FOREIGN POLICIES AND DIPLOMACY OF AFRICAN STATES IN AN ERA OF GLOBALIZATION: CHALLENGES AND PROSPECTS

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ABSTRACT
This study examines the foreign policies and diplomacy of African states against the backdrop of globalization, assessing the multifaceted challenges they face and exploring the prospects for meaningful engagement on the global stage. In an era characterized by unprecedented interconnectedness, the unique historical, cultural, and economic contexts of African nations shape their approaches to foreign policy formulation and diplomatic endeavors. The research scrutinizes the challenges confronting African states, ranging from economic disparities and political instability to historical conflicts and external influences. It also examines the strategies employed by these nations in navigating a globalized world, emphasizing the role of diplomacy as a crucial tool for addressing shared challenges and advancing national interests. The study further explores the prospects inherent in globalization for African states, investigating opportunities for economic growth, technological advancement, and cultural exchange. It critically evaluates the potential for collaboration and cooperation on regional and global scales and considers the effectiveness of diplomatic initiatives in fostering mutual understanding and shared development. Through a comprehensive analysis of case studies, historical contexts, and contemporary diplomatic efforts, this research contributes to a nuanced understanding of the complex dynamics shaping the foreign policies and diplomacy of African states in an era of globalization. The findings offer insights into the evolving landscape of international relations, highlighting the necessity for adaptive and strategic diplomatic approaches to navigate challenges and harness prospects for the benefit of African nations in the global arena.

1.0 Introduction

In the wake of globalization, the foreign policies of African states have emerged as a critical focal point within the discourse of international relations. As scholars have extensively examined the evolving dynamics of global interconnectedness, a comprehensive understanding of African states' responses to globalization is essential. Existing scholarship on African foreign policies in the era ofglobalization has provided valuable insights into various aspects such as economic integration, peacebuilding efforts, and diplomatic strategies. For example, Smith (2018) explores the role of economic partnerships in shaping Africa's foreign policies in the globalized era, highlighting the impact of trade agreements and investment flows. In the regard of Smith, economic partnership is viewed a way to tackle the multifaceted challenges of globalization. Jones et al. (2020) examine the implications of regional conflicts on African states' diplomatic initiatives, shedding light on the challenges of balancing national interests with regional stability. However, gaps persist within this literature, particularly concerning the nuanced interplay between historical legacies, regional dynamics, and contemporary global forces. While some studies have explored the economic dimensions of globalization on African states, such as Johnson (2019), who focuses on the role of foreign direct investment in driving economic growth and development, others have focused on geopolitical implications or cultural exchanges. Yet, few have comprehensively examined how these factors intersect and shape African foreign policies in the current global context. This paper seeks to fill this gap by adopting a holistic approach that integrates multiple strands of literature and interrogates the underlying assumptions and narratives. By doing so, it aims to contribute to the existing scholarship by offering a more comprehensive understanding of the complexities inherent in African states' responses to globalization. Furthermore, it seeks to extend the scholarly discourse by proposing innovative frameworks for analysing and interpreting the dynamics at play. The prospects for African states lie in leveraging on globalization to enhance economic growth, technological advancement, and cultural exchange. Embracing a diplomatic approach that emphasizes soft power, cultural diplomacy, and innovative economic strategies can position African nations to thrive in the interconnected global arena. While globalization offers opportunities, it also poses threats, including the risk of marginalization, exploitation, and the erosion of cultural identities. Navigating this complex landscape requires astute foreign policies that balance national interests with regional and global cooperation, as well as diplomatic initiatives that foster understanding and collaboration. Thus, the foreign policies and diplomacy of African states in the era of globalization represent dynamic landscape. The challenges are significant, but the prospects for mutual growth and development are equally compelling. Effective diplomacy, grounded in a clear understanding of national interests and global dynamics, is essential for African nations to successfully navigate this intricate terrain and contribute meaningfully to the evolving narrative of global affairs.

2.0 Conceptual Clarifications

2.1 Foreign Policy

Foreign policy is the mechanism national governments use to guide their diplomatic interactions and relationships with other countries. Foreign policies are developed and influenced by a number of factors. These include:

Internal factors such as the country's geography, political trends, national interest and so on.

External factors like the behaviorother countries, international order, and other global trends.

