



**AUPSC**

**PEACE AND SECURITY  
COUNCIL OF THE AFRICAN UNION**

**ANNEX GUIDE**



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**III MODELO POTIGUAR DAS NAÇÕES  
UNIDAS  
AUPSC – AFRICAN UNION PEACE AND  
SECURITY COUNCIL**

**ANNEX GUIDE**

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NATAL/RN  
2020

**MODELO POTIGUAR DAS NAÇÕES UNIDAS**  
**AFRICAN UNION PEACE AND SECURITY COUNCIL**

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**AUPSC'S BUREAU**

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**Topic:** The nexus between human trafficking and terrorism

NATAL/RN

2020

## LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

UNDP	United Nations Development Program
HDI	Human Development Index
AIDS	Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome
USDOS	United States Department of State
SADC	Southern Africa Development Community
FLEC	<i>Frente para a Libertação do Enclave de Cabinda</i>
CIA	Central Intelligence Agency
NGO	Non-Governmental Organizations
POSA	Public Order and Security Act
ADB Group	African Development Bank Group
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GIA	Armed Islamic Group of Argelia

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# 1 CENTRAL AFRICA

Crossed by the equator line, Central Africa is the subregion of the African Union that borders with all the resting ones, having been plagued with war and crises, the region cultivated a legacy of fragile, and sometimes of questionable legitimacy, State regimes, which allowed the proliferation of transnational organized crime, terrorism and corruption. In addition, recent climate conditions and demographic growth have increased food insecurity and displacement, intensifying even more the region’s instability (UNITED NATIONS OFFICE FOR DRUGS AND CRIME, 2020).

The terrorist groups most present in the subregion can be cited as Boko Haram, as a consequence of its proximity with Nigeria and the Lord's Resistance Army due to its proximity with Uganda. Central Africa is composed of Burundi, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Congo, DR Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, São Tomé and Príncipe (AFRICAN UNION, 2020).

Image 1 - Central Africa map.



Source: Darwinjaar (201-?).

## 1.1 Gabonese Republic

The Gabonese republic is a presidential republic characterized as being one of the most pacific countries on the coast of Africa. The official language is French, while the predominant religion is the Roman Catholic (42,3%), followed by the Protestant (12,3%), other Christian (27,4%), Muslim (9,8%), Animist (0,6%), other (0,5%), none/no answer (7,1%) (Central Intelligence Agency, 2012). It is also located on the Central Africa (CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY, 2019).

One of the greatest incomes for the country has been the discovery and the exploration of oil since the 1960s, which gifted the Gabon with one of the highest per capita income levels in the Sub-Saharan Africa, even though the widespread hasn't conquered the reality, considering the strong marks of poverty that prospects more than 4 children per woman, facing the endemic unemployment that storms the country (*idem*, 2019)

The independence from France happened in 17 august 1960, and the Gabonese Constitution is a blended result of influences from both Civil Law and Consuetudinary Law. Currently, the oil exploration has been a great factor for the per capita increase, even though the inequality is still massive just like the surrounding sub-Saharan African nations. In fact, the statistics show that the oil exploration has become the biggest supplier, and, on the other hand, how the corruption and the poor fiscal management has been a difficulty for the development of the country.

Furthermore, the country's international relations are quite pacific, only supporting a problem of sovereignty with Equatorial Guinea, with a boundary void in the sea, still not solved since the country does not accept the International Court of Justice as a legitimate jurisdiction. (*ibidem*, 2012)

The Gabon Republic has been field to the trafficking in persons, as a destination and a transit country (UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE, 2018). The main consequences are currently connected with sexual slavery of woman and girls and the high statistics of child's forced labor. External institutions have claimed for greater standards for the elimination of trafficking, since the legislation adopted do not condemns efficiently all the spectrums of the problematic. Nowadays, the most common forms of trafficking entails forced and early marriage, servitude and child labor.

“The trend, forms and manifestation of trafficking in persons are not well-understood in Gabon, and there is a general lack of awareness and knowledge of trafficking in persons beyond child trafficking for exploitative labour. [...]



As a result, other victims of trafficking remain invisible and unrecognized by not only the general population, but also the victims themselves and the competent authorities.” (EZEILO, 2012; *apud* UNITED NATIONS, 2012)

## **1.2 Republic of Burundi**

The Republic of Burundi, a presidential republic in the middle of Africa, is one of the most densely populated countries in the continent and shares not only a border at north with the republic of Rwanda but also most of their colonial past. Both countries suffered and continue to suffer enormous casualties in consequence of ethnic tensions between the three people that compose the nation, Hutus (85%), Tutsis (14%) and Twa (1%), escalating to conflicts have even turned into a mass genocide – Rwanda in 1994 – and killed hundreds of thousands of Burundians and Rwandans (CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY, 2020b; 2020c).

Moreover, the landlocked country relies heavily on the agricultural sector, representing over 80% of its employment, while less than 5% of the population has access to electricity. Burundi also holds the position of being the 5<sup>th</sup> worst human development index in the world and has a Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of approximately only 3.5 billion dollars (THE WORLD BANK, 2020).

On terrorism, the most recent attacks – 2017 and 2018 –, are believed to be linked to anti-government actions from national rebel groups, been there no record of recent international terrorist activity on the area (FRANCE24, 2017; INDEPENDENT, 2018). In spite of that, the territory has already received public threats in the matter, such as from the Al Shabaab, known jihadist fundamentalist group, from declaring support to the African Union peacekeeping mission in Somalia (UNITED KINGDOM, 2020).

