



Challenges and Opportunities in Legal Reforms of Post-Conflict African States: A Mixed Methods Exploration in Kenya

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Abstract

Post-conflict African states face significant legal challenges in reconstructing their legal systems to meet contemporary needs while preserving historical contexts. A mixed-methods study combining semi-structured interviews with purposive sampling of legal practitioners and community members, complemented by an online survey targeting the general public in Kenya. Quantitative data is analysed to identify patterns and trends, while thematic analysis of qualitative data elucidates nuanced perspectives on law reform. The findings reveal a predominantly positive attitude towards changes in legal frameworks among both legal professionals and the broader population, with significant support for reforms that aim to enhance access to justice and protect human rights. This mixed methods study underscores the potential of collaborative approaches in understanding complex issues related to law reform in post-conflict contexts. The results highlight a strong willingness for change but also reveal areas needing further attention to ensure equitable legal systems. Policy makers should prioritise inclusive consultations and targeted interventions to address specific challenges identified, such as improving access to justice mechanisms and strengthening institutions responsible for enforcing new laws. post-conflict law reform, qualitative research, mixed methods study, Kenya

Keywords: *African geography, post-conflict contexts, legal reform, qualitative methods, quantitative analysis, ethnography, jurisprudence, social theory*

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