

have stayed away from the DRC, Equatorial Guinea and other countries with torrid human rights records because they could not effectively follow through on CSR commitments including the VPs.

It is clearly correct that in addition to ‘fortress protection and participatory engagement in the community belt [the immediate zone around a mine], managing political networks through clientele relationships and ‘corruption’ is a third strategy of maintaining the stability of operations’ (p. 79). Being politically networked is clearly important. But Hönke’s analysis lacks the ability to differentiate – the culture of MNCs varies significantly and this also impacts on their security arrangements. What can companies do in such situations? Stay out? Or define a very narrow community belt footprint? There is also the question of the type of extraction – is oil different from diamonds or gold? The security arrangements and choices a multinational company makes is determined by such considerations.

One massive security challenge for many mineral mining companies in DRC, Tanzania and elsewhere is what to do with Artisanal and Small-scale Mining (ASM) pressures. The reputation risk posed by ASM convinced De Beers over a decade ago to shift its business model from Kimberlite to Supplier of Choice, for example.

Hönke is right to suggest we need more research on how Indian, Chinese or Brazilian companies might govern their security arrangements differently. In an age of joint ventures, we see tremendous variability and change of behaviour. As extraction becomes increasingly globalised there is no binary opposition between Western CSR Firms and greedy and irresponsible others. There is better practice, where mining-based communities are not abused and see the benefits of development through employment and investments. The major challenge for MNCs is to balance these needs with also providing share-holder value.

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Globalizing Somalia: Multilateral, International and Transnational Repercussions of Conflict, edited by EMMA LEONARD and GILBERT RAMSAY

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Emma Leonard and Gilbert Ramsay’s edited volume is a useful and timely contribution to the often ignored issue of how Somalia’s conflict has been globalised. The book examines the globalising effects of famine, piracy and extremism. It also discusses the roles that multiple actors play in advancing or resisting this phenomenon.

Globalizing Somalia is made up of four sections, each dealing with a particular trend. Seaman, in the first chapter, explains the history of failed interventions in the 1990s. From a similar perspective, Sandstrom questions the motive of George Bush senior for sending tens of thousands of American troops, arguing that Washington wanted to test the ‘New World Order’ vision. This is followed by Section 2 which analyses the trends that are apparent within

those that claim to resist the West's hegemonic presence in the country. Two of the three chapters in this section discuss the instrumentalisation of extremism for political ends. Peter Hane attempts to ground his arguments on social movement theory. He argues that Al-Shabaab's decision to join Al-Qaeda may bring short-term benefits to the organisation, but the same move will have long-term negative consequences for the organisation and Somalia as a whole. Malet, Priest and Staggs, on the other hand, examine the foreign fighters' involvement in Somalia. They note the problematic application of this concept, conceding to the fact that the majority of the so-called foreign fighters are not, in fact, foreign.

In addition, Lehr provides a comprehensive account of the complex issue of piracy in the Horn of Africa waters. He argues that most of the policy responses have short-term utilities, but the best way to address this is to deal with it at the root cause and on-shore level. Section 3 explains the policies of several prominent actors, such as the United States, the European Union, Japan and China and how they have responded to the Somali conflict. Stig Hansen's chapter on the geopolitics of the Horn of Africa is particularly useful as it gives a broad overview of the conflict and its implications for the region. The final section is a reflection on the current historical trends. Walls and Kipple provide an interesting account on interventions in Somalia. The authors reject what some called 'constructive disengagement' and argue that there were instances when interventions helped, albeit with heavy qualifications. In the last concluding chapter, Emma Leonard and Gilbert Ramsay explain how the Somali conflict is similar to others in the African region, particularly that of Congo.

Despite its many useful contributions to the theories, policies and practices of the Somali conflict, the book, like any other, has its limitations. I have observed one important oversight. Most of the authors seem to endorse the integration of Somalia to the region even though they are aware of the fact that the country does not have a functioning central state. This means Somali clans and regions would become part of the region, not the Somali state that is equal to its peers. While famine, piracy and extremism have been used as a justification, many of the actors examined are involved in almost all issues in Somalia – constitution-making, security sector development, establishing regions, delivering health and education services. Neighbouring countries have direct relations with different Somali entities. In other words, unlike other countries in the region, there is not one area that is domestically governed which is immune to external meddling. I think this is an oversight as it would have been useful to analyse the implications of the loss of the sovereignty of the nation. Does this mean Somali clans would become autonomous communities of neighbouring countries? This is a debate that some Somali academics have engaged for the last decade. This book could have done more to address this issue.

That said, the book is an excellent addition to Somali studies. It could serve as a supplementary text for those that are teaching courses on Africa. Moreover, the book is useful for policy makers as there are many relevant policy discussions. I encourage those interested in the area to read the volume.

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