



## Insecurity in Nigeria, it Multipler Effects on African Peace And Economy: an Analysis of Complex- Interdependece Theory

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### Abstrak

*Nigerian as a nation has been experiencing a very low or, to say, a relative level of peace for over a decade now. The resulted effects of its insecurity have not only internal implications but also constituted external effects as it has tampered with its external relationships (foreign policies). This reality over time has led to the adoption of stringent policies which are not in line with its foreign policies and has also earned the country bad image in the international system. Nigeria, being the giant of Africa, one of the populous world nations, and also endowed with other numerous natural resources, has, over the years, been suffering from security challenges ranging from book-harams, militants, bandits, and kidnappings, etc. These challenges, mandated the closures of land borders, reduction in the refining of crude oils, discouragement of investors, immoral name in the international system, and surplus budget on military hardwares, etc. The rationale behind this study is to assess the effects of insecurity on African peace and economy with peculiarities to countries sharing borders with Nigeria. The paper made use of secondary sources of materials through a comprehensive review of literature on the subject matters under investigation. This article recommends that necessary steps and solutions needs to be employed to curb insecurity before it becomes cancerous or escalates beyond control.*

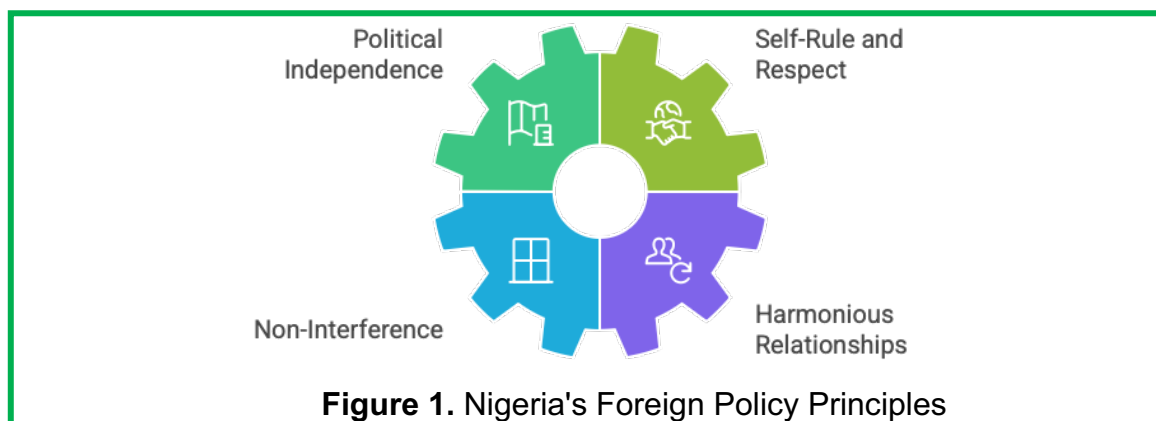
## 1. Introduction

Nigeria is situated in the West African sub- region bordering the Gulf of Guinea, Republic of Benin, and Cameroun from the west and east, respectively. Niger republic to the North, and Chad to the Northeast. It has a total landmass of 923,768sqk. Its land border includes 910,768sqkm and a water body of 13,000sqkm. Its land border with Benin republic is 773km, Cameroun 1,690km, Chad 87km, Niger

1m497km, its coastline 853km, its territorial sea 12mm nautical mile, its exclusive economic zone is 200mm mile, its coastal shelf is 200-meter depth ( Microsoft Encarta, 2008). It also has a population of over 200 million, as estimated (Nigeria Wikipedia free encyclopedia). In the word of Egbo (2003), he posited that the manner to which question of how countries of the world are to adopt foreign policy in their dealings or country affairs is not an issue to be negated or exempted from due to its roles and its importance in the international politics. Nigerian, as an African state, no gainsaying its Africa's black and most populous nation, African history without mentioning the role and importance of Nigeria seems to be unrealistic as it carries the burden of African-history (Fawole, 2000).

Nigeria's foreign policy is African- centered, as it's directed towards achieving peace, oneness, cooperation of African and its neighboring hood. The position of Nigeria has been the giant of African is not a naysaying due to its population, roles, natural resources, and its impact on other African countries in peace-keeping mission and economic assistance and revitalization. However, security challenges confronting the country over the years have been undermining its political position, economic stability, and social development in the world due to its inability to cope and put an end to security challenges bedeviling it.