In addition, Burundi is considered to be a source for trafficking in person and source and transit for trafficking in person, regarding national and transnational views, not only because of its repetitive political crisis and widespread of poverty but also for a quasi-failure of its judiciary branch that helps sustain impunity in the country (GATAVU, 2016). The most vulnerable such as women and children remain the ones at higher risk, but especially returned refugees were seen to be vulnerable as a consequence of a lack of basic services and land (UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, 2019).

The department of State of the United States, that keeps track on the subject, has classified Burundi in the last tier in dealing with human trafficking, believing that it did not meet the minimum requisites to eliminate the matter (UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, 2019). On the other hand, the government of Burundi, in partnership with the International

Organization for Migration, has recently launched a 3-year program – Burundi Counter-Trafficking 2019-2022 – to strengthen the State’s capacity on fighting trafficking in persons and try to change this scenery (INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR MIGRATION, 2019).

### **1.3 Republic of Equatorial Guinea**

Located on the West Coast of Central Africa, the republic of Equatorial Guinea holds one of the highest GDPs per Capita in the African continent due to a rapid economic growth because of the moderately recent discovery of large offshore oil reserves in the country’s territory (CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY, 2020). Being a presidential republic, Equatorial Guinea is home of the longest-serving president in the world, Teodoro Obiang, that completed 40 years in charge after he seized power from his uncle in a military coup and has been elected ever since the coup ended (HUMAN RIGHTS WATCH, 2019).

However, neither the economic growth nor the apparent political stability in the country can be showed as signs of a content and well-being population, the scenery is, in fact, quite the opposite. According to Humans Rights Watch (2019), the government of Obiang is marked of “relentless repression of civil society and political opposition group”, “staggering corruption” and an abuse of its power positions to “amass enormous personal fortunes”. In contrast, the same organization shows that over half of its population lacks access to safe water and only 5% of the country’s budget is spent on education and health (HUMAN RIGHTS WATCH, 2019).

Although Equatorial Guinea has not yet experienced any recent attacks from active terrorist groups or even sees in them a relevant threat to their security, the country faces other types of terror manipulation. While human rights organizations consider the government actions as violent and repressive, with political aims, the government itself has already declared that it faces the rebel attacks to their supremacy as terrorist attempts. The country has ratified several international conventions on terrorism and has legal prevision banning it, despite not having any complex counterterrorism policy (EQUATORIAL GUINEA, 2018; COUNTER EXTREMISM PROJECT, 2020).

Furthermore, about human trafficking, the country is considered to be “a source country for children subjected to sex trafficking and destination country for men, women, and children subjected to forced labour”, with victims both domestic and foreign, being extern migrants attracted to the big cities of the country in search of work (CENTRAL INTELIGENCE AGENCY, 2020e; UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, 2019). Moreover, the country is

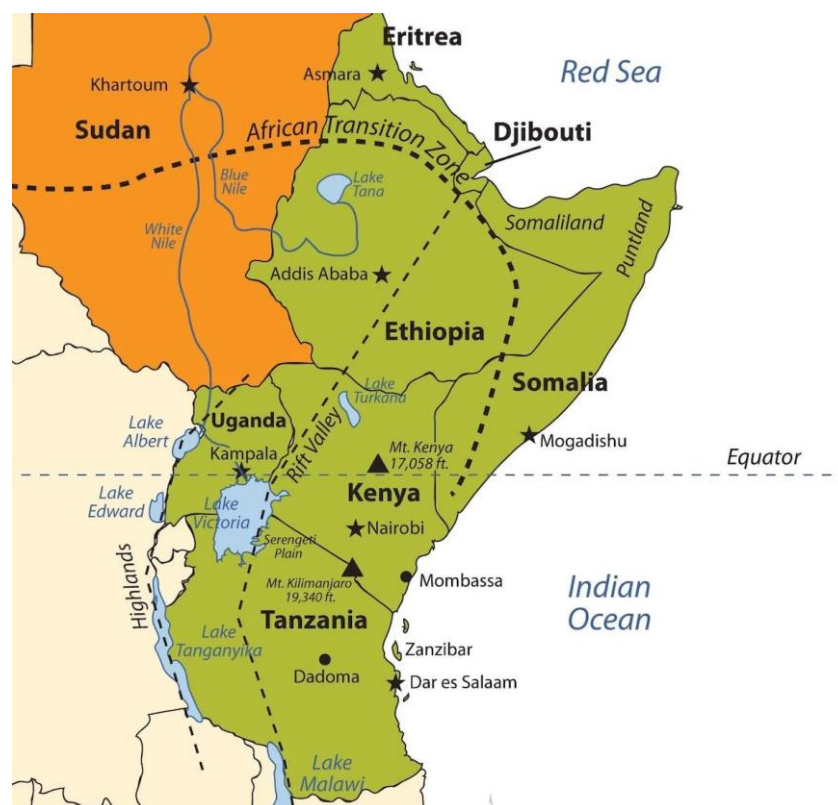
classified by the United States dep. of State in the lower ranked tier on fighting trafficking in persons, with the government approach on the matter considered insufficient and lacking (UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, 2019).

## 2 EASTERN AFRICA

The Eastern Africa is a diverse and complex region of the continent that is composed by 14 countries: Comoros, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Eritrea, Kenya, Madagascar, Mauritius, Rwanda, Seychelles, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Tanzania and Uganda. The violence declines between different forms, but an undeniable mark is the connection with the notion of revolution (ABBINK, 2000).

