

**TRACK ONE AND A HALF DIPLOMATIC APPROACHES TO NON-STATE
VIOLENCE AND THEIR IMPACT ON NATIONAL SECURITY: A CASE OF
BANDITRY IN KENYA**

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SEPTEMBER, 2025

DECLARATION AND RECOMMENDATION

Declaration

This thesis is my original work and has not been presented for a degree or any other award in any University.

Signed.....

Date.....

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MIR-3-0140-1/2022

Recommendation

This thesis has been submitted for examination with our approval as University supervisors

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DEDICATION

To my mum Alice and Dad Meshack, thank you for your support. To my husband Dennis, for your endless love and encouragement. My daughter Lyra, my sunshine, I hope this inspires you!

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Undertaking this thesis has been made achievable by several people. Firstly, I thank God for my health and for keeping me alive. Secondly, I wish to acknowledge the advice and support from my supervisors Dr. Festus Riungu and Dr. Joshua Miluwi during the entire period of research. I recognize the support of my school colleagues and friends for moral support.

ABSTRACT

Communal conflict and non-state armed violence remain critical challenges to human security and state stability globally, with Sub-Saharan Africa experiencing acute manifestations. In Kenya, the rise of banditry attacks constitutes a major threat to national security and undermines state authority. This study examines Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) diplomacy as a soft-power and peacebuilding instrument for enhancing national security, focusing on banditry attacks in the Igembe North Subcounty of Meru County. By applying international relations and peace studies theories, including conflict transformation theory, pluralism theory, and human security paradigms, the study investigates how mediation, negotiation, conciliation, and traditional dispute resolution mechanisms can de-escalate armed violence and foster durable peace. The study adopts a mixed-methods approach, triangulating qualitative and quantitative data to engage key stakeholders such as national administration officers, religious leaders, and community elders. Data collection involved open-ended questionnaires and a pilot study to ensure reliability and validity. Statistical analysis was conducted using SPSS to generate descriptive and inferential findings. Results indicate that negotiations and conciliatory mechanisms significantly enhance national security by reducing the incidence of banditry, while traditional dispute resolution provides homegrown, culturally resonant pathways for conflict transformation. Mediation processes emerged as essential to building a cohesive society and restoring state legitimacy. The study concludes by recommending policy harmonization between formal state structures and informal ADR systems, capacity building for local leaders in negotiation and mediation, and community awareness programs on peacebuilding. By situating ADR within a broader diplomatic and international relations framework, this research underscores the role of non-coercive, inclusive approaches to mitigating non-state armed violence in fragile contexts.

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CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.0 Introduction

Diplomacy stands as a proven and potent means of communication in international relations, transcending barriers such as race, sect, and language to foster a harmonious global order. At its core, diplomacy seeks to maintain peace by preempting and mitigating conflicts. Within the ambit of international relations, alternative dispute resolution serves as a valuable diplomatic tool, having demonstrated its efficacy in resolving conflicts.

1.1 Background of the Study

The stability, prosperity, and legitimacy of any state are inseparably tied to its national security architecture. National security not only ensures territorial integrity but also underpins economic growth, social cohesion, and political stability (Paleri, 2022). When security is undermined, ripple effects destabilize trade, investment, and human security, leaving communities vulnerable to fear, displacement, and impoverishment (Berebon, 2025). In Kenya, with its ethnically diverse communities and rich natural resource endowment, security challenges transcend border protection; they encompass the fostering of peaceful coexistence, inclusive development, and resilience against both internal and external threats (Kidane, 2020).

Over the last two decades, Kenya has experienced persistent security challenges driven by localized communal disputes and violent banditry attacks. These attacks, rooted in historical competitions over resources, have escalated through the use of modern weaponry, resulting in displacement, loss of lives, and the erosion of public trust in state institutions (Aderayo & Olawunmi, 2023). Areas such as the North Rift, Northern Kenya, and Meru County have particularly borne the brunt of this violence, exposing the limits of traditional Track One diplomacy, where the state deploys security forces to suppress violence (Odwar, 2020). Such

militarized responses, while necessary in the short term, often fail to address structural grievances that fuel recurring conflict (Ojo, 2024).

This has necessitated the adoption of Track One-and-a-Half Diplomacy approaches, where official state mechanisms are complemented by semi-official actors such as traditional elders, religious leaders, and civil society. Through Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) frameworks, including mediation, negotiation, conciliation, and customary mechanisms, communities are increasingly enabled to build trust, reconcile differences, and co create sustainable peace (Alemie & Mandefro, 2018). Unlike coercive state-led interventions, ADR addresses root causes of insecurity, thereby promoting long-term stability in fragile regions such as Igembe North.

1.1.1 Global Perspective

Globally, communal conflicts have been recorded in many countries all over the world. The global leadership has recognized communal conflict as a serious threat to global security. The Cause of these conflicts have ranged from civil wars, terror attacks and religious conflicts. Experts argue that economic dependence and the scarcity of resources such as land or water are the main cause conflicts (Charbonneau, 2022). For several decades countries in Europe have experienced disputes over fishing rights in international waters. The North Sea continental shelf case between Germany and Netherlands (Ali, 2019) is one of the many International cases of conflicts as a result of boundary issues.

Minority people have been the main victims of these communal conflicts where serious human right violations are committed (Dussich, 2018). Communal conflicts have caused a lasting havoc to the former Yugoslavia and threatened the stability of various states within the Soviet Union. The middle East is also experiencing a persistent form of communal conflicts that have lasted longer and equally South Asia has also experienced these conflicts. In United States, tensions

were high in the 1990s as result of ethnic tensions and inequality which faced US and other nations in the western world (Wilkinson, 2020). Many countries in Europe are struggling with public antagonism occasioned by influx of immigrations from developing economies looking for opportunities in developed economies (Roberts, 2020).

It is estimated that over 300 communal conflicts are experienced globally, 87% of these cases are experienced in Sub-Saharan Africa while 10% are experienced in Asian soil while the remaining are recorded in the remaining continents that experienced less conflict (Naudé, 2018). Over 50% of these communal conflicts coincided with political turmoil's experienced by those countries. Moreover, 60% of the communal conflict occurred in countries that recorded political instability in a period of the last two years. In addition, over 81% of the communal conflict were experienced in countries which have experienced political instability over time (World Bank Group, 2018). It is not possible to directly link occurrence of communal conflict and state conflicts.

Conflicts in the country have been on the upward trajectory; this is evident with the current 173 cases of conflict comprised of communal conflicts and other state-based conflicts. It is estimated that 50% of these conflicts are connected with state while 35% are attributed boundary misunderstanding. On the other hand, 15% of these conflicts are actively initiated by state. The conflicts have been persistent and over 58% of these have been in place since the inception of the state and 31.5% of these conflicts are attributed to boundaries issues. Most of these conflicts which are associated with boundaries are likely to cause more risk in the societal coexistence. The value of land which has been gaining more interest over time because of its invaluable utility has been the major cause of boundary conflicts and frequent in areas where land is communal

and there is no title of ownership making it difficult for individuals to develop it based on their preferences.

1.1.2 Regional Perspective

The Sub-Saharan Africa has recorded the highest number of communal conflicts in the world and is estimated to be around 87%. Many of the communal conflicts in these regions have resulted to high number of casualties, severe disruption of livelihoods, destabilization of peace and in extreme circumstances loss of lives in large numbers and more escalation result to civil wars (Fisk, 2019). A communal conflict in Nigeria between Andoni and Ogoni communities went to a full civil war in the early 1990s and more than 1000 people were lost (Petrova, 2022). The failure to reach a lasting solution by communities engaged in communal conflict may create tension, lasting animosity and recurrence of violence in the future. This leave communities involve in communal conflict at the mercy of the political class who are prone to manipulating such phenomenon for political capital (Kłosowicz, 2020).

Sudan has recorded 27 communal conflicts between 1990 and 2020, 14 in southern Sudan and 12 in Darfur region making the highest number of communal conflicts recorded in a country within similar period (Balestri & Maggioni, 2017). The conflicts were active in the region for 39 years and average duration for a conflict was estimated to be over one and half years. In particular, pastoralism is practiced in about 21 out of the 53 countries that form the continent of Africa (Ajala, 2020). Pastoralism in Africa is particularly diverse as it is practiced by various ethnic groups, each with their own unique cultures, traditions, and livestock management practices. As a result, cattle rusting and banditry attacks due to the limited resources and communal wrangles have been endemic. In view of the current challenge of global warming and climate change, droughts are becoming more frequent and more severe. Consequently, pastoralists loose

thousands of their livestock annually (Odalonu, 2023). Kenya is not an exception, as the limited rainfall means less pasture and water.

1.1.3 Kenyan Perspective

Since independence, Kenya has grappled with a complex and evolving security environment, particularly within pastoralist communities where cycles of banditry and resource based conflicts have persisted. Banditry has inflicted profound socio-economic costs, limiting the exploitation of natural resources, discouraging investment, and constraining local development (Kimokoti, 2022). Beyond the economic dimension, recurrent violence erodes social cohesion, fuels intercommunal mistrust, and weakens public confidence in state security institutions (Chemase & Muhindi, 2024).

In response, successive Kenyan governments have largely relied on conventional state centered security approaches, including heavy deployment of police and military forces. However, such measures have produced limited long-term success, as they often prioritize suppressing symptoms of violence rather than addressing its root causes (Marigat & Cheruiyot, 2022). The persistence of banditry underscores the inadequacy of purely coercive strategies and the urgent need for a holistic, multilayered security framework that integrates enforcement with community-centered peacebuilding (National Crime Research Centre [NCRC], 2024).

Notably, the nature of banditry itself has evolved. What was once rooted in customary practices such as cattle raiding, historically tied to rites of passage and cultural identity has increasingly transformed into a sophisticated and organized criminal enterprise. Recent evidence shows that bandit groups now operate with modern weaponry, vehicles, and cross-border linkages, making them more lethal and economically motivated than in previous decades (Chombus & Nyongesa,

2025). This transformation demands innovative conflict resolution strategies that can adapt to changing forms of insecurity.

In this regard, Kenya's experience highlights the relevance of Track One-and-a-Half diplomacy, which bridges formal state authority with the legitimacy of local actors such as elders, religious leaders, and civil society. By integrating Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) mechanisms, including mediation, negotiation, conciliation, and traditional dispute resolution, into the national security architecture, Kenya can foster community ownership of peace processes, address grievances fueling banditry, and enhance resilience in conflict-prone regions. Such an approach not only aligns with Kenya's constitutional recognition of ADR as a legitimate tool for conflict management but also resonates with international best practices in preventive diplomacy.

1.1.4 National Security

One key objective of national security is protecting the nation from both internal and external aggression so that people rights, liberties and peace is guaranteed (Odalonu, 2023). Throughout much of the 20th century, the concept of national security primarily revolved around military strength and preparedness. Yet, in today's complex landscape, threats stem not only from strained inter-state relations but also from internal disputes influenced by ethnic, religious, and nationalistic tensions. Challenges like international and domestic terrorism, political radicalism, narcotics syndicates, and risks from the digital era have heightened the security landscape. As globalization takes root and new economic giants emerge, the intricate bond between economic prosperity and national security grows more apparent (Dycus, 2022). In this globally intertwined environment, it's crucial to ensure the smooth transit of goods, services, and the protection of vital infrastructure. Merely defending against foreign military threats is insufficient in our era of widespread global links.

Non-state entities are increasingly jeopardizing national security by executing grievous acts of violence targeting innocent individuals. They strategically undermine both domestic and international structures through insidious methods (Krahmann, 2005). Organizations like al Qaeda and its affiliates in regions like Afghanistan, Iraq, Algeria, and Yemen, are responsible for motivating and training suicide bombers (Snow, 2019). In Somalia, pirates disrupt maritime activities by abducting civilians and demanding ransoms from governments (Çağlar, 2022). The Niger Delta sees warlords involved in the oil trade terrorizing the region, escalating insecurity levels in Nigeria (Odalonu, 2023). La Familia, a drug cartel with religious undertones, aggressively dominates Mexico's drug corridors through a wave of violence (Grayson, 2011). It's also notable that these incidents of insecurity have greatly affected the economic growth of the nations involved as investors have shied away from making any investments due to the many cases of insecurity recorded.

Organized communal conflicts In Kenya, and in particular banditry is increasingly becoming a significant threat to national security, especially in areas lacking effective governance and resources (Musau, 2023). The term "banditry" denotes instances of violent crimes, particularly armed robberies (Okoli, 2021), in some remote parts of Kenya, such criminal activities are prevalent. Despite the relentless efforts of consecutive governments to combat banditry and enhance national security, substantial success remains elusive. Incidents of bandit attacks continue to be reported in various regions of the country.

1.1.5 Alternative Dispute Resolution

Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) refers to a soft power dispute resolution mechanism that is used to resolve conflicts and disputes between parties without resorting to traditional, formal processes such as litigation or war. These methods are particularly appealing in international relations, as they can often produce faster, more efficient, and more amicable solutions.

Giving alternative dispute resolution an opportunity to deal with the banditry menace is a good strategy to provide a long-lasting solution (Kimokoti, 2022). The ADR mechanisms that can be explored include; conciliation, mediation and negotiation, mechanism. The Kenyan 2010 constitution acknowledges ADR mechanisms and encourages their use to achieve long-lasting peace that is important for the growth and development of the country (Sebayiga, 2023). Through mediation, a negotiated solution is facilitated by a neutral third party who enables an agreement to be reached faster and at a low cost (Solicitors, 2023). It also helps to improve communication and cooperation among communities, thus ensuring long-lasting solutions. Conciliation, on the other hand, is where a neutral third party, the conciliator, aids parties to a dispute in identifying the disputed issues, developing choices, considering alternatives, and attempting to come to a resolution (Hamburg, 2023). Conciliation is important because it allows people to give their views and get involved in solving the dispute thus aiding in the avoidance of retaliation attacks. Negotiation also allows the warring parties to come together and attempt to solve the issues in dispute (Legal Information Institute, 2023).

The use of ADR, which is also involves the traditional dispute-resolution mechanism, recognizes culture as a fountain of peace and stability in society. Traditional dispute resolution mechanism helps to ensure that competition that might derail peace is avoided. The “Njuri Ncheke” in the Meru has played an important role over the years to solve cultural and traditional issues (Muigai,

2017). Bringing such recognizable institutions into society can help to resolve issues such as banditry. Examining conciliation, mediation, negotiation, and traditional dispute resolution mechanism to solve banditry issues in Meru is important since it will help to ensure that a long-lasting solution is found (Muigai, 2017). It will also help to ensure that the needs of the warring communities are better understood and taken care of, to avoid recurrence of attacks.

1.2 Statement of the problem

Banditry attacks in Kenya exemplify the evolution of non-state armed violence from localized cultural practices into militarized criminal economies with transboundary implications (Said, 2020). These practices had minimal effects on the involved communities and were mainly done as a rite of passage. In the past, warriors would wield crude weapons such as spears, swords and bows and arrows to steal livestock, but they rarely killed people. The practice was controlled and would be sanctioned by the Council of Elders (Ltipalei, et al. 2020).

