



Ethical Quandaries in Business Practices During Conflict: An Ethnographic Exploration of Egypt's Post-2004 Context

Ahmed El-Amin^{1,2}, Amira Hassan³

¹ Environmental Research Institute (ERI)

² Department of Research, American University in Cairo (AUC)

³ Department of Interdisciplinary Studies, American University in Cairo (AUC)

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Correspondence: aelamin@yahoo.com

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Author notes

*Ahmed El-Amin is affiliated with Environmental Research Institute (ERI) and focuses on Business research in Africa.
Amira Hassan is affiliated with Department of Interdisciplinary Studies, American University in Cairo (AUC) and focuses on Business research in Africa.*

Abstract

Egypt has experienced various conflicts since , including political unrest and economic downturns, which have significantly impacted business operations in the country. This ethnographic study employed participant observation and semi-structured interviews with local business owners, civil society representatives, and government officials to understand the ethical dilemmas encountered in these regions. Findings indicate that up to 60% of businesses reported instances of corruption within their supply chains during conflict periods. Themes emerged around resource misappropriation by both state actors and private sector entities. The study reveals a complex interplay between ethical business practices and the socio-political context, highlighting the need for enhanced regulatory frameworks to mitigate unethical behaviors in conflict settings. Recommendations include strengthening legal protections against corruption, promoting transparency in government procurement processes, and fostering community-led initiatives that support local businesses during conflicts.

Keywords: *Ethnicity, Geography, Anthropology, Cultural Relativism, Ethnocentrism, Contextual Ethics, Participant Observation*

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