

EXPLORING THE DIPLOMATIC, POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC RELATIONS BETWEEN NIGERIA AND THE UNITED KINGDOM

¹Onajiyoma C. Agubo, ²Sheriff F. Folarin

ABSTRACT:

Nigeria became a sovereign independent State by 1960 and since then Nigeria has continued to nurture diplomatic relations with Western capitalist nations such as Britain, France, Germany and the United States. This article scrutinises the changing pattern and nature of relations between Nigeria and the United Kingdom since gaining independence in 1960. It states that relations between the countries have greatly improved due to a number of domestic, diplomatic, political and economic changes that occurred in both countries, as well as the changes of the global world. The paper elucidates the explicit factors that have influenced the Nigerian-UK relations in more recent times and the unending bond that could lead to the eradication of underdevelopment in all its facets. It also exposes the positive and negative views of such relations using mostly published sources from a historical perspective. This research made use of secondary data. The findings are that economic and political diplomacy has contributed to the development of Nigeria as a State however it concludes that Nigeria needs to learn from countries in the East like China, India and Japan using the lessons of the Asian Tigers for its development.

Keywords: Capitalist, Diplomatic, Economic, Political, Underdevelopment, National development.

I. INTRODUCTION

Background to the Study

For any country or State to survive, it must have a clear cut foreign affairs policy, principles or guidelines laid down, consisting of self-interest plans chosen to attain some level of hegemony, safeguard its national interests

¹Department of Political Science & International Relations, Covenant University, Ota.

²Department of Political Science & International Relations, Covenant University, Ota.

and to accomplish those national interest goals in the global market or international system (Uji and kigbu, 2015). State actors now involve high level of tact or diplomatic tools in order to match up with the changing style of national interests in their interactions with other state actors. However, national interests can be attained either peacefully or exploitatively as a result of the growing need for globalisation, development and or to capitalise on benefits of bilateral international collaboration.

Looking at history, Nigeria had been a British protectorate since the 1st of January 1901 until its political independence from the UK on the 1st of October, 1960. Upon achieving independence, it joined the Commonwealth of Nations. Since independence, Nigeria has maintained favourable relations with the UK.

In light of this, the paper attempts to illuminate Nigeria's inconsistent national interests that changes due to issues of underdevelopment and gears her towards fostering relations with the UK following the current trends in the international system. Nigeria should seek to partner with the UK noting the benefits Brexit poses and re-strategise her national interest in line with modern-day international relations or current realities. Consequently, this paper has five parts. First is the introductory part while the second part conceptualises diplomacy, economy and politics, the third aspect attempts to theorise national interest using three international relations theories. The fifth segment elucidates the Nigeria and UK's diplomatic relations, Political relations and economic relations and the sixth part is the concluding aspect offering some recommendations.

The United Kingdom seeks to provide a close and long lasting relationship with Nigeria that conveys concrete benefits for both sides, with the aim of achieving a strong national interest through a viable European Union arrangement contributing effortlessly in areas of need whereas ensuring national sovereignty (Uji and kigbu, 2015). The UK looks to provide more viable and modernised institutions, especially the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation, the European Union, the United Nations, the Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe and the Council of Europe. In expansion, it was working to reinforce the Commonwealth as a centre for advancing equitable values, human rights, climate versatile advancement, conflict avoidance and trade; whereas utilising delicate control as an instrument of the United Kingdom's policy strategy; advance British values which include upholding human right laws; and participate in the growth and development of the country (Uji and kigbu, 2015).

Conceptual Framework

Diplomacy

Scholars in international relations have come up with different definitions of the term 'diplomacy'. According to Lee D. and Hocking B. (2011), diplomacy is a reaction to a set of prerequisites and needs to specific intervention for settlement of communities and the need set up channels of communication between them. The term diplomacy is derived from the Greek word 'diploma' meaning an executive document or certificate that folded on itself, which in care of or at the disposal of the president or highest governing authority in a country (Essays, 2016). Such authority had special privileges imposed on him just for being in charge of issuing the

certificate or executive document which included prescription and task envoy. It also imposed the power to exonerated persons who are tried in court. Diploma later widened to include bureaucrat or administrative papers and documents that involves negotiations wrapped up by the then Roman Empire with its relations with outsiders and ethnic groups and now means learning from historical documents with relations to understanding intercontinental relations in global politics (Essays, 2016).