However, the influx of small arms from conflict-prone neighbouring states (Somalia, South Sudan) and weak border controls Kimokoti, (2022) have transformed banditry into an organized, cross-border security challenge that undermines state sovereignty, erodes public trust, and triggers humanitarian crises (Musau, 2023). These weapons have become indispensable to pastoralists and neighboring communities, as government agencies in these areas have been unable to completely suppress this menace (Okoli, 2021). Consequently, individuals are compelled to take measures to protect themselves and their villages. The perpetual state of fear and uncertainty has had a profound impact on economic activities, leading to displacement of people, school closures, and a prevailing animosity among the warring communities (Musau, 2023). The proliferation and accessibility of small arms within these communities have also resulted in a surge in criminal activities.

This shift aligns with global trends where non-state actors challenge the monopoly of violence, compelling governments to adopt hybrid governance and soft-power strategies. Kenya's northern and eastern regions, including Igembe North, now face escalating fatalities, forced displacement, school closures, and disrupted economic life (NCRC, 2024). Addressing such insecurity requires approaches rooted in diplomacy, peacebuilding, and international norms rather than coercive military responses alone. Alternative Dispute Resolution mechanisms offer an opportunity to integrate local agency and international best practices to strengthen national security and human security simultaneously.

Leveraging diplomatic/soft power conflict transformation mechanisms offers a promising avenue to foster cohesion among communities and forge enduring resolutions to the organized communal conflicts and in particular the banditry issue. ADRs extend a unique opportunity for these communities to gain mutual understanding, encouraging harmonious coexistence and the effective utilization of available resources. The business of banditry has, in recent years, become a lucrative venture. Therefore, confronting it effectively necessitates a comprehensive approach that addresses the multifaceted social, economic, and political demands of the conflicting communities (Musau, 2023). By embracing ADRs, we can undoubtedly ensure that these varied needs are duly met. ADRs also facilitate the active participation of all stakeholders, a crucial element that ensures their commitment to the outcomes achieved through these mechanisms. This inclusivity enhances the chances of successful resolution and paves the way for sustainable peace.

Empirical studies carried out on alternative dispute mechanisms have been employed to resolve communal conflicts such as banditry attacks. Omondi and Munene (2023) reviewed existing literature on how banditry attack affected people in North rift and concluded that mediation is a

viable option of resolving banditry attacks that have been commonly manifested in the North Rift of Kenya. The study only relied on existing literature while the current study focused on primary data thus resulted to methodological gap. Adebajo and Adebajo (2023) assessed the role of community leaders in management of conflict among pastoral and found out that mediation has resulted to lasting peace in the wrangling communities. The study focused only on the role of leaders while this study focused on the overall role of ADR in resolving communal conflict thus resulted to conceptual gap. Ouma (2017) focused on genocide in Rwanda and addressing it using ADR, it was found out that this mechanism complimented the court solution in resolving conflict. The introduction of courts in helping ADR to function can be pointed as conceptual gap which this study was address by only focusing on ADR in resolving conflicts.

Studies have investigated various tenets if ADR, Omondi and Munene (2023) noted that mediation is a viable option of resolving banditry attacks that have been commonly manifested in the North Rift of Kenya. according to (Rodgers et al., 2022) negotiation is a process which has clear steps of resolving a conflict and it involves proposals and counter proposals. Begum et al. (2022) argued that a conciliator involved an active process where issues are weight without necessarily finding a common ground or compromising positions. Ghebretekle and Rammala (2018) posited that traditional conflict resolution systems are extensively employed by the people in the settlement of various kinds of conflict.

This study addresses these gaps by investigating the influence of ADR diplomacy on national security in Igembe North Subcounty, a hotspot of banditry attacks. It seeks to demonstrate how non-coercive, community-based, and culturally rooted mechanisms can help transform the dynamics of violence, rebuild trust, and support Kenya's broader security and development agenda within the context of international relations and peace studies.

1.3 Objectives

1.3.1 Overall Objective

To examine the role of Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) within Track One-and-a-Half diplomacy as a peacebuilding and national security strategy in the context of banditry attacks in Igembe North Subcounty, Kenya.

1.3.2 Specific Objectives

1. To analyze the influence of mediation as a Track One-and-a-Half diplomatic instrument for enhancing national security in banditry-affected regions.
2. To assess the impact of negotiations as a soft-power approach to addressing non-state armed violence.
3. To evaluate the contribution of conciliatory mechanisms in transforming communal conflicts and strengthening state legitimacy.
4. To examine the effects of traditional dispute resolution as community-driven approaches to conflict transformation within peacebuilding and international relations.

1.4 Justification

Kenya continues to grapple with persistent non state violence in the form of banditry, which undermines both local stability and broader national security objectives. Conventional state centric, coercive strategies have often proven insufficient in addressing the deep rooted socio cultural and structural drivers of such insecurity. This study is justified on the premise that Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) mechanisms, when framed within Track One and a Half diplomatic approaches, offer a complementary pathway to sustainable peace. By engaging both formal state actors and informal community leaders in a shared dialogue process, Track One and

a Half diplomacy facilitates trust building, inclusivity, and the co production of security at the grassroots level.

Investigating the case of Igembe North Subcounty provides a critical opportunity to understand how community based, non-coercive, and culturally grounded practices can transform patterns of violence, foster reconciliation, and reinforce the legitimacy of state authority. This is not only vital for Kenya's internal stability and development agenda but also contributes to international relations debates on hybrid diplomacy, human security, and the role of localized peace infrastructures in countering non state violence. Thus, the study is warranted as it bridges a key scholarly and policy gap by linking micro level conflict resolution practices to macro level national and global security frameworks.

1.5 Significance of the study

This study is significant as it examines the potential of Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) mechanisms in addressing the persistent challenge of banditry in Igembe North and across Kenya. The 2010 Constitution of Kenya provides a legal basis for ADR in conflict management (Wanjama, 2020) while the United Nations Charter underscores the importance of non-coercive methods in the peaceful settlement of disputes. By situating ADR within the framework of Track One and a Half diplomacy, which integrates the authority of state institutions with the legitimacy of community leaders and civil society actors, the study highlights the value of hybrid diplomatic approaches in strengthening national security (Kimokoti, 2022).

The findings of this study are valuable to governments, non-governmental organizations, and local communities, as they demonstrate the efficiency of ADR in managing conflicts while preserving relationships among disputing parties. Importantly, the research offers insights that extend beyond the local context of Igembe North, providing applicable strategies for other

regions experiencing security challenges. For policy makers and enforcement agencies, the study contributes practical knowledge on cost effective, inclusive, and sustainable approaches to conflict resolution (Marigat, 2022). By fostering ownership of peace processes among stakeholders, ADR enhances legitimacy, strengthens trust in governance, and promotes durable peace outcomes (Marigat, 2022).

From an international relations perspective, this study reinforces the significance of ADR diplomacy as part of Track One and a Half engagements that bridge formal and informal actors in conflict transformation. It illustrates how mediation, negotiation, and arbitration can reduce dependence on militarized interventions, promote cooperative security, and align with global agendas on peacebuilding, human security, and sustainable development. Furthermore, the study positions Kenya's use of ADR as a potential model for addressing non state violence globally, thereby contributing to international debates on conflict resolution, preventive diplomacy, and the evolving role of hybrid diplomatic practices in tackling contemporary security threats.

1.6 Scope of the Study

This study focused on examining the influence of Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) as a diplomatic avenue for enhancing national security, with particular emphasis on Track One and a Half diplomacy. Specifically, the research investigated the role of mediation, negotiation, conciliation, and traditional dispute resolution mechanisms in addressing the recurrent problem of banditry in Igembe North Subcounty. By situating these practices within a hybrid diplomatic framework, the study sought to demonstrate how community-driven peace initiatives, when aligned with state authority, can provide sustainable and non-coercive alternatives to militarized security responses.

The scope was deliberately limited to Igembe North Subcounty, a region that has long been a hotspot of banditry attacks, thus providing a critical case study for analyzing the intersection of non-state violence, community agency, and national security. The study specifically targeted key grassroots and intermediary actors, including village elders, religious leaders, and local administrative leaders, who occupy a strategic position in Track One and a Half diplomacy by bridging formal state institutions and local communities. This focus allowed the research to capture both the cultural legitimacy and institutional relevance of ADR mechanisms in transforming localized violence into durable peace.

1.7 Limitations

The study was limited to respondents drawn from local administration officials, religious leaders, and village elders. While these actors are central to community level peacebuilding and play a critical role in Track One and a Half diplomacy, the exclusion of other stakeholders, such as security agencies, policymakers, women's groups, and youth organizations, may have restricted the breadth of perspectives captured. As such, the findings primarily reflect the experiences and insights of grassroots and intermediary leaders rather than the full spectrum of actors involved in national security and conflict resolution processes.

In terms of scope, the study was confined to four Alternative Dispute Resolution mechanisms: mediation, negotiation, conciliation, and traditional dispute resolution practices. Other potentially relevant approaches, such as arbitration or hybrid international–local mechanisms, were not examined. This delimitation, while necessary for analytical focus, may limit the study's applicability to contexts where broader or more formalized ADR frameworks are operational.

Furthermore, the geographical concentration on Igembe North Subcounty, though justified as a hotspot of banditry, constrains the generalizability of the findings to other regions in Kenya or

across borders experiencing similar patterns of non-state violence. Nonetheless, the limitations do not undermine the significance of the study; rather, they highlight opportunities for future research to broaden stakeholder inclusion, expand the range of ADR mechanisms under analysis, and apply comparative approaches across different conflict-affected contexts.

1.8 Assumptions of the Study

The study is based on the assumption that Alternative Dispute Resolution mechanisms, specifically mediation, negotiation, conciliation, and traditional dispute resolution practices, are viable tools for mitigating banditry attacks in Igembe North. It presumes that when effectively applied, these mechanisms can transform localized conflicts into opportunities for dialogue, reconciliation, and cooperative security.

The study further assumes that the successful resolution of banditry through ADR not only contributes to immediate stability within affected communities but also strengthens national security by fostering trust, social cohesion, and citizen confidence in both state institutions and community leaders. In line with the principles of Track One and a Half diplomacy, it is assumed that collaborative engagement between formal state actors and informal community authorities can generate durable peace outcomes, reduce reliance on coercive measures, and align with broader international norms on conflict prevention and peace-building.

1.9 Definition of Terms

Mediation	This is the process of involving a neutral third party to facilitate dialogue between disputing actors with the aim of reaching a mutually acceptable solution to a conflict (Moore, 2014).
Negotiation	This is a dispute resolution process in which conflicting parties meet directly to seek solutions, often through compromise and concessions, in order to move beyond entrenched positions (Fisher et al., 2011).
Conciliation	This is a conflict management process where a neutral third party assists disputants in improving communication and exploring solutions, but without imposing decisions or binding outcomes (Boris, 2019).
Traditional Dispute Resolution Mechanisms	These are locally grounded conflict resolution processes that draw upon customary norms, practices, and authority structures to resolve disputes and restore social harmony (Murithi, 2009).
Banditry Attacks	These refer to violent confrontations, often between communities, rooted in disputes over the sharing, access, or utilization of scarce resources such as land, water, or livestock (Mkutu, 2008).

CHAPTER TWO

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 Introduction

The section undertook a systematic review of both theoretical and empirical contributions within the field of International Relations. This interrogation of existing scholarship revealed salient conceptual, methodological, and contextual lacunae that continue to shape discourse on the subject. Furthermore, the section delineated the nexus among the study variables, articulating their interdependence within a conceptual framework that anchors the inquiry in broader IR debates.

2.2 Theoretical Literature

This study is anchored in four interrelated theoretical perspectives that collectively illuminate the dynamics of Track One-and-a-Half diplomatic approaches in addressing non-state violence and their implications for national security. The framework not only provides analytical lenses but also situates the research within broader debates in International Relations (Richmond & Visoka, 2021). By drawing on Conflict Transformation Theory, Pluralism, the Human Security Paradigm, and Liberal Institutionalism, the study foregrounds a multidimensional understanding of peacebuilding and security governance in fragile contexts marked by non-state armed violence.

2.2.1 Conflict Transformation Theory (John Paul Lederach)

Conflict Transformation Theory provides the foundational logic for understanding Track 1.5 diplomacy as a vehicle for sustainable peacebuilding (Lederach, 1995). Unlike conflict management or resolution models, which tend to emphasize immediate cessation of hostilities or negotiated settlements, transformation theory stresses long-term relational, structural, and

cultural change (Meininghaus, 2021). In Track 1.5 settings, where semi-official dialogues bring together state representatives and non-state actors in informal yet structured forums, this theory highlights how adversarial narratives can be deconstructed, social trust rebuilt, and shared visions for coexistence cultivated.

Applied to national security, the theory underscores that coercive suppression of armed groups often provides only temporary stability, while transformation of the drivers of violence, such as exclusion, marginalization, and governance deficits, offers more sustainable outcomes (Richmond & Mac Ginty, 2020). For instance, community-based Track 1.5 initiatives in contexts like Northern Nigeria and Somalia have demonstrated that dialogue-oriented engagement can reduce recruitment into armed groups by addressing grievances linked to identity and livelihood insecurity (Bercovitch, 2019). Thus, conflict transformation positions Track 1.5 diplomacy as essential for reshaping the sociopolitical environment that sustains violence, aligning peacebuilding with broader notions of human-centered security.

2.2.2 Pluralism Theory

Pluralism within International Relations emphasizes that politics and security are shaped by multiple actors beyond the state, including communities, civil society, faith leaders, and transnational networks (Weiss, 2020). Track 1.5 diplomacy embodies this pluralist logic by institutionalizing the participation of these non-state stakeholders in peace and security deliberations. In contexts of protracted violence, such actors often have greater legitimacy and access to communities than formal state institutions, making their involvement indispensable for generating trust and compliance with peace agreements (Bakreski & Bardjieva Miovaska, 2024).

This perspective reframes national security as a co-produced outcome, rather than the exclusive domain of state security institutions (Idrees, 2024). Pluralist approaches also challenge the state-

centric bias in traditional security studies, demonstrating that effective responses to non-state violence require multi-actor collaboration that integrates bottom-up and top-down strategies (Kaldor, 2018). Recent scholars highlight the increasing role of informal actors in hybrid security orders, particularly in fragile states where state capacity is weak (Richmond & Visoka, 2021). Thus, pluralism legitimizes Track 1.5 diplomacy as a platform that acknowledges diverse security stakeholders and aligns security practices with the realities of fragmented authority and contested legitimacy.

2.2.3 Human Security Paradigm (UNDP, 1994)

The Human Security Paradigm redefines the referent object of security from the state to individuals and communities. It stresses that sustainable peace and national stability depend on addressing economic, social, political, and environmental insecurities at the grassroots (UNDP, 1994; Paris, 2019). Within Track 1.5 diplomacy, this paradigm situates dialogue around people's everyday vulnerabilities, poverty, exclusion, gender-based violence, or lack of access to services, that frequently drive support for or recruitment into armed groups.