The growing campaign of violence and insecurity in Nigeria has not only hindered self-peace in the country, still it has also constituted and contributed to the political, economic and social instability within it bordering countries (Onuoha, 2014:1). Security is at the forefront and also one of the cardinals' necessities for political, economic, and social developments and the most important public goods in any human society. It is worrisome that a country that was globally known for its efforts towards restoring and maintaining peace among nations battling with insurgencies within its borders states and beyond has now become a country crying for external help on the same issue within its territorial boundaries, (Mike, 2016). Nigeria also plays a leading role in regional organizational security challenges of other West and Central Africa countries like Liberia, Chad, and Libya, (Temitope, 2021). There is no doubt that Nigeria has made African the centerpiece of its foreign policy, as it is been embedded in it law book.



According to Adeyemi and Fayomi (2012), Nigeria's external relations are fundamentally anchored on the principle of safeguarding the political independence of its African counterparts. This commitment reflects Nigeria's dedication to ensuring that other African nations have the opportunity for self-rule while receiving the respect they deserve both within their own territories and in the broader international

arena. Such a stance underscores Nigeria's recognition of sovereignty as a crucial element in fostering mutual trust and solidarity among African states. Furthermore, Nigeria's foreign policy emphasizes a firm non-interference in the internal affairs of its neighboring countries, demonstrating respect for their political and social autonomy. In addition, it actively seeks to cultivate harmonious relationships that contribute to unity and economic development across the continent. By promoting peaceful coexistence and cooperative engagement, Nigeria aims to create an environment conducive to regional stability, growth, and shared prosperity, thereby reinforcing its role as a key player in Africa's diplomatic and economic advancement.

The concept of peace has various meanings, as do many concepts in the social sciences. Essentially, peace has a positive impact on both human and social development. It is a fundamental requirement for the social, political, and economic advancement of any nation. Peace is the most desired need among the people of Africa today, regarded as the foremost collective good, yet it remains the most difficult to achieve (Francis, 2006:16). According to Fashagba & Oshewolo, for many, peace simply means the absence of war. However, Sugata Dasgupta (1968) was the first scholar to conceptualize peace beyond the absence of chaos, introducing the term "*peacelessness*" to describe conditions prevalent in developing countries, including Nigeria, where people experience hardships similar to wartime, such as poverty, malnutrition, chronic diseases, illiteracy, discrimination, and oppression.

These challenges are clearly defining features of Nigeria even in the absence of war. Ibeanu (2006:3) and Bangura (2011:5), as cited in Fashagba & Oshewolo, assert that peace is not merely the absence of insurgencies driven by ethnic, cultural, religious, or political differences, but rather the continual realization of social justice, harmony, and equity (Barash & Webel, 2009:4; Bakut, 2006:235). Reardon (1988) emphasizes that peace signifies stability and sustainability across all spheres, societal, mental, and structural. Albert Einstein (1940) notes that peace does not necessarily mean the absence of war, but also the upholding of the rule of law by legitimate authorities. In a similar perspective, UNESCO (2013) stresses that peace is more than the absence of war; it is the ability to live together with differences of sex, race, language, religion, or culture, while promoting universal respect for justice and human rights upon which such coexistence depends.

The concept of foreign policy as no one general accepted definitions due to its complexities and also based on different angles in which scholars and countries of the world see or view it. However, some scholars equalize the concept of foreign policy to also mean same thing with the concept of international relations. This can be seen in the definition of the concept by Ojukwu (2015), foreign policy or international relation policy are set of concepts which have clearly stated objectives, meaning free from ambiguousness in making relation outside one country territory and encompassing mechanism, policies, ideas that are formulate toward achieving those speculated objectives. In the words of Rosenau (1974), he takes foreign policy to mean the legalized and formal actions taken by the governments of any country with the aim of maintaining and protecting the desirable aspects of the international system or neglecting, the aspects. To George Modelski, foreign policy is the system of connectedness by a legal territory used in influencing the character of other territories and for mediating their role to the international environment.

