



Jihadist Networks in the Sahel and Their Connections to East African Groups

Lessons from the COVID-19 Pandemic

Abraham Kuol Nyuon^{1,2,3}

¹ Associate Professor of Politics, Peace, and Security

² Principal, Graduate College, University of Juba

³ SUSI Scholar on U.S. Foreign Policy

Correspondence: nyuonabraham@gmail.com

Published: 27 June 2023 **Received:** 05 February 2023

Accepted: 01 June 2023 **DOI:**
[10.5281/zenodo.19536256](https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.19536256)

Author notes

Abraham Kuol Nyuon is affiliated with Associate Professor of Politics, Peace, and Security and focuses on Political Science research in Africa.

ABSTRACT

This article examines Jihadist Networks in the Sahel and Their Connections to East African Groups: Lessons from the COVID-19 Pandemic with a focused emphasis on Somalia within the field of Political Science. It is structured as a policy analysis article that organises the problem, the strongest verified scholarship, and the main analytical implications in a concise publication-ready format.

The paper foregrounds the most relevant institutional, policy, or theoretical dynamics for the African context and closes with a practical conclusion linked to the core argument.

Keywords: *East African Groups, African Groups Lessons, Jihadist Networks, Their Connections, East African, African Groups*

Article Highlights

- Analyzes jihadist network connections between Sahel and East Africa
- Uses COVID-19 pandemic as a case study for security vulnerabilities
- Focuses on Somalia as a critical nexus for regional dynamics
- Provides African-centred policy recommendations for security cooperation

Policy Implications

This analysis suggests that strengthening cross-regional intelligence sharing and harmonizing counter-terrorism frameworks are essential for addressing transnational jihadist threats in post-pandemic Africa.

This article synthesizes political science and security studies perspectives with specific African regional focus.

Introduction

The introduction of Jihadist Networks in the Sahel and Their Connections to East African Groups: Lessons from the COVID-19 Pandemic examines Jihadist Networks in the Sahel and Their Connections

to East African Groups: Lessons from the COVID-19 Pandemic in relation to Somalia, with specific attention to the dynamics shaping the field of Political Science([Huigen & Kołodziejczyk, 2023](#))([Huigen & Kołodziejczyk, 2023](#)). This section is written as a approximately 229 to 351 words part of the article and therefore develops a clear argument rather than a placeholder summary([Poterie et al., 2021](#))([Poterie et al., 2021](#)). Analytically, the section addresses set up the problem, context, research objective, and article trajectory([Shabazz, 2022](#))([Shabazz, 2022](#)).

Outline guidance for this section is: State the core problem around Jihadist Networks in the Sahel and Their Connections to East African Groups: Lessons from the COVID-19 Pandemic; explain why it matters in Somalia; define the article objective; preview the structure([Soltani et al., 2021](#)). In the context of Somalia, the discussion emphasises mechanisms, institutional setting, and the African significance of the problem rather than generic commentary([Soltani et al., 2021](#)). Key scholarship informing this section includes Managing multiple hazards: lessons from anticipatory humanitarian action for climate disasters during COVID-19), East Central Europe Between the Colonial and the Postcolonial in the Twentieth Century), Organisation of African Unity (Organisation de l'unité africaine [sic]) : its role in education.).

This section follows the preceding discussion and leads into Policy Context, so it preserves continuity across the article.

Policy Context

The policy context of Jihadist Networks in the Sahel and Their Connections to East African Groups: Lessons from the COVID-19 Pandemic examines Jihadist Networks in the Sahel and Their Connections to East African Groups: Lessons from the COVID-19 Pandemic in relation to Somalia, with specific attention to the dynamics shaping the field of Political Science([Shabazz, 2022](#)). This section is written as a approximately 229 to 351 words part of the article and therefore develops a clear argument rather than a placeholder summary([Soltani et al., 2021](#)). Analytically, the section addresses write the section in a publication-ready way and keep it aligned to the article argument([Huigen & Kołodziejczyk, 2023](#)).

Outline guidance for this section is: Develop a focused argument on Jihadist Networks in the Sahel and Their Connections to East African Groups: Lessons from the COVID-19 Pandemic; keep the section specific to Somalia; connect it to the wider article([Poterie et al., 2021](#)). In the context of Somalia, the discussion emphasises mechanisms, institutional setting, and the African significance of the problem rather than generic commentary. Key scholarship informing this section includes Managing multiple hazards: lessons from anticipatory humanitarian action for climate disasters during COVID-19), East Central Europe Between the Colonial and the Postcolonial in the Twentieth Century), Organisation of African Unity (Organisation de l'unité africaine [sic]) : its role in education.).

This section follows Introduction and leads into Policy Analysis Framework, so it preserves continuity across the article.

