Moreover, these investments not only enhance the military's operational readiness but also contribute to Nigeria's broader national security strategy, fostering a more secure and stable environment for socioeconomic development. As Nigeria continues to modernize its military technology, it positions itself more effectively within regional security frameworks and international partnerships, ensuring a proactive stance in safeguarding its borders and promoting regional stability.

3. Humanitarian and Developmental Approaches: Humanitarian and developmental approaches are increasingly recognized as integral components of Nigeria's military strategy amid complex security challenges. Integrating these approaches into military operations not only addresses immediate humanitarian needs, such as providing relief to displaced populations and delivering essential services in conflict zones, but also aims to tackle the underlying socioeconomic grievances that fuel instability. By promoting infrastructure development, fostering economic opportunities, and collaborating with international aid agencies, the military can build trust with affected communities, mitigate conflict dynamics, and lay the groundwork for sustainable peace and development. This dual-focused approach not only enhances the effectiveness of military interventions but also reinforces Nigeria's commitment to humanitarian principles and long-term stability.

4. Promotion of Accountability and Human Rights: Promoting accountability and upholding human rights within Nigeria's military are crucial imperatives for fostering trust, legitimacy, and effectiveness in national security efforts. Ensuring transparency in military operations, investigating allegations of misconduct promptly, and holding perpetrators accountable are fundamental steps towards building a professional and respected armed forces. Additionally, integrating human rights training into military education programs and operations can instill a culture of respect for human dignity and international humanitarian law. Upholding these principles not only strengthens the military's moral authority but also enhances its ability to collaborate effectively with civilian authorities and international partners in safeguarding human security and promoting lasting peace within Nigeria and beyond.

5. Regional Cooperation and Diplomacy: Regional cooperation and diplomacy play a crucial role in Nigeria's efforts to address complex security challenges and promote stability across West Africa. Collaborative initiatives with neighboring countries and regional organizations such as the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) are instrumental in coordinating responses to transnational threats like terrorism, arms trafficking, and organized crime. Through joint military exercises, intelligence sharing, and capacity-building programs, Nigeria strengthens its defense capabilities and fosters a unified approach to regional security. Moreover, diplomatic engagements enhance trust and cooperation among regional partners, facilitating dialogue and conflict resolution mechanisms that contribute to peace and stability in the broader West African region.

Conclusion

The role of the military in Nigeria's political evolution and security landscape has been multifaceted and impactful throughout its history. From periods of military rule to transitions towards democratic governance, the Nigerian military has shaped national policies and institutions profoundly. However, it faces ongoing challenges in maintaining internal security amidst threats from insurgency, communal conflicts, and organized crime. Moving forward, the modernization of military capabilities, bolstered by regional cooperation and diplomatic engagements, holds promise for enhancing Nigeria's defense posture and contributing to regional stability. Sustainable progress will depend on continued efforts to strengthen civilian-military relations, uphold human rights standards, and address the socio-economic factors that underpin insecurity. By navigating these challenges effectively, Nigeria can build a resilient military that not only safeguards its sovereignty but also plays a constructive role in advancing peace and prosperity across West Africa.

References

Aliyu, M. A., & Ibrahim, F. H. (2024). Revisiting Democracy: Unraveling Political Instability in Africa's Development Narrative. Allied Journal of Political Sciences and Public Administration, 12(1), 1-11.

Awopeju, A. (2023). Disposition and Leadership Approach to Corruption and Anti-Corruption Agenda in Nigeria: A Comparative Analysis of Two Regimes. African Renaissance (1744-2532), 20(1).

Awosusi, O. E., & Valery, F. (2024). Are Borders a Burden? Debates and Counter-Narratives on Nigeria's National Security. Insight on Africa, 16(1), 73-92.

Baća, B. (2024). Three stages of civil society development in the Global East: Lessons from Montenegro, 1989–2020. Political Geography, 109, 103005.

Chapman, J. M. (2023). Remaking the World: Decolonization and the Cold War. University Press of Kentucky.

Duyile, W. A. (2023). The Birth and Formation of the Nigerian Army: A Background to the Conundrum of Ethnic Rivalry and Military Doctrine. Lakhomi Journal Scientific Journal of Culture, 4(1), 22-35.