The importance of dealing with the terrorism and the trafficking in persons manifestations in a transnational strategy is that the boundaries are one of the most recurrent affected area, which turns out the fact that it is a common condition, and a strategical battle for development. Furthermore, the effects of the problem in one of the countries disturbs – in the majority of the cases – all the surrounding others.

Image 2 - Eastern Africa map.



Source: Lumen Candela (201-?).

## 2.1 Republic of Djibouti

The Republic of Djibouti is a country located in the Horn of Africa – a peninsula in East Africa – bordering with Somalia’s autonomous region of Somaliland, Ethiopia and Eritrea. Its capital city is also called Djibouti and its recognized official languages are Arabic, French, Somali and Afar. Djibouti’s government is a presidential republic under an authoritarian dictatorship. Djibouti’s ranking in the Human Development Index is 171, with life expectancy at 66 years and a percentage of 33.5 % of malnutrition in children under five years of age.

The current president, Ismail Omar Guelleh, has been in office since 1999 and is not subject to term limits. While the country is officially a multiparty political system, the opposition is constantly boycotted as well as opposing journalists and activists. For those reasons, Djibouti is considered a “not free” country according to the organization Freedom House. (FREEDOM HOUSE, 2019)

Djibouti’s human trafficking takes advantage on the transiting migrants from Ethiopia and Eritrea but also exploit Djiboutians, in both cases for forced labour and sex work. Part of the country’s efforts in preventing trafficking is closely monitoring the transport of Ethiopians expatriates to the border, as they are likely to become victims.

Djibouti is ranked as a Tier 2 country by the United States Department of State in the 2019 Trafficking in Persons Report, that meaning the country doesn’t comply with their minimum standards for eliminating human trafficking but has made progress over the years. The country’s Law No. 133, On the Fight Against Trafficking in Persons and Illicit Smuggling of Migrants, prescribes penalties of five to ten years imprisonment for sex and labour trafficking, although it still lacks shelters for victims and migrants vulnerable to becoming victims and formal training for the identification of victims. (UNITED STATES STATE DEPARTMENT, 2019)

Djibouti has only fallen victim to one terrorist attack, an airplane hijacking with no fatalities in 2001. But it has helped foreign counterterrorism initiatives, hosting the headquarters of United States of Africa Command’s Combined Joint Task Force-Horn of Africa and being a member of the Global Coalition to Defeat ISIS; Djibouti is also a member of the Middle East and North Africa Financial Action Task Force (MENAFATF) – a regional body that helps countering the financing of terrorism (UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE PUBLICATION, 2019).

## 2.2 Republic of Kenya

The Republic of Kenya is a presidential republic located in the northeast of the continent. The independence from the United Kingdom was conquered at December 12nd of 1963, and currently the country's backbone is agriculture, representing almost 35% of the economic activity. Furthermore, a problematic that the country actually faces is the statistic that exposes 40% of the population unemployed or underemployed (CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY, 2018). Facing that, the actual president has pledged to make economic growth and development a centerpiece of his second administration, focusing on his "Big Four" initiatives of universal healthcare, food security, affordable housing, and expansion of manufacturing (CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY, 2018).

The religion is predominantly Christian 83% (Protestant 47.7%, Catholic 23.4%, other Christian 11.9%), Muslim 11.2%, Traditionalists 1.7%, other 1.6%, none 2.4%, unspecified 0.2% (CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY, 2009).

Kenya has been highly affected by terrorism threats, mostly from the Somali Al-Shabaab. The nation has an active position in the forces of the African Union Mission to Somalia, and has a significant presence in the fight over Terrorism, since it is a hot spot for attacks and the threats have been affecting directly the security of national borders. The country also locates Camp Simba, an strategic military base that aims to count-terrorism with US American and Kenyan forces, in the border with Somalia, which was either attacked in January of 2020. The supportive relation between United States, Israel and Kenya and the country's concessions in military and economic fields has also, in the past, brought up to reality a series of threats from the Palestine Liberation Organization - in attacks to the American embassy and to Jews/Israeli enterprises. Watching the western presence of Nairobi is that Al-Shabaab has been fulfilling the interests in the constant attacks to the Kenyan's capital (THE GUARDIAN, 2019).

According to the United Nations Development Programme, the impact of these have been most felt on infrastructure, physical and human capital, productivity and economic growth. Furthermore, terrorist attacks and violent extremism have increased uncertainty in the investment climate, disrupted household spending and livelihood, dissuaded foreign direct investment (FDI) and led to a reallocation of resources from growth-enhancing investment to spending designed to increase national security. (UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME, 2017).

Also, the trafficking in persons has been a current issue since the country is undeniably a transition field for trafficked humans, with a historical that extends until 2020, when 96 Ugandan girls were deported after becoming trafficked (POLITICAL ANALYSIS SOUTH AFRICA, 2020). Indeed, one in six victims trafficked for forced labour, sexual exploitation and other reasons in Kenya is a child (NATIONS NEWSPLEX, 2019).

### **2.3 Republic of Rwanda**

The Republic of Rwanda has got its independence from Belgium in 1 July 1962. It is a presidential republic leaded by the President Paul Kagame, since 2000, integrant of the Rwandan Patriotic Front Coalition and recognized as the representative that pulled his country, after one of the worst Genocides in history, to the status of role model for Africa and beyond (NEW TIMES, 2020). Even though the country has faced an incredible increase in the economy, it also deals with some criticism about the democratic welfare. It has a mixed legal system of civil law and customary law, based on the German and Belgian model. (CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY, 2020).