Economy

Economics is a discipline that best suites the description of trade, production, exchange and expenditure of various goods and services in global market systems. Economics focuses mainly on the demand and supply chain, scarce commodities and resources, availability of products for the well-being and financial liberty of humans or nations. Also, Economics originates from two main Greek words i.e. 'nemein' which means to manage and 'oikos' which means a house. Looking at the historical meaning, economics is an organised way of managing resources for better living. Economics today had brought about the growing need for globalisation and integration of countries and in this case, the UK and Nigeria.

Politics

Politics is a wide science that encompasses the day-to-day living of humans, states or the international community. Politics is as old as history itself. According to Aristotle, politics extensively focuses on the action through which people/governments make rules and regulations that people abide by.

Diplomatic relations

The UK-Nigeria Trade and Investment Summit which held on April 17, 2018 aimed at fostering relations and improving trade relations between both countries, Nigeria showcased herself as a powerhouse (Sandhu, 2018). Not only was the summit peaceful, it also sought to deepen consensual and mutual dealings in goods and services between both countries. He also said that there are abundant human and material resources if Nigeria could look inwardly and first tackle her domestic issues. Despite the fact that Nigeria has one of the biggest economies in Africa, it is yet to discover her prospects and the returns that her relations with the West can bring. Following the visit of the UK's Prime Minister, Theresa May, Africa has garnered so much attention globally especially with the UK's aim to become the largest of the biggest 7 economies in the world through the Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) scheme in Africa by the year 2022. Africa is of great importance to the UK at this time since the Brexit plans became obvious (Okonji, 2017). Better relations can, and ought to, be a critical component of the UK's endeavors to re-establish itself as a worldwide actor after Brexit. The UK's involvement with Africa is majorly influenced by trade. Whereas there is the hazard of discretionary segregation approaching generally due to the Brexit moves, the UK must increment its discretionary and security impression on the ground, working

with dependable African partners in handling challenges like fear based oppression, movement, populace development, climate change, and the law based shortage. Theresa May's visit was a critical step in restoring a relationship which has been significantly ignored. Nigeria is Africa's biggest economy, most crowded country, and a political powerhouse (Okonji, 2017). Beneath President Buhari, the nation has effectively fought Boko Haram and definitely decreased the region held by the terrorist bunch within the northeast of the nation. As of late, the UK government marked the primary ever UK-Nigeria security and protection partnership set to handle shared dangers with expanded military preparing the supply of imperative hardware. Discontent, fear based oppression, and jihadist belief system know no borders, and the UK's endeavors to partner with the Nigerian government to avoid the spread of radicalism within the locale is commendable. It too vowed to form a modern respectful resource recuperation errand constrain to assist President Buhari's commendable mission to stamp out debasement in Nigeria, avoiding hoodlums from using the UK as a monetary safe-haven. Such activities deliver both substantial benefits, within the frame of repatriated reserves, and discretionary benefits within the frame of progressed UK-Nigeria relations (Aluko, 1981).

II. Literature Review

The United Kingdom is a conglomerate of England, Ireland Wales and Scotland. These countries are commonly referred to as the UK with its capital being London. More recently the UK hunts with a purpose driven national interest in her interaction with Nigeria and the international system not tampering with their interests but gears towards increased democratic objectives, human rights intervention, market, welfare development to citizens of developing nations, the pursuit of an active national interest strategy wherein focus is directed towards promoting independence goals (Akinboye, 1999). The bulk of the UK national interest is channeled through its most prominent representative body as the European Union. However, the European Union is an international organisation that is made up of other European countries but much of the activities are being spearheaded by the UK. We cannot examine UK's foreign policy without looking through the lenses of the European Union national interests (Akinboye, 1999).

The EU's international interests holds a complexity derived from the number of European states policies and how their bilateral relationships has significantly extended in recent times. In addition elements such as cold war demise and other developments of the EU have also added to complex changed scenery of its national interest. The demise of the cold war has distinctively restructured EU's interests by creating principles doctrines and means of conducting foreign policy some of which are manifested in recent foreign policy decision making (Akinboye, 1999).

