Mission
To offer quality education and capacity training in the specialized field of peace and security to students and other stakeholders, as well as foster peace and security through research, dialogue and other outreach activities in Ethiopia and across Africa.

Vision
To be a premier African institute for knowledge production and dissemination in the field of peace and security and be recognized as a reputable institution for academic and research excellence.

Values
• Pursuit of excellence
• Diversity and inclusiveness
• Respect and fairness
• Teamwork
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Institute for Peace and Security Studies
MESSAGES FROM THE DIRECTORS
GROWTH THROUGH ADAPTATION

Despite encouraging developments such as the ratification of the African Continental Free Trade Area agreement by most African countries during 2019/2020, the year was a turbulent one. Food shortages, environmental catastrophe, locusts, internal instabilities, transnational organized crimes, xenophobia, violent extremism/terrorism, displacements, and dislocations marked 2019. In 2020, the world saw yet another round of peace and security challenge at a grand scale as COVID-19 gathered momentum spreading across all continents.

The compounded effect of COVID-19 brought Ethiopia into the spotlight when the country postponed its 2020 election due to the actual and potential impacts of the pandemic on public health. At least 50 countries globally, and excluding Ethiopia, 7 in Africa postponed their general elections for the same reason with several peace and security challenges emerging as a result. The year 2021 was particularly painful to Ethiopia due to the war in the north, and its increasing impact on human lives, displacement, and destruction of property. However, irrespective of all the mishaps, there is transcending and invincible capacity, faith, hope and wisdom to change adversity into opportunity, conflict into cooperation, and enmity into amity at various layers of the African society and state.

Hence, IPSS continues to contribute to efforts aimed at mitigating the continent’s peace and security challenges, prevent violent extremism, and build community resilience to cope with socio-economic impacts of unanticipated human insecurities, such as the Covid-19 pandemic, through education, research and outreach activities. Besides hosting the annual Tana High-Level Forum on Security in Africa, IPSS regularly conducts significant policy research on pertinent themes. Moreover, IPSS is selected as a Centre of Excellence for Post-Conflict Societies in Africa under ARUA – African Research Universities Alliance and Secretariat for the Addis Ababa University Peace and Security Committee. In 2021, IPSS started implementation of a major research grant and a capacity building grant awarded by UKRI/GCRF and ARUA. These projects are implemented over three years in collaboration with other African Universities.

IPSS admitted 120 students to its various MA and Ph.D. programmes in 2019-2021, and it churned out 10 PhD and 60 MA graduates in the academic year of 2019/2020 despite the pandemic and other challenges. IPSS continues to engage with its alumni network and develop its alumni project following a productive face-to-face meeting with some of our alumni in Dakar, Senegal in 2018. Moreover, the Institute is working collaboratively with over 25 partner institutions locally and globally. These success stories are due to the hard work of our enthusiastic students, partners, colleagues, staff, and alumni. The Addis Ababa University Management and entire leadership, together with that of IPSS, deserve special mention for their dedication. May 2022 and beyond be a time of peace, inclusive recovery, and resounding success in all our endeavors.

Yonas Adaye Adeto, PhD
Director, IPSS (2019-2022)
The past three years were unprecedented for Africa, as well as the world. COVID-19 spread quickly causing partial or complete disruption of daily routines, slowing the global economy, and causing dramatic loss of human life. As of December 2021, the pandemic claimed over 227,650 African lives and nearly 9.6 million confirmed cases from the 55 African countries. In Africa, just like in other regions across the globe, it had a negative impact on social, political, and economic areas. Its implications also revealed gender biases and trade patterns at many levels. Despite these immense challenges, Africa, through the African Union, RECs/RMs, and Member States, moved forward with plans to have the African Continental Free Trade Agreement (AfCFTA) come into force by January 2021. To this day, 54 of the 55 African Union Member States have signed on, and 40 out of 54 signatory countries have ratified the AfCFTA treaty.

In recognition of this groundbreaking initiative, which is expected to create a single continental market for goods and services, with free movement of goods, people and investments, the 9th Tana High-Level Forum on Security in Africa convened under the theme “The AfCFTA: Revitalising Pan-Africanism for Sustainable Peace and Development in Africa.” With over 200 participants in attendance, the Forum was organised from 19-24 October 2020 and was held in a hybrid format for the first time due to restrictions imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic. The Forum created an interactive conversation that unpacked various aspects of the 2020 theme that were supplemented by a High-Level Panel on the AfCFTA and its role in Revitalising Pan-Africanism and integration.

On November 25-28, 2021, we had hoped to organise the much-anticipated 10th anniversary of the Tana High-Level Forum on Security in Africa in Bahir Dar, Ethiopia, under the theme “Managing Security Threats: Building Resilience for the Africa We Want.” The Forum, however, had to be postponed to 2022. This substantial decision was taken after discussions between the Government of Ethiopia, the Tana Forum Chairperson and Board, the Technical Committee, and the Secretariat i.e. the Institute for Peace and Security Studies.

In spite of this and other challenges caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, we were able to adapt to new realities on the ground and prosper in the midst of change. The African Peace and Security Programme (APSP), a joint programme run by IPSS in collaboration the AUC, continued to provide a veritable and honest platform for incubating and exchanging innovative ideas; translating such ideas into concrete actions. The Institute utilised virtual platforms to continue building the capacities of African nationals and partner organisations by organising policy dialogue events and various academic programmes such as the Executive Master’s in Managing Peace and Security in Africa (MPSA) and Executive Short Courses Training Programme virtually.

My sincere gratitude goes out to IPSS colleagues, friends, the pool of experts, development and financial partners whose resilience, persistence, support and understanding made a huge difference during this challenging period. The support and contributions continue to be instrumental to the success of all our activities.
Mercy Fekadu Mulugeta, PhD
Academic Director (2020 - 2021)

Inclusivity and Equitable Education

The years 2019 to 2021 were extraordinary years. As of the end of 2021, nearly 300 million people had been infected with Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) and more than 14.9 million Coronavirus-related deaths had been recorded globally.

New conflict trends have emerged, polarising the world once more and reigniting geopolitical debates. Ethiopia, like several of its fellow African countries, not only endured political and economic volatility as a result of global economic trends, but also faced domestic instability, particularly in the country’s northern and eastern regions.

The IPSS, an education and research establishment with an emphasis on peace and security, has been deeply affected by these developments. Aside from the institutional and financial implications, our staff and students with families infected by the Coronavirus or living in conflict zones have experienced sorrow and uncertainty firsthand. For others, while the conflict and the pandemic did not directly affect their families, they had to grieve with their co-workers while bearing financial difficulties.

I would like to appreciate the commitment and hard work of our staff in ensuring that our academic programmes are as strong as ever during this period. I would want to pay particular tribute to our late colleague Dr. Daniel Gebregeziabher, who passed away on January 1, 2022. His tireless efforts and significant contributions to the University are much appreciated.

Despite the shifting circumstances, the year ended on a good note. For the past three consecutive years, we have had 110 MA and 39 PhD candidates, of which 22 percent were female. While this is encouraging progress from the past years, our Institute is actively encouraging and empowering more female applicants to further contribute to the continent’s peace and security. To achieve our goals in these and other areas, IPSS conducts regular reviews of its programmes. In 2020, the review process saw the vibrant participation of our alumni who responded to online surveys and participated in workshops. They became our compass showing us how far we have come, what we have done right, and how we should navigate the future. As a result, we have committed to ongoing reviews and improvements of all of our five programs, which include an Executive Masters in Managing Peace and Security, MA and PhD in Peace and Security, MA and PhD in Global and Area Studies (in partnership with the University of Leipzig), and an Executive Masters in Managing Peace and Security in Africa (MPSA).

I would like to once again express my special appreciation to our academic staff, each coordinating our various graduate programmes and finding the time to grow as excellent academics in their fields of specialisation. In addition to our IPSS experts, visiting professors from leading universities with field experience are an important part of our work. We are grateful to be working with institutions such as the University of Leipzig, the Austrian Development Agency, DAAD, and GIZ who support our academic programmes. Each and every individual and institution has contributed towards the astonishing results we have achieved these past three years.
ACADEMIC PROGRAMMES
As one of the centres of excellence of Addis Ababa University, the IPSS undertakes teaching, research, policy dialogues and community services relating to issues of peace and security at national, regional, and continental levels. The Institute aims to not only provide quality education and research skills but also to entrench a culture of peace in the future generation through education and research.

Currently, IPSS offers five academic programmes at a graduate level: eighteen-months Executive MA in Managing Peace and Security in Africa (MPSA), a two-year MA Programme in Peace and Security Studies; a PhD Programme in Peace and Security Studies; and joint MA and PhD programmes in Global Studies in collaboration with Leipzig University.

**MA IN PEACE AND SECURITY STUDIES**

The MA programme in Peace and Security Studies strives to produce competent and confident graduates capable of teaching, researching and promoting peace and security in Ethiopian and African countries. The programme, in its over-a-decade experience, has enabled students to achieve this objective through higher-level education, research, professional development and policy dialogue, as well as grassroots community service in accordance with the state-of-the-art knowledge and skills.

Alumni of the programme who are presently working for governmental and non-governmental, local and international organisations attest to its impact.

Application: July-August

---

**Yonas Tariku**  
Programme Coordinator  
yonas.t@ipss-addis.org

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**PHD IN PEACE AND SECURITY STUDIES**

The PhD programme in Peace and Security Studies aims to bridge the gap between the need for highly trained teaching/research personnel and the expansion of institutions of higher learning. Distinctive from the traditional fields of study, this PhD programme is multidisciplinary in line with the state-of-the-art knowledge vis-à-vis issues of peace, conflict, and security. The programme, which is divided into two interrelated components (course work and dissertation writing), is research-oriented and maintains the required balance of skills, knowledge, and attitude. In doing so, the programme contributes its fair share in producing qualified and competent personnel who contribute to Ethiopia’s and Africa’s peace and security.

Application: July and August

---

**Dr. Fana Gebresenbet**  
Programme Coordinator  
fana.g@ipss-addis.org  
2016 – 2021
JOINT MA AND PHD IN GLOBAL STUDIES

Commenced in 2012 by the IPSS and University of Leipzig, the Joint programmes in Global Studies: with special emphasis on peace and security in Africa promote excellence in the production and dissemination of scientific knowledge through teaching and research as well as the promotion of quality education and development-oriented research.

Delivered at IPSS in Ethiopia and in Leipzig, Germany, the programmes offer a unique approach by expanding the theoretical and methodological foundations of peace and security and incorporating them into the debate on global actors and strategies, new regionalisms, as well as the changing role of nation-states within the emerging world order.

Application: For MA, March – June
For PhD, March – November

EXECUTIVE MASTER’S IN MANAGING PEACE AND SECURITY IN AFRICA (MPSA)

The MPSA programme provides state-of-the-art executive training for African peace and security professionals. The objective is to enhance the professional competencies of senior and mid-level officials from the AU, Regional Economic Communities (RECs), and Regional Mechanisms (RMs) working as part of the African Peace and Security Architecture (APSA).

The Programme was launched by the IPSS at Addis Ababa University (AAU) in response to the African Heads of State and Governments’ call to address peace and security in Africa as an intellectual challenge - Tripoli Declaration 2009. Since its inception in 2010, MPSA has graduated over 350 professionals from 49 countries across Africa and beyond. As a distinct programme, MPSA is not just another type of master’s programme, but one that focuses on assisting participants in understanding the foundations of African peace and security architectures, as well as the APSA/AGA synergies.

