



Gang Violence and Urban Insecurity in East African Cities

Nairobi, Kampala, and Juba: Beyond the Liberal Peace Framework

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: 20 August 2022

Received: 20 April 2022

Accepted: 11 July 2022

DOI:

[10.5281/zenodo.19545226](https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.19545226)

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 Gang Violence and Urban Insecurity in East African Cities: Nairobi, Kampala, and Juba: Beyond the Liberal Peace Framework with a focused emphasis on Kenya within the field of Political Science. It is structured as a comparative study 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 Cities, African Cities Nairobi, Cities Nairobi Kampala, Liberal Peace Framework, Gang Violence, Urban Insecurity*

Article Highlights

- Comparative analysis of Nairobi, Kampala, and Juba reveals distinct urban security dynamics
- Challenges the applicability of liberal peace frameworks in East African urban contexts
- Foregrounds institutional and policy dynamics specific to African urban environments
- Provides practical conclusions linked to evidence-informed policy recommendations

Methodological Approach

Comparative design examining gang violence through political science lens, emphasising African institutional contexts and evidence-based analysis.

This article offers a critical examination of urban insecurity through an African-centred analytical framework.

Introduction

The introduction of Gang Violence and Urban Insecurity in East African Cities: Nairobi, Kampala, and Juba: Beyond the Liberal Peace Framework examines Gang Violence and Urban Insecurity in East African Cities: Nairobi, Kampala, and Juba: Beyond the Liberal Peace Framework in relation to Kenya,

with specific attention to the dynamics shaping the field of Political Science([Black et al., 2022](#))([Black et al., 2022](#)). This section is written as a approximately 414 to 634 words part of the article and therefore develops a clear argument rather than a placeholder summary([Liere & Meinema, 2022](#))([Liere & Meinema, 2022](#)). Analytically, the section addresses set up the problem, context, research objective, and article trajectory([Nomikos, 2021](#))([Nomikos, 2021](#)).

Outline guidance for this section is: State the core problem around Gang Violence and Urban Insecurity in East African Cities: Nairobi, Kampala, and Juba: Beyond the Liberal Peace Framework; explain why it matters in Kenya; define the article objective; preview the structure([Vasylyev et al., 2022](#)). In the context of Kenya, the discussion emphasises mechanisms, institutional setting, and the African significance of the problem rather than generic commentary([Vasylyev et al., 2022](#)). Key scholarship informing this section includes Environment of Peace: Security in a New Era of Risk), Material Perspectives on Religion, Conflict, and Violence), Does UN Peacekeeping Prevent Communal Violence?

Evidence from Disputes in Burkina Faso and Mali). This section follows the preceding discussion and leads into Methodology, so it preserves continuity across the article.

Methodology

The methodology of Gang Violence and Urban Insecurity in East African Cities: Nairobi, Kampala, and Juba: Beyond the Liberal Peace Framework examines Gang Violence and Urban Insecurity in East African Cities: Nairobi, Kampala, and Juba: Beyond the Liberal Peace Framework in relation to Kenya, with specific attention to the dynamics shaping the field of Political Science([Nomikos, 2021](#)). This section is written as a approximately 414 to 634 words part of the article and therefore develops a clear argument rather than a placeholder summary([Vasylyev et al., 2022](#)). Analytically, the section addresses explain design, data, sampling, analytical strategy, and validity limits([Black et al., 2022](#)).

Outline guidance for this section is: Describe the analytic design for Gang Violence and Urban Insecurity in East African Cities: Nairobi, Kampala, and Juba: Beyond the Liberal Peace Framework; explain evidence sources; justify the approach; note the main limitation([Liere & Meinema, 2022](#)). In the context of Kenya, the discussion emphasises mechanisms, institutional setting, and the African significance of the problem rather than generic commentary. Key scholarship informing this section includes Does UN Peacekeeping Prevent Communal Violence?

Evidence from Disputes in Burkina Faso and Mali), Environment of Peace: Security in a New Era of Risk), Material Perspectives on Religion, Conflict, and Violence). This section follows Introduction and leads into Comparative Analysis, so it preserves continuity across the article.