A nation's foreign policy typically works in tandem with its domestic policy, which is another form of public policy that focuses on matters at home. Together, the two policies complement one another and work to strengthen the country's position both within and outside its borders (Ruth. 2020). Leopold von Ranke emphasized the primacy of geography and external threats in shaping foreign policy, but later writers emphasized domestic factors. Diplomacy is the tool of foreign policy, and war, alliances, and international trade may all be manifestations of it (Britannica, 2020). In

essence, Foreign policy refers to a government's set of strategies, decisions, and actions aimed at managing its relations with other countries. It encompasses a wide range of activities, including diplomacy, trade, defense, and international cooperation. The primary goals of foreign policy are to protect national interests, ensure security, and promote economic and diplomatic objectives on the global stage. Foreign policy is shaped by a nation's values, historical experiences, and the evolving dynamics of the international system. Scholars like Hans Morgenthau emphasize the realist approach, focusing on power and security, while others, like Joseph Nye, highlight soft power and the importance of cultural influence

2.2 Diplomacy

Diplomacy is the art and science of maintaining peaceful relationships between nations, groups, or individuals. Often, diplomacy refers to representatives of different groups discussing such issues as conflict, trade, the environment, technology, or security. People who practice diplomacy are called diplomats. Diplomats try to help their own country, encourage cooperation between nations, and maintain peace. A group of diplomats representing one country that lives in another country is called a diplomatic mission. A permanent diplomatic mission is called an embassy. An ambassador is the lead diplomat at an embassy. A large diplomatic mission may have representation besides a single embassy. Other places of representation are called consulates (National Geographic Society).

Nicolson's philosophy of diplomacy centered on its relationship with the principle elements of foreign policy such as balance of power; he emphasized, too, the effects on diplomacy of national character and prestige. His diplomatic theorizing encompassed Ancient Greek, medieval and Renaissance diplomacy as well as Imperial Europe's Old Diplomacy and the so-called New Diplomacy of the twentieth century. Nicolson applied the tenets of liberal realism, an amalgam of idealist and realist outlooks on international relations, in developing an ambitious and original theory of diplomatic intercourse (Derek in Nicolson, 2005). According to Satow's classic definition, diplomacy is the application of intelligence and tact to the conduct of official relations between the governments of independent States, extending sometimes also to other relations with vassal States (Eduardo, 2017). Thus, Diplomacy is the practice of conducting negotiations and managing relations between nations. It involves skilled communication, tact, and negotiation to address issues, prevent conflicts, and advance a country's interests on the international stage. Diplomats work to build alliances, resolve disputes, and promote cooperation through dialogue and negotiation rather than through force or conflict.

2.3 National Interest

National interest is the most crucial concept in international relations. While formulating foreign policy, all statesmen are guided by their respective national interests. Foreign policy is aimed at achieving national interest. However, this concept is highly vague and difficult to define. According to Frankel, the ambiguity is caused by the different usage of the concept in different contexts. National interest may explain the aspirations of the state. It can also be utilized operationally in the execution of the actual policies and programs followed. It can be used polemically in political arguments to explain, rationalize, or criticize. Contemporary controversies on foreign policy usually come out of these ambiguities and not only from the different ideas about the substance of the national interest. Notwithstanding its vagueness, the notion of national interest is central to any attempt at describing, explaining, predicting, prescribing, and understanding international behavior. From time immemorial, leaders of states justify their actions in the name of the national interest. For example, Coulombs and Wolfe narrate: Alcibiades said he was acting in ancient Athens' interest when he recommended so fervently that the Athenians launched what turned out to be the disastrous Sicilian expedition during the Peloponnesian War. (LinkedIn, 2021).

The national interests, a key concept of international relations, encompass the political interests and other interests of a country. With the state's sovereignty at the core, a country's political interests embody the bulk of its national interests with national security being the most fundamental of the national interest. As an integral part of strategic thinking, the concept of national interests, once formed, will exert great impact on the making and implementation of national strategies. From a cognitive viewpoint, the concept of national interests is deeply influenced by the way of thinking, cultural traditions, values, ideologies

and other characteristics of the subject. Different nations, countries and social classes have different concepts of national interests at different historical times (Liu, 2014). National interest refers to the set of objectives, goals, and priorities that a sovereign state perceives as essential for its well-being, security, and prosperity. The concept of national interest is dynamic, evolving in response to changing geopolitical, economic, and social conditions.