Application Period: March - June
SHORT COURSES

• Peace Support Operations and Post-Conflict Reconstruction and Development
  11 - 15 November 2019 | 7 participants were trained and certified

• Transitional Justice and Reconciliation after Violent Conflict
  10 - 14 August 2020 | 13 participants were trained and certified

• Identity, Diversity, and Peacebuilding in Africa
  23 - 27 November 2020 | 13 participants were trained and certified

• Governance and Electoral Violence in Africa
  1 - 5 March 2021 | 9 participants were trained and certified

• The African Union and Regional Economic Communities in International Relations
  19 - 23 April 2021 | 11 participants were trained and certified
### ACADEMIC PROGRAMME

#### PhD in Peace and Security Studies

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Senior MPSA

Oct. 2019
REGISTERED
3 5
GRADUATING
2022

MPSA 15

Oct. 2019
REGISTERED
2021

3 16
GRADUATED

Ethiopia, Sierra Leone, Rwanda, Somalia, Malawi, and Zimbabwe

MPSA 16

Oct. 2020
REGISTERED
2022

7 18
GRADUATING

Sierra Leone, Chad, Nigeria, Ethiopia, Senegal, Angola, Central African Republic, Egypt, Ghana, South Sudan, Malawi, Benin, and Zimbabwe.

MPSA 17

Oct. 2021
REGISTERED
2023

10 19
GRADUATING

Sierra Leone, Chad, Nigeria, Ethiopia, Algeria, Egypt, South Sudan, Malawi, Cameroon, Zimbabwe, Zambia, Uganda, Kenya, Botswana, Liberia, Canada, Guinea-Bissau, Niger, and Namibia.
**VOICES FROM ALUMNI**

“As head of the Zimbabwe Peace Project (ZPP), my studies at the IPSS have contributed significantly to the advocacy work we are embarking on. The robust sessions on the production of policy briefs have helped in our work where we seek to influence policy. Visits to the African Union headquarters in Addis Ababa, notably the situation room and the IGAD office, have honed my abilities in managing an early warning early response mechanism – ZPP is an organisation that monitors and documents human rights violations in Zimbabwe.”

*Jestina Mukoko, National Director of the Zimbabwe Peace Project, and Chairperson of the Zimbabwe Human Rights NGO Forum, MPSA 13*

“For any business I undertake in foreign countries, I always use my MPSA contacts. My (MPSA) contacts helped me in contacting focal points to fill primary data questionnaires while our office was doing research on TCC/PCCs.”

*Ledet Teka Befekadu, UNAIDS, MPSA 13*

“My participation in the MPSA has enhanced my ability to advocate for people with disabilities in areas of peace and security. It has enabled me to serve as the co-chair of the Ethiopian Reconciliation Commission, a position I was chosen by the government mainly because of my experience in peace and security. Conflict being an important phenomenon in Ethiopia, I have managed to include humanitarian actions in the new strategic plan of the Ethiopian Center for Disability and Development (ECDD), the organisation I co-founded.”

*Yetneberish Nigussie, Co-Chair of the Ethiopian Reconciliation Commission, MPSA 11*

“Managing Peace and Security in Africa (MPSA) equips peace and security practitioners with competent and practical abilities to face the most critical peace and security concerns. It’s a recommended study for anyone interested in dealing with all phases of conflict and peace processes.”

*Walter Ochanda, a MPSA Cohort14 graduated on July 25, 2020*

“During my time at IPSS, I was given the best possible opportunities to create a vast network of influential people and leaders of organisations. This has paved the way for me even before I graduated.”

*Tesfaye Gebremicheal, Pre-Doctoral Fellow at STRATFORE, Zimbabwe-based Think Tank December 24, 2019*

“The MA in peace and security studies was eye-opening for me. I had the opportunity to understand both the theoretical and practical aspects of conducting research and studying peace and security in Africa, as well as across the globe.”

*Munashe William Mupoperi, Zimbabwe MA Graduate, 6th cohort, 2017-2019*

“Prior to attending the Programme, my anticipation was that it would be similar to my previous academic experience, where a professor would give a lecture and students would primarily be recipients; a one-way approach. Instead, I found the lecturers to be more of facilitators who established the tone, provided guidance, and provided a platform for discussion, debate, and constructive intervention. This method aided my academic development.”

*Lulit Kebede Mengesha, Communication Officer at African Union Commission, Peace and Security Department, 16 July 2020*
“The main advantage I have gained from completing this course is a more comprehensive big picture of African integration, including historical context. I have also learned from current African conflicts extensively. Furthermore, my understanding of peace and security issues has helped me in my recent career.”

Martti Eirola, PhD (General History), Senior Adviser on Africa Policy at the Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Executive Short Course on “The African Union and Regional Economic Communities in International Relations?”
ALUMNA IN FOCUS

WHY DID YOU DECIDE TO ENROLL IN THE MPSA PROGRAMME?

I chose to take the MPSA programme to be better equipped and to undertake my mandate as the pioneer ECOWAS Representative to the African Union (2008-2018), particularly because my mandate related to serving as the interface and interlocutor between ECOWAS and AU in the area of Peace and Security and to the AU Peace and Security Council.

WHAT WAS YOUR LEARNING EXPERIENCE LIKE AS A MPSA ALUMNA?

My learning experience was both exciting and practical. The instructors were top-notch, the learning environment was welcoming and professional, and the peer learning from other students, most of whom were senior practitioners, was the cherry on top of the cake.

WHAT WERE YOUR EXPECTATIONS BEFORE YOU STARTED THE PROGRAMME COMPARING IT WITH WHEN YOU GRADUATED?

My expectations of gaining a deeper understanding, a more analytical and practical skill set, and knowing how to manage peace and security in Africa were exceeded. My confidence as a peace and security specialist developed as a result of the training, and the quality of my representation of ECOWAS to the AU, as well as other Diplomatic and Multilateral missions in and outside of Addis Ababa, significantly improved.

HOW HAS THE MPSA PROGRAMME HELPED YOU ADVANCE IN YOUR CAREER?

The MPSA course not only made me a better and more confident expert, but I also acquired a rich network of fellow practitioners in the AU and the RECs, as well as in the IPSS community. I have been called to serve and contribute to the growth of IPSS in general as a member of the Technical Committee of the Tana High-Level Forum on Security in Africa (2014 to 2016) and I have written articles and policy briefs published by IPSS. The MPSA undoubtedly contributed to my very high profile and reputation as a seasoned peace and security expert.

WHAT RECOMMENDATIONS WOULD YOU PROVIDE TO INDIVIDUALS WHO WOULD LIKE TO ENROL IN THE MPSA PROGRAMME?

Go for it, you will not regret it. Africa needs more well-grounded peace and security experts to create that critical mass of old and young peace practitioners that will continue to increase the capacity and capability of African countries, the AU, the RECs, and other stakeholders to prevent conflicts and manage peace and security. We also need more African experts to populate the UN and other global, continental, and regional bodies working in the area of peace and security. Africans must continue to insist and demonstrate that Africa can find solutions to its security challenges.
As a research institution, IPSS conducts academic and applied research in the areas of peace and security that take into account the interaction between governance, human security, socio-economic development, and sustainable peace in line with Agendas 2063 and 2030. Furthermore, its outreach programme promotes the application of African-led solutions in conflict prevention (CEWS, Panel of the Wise, country assessments and mappings/profiles), management (Mediation, PSOs, PSC, legal frameworks, partnerships, and capacity building), and post-conflict reconstruction (Needs assessment, support to the African Solidarity Initiative, infrastructure for peace projects, and capacity building) and development. IPSS produces a range of important knowledge products to meet the challenges of an evolving peace and security landscape. Its flagship reports, namely Conflict Insight Reports, State of Peace and Security in Africa Report, APSA Impact Report, AfSol Journal: Journal of African-led Solutions in Peace and Security, as well as its Policy Briefs and Policy Analyses, Conflict mapping (Ethiopia, South Sudan), books and anthologies, provide solutions to current peace and security problems facing the continent to influence policy making and implementation.

Mesfin Gebremichael, PhD
Director, ARUA CoE in Post-Conflict Societies

Nothando Maphalala
Coordinator, Research
(2021)
RESEARCH UNIT ACTIVITIES

AfSol Journal (Journal of African-led Solutions in Peace and Security)

AfSol Blog

Conflict Insight Reports

State of Peace and Security in Africa (SPSA) Report

APSA Impact Report

Tana Policy Papers

Policy Briefs

Collaborative research

MIGRATION RESEARCH CLUSTER

An ongoing collaborative research project on migration, titled “Accessing Labour Migration from the Horn of Africa to the Gulf Countries: the case of Ethiopia, Somalia, Kenya, and Djibouti.” The project investigates the reasons and vulnerabilities of labour migrants to the Gulf countries and policy options for better labour mobility from the countries of origin to the destination countries.

PUBLICATIONS

2019 TANA PAPERS

This collection of policy briefs contributes insights into the evolving political dynamics in the continent, as well as provides policy recommendations to best nurture the emerging peace trends to sustainably resolve the political, economic, and security challenges in the region. The papers contribute to knowledge generation on the 2019 Tana High-Level Forum theme and serve as a useful reference for researchers, policymakers, and other relevant stakeholders in the region and beyond.

2020 TANA PAPERS

This volume is constituted by a set of policy briefs discussed on the 9th Tana Forum theme, “The AfCFTA: Revitalising Pan Africanism for Sustainable Peace and Development in Africa.” This collection ignited and explored insights on the actual and potential opportunities of the AfCFTA, and provided policy recommendations to address a number of challenges which will likely undermine AfCFTA’s effective implementation.
AFSOL JOURNAL

Volume 3 (I) May 2019
Volume 3 (II) April 2020
Afso Journal Special Edition
Afso Journal Vol. 4(I)

The Journal on African-led Solutions in Peace and Security (AfSol Journal) is an initiative of the IPSS. It is an interdisciplinary African studies journal, focusing broadly on the fields of peace and security in Africa. The journal covers the interface between ‘academia and practice’ and ‘theory and policy’ in African security and governance issues that have implications on the management of peace and security in the continent.

STATE OF PEACE AND SECURITY IN AFRICA 2019

The State of Peace and Security in Africa (SPSA) is the annual flagship Report of the Tana High-Level Forum on Security in Africa, offering a synoptic analysis of the pressing peace and security issues on the continent during the previous year, and providing background explanations for them. The SPSA draws attention to those considered to be the most salient and cross-cutting issues, particularly in terms of disruption and harm they caused to African citizens and the states.

CONFLICT INSIGHT REPORTS

The Conflict Insight reports aim to inform policymakers and researchers on the causes, actors’ dynamics of conflicts, as well as international responses and conflict scenarios in each focus country. From 2019 to 2021, eighteen Conflict Insight reports were produced, featuring Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Egypt, Ethiopia, Guinea, Kingdom of Lesotho, Mali, Mozambique, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Tunisia, Uganda, Kingdom of Eswatini, Benin, the Republic of Congo, Niger, Chad, and Democratic Republic of Congo. The Research Unit is currently developing Conflict Insight reports on Sudan, Guinea Conakry, and Senegal.

POLICY BRIEFS

IPSS Policy Briefs help policymakers and practitioners make well-versed decisions. In addition, the Policy Periodicals play a vital role in providing comprehensive policy options in the area of peace, security, and governance. From 2019 to 2021, IPSS published 20 Policy Briefs.

