

https://dspace.org/

South Africa's Diplomatic Involvement as a Peace-broker In West Africa: The Case of Cote d'Ivoire

Rametsi, Shadrack

2007-03-01T11:20:45Z
http://hdl.handle.net/10539/2173

Downloaded from a DSpace repository. https://dspace.org/

ABSTRACT

South Africa's diplomatic involvement in the continent and particularly in Cote d'Ivoire is the main focus of this paper. Therefore, the rationale of this dissertation is to investigate the reasons of the African Union (AU) to choose South Africa as a peace broker rather than the Cote d'Ivoire crisis as such.

South Africa's diplomatic engagement in Cote d'Ivoire in 2004 was as a result of numerous attempts by AU, Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and France to find a peaceful solution to what was once the most economic and political stable country in West Africa.

The crust of this paper is to ascertain reasons why the AU designated South Africa the responsibility to mediate a peace process in Cote d'Ivoire. Furthermore, What difference can South Africa really make in Cote d'Ivoire search for peace, given the failure of other third parties as well as South Africa's ability to export its model of power-sharing in the continent.

Against this backdrop, it is also vital to examine reasons why South Africa accepted to broker a peace deal in Cote d'Ivoire in November 2004 rather that two years ago when the conflict was on its early stages. In fact, this is not the first time South Africa was requested to help solve conflicts in West Africa. Interestingly, at first, South Africa refused to offer mediation in West Africa in 2003 citing reasons that it was overburdened in other peacekeeping missions in Africa. Thus, this paper will attempt to find reasons why this time around South Africa accepted the job to mediate a peace process in Cote d'Ivoire in the backyard of Nigeria.