

Summary

I have over ten years of work experience as an experienced founder, intelligence analyst, security consultant, media commentator, teacher, and researcher. I have conducted highly relevant socio-political scientific research and published extensively in theoretical and empirical work on conflict and development, democracy and militarisation, counterinsurgency, and counterterrorism, with expertise on Boko Haram terrorist group, Nigeria, and Sub-Saharan region.

Career History

Research Assistant/Country Expert (Feb 2023-)

International Centre for Counterterrorism (ICCT)

- I was responsible for the info-collection phase of ICCT's disinformation project for the Lake Chad Basin region.
- I collected over 50 samples of disinformation (primary sources) produced by two pre-selected extremist groups (JAS/Boko Haram and ISWAP).
- I provided expert context and analysis for each one of the samples.
- I presented the preliminary findings of our research at the EU Commission in Brussels.
- I helped ICCT organize a two-day Community Workshop on Extremist Disinformation (Lake Chad Basin).

Dissertation Supervisor-MA International Relations/MSc International Public Policy, Nov 2022 - Present

Queen Mary University/Cambridge Education Group

- I provide academic direction to students working on their dissertation and assist students in developing their research design and its execution.
- I provide formative feedback to students, escalate student queries which are outside of my responsibilities (e.g., requests for extensions, pastoral issues, accessibility queries etc.).
- I meet my supervisees at regular points throughout the dissertation module at their behest, keep a record of student progress and grade the dissertations supervised among other responsibilities.

Faculty/Doctoral Supervisor, Aug 2020 - Present

Unicaf University/Liverpool John Moore University/University of East London

- I teach courses on the International Relations programme facilitated by Unicaf's partner university, Liverpool John Moore University.
- I supervise PhD students.

Director/Director of Research, Oct 2017 - Present

Centre for African Conflict & Development

- I lead and oversee the prospect and research activities of the Centre.
- I recruit and supervise the research team.
- I engage in identifying potential donors and sourcing research funds and developing and overseeing research budgets, policies and procedures.

Visiting Lecturer, Mar 2018 - Sep 2018

University of Roehampton

- I delivered lectures and seminars to postgraduate students registered on the MA International Development & Human Rights programme.
- I supervised MA dissertation.
- I marked and assessed essays for the following courses: Human Rights: Discourses and Debates; International Development and Human Rights; Advanced Research Methods and Human Rights and International Relations MA courses.

Research Consultant, Mar 2016 - Mar 2016

Royal United Services Institute for Defense and Security Studies, RUSI

- I worked for RUSI as a consultant for the Global Community Engagement and Resilience Fund (GCERF) Country National Assessment of existing levels of drivers of radicalisation and community resilience to violent extremism in Nigeria.
- I organised the mission and ensured that the programme fits the needs of the mission.

Chairperson/Executive Director, Jan 2013 - Jun 2016

Nigerian Youth for Development

- I chaired board meetings, represented the organisation at official meetings and events, prepared grant proposals and organised events.

Terrorism Research Fellow, Sep 2015 - Oct 2016

National Consortium for the Study of Terrorism & Response to Terrorism (START), University of Maryland

- I carried out an information and social network analysis (SNA) of Boko Haram involving the study of the patterns of relationship that exist among members of Boko Haram, including recruitment patterns to map the group's behavioural and social set-up including its local affiliations, membership strength, societal relations and bonds, operational capacity, communication and its link with other transnational terrorist networks.

Academic Visiting Scholar, Jan 2015 - May 2015

Baker Institute for Public Policy, Rice University

- I spent a semester at Rice University doing research on Boko Haram. I gave several public lectures, conferences, seminars, media interviews and consultations, particularly with the Federal Bureau Intelligence (FBI).

College Tutor, Sep 2014 - Feb 2015

Southlands College, University of Roehampton

- I was responsible for building college community and in promoting the welfare and good behaviour of resident and visiting students in college.
- I also provided oversight, support, advice and coordination functions, particularly relating to matters of welfare, discipline and safety.