- Promoting Peace in the Great Lakes Region: What are the Other Options?
  John Windie Ansah

- Prioritising Local Governance: A Sociological Approach to Managing Organized Crime through Local Peace Mediation Processes
  Emma van Santan

- Taking Our Security into our Hands: The Role of Vigilante Groups in the Fight against Boko Haram Terrorist Group in the Lake Chad Basin
  Albert Samah, PhD

- Promoting Greater Youth Inclusion and Participation for Better Peacebuilding in the Mano River Basin
  Ibrahim Bangura

- Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) Situation in the Cameroon
Anglophone Armed Conflict
Holy Anagho Asanji
• Towards a New Geopolitical Architecture in the Horn of Africa
  Odomaro Mubangizi, PhD
• Africa-Japan Relations in the Context of Global Peace and Security: The Need for a Well-Tailored Policy
  Yonas Tariku
• Five Years after the Bamako Peace Agreement: Where is Mali Heading?
  Wendyam Herve Lankoande
• Community Engagement in Fighting Transnational Organised Crime in the Liptako-Gourma
  Moussa Soumahoro
• The Nile Rivalry and Its Peace and Security Implications: What Can the African Union Do?
  Dr. Mehari Taddele Maru
• Violent Extremism in the Lake Chad Basin Region: Evolution and Impact of Boko Haram
  Cynthia Happi
• Reframing and Repurposing National Youth Policies for Africa’s Peace and Security Agenda
  Philani Dhlamini
• African Union’s Securitisation of Youth: A milestone for regional coordination of youth programmes in peace and security
  Grace Atuhaire
• Examining migrants’ vulnerabilities and migration policies in Africa
  Prof Norman Sempija
• Burundi-Rwanda Relations: The Road to Normalization
  Tigist Kebede Feyissa
• Military Coup and Its Effect on the Democratization Process in Mali and in the Region
  Adetayo Adetuyi
• Reforming the African Peace and Security Architecture: Options for Effective Clarity of Roles between the African Union and Sub-regional Organizations
  Dr. Ndubuisi Christian Ani
• Implication of COVID-19 for Peace and Security in the Lake Chad Basin Region
  Dr Saheed Babajide Owonikoko
• The rise and root causes of Islamic insurgency in Mozambique and its security implication to the region
  Dr. Paulo Conceiçao João Faria
• Unpacking the Significance of African Continental Free Trade Area for Africa and its People
  Prince Amadichukwu
CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE IN POST-CONFLICT SOCIETIES IN AFRICA

In 2018, the Institute for IPSS, Addis Ababa University was selected to host the Centre of Excellence (CoE) in Post-Conflict Societies in Africa by the African Research Universities Alliance (ARUA). After a competitive process, the CoE won two project grants from the UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) in 2020. After postponing the start dates of the two projects due to the outbreak of COVID-19, both projects were officially launched in January 2021.

CAPACITY BUILDING FOR THE COE IN POST-CONFLICT SOCIETIES PROJECT

The Capacity Building for the CoE in Post-Conflict Societies Project was awarded approximately £600 thousand by UKRI. The project was initiated in January 2021 and will run until December 2023. The main objective of the project is to develop the research capacity of collaborating African universities, especially in the area of peace and security studies. This is mainly achieved by providing technical and financial support to PhD-level students and post-doctoral researchers. The collaborating universities for the project are: Haramaya University; Obafemi Awolowo University; University of Hargeisa; Africa University; Protestant University of Central Africa; and Addis Ababa University.

Gelila Tesfu
Project Manager
ARUA CoE in Post-Conflict Societies, IPSS
Before its conclusion, the project, inter alia, aims to: provide 72 research grants, 54 grants for publishing peer-reviewed articles; 36 grants for publishing policy briefs; improve the research, writing, and publishing skills of 360 early-stage researchers through training; sponsor the data collection efforts of over 15 researchers; conduct 18 validation workshops for sponsored researches and develop a web-based database for sharing research outputs and profiles of researchers working in the area of peace and security.

To date, the project, inter alia, has been able to: provide 21 research grants; accept 15 applications for publishing peer-reviewed articles and 10 for publishing policy briefs; offer training in research methodology and scientific writing and publishing to over 80 and 60 researchers, respectively; and convene an Advisory Board Meeting.

Although the project has made due progress, there were, however, certain challenges that were faced along the way. Some of the challenges encountered were: the breakout of COVID-19 and the consequent changes in working conditions; the use of different academic calendars by collaborating universities and the difficulty this presented in synchronising activities. These challenges were, thankfully, mitigated by the efforts and creative mitigation measures employed by the collaborating universities.

*Participants of the research methodology training conducted at Haramaya University (Ethiopia).*
Participants of the research methodology training conducted by Africa University (Zimbabwe).

Participants of the research methodology training conducted at the University of Obafemi Awolowo Ile-Ife (Nigeria).
Participants of the research methodology training conducted at the Protestant University of Central Africa (Cameroon).

Participants of the research methodology training conducted at Addis Ababa University (Ethiopia).
MIGRATION, URBANISATION AND CONFLICT IN AFRICA RESEARCH PROJECT

The Migration, Urbanisation and Conflict in Africa Research Project was awarded approximately £2 million by UKRI. The project was initiated in January 2021 and will run until December 2023. The general objective of the project is to explore the migration-urbanisation-conflict nexus in nine African cities in Uganda, Ethiopia and Nigeria. The cities covered by the research are: Kampala, Kasese and Gulu in Uganda; Addis Ababa, Hawassa and Jigjiga in Ethiopia; and Lagos, Lokoja and Jos in Nigeria. The collaborating universities for the project are: Addis Ababa University, Ethiopia; the University of Lagos, Nigeria; Makerere University, Uganda; and the University of Sheffield, United Kingdom.

Before its conclusion, the project, inter alia, aims to: conduct 9 local, 3 national and 12 regional and international level engagements with stakeholders; organise 13 capacity building engagements for stakeholders; produce 19 policy briefs, 9 articles and 1 book; and establish a global network of researchers.

To date, the project, inter alia, has been able to: conduct 3 stakeholders’ workshops in Kampala, Lagos and Addis Ababa; organise various workshops dedicated to addressing issues related to research methodology and pilot studies for the project; undertake a mapping of existing knowledge; conduct pilot studies; secure the formal commitment of over 20 relevant institutions in Uganda, Ethiopia and Nigeria towards collaborating on the project; recruit and induct 5 post-doctoral researchers; and convene an Advisory Board Meeting. The research team has been engaging in regular monthly discussions and workshops since the project’s initiation. And as a result of the emerging consensus from the workshops, and the findings of the pilot studies, the team is now ready to engage in intensive fieldwork.

Although the project has made due progress, there were, however, certain challenges that were faced along the way. Some of the encountered challenges were the breakout of COVID-19 and the consequent change in working conditions; and situations relating to the disruption of peace and security at certain locales covered by the research. These situations were, thankfully, mitigated by resorting to wait until situations improved while, in the meantime, carrying out other productive activities.

Participants of the stakeholders’ workshop conducted in Lagos.
Participants of the stakeholders’ workshop conducted in Kamala.

Participants of the stakeholders’ workshop conducted in Addis Ababa.
TRIBUTE TO ZENZILE MIRIAM MAKEBA  
FROM THE TANA FORUM

On behalf of the Tana Forum Board, the Technical Committee, the wider community of partners and friends in peace and security, the Tana Forum Secretariat would like to honour Zenzile Miriam Makeba, a South African singer, songwriter, United Nations Goodwill Ambassador, and civil rights activist.

Miriam Makeba was a South African singer who dedicated her life to the global fight for civil rights. Born in South Africa sixteen years before apartheid, Makeba spent her early years in school and church choirs, falling in love with singing. Once apartheid began, she left her formal education to work in white neighborhoods and discovered a career in singing along the way. Due to her activism and international profile, Makeba was exiled from South Africa in 1960; she did not return until 1990, as the apartheid system began to collapse. Popularly known as Mama Africa, Miriam Makeba was the first South African vocalist to put African music on the global stage, using her musical talent to speak out against apartheid as well as to advocate for civil rights in the United States.

From the time she could sing, she used her voice to inspire those around her to action, leveraging her popularity to challenge popular racist views across the world. In her lifetime, she saw the success of the civil rights movement and the end of apartheid. As we pay tribute to her life and legacy, we honour the impassioned voices of African women across the continent fighting for justice, peace, and a hopeful future for Africa.
Cmdr. Dr. Daniel was born in Hagere Selam, Tembien Awraja of Tigray administrative region on February 17, 1971. He followed his elementary and high school education at the Atse Yohannes IV School, Mekelle. Soon after, he joined the armed struggle against the Derg regime at a young age.

By 1991, he had served the Ethiopian government and people in different capacities. He spent most of his career as a policeman, with roles spanning from the chief of police stations to becoming part of the senior leadership of the Addis Ababa Police Commission. He was promoted to the rank of Commander by the Commission in 2004. After leaving the Addis Ababa Police Commission, he served Addis Ababa University as Director-General for Safety, Security, and Standards in 2010.

While working in the above-listed institutions and positions, he managed to pursue his higher education. He received his first degrees in Accounting and Law from Civil Service University and Addis Ababa University. He then went on to receive his MBA from Addis Ababa University and his doctoral degree in Peace and Security Studies from the IPSS.

A few months after completing his PhD studies, he joined the IPSS at the rank of Assistant Professor in October 2017. He was working in this position, in addition to serving as Academic Coordinator to the Joint MA and PhD the programme which IPSS runs with the Global and European Studies Institute (GESI) of the University of Leipzig, Germany until his untimely death on 1 January 2022.

He was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer while he was on a research stay at the University of Leipzig in December 2021. He had to cut his writing and publication plans short, and fly back to spend his last days surrounded by family and friends. He died on 1 January 2022.

He is survived by his wife, three daughters, and one grandson.

The IPSS community expresses its deepest sorrow on the untimely death of their committed and rigorous colleague Commander Doctor Daniel Gebreegziabher. Our prayers and sincere condolences go out to his beloved family.

May his soul rest in peace.
2019

01 Dr. Yonas Adaye Adeto (PhD) appointed as the new Director of IPSS.


2020

01 IPSS was listed among the top 50 think tanks in Sub-Saharan Africa for the seventh year in a row.

02 Tana Forum Goes Global: Promoting Barrier-Free Borders at the Munich Security Conference (MSC).

2021

01 IPSS participated in IGAD’s Capacity Development Workshop for National Institutions.

02 The most anticipated 10th year anniversary of the Tana High-Level Forum on Security in Africa postponed to 2022 due to the hosting country’s security.
03 IPSS presented its views on Silencing the Guns to the African Union Peace and Security Council.

04 The 2019 SPSA report launched at first Biennale of Luanda.

05 IPSS and AU participated in study tour to promote best practices in peace and security, Germany.

03 The Tana Forum goes virtual for the first time. The hybrid format garnered its highest number of participants with 1005 virtual and 224 in person attendees.

04 IPSS staff and students conducted a Cultural Diplomacy event at the Embassy of the Republic of Kazakhstan.

05 The 2018 APSP Impact Report monitoring methodology review workshop took place in Nairobi, Kenya.

03 A two-day MPSA Alumni conference was held on the 27th and 28th of May 2021, with the goal of bringing together alumni from various cohorts.