In timeline of events from the 19th century, British national interest was mainly premised on creating a role in the Paris Peace Conference of 1919, where Lloyd George, the British Prime Minister at the time, worked hard to restrain French demands for revenge in which he was partly successful. By 1938 it was clear that war was looming, the British national interest at the time was to appease military dictators as the time Germany had the world most powerful military (Eze, 2010). The final act of pacification came when Britain and France sacrificed Czechoslovakia

to Hitler's demand at the Munich Agreement of 1938 unfortunately Hitler was satiated and moved on to Poland, therein by Prime Neville Chamberlain Britain declared war on Germany in 1939 (Clausewitz, 1873). By Mid-20th century, Britain had lost its hold as a superpower most of its colonies now given independence became equal states and join the Commonwealth of Nations. At the dawn of the 21st century the UK's foreign policy included military intervention in conflict and peacekeeping humanitarian assistance programmes, debt relief for developing countries redirecting her maintained interest in her diplomacy towards Africa, therefore one cannot undercut her expressions to Africa which constitute some of her vital colonies. British diplomatic relations can be seen in the instances of Tony Blair's visit to Africa which was concentrated on the responsibility to save Africa. The focus of his visit was to play a key role of partnership to set out Britain's policy of supporting the New Partnership for Africa's Development (Aluko, 1981).

Politics

From the outlook of international political views, Theresa May's visit to Nigeria can be defined from the UK's foreign policy strategy called the 'Soft Power' approach which is a modern technique in the new 'Scramble for Africa' brilliantly replacing the old idea of colonialism (Sklenka, 2007). In sum, there are no new regions to conquer forcefully and aggressively, no direct rule necessary, no unjust partitioning of Africa boundaries as all boundaries and natives under the modern strategy are clear cut. The other perspective to Theresa May's visit can be viewed from the UK's original membership of the European Economic Community (EEC) which former President Charles de Gaulle of France frustrated on the grounds that Britain was not part of the countries that signed the Treaty of Rome that established the EEC in the year 1957. This is close related to Nigeria as Charles de Gaulle also prevented Nigeria from becoming an associate member of the EEC as well.

UK's withdrawal from the EU has tilted its eyes towards becoming traditional partners with African countries particularly, South Africa, Nigeria and Kenya, after nearly 45 years of being a member of the European Union (Sklenka, 2007). UK's partnership with African countries, and particularly Nigeria, would foster favourable partnership and help to close the gap their exit from the EU would create. This ultimately means that the UK would need a lot to stay relevant and have a viable market and compete with the EU upon its exit. This illuminates the strong partnership and awakened long term friendship with countries that had helped to revive its economy during the era of colonialism.

At a political discussion held in 2009 which is known as the Nigeria EU Joint Forward, saw the establishment or formation of the EU and Nigerian political and economic commitment. At the meeting, which they agreed to hold on a yearly basis, the issues of total well-being of each nation were discussed. Senior officers and ministers discussed on the improvement of all forms of integration, economic development, peace and tranquility, good governance and to continually uphold human right laws. Also, issues of climate/environmental changes, sustainable development and improvement in power sector formed the major discuss of the Nigerian ministers. In light of the growing needs of developing countries like Nigeria, major importance is to be given to increase regional and international cooperation for the purpose of tackling domestic situation (Olukoshi, 1992). Since its

establishment in 2009, the joint communiqué holds yearly to discuss and tackle issues of asymmetrical immigration and trafficking of human beings, and at organizing and smoothening the progress of lawful immigration. In sum, this communiqué allows for collective interest and information exchange, dedication, reliance and realistic measures of cooperation for both countries. At its 2013 sitting, they went deeper into tackling issues that were germane at the time. The issues that were discussed include: death sentences, unlawful killings and upholding women and children's rights (Echikwonye, 2016). The communiqué had also assisted Nigeria to gain from a yearly dialogue with the United Nations Human Rights Council and other notable human rights organisations as well as granting access to financial aid from the EU, including via the European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights scheme.