3.0 Relationship between National Interests and Foreign Policy

National interest and foreign policy are intricately linked; as foreign policy is the practical manifestation of a nation's pursuit of its interests on the global stage. Here's an elaborate explanation with examples:

3.1 Security and Defense: Ensuring the security and defense of the nation. A country may engage in alliances, military partnerships, and defense treaties to enhance its security. For example, NATO (North Atlantic Treaty Organization) is a military alliance formed by countries with a shared interest in mutual defense (Donald, 1976).

3.2 Economic Prosperity: Promoting economic well-being, growth, and stability. Countries often establish trade agreements, negotiate economic partnerships, and engage in economic diplomacy to boost their economic interests. For instance, the European Union aims to create a common market to facilitate economic growth among member states (Donald, 1976).

3.3 Territorial Integrity: Protecting and preserving sovereignty and territorial boundaries. Nations may engage in diplomatic efforts, international law, and negotiations to settle territorial disputes peacefully. The resolution of border conflicts between India and Bangladesh in 2015 demonstrates a foreign policy focus on territorial integrity (Donald, 1976).

3.4 Political Stability: Ensuring internal political cohesion and stability. Countries may engage in diplomatic efforts to prevent the spread of conflicts and promote political stability in neighboring regions. The United Nations' involvement in peacekeeping missions, such as in the Democratic Republic of Congo, reflects a foreign policy approach to address political instability (Donald, 1976).

3.5 Cultural Identity: Preserving and promoting cultural heritage and identity. Cultural diplomacy involves showcasing a nation's cultural richness abroad. For example, Japan's use of "Cool Japan" initiatives to promote its cultural exports, like anime and cuisine, contributes to its foreign policy objectives by enhancing its global image (Donald, 1976).

3.6 Global Influence: Enhancing influence and reputation on the global stage. Engaging in international organizations, diplomatic forums, and strategic alliances to shape global decision-making. China's Belt and Road Initiative is an example of a foreign policy strategy aimed at expanding influence through economic and infrastructure projects in multiple countries (Donald, 1976).

3.7 Globalisation: A common understanding of globalization is that it's a complex process involving the integration of economies, cultures, and societies on a global scale. Scholars often emphasize the interconnectedness and interdependence that characterize this multifaceted phenomenon. It involves the exchange of goods, services, information, and ideas across borders, leading to increased integration and interrelation among nations. This phenomenon is driven by advancements in technology, communication, and transportation, fostering a more interconnected and interdependent world (Lianna, 2015).

Emphatically, Globalization increases worldwide technology, and the readability of fast, effective communication and consumption of popular products. Globalization links cultures and international relations on a variety of levels; economics, politically, socially, etc. International relations have used globalization to reach its goal: of understanding cultures. International relations focus on how countries, people and organizations interact and globalization is making a profound effect on International relations. Globalization is the process of continuing integration of the countries in the world – is strongly underway in all parts of the globe. It is a complex interconnection between capitalism and democracy, which involves positive and negative featuresthat both empowers and disempowers individuals and groups (Lianna,

2015). From the other hand Globalization is a popular term used by governments, business, academic and a range of diverse non-governmental organizations. It also, however, signifies a new paradigm within world politics and economic relations. While national governments for many years dictated the international political and economic scene, international organizations such as the World Bank, International Monetary Fund and the World Trade Organization has now become significant role players. In this "Global Village" national governments have lost some of their importance and perhaps their powers in favor of these major international organizations. As a process of interaction and integration among people, companies and governments of different nations Globalization is a process driven by the International Trade and Investment and aided by Information technology. This process on the environment on culture, on political system, on economic development and prosperity, and on human physical well-being in societies around the world (Lianna, 2015).

4.0 Advantages and Disadvantages of Globalization

Globalization has a range of advantages while it has also disadvantages. The Advantages includes;

i. GDP Increase; statistics shows that GDP in developing countries has increased twice as much as before. Unemployment is reduced. Education has increased.

ii. Competition on Even Platform: The Companies all around the world are competing on a single global platform which allows better options o consumers.

iii. It increased free trade between nations; The Corporations have greater flexibility to operate across borders.

iv. It increases in environmental protection in developed nations. Spread of democratic ideas to developed nations. Reduced cultural barriers increases in the global village effect (Lianna, 2015).