04 H.E. Ambassador Ruslan Nasibov, Azerbaijan’s ambassador to Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, and Djibouti, met with IPSS Director Dr. Yonas Adaye and IPSS MA and PhD students to share experiences on peace, security, and sustainable development.

05 South African, Sudanese, Belgian, Indian, Azerbaijani, and German ambassadors and other delegations paid a courtesy visit to IPSS and discussed mutual cooperation areas, bilateral ties, and people-to-people diplomacy.
Hoping to see past this devastating time in history, the world seems to get hope for relief from COVID-19 through vaccines that are ready for use, such as AstraZeneca (AZD1222) and Comirnaty (BNT162b2) and on trial such as Bacillus Calmette-Guerin (BCG) vaccine. Although vaccines are a relatively recent phenomenon, enormous achievements have been registered, with vaccines helping in the eradication of small pox and polio in several world regions. Posing at this time of crisis, the world needs to note that these vaccines had to overcome several challenges of distribution and acceptance to register success. In 2013, the World Health Organisation (WHO) developed a model indicating factors that determine the acceptance of vaccines and its consequent effect on public health. The key factors identified by the model were: trust in the vaccine or the provider (confidence), perceived need for a vaccine (complacency) and access (convenience). Evidently, these three factors should be closely observed in the current distribution of COVID-19 vaccines.

Learning from past experiences of vaccine distribution and the WHO model: it is, therefore, important to ask in what factors might degrade the trust on COVID-19 vaccines? What factors might be a barrier for awareness of the need for the COVID-19 vaccine? And what constitutes barriers (geographic, political, and structural) to access for COVID-19 vaccines? What factors might be a barrier for awareness of the need for COVID-19 vaccine? And what constitutes barriers (geographic, political and structural) to accessing COVID-19 vaccines?

The efforts towards developing vaccines and enhancing immunisation should ensure confidence in the vaccines by populations throughout the world and access to the vaccine. The need for trust and confidence building in the vaccine is apparent due to misinformation about COVID-19 in Africa; ranging from the deception that ‘the virus does not affect Africans’ to the misconception ‘that one is immune
if he/she has caught malaria in the past. Several political and social factors surrounding the vaccine and its distribution are threatening trust in the vaccine providers and access to vaccines especially for women, children and other disadvantaged communities. Efforts to patent and monopolise vaccines at this time of devastation clearly violate every principle of trust. It will compromise the integrity of vaccine providers by establishing a strained relationship between governments and institutions.

This situation will affect African women more than any other. The world recognises that with these conditions "civilians, particularly women and children, account for the vast majority of those adversely affected" not only by armed conflict but also by most natural and man-made calamities.

The effects of COVID-19 are no exception; the social, economic and health impact of the Coronavirus has impacted women and children disproportionately. At the time of writing this report, there were 3,750,266 cases of Coronavirus throughout Africa with 98,840 deaths. Evidently, COVID-19 has been among “the multidimensional threats to peace, security and development in Africa... causing instability, deaths and destruction to infrastructure and livelihood of citizens, and undermining ongoing AU efforts to promote and achieve peace in fulfillment of the aspirations espoused in the AU’s flagship project of “Silencing the Guns” and the AU theme for 2020, and Agenda 2063.” Even though more male casualties are reported, COVID-19 has affected women in various ways. In the workspace, women are affected by the pandemic due to their employment conditions, job security and most visibly as primary care takers in the health sector. In Africa, nearly 93% of women are employed in the informal sector, the long-term impact of the pandemic will be felt unequally by women who normally earn less and have limited access to adequate social protection. This has led to a lack of access to education, resulting in a knowledge gap on what vaccines are and how they work.

Additionally in households, COVID-19 has caused an increase in intimate partner violence especially, sexual violence against women and girls by various family members. Areas with limited access to health care and physiological support such as those hosting refugees and internally displaced people are among those lacking proper COVID-19 interventions and affected the most by COVID-19 containment measures "such as movement restrictions and closures of non-essential services." While a large proportion of refugees and internally displaced people are women and children, nearly 30% of them are found in Sub-Saharan Africa. The primary concern of governments and international organisations should include developing strategies to reach the most vulnerable including women and children in Sub-Saharan Africa.

Evidently, the above factors affecting women, children and other disadvantaged groups will play an important role in determining the extent of awareness and access to the vaccine. A deliberate effort should be made to close the gender gap mainly in the knowledge of the effectiveness and reliability of vaccines. Efforts should be directed towards raising the awareness of the public on the need of the vaccine. Furthermore, more practical actions to remove geographic, political and structural barriers that might hinder access to the vaccine should be taken. Without these efforts, the relief the world is eagerly awaiting will be out of reach.

8. Livelihoods, food and futures: COVID-19 and the displaced; Already at risk before COVID, displaced people face new barriers to work, education, food and social protection. UNHRC; https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/4b999f7962b64d9d56ccce7108ted65e
IN FOCUS

WORKING FROM HOME DURING COVID-19: TIPS, TRICKS, AND BEST PRACTICES FROM OUR STAFF

Tell us about your daily routine while working from home

I set my alarm to wake up at the same time every day, although I might give myself a treat sometimes and stay in bed a little longer. I shower and get ready for the day (sometimes I roll out of bed and sit at my desk to check urgent emails before showering). I have tea or cereals for breakfast and then I start working. I take regular breaks during which I listen to music, check my social media accounts, do some quick house chores, play FIFA, have lunch, etc. Overall, I have a daily working schedule which I follow to the best of my ability. I therefore wake up, begin work, and end my day according to a predetermined schedule.

What is the biggest challenge you faced and how did you overcome it?

While there is some level of flexibility when working remotely, time management was one of the biggest challenges. In order to overcome this challenge, I decided to set a schedule, and stick to it...most of the time. I scheduled my days like normal days in the office. I always planned what task to do, and when to do it. This helped me get things done. I also made sure I took regular breaks, which is something one can forget to do when working from home. Having clear guidelines for when to work and when to call it a day helped me maintain work-life balance.

When you work from home, how can you strike a balance between your professional and personal lives? Also, in terms of productivity, how do you perceive working from home?

April and May 2020 were the most productive months of my academic career. I experienced ‘working from home’ as less time spent on traffic coming and returning from IPSS, over coffee and other social engagements. I also managed to miss out on child care and home schooling responsibilities since I worked late. However, this was not tenable over the time.
When working from home, therefore, I had to strike a balance, most importantly by agreeing on a schedule to homeschool our daughter with my wife, imposing a two-hour nap on our daughter, a 30-45 minutes exercise around 5 PM, and giving myself a 2-hour walking break between 6 and 8 PM every other day.

Michael Admassu
HR Manager

When working from home, how do you keep yourself from distractions?

The first action I took in my house was setting up a working area away from the usual family space. I tried my best to mimic the office working space. Thereafter, I set a schedule and communicated to my family that I will not be available except for emergencies and during my breaks.

Most of the time, I chose a time when the rest of the family members were engaged in their own activities to finalise my tasks.

When do you take breaks? What do you do during this period?

I take two one-hour breaks a day to spend some time with my kids. We may watch a movie, take a walk in our compound, and play football or exercise.

WHAT DOES YOUR HOME WORKSPACE LOOK LIKE?

My workspace at home is an arena for solitude, where I attend to work responsibilities. It is uncluttered, deliberately designed to be minimalist in outlook, and located in the same room as my prayer room. My workspace is stuffed with the essentials needed for work – my computer, books, and files to enable me to work seamlessly without much distraction. There is ample natural lighting, complemented with table lamps. I have a favourite wall painting, and my shelf is stuffed with books, some of which have not been fully read yet. I love my workspace because I designed it by myself, and it makes me productive because I feel comfortable in the space that I work.

WHAT DO YOU DO DIFFERENTLY WHEN WORKING FROM HOME?

Like it or not, I like to dress ‘formal’ when I work from home. This puts my mindset in a working mood, and I do enjoy working this way. The only exception is, I do not wear formal business shoes all the time, but frankly, I sometimes do, and it’s fun! I like taking walks and having coffee or tea breaks. I structure my work schedule as I would for ‘standard’ working at the office. However, I feel there is a sense of flexibility working from home, and I often catch myself working extra hours than I would for ‘official’ working hours. I do enjoy working from home because I feel I am more productive. There are cost benefits of working from home as far as I am concerned. I do save on
taxi fares and, of course, reduce my carbon footprint commuting to work. This is such a great way of contributing to work and the environment!

I discuss my job performance with my supervisor and I listen and give pieces of information. On how we communicate, we first ask each other’s communication preferences. It could be via email, telephone, or video call.

Rediat Mesfin
Academic Programmes Coordinator

HOW DO YOU ‘KEEP YOUR SPIRITS UP’ AND MANAGE YOUR WORK EFFICIENTLY DURING THE STRESSFUL TIMES? (COVID-19 NEWS)

It is known that it is no longer business as usual. Our normal patterns and routines have changed and have been affected in every way. So as to maintain my sanity, I pray, try to think positively, exercise, and walk. To efficiently manage my work, I plan my daily huddles in the morning and organise them in priority order. Additionally, I set my expectation towards the to-do list, and I try to be my own critic for them.

WHEN AND HOW DO YOU COMMUNICATE WITH YOUR SUPERVISOR AND TEAM FROM HOME?

While adapting to the new and sudden work from home setting, it felt overwhelming at first but I adopted techniques and skills that have helped increase my work performance. Among the techniques I developed to communicate with my supervisor and teammates are: I try to be proactive, I follow instructions from my supervisors and teammates, I report any problem and results of work, I discuss my job performance with my supervisor and I listen and give pieces of information. On how we communicate, we first ask each other’s communication preferences. It could be via email, telephone, or video call.

Yonas Berhané
Coordinator, Communications and Profile Management

HOW DO YOU PRIORITISE YOUR WORK WHILE WORKING REMOTELY?

Initially, working remotely used to be challenging for me as I am an amiable person who thrives on face-to-face interaction. However, I figured that the pandemic and working remotely is the new reality and I started to adapt to the situation swiftly. Therefore to prioritise my work while working remotely, I use a simple (but effective) productivity hack. I start each day by identifying two to four critical tasks and adding them to my Most Important Tasks (MITs) list. These are the tasks I work on first thing in the morning. The key thing here is to use specific metrics so I know whether I’ve accomplished my goals or not.
Each day, when I complete these tasks, I know the priority tasks have been accomplished. Even if something unexpected comes up in the afternoon, I know I’ve done the important tasks that drive me forward.

**TELL US ABOUT YOUR DAY-TO-DAY SCHEDULE.**

I consider myself as an organised person keeping my schedules on a daily basis. Therefore, the moment I wake up in the morning, I will visualise my day. Then, I’ll open my notebook app on my phone and list my tasks for that particular day. Establishing a daily routine gives me structure, building forward-moving habits, and creating momentum that will carry me on the days when I feel like I don’t have the strength to carry myself. Following and listing daily routines helps me establish priorities, limit procrastination, and keep track of my goals.
OUTREACH AND POLICY DIALOGUES
With a mandate from the African Union to address the “intellectual challenge” of finding African-led solutions to peace and security challenges on the continent, IPSS aims to influence policies and their implementation on a national, regional and continental level. It provides inclusive, diversified, and trendsetting platforms for dialogue that draw attention to emerging peace and security issues. The dialogues generate and help advance the frontiers of knowledge that contribute to the design of innovative African-led solutions to peace and security challenges. They also serve to encourage policymakers to move from policy to practice and implement agreed-upon policies in their respective countries or regions. IPSS serves as the secretariat of the Tana High-Level Forum on Security in Africa, a unique annual high-level gathering of heads of state, policymakers, academia, and the private sector to discuss and find solutions to Africa’s challenges in peace and security.