On social terms, the country fills the 59th position of the most unemployed country, with 20% of its population jobless; Also, adding that 97% of its children attend primary school—the highest rate in Africa - this country has a great social development progressive increase (THE GUARDIAN, 2014). The religions variates between Protestants, 49.5%, Roman Catholic, 43.7%, Muslim, 2%, other 0.9% (includes Jehovah's Witness), none 2.5%, unspecified 1.3% (CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY, 2020). The country was praised by the World Bank as a remarkable development success, which has been helping to reduce poverty and inequality, even though the current government faces criticism for the doubtful actions in terms of human rights watch (BRITISH BROADCASTING CORPORATION, 2018).

In terms of terrorism, it is legally a subject to prosecution in Justice, facing the 2008 law on counterterrorism. Furthermore, the 2012 penal code reform clarified the expression forms of terrorism. In other point of view, some human rights Non-Governmental Organizations plus the United States of America opinates that the charges are actually politically motivated (REFWORLD, 2013). The violence in Rwanda is still related with the past ethnical conflict that resulted in the genocide, with the violent expression of Rwandan Hutus rebels. Also, the borders with the Democratic Republic of Congo and Uganda are a current non-safety zone (BRITISH BROADCASTING CORPORATION, 2019).

About the trafficking in persons, the government adopted an anti-trafficking law and provided rehabilitation services to more former child combatants associated with armed groups in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE, 2019). The country has already 378 victims in all its history and has been making efforts to improve security. In 2014, President Paul Kagame warned those involved in Human Trafficking that "Rwanda cannot accept its citizens to be traded like commodities".



### 3 NORTHERN AFRICA

The region of Northern Africa is composed by seven nations: Algeria, Egypt, Libya, Morocco, Sudan, Tunisia and Western Sahara (with controversial). Stretches from the Atlantic shores of Morocco into the Suez Canal and the Red Sea, in the east. Northern Africa cannot be mistaken with North Africa. The main difference is political, in North Africa, the region is limited to four modern countries, such as Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia and Lybia and was colonized mostly by the French.

Most of the region follows an ethnic identity usually inspired on an affiliation with Arabs and Islam, or with indigenous cultures, and the people has a wide range of physical characteristics, from fair to dark-complexioned. Northern Africa is separated from all of the rest of the continent by the Atlas Mountains, because of this, the region has been known to have a history of political and cultural contact with nations outside Africa (Mediterranean and Southwest Asian mostly) until nowadays, making the place more plural. Because of the Atlas Mountains and the Mediterranean climate, agriculture is easier.

Northern Africa had suffered from Arabic Muslim invasions, and those invasions had a huge influence on people's culture and religion. In the nineteenth century Northern Africa was colonized by France, Great Britain, Spain, and Italy. While all four countries had strongholds in Northern Africa, France controlled the largest portion of territory. Following World War II a nationalistic movement swept across Northern Africa which resulted in all the states gaining independence. (NEW WORLD ENCYCLOPEDIA, 2018)

Nowadays, the economy of Algeria and Libya are transformed because of the discovery of oil and natural gas reserves in the desert. Beyond that, phosphates have risen to become one of the biggest exports of Morocco. Different of those countries, Egypt and Tunisia have taken a different path by approaching economic sustainability, with the tourism industry.

Image 3 - Northern Africa map.



Source: Women in the Windom International (201-?).

### 3.1 Kingdom of Morocco

Morocco is a parliamentary constitutional monarchy. The government is led by the prime minister, Saadeddine Othmani, and the monarch, King Mohamed VI, performs government functions following the constitution. The country occupies the 121<sup>st</sup> position in the Human Development Indicators (HDI), with the index of 0.676. It's GDP was worth, in 2018, 118.50 billion US dollars (TRADING ECONOMICS, 2018). And Morocco has a small percentage of total agricultural land irrigated. This results in an inefficient water management and use in all over the country, together with the lack of good sanitation network and wastewater treatment system, making the water dirty and unsuitable for the populations use ((FANACK, 2009).

Morocco terrorism index increased from 0,04 in 2017 to 1,22 in 2018, and had an all time peak in 2003, with 4.50 index (TRADING ECONOMICS 2017). This data shows how the terrorism is growing in North Africa, related to many terrorist groups. In Human Trafficking, the country is a source and destination to forced labour and sex trafficking. Moroccan citizens and migrants, men, women and children are subjected and exploited for domestic work, labour and sex trafficking, and some Moroccan women are forced into prostitution, even by members of their family. Acts in Morocco the “Moroccan Islamic Combatant Group”, which emerged in the 1990s and fought in Afghanistan and worked in some terrorist attacks (UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME, 2019).

Together with the European Union and Tunisia, Morocco works in a counter terrorism strategy, to fight against many terrorist groups and protect all population, specially from North Africa and against the evolution. “The Moroccan regime bases its claim to have developed a distinctive, effective approach to counter-terrorism on the lack of attacks in Morocco since 2011 and the number of plots it has thwarted” (DWORKIN; MALKI, 2018).

The Kingdom of Morocco handled the global crisis in a good way. Most of the finances were in fair shape and fulfilled many demands, during Arab Spring. The society is pressing the government since 2011 to increase wages, pensions and subsidies, to help all the citizens to support their living standards.