The Disadvantages are considered to be;

i. Uneven Distribution of Wealth, Income Gap Between Developed and Developing Countries, where the wealth of developed countries continues to grow twice as much as the developing world.

ii. Different Wage Standards for Developing Countries, which is explained by the following fat that the technology worker may get more value for his work in a developed country than a worker in a developing country thus there are in the later many dynamic, industrious and enterprising people who are well educated and ready to work with rigor.

iii. Globalization itself is also considered as a disadvantage which is explaining by future factors such as war that can be demand the reveal of the globalization and current process of globalization may just be impossible to reverse.

iv. There is also another aspect of disadvantage of globalization in media sphere. The threat that control of world media by a handful of corporations will limit cultural expression. And the final in my estimation is the chance of reactions for globalization being violent in an attempt to preserve cultural heritage (Lianna, 2015).

5.0 Effects of Globalization

According to Lianna (2015), with the roster of the mentioned disadvantages and advantages Globalization culminates also effective facts such as;

i. Enhancement in the information flow between geographically remote locations.

ii. The global common market has a freedom of exchange of goods and capital.

iii. There is a broad access to a range of goods for consumers and companies.

iv. Worldwide production markets emerge.

v. Free circulation of people of different nations leads to social benefits.

vi. Global environmental problems like cross-boundary pollution, over fishing on oceans, climate changes are solved by discussions.

vii. More trans-border data flow using communication satellites, the Internet, wireless telephones, etc.

viii. International criminal courts and international justice movements are launched.

ix. The standards applied globally like patents, copyright laws and world trade agreements increase.

x. Corporate, national and sub-national borrowers have a better access to external finance.

6.0 Africa's Diplomatic Relations in the Era of Globalisation

In the era of globalization, Africa's diplomatic relations have undergone notable shifts, characterized by multifaceted engagements on political, economic, and social fronts. Here's a detailed exploration:

6.1 Economic Diplomacy/Trade Agreements

African nations actively participate in regional and international trade agreements, enhancing economic cooperation. Examples include the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA), fostering intra-Africa trade. The African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) is a prime example. It aims to create a single market for goods and services in Africa, promoting intra-Africa trade. Member countries engage in diplomatic negotiations to address trade barriers and enhance economic cooperation.

6.2 Foreign Direct Investment (FDI)

African countries attract FDI from diverse sources, forming partnerships with global corporations and nations. Investments focus on sectors like energy, infrastructure, and technology. For example; China's economic engagement in Africa is noteworthy. Through initiatives like the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), China invests in infrastructure projects across the continent, fostering economic ties and contributing to development (Robert, 2012).

6.3 Political Diplomacy/Regional Integration

African nations collaborate within regional organizations (e.g., African Union) to address common challenges, promote peace, and coordinate diplomatic efforts. For example; the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) is a regional organization promoting economic integration and stability in West Africa. Member states engage diplomatically to address regional challenges and coordinate policies.

6.4 Conflict Resolution

Africa engages in diplomatic initiatives to resolve conflicts within the continent, often in collaboration with international organizations like the United Nations. For example; The African Union (AU) plays a pivotal role in diplomatic efforts for conflict resolution. For example, AU's involvement in the peace process in South Sudan demonstrates continental diplomatic initiatives to address internal conflicts (Robert, 2012).

6.5 Multilateral Engagements/Global Governance

African nations participate in international forums to shape global policies. This involves addressing issues such as climate change, sustainable development, and peacekeeping. For example; African countries participate in international forums such as the United Nations Climate Change Conferences to address global issues. They engage diplomatically to advocate for sustainable development and climate resilience.

6.6 Participation in Global Institutions

African countries actively engage with global institutions like the United Nations, World Trade Organization, and World Bank, contributing to decision-making processes. For example; African nations contribute to decision-making in global institutions. For instance, Nigeria and South Africa have played roles in the United Nations Security Council, influencing diplomatic efforts on global peace and security (Huseynou, 2021).

6.7 Cultural Diplomacy

African nations leverage cultural diplomacy to promote their heritage globally. This involves exchanges in arts, education, and cultural events, fostering understanding and collaboration. For example; Ethiopia's efforts to restore and repatriate cultural artifacts showcase cultural diplomacy. This involves diplomatic negotiations to reclaim and preserve cultural heritage, fostering international understanding (Robert, 2012).