By broadening the definition of national security, this paradigm justifies Track 1.5 forums as mechanisms that allow marginalized voices to surface their grievances and influence policy frameworks. Moreover, it positions Track 1.5 diplomacy as complementing formal Track 1 efforts by embedding peace processes in the lived experiences of affected populations (McClearn et al., 2023). The human security approach therefore bridges the gap between national-level security discourses and community-level needs, reinforcing the argument that state stability cannot be achieved without addressing the insecurities of citizens.

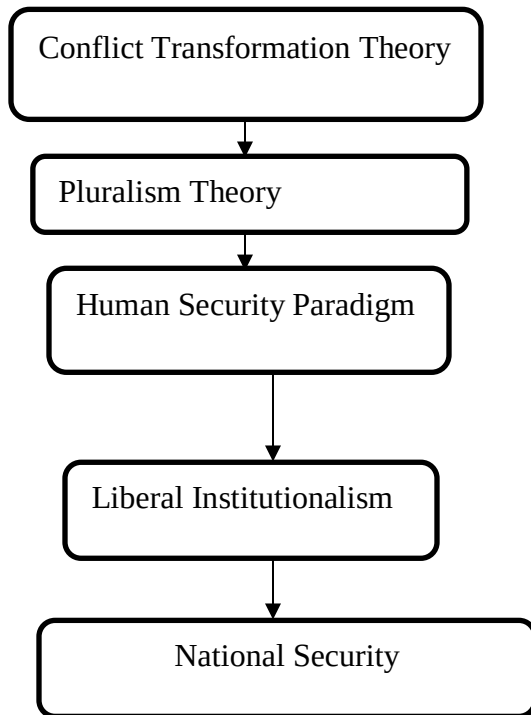
2.2.4 Liberal Institutionalism

Liberal Institutionalism underscores the role of institutions, norms, and rules in fostering cooperation even in conditions of mistrust and anarchy (Acharya, 2018). Track 1.5 diplomacy can be theorized as a form of institutional innovation, where semi-formalized forums create space for dialogue between adversaries outside rigid state structures. These mechanisms reduce uncertainty, cultivate trust, and institutionalize expectations of restraint and cooperation (Hurd, 2019).

From a national security perspective, Track 1.5 diplomacy represents a means of embedding informal rules and norms that can later evolve into more formal agreements at the Track 1 level (Bachleitner et al., 2025). For example, regional mediation efforts in Africa and Asia often use Track 1.5 mechanisms as preparatory platforms to align diverse actors before official negotiations. Recent IR literature shows that informal and hybrid institutions are increasingly vital for managing complex conflicts where rigid interstate mechanisms are inadequate (Acharya, 2018; Richmond & Visoka, 2021). Liberal institutionalism thus helps explain the enduring value of Track 1.5 diplomacy in creating durable frameworks of cooperation and norm internalization. Collectively the four theories can anchor the dependent variable as presented in Figure 2.1.

Figure 2.1

Theoretical Framework



Taken together, these theories provide a multidimensional framework. Conflict Transformation Theory highlights the long-term relational and structural changes pursued through Track 1.5 processes. Pluralism Theory justifies the inclusion of diverse non-state actors as legitimate stakeholders in security governance (Richmond & Visoka, 2021) . The Human Security Paradigm reframes the referent object of security from the state to people, situating national stability within community well-being. Liberal Institutionalism clarifies how Track 1.5 forums institutionalize cooperation, norms, and trust-building between adversaries. Collectively, these theoretical perspectives demonstrate that Track 1.5 diplomacy is not peripheral, but central to rethinking national security in fragile and conflict-affected states (Bakreski & Bardjieva Miovskaa, 2024).

2.3 Empirical Literature Review

The studies were reviewed based on the objectives of the study. Gaps were identified.

2.4 Mediation and prevention of banditry attacks

While investigating how the use of mediation can help in preventing bandit attacks in Kenya Omondi and Munene (2023) reviewed existing literature and status. The study concluded that mediation is a viable option of resolving banditry attacks that have been commonly manifested in the North Rift of Kenya. Mediation is critical in bridging the gap existing between parties, enhancing understanding and creating a conducive environment for everlasting peace. The process of mediation is impeded by cultural barriers and lack of cooperation among the responsible stakeholders. An investigation by Jokubauskaite and Turner (2022) explored the implication of adopting mediation in resolving conflicts on financed development projects. Mediation is an essential tool which can be used in the design, development and delivery of developmental projects to assess and mitigate the risks of such conflicts arising. Mediation tools are crucial in initiating peace and development and also identifying conflict. This process is an inclusive process which needs everyone on the board.

Smidt (2019) assessed the implication of UN peace keeping mission on resolving communal conflicts in Ivory Coast by employing descriptive research. The study found out that facilitating dialogue activities influence communal violence. Promoting dialogue between different communal identity-based groups locally can revive intergroup coordination and diminish negative biases against other groups, thereby reducing the risk of communal conflict escalation.

Assessing peace building, fragility cattle rustling and armed banditry in Nigeria Tar and Bala (2023) adopted explanatory research design. The study found out that peace process is complex activity that involve various process such as mediation and dialogue of warring parties. The

dysfunctionality of many social structures among communities experiencing banditry attacks impede diminishes the mediation process among the conflicting parties.

Assessing the role of traditional conflict resolution mechanism and institutions Muigua (2017) used desktop research by reviewing various documents. The study found out that mediation has been adopted by many communities in Kenya in resolving intercommunal clashes and this has bore fruits. The practices involved sitting down and agreeing on issues informally. The autonomy of the parties involved in the process makes mediation a more participatory process and thus the most acceptable. Investigating the role of community leaders in management of conflict among pastoral practices Adebajo and Adebajo (2023) employed in-depth interviews involving farmers, community leaders, NGOs and state actors in two Northern States of Nigeria. Conflict Transformation theory anchored the study and both qualitative and quantitative data was collected by use of primary data collection tools. It was found that prevailing conflicts have been managed by community leaders by use of mediation. The management by mediation was hampered by values and ethics of community leaders that involved extortion. Therefore, management of conflict has not been effective because of insincerity among the team leaders.

2.5 Negotiations and combating of banditry attacks

Assessing the use of negotiation as the means of resolving conflict (Rodgers et al., 2022) adopted descriptive research design where desk top research was conducted. Existing literature was reviewed and a conclusion was drawn after making comparisons. Negotiation is a process which has clear steps of resolving a conflict and it involves proposals and counter proposals. The key role of the process is to gain new information which can help in resolving the conflict. It is through counter offer process a solution is borne.

With the urge of addressing insurgency in the Northern Nigeria Warning and Network (2019) employed exploratory research design. The process of negotiation has succeeded to an extent in resolving conflict through boosting internal mechanisms by means of give and take strategy. The negotiation process at times offers a short solution such as committing ceasefire during the process. Negotiation process is essential in maintaining and sustaining peace through agreed positions as a result of the collaboration.

Investigating overview of negotiation Cronin (2023) employed secondary data sources to examine the cause and solutions of banditry attacks. It is difficult to predict that engaging a criminal gang can be effective in mitigating increased level of crime. On the other hand, negotiations can facilitate a process of decline but have rarely been the single factor driving an outcome. Negotiation is only ideal when dealing issues pertaining marginalized groups, exploit difference, provision of information and reducing attacks.

Assessing the effectiveness of negotiating with bandits Maigari et al. (2021) adopted in-depth interviews. Snowballing technique and non-probability sampling were employed. It was established that state still unable to find a lasting solution to many conflicts. This is informed by use of wrong strategies adopted by state including using wrong people to have negotiation. This conflict which has been in form cattle theft have been upward trajectory in the recent first.

While investigating the unsolicited amnesty through negotiation Aina (2023) employed qualitative research methods in understanding how negotiation is important. The study found out that negotiation with bandits has not yielded much fruits since there is frequent banditry after this peace-making process. Negotiating does not work alone but rather combine other strategies in eradicating banditry.

Assessing the influence of negotiation in dispute resolution in Kenya, Justin (2021) adopted random sampling method. The required data was collected using questionnaire and interview schedules. The study found that leaders in Bungoma County appreciate and make use of negotiation mechanisms in conflict resolution. Negotiation is commonly used to resolve land disputed that are rampant in Mt Elgon area. Negotiation has been designed as back and forth communication aimed at bringing solution on existing problem. Negotiation is normally initiated at the stages of a conflict.

2.6 Significance of conciliatory mechanisms on solving the banditry attacks

Investigating the role of conciliation as an alternative means of resolving conflict Rendón (2017) adopted desktop investigation. The study found out that conciliation is an effective alternative method used to resolve environmental conflicts. It, therefore, depicts an alternative path to access justice. Willfulness of the parties prevails in conciliation, which has a built-in flexibility and, though it is not a panacea, it does have a great utility. Conciliation is a solution-based approach when resolving a conflict.

Investigating the alternative dispute resolutions mechanisms Begum et al. (2022) adopted qualitative research methods. The study found out that a conciliator involved an active process where issues are weight without necessarily finding a common ground or compromising positions. Parties in the conflict are obligated to either take the position of conciliator or consider not binding. Taking the position of conciliator is not mandatory thus each party has a right to reject or accept the position of conciliator as long as their expectations are met. Sources of failure to agree will not be shared to the external parties or interested groups.

Assessing the adoption of conciliation in modern Russia Dremova (2020) employed descriptive research design. The study found out that entrepreneurs are increasingly using conciliatory

procedures when settling disputes. This way of dispute settlement becomes very convenient as businessmen did not want to spend their time on litigation, often protracted, but can settle issues more quickly and effectively.

Examining the role of alternative dispute resolution on judicial conciliation Tykhanskyi et al. (2021) adopted dialectical scientific cognition method. The study found out that judicial conciliation is closely interrelated and, depending on their types, can sometimes manifest themselves as synonymous categories or institutions of law. Assessing the application of conciliation in settling fishery dispute in Pan (2023) adopted correlational research design. The study found out that mandatory conciliation accelerates dialogue and mediation process that help in resolving a dispute. Conciliation demonstrate flexibility since each party is granted a chance and thus may bring out all the issues that require attention.

Exploring the alternative disputes resolution mechanism Okeke (2021) employed qualitative research method. The purposeful sampling technique, a nonprobability sampling method was used to select 10 participants who were either members of the Bar or of the Bench for the interview sessions. Conciliation is essential in solving petty offences that require less attention and resources. Conciliation ensured that commensurate punishment was meted out to the offender.

Assessing the implementation of conciliation in social cultural dimension Kazakova et al. (2021) employed descriptive research design. It was found out that conciliation procedures are a fundamental category of modern objective law, in which the freedom of choice of the subjects of law is not limited to permissive and administrative means, but must be justified by the essence of the dispute being resolved and the final result. The conciliation procedures are not always consistent with the existing dictums of nature.

2.7 Traditional dispute resolution mechanisms on solving banditry attacks

Assessing the influence of resolving conflicts using traditional mechanism in Uganda Chapman and Kagaha (2019) adopted explanatory research design. Traditional dispute resolution improved security in an area experiencing conflicts especially banditry attacks across pastoralism. Traditional dispute resolution mechanism was criticized since it does not punish the offender fairly thus repeat of offence is common. Investigating the influence of traditional African resolution Ghebretেকে and Rammala (2018) focused on South Africa system. The study found out that modern governments have been reluctant but is a slow integration into formal system have helped in resolving conflict. Traditional conflict resolution systems are extensively employed by the people in the settlement of various kinds of conflict.

Assessing the impact of traditional dispute resolution in post-election conflict in Africa Abe and Ouma (2017) focused on the genocide in Rwanda which occurred in 1994. The failure of judicial and legal systems to address conflict after genocide saw Rwanda using traditional dispute resolution mechanism in resolving the conflicts. The process involves elders convening a meeting and mediate warring parties to restore peaceful coexistence. This resulted to the sustained healing of the communities that were in conflict.

The traditional dispute mechanism borrowed heavily on customary laws. The customary laws proved effective in handling various matters that are related with marriage, land and property disputes. Investigating the institutionalization of traditional dispute resolution mechanism Muigai (2017) focused on African countries and some selected countries globally. The study found out that most African countries have institutionalized traditional dispute mechanism and aligned them with existing laws.

Assessing the effect of transitional justice in resolving conflict Lambongang (2017) focused on individual interviews involving 13 participants. It was found that both traditional dispute

resolution mechanism and formal justice system work together in resolving conflict and non-work in isolation. The only way of achieving justice is employing both formal and traditional dispute resolution thus mixed set up is ideal for attaining justice.

2.8 Conceptual Framework

The conceptual framework is a diagrammatical representation of how variables under investigation relates. It gives a summary to the user and reader on how dependent variable and independent variables are related. The conceptual framework of this study is presented in Figure 2.2.