### **3.2 People’s Democratic Republic of Algeria**

Algeria is a Constitutional Presidential Republic with a large and predominantly Muslim population and is located in Northern Africa. The country’s President, Abdelmadjid Tebboune, is the head of the state and he fulfils the roles as commander-in-chief of “People’s National Armed Forces of Algeria” and he appoints the Prime Minister, which is ahead of the government and chooses the members of the Council of Ministers. Furthermore, the President nominates the High-Security council as well. The country works with a universal suffrage and elects the President/Head of the State in a five-years term election. Algeria had a civil war from 1991 to 2002, which had the government against Islamic rebels, and since then, the country’s political and security stability has been improved. After a lot of changes, in 2016, a new Algerian constitution was approved.

The majority of Algeria’s ethnically tree is made by Arabs and Amazigh groups. But for a short period of time, the country had European Settlers from France and Italy in the colonial period. Its economy is predominantly by its export trade in petroleum and natural gas, commodities that contributes one-third of the country’s GDP, worth in 2018, 180.69 billion US dollars. Algeria occupies the 82<sup>o</sup> position in the Human Development Indicators (HDI), with the index of 0.759.

The population of Algeria is relatively young and with pressing medical needs. Because of that, the health care system is oriented towards preventive medicine, emphasizing small clinics together with a vaccination program. All of the medical care is provided by the government with no charges, but the incomes of the earning middle and higher pay a part of their fees on a proportional scale. The principal health problems are: fever, tuberculosis,

hepatitis, cholera and dysentery, because of the inadequate sanitation and polluted drinking water.

Since its independence from France, in 1962 with the end of the Algerian Revolution, the country has invested in safety and health for the population. Nowadays, Algeria has foreign relations in North Africa and with Europe. In North Africa, relations with Morocco has been strained. The Arab Maghreb Union (AMU), in 1989, improved relations between Algeria, Tunisia, Libya, Mauritania and Morocco, but also emphasized the need to fix some policies between the countries from the Maghreb. The AMU created some projects with shared interests with the initiative to bring those countries together, but it did not work out because tensions between member states had increased. In Europe, one of the most important aspects is the specific European financial efforts fund, directed toward Algeria to help privatization and industrial restructuring.

Algeria has one terrorist organization known by its French Acronym GIA (Armed Islamic Group, in English). GIA acted strongly against the Argelian military regime and had many terrorist attacks, and the argelian government has a strict policy. Countering the financing of terrorism, the country is a member of the “Middle East and North Africa Task Force” and has a big history of combating domestic violent extremism.

## 4 SOUTHERN AFRICA

The Southern region is composed of 12 countries according to the official web site of the ADBG (African Development Bank Group), and they are: Angola, Botswana, Eswatini, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Zambia and Zimbabwe (AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK GROUP, 2020). Even though, the SADC (Southern Africa Development Community) recognises four more countries: Comoros, Democratic Republic of Congo, Seychelles and United Republic of Tanzania (SOUTHERN AFRICA DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY, 2012).

Image 4 - Southern Africa map.



Source: Research Gate (2019).

The countries in this area have close and good relations, although some actions taken or even the absence of actions of some countries, might affect the neighbouring countries in a bad way without any punishment. These happens because big countries, as South Africa are the largest commercial partners of the small countries, and to protect this relation some of the small countries might take easy on the charges.

#### **4.1 Kingdom of Lesotho**

Lesotho is a Southeast Africa country that borders only with South Africa, being more susceptible for the countries to have a good relation, as commercial partners (COBBE; LEGUM, 2020). The government is composed by a constitutional monarchy where the prime minister has an executive authority, and the position is taken by the leader of the majority party in the congress (BEST COUNTRY, 2020).

When is discussed about development, this country is in a delicate situation, according to a United Nations Development Program (UNDP) report in the year of 2019 regarding the Human Development Index (HDI) the country was situated in the low category. One of the biggest obstacles to the grow of human development is the spread out of the AIDS diseases in the country that reached around one third of the population in the year of 2001.

The country also faces an economic problem related to the agriculture, that is one of the biggest pillars of the country's economy, the reason is that the limited land is dealing with soil erosion and repeatedly years of droughts. There is also the problem of lack of workforce, that is an impact of the presence of AIDS in the country. All these problems in the agriculture, result not only an economic problem, but also a food shortage (COBBE; LEGUM, 2020).

Regarding the human trafficking, there is a presence of trafficked people working in the country, native people exploited by the traffickers, and also citizens of Lesotho that are trafficked to other countries. The biggest incidence of trafficked people is to South Africa, where part of the victims accepts to migrate, because is offer a good promise of an employment, but when they get there are exploited in the agriculture and in the mining.

One aggravating factor is the lack of law enforcements to prevent the human traffic, but the government has made some progress, such as provide financial help to a local NGO that provides protection services. Although, these efforts are not enough, in the past years the government has not increased the resources to the investigation of the human trafficking and resulted in an absence of investigations, prosecutions, or effectives convictions (USDOS, 2019b).

Furthermore, the data of terrorism in the country is almost non-existent. According to the Institute for Economics and Peace in the year of 2018 the country score 0.1 at the terrorism index (TRADING ECONOMICS, 2019).

## 4.2 Republic of Angola

Angola is a republic located in the western Atlantic Coast, some definitions may say that the country is situated in Central Africa, but the official definition used by the African Union say that is considerate as a Southern Africa country. The government model used by this country is the Republic and is composed by a President and the members of the legislative house (GERVASE; THORNTON, 2020).