Security may be taken to mean the overall steps and mechanism including the legislative and Model-Operandi adopted to foster peace, consistency, and the total

wellbeing of a country and its inhabitants (Shinkeiye, 2004). To Akhakpe (2012), “national security entails the appropriation and development of state apparatus of coercive force to deal with situations of crisis, nationally or internationally.” In Microsoft Encarta 2007, security connotes safety within the country’s geographical boundary, its inhabitants and the levels at which policies are made and effected for peaceful coexistence. The security architecture of the nation in a long run determines people’s future welfare. In simple logic, a country’s national security could be taken to mean the holistic challenges serving as the cog to the economic and social welfare of a country, with the inclusion of measures taken to prevent internal and external treat, Ahamdu (2013). Insecurity can be define as that which encompasses the absence of safety from all forms of social, political, and civil unrest that could lead to the absence of peace.

Modifications are possible in other to muddle through the political, economic, social, global, and security challenges, which have indeed featured in Nigeria policy, i.e., the closure of land border despite its strategic position among West African countries. The negative impacts of insurgencies in Nigerian includes a decline in production of crude oil since the activities of militancy and IPOB in the Niger Delta region has been raped, the closure of land borders due to arms smuggling, decrease in foreign investors due to fear of loss of profit, diversion of the huge amount of money that is supposed to be used for development project to the buying of arms and animations and also it as gain Nigeria a bad name in the international system. To have a complete understanding of the subject matter, major concepts forming the variables were examined to view the perceptions of scholars on it. The most bedeviling challenge of Nigeria today is security challenges. There have been several depiction from different scholars about the actual cause of insecurity, to some its poverty; to some unemployment, to some inequality and others gave it religious coloration. However, no matter the connotations, it has negative effects.

The research work is organized into five main sections, beginning with an introductory part that outlines the background, objectives, and scope of the study. This is followed by a concept clarification section, which defines key terms and concepts relevant to the research focus. The third section presents the underpinning theory, providing the theoretical framework that guides the analysis. The fourth section discusses the key issues related to the topic, offering critical insights and interpretations. Finally, the work concludes with a summary of findings and recommendations aimed at addressing the identified issues and guiding future actions or studies.

## **2. Methods**

This study falls under the category of descriptive qualitative research. The main focus is to analyze the issue of insecurity in Nigeria and its impacts on peace and the African economy. Using a qualitative analytical approach, the study interprets data and information from various sources, including academic literature, official reports, and previous research findings. The aim is to provide a deeper understanding of the root causes of insecurity, its implications for foreign policy, and its influence on regional stability in Africa. The key variables in this research are insecurity in Nigeria as the independent variable, and African peace and economy as the dependent variables. Insecurity is defined in terms of ethnic conflicts, political crises, terrorism, banditry, and kidnappings, while its impacts are measured through socio-political stability, international cooperation, cross-border trade, and foreign

investment. Thus, the study emphasizes the causal relationship between Nigeria's domestic situation and its broader effects on regional integration as well as global dynamics.

The research data are secondary in nature, obtained from various sources such as literature, official reports, journal articles, previous studies, and publications by international institutions related to security and economic issues in Nigeria. The data sources include academic research (Agbu, 2016; Ewetan, 2013; Adagba, 2012), reports from international organizations (UNCTAD, UN OCHA, ECOWAS), as well as global media publications (Reuters, OECD, USAID). By utilizing these comprehensive sources, the study develops a more valid analysis of the complexity of Nigeria's insecurity and its multiple effects on peace and the African economy.

Data collection in this study was conducted through an in-depth literature review, in which the researcher examined a wide range of relevant and credible secondary sources. The primary data were obtained from international and national scholarly journal articles focusing on the issue of insecurity in Nigeria, covering political, social, and economic dimensions. In addition, reference books and previous research that explored ethnic conflicts, insurgencies, terrorism, and socio-economic crises were also used as important references to strengthen the theoretical foundation of the study. Furthermore, official reports from international institutions such as the United Nations (UN), ECOWAS, UNCTAD, and USAID were utilized to provide factual insights into the impacts of insecurity on regional peace and economic development. Global media publications such as Reuters and OECD were also included as complementary sources, enriching the empirical data, especially on current issues that may not be fully captured in academic literature.

Data analysis was carried out using a descriptive qualitative approach that emphasizes in-depth interpretation of the collected information. Content analysis techniques were applied to identify, classify, and interpret the meaning of data obtained from academic articles, official reports, and media publications. The collected data were organized into thematic categories, such as the root causes of insecurity, the forms of conflict occurring, the impacts on African regional peace, and the influence on foreign investment and economic development. Each category was critically analyzed to uncover causal patterns that explain how Nigeria's domestic dynamics affect the stability of the African region. This analytical process went beyond mere description, aiming to connect the findings with relevant theoretical frameworks, particularly the theory of complex interdependence in international relations. In this way, the research does not only present raw data but also offers sharp interpretations, logical arguments, and profound conclusions regarding the complexity of insecurity in Nigeria and its multiple effects on peace and the African economy.