Figure 2.2

Conceptual Framework

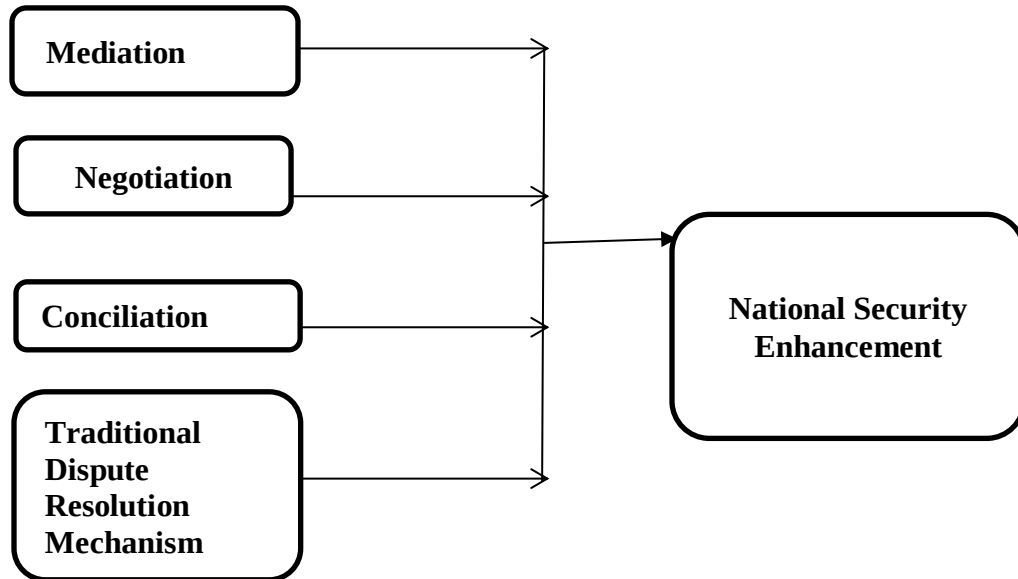
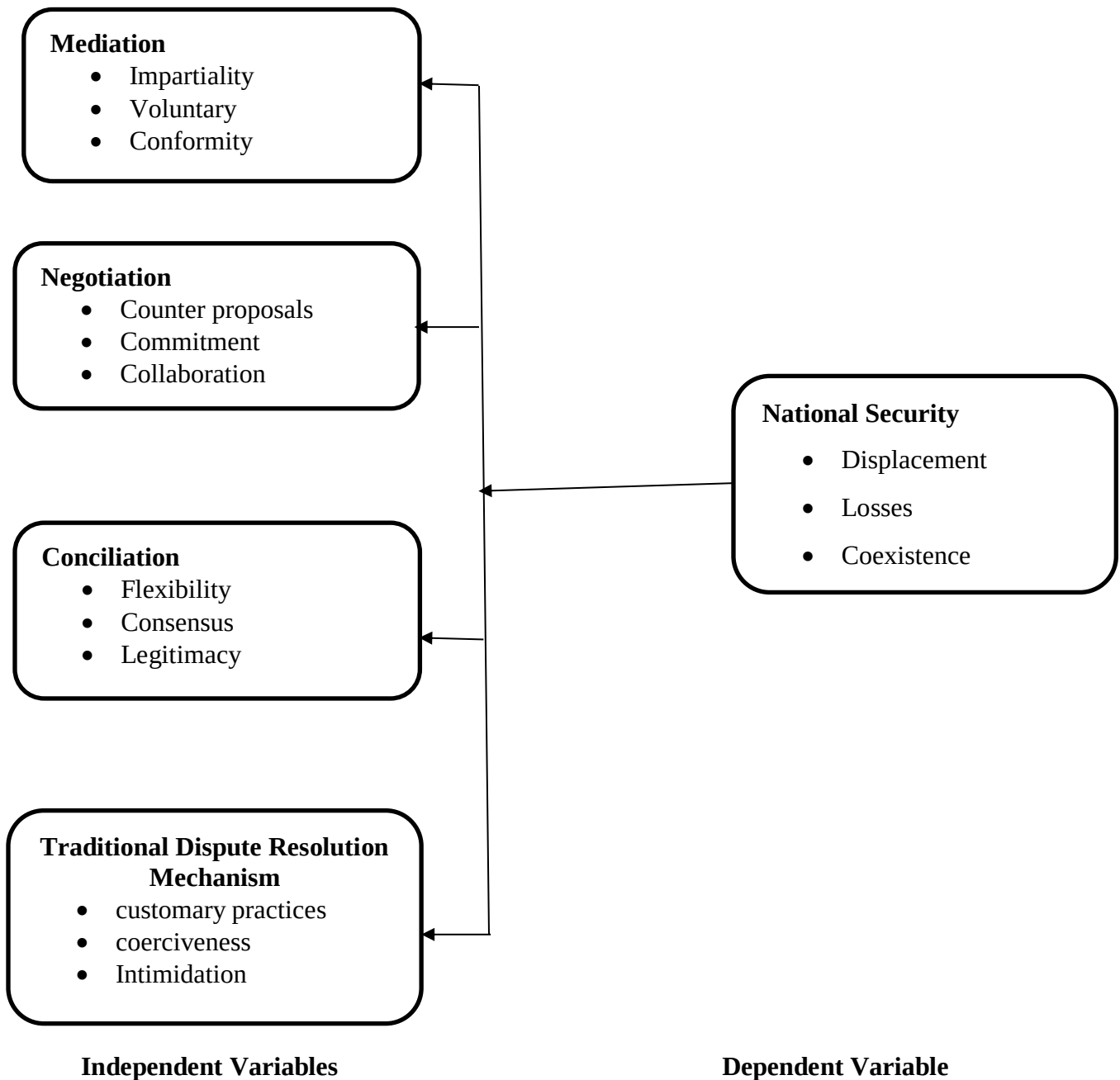


Figure 2.3

Operational Framework



CHAPTER THREE

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.1 Introduction

This section highlighted nature of research design which was used in the research, target population, sample technique, sample size, collection of data, process, methodology, analysis of data and ethics of research.

3.2 Research Design

The process or road map which most researcher follow while undertaking empirical investigation is known as research design (Oberholzer & Buys, 2023). This imitative set outlines to be followed and means of collecting information of interest from the field. It also outlines how this raw information is converted to a meaningful insight which can help in solving the problems using analytical tools (Ganesha & Aithal, 2022). There are traditions and set of principles that guide research.

The study was guided by mixed research design methods where qualitative and quantitative was triangulated. This methodology collaborates multiple methods in addressing research questions in legitimate manner (Creswell & Plano-clark, 2011; Bryman, 2012; Creswell, 2011). The process is defined by collection of data, its analysis, interpretation and how it's being reported. This method provides researcher with sufficient options of addressing research questions and objectives (Enosh et al., 2015). This method is more appropriate in collecting information from large sample size which is the case of this study and thus an opportunity of eliminating biasness. On the other hand, qualitative is important bringing insightful information which broaden understanding of the topic under investigation (Bryman, 2012; Creswell & Clark, 2018). This

method is adequate in answering research questions in combining the strength of quantitative and qualitative research designs (Saville et al., 2012).

3.3 Target Population

Target population is categorized as all unit of interest in universe that may aid an investigation (Neuman, 2014). According to Cooper and Schindler (2011), population is an aggregate of elements in which a reference can be made from. Therefore, population is a cluster of people, events or items of interest. The study target population was local administration officers, religious leaders and council of elders leading peacekeeping initiative in Igembe North. The study targeted local and national government administrators from each location in Igembe North subcounty.

Table 3.1

Target Population

Location	Number of Administrators and elders
Amwathi	258
Antubetwe Kiongo	178
Antuambui	322
Kabachi	333
Luciati	189
Mburanjiru	118
Naathu	309
Nkandone	114
Ntunene	205
Ndoleli	170
Total	2204

3.4 Sampling

Orodho and Kombo (2002) observed that systemic selection of some elements from entire population is known as sampling. The current respondents were selected based on the principle of stratified sampling that was validated by Yamane (1967) formular.

$$n = N / [1 + N (e^2)]$$

Where;

n = desired sample size

N= population size

e = margin of error (0.05)

$$n = 2204 / [1 + 2204 (0.05^2)]$$

$$n = 338$$

Thus, the study used a sample size of 338 respondents. To pick the 338 to participate in the study, the study adopted purposive sampling method.

Table 3.2

Sampling Results

Location	Number of Administrators, Elders and Religious leaders	Sample
Amwathi	258	40
Antubetwe Kiongo	178	30
Antuambui	322	49
Kabachi	333	51
Luciati	189	29
Mburanjiru	118	18
Naathu	309	47
Nkandone	114	17

Ntunene	205	31
Ndoleli	170	25
Total	2204	338

3.5 Data Collection Methods

The study used structured questionnaire in data collection. Primary means of collecting data was preferred because of its originality that is devoid of manipulation since its information from the source. A semi structured questionnaire was used. The closed end questionnaire was a Likert scale made up of 5 options. The options shall include; 1- strongly disagree, 2-disagree, 3-neutral, 4-agree and 5-strongly agree. Open ended tools helped in capturing the expressions of the respondents which are not taken care off by the closed ended tools. These research tools were distributed to the respondents' convenient locations and was picked from similar locations.

3.6 Pilot

Before research commences, there is need to check weakness of the research tool and this process is important in strengthening these tools. According to Cooper and Schindler (2011) pilot process is important in detecting weakness of a research tool. The process involves a pre testing of research tools in 10% of the chosen sample (Smith, 2015). The pilot study was carried out by examining 10% of the population from a selected location in the rural area. The exercise was carried out there because it shared similar characteristics with other areas. The questionnaires' reliability and validity were tested and the pre-test used 34 questionnaires were issued randomly selected chiefs and village elders under the study. The finding was not included in the final study.

3.6.1 Validity Test

In order to have precise and clear statements, content and criterion validity measures were carried out. (Zohrabi et al., 2013). The statements regarding the four objectives of the study were fine-tuned using content validity. On the other hand, outcomes of the variable's relationships were fine-tuned to be relevant by the use of criterion validity that involved drawing comparisons from the previous studies.

3.6.2 Reliability Test

To increase the dependability of surveys, the researcher was carried out a pilot test. According to Cooper and Schindler (2014), achieving a good reliability in business research requires a minimum Cronbach of 0.7. Reliability refers to the consistency and stability to yield similar results when applied under considerable conditions. It ensures that the data collection tools are dependable and free from significant errors or bias. In quantitative studies, reliability is more concerned with the internal consistency of research measurement tools. Typically, a Cronbach's alpha value of 0.7 or higher is more acceptable for demonstrating reliable arguments.

3.7 Diagnostic Tests

Henwood et al. (2014) argued that a fit statistical model is supposed to conform to the all 7 OLS assumptions, as such the relationship between variables under investigation will be optimal. The key OLS assumptions that are supposed to conform include normality, linearity and multicollinearity. In most cases such tests are carried out to validate the findings (Harlow & Oswald, 2016). For the purpose of this research four tests were undertaken and these include linearity, normality, multi-collinearity and heteroscedasticity. Normality test was vital in checking whether the data followed normal distribution. To achieve this, the study tested hypothesis that was premised as follows; Data is normally distributed (Brooks & Condori, 2018).

Kolmogorov test was carried out to check if the data was normally distributed. This test compares sample with corresponding statistics in a specified distribution. If p value is > 0.05 then fail to reject the null hypothesis and conclude that the data is normally distributed and the vice versa holds (Razali & Wah, 2011).

The study employed Variance Inflation Factor (VIF) to measure multi-collinearity (Alin, 2010). According to Montgomery et al. (2015), is a phenomenon where more than two predictable variables are highly correlated. Failure to conform to this principle result to inconsistent finding. Kroll and Song (2013) proposes that the highly correlated variables are supposed to be removed but in this case that scenario did not present itself.

Heteroscedasticity is considered to be a situation where error term is inconsistent across the fdata set (Williams, 2015). To check consistency of error term, Wald test is often used by scholars and this study adopted it. It uses the principle of p values in deciding whether an error term is symmetrically distributed and a p value of >0.05 indicate absence of Heteroscedasticity in the data set (Yusuf & Biala, 2008). In the event that heteroscedasticity is detected particularly panel data then generalized least squares (FGLS) method is reliable and can be adopted (Williams, 2015).

3.8 Data Analysis

The process of transforming raw data into meaningful insights to aid decision making is known as data analysis (Surbakti et al., 2020). This procedure normally follows a systematic approach that extract information from collected data in the field (Bayoudh et al., 2021). Once data is collected, coding ad cleaning follows to ensure that there is accuracy. Under this study analysis was conducted using Statistical Packages for Social Sciences (SPSS), that triangulate both quantitative and qualitative data. Responses obtained from open-ended questionnaires construed

the qualitative data and was analyzed by use of content analysis. The content analysis involved organizing statements, identifying patterns and interpreting meanings and understanding relationships and underlying messages (Mugenda & Mugenda, 2009). Thematic analysis was presented in narrative form and this captured the qualitative data and later triangulated with quantitative data for a comprehensive view. Analyzed output was presented in tables and charts. Fraenkel stated that regression refers to the looking for statistical association amid variables using logistic regression model on the variables.

The study adopted the following regression model.

$$Y = \beta_0 + \beta_i X_i + \beta_{ii} X_{ii} + \beta_{iii} X_{iii} + \beta_{iv} X_{iv} + \epsilon_0.$$

Where: Y = Banditry attacks

X_i = Mediation

X_{ii} = Negotiation

X_{iii} = Conciliation

X_{iv} = Traditional dispute resolution mechanism

ϵ_0 = error value

β_0 = Constant

$\beta_i, \beta_{ii}, \beta_{iii}, \beta_{iv}$ = independent coefficient variables

Model Assumptions

Several diagnostic tests were conducted to meet the basic assumptions of the logistic regression model. Descriptive statistics, including measures of skewness and kurtosis, were used to assess the normality of the data. Additionally, multicollinearity tests were carried out to evaluate whether there were significant correlations among the independent variables.

3.9 Ethical Consideration

The objective of this study was outlined to the participants so that they can make an informed decision. The researcher was opted to protect the respondent by maintaining their information confidential. The researcher maintained anonymity and privacy of the respondent. The information acquired from the respondents was kept safely far from destruction and high level of integrity was kept. The researcher acknowledged work done by other scholars and produce than original work free from plagiarism. The study adopted APA 7th edition guidelines.

CHAPTER FOUR

DATA ANALYSIS, PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSIONS

4.1 Introduction

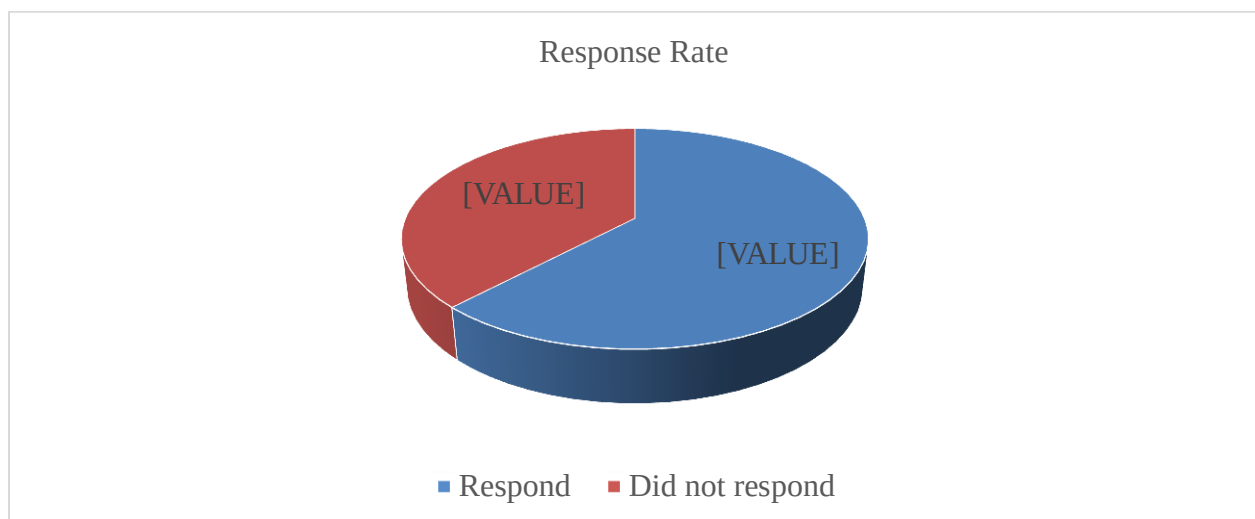
The main objective of this study was to assess the influence of alternative dispute resolution, as a diplomatic avenue of enhancing national security. This was based on banditry attacks in Igembe North subcounty. Demographic, descriptive and inferential statistics regarding the study variables were presented in this chapter. The analysis of these variables based the three parameters helped in answering research questions.