6.8 Technology and Innovation Diplomacy /Digital Connectivity

With the growth of digital technologies, African countries engage in diplomatic efforts to enhance connectivity, bridge the digital divide, and benefit from technological advancements. For example, The West Africa Cable System (WACS) is an undersea cable project linking countries in West Africa. Diplomatic engagements are crucial for the success of such initiatives, enhancing regional connectivity and internet access (Robert, 2012).

6.9 Humanitarian Diplomacy/Global Health Initiatives

African nations collaborate on global health issues, as seen in efforts to address pandemics like HIV/AIDS, Ebola, and more recently, the COVID-19 pandemic. For example; The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria involves diplomatic collaboration to secure international funding for health programs in Africa, highlighting humanitarian diplomacy (Huseynou, 2021).

6.10 Humanitarian Aid and Development

African countries engage in diplomatic efforts to attract international aid and support for development projects, particularly in areas like healthcare, education, and infrastructure. For example; During the Ebola outbreak, African nations collaborated with international organizations and the global community to address the crisis. Diplomatic efforts were crucial in coordinating aid and response strategies (Huseynou, 2021).

6.11 Debt Diplomacy

Some African nations face challenges related to debt, prompting diplomatic engagements with creditors and international financial institutions. For example; African nations engage diplomatically with creditors, as seen in discussions around debt relief. The Debt Service Suspension Initiative (DSSI) is an example of diplomatic efforts to address debt challenges in the era of globalization (Louis et al 2022).

So, Africa's diplomatic relations in the era of globalization reflect a dynamic landscape where nations navigate economic, political, and cultural interactions to address shared challenges and harness opportunities for development and cooperation.

7.0 Collective Foreign Policies of African States

The collective foreign policies of African states often center on regional integration, economic development, and addressing common challenges. Organizations like the African Union (AU) play a key role in fostering unity and coordinating efforts on issues such as peacekeeping, conflict resolution, and trade agreements. African countries also collaborate on global platforms to amplify their voices, advocating for fair representation and addressing shared concerns like climate change and public health. (Substack, 2022).

A list of some these foreign policies with practical examples includes;

7.1 Regional Integration

The African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) aims to create a single market for goods and services, fostering intra-African trade.

7.2 Peacekeeping and Conflict Resolution

African Union's involvement in peacekeeping missions, like in Somalia, demonstrates a collective effort to address regional conflicts.

7.3 Development Assistance

African countries collaborate through initiatives like the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) to promote sustainable development and address socio-economic challenges.

7.4 Health Diplomacy

The collaborative response to health crises, such as joint efforts to combat diseases like Ebola or COVID-19, showcases solidarity in the face of global health challenges.

7.5 Climate Change Mitigation

Participation in international climate agreements reflects a collective commitment to address environmental issues, with countries working together to implement sustainable practices.

7.6 Human Rights Advocacy

Joint efforts to address human rights violations, like condemning actions in conflict zones or advocating for international support, exemplify a united stance on human rights issues.

7.7 Anti-terrorism Cooperation

Collaborative efforts, such as the G5 Sahel joint force, highlight the commitment to combating terrorism and ensuring regional security.

7.8 Diplomatic Representation

Coordinated diplomatic efforts, like African countries supporting each other's candidates for international positions, aim to enhance the continent's representation on the global stage. These examples illustrate the diverse ways in which African states collectively approach foreign policies to address common challenges and opportunities (Substack, 2022).

8.0 Challenges of Globalisation to African State's Foreign Policy Making and Implementations

The challenges of globalization pose complex issues for African states in their foreign policy making and implementations. Here's an in-depth exploration with practical examples:

8.1 Economic Inequalities

Globalization can exacerbate economic inequalities, as stronger economies may dominate global markets, leaving African nations with limited bargaining power. For example; The unequal terms of trade and market access can hinder the economic development of African states, impacting their ability to formulate and implement foreign policies that address economic disparities.

8.2 Dependency on Global Markets

African countries are often dependent on global markets for exports, making them vulnerable to fluctuations in commodity prices and global economic downturns. The decline in global demand for certain commodities, such as oil, can significantly impact the foreign policy options of oil-dependent African nations, influencing their diplomatic and economic strategies.

8.3 Debt and Financial Vulnerability

Globalization can expose African states to debt-related challenges, especially with increased borrowing from international financial institutions. Countries facing debt crises, like Zambia or Mozambique, find it challenging to pursue independent foreign policies due to the constraints imposed by creditors, impacting their ability to implement sovereign decisions.