Contributing Analyst, Jun 2014 - Jun 2016

Wikistrat

- I engaged in an online central intelligence exchange for strategic analysis and forecasting using a scenario-driven crowd-sourced policy planning methodology and in real time analysis of geo-political and economic forces through live multi-player simulations.

Education History

- **PhD, Sociology, 2017** University of Roehampton

Topic: Conflict and Development in Nigeria: Counterinsurgency and Counterterrorism Strategies towards the Niger Delta and Boko Haram Conflicts.

- **MA, Human Rights & International Relations (Merit), 2012** University of Roehampton

Dissertation Topic: Human Rights and Policing in Nascent Democracies: A Study of the Nigerian Police

- **BA, English (2:1), 2008** University of Lagos

Key Skills

- Professionalism & strong work ethics
- Teamwork & collaboration
- Critical Thinking & Problem solving
- Leadership
- Oral and written communication skills

Professional Qualifications and Training

- Certificate: Introduction to Learning and Teaching, 2013- Staff and Educational Development Association (SEDA), University of Roehampton, Associate Fellow
- Certificate: Common Purpose Frontrunner Leadership Course, 2013- Common Purpose
- Certificate: International Cyber Conflicts, 2020- The State University of New York (Coursera)

Policy & Advisory Experience

- Consultant/Country Expert, International Centre for Counterterrorism (ICCT)
- Consultant, Global Community Engagement Resilience Fund (GCERF)/Royal United Services for Defense and Strategic Studies (RUSI)- 2016
- Subject Advisor, Federal Bureau Intelligence (FBI)- 2015
- Advisor, RUSI/DFID- Department for International Development, UK, 2014-15

Fellowship

- Fellow, Centre on Armed Group, Geneva 2022-
- Associate Fellow, Royal United Services Institute for Defense and Strategic Studies (RUSI) 2021-

Media Appearances

I have appeared as a guest and presented expert opinion on the following media platforms:

- BBC Newsnight (24 August 2023)
- BBC Radio 5

- BBC Radio 2
- BBC Radio Scotland,
- China Global Television Network (CGTN), and
- Ukraine Media Centre Odesa (02 August 2023).

References

- To be provided on request

Publications

Book

Nwankpa, M (2022). *Nigeria's Fourth Republic, 1999-2021: A Militarised Democracy*. Routledge.

Kassem A, & Nwankpa, M (2018). *Boko Haram Reader: From Nigerian Preachers to the Islamic State*. London & USA: C. Hurst & Co Ltd & Oxford University Press.

- Finalist for the African Studies Association 2019 Paul Hair Prize

Book (Under Review)

Nwankpa, M. (ed.,) (Forthcoming). *Rethinking Boko Haram: The Evolution of a Jihadist Group since 2015*

Nwankpa, M. (Forthcoming). *Democracy and Militarisation in Twenty First Century Africa*.

Coates, O. & Nwankpa, M. (Forthcoming). *Militaries and Militarism in Africa*.

Book Chapter

Nwankpa, M (Forthcoming, 2024). Militarised Response to Domestic, Regional and International Security Issues in Nigeria and Uganda. In Abu Bah (ed.) *African Security: Local Issues and Global Connections*. Ohio University Press

Nwankpa, M (2021). Labelling Conflict Groups: A Comparative Study of Boko Haram, Niger Delta, IPOB and Fulani Militia. In Anna Geis, Maéva Clément and Hanna Pfeifer (eds.,) *Recognition of Armed Non-State Actors*, Manchester University Press.

Giroux, J, Nwankpa, M (2019). A Vicious Cycle: The Growth of Terrorism and Counter-terrorism in Nigeria, 1999 - 2016. In Boyle, M (ed.,) *Non-Western Responses to Terrorism*, Manchester & Oxford University Press.

Book Review

Nwankpa, M (2022). "The Islamic State in Africa: The Emergence, Evolution, and Future of the Next Jihadist Battlefield" *Journal of Central and Eastern European African Studies* (JCEEAS) 2(1), pp.177-178.

Nwankpa, M (2021). "Post-Conflict Institutional Design: Peacebuilding and Democracy in Africa." 119-122.