4.2 Response Rate

The study targeted 338 local administration officers, religious leaders and council of elders to give their views regarding the use of alternative dispute resolution, as a diplomatic avenue of enhancing national security. The finding of the response rate is presented in Figure 4.1.

Figure 4.1

Response Rate



The findings indicated that 62.1% of the targeted respondents participated in the survey, while 37.9% did not respond. This response rate was deemed sufficient for analysis, as a rate exceeding 50% is generally considered acceptable for conducting further statistical evaluation.

4.3 Pilot Results

The study undertook pre study assessment to examine the validity and reliability of research instruments. The piloting targeted 34 selected chiefs and village elders under the study. Preliminary assessment was conducted that involved validity and internal consistency of items in the research tool, results presented in the following sub-sections.

4.3.1 Reliability Test

Internal consistency was used to test reliability of the study because it is more stable than the other forms. Cronbach's Alpha was used to measure internal consistency and a figure above 0.7 indicated that the research tools were appropriate to measure the relationship of the study variables. George and Mallery (2012) opined that data which generated Cronbach alpha above 0.7 was considered adequate and satisfactory. The finding generated for each and every variable were summarized in Table 4.1.

Table 4.1

Reliability Results

Variable	Cronbach's Alpha	Number of Items	Comment
Mediation	0.725	8	Reliable
Negotiations	0.815	8	Reliable
Conciliatory Mechanisms	0.906	8	Reliable
Traditional Dispute Resolution Mechanisms	0.805	8	Reliable
National Security	0.715	6	Reliable

Based on the findings in Table 4.1, all the variables recorded Cronbach alpha greater than 0.7; (mediation: $\alpha = 0.725 > 0.7$, negotiations: $\alpha = 0.815 > 0.7$, conciliatory mechanisms: $\alpha = 0.906 > 0.7$, traditional dispute resolution mechanism: $\alpha = 0.805 > 0.7$ and national security: $\alpha = 0.715 > 0.7$). Thus, the instrument was reliable to be used in undertaking the study (Hoque, et al. 2018). This is within the acceptable level of 0.7 and above, as proposed by Cronbach (1951).

4.3.2 Construct Validity

The study also conducted a construct validity test using Exploratory Factor Analysis (EFA). Construct validity is vital in measuring the preciseness of the newly developed tool. Construct validity was assessed using factor analysis, which is typically conducted on data collected before main study (Cooper & Schindler, 2007). The analysis relies on examining the correlations among items to identify underlying constructs. According to Shretsha (2021), a factor loading of 0.5 or higher indicates that the item is valid and contribute meaningfully to the construct. In this study, construct validity was evaluated based on the average variance extracted for each variable. The results of the constructs validity analysis are summarized in Table 4.2.

Table 4.2

Construct Validity Results

Construct	Average Variance Extracted
Mediation	0.756
Negotiations	0.554
Conciliatory Mechanisms	0.559
Traditional Dispute Resolution Mechanisms	0.643
National Security	0.740

Based on the findings in Table 4.2, all the extract mean variance of the variables were greater than 0.5 and this signifies that the statements were valid. Almanasreh (2019) observed that

undertaking construct validity using Exploratory Factor Analysis is considered adequate if the average extracted variables are greater than 0.5. The AVE was larger than 0.5. An acceptable AVE (supporting convergent validity) ought not be <0.5 according to Cheung et al. (2023) and Fornell and Larcker (1981). Thus, the measurement tool was reliable and consistent, producing the same results in different conditions.

4.4 Demographic

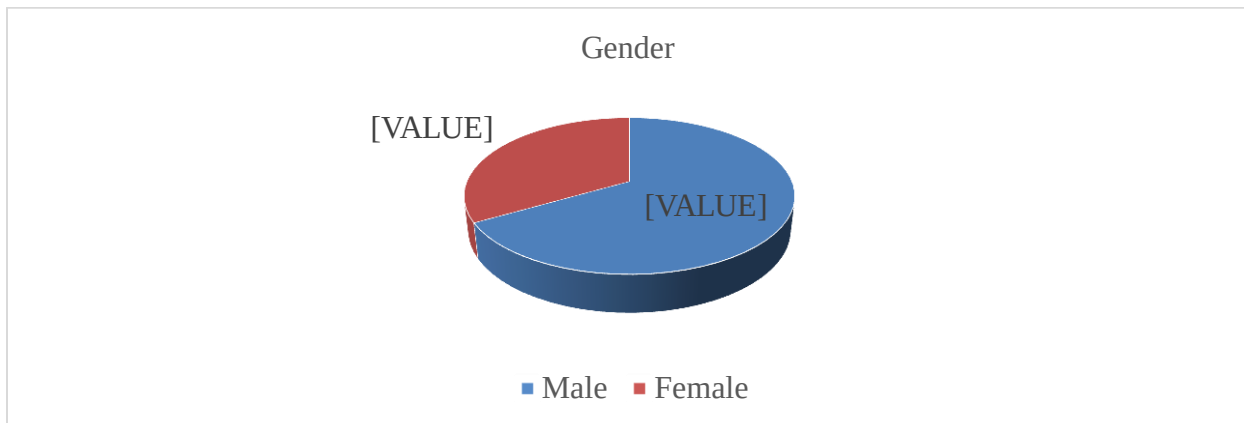
The study sought to establish gender, years of experience and level of education of the participants.

4.4.1 Gender

The study sought the gender of the respondent and the finding is presented in Figure 4.

Figure 4.2

Gender of Respondent



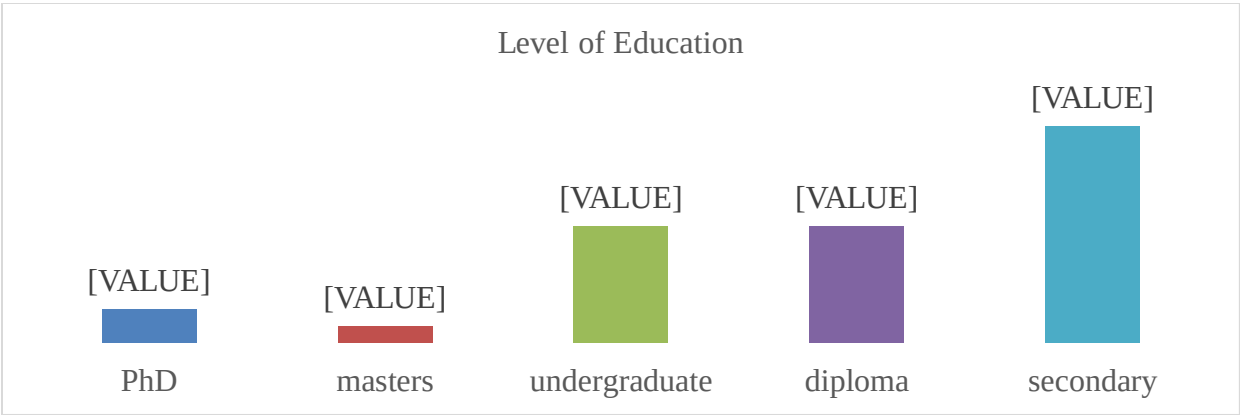
From the finding in Figure 4.2, it was revealed that 66.7 % of the respondents were male while 33.3% (26) are female. Therefore, male is the majority of the respondents that participated in the study. Male have been entrusted in peace process since many players actively in banditry attack are young male adults.

4.4.2 Level of Education

The study sought to understand the level of education of respondents and the finding is presented in Figure 4.3.

Figure 4.3

Education Level



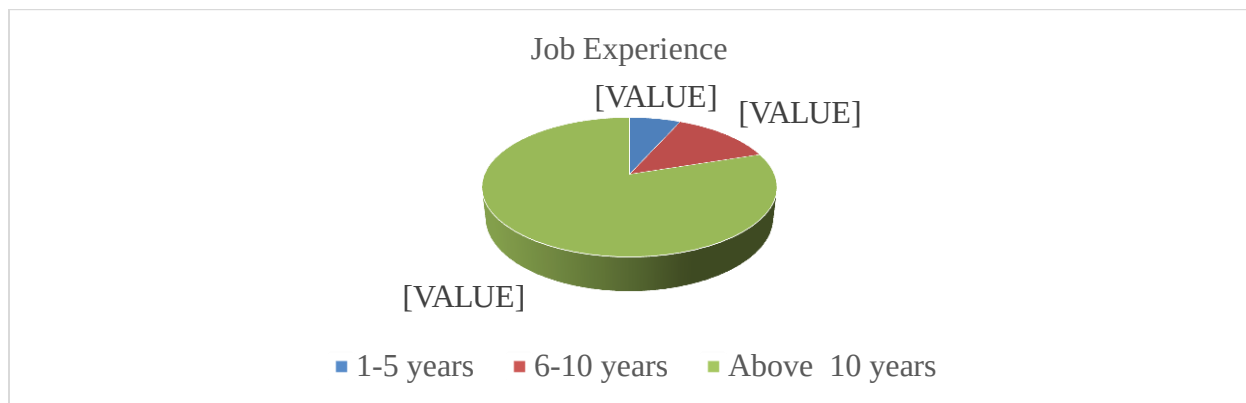
The study findings showed that 43.3% of the respondents had attained secondary education. Similarly, 23.3% of participants held either a diploma or undergraduate degree as the highest educational qualification. A smaller proportion, 6.7% had achieved a PhD, while only 3.3% had a master’s degree. The majority of respondents were school certificate holders, suggesting they possessed adequate awareness of societal issues and were capable of contributing to conflict resolution.

4.4.3 Job Experience

The investigation sought job experience of the respondents and the finding is presented in Figure 4.4.

Figure 4.4

Job Experience



The finding established that 80% of the respondent has been involved in peace making process for over 10 years. On the other hand, 13.3% and 6.7% of respondents have been involved in peace making process for 6-10 and 1-5 years respectively. Therefore, the study can deduce that majority of the respondents have been involved in peace making process for over 10 years hence having adequate experience and knowledge that can be key in solving conflict.

4.5 Descriptive Statistics Results

The study sought statements regarding Mediation, Negotiations, conciliatory mechanisms, traditional dispute resolution and national security. The responses were measured using mean and standard deviations.

4.5.1 Mediation Mechanism and National Security Enhancing

The study sought to investigate influence of Mediation in enhancing national security, focus on banditry attacks in Igembe North subcounty. Participants were requested to express their level of agreement in various statements related with mediation using a five likert scale; strongly disagree (1), Disagree (2), Neutral (3), Agree (4) and Strongly Agree (5). Results have been summarized in Table 4.3.

Table 4.3*Descriptive Finding of the role of mediation in Enhancing National Security*

Statement	Standard	
	Mean	Deviation
The process of resolving conflict in our area remains voluntary to both parties	4.43	0.82
Our peace-making process is normally characterized by high level of impartiality	4.10	0.92
The leading team in the peace-making process always maintain high level of neutrality	4.30	0.84
All parties' restraint themselves from conflict of interest during the peace-making process	4.40	0.86
All matters discussed in the peace-making process are kept confidential among parties	4.53	0.73
Some of the agreements during the peace-making process are unwritten thus remains a word of mouth	4.37	0.89
The peace-making process is recognized by authorities since it has legal basis	4.34	0.67
The dialogue process has been consistent with our cultural practices	4.40	0.72

The finding from the Table 4.3 indicated that majority of the respondents agreed that all matters discussed in the peace-making process are kept confidential among parties as depicted by the mean of 4.53 and affirmed by standard deviation of 0.73. followed by process of resolving conflict in the area remains voluntary to both parties as shown by the mean of 4.43 and standard deviation of 0.82, party's restraint themselves from conflict of interest during the peace-making process as indicated by mean of 4.40 and standard deviation of 0.86, some of the agreements during the peace-making process are unwritten thus remains a word of mouth as deduced by the mean of 4.37 and supported by standard deviation of 0.89 and leading team in the peace-making

process demand high level of neutrality as shown by the mean of 4.30 and standard deviation of 0.84 respectively.

4.5.2 Negotiations and National Security

The study assessed assess the impact of negotiations on enhancing national security, focus on banditry attacks in Igembe North subcounty. Participants were asked to share their views on statements concerning the impact of negotiations on enhancing national security. Responses were captured using a five-point Likert scale: strongly disagree (1), disagree (2), neutral (3), agree (4), and strongly agree (5).

Table 4.4

Descriptive Finding of Negotiations on Enhancing National Security

Statement	Standard	
	Mean	Deviation
Our peace-making process is manifested by good faith where each party is given a chance to submit proposals and their counter proposals	4.57	0.63
In peace making process all parties have always agreed to concession when deemed necessary	4.47	0.51
The peace-making process is always defined by structured communication with well-defined terms of engagement	4.67	0.61
The process has yielded temporary solution such as ceasefire agreements	4.63	0.67
The peace process making process has been collaborative where all stakeholders are involved	4.50	0.78
The process of negotiation is normally adopted during the early stages of conflict in our area	4.10	0.96
There has been more commitment by parties in resolving peace	4.37	0.89
The process gives options to the parties all aimed at attaining a common ground	4.77	0.50

Based on the findings presented in Table 4.4, the study revealed that a majority of participants strongly agreed that the process gives options to the parties all aimed at attaining a common ground. This was reflected by a high mean score of 4.77 and a standard deviation of 0.50, followed by the peace-making process is always defined by structured communication with well-defined terms of engagement (mean of 4.67 and standard deviation of 0.67), peace-making process is manifested by good faith where each party is given a chance to submit proposals and their counter proposals (mean of 4.57 and standard deviation of 0.63). Additionally, the study found strong agreement among respondents that the peace-making process has been collaborative, with active involvement from all stakeholders, as evidenced by a mean of 4.50 and a standard deviation of 0.78. However, one unrelated finding noted that internet banking was perceived to have relatively low operating and maintenance costs, with a mean score of 3.87.

4.5.3 Conciliatory Mechanisms on Enhancing National Security

The study assessed the impact of conciliatory on enhancing national security, focus on banditry attacks in Igembe North subcounty. Participants were asked to share their opinions on statements regarding the impact of conciliation on enhancing national security. Their responses were recorded using a five-point Likert scale: strongly disagree (1), disagree (2), neutral (3), agree (4), and strongly agree (5).

