

Name:Agim Amarachi Sarah

19/mhs02/008

Department:Public Health

Level:200

Gst 201: peace and conflict

Topic :Write an essay on Violent Conflict on a geo _ political Zone in Nigeria

Conflict: This is a serious disagreement or argument, typically a protracted one. While Violent can be defined acting with or characterized by uncontrolled, strong, rough. We have six geo _political Zone in Nigeria but I will be talking about Violent conflict in North west.

The violence affecting Nigeria's North West is multi-faceted, but much of it can be divided among three major categories, which overlap in certain ways discussed below: The first category includes violence pitting mainly ethnic Hausa sedentary farmers and vigilantes acting on their behalf against predominantly Fulani roving herders and associated militias. Nigerian authorities refer to the latter generically as "bandits". These militias operate in a largely decentralised manner under local commanders'

autonomous control. They are motivated first and foremost by fighting on behalf of

herders in their disputes with farmers, but many rogue elements have taken up criminal activities as well.

The second category involves violence committed by criminal gangs involved in

large-scale cattle rustling, kidnapping for ransom, armed robbery, pillage, and attacks

on gold miners and traders. The authorities sometimes also refer to these gangs as

"bandits" although this report describes them as "criminal" groups, gangs or organisations.

These groups comprise a mix of individuals from Fulani, Hausa and other ethnic origins, and seek to enrich themselves rather than to advance a political Ideological project . These groups do not operate like militias; they are neither cohesive nor under a centralised command. They also act autonomously, sometimes in rivalry with one another.

The third and most recent dimension of the violence involves confrontations between government security forces and jihadist groups that are increasingly active in the region

While no reliable figures exist for just how many militia fighters, criminals and Islamist insurgents exist across north-western Nigeria, some authorities estimate that

they could number in excess of ten thousand.¹⁹ Other sources consider these figures

conservative. In Zamfara state, at the epicentre of the violence in the North West, thirteen of the fourteen local government areas have been the site of armed group

violence from 2014 to 2020.

Starting in late 2015, attacks by herder-allied armed groups, vigilantes and criminally motivated groups spread from Zamfara to other states (primarily Kaduna,

Katsina, Sokoto and Niger) with varying intensity. Violence in these states has been

concentrated in areas near their borders with Zamfara, or close to the forests where

all sorts of armed groups have made camp.