Although the country is full of natural reserves, as gold mines and petroleum, the late independence caused several delays at the human development. The country was colonized by the Portuguese, and in the 70's had a good development in the economy, though all the money was concentrated in a small class of colonists and the majority of the population was dealing with the social inequality. So, the nation got independent in 1975 after a war, that left the country even more fragile (GERVASE; THORNTON, 2020).

Nowadays, the country still deals with the problems left by the colonization time, according to the UNDP last data they HDI is considerate as low. In the year of 2002, when the civil war was ended almost one fourth of the schools in Angola were destroyed, since then the government has made some progress, but the existent corruption made a bigger delay at the development of the country. The country also had to face the fall of the price of the petroleum that is one of the pillars of the economy, leaving the government with no much choice of investment (THE ECONOMIST, 2017).

In the year of 2018 over 40 cases of human trafficking were reported in Angola, the victims were foreign, but also Angolan citizens from other regions were trafficked (ANGOP, 2018). According to a USDOS report of 2019, the government efforts to eradicate the human trafficking were still not enough, but they were significant such as more investigation in suspicious cases of trafficking, conviction of more traffickers and more collection of data. Although, this has not been enough and the government still needs to provide more assistance to the victims, that in the most cases are left without a shelter, or medical help (USDOS, 2019a).

There is no official data of terrorist groups acting in the country, but the country was accused to host a founder of the Hezbollah<sup>1</sup> that was using Angola to launder the money of the supposed terrorist group. In 2017, the member of the group was arrested, and the Angolan government made a promise to work on a legislation anti-money laundering and financing of terrorism (ANGOLA NEWS, 2018).

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<sup>1</sup> It is a political party and a military group, that is considerate by countries as United States, Israel and Canada as a terrorist group (ENCYCLOPAEDIA BRITANNICA, 2019).

There is also a conflict in the country that it could progress to a terrorist threat, the group is called *Frente para a Libertação do Enclave de Cabinda* (FLEC), and the aim for the independence of the area of Cabinda and the establishment of an independent estate for the province. However, they last registered attack was in 2010, and since then the government of Angola tried to negotiate with them, yet they never got into an agreement. In the now days there are still rumours of attacks, but the government denied (COUNTER EXTREMISM PROJECT, 2018).

### **4.3 Republic of Zimbabwe**

This southeast Africa country is bordered with the South Africa, Botswana, Zambia and Mozambique, and has good external relations with all of them, particularly with South Africa and Zambia. This country was only fully recognized independent in 1980, and nowadays is a Republic with two legislative houses, and has a president as the executive command (INGHAM; BRADLEY, 2020).

In the old days Zimbabwe used to have a good development, but poor governances and corruption, made this nation to have one of the worst HDI in the world. Over 63% of the population lives on poverty and 16% on extreme poverty, and a booster to this situation is the fact that almost 72% of the population lives the rural areas working in the agriculture, so the climate change in the past years turned their lives more difficult, and the number of unemployed has increased, and because of that so the poverty (USAID, 2019).

Recent data from CIA (Central Intelligence Agency) have shown that Zimbabwe is not only a source to the human trafficking, but it is also so the destination to several men, women and children. Regarding to the citizens of Zimbabwe, most of the victims are from poor areas in the borders of the country, they are convinced to live their home believing that they will get good education and work, although when they get into a new country are tied in exploitative labour (CIA, 2015).

In spite of the situation, the government of Zimbabwe has been making progress, such as sentencing traffickers and increasing the identification of the victims, they also established a nation action plan to identify their mistakes and progress in this combat. However, there are still a lot of measures that the country needs to make, until the eradication of the human trafficking. These actions include investigate proactively a complicit of the government officials and trafficking cases, expand the law enforcement, and also more support to the victims (USDOS, 2019c).



The country has no recent history of terrorism in his territory, the only accusation of terrorism was in 2019, against a group of activists who crave democracy, according to the Transparency International the group represents no threat of terrorism, but the Zimbabwe government still kept them in prison with bail denied (TRANSPARENCY INTERNACIONAL, 2019). The country has it is on law enforcements against the terrorism and is on their Public Order and Security Act in the sections 6-13.

## 5 WESTERN AFRICA

The west of Africa is a region composed by 16 countries - Benin, Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, The Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Ivory Coast, Liberia, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Senegal, Sierra Leone and Togo. The British islands of Saint Helena, Ascension and Tristan da Cunha are also considered part of the Western Africa. The entire population of the region was estimated, in 2018, at about 381 million.

Image 5 - Western Africa map.



Source: Lumen Candela (201-?).

### 5.1 Federal Republic of Nigeria

The Federal Republic of Nigeria is bordering the Gulf of Guinea, between Benin and Cameroon. It is divided into 36 states and its capital city is Abuja. The country is the largest economy in Sub Saharan Africa, relying on oil and gas production, but agriculture, telecommunications and services also play an important role in the national economy.

The chief of state and head of government is Muhammadu Buhari, who was re-elected in 2019 and has been in office since May 2015. The President has run on an anti-corruption

platform with the Treasury Single Account and announced plans to diversify the economy away from oil production (CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY, 2019).

The Nigerian population is a diverse ethnic group that speaks over than 500 indigenous languages and is mainly Muslim. It is the largest population in Africa, and it has the seventh largest population in the world, being expected to become the fourth until 2050. However, there is a need to implement family planning programs and to improve health care (CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY, 2019).

