



# Youth Identity and Participation in Urban Congo: A Scholarly Synthesis

Mba Ngouabi<sup>1,2</sup>, Kamanda Ndayika<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Marien Ngouabi University, Brazzaville

<sup>2</sup> Department of Advanced Studies, Marien Ngouabi University, Brazzaville

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**Correspondence:** [mngouabi@gmail.com](mailto:mngouabi@gmail.com)

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## Author notes

*Mba Ngouabi is affiliated with Marien Ngouabi University, Brazzaville and focuses on African Studies research in Africa. Kamanda Ndayika is affiliated with Marien Ngouabi University, Brazzaville and focuses on African Studies research in Africa.*

## Abstract

Youth identity and political participation in urban areas of Congo have emerged as critical topics within African studies. The review employs an interpretive approach to analyse existing literature and data from various sources including academic journals, government reports, and non-governmental organisation (NGO) studies. Themes such as economic disparities, education levels, and access to resources significantly influence youth perceptions of their identity within urban Congolese societies. These factors are particularly pronounced in Kinshasa, the country's capital city. The review underscores the importance of understanding how identity shapes political engagement among young people in Congo's urban centers, highlighting the need for targeted interventions to enhance participation and inclusion. Policy makers should consider integrating youth development programmes that address economic empowerment and education as key strategies to foster greater civic engagement.

**Keywords:** Congo, Urbanization, Youth Studies, Social Theory, Identity Politics, Anthropology, Ethnography

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