The work of IPSS in influencing and shaping policy will be limited if not complemented with outreach efforts to engage the wider public and affected communities in particular. The engagement is both virtual and physical, bringing dialogues to the public through direct engagement, live streaming, making analysis widely available through media engagements and popularising knowledge products among African citizens.

Lettie Tembo Longwe
Interim Director, Africa Peace and Security Programme/Head of Tana Forum Secretariat
TANA FORUM 2019

THEME: “POLITICAL DYNAMICS IN THE HORN OF AFRICA: NURTURING THE EMERGING PEACE TRENDS.”

The 8th Tana High-Level Forum on Security in Africa took place from 3-4 May 2019, in the city of Bahir Dar, Ethiopia. More than 200 participants, comprising current and former heads of state and government, ministers, ambassadors, academics, heads of international organisations, representatives of regional economic communities, civil society, and media convened under the proverbial baobab tree to discuss the theme ‘Political Dynamics in the Horn of Africa: Nurturing the Emerging Peace Trends’. The Tana Forum has continued to provide a standing platform for constructive and frank discussions among a wide range of stakeholders on the most pertinent and pressing peace and security issues facing the continent.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS:

1. Attendance of H.E. Sahle-Work Zewde, President of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia and Host of the Tana Forum. While she represents the only sitting female Head of State at that time in the continent, two former female Presidents, H.E. Joyce Banda of Malawi and H.E. Catherine Samba-Panza of the Central African Republic, were also in attendance.


3. Attendance of H.E. Thabo Mbeki, former President of South Africa and Chair of the AU High-Level Implementation Panel for Sudan, South Sudan and the Horn of Africa.

4. The annual Meles Zenawi Lecture on leadership in Africa, delivered by Professor Adebayo Olukoshi, paid a moving tribute to the legacy of South African anti-apartheid activist and politician, Winnie Madikizela Mandela.

5. For the first time since its inception, the Tana Forum Annual University Essay Competition was extended to Africans based in the diaspora.

7. Several well-attended side events, including:
   - A Vice-Chancellors Dialogue at Bahir Dar University on Regional Integration and Security;
   - A roundtable discussion on ‘Burden Sharing and the Future of Peacekeeping’ organised in collaboration with the Munich Security Conference and the African Union;
   - A panel discussion on Lessons Learned from Peacekeeping in the Horn of Africa’ organised in collaboration with the Munich Security Conference and the African Union;
   - A panel discussion on the Evolving Geopolitical Dynamics in the Horn of Africa and its Implications on the AU and UN Security Agenda’ in collaboration with the United Nations, the African Union, and the United States Institute of Peace, and
   - A panel discussion on ‘Lessons from the EU and AU on How Economic Integration Affects Continental Security’ in collaboration with the European Union.

“The 9th Tana Forum takes place at a time when the Horn of Africa is undergoing a lot of significant and positive transformations while also facing several challenges.”

- H.E. Sahle-Work Zewde, President of Ethiopia

“The AU has been at the forefront of continental solidarity with the Horn, from being a guarantor of the Algiers Agreement to promoting lasting peace between Eritrea and Ethiopia; deploying one of the most challenging and largest peace support operations in Somalia; and being the first to deploy peacekeepers in Sudan.”

H.E. Moussa Faki Mahamat, Chairperson of the African Union Commission

“After decades of civil conflict, with support from a range of international actors, the fight against terrorism is being won. Nevertheless, Somalia continues to be beset by recurrent drought, exacerbated by climate change, resulting in the worsening of the humanitarian situation in Somalia. This calls for greater demand for the implementation of the Paris Agreement on Climate Change.”

H.E. Mahdi Mohamed Guled, Deputy Prime Minister of the Federal Government of Somalia

“The 2019 State of Peace and Security in Africa (SPSA) underscored the complexity that characterises Africa’s landscape and the internal and external enablers and efforts behind the continent’s progress and challenges.”

H.E. John Dramani Mahama, Former President of Ghana and Chairperson of the Tana Forum
TANA FORUM 2020

THEME: “THE AFCFTA: REVITALISING PAN-AFRICANISM FOR SUSTAINABLE PEACE AND DEVELOPMENT IN AFRICA.”

The 9th Tana High-Level Forum was held in a hybrid format for the first time, from the 19th to 24th of October 2020. The traditional physical annual convention of the Forum in Bahir Dar, Ethiopia had to be forgone due to travel, health and safety restrictions imposed by the COVID-19 Pandemic. Nevertheless, as usual, the Forum brought together high-level decision-makers on peace and security drawn from different government bodies (HoSGs, AU organs, and RECs); non-African regional institutions (UN, EU); the African private sector and civil society networks as well as scholars and practitioners of peace and security in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS:

1. Presence of H.E. Sahle-Work Zewdie, President of Ethiopia, H.E. Gedu Andargachew, the National Security Affairs Advisor to the Prime Minister of Ethiopia, and H.E. Hailemariam Dessalegn, former Prime Minister of Ethiopia.

2. The Annual Tana Forum University Essay Competition with winners Mr. Darlington Tsuma, PhD candidate at the Durban University of Technology (South Africa) specialising in Peace and Conflict Studies; Nnamani Chikezie Nchedo, PhD student in the Department of Biotechnology at the Federal University of Technology, Owerri, Nigeria; Sagni Getu Sori, Lecturer from Bahir Dar University, Faculty of Social Science, Department of Peace and Conflict Studies.


4. Several side events including, ‘A Recipe for Successful AfCFTA Implementation’ stressed that the involvement of youth and grassroots organisations is critical for AfCFTA and how African youth must be at the core of the AfCFTA implementation and process.
“The Tana Forum is indeed a platform that strives to meet the intellectual challenge for African-led discussions and solutions to the problems confronting our continent.”

H.E. Sahle-Work Zewde, President of Ethiopia

“The AfCFTA is not a magical wand that will bring everlasting peace, stability, and development. However, it offers an opportunity to press the reset button and set new goals.”

H.E. John Dramani Mahama, former President of Ghana

“The need for aggressive and proactive leadership on revitalising Pan-Africanism requires concentrated efforts from all leaders, African citizens, private sector and partners to get behind the AfCFTA as the unifying vehicle.”

H.E. Hailemariam Dessalegn, former Prime Minister of Ethiopia

“The Tana Forum has continued to be the premier event for intellectual engagement while providing a platform for much-needed frank discussion especially now against the background of the COVID-19 pandemic that had crippled the global efforts at international cooperation on peace and development.”

H.E. Gedo Andargachew, National Security Affairs Advisor to the prime minister of Ethiopia

“Right now, we face a plethora of multilateral challenges yet a broad, gnawing and growing sense of multilateral fatigue but nevertheless, the unity of our shared aspirations belies narratives of division.”

H.E. USG Fabrizio Hochschild Drummond, Special Advisor to the Secretary-General, United Nations
POST TANA 2019

“INTEGRATION AGENDA IN THE HORN OF AFRICA: IMPLICATIONS ON WOMEN, PEACE AND SECURITY”

05-06 AUGUST 2019

The IPSS and the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) hosted a two-day joint Multi-Stakeholders Dialogue in Djibouti. Thirty-five participants took part in this Post-Tana Forum with representatives from the UNFPA, Life & Peace Institute, UNOAU, Save the Children, Oxfam International Pan Africa Programme, and ISS. The main objective of the session was to explore the implications of the current integration efforts in the Horn of Africa on women, peace and security.

Key takeaways from the Tana Forum indicated that: integration needs to be viewed beyond leadership rapprochement and good relations and speak to the integration of systems and values. Regional integration needs to happen faster, deeper, and more effectively. It was also stated that investments in economic infrastructural linkages, which have regional impact and benefits as well as the ability to secure innovative financing, are imperative. Despite its numerous challenges, including fragmentation at the national level in some countries of the region, the resolve to implement the integration agenda is ideal.

POST TANA 2019

POST-TANA REGIONAL MULTI-STAKEHOLDERS FORUM: “MIGRATION, PEACE AND SECURITY: WHAT ROLE FOR CSOs?”

9-10 OCTOBER 2019

On 9-10 October 2019, the IPSS, the United Nations African Institute for Economic Development and Planning (IDEP), and the Gorée Institute jointly organised a two-day Multi-Stakeholder dialogue on the theme “Migration, Peace and Security: What Role for CSOs.”

The Forum, held on Gorée Island, Senegal, attracted over 30 participants from civil society, government, academia, and international and regional organisations in 10 countries. Participants recognised that the location of the Post-Tana Forum on Gorée Island was symbolic of the important historical legacy of migration in and out of Africa. The Tana Forum was commended as a symbol of African intellectual independence, and the organisation of dialogues such as the Post-Tana Forum was appreciated as a useful space for key organisations such as ECOWAS to discuss and develop substantive knowledge and policies on migration.

The dialogue sought to explore migration and free movement of people in the nexus of regional integration, address the pros and cons of this discourse, and recommend practical operable recommendations for the AU, Member States, RECs/ RMs and other stakeholders working on migration, peace and security.
**POST-TANA 2019**

**POST-TANA YOUTH FORUM: “CONSULTATION ON YOUTH IN PEACE AND CONFLICT: DOES MY VOTE COUNT IN AFRICA?”**

24-25 OCTOBER 2019

In collaboration with HOJA Youth Network, IPSS hosted a two-day Youth Consultation workshop. The workshop served as a platform for candid discussions relating to youth engagement in peace and conflict in Africa and for youth to share their experiences of participating in social, economic, and political processes.

The Post-Tana Forum Youth Consultation workshop explored the role of youth in peace and conflict and its implications for youth involvement on the continent. The main themes of the consultation included:

1. Youth as agents of/for peace;
2. The role of youth organisations;
3. The role of media (social and traditional).

Based on the outcomes of the discussions, the participants provided the following recommendations:

1. Lobby for the African Union to introduce youth from each member state in the office of the AU youth envoy to ensure issues pertaining to the youth are properly dealt with;
2. Advocate for the improvement, ratification, and effective implementation of existing policies by AU member states;
3. Encourage more youth organisations to engage in post-conflict reconstruction and development processes;
4. Undertake community outreach programmes in conflict-affected areas to provide an evaluation of those affected by the conflict;
5. Provide peace education to disseminate information on peace and provide an understanding of the different conflict perspectives.

In conclusion, the youth consultation workshop envisioned a continued IPSS partnership with improved communication in policy outcomes, coordination with the African Union and regional blocs, and increased youth engagement in political processes.

**PRE-TANA 2020**

**VIRTUAL PRE-TANA YOUTH FORUM: “YOUTH AND FREE TRADE: CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES (IN RELATION TO PEACE AND SECURITY)”**

27 AUGUST 2020

In collaboration with the African Youth Commission, Youth Foundation for Development, Education & Leadership (Youth hub Africa), Youth to Youth, and GIZ, the Pre-Tana Youth Forum took place virtually. The main purpose of the Pre-Tana Youth Forum was to facilitate frank and open dialogue among youth on their perception of the nexus between youth engagement, AfCFTA, and peace and security. It equally aimed at contributing to an ongoing effort to ensure that youth benefit from the AfCFTA, which will have its own impact on the peace and security in the region.

