



No Security without Development. No Development without Security.

European Donors and Fragile States in Africa

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Abstract

In recent years, international donors have steadily increased their focus on fragile states. An indication of this shift is the nature of the policies promoted by the Development Assistance Committee (DAC) of the OECD, which encourages bilateral donors that work with fragile states to adopt a whole-of-government approach, i.e. to develop cross-departmental cooperation between defence, diplomacy and development administrations. This PhD thesis addresses the question as to why some bilateral donors implement such integrated approaches to confront challenges in fragile states, while others only do so marginally or not at all. Neither the existing literatures on security or development cultures nor the current securitization theories are able to explain the different levels and patterns of implementation of this specific OECD/DAC recommendation.

This thesis uses the concept of "the organization of hypocrisy" to understand the complex relationship, and often the discrepancy, that exists between "talk" and "action" in the policy attempts to link security and development. It compares France, Germany, the UK and the EU as donors – in particular in their roles in North and South Sudan, but also in selected West African countries – in an attempt to understand which factors favour a higher level of "action" with regard to the security-development nexus. It concludes that the ability of the diplomacy, defence and development sectors to integrate their administrations and policies depends on the consistency of their environment and on their institutional ability to collectively find an acceptable convention.



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