8.4 Security Concerns

Globalization can contribute to the spread of transnational threats, such as terrorism, organized crime, and cyber-attacks, posing challenges to national security. African nations grapple with the transnational nature of security threats, requiring collaborative foreign policies and regional cooperation to address issues like Boko Haram in West Africa or Al-Shabaab in East Africa (Study Smarter, 2021).

8.5 Cultural Homogenization

Globalization may lead to cultural homogenization, threatening the diversity of African cultures and identities. For example; the influx of global media and Western cultural influences can impact local values, requiring

foreign policies that balance cultural preservation with global integration.

8.7 Political Pressures

African states may face political pressures from powerful global actors, influencing their foreign policy decisions. For example; Diplomatic decisions related to international conflicts or alliances may be influenced by external powers, limiting the autonomy of African states in shaping their foreign policies.

8.8 Technological Gaps

The technological divide in the era of globalization can hinder the ability of some African states to fully participate in the digital economy. For example; Countries with limited access to technology face challenges in formulating and implementing foreign policies that leverage digital advancements for economic growth and development. Navigating these challenges requires African states to carefully craft foreign policies that balance global integration with national interests, seeking collaborative solutions to shared problems while safeguarding their sovereignty and development priorities (Louis et al, 2022).

9.0 Prospects of African Foreign Policies and Diplomacy in an Era of Globalisation

African policies and diplomacy in the era of globalization involve navigating economic, political, and social complexities. Prospects include increased regional cooperation for economic growth, leveraging natural resources responsibly, addressing conflicts diplomatically, and actively participating in global trade agreements to enhance international influence. Challenges, however, include balancing development with environmental sustainability and ensuring equitable benefits from globalization for all citizens (IMF eLibrary, 2021).

In the era of globalization, African policies and diplomacy hold several promising prospects that can contribute to the continent's development and global engagement. Here's an in-depth exploration of these prospects:

9.1 Economic Integration and Growth

Regional economic blocs, like the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA), provide opportunities for increased intra-Africa trade, fostering economic growth and integration. For example; AfCFTA aims to create a single market, promoting the free movement of goods and services, which can enhance Africa's economic prospects globally (Adams O, 2016).

9.2 Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) Opportunities

Globalization opens doors for increased FDI, allowing African nations to attract investments in critical sectors such as infrastructure, energy, and technology. For example; China's Belt and Road Initiative involves significant investments in African infrastructure projects, providing economic opportunities and strengthening diplomatic ties (IMF eLibrary, 2021).

9.3 Digital Transformation

Embracing digital technologies can leapfrog traditional development stages, allowing African nations to harness the benefits of the digital economy. For example; Mobile banking services in countries like Kenya showcase how technological advancements positively impact financial inclusion and economic growth (IMF eLibrary, 2021).

9.4 Cultural Diplomacy and Soft Power

Africa's rich cultural diversity can be leveraged for cultural diplomacy, fostering positive perceptions and building soft power on the global stage. For example; Nigerian music and films, such as Nollywood, have gained international popularity, contributing to a positive global image and cultural influence (IMF eLibrary, 2021).

10.5 Humanitarian Diplomacy and Global Health Initiatives

African nations can play a pivotal role in global health diplomacy, addressing challenges like pandemics and promoting healthcare cooperation. For example; During the COVID-19 pandemic, African countries engaged in international collaborations for vaccine distribution and response efforts, showcasing diplomatic leadership (Adams O, 2016).

9.6 Climate Change Mitigation and Sustainable Development

As global awareness of climate change grows, African nations can position themselves as leaders in sustainable development and environmental conservation. For example; African participation in international climate agreements, such as the Paris Agreement, demonstrates a commitment to global efforts in addressing climate challenges (Adams O, 2016).

9.7 Peacekeeping and Conflict Resolution

African nations can contribute significantly to global peacekeeping efforts and conflict resolution, showcasing diplomatic leadership and regional stability. For example; African Union-led peacekeeping missions in countries like Somalia highlight the continent's commitment to resolving conflicts and maintaining peace (Adams O, 2016).

9.8 Youth Engagement and Innovation

The youth demographic in Africa presents an opportunity for innovation and entrepreneurship, contributing to economic and technological advancements. For example; Initiatives supporting youth-led startups and innovation hubs across the continent contribute to shaping Africa's role in the global innovation landscape (Adams O, 2016).

