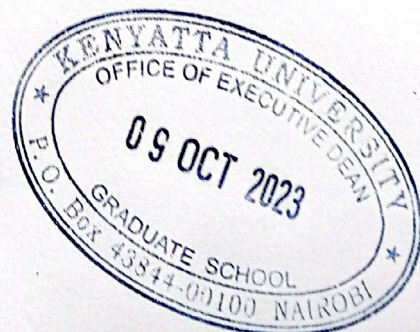


**ROLE OF EASTERN AFRICA STANDBY FORCE IN CONFLICT
MANAGEMENT IN EASTERN AFRICA REGION**

**KARANJA WANJIRA
S205/37513/2017**

**A THESIS SUBMITTED TO THE SCHOOL OF LAW, ARTS AND
SOCIAL SCIENCES IN PARTIAL FULFILMENT OF THE
AWARD OF THE DEGREE OF MASTER OF ARTS IN
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AND DIPLOMACY OF
KENYATTA UNIVERSITY**

OCTOBER, 2023



DECLARATION

This thesis is my original work and has not been presented for a degree in any other university.

Signature:  Date: 4/10/2023

Karanja Wanjira

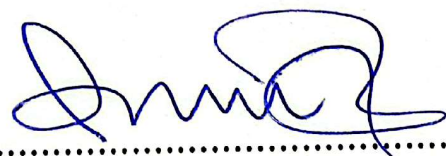
Department of Security, Diplomacy and Peace Studies

This thesis has been submitted with my approval as University Supervisor.

Signature:  Date: 5/10/2023

Dr. Joseph Wasonga, PhD

Department of Security, Diplomacy and Peace Studies

Signature:  Date: 05/10/2023

Dr. Francis Mulu, PhD

Department of Security, Diplomacy and Peace Studies

ABSTRACT

Eastern Africa Standby Force (EASF) as a regional security organization (RSO) is tasked with the duty of conflict management in the Eastern Africa Region (EAR) through peacekeeping missions. The aim of the study was to examine the Role of Eastern Africa Standby Force in Conflict Management in the Eastern Africa Region. EAR continues to experience violent conflicts despite the presence of the force and other regional organizations such as IGAD, EAC among others which has a clause mandating them with the responsibility of promoting peace and security. Despite various efforts by African Union Peace and Security Council (AU-PSC) EASF has not fulfilled its mandate. Guided by neo-liberal institutionalism theory, the study employed descriptive survey design and purposive sampling technique was used in selection of population from Ministry of Foreign Affairs, EASF-Secretariat and International Peace Support Training Centre (IPSTC). The questionnaires and interviews were administered to the sample groups. The study also yielded quantitative and qualitative data which led to the use of SPSS in the analysis of quantitative data. Open ended questions and interview guides yielded qualitative data of the study. The study found that, there were some weaknesses in EASF establishment despite being a subject of international law (IL), EASF lacks an open clause to allow the organization to enter into force with other RSO and EASF is structured to mitigate conflicts within the EAR. The study recommends the EASF to have an open clause to allow the force to enter into force with other RSO, to have dynamic structures to allow the organization deal with contemporary hybrid security threats such as cybersecurity attacks and avoid unproductive competition and duplication of mandates to enhance sharing of outputs.