Articles (Refereed)

Nwankpa, M (2022). The Politics and Dynamics of Secession in Nigeria. *Journal of Central and Eastern European African Studies* (JCEEAS), 2(1), pp.31-47.

Nwankpa, M (2020). Introduction to the special issue: understanding Boko Haram's past, present, and trajectory. *African Conflict & Peacebuilding Review*, 10(2), pp.1-9.

Nwankpa, M (2020). Understanding the local-global dichotomy and drivers of Boko Haram Insurgency, *African Conflict and Peacebuilding Review*, 10(2), pp.43-64.

Nwankpa, M (2017). Dialoguing and negotiating with terrorists: any prospect for Boko Haram? *Behavioral sciences of terrorism and political aggression*, 9(2), 106-124.

Nwankpa, M (2015). The political economy of securitization: The case of Boko Haram, Nigeria. *The Economics for Peace and Security Journal*, Vol. 10, No. 1, Pp 32-39

Nwankpa, M (2014). "The Politics of Amnesty in Nigeria: A Comparative Analysis of the Boko Haram and Niger Delta Insurgencies" *Journal of Terrorism Research*, Vol. 5, Issue 1 (Special Issue)- February 2014

Methods Cases

Nwankpa, M (2022). Using ICT as a Tool of Data Collection in Conflict Regions and in Times of Emergencies, London: Sage Research Method Cases

Nwankpa, M (2019). Using Qualitative and Grounded Theory Analysis to Explore Counterinsurgency and Counterterrorism Strategies in Sub-Sahara Africa, London: Sage Research Method Cases

Research Briefs

Nwankpa, M (2019). Interrogating the Christian-Muslim Conundrum in Boko Haram's Terrorist Campaign, in McCallum, R (ed.,) *Theology of Religions: The Implications for Christian-Muslim Relationships*. Research Briefings: NO. 11 summer 2019 (P.7-8). ISSN 2056-5003 (WEB).

Policy /Commissioned Papers

Nwankpa, M. (Forthcoming, January 2024). Understanding the Role of Women in Nigeria's non-state Armed Groups and Security Architecture. The French Institute of International Relations, IFRI

Nwankpa, M (June 2021). The North-South Divide: Interrogating Nigerian Discourses on Boko Haram, the Fulani, and Islamization. *Current Trends in Islamist Ideology*, Volume 29, p. 5-20. Hudson Institute

Nwankpa, M (May 2015). Boko Haram:Whose Islamic State? Baker Institute Policy Paper

Opinion Pieces

Amaliya, M &Nwankpa, M (2014). Assessing Boko Haram: A Conversation *Journal of Terrorism Research*, Vol. 5, Issue 1.

Blog/Op-Ed/Commentary

Nwankpa, M. (23 Nov 2022). "Nigeria's Militarised Democracy and the 2023 Presidential Election"
<https://democracyparadox.com/2022/11/23/nigerias-militarised-democracy-and-the-2023-presidential-election/> .

Nwankpa, M. (21 Dec 2021). "A Humane and Sensible Approach to the Immigration Crisis" <https://rusi.org/explore-our-research/publications/commentary/humane-and-sensible-approach-immigration-crisis>.

Nwankpa, M. (8 Oct 2018). "The 21st Century 'scramble for Africa' and the mitigating power of Africa free trade agreement" <https://www.cacd.biz/single-post/2018/10/08/The-21st-Century-%E2%80%98Scramble-for-Africa%E2%80%99-and-the-Mitigating-Power-of-the-African-Continental-Free-Trade-Area-Agreement>

Nwankpa, M. (23 July 2018). "Europe's proposed Africa-based asylum-seekers centre: A pragmatic solution or an imperialistic idea?" <https://www.cacd.biz/single-post/2018/07/23/Europe%E2%80%99s-Proposed-Africa-Based-Asylum-Seekers-Centre-A-Pragmatic-Solution-or-an-Imperialistic-Idea>

Nwankpa, M (27 March 2015). "Boko Haram's impact on elections in Nigeria."
<http://blog.chron.com/bakerblog/2015/03/boko-harams-impact-on-the-elections-in-nigeria/>

Public Lectures & Invited Talks

'Transnational Security in Africa: The Role of Free Trade- (26 May 2023), delivered (online) in a panel at African Liberty

'Nigeria's Fourth Republic, 1999-2021: A Militarised Democracy'- 26 January 2023, Delivered at Centre of African Studies, Cambridge University.