9.9 Participation in Global Governance

African nations can actively participate in global institutions, influencing policies and decisions that impact the continent. For example; African representation in international forums, such as the United Nations Security Council, allows for contributions to global peace and security discussions (Adams O, 2016).

9.10 Regional Collaborations and Security

Collaborative efforts within regional organizations can enhance security and stability, addressing common challenges. For example; The Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) has played a role in conflict resolution and peacekeeping in the West African region.

10.0 Conclusion

There is an overall logic to the shift in political rationality under conditions of globalization, it is to do with a change from direct to indirect rule. There has been a move from direct to indirect governing, and indirect governing increasingly involves objects that are to be found beyond the boundaries of the state whose foreign policy tries to govern them. More is left to individuals, and control is growing more indirect, with direct control being increasingly reserved for after-the-fact situations when indirect control has turned out to be too soft to secure the desired result. This logic is working its way into foreign policy-making as well. Consider the training of foreign ministry personnel to deal more independently with other kinds of agents. It hangs on indirect control being effective. By training its employees well in advance, the top of the organization sees to it that the answers given when the top does not listen will be within acceptable parameters. Direct control kicks in when this indirect strategy does not work out. Indirect rule also kicks in where pro-activeness is concerned. It is about orchestrating social situations in advance, in the hope that the outcome will be more favorable than it would otherwise have been. By employing indirect means, one may save the use of more direct means for a later point. Governing takes place from afar. But if one wants to govern from afar, then one needs to be far-sighted. A plan for the long haul is needed in order to consider different outcomes, to listen to second opinions and to have contingency plans. All this changes the faces of foreign policy. Foreign ministries join other parts of the state apparatus in governing through other

state and also non-state entities. The shift in performing policy away from trying directly towards governing from afar is accompanied by a shift in the very meaning of the term foreign policy. Increasingly, foreign policy does not seem to refer to politics happening elsewhere, but to policy which involves different non-domestic agents and so call for MFA orchestration. This shift of meaning poses a challenge to linguistic practices which still presuppose that foreign policy is state policy oriented towards the outside of the state. States may not be able to monopolize the term foreign policy for much longer.

11.0 Recommendations

1. Concerning threats to indigenous cultures by cultural globalization, what Africa needs is to intensify efforts in redeeming whatever is redeemable from its rich cultural heritage. One critical area is the intensification of effort towards the indigenization of its Educational system. The revival of African cultures which has been virtually overwhelmed by Euro-America culture through centuries of slavery, colonialism and imperialism are most urgent before they will be completely wiped out by the forces of globalization.

2. Governments of the various states in Africa should provide enabling environment for an efficient operation of a full market economy, reliable legal system, honest, credible, transparent administration and accountability in order to woo foreign investors. Foreign Direct Investment (FDI)is important and would bring new technology and managerial know how, corruption can severely hamper the ability of a country to attract foreign investment (9). It is therefore imperative that government of the individual States in Africa should vigorously fight against corruption.

3. For effective functioning of the National economy, markets need to be regulated by political institutions. Government regulation is necessary to enforce contract, ensure transparency and protect citizens from brutalities from the unrestrained markets, central banking and discretionary fiscal policy are essential to maintain macroeconomic growth and stability.

4. Infrastructure, especially the development and ready access to telecommunication

5. services and stable electric power supply, are vital for any economy. Telecommunication services should be made viable, accountable and accessible to the people. The rural areas pose special challenges in this respect and should be given appropriate and adequate attention.

6. The problem of violence should be properly addressed. The major approach is to deal with poverty as a visible root cause of this problem in real terms in the form of creating, enabling environment for undertaking economic activity. The other remains the provision of subsidies for those activities and items that could improve the welfare of the people. This will go a long way to reduce the tension and pressure on people and, of course, reduce the spate of violence.

7. There is also the need to stem the tide of brain drain in Africa. This can be achieved the through provision of enabling environment that is obtainable elsewhere and also linking up with "globalization", professionals in Diasporas and invite them to the continent. Finally, there is need for human capacity development. This is essential for the economy of Africa. To survive in the context of globalization, it is necessary that African countries invest heavily in human capital especially, education and health Louis A.E, Akah & Pius O. (2022).

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