



Transitional Justice Mechanisms and Peacebuilding in Sierra Leone: A Policy Analysis

Saidu Sesay^{1,2}, Birahim Senghor², Koroma Kamara^{2,3}, Komba Conteh^{4,5}

¹ Department of Advanced Studies, Njala University

² Department of Research, Ernest Bai Koroma University of Science and Technology

³ Njala University

⁴ Fourah Bay College, University of Sierra Leone

⁵ Ernest Bai Koroma University of Science and Technology

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Correspondence: ssesay@aol.com

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Author notes

Saidu Sesay is affiliated with Department of Advanced Studies, Njala University and focuses on Law research in Africa. Birahim Senghor is affiliated with Department of Research, Ernest Bai Koroma University of Science and Technology and focuses on Law research in Africa.

Koroma Kamara is affiliated with Njala University and focuses on Law research in Africa.

Komba Conteh is affiliated with Fourah Bay College, University of Sierra Leone and focuses on Law research in Africa.

Abstract

Transitional justice mechanisms have been implemented in Sierra Leone to address past human rights abuses during and after the civil war. This study employs a mixed-methods approach combining qualitative interviews with legal documents, aiming to provide an in-depth understanding of how these mechanisms operate within Sierra Leone's socio-political context. The findings indicate that while transitional justice mechanisms have contributed significantly to public trust and societal healing, challenges persist regarding the equitable distribution of reparations among affected communities. Despite progress, there is a need for more targeted policies addressing disparities in access to justice and benefits from reconciliation efforts. The implementation of community-based mediation initiatives alongside formal legal processes could enhance the effectiveness of transitional justice mechanisms in promoting inclusive peacebuilding.

Keywords: *Transitional Justice, Peacebuilding, Sierra Leone, Human Rights Abuses, Conflict Resolution, Community Engagement, Restorative Practices*

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