

WEBINAR

HOW DOES PARTICIPATION IN PEACE OPERATIONS SHAPE NATIONAL ARMED FORCES?

IS IT ALL BAD NEWS?

Date: 28 November 2024

Time: 13:30 – 15:30 (GMT+2)

Format: Webinar

TEAMS link [here](#)

Registration link [here](#)

Enquiries: Prof F. Vreÿ fvrey@sun.ac.za

The global strategic landscape required armed forces to become flexible in both a declaratory, as well as an operational sense. Nowhere is this more prevalent in the scope of and duration of their participation in peace operations on the African continent since the last decade of the 20th century. Taking on various missions under the UN, EU, AU and regional mandates, one can argue that for many armed forces their involvement in peace operations became their de facto operational reality.

Given the general tendency of national armed forces to cling to their primary warfighting roles as a comfort zone and rationale for their existence, standing and funding streams their long-term deployment in secondary roles raises a legitimate and researchable question on how persistent participation in peace operations impact a country's military establishment. Can they absorb, adjust and seamlessly migrate between their primary and secondary roles with ease, or are there hidden dangers and vulnerabilities at play?

This webinar is directed by the above outlooks and three speakers offer insights from their research in three brief discussions from their work to offer findings.

- **Professor Nina Wilén**, (Egmont Institute, Belgium) offers findings from her work as found in the [publication](#) *Peacekeeping armies: how the politics of peace operations shape military organizations*.
- **Professor Thomas Mandrup** (Royal Danish Defence College/Stellenbosch University) offers insight from his field work in Africa in the SAHEL and Southern Africa in particular.
- **Professor Abel Esterhuysen** (Stellenbosch University) covers the case of the South African National Defence Force and its oft controversial deployments to support peace missions in Africa.
- **Programme Director:** Prof Michelle Nel (Stellenbosch University)
- **Discussant:** Prof Tim Murithi (Stellenbosch University / Institute for Justice and Reconciliation)
- **Closing: Prof Francois Vreÿ** (Stellenbosch University)