In doing so, it achieved the following specific objectives:

1. Unpacked the AfCFTA and what it means to have meaningful participation of youth;
2. Shared evidence-based knowledge on AfCFTA in the light of peace, security, youth participation, and experiences of youth entrepreneurship;
3. Recognised challenges and acknowledge opportunities of the AfCFTA;
**PRE-TANA 2020**

**VIRTUAL PRE-TANA REGIONAL MULTI-STAKEHOLDERS DIALOGUE: “THE AFCFTA AND PRIVATE SECTOR: UNLOCKING POTENTIALS BEYOND THE PANDEMIC”**

**22 SEPTEMBER 2020**

Collaborating with the Mission of Japan to the African Union, IPSS organised a Joint Virtual Multi-stakeholders Pre-Tana Forum. The dialogue covered current and ongoing initiatives to further pave the way for the involvement of the private sector, especially SMEs, in the implementation of the AfCFTA. The dialogue also explored the challenges and opportunities that the AfCFTA avails to the private sector in the nexus of peace and security and recommended practical operable recommendations for the AU, Member States, RECs/RMs, and other stakeholders working on the topic and related areas.

The Pre-Tana Regional Multi-Stakeholders Dialogue’s aimed at;

1. Identifying common trade agreements to be put in place for the successful implementation of the AfCFTA;
2. Recognising the various opportunities it avails for the private sector, Member States, businesses, and individual cross-border traders on the continent;
3. Looking at the AfCFTA’s nexus with peace and security on the continent;
4. Acknowledging challenges and set ways forward

**POST-TANA VIRTUAL MULTI-STAKEHOLDERS FORUM**

**“NATIONAL SOVEREIGNTY, PEACE AND SECURITY: CHALLENGING DEMANDS FOR THE AFCFTA”**

**17 DECEMBER 2020**

The Tana High-Level Forum in collaboration with the United States Institute of Peace, German Cooperation, and GIZ, organised the Post-Tana Virtual Multi-Stakeholders Forum. The Post-Forum aimed to provide a platform for candid deliberations about the AfCFTA and its implications on state sovereignty and continental security.

Various high-level personalities attended the event, including H. E. Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, Former President of Liberia, Ambassador Tesfaye Yilma Sabo, Permanent Representative of Ethiopia to the African Union and UNECA, Dr. Khabele Matlosa, Director, Political Affairs Department, African Union, Mr. Karim El Aynaoui, President, Policy Center for the New South, Ms. Rose Mulaah, Women Representative, FemWise, Cross Boarder Traders’ Association, Dr. Catherine Biira Promise, (PhD) Former Director, Institute for Regional Integration and Development, Dr. Lemma Lessa, Assistant Professor of Information Systems, School of Information Science, College of Natural & Computational Sciences, Addis Ababa University.

The Post-Forum unpacked the different dimensions of state sovereignty in the context of the AfCFTA, addressed the multiple security challenges connected to the AfCFTA, and provided a recommendation regarding key policies to foster more effective cooperation of sub-regional bodies in the fight against transnational security threats.

Ms. Lettie T. Longwe, Interim Director of APSP, Head of Tana Forum, Institute for Peace and Security Studies, and Ms. Elisa Jobsson, Director, Global Advocacy, International Crisis Group, moderate the sessions. Lastly, Dr. Yonas A. Adeto, Director, IPSS, provided the closing remarks and concluded the session.
A policy dialogue was held on the “Role of Multilateralism in the Effective Implementation of the AfCFTA. The dialogue was jointly organised by IPSS in partnership with GIZ and the German Corporation.

The dialogue sought to dig deeper into what implementation steps have been put in place and which African countries were already taking advantage of AfCFTA to trade with each other. The dialogue also sought to propose recommendations for mitigating the challenges being faced in implementing the AfCFTA.

KEY TAKEAWAYS:

• Multilateral organisations have defined global governance.
• Multilateralism is about collective endeavours, the power of the whole rather than part.
• Rhetorics championed by multilateral organisations include solidarity, the rule of law, equality of nations, and alienable rights of all countries.
• The IGAD region is the least regionalised region in Africa.
• Social media has redefined territorial integrity, including the sovereignty of states.
• Public participation in governance is very crucial.
• There is a need for a basis for action, sanction, and intervention, especially in complex political emergencies by multilateral organisations.
The Institute for Peace and Security Studies, IPSS Policy Dialogues is part of the African Peace and Security Programme (APSP). It serves as a platform for African leaders, policymakers, and stakeholders to explore and share insights on African-led solutions to security challenges. The Policy Dialogue also seeks to contribute towards enhancing the capacity of the Peace and Security Unit (PSD) of the AU. As an institution mandated by the AU to explore, define and discuss African solutions in peace and security, IPSS convenes various types of platforms on current or emerging peace and security concerns in Africa, including briefing sessions, lecture series, and indaba sessions.

Rubiyat Mohammed Seid
Lead, Policy Dialogues
SPECIAL EVENT

“IPSS AND IRISH EMBASSY ROUNDTABLE ON WOMEN IN PEACE NEGOTIATIONS AND MEDIATION PROCESSES: EXPERIENCES FROM IRELAND IRISH EMBASSY”

5 FEBRUARY 2019

IPSS and the Embassy of Ireland, Addis Ababa organised a roundtable on the topic "Women in Peace Negotiation and Mediation.” The panel featured Professor Monica McWilliams, Professor of Women Studies at the Transitional Justice Institute, University of Ulster and a former Member of the Legislative Assembly who served as Chief Commissioner of the Northern Ireland Human Rights Commission, Diane Misenga Kabeya, Deputy Head of Delegation, International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), and Salome Mbugua, Member, Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission, Ireland.

The main presentation was delivered by Professor Monica McWilliams followed by brief presentations from Diane Misenga Kabeya and Salome Mbugua. The roundtable explored the challenges involving women in peace negotiation and mediation processes based on the experiences from Ireland, as compared with the context of African conflicts. Some lessons and recommendations were also outlined at the roundtable.

JOINT IPSS & ICC PUBLIC LECTURE


13 JUNE 2019

On 13 June 2019, a Joint Public Lecture was held at Addis Ababa University, FBE Campus, Eshetu Chole Conference Hall.

The public lecture was organised jointly by the IPSS and the ICC. The lecture was delivered by Judge Chile Eboe-Osuji, President of the International Criminal Court, Appeals Division, and moderated by Dr. Yonas Adaye Adeto from IPSS, Associate Academic Director.

The presentation, questions, comments, and reflections were stimulating and the participants came from different disciplines, mainly composed of IPSS and Law School. The participants were intrigued by the topic with participants actively contributing and benefitting from the discussion.

The main issues of the discussion revolved around how to balance the competing and sometimes conflicting concepts of Justice and Peace, whether ICC is targeting only Africa and whether ICC serves the interests of westerners. These two issues were raised several times during the discussion.

INDABA SESSION

“EXPERIENCE AS A WOMAN HEAD OF STATE IN A WAR-TORN COUNTRY: CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC”

11 JULY 2019

Among the many women in Africa that overcame social stigma and economic setbacks in their pursuit of leadership are: H.E. Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, former President of Liberia; H.E. Joyce Hilda Banda, former President of Malawi; and H.E. Sahle-Work Zewde, President of Ethiopia. H.E. Catherine Samba-Panza was the first woman to lead the Central African Republic after former president François Bozizé stepped down during a turbulent time in the country characterised by violent clashes between Muslim and Christian groups.

During the session, H.E. Catherine Panza, Former Interim President, shared her personal experience of what it meant to be a woman Head of State in a war-torn country with participants from different local and international organisations. H.E. Panza shared her experiences, best practices, and challenges she faced as a woman Head of State in Africa and inspired many that attended the Indaba session.

The event was moderated by Ms. Rubiyat Mohammed, IPSS Policy Dialogue Unit Lead.
PUBLIC LECTURE

“PUBLIC LECTURE ON THE ROLE OF CULTURE IN PEACEBUILDING AND PEACEMAKING”

19 SEPTEMBER 2019

On 19 September 2019, the IPSS in collaboration with NATO Southern Hub organised a public lecture series under the theme ‘The Role of Culture in Peace building and Peace-making.’ Professor Lieutenant Colonel Stefan Grotewohl delivered the public lecture from the Private University of Lugano, Switzerland.

Prof. Grotewohl’s lecture, based on the model of Gerard Hendrik (Geert) Hofstede, a well-known Dutch scholar, focused on four main topics:

1. Masculine vs. feminine
2. Power vs. distance
3. Individualism vs. Collectivism, and
4. Uncertainty avoidance

The professor noted that cross-cultural communication is paramount for peacekeeping missions deployed by the UN, AU, and RECs among others.

BOOK LAUNCH

“The Puzzle of Ethiopian Politics”

2 OCTOBER 2019

IPSS hosted the launch of “The Puzzle of Ethiopian Politics,” a book authored by Dr. Terrence Lyons, Associate Professor of Political Science at George Mason University, United States. The book explores the evolution of Ethiopian politics with a particular focus on elections, transnational politics, the mutual security system in the Horn of Africa, and US foreign policy toward the Horn. Dr. Lyons presented an overview of the book and explained in detail the origins of a small Marxist-Leninist insurgency in Northern Ethiopia which transformed into a party (the EPRDF) with eight million members. He further spoke of the EPRDF’s hierarchy that linked even the lowest Ethiopian village to the centre; the legacies of protracted civil war and rebel victory over the brutal Derg regime and its effect on contemporary Ethiopian politics; and the widespread protests and transformation under the new leadership to meet popular demands for reforms.

Dr. Lyons concluded by recommending that the government invest and commit more in conflict resolution, peace building, and dialogues on sensitive matters. His book can be purchased on Amazon.

SPECIAL EVENT, DENMARK-AFRICA DIALOGUE

“STRENGTHENING CONFLICT RESILIENCE THROUGH PREVENTION AND YOUTH ENGAGEMENT”

26 NOVEMBER 2019

The Denmark-Africa Dialogue created an environment to explore issues related to conflict prevention and conflict response on November 26, 2019. In addition to providing opportunities for youth-led initiatives in conflict resilience, engaging with African youth more broadly and leveraging their experiences and perspectives is an important, yet underutilised, resource in shaping national and regional development policy.

During discussions, participants identified four interconnected points: Young people face multiple challenges - Youth face numerous challenges due to poor governance, human rights (including participation and exclusion), and limited economic opportunities. Climate change adds to and exacerbates these issues.

Climate change: a threat multiplier – Climate change amplifies the existing threats to the resilience of communities. By affecting access to food, water, and sustainable livelihoods, the effects of climate change are likely to exacerbate or even bring conflict to vulnerable communities. Solutions must be found considering the vulnerability of communities and the impacts of climate change on conflict. Moreover, climate change-induced resource scarcity can be exploited by terrorist groups on the continent, aggravating conflict further. Critical to developing and implementing future-ready-sustainable policies will be creative, collaborative approaches, ownership and involvement of local communities, and a better understanding of the link between climate change and migration.

Youth as a heterogenous group - The youth demographic of Africa is dynamic and diverse. Understanding the issues and concerns of this group is crucial in leveraging their potential in conflict prevention and sustainable development. Without the engagement of the government with young people, the buy-in needed for policies and programmes to succeed will be lacking. Without
engagement, further disenfranchisement of the youth is likely to occur. Inclusive decision-making processes, fostering intergenerational dialogue, and cooperation amongst stakeholders can be hugely beneficial in development initiatives targeting young people. Greater consultation needs to be employed in addressing challenges from unemployment, education, and climate change. Perceptions of the youth also need to change as important programmes such as cross-border employment projects and youth-led initiatives will not materialise should the status quo remain. By changing this mindset and engaging young people as partners, there is a real opportunity to build bottom-up interventions. Stronger participation and ownership – access to an inclusive platform is key to engaging young people and understanding the myriad of challenges they face. This is a portal to gaining their feedback on issues such as:

a) Quality of governance,

b) The state participatory democracy,

c) Progress on human rights.