'Boko Haram and the 2015 General Elections in Nigeria'- March 2015, Delivered at Baker Institute for Public Policy, Rice University, Houston, Texas, US. Available at <http://bakerinstitute.org/videos/boko-haram-and-2015-general-elections-nigeria/>

'Boko Haram: From Nigerian Preachers to the Islamic State's West African Province'- November 2017. Delivered in a panel at Baker Institute for Public Policy, Rice University, Houston, Texas, US. Available at https://youtu.be/e_kdEQ2ch1E

'Interrogating the Christian-Muslim Conundrum in Boko Haram's Terrorist Campaign'-June 2018. Delivered at The Centre for Muslim-Christian Studies, Oxford University. Available at http://cmcsoxford.org.uk/resources/multimedia/#!img_id=13408

Conference & Workshop Presentation

Nwankpa, M. (2023). Insurgency and the Securitisation of Climate Change in Nigeria. In ISRF Conference on Climate Crisis, Global Capitalism and Higher Education, Bologna, Italy, 2-4 November 2023.

Nwankpa, M. (2023). Charting Boko Haram's Pathway: A Critical Review of Literature. In European Conference on African Studies, ECAS 9, University of Cologne, Germany.

Nwankpa, M. (2023). Peace and Security in Africa: Identifying Opportunities and Challenges. In RUSI UK-Africa Conference: Development, Defense and Diplomacy, 20 April 2023.

Nwankpa, M. (2021). Understanding the local-global dichotomy and drivers of Boko Haram Insurgency. In Webinar co-organised by the Royal United Services Institute (RUSI) and the Centre for African Conflict & Development, 8th March 2021.

Nwankpa, M. (2019). Intergovernmental and inter-agency cooperation against terrorism in the Lake Chad Basin countries: Implications for civil society engagement. In the 8th European Conference on African Studies, University of Edinburgh, June 11-14, 2019.

Nwankpa, M. (2018). The Political Economy of Labelling Conflict Groups in Nigeria: A Comparative Study of Boko Haram, Niger Delta and IPOB. In (Non) Recognition of Armed Non-State Actors, 28-29 June, Helmut Schmidt University/University of the Federal Armed Forces, Hamburg, Germany.

Nwankpa, M. (2017). Balancing Donors' Strategic Interests with Sustainable Development: A Case Study of Nigeria. In Sustainability Interrogated: Societies, Growth, and Social Justice, *Development Studies Association (DSA)* Conference, 6-8 September 2017, University of Bradford

Nwankpa, M. (2017). Assessing the Local and International Dimensions of Boko Haram's Jihad. In "Tackling Security Challenges in West Africa", 29-30th June 2017, West African Peace and Security Network (WAPSN) Annual Workshop, University of Portsmouth

Nwankpa, M. (2015). Nomad and Terror: Understanding the Dynamics of Terrorism in Northern Nigeria. In Terror and Tour Colloquium, 9-11 April 2015. University of Roehampton.

Nwankpa, M. (2013). Foreign Aid, arms proliferation and conflict resolution in Sub-Saharan Africa-Nigeria, in *Proceedings of the 2nd Annual Roehampton University Research Conference- "Making a Difference"*, June 7th, 2013, University of Roehampton, London, UR: RoehamptonUniversity

Nwankpa, M. (2013). The politics of "Amnesty" in Nigeria: A comparative analysis of Boko Haram and Niger Delta, in *Proceedings of the 17th Annual Conference- Economics for Peace & Security and Stockholm International Peace Research Institute*, June 14-15, 2013, Stockholm, Sweden: Economics for Peace and Security

Nwankpa, M. (2013). Counter-terrorism in Africa: A development approach to Boko Haram and Niger Delta insurgencies, in *Proceedings of the 7th Annual Conference- Society for Terrorism Research and University of East London*, June 27-28, 2013, London: Society for Terrorism Research

Nwankpa, M. (2014). Assessing domestic, regional and international responses to the Boko Haram terror: Is there an alternative? In *Proceedings of the Workshop on Local Grievances, Global Insecurity: Addressing Violence from the Margin-* Oxford Research Group, May 28, 2014, London: ORG.