Nigeria's GDP has declined since 2014 but it is already recovering due to initiatives to maintain oil prices stabilized. Since then, the GDP has improved and reached US\$ 397.27 billion in 2018 (WORLD BANK). Nonetheless, the economic improvement does not benefit the Nigerian population equally. The HDI in 0,534 is unsatisfactory and the inequality human development index (IHDI) is even lower in 0,349 (UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME, 2019). Besides, it is estimated that 70% of the Nigerian population live below the poverty line.

Nigerians looking for economic opportunities, seeking asylum and pursuing higher education often migrate. Most of the movement happens internally, but there are people going to other countries expecting better living conditions. However, most of them are deceived into forced labour and sex trafficking (CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY, 2019).

Nigerian human trafficking victims are both exploited within the borders of the country and abroad. It has been reported that, with the exception of the internal trafficking in European Union (EU), Nigerians are the most common trafficking victims in the EU. They are usually from rural areas and women and girls are victims of domestic servitude and sex trafficking whilst boys are forced to work in the streets, vending and begging, besides having to work in the domestic service, agriculture, textile manufacturing and mining (UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE, 2019).

Before leaving to work abroad, Nigerian women take part in a traditional ceremony called *juju* spells where they take the oath to obey their traffickers and not run away. They believe that if they react to the exploitation seeking assistance or cooperating with law enforcement, a curse will harm them and that prevents that victims run away (UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE, 2019).

Terrorist groups, such as Boko Haram and ISIS, commonly recruit, abduct and use child soldiers as cooks, spies, messengers, bodyguards, armed combatants and suicide bombers. Girls

have the option to choose between forced marriage, for the purpose of sexual slavery, or suicide bombers (UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE, 2019).

## **5.2 Republic of Liberia**

Liberia is located in West Africa and borders Sierra Leone, Guinea, Côte d'Ivoire and the Atlantic Ocean on the coast from South to West of the country. The ocean access is very important to its economy, making the country the eighth biggest worldwide merchant marine. Its major seaport is Buchanan in Monrovia, which is also the national capital, centralizing one-third of the Liberian population in this urban area.

The country is a presidential republic headed by President George Weah, who is both the chief of state and the head of government. He was elected in 2017 and his mandate of six years started in January 2018.

Liberia has maintained a consistent growing gross domestic product (GDP) that in 2018 was more than US\$ 3.2 billion (WORLD BANK), mainly due to the profit of the national sector of services. However, around 70% of the population works in agriculture, which means that most of the Liberians do not benefit from the sector that most influence the national economy. Consequently, it is in the 176th position in the human development index (HDI) global rank, corresponding to 0,465. Nonetheless, when the existing inequality in the country is considered, the development rate is even worse, reaching 0,314 (UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME, 2019).

As a result of the uneven development, more than half of Liberia's population is below the poverty line. Given that and the increasing inflation rate, many Liberians migrate to the urban area or to other countries expecting to find better living conditions but end up being deceived into domestic servitude, forced begging, sex trafficking or forced labour (CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY, 2020).

In spite of the effort the government has demonstrated providing transportation for trafficking victims, security and shelter, besides having law enforcement officials trained on identifying and investigating trafficking, Liberia does not meet the minimum standards for the elimination of trafficking. The anti-trafficking plan has been diverted due to the complicity of the prosecution alongside with corruption (UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE, 2019).

### 5.3 Republic of Sierra Leone

The republic of Sierra Leone, located in the western coast of the African continent, is a predominantly Islamic presidential republic – whose current head of state is the president Julius Maada Bio – with a population of approximately 6.3 million people and a life expectancy of 59 years. Being both a source and a destination for refugees, the country is most publicly known for its civil war (1991-2002), marked with the illicit trade of diamonds – later named blood diamonds<sup>2</sup> –, and its recent Ebola outbreaks (2014-2016), having the two, together, killed tens of thousands of Sierra Leoneans in the last years (CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY, 2020a).

Although there is no recent history of international terrorism in Sierra Leone, similarly brutal tactics were used during its long-lasting civil war, from the widespread usage of child combatants in field to the utilization of sexual violence and massive limb amputation to spread terror (HUMANS RIGHT WATCH, 2012).

Regarding human trafficking though, Sierra Leone is considered a “source, transit, and destination country for thousands of children and women trafficked for forced labour and sexual exploitation every year” (INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR MIGRATION, 2019). Even though there is no reliable accurate official data on the subject, women and children are believed to be the most affected in this trafficking, be it domestic or foreign victims, and for a variety of ends, such as for “exploitation in sex trafficking and forced labor in domestic service, artisanal diamond and granite mining, petty trading, portering, making ceramics, rock breaking, quarrying, street crime, and begging” (INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR MIGRATION, 2019; UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, 2019).

In 2005, 3 years after the violent Sierra Leonean civil war – which utilized massive human trafficking and prepared basis for its growth in the country –, the government instituted the anti-human trafficking act, recognizing human trafficking as a major issue and coordinating a series of measures, including a National Task Force on the matter (INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR MIGRATION, 2019). That seen, the department of justice of the United States classified badly Sierra Leone on both the prosecution of traffickers and the protection of the trafficked (UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, 2019).

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<sup>2</sup> Blood diamonds, also known as conflict diamonds, are diamonds mined in illegitimate force controlled areas, used to finance war against the internationally recognized legitimate government (ENCYCLOPAEDIA BRITANNICA, 2020).