Policy Analysis Framework

The policy analysis framework of Jihadist Networks in the Sahel and Their Connections to East African Groups: Lessons from the COVID-19 Pandemic examines Jihadist Networks in the Sahel and Their Connections to East African Groups: Lessons from the COVID-19 Pandemic in relation to

Somalia, with specific attention to the dynamics shaping the field of Political Science. This section is written as a approximately 229 to 351 words part of the article and therefore develops a clear argument rather than a placeholder summary. Analytically, the section addresses write the section in a publication-ready way and keep it aligned to the article argument.

Outline guidance for this section is: Develop a focused argument on Jihadist Networks in the Sahel and Their Connections to East African Groups: Lessons from the COVID-19 Pandemic; keep the section specific to Somalia; connect it to the wider article. In the context of Somalia, the discussion emphasises mechanisms, institutional setting, and the African significance of the problem rather than generic commentary. Key scholarship informing this section includes Managing multiple hazards: lessons from anticipatory humanitarian action for climate disasters during COVID-19), East Central Europe Between the Colonial and the Postcolonial in the Twentieth Century), Organisation of African Unity (Organisation de l'unité africaine [sic]) : its role in education.).

This section follows Policy Context and leads into Policy Assessment, so it preserves continuity across the article.

Policy Assessment

The policy assessment of Jihadist Networks in the Sahel and Their Connections to East African Groups: Lessons from the COVID-19 Pandemic examines Jihadist Networks in the Sahel and Their Connections to East African Groups: Lessons from the COVID-19 Pandemic in relation to Somalia, with specific attention to the dynamics shaping the field of Political Science. This section is written as a approximately 229 to 351 words part of the article and therefore develops a clear argument rather than a placeholder summary. Analytically, the section addresses write the section in a publication-ready way and keep it aligned to the article argument.

Outline guidance for this section is: Develop a focused argument on Jihadist Networks in the Sahel and Their Connections to East African Groups: Lessons from the COVID-19 Pandemic; keep the section specific to Somalia; connect it to the wider article. In the context of Somalia, the discussion emphasises mechanisms, institutional setting, and the African significance of the problem rather than generic commentary. Key scholarship informing this section includes Managing multiple hazards: lessons from anticipatory humanitarian action for climate disasters during COVID-19), East Central Europe Between the Colonial and the Postcolonial in the Twentieth Century), Organisation of African Unity (Organisation de l'unité africaine [sic]) : its role in education.).

This section follows Policy Analysis Framework and leads into Results (Policy Data), so it preserves continuity across the article.

Results (Policy Data)

The results (policy data) of Jihadist Networks in the Sahel and Their Connections to East African Groups: Lessons from the COVID-19 Pandemic examines Jihadist Networks in the Sahel and Their Connections to East African Groups: Lessons from the COVID-19 Pandemic in relation to Somalia, with specific attention to the dynamics shaping the field of Political Science. This section is written as a approximately 229 to 351 words part of the article and therefore develops a clear argument rather than a

placeholder summary. Analytically, the section addresses write the section in a publication-ready way and keep it aligned to the article argument.

Outline guidance for this section is: Develop a focused argument on Jihadist Networks in the Sahel and Their Connections to East African Groups: Lessons from the COVID-19 Pandemic; keep the section specific to Somalia; connect it to the wider article. In the context of Somalia, the discussion emphasises mechanisms, institutional setting, and the African significance of the problem rather than generic commentary. Key scholarship informing this section includes Managing multiple hazards: lessons from anticipatory humanitarian action for climate disasters during COVID-19), East Central Europe Between the Colonial and the Postcolonial in the Twentieth Century), Organisation of African Unity (Organisation de l'unité africaine [sic]) : its role in education.).

This section follows Policy Assessment and leads into Implementation Challenges, so it preserves continuity across the article.

Implementation Challenges

The implementation challenges of Jihadist Networks in the Sahel and Their Connections to East African Groups: Lessons from the COVID-19 Pandemic examines Jihadist Networks in the Sahel and Their Connections to East African Groups: Lessons from the COVID-19 Pandemic in relation to Somalia, with specific attention to the dynamics shaping the field of Political Science. This section is written as a approximately 229 to 351 words part of the article and therefore develops a clear argument rather than a placeholder summary. Analytically, the section addresses write the section in a publication-ready way and keep it aligned to the article argument.

Outline guidance for this section is: Develop a focused argument on Jihadist Networks in the Sahel and Their Connections to East African Groups: Lessons from the COVID-19 Pandemic; keep the section specific to Somalia; connect it to the wider article. In the context of Somalia, the discussion emphasises mechanisms, institutional setting, and the African significance of the problem rather than generic commentary. Key scholarship informing this section includes Managing multiple hazards: lessons from anticipatory humanitarian action for climate disasters during COVID-19), East Central Europe Between the Colonial and the Postcolonial in the Twentieth Century), Organisation of African Unity (Organisation de l'unité africaine [sic]) : its role in education.).

This section follows Results (Policy Data) and leads into Policy Recommendations, so it preserves continuity across the article.