Table 4.5

Conciliatory and National Security

Statement	Mean	Standard Deviation
The parties involved in the process enjoy willfulness among themselves	4.53	0.63
The process is designed with flexibility which each party find it convenient thus rigidity is eliminated	4.30	0.95

The process is tailored to homegrown solutions to the conflict to ease implementation	4.60	0.62
The solutions attained is as result of consensus where all parties own the process	4.57	0.56
The proposed solutions during the process are supposed to be binding hence a party is at will to reject any proposal deemed unfit	4.63	0.54
In case of disagreements during the process nothing will be shared thus secrecy is elementary value in the process	4.17	0.99
This process is normally administered in solving petty offences during the banditry attacks	4.13	1.11
Sometimes this process is not consistent with existing laws and customary practices	4.27	1.14

Based on the finding from Table 4.5, the study established that most of the participants strongly agreed that proposed solutions during the process is supposed to be binding hence a party is at will to reject any proposal deemed unfit as depicted by the mean of 4.63 and a standard deviation of 0.54. followed by process is tailored to homegrown solutions to the conflict to ease implementation as deduced by the mean of 4.60 and standard deviation of 0.62, solutions attained is as result of consensus where all parties own the process as depicted by the mean of 4.57 and supported by standard deviation of 0.56 and parties involved in the process enjoy willfulness among themselves as depicted by the mean of 4.53 and supported by standard deviation of 0.63 respectively.

4.5.4 Traditional Dispute Resolution Mechanisms and Enhancing National Security

The study sought to investigate influence of traditional dispute resolution mechanisms in enhancing national security, focus on banditry attacks in Igembe North subcounty. Participants were requested to share their opinions on statements related to traditional dispute resolution

mechanisms. Responses were captured using a five-point Likert scale: strongly disagree (1), disagree (2), neutral (3), agree (4), and strongly agree (5). The results are presented in Table 4.6.

Table 4.6

Traditional Dispute Resolution Mechanisms and National Security

Statement	Mean	Standard Deviation
Customary laws have been critical in tackling conflicts rooted to culture	4.70	0.47
The dispute mechanism has been instrumental in resolving recurrent conflicts	4.77	0.43
The conflict mechanism has fostered relationship of communities experiencing conflict	4.35	0.89
The process has resulted to sustained peaceful solutions	4.37	0.85
This process is non-coercive thus sometimes may jeopardize peace making process.	4.40	0.72
The process has a clear reconciliation framework among the communities engaged in conflict	4.23	0.94
The process involves persuasion of the parties in conflict to have compromised solution	4.43	0.68
The process uses force and coercion in realizing a solution	4.13	1.20

From the finding in Table 4.6, the study noted that to a great extent; dispute mechanism has been instrumental in resolving recurrent conflicts (mean of 4.77 and standard deviation of 0.43), customary laws have been critical in tackling conflicts rooted to culture (mean of 4.70 and standard deviation of 0.47), the process involves persuading conflicting parties to reach a compromised solution (mean score of 4.43 and a standard deviation of 0.68), process is non-coercive, which at times may undermine the peace-making efforts (mean of 4.40 and a standard

deviation of 0.72) and conflict mechanism has fostered relationship of communities experiencing conflict (mean of 4.35 and standard deviation of 0.89) respectively.

4.5.5 Banditry Attacks Element of National Insecurity

The participants were asked to give their opinions regarding statements on banditry attacks aspect of national security and were supposed to respond by strongly disagree (1), disagree (2), neutral (3), agree (4) and strongly agree (5). The results are presented in Table 4.7.

Table 4.7

Descriptive Results on Banditry Attacks

Statement	Mean	Standard Deviation
We have recorded massive displacement of people in the last one year	4.67	0.66
Several properties have been lost in the last one year especially livestock	4.87	0.35
The area has witnessed organized attacks where property and lives were targeted	4.78	0.39
The location has seen people lose their lives in the last one year as result of organized attacks	4.80	0.41
Schools and businesses have been abruptly stopped in the last one year as result of coordinated attacks	4.77	0.43
There has been tension across the neighborhood in the last one year as a result of existing animosity	4.83	0.38

From the finding in Table 4.7, it was revealed that majority of the respondents strongly agreed that several properties have been lost in the last one year especially livestock (mean of 4.87 and standard deviation of 0.35), several locations has seen people lose their lives in the last one year as result of organized attacks (mean of 4.80 and standard deviation of 0.41), the area has witnessed organized attacks where property and lives were targeted (mean of 4.78 and standard

deviation of 0.39) and schools and businesses have been abruptly stopped in the last one year as result of coordinated attacks (mean of 4.77 and standard deviation of 0.43) respectively.

4.6 Diagnostic Tests

To determine whether the collected data was suitable for analysis and to draw meaningful conclusions about the relationships among study variables, diagnostic tests including test for linearity, normality, autocorrelation and multicollinearity were performed.

4.6.1 Normality Test

Kolmogorov-Smirnov test was used to conduct the normality of the data which is a key assumption of regression analysis. A p –value greater than 0.05 indicated that the data followed a normal distribution and was a suitable for regression modelling. Conversely, a p-value less than 0.05 suggested that the data deviated from normality and might not be stable for reliable regression estimation. The results of the test are presented in Table 4.8.

Table 4.8

Normality Results

Variable	Kolmogorov-Smirnov		
	Statistic	df	Sig.
Mediation	0.186	240	0.654
Negotiation	0.216	240	0.827
Conciliatory Mechanism	0.315	240	0.538
Traditional Dispute Resolution Mechanism	0.198	240	0.602
National Security	0.271	240	0.515

According to the findings presented in Table 4.8, all the P-values for the variables from normality test were greater than the threshold of 0.05. This indicates that the data in the study

followed a normal distribution, confirming its suitability for conducting further inferential analysis.

4.6.2 Test of Linearity

The compared means was used to assess linearity and visually examine whether the relationship between two variables was linear or curvilinear prior to conducting regression analysis. This step is essential, as regression models rely on the assumption of linearity to accurately estimate the relationship between dependent and independent variables. The results are shown in Table 4.9.

Table 4.9

Linearity Results

			Sig.
National Security * Mediation	Between Groups	(Combined)	0.000
		Linearity	0.008
		Deviation from	
		Linearity	0.906
National Security * Negotiation	Between Groups	(Combined)	0.000
		Linearity	0.009
		Deviation from	
		Linearity	0.665
National Security * Conciliatory Mechanism	Between Groups	(Combined)	0.000
		Linearity	0.007
		Deviation from	
		Linearity	0.783
National Security * Traditional Dispute Resolution Mechanism	Between Groups	(Combined)	0.004
		Linearity	0.000
		Deviation from	
		Linearity	0.590

Based on the results in Table 4.9 above, P-value for mediation against national was $0.906 > 0.05$ for mediation against national security. The results imply that there is linear relationship between mediation and national security. It was also established that there was a linear relationship

between negotiation variable against national security (P-value = 0.665>0.05). Conciliatory mechanism and national security was linearly related (P-value = 0.783> 0.05) and traditional dispute resolution mechanism and national security was also linearly related (P-value = 0.590>0.05). the results confirmed that the assumption of linearity was met.

4.6.3 Heteroscedasticity Test

To assess the assumption of homogeneity of variance, Levene's Test was performed. As noted by Nordstokke and Zumbo (2010) a p-value greater than 0.05 indicated that error variances are equal across groups, satisfying the assumption. Conversely, a p-value less than 0.05 suggest a violation of this assumption, indicating that the variances are not homogeneous.

Table 4.10

Homogeneity Test Findings

Variable			Levene Statistic	Significance
Mediation			1.183	0.100
Negotiation			1.423	0.100
Conciliatory Mechanism			0.948	0.550
Traditional	Dispute	Resolution	0.844	0.668
Mechanism				
National Security			1.012	0.897

From the results presented, the variance of the data set is homogeneous. The Levene statistic ranged from 0.844 to 1.423 and the P value from 0.55 to 0.100. All P-values of the variables where above 0.05 thus variance of the error distribution was homogenous across the data set. This assumption was met.

4.6.4 Multicollinearity Test

The study undertook multicollinearity test to establish the relationship among explanatory variables. Multicollinearity is viewed as degree of correlation among the independent variables in a study. It is commonly assessed using the variance inflation factor (VIF), which measures how much the variance of an estimated regressions coefficient increases due to multicollinearity compared to a model with a single predictor. A VIF value exceeding 5 is generally interpreted as an indication of severe multicollinearity (Kock & Lynn, 2012). The results for the multicollinearity tests are presented in Table 4.11.

Table 4.11

Collinearity Test Findings

Model	Collinearity Statistics	
	Probability Statistics	VIF Statistics
Mediation	.608	1.644
Negotiation	.528	1.893
Conciliatory Mechanism	.472	2.120
Traditional Dispute Resolution Mechanism	.645	1.551

The VIF statistic for mediation was $1.644 < 5$, negotiation was $1.893 < 5$, conciliatory mechanism was $2.120 < 5$ traditional dispute resolution mechanism was $1.551 < 5$ and national security was $1.695 < 5$. The results showed that all VIF values were below. Further the results indicated that tolerance values were greater than 0.1. this confirmed that the variables were not highly correlated amongst themselves and all could be used in forecasting national security.

4.7 Correlation Analysis

The correlation analysis was conducted to determine the relationship between the independent variables (mediation, negotiation, conciliation and of traditional dispute resolution mechanisms) and the dependent variable (banditry attack aspect of national security). In this study, Pearson's correlation coefficient (r) was used to examine the strength and direction of relationship between variables, with values ranging from -1 to +1. Pearson's correlation was performed prior to conducting regression analysis. According to Danacic and Paliu-Popa (2017), an r value of ± 0.7 or above indicates a strong association, and values below 0.29 signify a weak association. An r value of 0 indicates no association between variables. The results of the correlation analysis are presented in Table 4.12.

Table 4.12

Correlation Results

Correlations		National Security	Mediat ion	negotiat ion	conciliat ion	Traditional dispute
National Security	Pearson Correlation	1				
	Sig. (2-tailed)					
Mediation	Pearson Correlation	.536**	1			
	Sig. (2-tailed)	0.002				
Negotiation	Pearson Correlation	.659**	.483**	1		
	Sig. (2-tailed)	0.000	0.000	0.000		
Conciliation	Pearson Correlation	.669**	.483**	.247**	1	
	Sig. (2-tailed)	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	
Traditional dispute	Pearson Correlation	.679**	.267**	.139**	.401**	1
	Sig. (2-tailed)	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	

** Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed).

From the finding in Table 4.12, it was revealed that there exist a positive and significant association between mediation and national security ($r=0.536$, $p=0.002<.05$). The computed p value of $0.002 < 0.05$ means that the association between mediation and national security is statistically significant. This finding implied that mediation improve national security in mitigating banditry attacks. According to KII 06, “The process of mediation can be enhanced by creating more awareness, involving all the stakeholders, strengthening communication among parties and setting up rules and regulations that guide the process. The use of third-party intervention has proved to be an effective tool of solving conflict emanating among parties. This is because a solution sought is considered perfect but a compromised that is acceptable by both parties. The impartiality of the process is fundamental in breaking the deadlock that is significantly contributing to conflict crisis. Mediation focuses on the interests, needs and rights of the parties to the conflict. The mediator manages the interaction between the parties and facilitates open communication and dialogue. Usually, parties to a conflict accept that they have a conflict situation and are willing and committed to resolving it. The mediator then enters to provide assistance and create an enabling environment for parties to the dispute to iron out their differences. Mediators in conflict reconciliation have certain characteristic and roles. The finding of the study agreed with studies by Omondi and Munene (2023) and Jokubauskaite and Turner (2022 that established that mediation is vital strategy of resolving conflicts in the society.

The finding also revealed that there exist a positive and significant association between negotiation and national security ($r=0.659$, $p=0.000<.05$). The calculated p value of $0.000 < 0.05$ means that the association between negotiation and national security is statistically significant. Based on KII 01, “The negotiation process is supposed to be inclusive with proper implementation structures. This signified that fostering negotiation significantly enhance national

security. The process of negotiation is a direct dialogue between warring parties without involving a third party. This is informed by the civility of the parties acknowledging that conflict has occurred and there is need to address before causing more harm. The benefits of compromised solution, it is believed, outweigh the losses arising from refusal to negotiate. Through negotiation, people involved in conflict get a chance to identify their areas of disagreements, exchange ideas, look at possible solutions and make a commitment to reach an agreement. A third party is usually not involved in a negotiation. However, sometimes someone may be agreed upon by the parties in the dispute in order to clear the path for dialogue between the disputants, he helps the parties to begin negotiations between themselves and reach a bargain on their own accord. The finding of the study agreed with a study by (Rodgers et al., 2022) which opined that negotiation is essential in resolving emerging conflicts. However, it disagreed with a study by Aina (2023) that noted use of negotiation has not resulted to resolve conflicts related with banditry attacks.

In addition, finding of the study revealed that there was a positive and strong association between conciliation and national security ($r=0.669$, $p=0.000<0.05$). The computed p value of $0.000 < 0.05$ means that the association between conciliation and national security is statistically significant. Based on KII 03, “Conciliation remains an impartial process devoid of bribes grounded on effective communication. The process has been characterized by compensation scheme that facilitate the leadership in the process.” This implied more adoption of conciliation during conflict can mitigate the increasing cases of insecurity attributed the banditry attacks. Conciliation is the settlement of conflicts by consensus of those concerned through the involvement of a third party called a conciliator. The conciliator enables the disputants to resolve and look at the causes of the conflict and engender voluntary participation and discussion as

steps to conflict resolution. The latter can include confidential discussions with the disputants or assistance during a pre-negotiation phase. All parties to dispute must accept conciliation for it to be effective. Furthermore, the conciliator can be appointed by any of the parties to the dispute but will be acceptable to both. The finding of the study agreed with an investigation by Rendón (2017) and Khan and Khan (2022) established conciliation is a tool that can strengthen peace initiative in the society.

Finally, Pearson correlation finding revealed that there exist a positive and significant association between traditional dispute resolution mechanisms and national security ($r=0.679$, $p=0.000<.05$). The computed p value of value of $0.000 < 0.05$ means that the association between traditional dispute resolution mechanisms and national security is statistically significant. Based on KII 08, “The modernizing of traditional dispute resolution mechanism is vital and also collaborating them can easily solve conflicts. This can be attained by strengthening traditional value system in the society.” Strengthening traditional dispute resolution mechanisms is crucial in mitigating banditry attacks that impede national security. Customary law dispute resolution mechanisms can play a valuable role in reducing litigation in both criminal and civil cases. Such mechanisms involve negotiation, mediation, conciliation, adjudication and reconciliation. The informal and flexible processes of traditional courts and arbitration mechanisms with their emphasis on reconciliation and re-integration are not. It is not intended to undertake an in-depth analysis how these different dispute resolution mechanisms operate but merely to show the similarities between them and traditional dispute resolution approaches. The finding of the study agreed with a study by Ouma (2017) and Muigai (2017) that concluded that traditional dispute resolution mechanism is essential in resolving conflicts that may emanate from informal interactions for instance banditry attacks and family related matters.

4.8 Regression Analysis

The multiple regression model was estimated to assess the influence of alternative dispute resolution, as a diplomatic avenue of enhancing national security. The model results output comprised of the model summary, Anova test and regression of coefficient. Table 4.13 presents the model summary results.