Nwankpa, M. (2014). Law, human rights and the morality of the war on terror in Nigeria: The case of Boko Haram, in *Proceedings of the 3rd Annual Roehampton University Research Conference- "Theory or Practice"*, June 9th, 2014, University of Roehampton, London, UR: RoehamptonUniversity

Nwankpa, M. (2014). Securitised development and the political economy of the war on terror in Nigeria, in *Proceedings of the 18th Annual Conference- Economics for Peace & Security and University of Perugia*, June 19-20, 2014, Perugia, Italy: Economics for Peace and Security

Nwankpa, M. (2014). The evolution of Boko Haram: From religion to politics, in *Proceedings of the Annual Conference on "Organised Crime and its Prosecution"- School of Law*, July 3-4, 2014, Manchester: University of Manchester

Nwankpa, M. (2014). Demystifying the Boko Haram Phenomenon: An implication for counter-terrorism policy, in *Proceedings of the 8th Annual Conference on "Communication & Collaboration for Counter-terrorism"- Society for Terrorism Research and University of Massachusetts*, September 17-19, 2014, Boston: STR

Nwankpa, M. (2014). Assessing the political economy of insurgency in Nigeria, in *Roundtable Forum on Nigerian Organised Crime- Royal United Services Institute (RUSI)*, London, October 14th, 2014.

Peer Review

I provided peer review services for the following journals:

- *Economics for Peace & Security Journal*- 2015-2017
- *Journal of Strategic Contracting & Negotiation*- 2017
- *Terrorism & Political Violence*-2019
- *African Conflict & Peacebuilding Review*-2019, 2020, 2021
- *Journal of Contemporary African Studies*-2019
- *African Security Review*-2019
- *Oxford Development Studies*- 2019
- *Behavioural Sciences of Terrorism and Political Aggression*- 2019
- *Journal of Religion in Africa*- 2020
- *Ethnicities*- 2021
- *African Security Review*- 2022
- *International Journal of Intelligence and Counterintelligence*- 2022

Dissertation Supervision

- **MA Thesis Supervisor**

Nana Nyambura: African migration/Europe/Sovereignty/Human rights, 2023-4 (Queen Mary University)

Ange-Marie Gisele: The Impact of political and economic instability on AfCFTA's implementation and growth in the ECOWAS region, 2023-4 (Queen Mary University)

Vicky Kadiga Aridi: Mining/Human rights/Democratic Republic of Congo, 2023-4 (Queen Mary University)

Doriane Irakoze: *Challenges and Prospects of Establishing Eco-Currency Union in West Africa*-2023 (Queen Mary University, London).

Lawrence Ngorand: Assessing the Effectiveness of Counterterrorism Efforts in Mali and the Sahel Region- 2023 (Queen Mary University, London).

Ammar Al-Samarraie: *War on Terror: Assessing U.S Military Policy in Afghanistan and Iraq*-2023 (Queen Mary University, London).

Ali Sheikh: *The Impact of FDI on Human Rights Conditions and Social and Economic Development in Somalia*- 2018 (University of Roehampton).

- **PhD Thesis Supervisor**

John Salazar: *White-collar Criminals and Organized Crime: Defining the Relationship and the Impact on Society* 2021-2023 (Final Stages) (Unicaf University)

Mannie Imevbore Omege: *Patterns of Aggression and Criminal Behaviour Common among Youths in Campuses of Edo State, Nigeria* 2021- (Unicaf University).

Web Profiles

- [Twitter Profile](#)
- [LinkedIn Profile](#)