

UNITED NATIONS HUMANITARIAN MILITARY INTERVENTION AND
MANAGEMENT OF CONFLICT IN NORTH KIVU PROVINCE IN
EASTERN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO; 2004-2022

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DECLARATION

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

Signature



Date 15th November 2024

JOSEPH ODUOR ODUOL

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This project has been submitted for review with my approval as University Supervisor.

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Date 16th November 2024

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ABSTRACT

This study investigated the effectiveness of United Nations humanitarian military intervention in addressing protracted conflict in North Kivu province of the eastern DRC between 2004 and 2022. Three objectives were formulated for this study. To begin with, the study examined the dynamics of conflict in North Kivu province between 2004 and 2022. Secondly, the mandate of the UN humanitarian military intervention was evaluated to determine its suitability in addressing the protracted conflict in North Kivu province. Finally, this study analyzed the setbacks faced by the UN in its humanitarian military intervention in North Kivu province between 2004 and 2022. Realism and new institutionalism theories were used to guide the study. Anchored on realism theory this study argued that humanitarian military intervention by the UN in Eastern DRC was motivated by the need to promote the geopolitical interests of powerful states. To compliment this argument, new institutionalism theory contended that North Kivu province was characterized by weak institutions and there was lack of trust between the different actors involved in managing the conflict. This study took the form of an exploratory research design. Data collection methods were primary and secondary in nature. Purposive and snow ball sampling techniques were used to select 99 respondents. These included 19 representatives from international humanitarian organizations in North Kivu, 20 representatives from the civil society, 10 government officials, 15 academicians, 15 security specialists, and 20 Congolese nationals. Research instruments used were questionnaires and interview schedules with open ended questions. Both quantitative and qualitative methods of data analysis and interpretation were used in this study. The study established that the dynamics of conflict in North Kivu province were complex, the UN mandate for the humanitarian military intervention in North Kivu was suitable in the context of the protracted conflict and there were setbacks that hindered the UN in its humanitarian military intervention in North Kivu province of the Eastern DRC between 2004 and 2022.