European Union and Democratization of Africa: The case of Ghana, Uganda, Zimbabwe and Morocco (1990-2010)

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ABSTRACT

In the early 1990s, issues of democracy, good governance, security and human rights became more prominent in the international system and attained space in various policy documents. The period has been characterized by massive waves of transitions from one-party to multi-party political systems, which can be described as global democratic revolutions. Such democratic revolutions or movement towards democracy was not confined to one territory; rather it was a worldwide phenomenon that reached many parts of the world such as Latin America, Europe, Asia and Africa. It involved radical political transitions due to pressure to promote political liberalization and foster democratic reforms in most of these countries. The push for democratization was led by various democratic actors such as the European Union, United States of America, Britain, Norway, Canada and institutions like the International Monetary Fund and World Bank among others. The waves and calls for democratization by these actors have resulted in various democratic transition outcomes in which some of the recipient countries of external democratic support are left stuck in the process while some of them have completely failed and reverted back to authoritarian or oppressive regimes. Countries that have failed in the democratization process experience various consequences such as limited access to the media, fragmented opposition political parties, fraudulent electoral activities, violence and poor citizen participation. These shortfalls reflect gaps or inconsistencies in the outcomes of the democratization process that needs to be investigated. This study looks at the factors causing inconsistencies in the outcomes of the process.

KEY WORDS: Democratisation, transition process, successful transition, democratic development, democracy promotion, sustainable development.
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DECLARATION

I, Never Chirisa, hereby declare that this research report, submitted to the University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg for the purposes of attaining the Master of Arts degree in International Relations is my own work. It has not been formally submitted for any other degree or examination at any other University for degree purposes.

Signed by…………………………

Signature…………………………

……… Day of March 2015
ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

ACTV: African Centre for the Treatment and Rehabilitation of Torture of Victims

BBC: British Broadcasting Corporation

CAR: Central African Republic

CIDA: Canadian International Development Agency

CNN: Cable News Network

CPA: Cotonou Partnership Agreement

CSO: Civil Society Organizations

CSCBP: Civil Society Capacity Building Program

DRC: Democratic Republic of Congo

DV: Dependent Variable

EBA: Everything But Arms

EC: European Commission

EBRD: European Bank for Reconstruction

EDF: European Development Fund

EEAS: European External Action Service

EHEDOC: Ugandan Human Rights Education and Documentation Centre

EIDHR: European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights

EPA: Economic Partnership Agreement

ENP: European Neighbourhood Policy
EOM: Election Observer Mission
EU: European Union
EUFSP: European Union Foreign and Security Policy
GNU: Government of National Unity
GSP: Generalised System of Preferences
IAP: Independent Arbitration Panel
ID: Independent Variable
IDEG: Institute for Democratic Governance
IEA: Institute of Economic Affairs
IEPA: Interim Partnership Agreement
IPAC: Inter-Party Advisory Committee
IMF: International Monetary Fund
KAS: Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung
MDC: Movement for Democratic Change
NATO: North Atlantic Treaty Organization
NCA: National Constitutional Assembly
NDC: National Democratic Congress
NGO: Non-Governmental Organizations
NPP: New Patriotic Party
NRM: National Resistance Movement
ODA: Official Development Assistance
PAM: Authenticity and Modernity Party
PJD: Islamist Justice and Development Party
PNDC: Provisional National Defence Council
POSA: Public Order and Security Act
RNI: National Rally of Independence
SABC: South African Broadcasting Corporation
SADC: Southern African Development Community
TRC: Truth and Reconciliation Commission
UFP: United Front Party
UHRC: Ugandan Human Rights Commission
USA: United States of America
USAID: United States Agency for International Development
USFP: Socialist Union of Popular Force
UN: United Nations
UNDP: United Nations Development Program
ZANU PF: Zimbabwe African National Union Patriotic Fund.
ZCTU: Zimbabwe Congress of Trade Unions
ZLHR: Zimbabwe Lawyers for Human Rights
ZDHR: Zimbabwe Doctors for Human Rights
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