### **3. Findings and Discussions**

#### **3.1 Findings**

Insecurity in Nigeria is a complex phenomenon driven by multiple factors, including ethnic conflicts, political crises, corruption, and widening socio-economic inequalities that intensify domestic instability. This situation not only creates internal threats but also generates broader consequences for regional peace in Africa, where diplomacy, regional integration, and cross-border cooperation are disrupted by the rise of terrorism, banditry, and frequent border closures that weaken trust among





governance. It is further described as being dominated by godfatherism, money politics, and electoral malpractice.

The insecurity problem has led past and present governments to allocate a large share of resources to security, reflecting both the persistence of insecurity and the urgent need to protect lives and property. More specifically, many former governors and those currently in office, particularly in northern Nigeria, have attributed their poor performance in state development to the absence of peace, which hinders the creation of a stable environment for economic and political activities (Mike, 2016). However, despite these massive security allocations, the only evident outcome has been continued attacks and an escalation of security challenges across the country. As a result, people now live in conditions that Thomas Hobbes described as “solitary, poor, nasty, brutish, and short.”

People in Nigeria often live without hope for the next moment because of overwhelming security challenges, even though the country is under democratic rule and is considered a civilized society. Attacks are directed not only at civilians but also at security personnel. The growth of private security has exposed weaknesses in the national security system and revealed vulnerabilities to adversaries. The increasing number of assaults on military installations across the country has intensified fear and reinforced the perception that insurgency in Nigeria is deeply rooted (Alozieuwa, 2012). Egwu (2000) explains that the structure of Nigeria's security forces has often been shaped to serve the interests of those in power and their supporters. Security personnel are usually assigned to protect elites and their properties, leaving ordinary citizens unprotected. As a result, the original purpose of security, which is to safeguard the lives and property of the general population, has failed while important social and economic aspects have been ignored.

Ethnic, tribal, and religious conflicts have been long standing problems in Nigeria since the civil war. Countless ethno religious clashes have led to mass killings and the destruction of properties worth billions of naira. States that have experienced severe crises include Kaduna, Plateau, Taraba, Benue, and many others (Adagba, 2012). Ewetan (2013) notes that the causes of insurgency in the country include rapid urban migration, massive unemployment, slow economic growth, high inflation, heavy foreign debt, and the lack of national unity. Ali (2013) also emphasizes that the pace at which insecurity escalates is alarming, with challenges appearing in different forms such as terrorism, banditry, kidnapping, and bombings since the return to democratic governance in 1999. According to Adagba (2012), the high levels of unemployment and poverty, particularly among the active youth population, have been major contributors to insurgency and social unrest. In addition, the uncontrolled inflow of foreign nationals through porous land borders has worsened insecurity in Nigeria (Adeola and Oluyemi, 2012).

### **Impact on African Regional Peace**

The multiplier effects of insecurity on peace and the African economy are wide ranging. It is important to recognize that foreign policy plays a central role in shaping these outcomes, as international relations are built upon various sectors that form the foundation of the economy. Since each nation possesses areas of comparative advantage, there is a natural need for connectivity and interdependence among states, as no country can exist in isolation. This reality underscores the importance of foreign policy in establishing reciprocal relationships among nations. Chibundu

(2003) identifies diplomacy, military cooperation, trade, economy, social and cultural exchanges, education, and even sports as key elements of foreign policy among states. However, if a nation fails to resolve its domestic problems yet seeks to engage with others, its foreign policy is likely to become unstable, ambiguous, and unclear. The strength, reliability, and credibility of a country's foreign policy depend largely on its internal capacity, since domestic stability guarantees its effectiveness in the international system. Ojukwu (2015) further emphasizes that the direction of foreign policy is deliberate and shaped significantly by domestic politics, meaning that internal conditions of a country greatly affect its international relations.