## 5.4 Togolese Republic

Togo, officially named the Togolese Republic, is a country in West Africa bordered by Ghana, Benin and Burkina Faso. Its capital is Lomé and its recognized languages are French, Ewe and Kabiyé. Togo is a presidential republic with a unitary dominant party. Togo's ranking in the Human Development Index is 167 with life expectancy at 61 years, 5.1% of the country's GDP is spent on education and 63.7 % of adults over fifteen years old are literate. (UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM, 2019)

Togo was colonized first by Germany and then by Great Britain and France from 1884 until attaining independence from France in 1960. In the short years after the independence, the country faced more than one coup and eventually Gnassingbé Eyadéma became president in 1967, establishing a one-party system and staying in power until his death in 2005. He was succeeded by his son Faure Gnassingbé, who has been Togo's president ever since.

Togo has been recognized as a partly free country by the organization Freedom House and was considered not free from 1972 to 1998 and from 2002 to 2006 based on its problematic relation with human rights. Conditions such as arbitrary arrests, restriction on freedom of press and discrimination against women and homosexuals including female genital mutilation and illegality of same-sex activity are still commonplace in Togo. (FREEDOM HOUSE, 2019)

The country's situation regarding human trafficking is that of more internal trafficking, primarily of women and children for domestic servitude and sexual exploitation. According to the United States Department of State 2019 Trafficking in Persons Report, Togo has been classified a Tier 2 Watch List country, that meaning Togo doesn't fully meet the minimum standard for the elimination of human trafficking but has made efforts to achieve those standards. That including increased law enforcement efforts through articles 317, 318, 319 and 320 of their penal code prescribing penalties of 10 to 20 years imprisonment and fines US\$ 17,590 and US\$ 87,930 to sex and labour trafficking and investigation of 62 suspected traffickers and prosecution of 49 suspects.

Togo has recognized 204 victims of trafficking and even though it partnered with NGOs to help providing them services, the number of referred victims to shelters is unknown. The lack of victim protection and standard victim identification procedure have been the key flaws in Togo's effort to combat human trafficking. (UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE, 2019)

Togo has been the victim of one terrorist incident that occurred in 2010 with the attack of the country's national football team bus by gunmen leaving three dead and nine injured. The

attack took place in Angola through which the team travelled and was attributed to Front for the Liberation of the Enclave of Cabinda guerrilla.

## 6 CHAIRPERSON OF THE AFRICAN UNION COMMISSION

The Chairperson of the AU Commission is elected by at least two-thirds majority of the Assembly for a four-year term mandate, which can be renewable once. Currently, the position is held by Moussa Faki Mahamat, from Chad, who was elected in 2017.

The Chairperson is the legal representative of the AU and the Commission's Chief Accounting Officer. In this position, it is Mahamat responsibility to undertake measures to promote the AU's objectives; submit reports requested by organs or committees of the AU, or by Permanent Representatives; prepare the AU budget and administer its finances; act as depository for all AU treaties and legal instruments; facilitate the decision-making process in all AU organ meetings and ensure the harmony with the AU policies, strategies, programmes and projects; consult Member States' governments and other institutions and, lastly, prepare the annual report of the AU activities (AFRICAN UNION, 2018).

Nonetheless, the Chairperson might count with the support of eight commissioners who are also elected for four-year terms. Regarding the subject of peace and security, the commissioner that assists Mahamat is Small Chergui, from Algeria (AFRICAN UNION, 2018).

In the AU Peace and Security Council (AUPSC), the Chairperson may bring to the council's attention any matter that may threaten peace, security and stability in the continent, and may request briefings from the committee and other AU organs and institutions (AFRICAN UNION, 2018).

In the first decade of the current century, terrorism gained ground in Africa, assuming greater proportions and becoming one of the most serious threats to international peace and security. Terrorism has turned into a complex threat once trafficking, human smuggling, kidnapping and money laundering, among other criminal practices, are associated to terrorist groups as finance resources (AFRICAN UNION, 2014).

Mahatma, representing the AU interest, admitted in a conference held in 2019 that "terrorism and violent extremism has become the biggest evil of our times" (AFRICAN UNION, 2019). To respond this threat, the AU established the African Centre for Study and Research on Terrorism (ACSRT), which aims to understand the causes for terror spreading. Another example are both the Nouakchott Process and the Djibouti Process, which are platforms to share intelligence and security services. However, the security response alone is not the answer and it should be aligned to the sustainable development in Agenda 2030 and Agenda 2063 (AFRICAN UNION, 2019).



The Chairperson also brought to light in his speech that the counter-terrorism action requires the expense of the development budget in countries where the climate change, migration, trafficking of drugs, human beings and arms is a current problem. To another extent, there is evidence that the social background is related to the spread of terror. Therefore, Africa needs the assistance from other international organs, such as the UN, to tackle not only the security and peacekeeping, but also the maintenance of human rights and humanitarian law (AFRICAN UNION, 2019).

Associated with terrorism, Africa is also vulnerable to human trafficking, in which most victims are women and girls who, once arrive at their destination, will be sexually abused, enslaved or used as child soldiers. The occurrence of those offences are more common in conflict areas, such as Libya and Somalia. Consequently, the AU believes that to end trafficking in persons it must start with the resolution of conflicts. For that reason, the UN and AU have been working on an integrated Framework for the implementation of Agenda 2063 and the Sustainable Development Goals (AGENCE DE PRESSE AFRICAINE, 2017).

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