

Migration and Xenophobia in Nigeria-South Africa Relations: An Exposition of the Implementation of the Responsibility to Protect (R2P)

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Abstract

Migration has been on the increase in contemporary times. However, confronting its rise is the development of exclusionist and intolerant behaviours by citizens of receiving states towards migrants. Utilising secondary data, the study explains constraints to implementing the responsibility to protect (R2P) by the South African and Nigerian governments towards Nigerians in South Africa at the dawn of xenophobia. It argues that intentional denialism at the individual, institutional and national levels of the South African society have contributed to the limited or near absence of commitment to the implementation of R2P to migrants, including Nigerians in South Africa. Therefore, it recommends that both governments put in place mechanisms for the implementation of international principles such as R2P so that the human rights of migrants are protected in line with existing international dictates.