Nigeria holds a strategic position in the global economy, and even more so in Africa, due to its geographical location as well as its abundant natural and human resources. Sharing borders with Niger, Chad, Togo, and Cameroon, Nigeria has faced severe security challenges that led to the closure of all its land borders. The Nigerian government announced this closure on 20 August 2019, citing concerns over arms smuggling, cross-border insecurity, human trafficking, illegal migration, and abuse of international trade development procedures in the West African sub-region (Basil, 2019). These land borders had also served as major routes for livestock and migrant flows from neighboring countries. Cross-border trade between Nigeria and its neighbors had traditionally provided mutual benefits. Traders imported large quantities of fruits, cereals, vegetables, and livestock from Niger, Benin, and Chad to supplement Nigeria's domestic supply. In return, Nigeria exported household products and building materials to these countries (Adeyinka, 2014). However, the persistence of insecurity has severely disrupted this exchange, revealing that insecurity poses one of the greatest threats to the economy of Africa's giant. As one of the continent's leading oil producers, Nigeria has also seen its oil production capacity and national revenue negatively affected by ongoing instability (Reuters, 25 November 2014).

The population of non-nationals from neighboring African countries living in Nigeria is difficult to quantify because of their large numbers, particularly in major cities. In addition, around two million Nigerians reside in Côte d'Ivoire, three million in Cameroon, while those living in Benin Republic and Niger Republic account for nearly 30 percent of the entire population of those countries (Agbota, 2020). This demographic movement reflects the strong commitment to peaceful coexistence, the preservation of African unity, and the enforcement of the ECOWAS Treaty on the free movement of people and goods within West Africa. However, Nigeria's border closure policy, which lasted for more than a year, created widespread hardship. Border communities were among the worst affected, with millions of people losing their livelihoods and a very large percentage of small and medium enterprises (SMEs) being displaced or forced to relocate elsewhere (Oguntoye, 2020).

The prolonged land border closure, lasting more than a year, raised serious concerns about the validity and purpose of the ECOWAS agreement, which was originally designed to guarantee the free movement of people, goods, and services across the subregion. Since the founding of ECOWAS by Nigeria and Togo in 1975 (ECOWAS Report, 1975), regional integration has consistently faced major challenges. The violation of this agreement, justified by the need to curb arms smuggling, drug trafficking, human trafficking, and other cross-border security threats, underscores the complex dilemma between ensuring security and promoting economic cooperation. These persistent challenges continue to hinder regional



integration efforts and pose significant obstacles to maintaining stable and peaceful borders among member states (Nigerian News Agency, 2015; Temitope, 2021).

The continuous closure of Nigeria's land borders has created serious economic hardship for people living in border communities, within Nigeria, and across the West African sub-region. As Oguntoye (2020) points out, this prolonged border shutdown may also be interpreted as Nigeria expressing dissatisfaction with the involvement of its neighboring countries and other regions in criminal activities. Agbota (2020) further explains that in the current economic climate, the extension of border closures amounts to a form of economic rejection directed at the affected countries. This has sparked negative reactions toward Nigeria, as seen in Ghana where Nigerian citizens and their properties came under attack. Beyond these political undertones, the closure has severely worsened the living conditions of West African communities by blocking wealth creation processes, disrupting business activities, and reducing the flow of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) (Olanrewaju, 2015).

Persson (2014) clarifies that political instability in Mali, unrest in the Central African Republic and South Sudan, combined with Nigeria's persistent civil strife, have all generated wider negative effects across the sub-Saharan region. Neighboring countries remain deeply concerned about Nigeria's insecurity because of its economic strength, strategic position, and vast natural resources. The rising wave of insurgency has further strained Nigeria's international relations, with frequent bombings, massacres, kidnappings, and detentions of foreign visitors heightening global apprehension. Consequently, the United States and several European nations have issued warnings to their citizens living in Nigeria, advising them to avoid areas affected by violence.

The United States has officially confirmed and blacklisted Nigeria as one of the countries facing serious terrorism challenges within its territory (Omankihalén and Babajide, 2012 as cited in Awortu, 2015:218). As a result of persistent insecurity, tourism in Nigeria has declined by 25 percent due to the continuous spread of political violence, with even more severe impacts on countries with limited tourist attractions (Neumayer, 2004 as cited in OECD, 2005). Insecurity has also forced many Nigerians living in border areas to seek medical services in Cameroon, Chad, and Niger, thereby placing additional pressure on the already limited healthcare personnel and facilities in host communities (Onuoha, 2014:8). Insecurity has become a major contributor to Africa's ongoing humanitarian crisis. It has led to rising human casualties, a significant increase in internally displaced persons, refugee emergencies, widespread food insecurity, and the spread of various diseases across the continent (van Creveld, 1996:58). Mohammed (2014:81) further asserts that the inability of state authorities to manage extremism, coupled with the persistent presence of foreign extremist sects and their connections with domestic religious groups, has fueled the recurrence of extremism and insurgency in Nigeria.

