

Security is the "Known Unknown" in Nigeria

Pursuant to the Israeli-teaching-Nigeria-security analogy and the point made that this security was constructed from the OUTSIDE inside, issues in relation to the Israeli security type needs to be raised to drive home the difference with what should be the Nigerian type when Nigerians decide to construct one. Should Nigerians decide to construct its security, it should be from the INSIDE outside type.

The first issue is the relationship between security and foreign policy or foreign and security policy. What is Nigeria's foreign and security policy? The second issue is the relationship between defense and foreign policy or foreign and defense policy. What is Nigeria's defense and foreign policy? The third issue is Nigeria's strategic environment. What is Nigeria's strategic environment during and after the Cold War? The fourth issue is the relationship of security, defence, foreign and strategic environment. Is there a Nigerian security, defence, foreign and strategic environments?

The sixth issue is the increasing tendency to draw correlation between "military industrial complex" and "national security" in Nigeria. What is the content of military industrial complex in Nigeria? Is there a military industrial complex in Nigeria? What is "national security" in Nigeria? Is there a relationship between military industrial complex and "national security" during and after the Cold War?

The seventh issue is the relationship between foreign policy making community, defense community and the security community.¹ Do we have foreign policy community in Nigeria? Do we have defence community in Nigeria? Do we have security community in Nigeria? Is there a relationship between foreign policy making community, defense community and security community in Nigeria?

Are there the proverbial tensions that exist between these communities in the Nigerian example? The degree of control the foreign ministry exercise over security will tell exactly of the security dynamics of Nigeria. Does the foreign ministry exercise any control over security in Nigeria?

The eighth issues is related the concept of security dynamics, interdependence, dilemma, regime and community. What is Nigeria's security dynamics? Is it possible to construct security dynamics linking domestic to regional, interregional and global spheres? What is Nigeria's security interdependence? Within the context of the dynamics, if one exists, is

¹ Ditto the Trump-Putin Helsinki summit, the view that Trump sided with Putin on election meddling and criticising his intelligence community and the consequent consternation, confusion and condemnation within the foreign, security and defence communities in the United States. The condemnation included those of the establishment and if you like Republican establishment - former CIA Director John Brennan, Director National Intelligence Dan Coats, and Senator John McCain. Imagine drawing a connection of this nature in Nigeria!

there security interdependence in Nigeria? Is Nigeria confronting any security dilemma within this context? Is Nigeria part of any previous security regime or any evolving security regime within the regions where its interest lies? Is there a prospect that the regime will metamorphose into security community? Is it possible to speak about security community in the African region?

In most countries where classical or traditional security (military and political) prevails, the answers to these questions are given. There is connection between all these in the explanation of what constitutes security for these countries. The connection can be drawn in the United States, Europe, Israel, Pakistan, Iran, and Saudi Arabia and Ethiopia.

Ethiopia shared common border with Eritrea to the north, Djibouti and Somalia to the east, Sudan and South Sudan to the west and Kenya to the south. These neighbours have issues inside and outside their borders that defines Ethiopia's security in this context.

Ethiopia is strategically located that it will continue to define security in the context of these considerations. Ethiopia is the West's strategic partner in the Horn in the war against terror. Ethiopia has had a long running ethnic and border issues with Somalia before the fall of General Siade Barre in 1991 and the collapse of the Somalian state and is central to the attempt to rebuild the state in Somalia. The Horn of Africa and the Indian Ocean areas constitute axis of security and strategic concerns to countries of the region and to the West. Ethiopia is strategic to development in this region.

Answers to these questions tells the state of security in Nigeria, the difference from the point of view of the OUTSIDE/INSIDE or BOTH perspectives of security and the limitations of the material evidence abound on the Euro-Atlantic security narrative to capturing and addressing the Nigerian narrative, if there is a Nigerian narrative. It is a further reminder to students of security studies that the material evidence of the Euro-Atlantic security is a GUIDE and nothing else.

These are issues that are unknown in Nigeria's known security.