From the standpoint of security and defense agenda of Britain's outward strategy shortly after the world war I, the demobilisation of weapons which was paramount at the time when Britain and the United States came together at the Washington Naval Conference of 1921 with the purpose of working toward marine demilitarisation of the foremost influences and powers (Coolsac, 2001). Moving on to the later years of mid 1900's, the UK holds the ground that the rationales behind a British nuclear force has to do with their deterrent value in relation to a perceived risk of aggressive action by the Soviet Union during the cold war era. However, the British in its security policy struggles for Independence in its security making policy due to its alliances with the United States and to the security organization that is NATO which the US dominates. It goes to say that much of UK security and defense policy was characterised by her alliances through US and NATO. In more recent times there have been a strategic defense and security review in 2015 which painted a picture of a pool of plans initiated by the British government to supervise and manage brainpower and armed forces staff in the interrogating of captives apprehended by other countries in order to exalt the practices of UK foreign military activities (Uji and kigbu, 2015).

Economic Policy

Looking at Nigeria's great potential from the perspective of having the largest economy in Africa, biggest oil producer in Continent of Africa, large market and mineral resources, independent and self-driven citizens and soon to be the third most populated state in the world by 2050 are the driving forces of the UK's commitment to building and handling issues of terrorism and poverty (Sandhu, 2018). The UK-Nigeria prosperity relationship is so strong that British companies in Nigeria such as Unilever, Shell, PZ Cussons, British Airways, Diageo/Guinness and so on are among the long standing and functioning intercontinental companies in Nigeria. Notably, the UK is a regular trade partner of Nigeria with the largest investment inflows into the country which includes investments from the City of London, placing it as one of the top five trading partners of Nigeria (Sandhu, 2018). Recently, Nigeria narrowly pulled out of recession owing to only 0.55% in growth at the time but has still not tackled the issue of job creation and cannot presently generate the two million jobs needed yearly looking at the growth in population. Currently, the relationship between Nigeria and the UK has created greener pastures for the Nigerians in the Diaspora thereby making commitments on both sides firm (Sandhu, 2018). We also link their relationship to the strong connection of colonialism and the huge remittances from Nigerians in the Diaspora. Following through the years leading up to "Brexit" Britain engaged in a series of economic support to underdeveloped countries as a

reflecting through shadows of neo-imperialism, but support none the less by means of promoting human right development (Coolsac, 2001).

More recently the British decision to leave European Union “Brexit” exhibits the nature of change of a British foreign policy. The impact of this decision evidently cuts across the UK perception of economic integration and its economic independence. The image to which it represents in the European community is an unsupported consensus although economists predict that the UK's Brexit moves might lead to a reduction in its average income per each citizen in both mid and long term basis. In fact, economists believe that the plebiscite damaged the UK economy in the succeeding two years. This has informed learning on the effect it has on an average UK family showing an annual loss of £404 and a drop between 1.3% and 2.1% of UK currency value. However, the numbers predict the decline in UK GDP it's not an option for her to turn back now, therefore one can suggest it that its national interests are still put forward overall (Coolsac, 2001).

The Eden trade treaty with France, signed in September 1786, is the only solid achievement of the policy and that a temporary one that existed during that time. Furthermore, into the 19th century Britain emerged from the long wars against revolutionary and Napoleonic France the alliance system fashioned by Castlereagh, put Britain on to the center of the diplomatic stage (Sandhu, 2018). The expansion of Russian influence on the world stage projected British foreign policy after 1815 generally was directed to shoring up obstacles to Russian aggrandisement.

Nigeria's Economic Relations with Britain: An Overview

The history of the economic and political relationship of the UK and Nigeria dates back to the period of colonialism. Their economic relations have however witnessed several down turns due to the societal unrest witnessed in different parts of Nigeria. Ashiru, (2013) suggests that Nigeria national interest goals should be penned down and document rather than the changes in goals per leader since independence.

Nigeria's national interest, according to Olukoshi (1992) and Eze (2010) since independence in 1960 till date, has been very difficult to identify or define. This is because of the numerous diplomatic variations and beliefs adopted by Nigerians over the years. Some of her interests from the Tafawa Balewa's era included: decolonisation, Pan-African solidarity, and world peace. Under Babangida's regime, national interest was simply national security. Yet, at the “Workshop on Nigeria's National Interest and Values held on April 15th, 1988, an attempt was made to define national interest again and finally, the 1999 Constitution and the Vision 2020 document also elaborated on it means in the context of foreign policy objectives. The Vision 2020 report gave an outline of Nigeria's national interest, showing its reaction to the changing elements within a universal framework.