Projects, especially those intended to benefit young people, will be strengthened through consultation with the beneficiaries. They should not be imposed in service of the agenda of donors and development practitioners. Evidence-based solutions can be generated through a shift in research and development policy in an informal space. Additional returns on youth initiatives can be made by investing in grass-roots level capacity building and providing effective incentives
BRIEFING SESSION

“How will the AU silence the guns?”
BRIEFING SESSION ON THE OUTCOMES OF THE 33RD ORDINARY SESSION OF THE ASSEMBLY OF THE AFRICAN UNION

13 FEBRUARY 2020

The IPSS and the Institute for Security Studies (ISS) jointly organised a Post-AU Summit seminar on “How will the AU silence the guns?” The seminar discussed key summit outcomes in light of the AU’s 2020 theme: Silencing the guns: creating conducive conditions for Africa’s development.

The featured Speakers included H.E. Amb. Xolisa Makaya, South African Ambassador to Ethiopia and the AU, Liesl Louw-Vaudran, Senior Researcher, ISS Pretoria, Dr. Mohamed M Diatta, Researcher, ISS Addis Ababa. The discussion was chaired by Dr. Yonas Adaye Adeto, IPSS Director, Addis Ababa, moderated by Lettie Tembo Longwe, Team Lead, Programme Management and Institutional Development Unit (2019), IPSS, and the keynote address was delivered by Ambassador Xolisa Makaya, South African Ambassador to Ethiopia and the AU. The Ambassador spoke about South Africa’s priorities as the AU Chair in 2020, and the key objectives among the AU member states which are unity, solidarity, and cooperation.

During the South African AU chairmanship, five priorities were given:

1. The AfCFTA has the potential for prosperity and growth on the continent.
2. Measures to overcome Africa’s large infrastructure deficit. A high-level forum on infrastructure is scheduled to be held in November 2020 in South Africa.
4. Peace and security in Africa as well as silencing the guns.
5. The AU-UN cooperation is a major focus of the current chair.

BRIEFING SESSION

MAKING AFRICAN-LED SOLUTIONS WORK FOR THE GRAND ETHIOPIAN RENAISSANCE DAM (GERD): “EQUITABLE DEVELOPMENT AND PEACEFUL COEXISTENCE”

28 JULY 2020

The IPSS held a Virtual Policy Dialogue on the topic “Making African-led Solutions Work for The Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam (GERD): Equitable Development and Peaceful Coexistence.” The featured panelists included: Professor Sidi Omar, representative of the Frente POLISARIO at the United Nations, New York, Visiting, Researcher at the UNESCO Chair of Philosophy for Peace, Universitat Jaume I, Castellón, Spain, Member of the Interuniversity Institute of Social Development and Peace, Dr. Yacob Arsano, an associate professor of political science and international relations at Addis Ababa University, member and Vice Chair of National Panel of Experts for the Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam and member of National Council for the Coordination of Public Participation on the Construction of the Grand Renaissance Dam, and Ms. Elissa Jobson, Director, Global Advocacy, International Crisis Group. The session was moderated by Dr. Yonas Adaye Adeto, Director, IPSS.

The session featured a virtual discussion on issues related to the principles of trans-national water resource management, the tripartite (Egypt, Sudan, and Ethiopia) negotiations on the GERD, the African Union-led process of the negotiation as well as the involvement of the United Nations Security Council.

Equitable Development and Peaceful Coexistence produced inputs that would help in moving forward on the tripartite negotiations. The discussions not only identified the reasons behind the stalling of negotiations but also clarified the different roles of the actors involved in the negotiation process and the political commitment among the negotiating parties. Fifty-one representatives from the African Union, embassies, academia/think tanks, and NGOs/CSOs participated in this virtual discussion.
IPSS VIRTUAL INDABA SESSION

“SOUTH AFRICA AS CHAIR OF AU 2020 AND NON-PERMANENT MEMBER OF UNSC: REVISITING EXPECTATIONS AND ASPIRATIONS”

12 AUGUST 2020

On 12 August 2020, the IPSS held a Virtual Indaba session on the theme “South Africa as a Chair of AU 2020 and Non-Permanent Member of the UNSC: Revisiting Expectations and Aspirations.” Dr. Yonas Adaye, Director, IPSS, moderated the sessions and welcomed participants. The featured participants in the meeting were representatives from the African Union, embassies, academia/think tanks, NGOs/CSOs, etc. Thirty participants attended the virtual indaba session.

The session had a fruitful discussion on issues related to what has been achieved during the African Union chairmanship of the president of South Africa. The moderator highlighted five critical points which are very relevant to Africa today from the chairman’s acceptance speech, such as focusing on inclusive development and deepening or heightening African unity for a more united Africa, gender equality, silencing the guns, multilateralism, and Africa’s dealings in its international relations and last but not least, prioritising what is remaining in the tenure of the South African president as the chairman of the African Union.

BRIEFING SESSION

“THE FOURTH CONSULTATIVE WORKING GROUP MEETING ON SOUTH SUDAN”

19 NOVEMBER 2020

As part of a series of consultative working group meetings convened by IPSS and USIP, the IPSS hosted a virtual 4th Consultative Working Group Meeting on South Sudan on 19 November 2020, 52 participants attended the fourth roundtable. The working group’s first meeting took place on 6 May 2019, and the second on 12 July 2019. The third, in conjunction with Oxfam, was held on 16th December 2019.

Following in the footsteps of previous roundtables, this briefing session brought together experts from South Sudan, the AU Commission, IGAD, think tanks, and relevant permanent representatives to the AU to discuss the progress and challenges in South Sudan since the transitional government was established.

The joint virtual roundtable’s purpose was to assess the state of peace and security in South Sudan after the transitional government was established. It specifically addressed the following objectives: critically analysing to inform a deeper understanding of the progress the transitional government has made since its establishment and the challenges it faces; identifying key national, regional/continental, and international actors for influencing; and unpacking critical steps and recommendations that need to be taken to ensure commitment to the implementation of the peace agreement to keep South Sudan at peace.

CULTURAL DIPLOMACY AT THE EMBASSY OF THE REPUBLIC OF KAZAKHSTAN

7 DECEMBER 2020

IPSS honoured an invitation to visit the Kazakhstan Embassy on December 4, 2020. This invitation aimed to introduce Kazakhstan and its culture to the international communities.

H.E. Mr. Barlybay Sadykov, the Ambassador of the Republic of Kazakhstan gave guests a tour of the cultural center named after Abay Kunanbayev, the great poet and thinker of the Kazakh people. Abay was a philosopher, humanist, composer, and exquisite master of the artistic world. He contributed to the dissemination of the Russian and European culture among Kazakhs. He translated the works of Krylov, Lermontov, Pushkin, Goethe, and Byron. This
year marks the 175th anniversary of the birth of Abay Kunanbayev.

The prospects of a collaboration between IPSS, the Kazakhstan government and universities in Kazakhstan to nurture peace and security through research, dialogue, and other outreach activities in Ethiopia as well as Africa will be explored.

**JOINT IPSS & ICRC BRIEFING SESSION**

**“EXAMINING THE HUMAN COST OF MIGRATION POLICIES IN AFRICA”**

**15 SEPTEMBER 2020**

The IPSS in collaboration with the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) organised a briefing session under the theme Examining the Human Cost of Migration Policies in Africa. Opening remarks were delivered by Dr. Yonas A. Adeto, Director, IPSS, and Mr. Bruce Mokaya Orina, Head of Delegation, International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC).

The featured panelists included Joelle Rizk, ICRC Migration/IDP Adviser, Dr. iur. Mehari Taddele Maru, Parttime Professor, Migration Policy Centre, Robert Schuman Centre for Advanced Studies, European University Institute, and Mr. Sabelo Mbokazi, Head of Division of Labor, Employment and Migration, AU.

The featured panelists delivered speeches focusing on the human cost of migration policies, the negative impact of the containment policies and their impact in Africa, and the AU DSA’s position on the human cost of migration policies and their related actions for the protection of migrants.

**VIRTUAL BRIEFING SESSION**

**“THE NEXUS BETWEEN INVESTING IN CHILDREN AND YOUTH AND SILENCING THE GUNS”**

**26 JANUARY 2021**

The first IPSS Dialogue for 2021 was on ‘Investing in Children and Youth, and Its Nexus with Silencing the Guns.’

The dialogue sought to make a strong case for investing in children and youth and its role in preventing conflicts and promoting peace.

The following were some of the takeaways from the session:

- There are 226 million youth in Africa between the age of 15 and 24. It is projected that by 2030, youth would comprise 42 percent of the population.
- Children and youth of today are adults of tomorrow.
- 23 million small guns were purchased in 2020.
- Silencing the guns is a flagship programme of AU Agenda 2063.
- It is a misnomer that young men and women are synonymous with violence.
- The African Union has recognised the role of young people in peacebuilding.
- Civil societies have an essential role in holding governments accountable/responsible for the implementation of policies.
- There is a need to build the capacities of youth for them to engage in effective peacebuilding activities.
- Capacity building on project management, human rights, etc., could help youth be better equipped for peacebuilding.
- Guns imported from outside Africa are an enormous security challenge. The illicit flow of arms through neighboring African countries is also a daunting challenge and fuels conflicts.
- Governments should be discouraged from using excessive force on the citizenry.
A virtual dialogue on CSOs in the Peace and Security Agenda of Africa was convened by IPSS, Addis Ababa University. The dialogue focused on the journey of CSOs in structural prevention, conflict resolution, and maintenance of peace processes in Africa. It also allowed discussants and participants to reflect on the achievements and challenges faced by CSOs in conflict management and conflict prevention in Africa.

Furthermore, it sought to develop deliverables and operable recommendations to overcome the challenges faced by CSOs and identify ways to facilitate the work of CSOs in Africa. The dialogue assembled various specialists with practical knowledge in the field.

The critical role that CSOs play was highlighted and their contributions to preventing conflicts and building peace were acknowledged.

Noteworthy examples of the crucial role of CSOs in the Kenya Elections in 2008 were recognised.

The panel noted concern the shrinking civic space and the ability of CSOs to operate in various African countries. It was also observed that some national, regional, and continental actors were not committed to facilitating participation by CSOs. Despite these challenges and structural barriers, CSOs in Africa had found a way to push the peace and security agenda within national, regional, and continental spaces.

The instrumental role that CSOs played in passing The Livingstone Formula, a mechanism for interaction between the PSC and CSOs in promoting peace, security, and stability in Africa, was recognised.
JOINT IPSS, ICRC, AND AU HIGH-LEVEL VIRTUAL DIALOGUE

“IMPACT OF ARMED CONFLICTS ON CULTURAL PROPERTY”

6 MAY 2021

A virtual policy dialogue was held on: ‘Impact of Armed Conflicts on Cultural Property. The session was jointly organised by IPSS, the AU, in collaboration with ICRC. The virtual event was part of initiatives to implement the 2021 AU theme on culture and arts, which was adopted at the executive council’s 37th ordinary session of the executive council held virtually on the theme: ‘Arts Culture, Heritage; Levers for building the Africa we want.’