Table 4.13

Summary Model Finding

Model	R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of the Estimate
1	.746a	0.556	0.547	0.22553

a Predictors: (Constant), traditional dispute, negotiation, mediation, conciliation

The findings indicated that a strong relationship between alternative dispute resolution and national security enhancement (correlation coefficient ; $R=0.746$). Alternative dispute resolution was found to be satisfactory in explaining national security enhancement. This was supported by coefficient of determination ($R^2 = 0.556$). This means that alternative dispute resolution explained 55.6% of the variations in the national security enhancement, leaving 44.4% explained by other factors not included in the model. The validity of the overall significance of model was done using Analysis of Variance (ANOVA) and results are shown in Table 4.14.

Table 4.14

ANOVA Results

Model		Sum of Squares	Df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
1	Regression	13.062	4	3.266	64.204	.000b
	Residual	10.427	205	0.051		
	Total	23.489	209			

a Dependent Variable: National Security

b Predictors: (Constant), traditional dispute, negotiation, mediation, conciliation

The results indicate that the overall model was statistically significant ($F= 64.204$, $P\text{-value} = .000 < .05$). This shows that collectively traditional dispute, negotiation, mediation and conciliation significantly explain the variation in national security.

The study further established the predictive model using the regression coefficients. The results of the coefficients are shown in Table 4.15 below.

Table 4.15

Regression Coefficients

Model	Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients	t	Sig.
	B	Std. Error	Beta		
1 (Constant)	2.596	0.149		17.396	0.000
Mediation	0.323	0.071	0.484	4.548	0.000
Negotiation	0.458	0.07	0.666	6.501	0.000
Conciliation	0.176	0.068	0.29	2.597	0.010
Traditional Dispute	0.175	0.071	0.277	2.472	0.014

a Dependent Variable: National Security

The hypothesized model: $Y = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X_1 + \beta_2 X_2 + \beta_3 X_3 + \beta_4 X_4 + \varepsilon$, becomes;

National Security = $2.596 + 0.323 \text{ Mediation} + 0.458 \text{ Negotiation} + 0.176 \text{ Conciliation} + 0.175 \text{ Traditional Dispute Resolution Mechanisms}$.

All the independent variables (mediation, negotiation, conciliation and of traditional dispute resolution mechanisms) were individually significant ($p\text{-value} < 0.05$). Specifically using unstandardized coefficient; negotiation has the highest positive impact on national security ($\beta = 0.458$, $P\text{-value} < .05$), followed by mediation ($\beta = 0.323$, $P\text{-value} < .05$), conciliation ($\beta = 0.176$, $P\text{-value} < 0.05$) and traditional dispute resolution mechanisms ($\beta = 0.175$, $p\text{-value} < 0.05$) respectively.

Results indicated that negotiation positively and significantly influenced national security enhancement ($\beta=0.458$, $p = 0.000<.05$). Bases on KII 004, *“Training is key in order to have competent negotiators that can be helpful in unlocking the problem at hand. Frequent consultative meetings are key in ensuring that these meetings are organized very well.”* This signified that adopting negotiation in conflict is likely enhance national security. Negotiation is a process which has clear steps of resolving a conflict and it involves proposals and counter proposals. The key role of the process is to gain new information which can help in resolving the conflict. This is characterized by making several offers that counter each other and ultimately a better offer will be reached that is agreeable by both parties in the conflict. The process of negotiation has succeeded to an extent in resolving conflict through boosting internal mechanisms by means of give and take strategy. The negotiation process at times offers a short solution such as committing ceasefire during the process. Negotiation process is essential in maintaining and sustaining peace through agreed positions as a result of the collaboration.

The adoption of this process has faced some challenges for instance negotiations can facilitate a process of decline but have rarely been the single factor driving an outcome. Negotiation is only ideal when dealing issues pertaining marginalized groups, exploit difference, provision of information and reducing attacks. The process has not yielded much in negotiating certain conflicts that need homegrown solutions. Banditry attacks is one of the unique conflicts that require home grown solution for it to be addressed adequately. This may involve collaborating other strategies in order to mitigate the problem. The approach of getting the right people to do negotiation has been a big letdown and in most cases has derailed the peace-making process in some these areas confronted by high incidences of insecurity. However, adoption of negotiation

has proved essential in solving outstanding conflicts such as land dispute. The finding of this study agreed with an investigation by (Rodgers et al., 2022) noted negotiation involve introducing counter proposal that help mitigate a conflict that prevail. Warning and Network (2019) pointed out that negotiation is essential in maintaining and sustaining peace through agreed positions as a result of the collaboration. According to Cronin (2023), noted that negotiation is only ideal when dealing issues pertaining marginalized groups, exploit difference, provision of information and reducing attacks. Maigari et al. (2021) argued that use of wrong strategies by states confronted by insecurity has deepen conflicts and there is need to pursue alternative conflict resolution strategies such as negotiation. Justin (2021) noted that negotiation has commonly been used to resolve land disputed that are rampant in most regions in Kenya. However, Aina (2023) argued that negotiation with bandits has not yielded much fruits since there is frequent banditry after this peace-making process.

Finding indicated that mediation positively and significantly influenced national security enhancement ($\beta = 0.323$, $p = 0.000 < .05$). According to KII 7, *“The mediation process thrives when a good rapport is in place, impartiality in the process, free of bribes and addressing issues at commencement before worsening.”* This implies that strengthening mediation strategies is likely to promote security stability. Mediation is an essential tool which can be used in the design, development and delivery of developmental projects to assess and mitigate the risks of such conflicts arising. Mediation tools are crucial in initiating peace and development and also identifying conflict. Mediation is critical in bridging the gap existing between parties, enhancing understanding and creating a conducive environment for everlasting peace. The process of mediation is impeded by cultural barriers and lack of cooperation among the responsible stakeholders.

The mediation process is an elaborate strategy that entail resolving various activities that may trigger communal violence. Promoting dialogue between different communal identity-based groups locally can revive intergroup coordination and diminish negative biases against other groups, thereby reducing the risk of communal conflict escalation. The practices involved sitting down and agreeing on issues informally. The autonomy of the parties involved in the process makes mediation a more participatory process and thus the most acceptable. The management by mediation was hampered by values and ethics of community leaders that involved extortion. The finding of the studies concurred with investigation by Omondi and Munene (2023) pointed out that mediation is a viable option of resolving banditry attacks that have been commonly manifested in the North Rift of Kenya. According to Jokubauskaite and Turner (2022), argued that mediation tools is crucial in initiating peace and development and also identifying conflict. Smidt (2019) pointed out that facilitating dialogue activities help to resolve communal violence. Muigua (2017) noted that mediation has been used to resolve interclan conflicts in Kenya and most of the outcomes have been successful. Adebajo and Adebajo (2023) established that prevailing conflicts have been managed by community leaders by use of mediation.

Further, regression finding showed that conciliation had a positive and significant effect on national security enhancement ($\beta=0.176$, $p = 0.01<.05$). This implied that a unit improvement in conciliation stabilized security situation in a conflict zone. Based on KII 02, *“The process involves locals in the process in creating awareness. There is need to pick working strategies in the process and this culminate to legislation that may formalize the process.”* Conciliator involved an active process where issues are weight without necessarily finding a common ground or compromising positions. Parties in the conflict are obligated to either take the position of conciliator or consider not binding. Taking the position of conciliator is not mandatory thus

each party has a right to reject or accept the position of conciliator as long as their expectations are met. Sources of failure to agree will not be shared to the external parties or interested groups. This method has been working in resolving various forms of conflicts. It is an effective alternative method used to resolve environmental conflicts. It, therefore, depicts an alternative path to access justice. Willfulness of the parties prevails in conciliation, which has a built-in flexibility and, though it is not a panacea, it does have a great utility. Conciliation is a solution-based approach when resolving a conflict.

The strategy has gained interest from emerging groups in the society in resolving conflict for instance entrepreneurs are increasingly using conciliatory procedures when settling disputes. This way of dispute settlement becomes very convenient as businessmen did not want to spend their time on litigation, often protracted, but can settle issues more quickly and effectively. This is evident has conciliation demonstrate flexibility since each party is granted a chance and thus may bring out all the issues that require attention. Conciliation is essential in solving petty offences that require less attention and resources. Conciliation ensured that commensurate punishment was meted out to the offender. The outcome of the study concurred with investigations by Rendon (2017) pointed out that conciliation is an effective alternative method used to resolve environmental conflicts. Khan and Khan (2022) observed that conciliator involved an active process where issues are weight without necessarily finding a common ground or compromising positions. Dremova (2020) noted that use of conciliatory procedures is increasingly adopted to settle disputes. Tykhan et al. (2021) noted that judicial conciliatory strategies have been effective in solving emerging conflicts. Pan (2023) acknowledged that mandatory conciliation accelerates dialogue and mediation process that help in resolving a dispute. Okeke (2021) pointed out that conciliation is essential in solving petty offences that

require less attention and resources. Kazakova et al. (2021) observed that conciliation procedures are a fundamental category of modern objective law, in which the freedom of choice of the subjects of law is not limited to permissive and administrative means, but must be justified by the essence of the dispute being resolved and the final result.

Lastly, the regression results indicated that traditional dispute resolution mechanisms positively and significantly influenced national security enhancement ($\beta = 0.175$, $p = 0.000 < .05$). This implied that adopting traditional dispute resolution mechanisms in resolving conflict attributed to banditry attacks is likely to foster national security. Based on KII 05, "*Training of elders in problem solving can enhance the use of this strategy because elders have adequate knowledge. There is need to legislate the use of TDR in solving conflict that require home grown solutions.*"

Traditional dispute resolution improved security in an area experiencing conflicts especially banditry attacks across pastoralism. Traditional dispute resolution mechanism was criticized since it does not punish the offender fairly thus repeat of offence is common. Traditional conflict resolution systems are critical in solving different type of conflicts. The process is a complex and involves elders convening a meeting and mediate warring parties to restore peaceful coexistence. This resulted to the sustained healing of the communities that were in conflict.

The strategy in most cases is guide by procedures and practices that is law oriented. The customary laws have proved to be effective in handling various matters that are related with marriage, land and property disputes. This is the major causes of conflict in the society that modern methods have harbored in addressing them. The traditional method cannot work alone in addressing conflict and there is need to have collaboration with other mechanism that sustain peace. The traditional has been ideally in coming up with homegrown solution that is fundamental in resolving conflicts attributed banditry attacks. The finding of the study agreed

with investigations by Chapman and Kagaha (2019) found out that traditional dispute resolution improved security in an area experiencing conflicts especially banditry attacks across pastoralism. Ghebretেকে and Rammala (2018) opined that traditional conflict resolution systems are extensively employed by people in to settle various kinds of conflict prevailing in the society and disrupt peace. According to Abe and Ouma (2017) noted traditional dispute resolution mechanism has been used where modern judicial system has failed for instance in Rwanda was adopted to resolve conflict post genocide. Muigai (2017) pointed out that most African countries have institutionalized traditional dispute mechanism and aligned them with existing laws. Lambongang (2017) established that traditional dispute resolution mechanism and formal justice system work together in resolving conflict and non-work in isolation.

CHAPTER FIVE

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1 Introduction

This study aimed to examine the influence of Track One-and-a-Half diplomatic approaches, particularly the use of Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) mechanisms, on the enhancement of national security. This section presents a synthesis of the research findings, draws key conclusions, and outlines contextually appropriate recommendations derived from the analysis.

5.2 Summary of Major Findings

The first objective of the study was to analyze the influence of mediation as a Track One-and-a-Half diplomatic instrument for enhancing national security in banditry-affected regions. The descriptive finding revealed that majority of the respondents agreed that mediation process and principles is fundamental in realizing cohesive society. Correlation and regression finding established that mediation procedures and principle is a significant predictor of national security enhancement in areas that are prone to banditry attacks. Mediation is an essential tool which can be used in the design, development and delivery of developmental projects to assess and mitigate the risks of such conflicts arising.

The second objective of the study aimed at assessing the impact of negotiations as a soft-power approach to addressing non-state armed violence. Based on descriptive finding it was deduced that majority of the respondents agreed that negotiations is vital in enhancing security in areas that experience banditry attacks. The inferential findings revealed that negotiations significantly affected national security enhancement. However, adoption of negotiation has received quite number of challenges since the problem of banditry require a homegrown solution that may not be attained through this process of conflict resolution mechanism.

The third objective of the study aimed at evaluating the contribution of conciliatory mechanisms in transforming communal conflicts and strengthening state legitimacy. Descriptive finding noted majority of respondents unanimously agreed that conciliatory mechanisms is critically in enhancing security in areas where banditry attacks occasion conflict. Conciliatory mechanisms have positive and significant effect on enhancing national security, focus on banditry attacks in Igembe North subcounty. Conciliation is essential in solving petty offences that require less attention and resources. Conciliation ensured that commensurate punishment was meted out to the offender.

Finally, the study examined the effects of traditional dispute resolution as community-driven approaches to conflict transformation within peacebuilding and international relations. Descriptive finding noted majority respondents agreed that traditional dispute resolution mechanism is essential in enhancing security. Traditional dispute resolution has a positive and significant effect on enhancing national security, focus on banditry attacks in Igembe North Subcounty. Traditional dispute resolution improved security in an area experiencing conflicts especially banditry attacks across pastoralism. Traditional dispute resolution mechanism was criticized since it does not punish the offender fairly thus repeat of offence is common.

5.3 Conclusion

Based on the finding of the study conclusion is drawn as per objective.

5.3.1 Mediation Mechanism and National Security Enhancing

The study concluded that mediation process and principles are fundamental in realizing cohesive society. This is because mediation significantly influence national security in areas that are prone to banditry attacks. Mediation has proved to be a tool used in transferring development projects that promote a sustainable peace among communities.

5.3.2 Negotiation and National Security Enhancing

Inference can be drawn that negotiations is a vital tool in enhancing national security in areas that experience banditry attacks. This complimented by the fact that negotiation is a significant predictor of national security enhancement. However, adoption of this strategy has not been effective since it does not yield to homegrown solutions that can address the problem sustainably.

5.3.3 Conciliation and National Security Enhancing

The study concluded that conciliatory mechanisms is a critical pillar in enhancing national security in areas where banditry attacks occasion conflict. Conciliatory mechanisms tenet of finding consensus in resolving issues has proved more beneficial in addressing security challenges. This strategy can address simple crimes since it is not resources intensive. The strategy is also known to administer justice fairly.

5.3.4 Traditional Dispute Resolution and National Security Enhancing

It was concluded that traditional dispute resolution mechanism is essential in enhancing national security. The traditional dispute resolution provides homegrown solutions that is paramount in resolving conflict attributed to banditry attacks. Traditional dispute resolution improved security in an area experiencing conflicts especially banditry attacks across pastoralism. Traditional dispute resolution mechanism was criticized since it does not punish the offender fairly thus repeat of offence is common.

5.4 Recommendations

This section provides recommendations on study findings, implications on policy, practice and areas for further research.