Eberhart, L. C. (2023). Deploying French forces on French soil: Using the armed forces to combat domestic terrorism and the implications for civil-military relations.

Fagbadebo, O. (2024). Historicising Coup d'etats in Africa. In The Resurgence of Military Coups and Democratic Relapse in Africa (pp. 29-63). Cham: Springer Nature Switzerland.

Folarin, S. (2024). Nigeria's Roles in Africa Under Civilian Rule, 1999–2022. In Declining Hegemonical Foreign Policies of Nigeria: A Historico-Political Analysis (pp. 291-405). Cham: Springer Nature Switzerland.

Ibrahim, J., Onuoha, B., Agbaje, A., Umar, A. M., Isumonah, V. A., Page, M., ... & Animasawun, G. (2023). Democracy and Nigeria's Fourth Republic: Governance, Political Economy, and Party Politics 1999-2023 (Vol. 19). Boydell & Brewer.

Jibril, Z. (2023). Legal and Strategic Framework for Military Operations against Armed Conflicts: Challenges and future trends in Nigeria. Law and Social Justice Review, 4(1).

Jonyo, F. (2023). The Role of Security Sector Reforms (SSR) in Sustainable Human Security. National Security, 168.

Kelly, M. J. (2023). Restoring and maintaining order in complex peace operations: the search for a legal framework (Vol. 1). BRILL.

Lenshie, N. E., Nwangwu, C., Ezeibe, C., Ifem, L. M. A., & Okafor, G. O. (2024). Boko Haram, security architecture and counterinsurgency in North-East, Nigeria. Armed Forces & Society, 50(2), 497-519.

Lutfie, R. Z., Al Qadrie, S. R. F., Uhaib, M. U., Zhyvko, Z., & Salvador, B. L. (2024). The Role of the Military in Guarding Borders in Achieving Global Stability. International Journal of Education, Vocational and Social Science, 3(01), 235-259.

Matthew, G. E. (2023). Towards a Peaceful Future: A Non-Military Strategy to Ending Conflicts and Violence in Nigeria. GSJ, 11(5).

Mishra, A. (2023). Understanding Civil-military Relations in the United States from a Social Science Approach.

Nwohu, Ikwuoma & Oyinloye (2023). Military instrument for conflict resolution: A study of AU peace keeping missions. International Journal of Social Science, Management, Peace and Conflict Research, 2(01), 031-049.

Ochoga, O. E., & Mazdli, M. O. (2023). National Security: An Assessment of Concepts, Structures, and Plans. *Arts and Social Science Research*, *13*(2), 1-20.

Ogbonna, E. C., Ayoola, A. O., & Odeyemi, O. A. (2023). The Colonial Origins of African Military and Its Implications for African Politics. In The Political Impact of African Military Leaders: Soldiers as Intellectuals, Nationalists, Pan-Africanists, and Statesmen (pp. 3-19). Cham: Springer International Publishing.

Ogunwa, S. A., & Ogunwa, F. A. (2023). Revisiting the Civil Society and Democratic Governance in Africa: Present or Absent in Nigeria?. JPPUMA: Jurnal Ilmu Pemerintahan dan Sosial Politik UMA (Journal of Governance and Political Social UMA), 11(1), 36-48.

Openiyi, A. (2020). Professionalism and civil-military relations: a case study of the Nigerian Armed Forces (Doctoral dissertation, University of Bradford).

Orhero, A. E., & Okolie, U. C. (2023). Nigeria's Trend of Military Administration and Economic Decay: An Analytical Review. Social Sciences, Humanities and Education Journal (SHE Journal), 4(2), 355-381.

Oyewole, S. (2020). Civil-military relations: Conflict and cooperation between military bases and host communities in Nigeria. African Security, 13(4), 353-379.

Siniciato Terra Garbino, H., Robinson, J., & Valdetaro, J. (2024). Civil-military what?!: Making sense of conflicting civil-military concepts.

Tsymbal, B., Kriukov, O., Radchenko, O., Dakal, A., & Kvasiuk, V. (2024). Personal Security as a Component of Sustainable Development of Society and the State. In Digital Technologies in Education: Selected Cases (pp. 203-217). Cham: Springer Nature Switzerland.

Zaman, K. (2023). Navigating the paradox of democracy and military control: an analysis of an imaginary country's political landscape.