### **Economic, Social, and Humanitarian Impacts**

The activities of Boko Haram have been a major factor behind the continuous rise in displacement and political unrest in Nigeria, particularly in the states of Borno, Yobe, and Adamawa. This has resulted in large numbers of internally displaced persons (IDPs) relocating to safer areas within the country, as well as refugees fleeing to neighboring countries such as Niger, Chad, and Cameroon. Evidence shows that women and children make up a significant proportion of those affected

by the insurgency (International Regional Information Network, March 14, 2014; UN OCHA, 2014). In addition to insurgency, persistent rural banditry between 2014 and 2019 created severe threats of violence across several states, including Zamfara, Katsina, Kebbi, Sokoto, Niger, Benue, Nassarawa, and Plateau. This widespread violence has contributed to a heightened state of insecurity, leaving an estimated 21 million people vulnerable. Since March 2020 alone, about 210,000 people have been displaced internally, while more than 35,000 refugees have crossed communal borders into Maradi in Niger Republic. These developments highlight the deep economic, social, and humanitarian challenges driven by insecurity, which undermine stability and development both within Nigeria and across the wider West African region.

On the international stage, most developed countries have issued warnings through their embassies, advising their citizens against traveling to high-risk areas in Nigeria due to the killings of several foreign nationals. The growing security challenges in Nigeria have reinforced global concerns, with the international community increasingly viewing the country as unsafe. Statistics from the Global Peace Index (GPI, 2012) confirm this perception, showing a sharp decline in Nigeria's peace ranking as the country dropped from 146th to 158th out of 158 nations assessed worldwide. This drastic fall reflects a severe erosion of peace and stability. Igbuzor (2011:7) stresses that Nigeria is the least peaceful country in West Africa. John Kufour, former president of Ghana, similarly observed that insecurity in Nigeria is a curse on its development and undermines its ability to legitimately claim leadership among its African peers. In the same vein, Bamgbose (2013) argues that Nigeria's persistent security challenges and its inability to find long-term solutions have weakened its efforts to be recognized as a respected actor in international politics. These perspectives underline the extent to which domestic insecurity not only destabilizes Nigeria internally but also diminishes its influence and credibility abroad.

The treatment of Nigerian citizens with suspicion at international airport terminals before boarding, as noted by Adefuye (2013), reflects the broader stigma associated with insecurity in the country. Beyond reputational damage, insecurity has had long-term consequences across Africa, given Nigeria's role as the largest producer and distributor of staple cereals on the continent. Prolonged instability could therefore trigger widespread food insecurity in Africa (USAID, 2014). According to the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) World Investment Report, Nigeria's internal economy lost an estimated ₦1.33 trillion in Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) as a direct consequence of insurgency (Okereocha, 2012:46). Supporting this, the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) in its 2010 Annual Report revealed that total foreign capital inflow into the economy amounted to \$5.99 billion, representing a 78.1 percent decline from \$3.31 billion recorded in 2009.

Joshua and Chidozie (2014:359), as cited in Mike Oyenusi (2016), further observed that potential foreign investors and multinational corporations remain hesitant to establish operations in Nigeria. Despite the country's vast natural resources and large consumer market, fear of losing both lives and investments has driven firms away. They argue that Nigeria, once considered a leading African actor, continues to experience steady decline in the Global Peace Index. Out of 158 countries surveyed, Nigeria dropped from 129th position in 2007, to 137th in 2008

and 2009, 142nd in 2010, and 147th by 2020. A separate study covering 44 sub-Saharan African nations ranked Nigeria 40th, only four places above war-torn South Sudan, which remains the least peaceful country in the region. These findings reveal the stark reality that Africa's so-called giant is now counted among the least peaceful nations on the continent.