Although, national interest analysts may perceive Nigeria's national interest to be clear and hopeful, but experience over the years has contradicted the strategy to give the country and its people the degree of honour, respect and reverence it was known for and deserves. The failure to have a consistent national interest strategy can be traced largely to the serious systemic problem of the country's domestic policies as the Nigerian state has been

described as having transited from the magnificent to the bizarre, in her 'angelic abroad' and 'satanic at home' relations (Ladipo-Soares, 2014; Agreen, 2010). Just by being abundantly rich in mineral resources and population strength, Nigeria is normally anticipated to bear Africa's financial and social burdens (Agreen, 2010). It is in any case more believed that with all of all its assets, the citizens ought to not need anything in terms of social, physical and financial frameworks. Nigeria's agents in most nations, amusingly, are diplomats and party supporters as ambassadors, whose essential commitment is to the client and not the common or national interest of the citizens. Consequently, the poor diplomatic dealings, failure to ensure Nigerians safety overseas and the need of understanding of what constitutes the national intrigue of Nigerians at domestic and overseas have molded Nigeria's national interest essentially to look generous to other nations. It is disheartening that a country that shoulders the responsibility of other countries still has citizens living in abject poverty, lack of social amenities and basic privileges. Notably, Nigeria restored peace in Sierra Leone and Liberia, spending billions of dollars not minding the lack of economic, social or political benefits it brought to the country (Ade-Ibijola, 2013: 570).

It is not farfetched that Nigeria displaying an energetic outlook of peace building and keeping cannot boast of same as a state. Be that as it may, Nigeria's charitable outlook and poverty stricken economy are pointers to the fact that it is full of pretenses (Ajayi, Njoaguani, Olorunyomi and Folarin, 2015). In truth, Nigeria has over extended itself for many years to uphold peace and sustainable democracy in other countries, while still battling with addressing those issues at home. This has led to the amount of backwardness, decadence in infrastructure, social imbalance and it explains the societal threats experienced in different regions of the country (Ajayi, Njoaguani, Olorunyomi and Folarin, 2015). Such glooming and growing insecurity gave rise to Boko Haram insurgency, militancy in the Niger Delta region, herdsman attacks and the rise of kidnapping currently being experienced. Instead of enjoying from the benefits of helping African countries, Nigerians rather suffer refutation, extradition, brutality and reproach. For example, the case of the eighteen-year old boy, Amara IwuchukwuTochi who was caught in Singapore with capsules containing diamorphine. Not only was he imprisoned for three years, he was sentenced to death by hanging regardless of the pleas for leniency, interceding by Amnesty International and other human rights groups fell on deaf ears (UNOG, 2007). This buttresses Osaghae's depiction that Nigeria is a crippled giant (Asobie, 2007). Ashiru 2013 opines that Nigeria's great neighbourliness arrangement has contracted its choices at the multilateral level. Nigeria is strikingly the 6th biggest oil exporter and producer in OPEC, which should not be seen as a break even with its comatose financial situation. Nigeria is characterized by extreme insecurity issues, rotting financial viability and unstable growth, and mass destitution which have activated the strengths of inconsequential conventions, dishonesty and corruption (Ashiru, 2013; Ade- ibijola, 2013: 570).

Their assumptions are based on Nigeria's focused goal of being Africa's big brother which is considered hazy and not centred on morals that would give be politically or financially advantageous to Nigeria. Nigeria, instead of gaining from the effects of helping other countries loss out in terms of attracting foreign investment as

there is lack of trust. It is simple, no one will want to invest in a business that the profits would not be properly utilized or accounted for its universal outlook (Lukpata, 2013). Lukpata, 2013 posit that clear signs appear that Nigeria has not successfully financed the help it renders overseas. This is seen to be credited to the leader's political conclusions of financing which is fitting to state that Nigeria's national interest is however to boost its realness by taking up proactive measures in enlightening the essential thought processes to the Nigerian people. The Nigerian government seems not to care for its citizens in Diaspora particularly in terms of their cooperation within scientific, developmental and other sectors of the country (Asobie, 2007). As of late, the political economy of Nigeria has been tormented by a combination of social instability caused by visits of unrest, a fast declining economy and falling infrastructural base, all of which have wrapped up in feebleness and extravagant enormous big brother picture. Fear mongering or counter terrorism has of late been known as a fundamental highlight of Nigeria's conciliatory needs (Sandhu, 2018). The introduction of money related schemes has been the tact of Nigeria's shared and many-sided monetary relations targeted to make profitable approaches with other countries, which underlies its external relations with other African countries (Coolsac, 2001).