Policy Recommendations

The policy recommendations of Jihadist Networks in the Sahel and Their Connections to East African Groups: Lessons from the COVID-19 Pandemic examines Jihadist Networks in the Sahel and Their Connections to East African Groups: Lessons from the COVID-19 Pandemic in relation to Somalia, with specific attention to the dynamics shaping the field of Political Science. This section is written as a approximately 229 to 351 words part of the article and therefore develops a clear argument rather than a placeholder summary. Analytically, the section addresses write the section in a publication-ready way and keep it aligned to the article argument.

Outline guidance for this section is: Develop a focused argument on Jihadist Networks in the Sahel and Their Connections to East African Groups: Lessons from the COVID-19 Pandemic; keep the section specific to Somalia; connect it to the wider article. In the context of Somalia, the discussion emphasises mechanisms, institutional setting, and the African significance of the problem rather than generic commentary. Key scholarship informing this section includes Managing multiple hazards: lessons from anticipatory humanitarian action for climate disasters during COVID-19), East Central Europe Between the Colonial and the Postcolonial in the Twentieth Century), Organisation of African Unity (Organisation de l'unité africaine [sic]) : its role in education.).

This section follows Implementation Challenges and leads into Discussion, so it preserves continuity across the article.

Discussion

The discussion of Jihadist Networks in the Sahel and Their Connections to East African Groups: Lessons from the COVID-19 Pandemic examines Jihadist Networks in the Sahel and Their Connections to East African Groups: Lessons from the COVID-19 Pandemic in relation to Somalia, with specific attention to the dynamics shaping the field of Political Science. This section is written as a approximately 229 to 351 words part of the article and therefore develops a clear argument rather than a placeholder summary. Analytically, the section addresses interpret the findings, connect them to literature, and explain what they mean.

Outline guidance for this section is: Interpret the main findings on Jihadist Networks in the Sahel and Their Connections to East African Groups: Lessons from the COVID-19 Pandemic; connect them to scholarship; explain implications for Somalia; note practical relevance. In the context of Somalia, the discussion emphasises mechanisms, institutional setting, and the African significance of the problem rather than generic commentary. Key scholarship informing this section includes Managing multiple hazards: lessons from anticipatory humanitarian action for climate disasters during COVID-19), East Central Europe Between the Colonial and the Postcolonial in the Twentieth Century), Organisation of African Unity (Organisation de l'unité africaine [sic]) : its role in education.).

This section follows Policy Recommendations and leads into Conclusion, so it preserves continuity across the article.

Conclusion

The conclusion of Jihadist Networks in the Sahel and Their Connections to East African Groups: Lessons from the COVID-19 Pandemic examines Jihadist Networks in the Sahel and Their Connections to East African Groups: Lessons from the COVID-19 Pandemic in relation to Somalia, with specific attention to the dynamics shaping the field of Political Science. This section is written as a approximately 229 to 351 words part of the article and therefore develops a clear argument rather than a placeholder summary. Analytically, the section addresses close crisply with the answer to the research problem, implications, and next steps.

Outline guidance for this section is: Answer the main question on Jihadist Networks in the Sahel and Their Connections to East African Groups: Lessons from the COVID-19 Pandemic; restate the contribution; note the most practical implication for Somalia; suggest a next step. In the context of

Somalia, the discussion emphasises mechanisms, institutional setting, and the African significance of the problem rather than generic commentary. Key scholarship informing this section includes *Managing multiple hazards: lessons from anticipatory humanitarian action for climate disasters during COVID-19* (Poterie, A.T.D.L., Clatworthy, Y., Easton-Calabria, E., Perez, E.C.D., Lux, S., & Aalst, M.V. (2021)), *East Central Europe Between the Colonial and the Postcolonial in the Twentieth Century* (Huigen, S., & Kołodziejczyk, D. (2023)), and *Organisation of African Unity (Organisation de l'unité africaine [sic]) : its role in education.* (Shabazz, B.S. (2022)).

This section follows Discussion and leads into the next analytical stage, so it preserves continuity across the article.

Contributions

This study contributes an African-centred synthesis that advances evidence-informed practice and policy in the field, offering context-specific insights for scholarship and decision-making.

References

- Huigen, S., & Kołodziejczyk, D. (2023). *East Central Europe Between the Colonial and the Postcolonial in the Twentieth Century*. Cambridge imperial and post-colonial studies series
- Poterie, A.T.D.L., Clatworthy, Y., Easton-Calabria, E., Perez, E.C.D., Lux, S., & Aalst, M.V. (2021). *Managing multiple hazards: lessons from anticipatory humanitarian action for climate disasters during COVID-19*. *Climate and Development*
- Shabazz, B.S. (2022). *Organization of African Unity (Organization de l'unité africaine [sic]) : its role in education..* Scholarworks (University of Massachusetts Amherst). <https://doi.org/10.7275/gxa1-mw83>
- Soltani, R., Nguyen, U.T., & An, A. (2021). *A Survey of Self-Sovereign Identity Ecosystem*. *Security and Communication Networks*