

TRANSBORDER CRIMES AND NIGERIA'S NATIONAL SECURITY: A CASE STUDY
OF NIGERIA'S IDIROKO BORDER

BY

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DECLARATION

I hereby declare that this doctoral dissertation, “Transborder Crimes and Nigeria’s National Security: A study of Nigeria’s Idiroko Border”, submitted to the Department of Political Science and International Relations, Covenant University, Ota, Nigeria, was carried out by me, under the supervision of Dr. Oni Samuel of Covenant University, Ota, Nigeria.

I also solemnly declare that no part of this report has been submitted here or elsewhere in a previous application for award of a degree. All sources of knowledge used have been duly acknowledged.

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CERTIFICATION

It is hereby certified that this dissertation was carried out by Sejoro Viwavoh John (Matriculation Number: 09AK09297), of the Department of Political Science and International Relations, College of Leadership Development Studies, Covenant University, Ota, Nigeria, under the supervision of Dr. Oni Samuel.

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DEDICATION

This dissertation is dedicated to Almighty God for His protection, provision, guidance, love, mercies and great favour throughout my academic programme. To my loving parents Hon. Samuel & Mrs Roseline Abosede Eniafe Sejoro and specially to my mum, my sibling, Michael, Anna, Yemisi, Dayo, Alexander and Oluwakemi who believed greatly in me and supported me beyond measures that can't be quantified.

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Title	
Page.....	i
Declaration.....	ii
Certification.....	iii
Dedication.....	iv
Acknowledgement.....	v
Table of Contents.....	vi
Abstract.....	xi
Chapter One: Introduction	
1.1. Background to the Study.....	1
1.2. Statement of the Problem.....	4
1.3. Research Questions	6
1.4. Research Objective	6
1.5. Significance of the study.....	6
1.6. Scope and limitations of the Study.....	7
1.7. Organisation of the Study.....	8
Chapter Two: Literature Review and Theoretical Framework	
2.1. Conceptual Analysis.....	10
2.1.1 Border Security	10

2.1.2 National Security.....	15
2.1.3 Trans-border Crimes.....	17
2.2.1 The Nature of trans-border crimes in West Africa.....	19
2.2.2 The Nexus Between Trans-Border Crimes and National Security	24
2.2 Theoretical Framework	30
2.2.1 The Rational Choice Theory and Thestrain Theory.....	30
2.2.2 The Strain Theory.....	32
2.2.3 Multi Sum Security Principle.....	35

Chapter Three: Research Methodology

3.0 Introduction	38
3.1 Research Design.....	38
3.2 Study Population.....	39
3.3 Instrument For Data Collection	39
3.4 Sample and Sampling Technique.....	40
3.5 Method of Data Analysis.....	41

Chapter Four: Data Presentation and Analysis

4.0 Introduction.....	42
4.2 Causes of Trans-border Crimes in Nigeria.....	42

4.2.1 Corruption	42
4.2.2 Porosity of the borders.....	46
4.2.3 ECOWAS Free Trade Protocol.....	47
4.2.4 Economic Hardship and Poverty.....	50
4.2.5 Lack of Adequate Security Personnel and Poor welfare.....	51
4.2.6 Poor Inter-agency Collaboration.....	52
4.2.7 Poor relationship between the border security operatives and borderland communities.....	53
4.2.8 Globalization	55
4.3.0 Techniques used by perpetrators of trans-border crimes.....	56
4.4 Government's response to trans-border crimes in Nigeria.....	58
4.4.1 National response to trans-border crimes.....	58
4.4.2 International Response.....	62
References.....	70
Chapter five: Summary, Recommendations and Conclusion	
5.1 Summary.....	73
5.3 Recommendations	75
5.4 Conclusion.....	75
Bibliography.....	79
Appendices.....	94

ABSTRACT

African countries are increasingly facing daunting tasks of managing their borders in ways that secure their territorial sovereignty and integrity. They have to ensure that their borders are bridges rather than barriers for cross border cooperation and regional integration, thus, preventing illegal entries and exiting of people and goods and at the same time allowing easy movement of goods and people. Due to rising crimes resulting from easy trans-border movement however, the Nigerian government has attempted to secure the national border as is constitutionally demanded. Despite the effort of the government, a secured and safe environment for lives, properties and the conduct of business and economic activities continue to elude Nigeria. This thesis therefore engages the rational choice theory alongside the theory of globalization in interrogating the dynamics of trans-border crime and its consequent implication for national security. Drawing vital information from both primary and secondary sources of data, this research discovers that the causes of trans-border crimes in Nigeria are multifaceted including: corruption, porous border area alongside poor demarcation of the border area, poverty, institutional framework (ECOWAS protocol on free movement) among others. In addition, this research has revealed that trans-border crimes impact on socio-political and economic security of Nigeria. This research therefore, recommends that the Nigerian government take into cognizance the need to put more border security equipment and strict checks at the border. Lastly it recommends that there should be a cordial relationship between the border communities and the security agents to boost the capacity of intelligence and information sharing in curbing criminal activities.