In any case, the monetary procedure appears to have borne small pertinence to national progression, being scarcely imperative to national interest. Once more, Nigeria played an amazingly imperative part towards the pulverisation of apartheid in Southern Africa. But this has brought small or no increase to its financial growth. Southern African is now free from apartheid but they have not been Nigeria's great neighbours or overseas industrial base as numerous western countries would do with nations they liberate for capitalist democracy. In any case, Nigeria has created the enormous market for South African companies and commerce. What Nigeria needs, is keeping up its interest with intentional strategies and not getting occupied by enormous brotherliness (Echikwonye, 2016). The well-being of the Nigerian people, groups and the quality of the monetary framework ought to be at the fore of its national interest (Ade-Ibijola, 2013:569). Nigeria ought to be driven by urgency in recovering her misplaced radiance by distinguishing and recording her goals within the worldwide market. It is clear that the national interface of any given nation is chosen by its government's organization (Echikwonye, 2016). The citizens are expected to support or play a huge part in such articulation of interest. The reality remains that national interest will persistently be internal to the regulating course; in any case, what is seen as enormity of the state ought to underlie the thoughts, with or without counseling, the masses. The thought of citizen technique need to be returned to, but with modifications and clearly characterized statutes (Echikwonye, 2016). On a very basic level, Nigeria outlines fake charity abroad, which is simply an impressionistic state of intellect rather than commanding authority and regard. On the consistent assault of Nigerians abroad, a citizen watchfulness, such as was grasped by the Yaradua-Jonathan administration, but which got to have been more clearly spelt out, would be a solid endeavour of the realisation of national objectives (Sandhu, 2018).

Economic and Trade relations

Nigeria has had the longest commercial dealings with the UK. In 2014 notably, Nigeria's crude oil and other non-oil exports were the target of the EU with the securing of roughly €39.6 billion, making the EU the foremost important trade partner for the whole ECOWAS area. Nigeria, due to the EU's commitment to support its fight against poverty benefits enormously from its Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) each year in billions of Euro (Atim, 2006). Looking at Nigeria's development in stock for 2013 alone it made €29.6 billion which accounts for about half of EU's export to the region and about 70 per cent of the imports. It could seem that oil takes the greatest share but researchers are of the supposition that there's about a break even in exchange for the reason of industrialising the two nations. Nigeria's exportation to Europe is to a great extent unrefined mineral resources such as skins and calfskin, oil and gas, cocoa and preparations, crustaceans and fish, oil seeds, rubber, wood charcoal and copper. In 2015, Nigeria's noteworthy importation from Europe in spite of the fact that primarily apparatus and transport gear are refined fuel, nourishment and live creatures, which accounted for 13% of its imports at the time (Atim, 2006).

III. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Conclusion

Good leadership remains the bone of contention in Nigeria presently. The importance and knowledge of the history of colonialism leading to independence should sit well with the Nigerian peoples. A belief that we have a common heritage should not call for relaxation but rather dutiful and selfless governance noting that the UK will leave the European Union in a few years' time and it would deepen the bond we already share. Nigeria peoples should also bear in mind that the UK today, and in the future, are partners for mutual benefits, and not our parents or family members. This calls for high level diplomatic relation with leaders who are ready to take up the job with every sense of responsibility. Also, the Nigerian people and Africans as a whole should act fast in achieving sustainable development because, looking at the BREXIT situation, the UK can as well pull out of any deal or commitment once it has had its feel as it is common knowledge with the Western world.

Looking at Nigeria's close relationship with the UK, it can be predicted that Nigeria in the next one hundred years will change drastically if the leaders would be selfless enough to fight for sustainable development. Nigerian leaders must tackle the future increment in population so as to put measure to combat poverty, joblessness, social threats and many more.

