

Coordination or Competition in European Foreign Policy? The EU, its Member States and Non-State Actors in the Congolese Security Sector Reform.

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In this paper, the author approaches the implementation of security and defence policies of the EU and its member states from a governance perspective, that focuses on the multitude of governmental/institutional and non-governmental or non-state actors involved, and their relations. This is applied to the security sector reform (SSR) policies in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). SSR is a major field of activity within the civilian crisis management dimension of ESDP/CSDP (European/Common Security and Defence Policy), that also in the DRC became a focal point of the EU. Within this framework, two operations are deployed in support of the Congolese SSR. In addition, also the European Commission and particular member states, such as the UK, France and Belgium are intensively engaged in the Congolese SSR. Moreover, their specific programmes are often implemented by non-state actors and consultants, such as PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC), the International Organization for Migrants (IOM) and others. As the implementation of these SSR policies in the Congo illustrates, coordination is often obstructed by the varying approaches and (financial) resources of these governmental/institutional and non-state actors. The author investigates the relations between these governmental/institutional and non-governmental/ non-state actors in the European SSR policies in the Congo, and analyses the impact of the presence of non-state actors (consultants, companies and others) in the coordination and the implementation of these policies. The empirical data for the paper are based on intensive field work research conducted by the author in the DR Congo between September 2009 and November 2010.