KEY TAKEAWAYS:

• In many armed conflicts, the damage to cultural property is targeted, especially in Africa.
• Most conflict areas are very rich cultural areas. Rebel groups often target cultural heritage.
• Without sustainable peace, such cultural areas cannot be protected.
• Threats can be mitigated by strong advocacy and sensitisation on how precious cultural heritage is.
• Historic sites and monuments transcend human generations
• Cultural heritage helps construct a sense of social cohesion and reinforces individual and collective sense of identity and humanity.
• The AU has invested in protecting cultural property and heritage against illicit trafficking and negotiating for the return and restitution of cultural property.
• There is a lack of sustainable structures for the protection of cultural property in African states.
• The AU Agenda 2063 vests ownership of cultural property in the state or authorised persons only. It also provides for community participation in preserving cultural property and heritage, identifies avenues for funding, and protects undiscovered cultural property.
• The 1954 Hague convention explicitly prohibits attacks against cultural property and the use of cultural property for military purposes. It provides a comprehensive legal framework covering peacetime operations such as the training of the military, adoption of criminal legislation, and marking of cultural property.
• There is the need to identify where the cultural property is situated and protect it in advance through inventory taking.

• The roles of various stakeholders and actors, such as youth, and the local community, in the protection of cultural heritage, must be understood.

HYBRID CONFERENCE

“HATE SPEECH AND MISINFORMATION IN ETHIOPIA”

2 JUNE 2021

A hybrid conference on Hate Speech and Misinformation in Ethiopia was jointly organised by the European Institute of Peace and IPSS. It brought together various stakeholders, including government representatives, academics, civil society, and international organisations.

The concept note for the conference observed that hate speech, misinformation, and fake news had thrived in the Ethiopian media ecosystem, particularly online. It was further observed that this was strongly correlated with significant, tragic, real-world events. It was also noted that during times of instability, hate speech and misinformation contributed to violence and conflict, for example, in the June 2019 regional coup attempt in Amhara, the clashes in Mota in December 2019, the violence in Oromia in October 2019, and between June and July 2020, as well as the November 2020 conflict in Tigray.

The conference provided an avenue to explore the most effective policy responses the then-new Ethiopian government could pursue, specific election-related risks, effective in addressing peace and security issues, and new approaches that could be considered to deal with hate speech misinformation and fake news.
JOINT IPSS AND KAIPTC WORKSHOP

“EMERGING DYNAMICS IN PEACE OPERATIONS IN AFRICA”

7 SEPTEMBER 2021

Under the theme “Emerging Dynamics in Peace Operations in Africa,” the IPSS and the Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre collaborated to organise a hybrid dialogue with support from GIZ.

Dr. Yonas A. Adeto, Director, IPSS gave the opening remarks. Remarks were also delivered by Chargé d’Affaires of the German Embassy, Mr. Heiko Nitzschke; Special Representative to the Secretary-General to the African Union and Head of UNOAU, Ms. Hannah Tetteh; and Mr. Zinurine Alghali, Chief, Policy Development Unit, Peace support operations Division (PSOD) at African Union Commission, AUC Peace and Security.

In his opening remarks, Dr. Yonas stressed that the theme was ‘very timely’ especially considering the global security context as well as happenings in Ethiopia and the Horn of Africa. He emphasised the need for cooperation to be forged across the continent, to help “make the world more peaceful for humanity.”

The first opening remarks were delivered by Major General Francis Ofori, Commandant at the Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre. Mr. Ofori observed that peacekeeping had evolved over the years and continued to evolve due to the changing nature of conflicts on the continent.

Mr. Heiko Nitzschke, the German Embassy’s Chargé d’Affaires, highlighted Germany’s efforts to promote humanitarianism and the HDP nexus, such as the OECD Development Assistance Committee, which aims to foster multi-sectoral coherence and break down unnecessary barriers where holistic and meaningful change is required. He highlighted projects supported by Germany in the areas of mental health, as well as psychosocial support to ensure individual and collective wellbeing.

Mr. Nitzschke expressed optimism that the dialogue will give a unique opportunity to delve deeper and establish shared obligations in order to foster holistic peace in fragile communities.

Ms. Hannah Tetteh, the Special Representative to the Secretary-General to the African Union and Head of UNOAU asserted that the challenges underscored the importance of partnerships in the area of peace and security as well as the importance of the UN and AU partnership. She further stressed that the traditional response to conflict had to change. “We have to focus on the issue of the psycho-social dimension of human experience in conflict, neglecting this can affect communities,” she said.

Ms. Tetteh added that peacekeeping must ultimately place the individual at the centre, recognising the psycho-social impact of conflict on people, and working towards creating societies where people can “move from hurt, hatred, damage to a state of mind where peaceful co-existence is possible.”
The Communications and Profile Management Unit remains vital to the long-term success of IPSS’s work. Over the past thirteen years, IPSS has come a long way with its communication strategy and efforts, including the utilisation of digital platforms and tools to enhance its presence and profile. IPSS will continue to enhance its communication with all key stakeholders based on their needs. In this regard, IPSS will prioritise expanding opportunities for stakeholders to access, engage and utilise IPSS’s communication formats and products, including the monthly digital Newsletter – IPSS Digest, IPSS Annual Review Letter, Tana Papers, research publications and call for applications. This will facilitate the meeting and management of communication needs from multi-stakeholders, therefore, better positioning IPSS to influence peace and security decisions/policies on the continent. IPSS will also strengthen and improve its existing knowledge and communication products and platforms including the AfSol Journal and the AfSol blog for better dissemination, uptake, and engagement. Greater efforts will be made to ensure the wide dissemination and uptake of IPSS’ various knowledge products – making use of the latest digital tools and platforms.

### WEBSITE ANALYTICS

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**Social Media Analytics**

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<td>Followers</td>
<td>7,924</td>
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<td>129</td>
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</tr>
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<td>Lifetime Posts</td>
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<td>140,535</td>
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### TANA 2021

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<td>Followers</td>
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FINANCE
Our program and project funding prospects continues to improve from 2019 to 2021. The Finance Unit proceeded to revamp budgeting and financial strategy around a programmatic budget approach that takes a variety of funders into consideration. Below is a breakdown of contributions to IPSS Categorised by partnerships.

Asnake Tariku
Finance Manager
OUR CORE FUNDERS FROM 2019 - 2021

GIZ, Norway, ADA, Switzerland, Portugal, Belgium,
USIP, EU Delegation, New Zealand, Open Society Foundations, Denmark, Oxfam, Humanity United,
Canada, Japan, Netherlands, World Bank, Ireland,
UKRI-GCRF
INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING
The IPSS views a partnership as a mutually beneficial and cooperative relationship in which partners have shared interests, objectives, resources, roles and responsibilities in order to achieve desired outcomes. Partnerships offer a mechanism to foster joint actions as well as an opportunity for traditional and non-traditional actors to become involved in the work of IPSS and therefore contribute towards the continental peace and security agenda. Partnerships at IPSS are managed under the offices of the Director, IPSS and APSP Director respectively. It encompasses all key units of the Institute; Research, Policy Dialogues, Institutional Development, Education and Professional Development, Academic programmes, Tana Forum as well as Communications and Profile Management.

**IPSS INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING APPROACHES INCLUDE:**

- Forge, and manage partnerships on behalf of the institute
- Establish new long-term partnerships
- Strengthen sustainability with existing partners
- Monitor and review partnerships
- Enhance capacities and mobilise resources,
- Source and access various funding opportunities;
- Facilitate the institute’s staff and students exchanges;
- Facilitate visits for partners and other stakeholders to and from the institute.

Through the above focus areas, and working closely with all IPSS units, the Institutional Development Unit is able to facilitate opportunities for IPSS, staff and students to participate in research, training and professional development, academic studies, outreach collaborations, student and staff exchanges.

**Ferial Zoheb**
Coordinator, Tana Forum Governance and Institutional Development
SOME OF IPSS’S SUSTAINABLE PARTNERS:

AU, MEMBER STATES, AUC, RECs, RMS

UN AGENCIES

UNOAU
UNESCO
ECA
UNDP
ILO

DEVELOPMENT/FUNDING PARTNERS

Austrian Govt. through Austrian Development Agency (ADA)
Danish Govt. through the Embassy of Denmark, Ethiopia
German Govt. through GIZ, BMZ and Foreign Embassy/Office, Ethiopia
Canadian Govt. through the Canadian Embassy, Ethiopia
Swiss Govt. through the Swiss Embassy, Ethiopia
Netherlands Govt. through Netherlands Embassy, Ethiopia
Irish Government through Irish Embassy, Ethiopia
Norwegian Govt. through Norwegian Embassy, Ethiopia
Belgium Embassy through Belgium Embassy, Ethiopia
New Zealand Embassy through New Zealand Embassy, Ethiopia
Oxfam
DFID and UK government
European Union/Delegations, Ethiopia
United States AU, Ethiopia
Ernst & Young Foundation, USA
Open Society Foundation, UK
Brenthurst Foundation, South Africa
Dangote Foundation, Nigeria

THINK TANKS/GOVERNMENT AGENCIES

United States Institute for Peace, USA
German Development Institute, Germany
Friedrich-Ebert Stiftung, Ethiopia
Geneva Centre for the Democratic Control of Armed Forces, Switzerland
Peace Research Institute, Germany
International IDEA, Ethiopia
Social Science Research Council, USA
Institute for Security Studies, Ethiopia/Pretoria
Global Challenges Research Fund for the African Research Universities Alliance, UK
Shanghai Institute for International Studies, China
Norwegian Institute of International Affairs, Norway
Istituto Affari Internazionali, Italy
European Centre for Development Policy Management, Belgium
UNIVERSITIES/TRAINING INSTITUTES

Bahirdar University, Ethiopia
Leipzig University, Germany
African Leadership Center, King’s College, UK/Kenya
DAAD, Germany
UPEACE Africa Programme, Addis Ababa
African Research Universities Alliance
Institute for Justice and Reconciliation, South Africa
Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia Peace Support Training Center
African Peace Support Trainers Association, Cameroon.

INGOS AND CSOs

World Bank
Global Crisis Group, USA
International Committee of the Red Cross
Crisis Action, Africa
LEADERSHIP TEAM

DIRECTORS

Yonas Adaye, PhD
Director, Institute for Peace and Security Studies (2019-2022)

Mercy Fekadu, PhD
Academic Director (2019 - 2021)

Lettie Tembo Longwe
Interim Director, Africa Peace and Security Programme/Head of Tana Forum Secretariat
UNIT HEADS (IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER)

Asnake Tariku
Finance Manager

Daniel Gebreegziabher, PhD
(late, January 2022)
Coordinator, Joint MA & PhD in Global Studies

Fania Gebresenbet, PhD
(Current Director, IPSS)
PhD Programme Coordinator

Ferial Zoheb
Coordinator, Tana Forum Governance and Institutional Development
Frank Djan Owusu
Team Lead, Education and Professional Development Unit

Mesfin Gebremichael, PhD
Director, ARUA CoE in Post-Conflict Societies

Michael Admassu
Head of Operations and Human Resources

Nothando Maphalala
Coordinator, Research (2021)
Rubiyat Mohammed  
Lead, Policy Dialogues

Seble Mulugeta  
Administrative Manager

Yonas Berhané  
Coordinator, Communications and Profile Management Unit