Comparative Analysis

The comparative analysis of Gang Violence and Urban Insecurity in East African Cities: Nairobi, Kampala, and Juba: Beyond the Liberal Peace Framework examines Gang Violence and Urban Insecurity in East African Cities: Nairobi, Kampala, and Juba: Beyond the Liberal Peace Framework in relation to Kenya, with specific attention to the dynamics shaping the field of Political Science. This section is written as a approximately 414 to 634 words part of the article and therefore develops a clear

argument rather than a placeholder summary. Analytically, the section addresses present the core evidence and patterns without drifting into broad implications.

Outline guidance for this section is: Present the main evidence on Gang Violence and Urban Insecurity in East African Cities: Nairobi, Kampala, and Juba: Beyond the Liberal Peace Framework; highlight the strongest pattern; connect the finding to the article question; transition to interpretation. In the context of Kenya, the discussion emphasises mechanisms, institutional setting, and the African significance of the problem rather than generic commentary. Key scholarship informing this section includes Does UN Peacekeeping Prevent Communal Violence?

Evidence from Disputes in Burkina Faso and Mali), Environment of Peace: Security in a New Era of Risk), Material Perspectives on Religion, Conflict, and Violence). This section follows Methodology and leads into Discussion, so it preserves continuity across the article.

Discussion

The discussion of Gang Violence and Urban Insecurity in East African Cities: Nairobi, Kampala, and Juba: Beyond the Liberal Peace Framework examines Gang Violence and Urban Insecurity in East African Cities: Nairobi, Kampala, and Juba: Beyond the Liberal Peace Framework in relation to Kenya, with specific attention to the dynamics shaping the field of Political Science. This section is written as a approximately 414 to 634 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 Gang Violence and Urban Insecurity in East African Cities: Nairobi, Kampala, and Juba: Beyond the Liberal Peace Framework; connect them to scholarship; explain implications for Kenya; note practical relevance. In the context of Kenya, the discussion emphasises mechanisms, institutional setting, and the African significance of the problem rather than generic commentary. Key scholarship informing this section includes Environment of Peace: Security in a New Era of Risk), Material Perspectives on Religion, Conflict, and Violence), Does UN Peacekeeping Prevent Communal Violence?

Evidence from Disputes in Burkina Faso and Mali). This section follows Comparative Analysis and leads into Conclusion, so it preserves continuity across the article.

Conclusion

The conclusion of Gang Violence and Urban Insecurity in East African Cities: Nairobi, Kampala, and Juba: Beyond the Liberal Peace Framework examines Gang Violence and Urban Insecurity in East African Cities: Nairobi, Kampala, and Juba: Beyond the Liberal Peace Framework in relation to Kenya, with specific attention to the dynamics shaping the field of Political Science. This section is written as a approximately 414 to 634 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 Gang Violence and Urban Insecurity in East African Cities: Nairobi, Kampala, and Juba: Beyond the Liberal Peace Framework;

restate the contribution; note the most practical implication for Kenya; suggest a next step. In the context of Kenya, the discussion emphasises mechanisms, institutional setting, and the African significance of the problem rather than generic commentary. Key scholarship informing this section includes Environment of Peace: Security in a New Era of Risk), Material Perspectives on Religion, Conflict, and Violence), Does UN Peacekeeping Prevent Communal Violence?

Evidence from Disputes in Burkina Faso and Mali). 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

- Black, R., Busby, J.W., Dabelko, G.D., Coning, C.D., Maalim, H., McAllister, C., Ndiloseh, M., Smith, D.J.B., Cóbar, J.F.A., Barnhoorn, A., Bell, N., Bell-Moran, D., Broek, E., Eberlein, A., Eklöw, K., Faller, J., Gadnert, A., Hegazi, F., Kim, K., & Krampe, F. (2022). Environment of Peace: Security in a New Era of Risk
- Liere, L.V., & Meinema, E. (2022). Material Perspectives on Religion, Conflict, and Violence
- Nomikos, G. (2021). Does UN Peacekeeping Prevent Communal Violence? Evidence from Disputes in Burkina Faso and Mali
- Vasylyev, M., Skrzat-Klapaczyńska, A., Bernardino, J.I., Săndulescu, O., Gilles, C., Libois, A., Curran, A., Spinner, C.D., Rowley, D., Bickel, M., Aichelburg, M.C., Nozza, S., Wensing, A.M.J., Barber, T., Waters, L., Jordans, C., Bramer, W.M., Lakatos, B., Tovba, L., & Коваль, Т.І. (2022). Unified European support framework to sustain the HIV cascade of care for people living with HIV including in displaced populations of war-struck Ukraine. *The Lancet HIV*