5.4.1 Recommendation for Policy Makers

The adoption of traditional dispute resolution mechanism is crucial in bringing home grown solutions that may effectively address banditry. There is need to strengthen the policy and legislation framework to harmonize the existing formal regulation to collaborate with this mechanism. The comprehensive policy is supposed to establish structures and delegate specific responsibilities that will aid peace making process through the alternative process as suggested by this study.

5.4.2 Recommendation for Practice

The study concluded that mediation process and principles are fundamental in realizing cohesive society. There is need to set up rules and regulations that guide this process. There has been no clear framework on how to undertake mediation when conflict arise. Setting up of clear framework should be defined by impartiality and integrity of the process so as success is guaranteed in process that is deemed trustworthy.

The investigation inferred that negotiations is a vital tool in enhancing national security in areas that experience banditry attacks. There is need to undertake capacity building among community leaders in imparting them with negotiation skills. Training is key in order to have competent negotiators that can be helpful in unlocking the problem at hand. This will foster consultative process that is key ensuring that negotiation of peace process obtains a compromised solution that is agreeable by everyone.

It was established that conciliatory mechanisms is a critical pillar in enhancing national security in areas where banditry attacks occasion conflict. There is need to create awareness on the

importance of embracing peace. People are informed the consequences of peace instability in their area. Communicating and informing the public the need of peaceful coexistence may be crucial in their decision making on the challenges and calamities attributed to disturbance from banditry attacks. There is need also to have an incentive for individuals that are vigilant in ensuring that there is order and peace in the society.

Investigation established that traditional dispute resolution mechanism is essential in enhancing national security. There is need to strengthen traditional values system in the society so that people can gain values such as honest and receptive. The taboo system has criminalized some of the vices such as stealing and banditry require to be classified as one. The taboo practices instilled discipline among people since violating certain vices resulted to harsh punishment unlike the current dispensation of modern law that lessen punishment prompting individuals to engage in such vices.

5.4.3 Areas for Further Research

The study was limited to the four aspects of alternative dispute resolution that include mediation, negotiation, conciliation and traditional dispute resolution. There exist other forms of alternative dispute resolution mechanism that significantly affected the national security. Arbitration involves third party intervention which can be either voluntary or mandatory and is crucial in enhancing national security. The study did not focus on the role played by religious leaders and this crucial in enhancing security. Future studies should target religious leaders since they have been part of this process. Further, the study did not capture the views of all key players including women and youth, future studies should incorporate the role played by women and youth in peace building processes in conflict prone areas.

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APPENDICES

Appendix I: Introductory Letter

Dear respondent,

I am a Master's student in the School of Business and Economics at the Kenya Methodist University (KeMU), pursuing a Master's Degree in Masters of Business Administration. I am researching "Alternative Dispute Resolution, A Diplomatic Avenue to enhancing National Security. With specific focus on Banditry Attacks In Igembe North Subcounty". This study is in partial fulfillment for the award of Master of Masters of Business Administration of Kenya Methodist University. The study is purely for academic purposes and any information collected for this study will not be used otherwise. I am kindly requesting you to be part of the study by filling in the questionnaire provided. Your participation will be highly appreciated. Thank you in advance.

Sincerely

Lillian Kagwiria Mutuma

Appendix II: Questionnaire

Please do not indicate your name on the questionnaire. All answers are valid and there is neither a wrong answer or a correct answer. Kindly respond dilligently from your own experience and understanding. It may take 25 minutes to fill in the questionnaire; hence mark the appropriate response.

Section A: Demographic Data.

1. Gender

- a) Male []
- b) Female []

2. Level of Education

- a) PhD []
- b) Masters []
- c) Undergraduate []
- d) Diploma []
- e) Secondary Certificate []

3. Working Experience

- a) 1-5 years []
- b) 6-10 years []
- c) Above 10 years []

Part B Influence of Mediation on Banditry Attacks

This section has statements regarding the influence of mediation on banditry attacks in the Igembe North Subcounty. Kindly tick your preferred answer according to 5-point Likert scale denoted as;

1-Strongly Disagree, 2-Disagree, 3-Neutral, 4-Agree, 5-Strongly Agree.

Aspects of Mediation	Strongly agree	Agree	Not Sure	Disagree	Strongly disagree
The process of resolving conflict in our area remains voluntary to both parties.					
Our peace-making process is normally characterized by high level of impartiality.					
The leading team in the peace-making process always maintain high level of neutrality.					
All parties' restraint themselves from conflict of interest during the peace-making process.					
All matters discussed in the peace-making process are kept confidential among parties.					
Some of the agreements during the peace-making process are unwritten thus remains a word of mouth.					
The peace-making process is recognized by authorities since it has legal basis.					
The dialogue process has been consistent with our cultural practices.					

- a. Have you ever considered mediation in resolving Conflict within your location
 - i.
- b. Has the mediation process been helpful in resolving conflict
 - i.
- c. What do you think should be done to improve mediation as process of resolving conflict

.....

Part C Influence of Negotiation on Banditry Attacks

This section has statements regarding the influence of negotiation on banditry attacks in Igembe North subcounty. Kindly tick your preferred answer according to 5-point Likert scale denoted as;

1-Strongly Disagree, 2-Disagree, 3-Neutral, 4-Agree, 5-Strongly Agree.

Aspects of Negotiation	Strongly agree	Agree	Not Sure	Disagree	Strongly disagree
Our peace-making process is manifested by good faith where each party is given a chance to submit proposals and their counter proposals.					
In peace making process all parties have always agreed to concession when deemed necessary.					
The peace-making process is always defined by structured communication with well-defined terms of engagement.					
The process has yielded temporary solution such as ceasefire agreements.					

The peace process making process has been collaborative where all stakeholders are involved.					
The process of negotiation is normally adopted during the early stages of conflict in our area.					
There has been more commitment by parties in resolving peace.					
The process gives options to the parties all aimed at attaining a common ground.					

- a. Have you ever considered negotiation in resolving Conflict within your location
 - i.
- b. Has the negotiation process been helpful in resolving conflict
 - i.
- c. What do you think should be done to improve negotiation as process of resolving conflict
 - a.

Part D Influence of Conciliation on Banditry Attacks

This section has statements regarding the influence of conciliation on banditry attacks in Igembe North subcounty. Kindly tick your preferred answer according to 5-point Likert scale denoted as;

1-Strongly Disagree, 2-Disagree, 3-Neutral, 4-Agree, 5-Strongly Agree.

Aspects of Conciliation	Strongly agree	Agree	Not Sure	Disagree	Strongly disagree
The parties involved in the process enjoy willfulness among themselves.					
The process is designed with flexibility which each party find it convenient thus rigidity is eliminated.					
The process is tailored to homegrown solutions to the conflict to ease implementation.					
The solutions attained is as result of consensus where all parties own the process.					
The proposed solutions during the process are supposed to be binding hence a party is at will to reject any proposal deemed unfit.					
In case of disagreements during the process nothing will be shared thus secrecy is elementary value in the process.					
This process is normally administered in solving petty offences during the banditry attacks.					

Sometimes this process is not consistent with existing laws and customary practices.					
--	--	--	--	--	--

- a. Have you ever considered conciliation in resolving Conflict within your location
 - i.
- b. Has the conciliation process been helpful in resolving conflict
 - i.
- c. What do you think should be done to improve conciliation as process of resolving conflict

.....

Part E Influence of Traditional Dispute Resolution Mechanism on Banditry Attacks

This section has statements regarding the influence of traditional dispute resolution mechanism on banditry attacks in Igembe North subcounty. Kindly tick your preferred answer according to 5-point Likert scale denoted as;

1-Strongly Disagree, 2-Disagree, 3-Neutral, 4-Agree, 5-Strongly Agree.

Aspects of Traditional Dispute Resolution Mechanism	Strongly agree	Agree	Not Sure	Disagree	Strongly disagree
Customary laws have been critical in tackling conflicts rooted to culture.					
The dispute mechanism has been instrumental in resolving recurrent conflicts.					
The conflict mechanism has fostered relationship of communities experiencing conflict.					
The process has resulted to sustained peaceful solutions.					
This process is non-coercive thus sometimes may jeopardize peace making process.					
The process has a clear reconciliation framework among the communities engaged in conflict.					
The process involves persuasion of the parties in conflict to have compromised solution.					
The process uses force and coercion in realizing a solution.					

- a. Have you ever considered traditional dispute resolution mechanism in resolving Conflict within your location
 - i.
- b. Has the traditional dispute resolution process been helpful in resolving conflict
 - i.
- c. What do you think should be done to improve traditional dispute resolution as process of resolving conflict
 - a.

Part F Banditry Attacks

This section has statements regarding the banditry attacks in Igembe North subcounty. Kindly tick your preferred answer according to 5-point Likert scale denoted as;

Aspects of Banditry attacks	Strongly agree	Agree	Not Sure	Disagree	Strongly disagree
We have recorded massive displacement of people in the last one year.					
Several properties have been lost in the last one year especially livestock.					
The area has witnessed organized attacks where property and lives were targeted.					
The location has seen people lose their lives in the last one year as result of organized attacks.					
Schools and businesses have been abruptly stopped in the last one year as result of coordinated attacks.					
There has been tension across the neighbourhood in the last one year as a result of existing animosity.					

Appendix I: NACOSTI RESEARCH PERMIT



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BOARD OF POSTGRADUATE STUDIES

Our Ref: KeMU/NACOSTI/MIR/05/2024

September 20, 2024

Commission Secretary

National Commission for Science, Technology and Innovations

P.O. Box 30623-00100

NAIROBI

Dear Sir/Madam,

RE: LILLIAN KAGWIRIA MUTUMA (REG. NO. MIR-3-0140-1/2022)

This is to confirm that the above named is a bona fide student of Kenya Methodist University, in the Department of International Relations, undertaking a Master's Degree in International Relations. She is conducting research on; "The Influence of Alternative Dispute Resolution Diplomacy on Enhancing National Security; Focus on Banditry Attacks in Igembe North Sub-County of Meru County".

We confirm that her research proposal has been defended and approved by the University.

In this regard, we are requesting your office to issue a research license to enable her collect data.

Any assistance accorded to her will be highly appreciated.

Yours sincerely,

Dr. Nancy Rintari (PhD)

Director, Board of Postgraduate Studies

Cc: Dean, School of Economics and Political Sciences

CoD – International Relations

Postgraduate Coordinator

Supervisors



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Our Ref: KeMU/ISERC/MIR/05/2024

September 20, 2024

LILLIAN KAGWIRIA MUTUMA
MIR-3-0140-1/2022

Dear Lillian,

SUBJECT: THE INFLUENCE OF ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION DIPLOMACY ON
ENHANCING NATIONAL SECURITY; FOCUS ON BANDITRY ATTACKS IN IGEMBE
NORTH SUB-COUNTY OF MERU COUNTY

This is to inform you that Kenya Methodist University Institutional Scientific Ethics and Review Committee has reviewed and approved your research proposal. Your application approval number is KeMU/ISERC/MIR/05/2024. The approval period is 20th September, 2024– 20th September, 2025.

This approval is subject to compliance with the following requirements:-

- I. Only approved documents including (informed consents, study instruments, MTA) will be used.
- II. All changes including (amendments, deviations, and violations) are submitted for review and approval by Kenya Methodist University Institutional Scientific Ethics and Review Committee.
- III. Death and life-threatening problems and serious adverse events or unexpected adverse events whether related or unrelated to the study must be reported to KeMU ISERC within 72 hours of notification.
- IV. Any changes, anticipated or otherwise that may increase the risks or affected safety or welfare of study participants and others or affect the integrity of the research must be reported to KeMU ISERC within 72 hours.
- V. Clearance for export of biological specimens must be obtained from relevant institutions.

- VI. Submission of a request for renewal of approval at least 60 days prior to expiry of the approval period. Attach a comprehensive progress report to support the renewal.
- VII. Submission of an executive summary report within 90 days upon completion of the study to KeMU ISERC.

Prior to commencing your study, you will be expected to obtain a research license from National Commission for Science, Technology and Innovation (NACOSTI) <https://oris.nacosti.go.ke> and also obtain other clearances needed.

Yours sincerely,

MR. HERBERT KIBEBE
CHAIR (ISERC)



REPUBLIC OF KENYA

Ref No: 496029



NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR
SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & INNOVATION

Date of Issue: 14/October/2024

RESEARCH LICENSE



This is to Certify that Ms.. Lillian Mutuma of Kenya Methodist University, has been licensed to conduct research as per the provision of the Science, Technology and Innovation Act, 2013 (Rev.2014) in Meru on the topic: **THE INFLUENCE OF ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION DIPLOMACY ON ENHANCING NATIONAL SECURITY; FOCUS ON BANDITRY ATTACKS IN IGEMBE NORTH SUB-COUNTY OF MERU COUNTY** for the period ending : 14/October/2025.

License No: NACOSTI/P/24/40936

Applicant Identification Number

Director General

NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR
SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & INNOVATION

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See overleaf for conditions

THE SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION ACT, 2013 (Rev. 2014)
Legal Notice No. 108: The Science, Technology and Innovation (Research Licensing) Regulations, 2014

The National Commission for Science, Technology and Innovation, hereafter referred to as the Commission, was established under the Science, Technology and Innovation Act 2013 (Revised 2014) herein after referred to as the Act. The objective of the Commission shall be to regulate and assure quality in the science, technology and innovation sector and advise the Government in matters related thereto.

CONDITIONS OF THE RESEARCH LICENSE

1. The License is granted subject to provisions of the Constitution of Kenya, the Science, Technology and Innovation Act, and other relevant laws, policies and regulations. Accordingly, the licensee shall adhere to such procedures, standards, code of ethics and guidelines as may be prescribed by regulations made under the Act, or prescribed by provisions of International treaties of which Kenya is a signatory to
2. The research and its related activities as well as outcomes shall be beneficial to the country and shall not in any way;
 - i. Endanger national security
 - ii. Adversely affect the lives of Kenyans
 - iii. Be in contravention of Kenya's international obligations including Biological Weapons Convention (BWC), Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization (CTBTO), Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear (CBRN).
 - iv. Result in exploitation of intellectual property rights of communities in Kenya
 - v. Adversely affect the environment
 - vi. Adversely affect the rights of communities
 - vii. Endanger public safety and national cohesion
 - viii. Plagiarize someone else's work
3. The License is valid for the proposed research, location and specified period.
4. The license any rights thereunder are non-transferable
5. The Commission reserves the right to cancel the research at any time during the research period if in the opinion of the Commission the research is not implemented in conformity with the provisions of the Act or any other written law.
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11. The Commission reserves the right to modify the conditions of the License including cancellation without prior notice.
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13. The Licensee shall disclose to the Commission, the relevant Institutional Scientific and Ethical Review Committee, and the relevant national agencies any inventions and discoveries that are of National strategic importance.
14. The Commission shall have powers to acquire from any person the right in, or to, any scientific innovation, invention or patent of strategic importance to the country.
15. Relevant Institutional Scientific and Ethical Review Committee shall monitor and evaluate the research periodically, and make a report of its findings to the Commission for necessary action.

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