The effects of insecurity in Nigeria have extended into almost every sector, with Boko Haram's activities causing particularly severe disruption to education in many regions. The name "Boko Haram," derived from the Hausa language, literally translates as "Western education is forbidden," showing the group's strong opposition to Western-style education. Schools have therefore become major targets, as seen in the kidnappings of students from Dapchi in Yobe State, the Government Day School in Yauri, Kebbi State, and the abduction of the Chibok girls in Maiduguri, among other cases (Acworth, 2015:218). Since education is essential for national progress and economic growth, these attacks have seriously weakened Nigeria's ability to strengthen its education system. In addition to terrorism, the education sector in Nigeria faces problems of weak policy implementation and inadequate budget allocation, which further aggravate the situation. The insurgency has also devastated agriculture. Farmers in conflict-prone regions such as Benue, Maiduguri, Yobe, Adamawa, Taraba, and Plateau, who are well known for producing crops including onions, rice, cowpeas, and yams as well as for livestock farming, have been unable to work for long periods due to repeated attacks on farming communities. This has led to rising poverty, high food prices, and worsening food insecurity.

Mining activities in affected areas have equally declined as fear of violent attacks discourages people from working at mining sites. According to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), more than 15 million people, mostly farmers, have had no choice but to flee their homes. Many have crossed into neighboring countries, while the majority remain in refugee camps within Nigeria due to continuing insecurity in their states of origin (Nneka, 2015). These realities demonstrate how insecurity continues to weaken Nigeria's social, economic, and developmental foundations in a multidimensional way.

### **3.2 Discussions**

Theories are view with which people make sense of their world experiences (Halvorson, 2002). This research work is situated within the perspective framework of Complex-Interdependence theory of Robert Keohane & Joseph Nye in 1970 in the book power and interdependence, the world politics in transition. It is generally believed that no state can live in isolation or as an island due to varieties of issues or phenomena ranging from the differences in weather, natural resources, level of technology, education and human needs. This reason now necessitated the need for interdependence of the world even though in conflict or hard times. In the words of Keohane, and Nye, they asserted that interdependence and international relations among world countries of today are important has the world is interdependent in all aspects of life, especially economic issues. And that the theory has been used in analyzing the international politics among nations stressing the attempt to understand why individual states are of the desires to come into cooperative alliances among each others under conditions of anarchy and dependence.

The theory posited that the relationship between both state and non-state actors, formal and Informal organizations, governmental and non-governmental organizations, among both countries to a large extent contribute to the peaceful relations and means to conflict solving mechanism among these countries in times of disagreement. In this present globalized society, the term interdependence has assumed a global usage as it is frequently used among world economies. It depicts a position where all parts of the state systems are dependent upon each other. According to Keohane & Nye (1977: 8), they conclude that Interdependence in world politics refers to a scenario in which it is described by reciprocal effects countries or among actors in different countries." So there should be measures to check the effects of their decisions before taking or making its foreign policy, so has to be mutually balance and equally interdependence. In the words of Waheeda (2015), Interdependence does not only signifies peace and cooperation between state and non-state actors, but also a relationship between actors characterized by cooperation, dependence, and interaction in several different areas, and conflict as well. Genest (1996) stressed that an economic trans-nationalist concept of the world - states is that security issues are not only the most important issues on the state list or it been the major focus in dealing with state, however the social welfare issues on global agenda and cooperation are dominant characteristics of international politics. Which according to Waheeda (2015) will result to cooperation, prosperity and stability in the international system. Going further she also buttressed that in the world of Complex interdependence, there is no hierarchy among world issues. That the dividing line between domestic and foreign policy becomes blurred and there is no clear agenda in interstate relations. There are multiple issues which are not arranged in a clear or consistent hierarchy.

#### 4. Conclusion

The security challenges in Nigeria have gone out of hand even though the Nigerian government has been working endlessly to find lasting solutions. The negative effects are not only felt by Nigeria but also the world, precisely West Africa countries due to its territorial locations in Nigeria. The effects are felt in all ramifications on both Nigeria and its neighboring countries despite some of the measures taking are contradicting it foreign policies. The security challenges as political, educational, economic, social and religious implications and these implications are also resulting to other problems so quick measures needs to be taken in other to save the country and avert its security challenges for a better Nigeria. The government should create employment opportunities for citizens so as to reduce the level of poverty which will, in long run, reduce idleness and curb bad habits. Secondly, Nigeria's government should connive with other forces of its neighboring countries, so it has to provide joint task force to tackle insurgency within their territorial boundaries. Nigeria's government should take into consideration other countries' positions or situations before making policy. Opportunities for dialogue should be given by the government as a solving mechanism between them and terrorists.

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