



# Comparative Economic Integration Dynamics within African Regional Blocs in Liberia: A Socioeconomic Analysis

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## Abstract

Liberia is a small West African country that has experienced significant political instability in recent decades, impacting its economic development and regional integration efforts. The research employs a qualitative approach, drawing from existing literature, statistical data, and case studies of regional blocs such as the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS). This study reveals that while ECOWAS has facilitated some economic growth in Liberia through trade liberalization policies, challenges persist due to internal conflicts and corruption. Despite these challenges, there is potential for enhanced regional integration if political stability and governance reforms are prioritised. Future research should focus on specific policy mechanisms to improve economic outcomes. Liberian policymakers should advocate for stronger intra-regional trade agreements while simultaneously addressing internal socio-economic issues such as corruption and infrastructure development.

**Keywords:** *West Africa, Economic Integration, Regionalism, Mercosur, ECOWAS, Dependency Theory, Comparative Analysis*

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