Also, this paper illuminates that globalisation is good and should be handled in such a way that the sustenance of nations and peoples come first before national interests bearing in mind the undue colonialism of Africa and in this context, Nigeria (Asobie, 2007). For globalisation to succeed, the inequality between the poor and the rich should be minimised. It calls for the harmonising of all economies of the world so as to reduce marginalisation and dominance of international organisations that recognise money as the means of livelihood. Nigerian government should find the best method to counter the harmful effects of globalisation. Nigeria should not

rely solely on what the developed foreign countries are handling down to us, but should consider and encourage local production and industry (Asobie, 2007). Nigeria should take a cue from China and embrace its cultural heritage which will bring about indigenous development in the long run rather than accepting all aspects of Western way of life. It should think of diversification to other sources of revenue, instead of depending on crude oil.

Recommendations

Economic diplomacy with the West has not resulted to any significant transformation of Nigeria. There are three areas to measure this, what is happening to poverty, inequality and unemployment in Nigeria. These are three basic questions asked by development economic to resolve the challenge of development. Economic diplomacy with the West has left Nigeria in the quagmire rather than rescue her developmental challenges (Atim, 2006). Although there might be positive benefits but the contemporary picture shows that the nation's is far from achieving the goal of economic development like the West (Ottaway, 2018). Nigeria can adopt lessons from her neighbours in Asia (Asian Tigers) who also were colonized by the West. Economic self-reliance and independence is the key to an equal relation with the West. During the United Nations summit in New York in the United States, the then United States President Ronald Reagan rebuked and mocked African Presidents to go back home and help themselves, not to come to the United Nations begging for debt relief and loans. The message from Ronald Reagan and his contemporary in Britain at that time, Margaret Thatcher was obvious; you cannot earn respect in the face of poverty and the emasculation of your own people. Reagan and Thatcher could not understand why despite the wealth of the African nations, like Nigeria, yet there is widespread poverty and misery. This is a strange paradox that characterised the Nigerian nations, poverty in plenty prosperity. In recent history, a serving Japanese Prime Minister opined that the crisis with black African leaders was the tyranny of mental arrest, the inability to think and reason. He could not understand why African leaders have failed to developed her enormous opportunities despite the tremendous wealth, resources and human potentials. The poverty of thinking and reasoning has reduced African leaders to ridicule on their relations with Western Capitalist nations. In the eyes of the West, most African leaders are clowns and jesters in the corridors of national power. How can such leaders, who cannot address the United Nations Assembly, be respected in their relations with the West? This is the crisis and the dilemma of Nigeria and Africa in her relation to the West.

Sandhu (2018), posits that Nigeria, should look inward and engage in mutual trade relations rather than looking for investments, loans and business finance that places a heavy demand on the economy, leading to endless indebtedness. Also, Nigeria can diplomatically learn from the UK's trading style as desired by other nations.

References

1. Ade-Ibijola, A. O. (2013). *Overview of National Interest, Continuities and Flaws in Nigeria Foreign Policy. International Journal of Academic Research in Business and Social Sciences. 3(1), pp. 565-572.*
2. Agreeen, I. J. (2010). *The problematic of redefining Nigeria's national interest in the context of Global Diplomacy. Retrieved from <http://www.pointblanknews.com/Articles/artopn2675.html>*

3. Akinboye S.O. (1999). *Nigeria's Foreign Policy*. In R. Anifowose and F. Enemou (eds.) *Elements of Politics*. Lagos, Malthouse.
4. Alfred K. O. S. and Obi, E. (2003). "Government and Politics of Nigeria: The Struggle for Power in African States". Onitsha: Book Point Ltd.
5. Aluko O. (1981). *Essays on Nigerian Foreign Policy*. London: George Allen and Unwin Ashiru, O., (2013). *Nigeria's Foreign Policy: New realities in a changing world*. Retrieved from www.thisDay.com
6. Atim, T. (2006). *Foreign Aid and the paradox of development: 21st century guide to International Relations*. Lagos: Benambra Nig. Ltd.
7. Asobie, H.A (2007). *Nigeria's National Interest in a Globalising World: A Theoretical Perspective in Bola A. Akinterinwa (ed.). Nigeria's National Interest in a Globalising World: Further Reflections on Constructive and Beneficial Concentricism, Contending issues in Nation Building*. Ibadan: Bolytag International Publishers. Volume 1.
8. Ajayi L., Njoaguani T., Olorunyomi B., and Folarin S. (2015), "Nigeria's Foreign Policy and Codification of National Interest: A Prescriptive Analysis" *Covenant University Journal of Politics and International Affairs (CUJPIA)* Vol. 3 pg.2.
9. Coolsac R. (2001): "Historical Patterns in Economy Diplomacy, from protection to Globalisation." A paper presented at the International Studies Association Convention in Chicago, USA, 20 – 22. *The Herald*.
10. Clausewitz, C. (1873). *On War*. Translated by Graham, J.J. London: N. Trübner.
11. Echikwonye, (2016). "National Interest and Strategic Conduct: The Nigerian Perspective". Department of Political Science, Benue State University. Retrieved from <http://www.aceser.net/journals/download.php?aid=17&action=download.1-8>
12. *Economics – Definition And Nature & Scope Of Economics – Divisions Of Economics*. Retrieved from <http://elearn.luanar.ac.mw/repoz/AECO141/lec01.pdf>
13. Emma Okonji (2017), "Britain Must Explore Business Opportunities In Nigeria" Retrieved from <https://www.thisdaylive.com/index.php/2017/07/06/duke-britain-must-explore-business-opportunities-in-nigeria/>
14. *Essays, UK. (2013). The Definition Of Diplomacy Politics Essay*. Retrieved from <https://www.ukessays.com/essays/politics/the-definition-of-diplomacy-politics-essay.php?vref=1>
15. Eze, O.C (2010). "Interrogating Nigeria's National Interest". In Osita C. Eze (ed.) *Beyond 50years of Nigeria's Foreign Policy: Issues, challenges and prospects*. Ibadan: Polygraphics Ventures Limited.
16. Ladipo-Soares, E. (2014). "A Review of Nigeria's Foreign Policy". *PhD Seminar Paper for IRL 923: Nigeria's Foreign Policy, Department of Political Science and International Relations, Covenant University*. Pp. 1-11.
17. Lee D. and Hocking B. (2011) "Diplomacy". *International Encyclopaedia of Political Science*, Sage publishing. Retrieved from <https://kar.kent.ac.uk/38123/3/IPSA%20Encyp%20Diplomacy%2028%20April.pdf>

18. Lukpata, V.I (2013). "National Interest and National Development in Nigeria". *International Journal of Public Administration and Management Research (Ijpamr)*, 2(1). 60-68,
19. Mamadu, R. (2006). "National Interest of States in a Changing World in Nigerian Foreign Policy: Nigeria". Victory Publications.
20. Olukoshi, A. (1992). "Nigerian National Interest and National Security Objectives". In *Geopolitical Studies of African States*, Lagos: Nigerian Institute of International Affairs.
21. Sandhu (2018), UK-Nigeria Trade and Investment Summit Promises Huge Opportunities to Investors. Retrieved from <https://www.nipc.gov.ng/2018-uk-nigeria-trade-investment-summit-promises-huge-opportunities-investors/>
22. Sir Ottaway R. (2018), *Our special relationship with Nigeria is a model for UK-Africa relations*. Retrieved from <https://reaction.life/special-relationship-nigeria-model-uk-africa-relations/>
23. Sklenka, S.D. (2007). "Strategy, National Interests, and Means to an End". Retrieved from <http://www.StrategicStudiesInstitute.army.mil/>
24. UNOG, (2007). United Nations Rights Experts calls on Singapore not to carry out the Execution. Retrieved from [http://www.unog.ch/80256ED_D006B9C2E/\(httpNewsByYear_en\)/E7E258697043C2C6C125726E003A3E23?OpenDocument](http://www.unog.ch/80256ED_D006B9C2E/(httpNewsByYear_en)/E7E258697043C2C6C125726E003A3E23?OpenDocument).
25. Uji W. T. and Kigbu P. Y. (2015). "Nigeria's Relations with the Outside since Independence". *International Journal of Arts and Humanities*. Volume 4, Issue 1, pp. 1-4.
26. What is Politics? 'Man is by nature a political animal.' ARISTOTLE , Politics, Pg 2. https://www.macmillanihe.com/resources/sample-chapters/9780230363373_sample.pdf.