

Abstract:

The best known examples in the Eastern African region are Intergovernmental Authority for Development (IGAD), East African Community (EAC) and now Eastern African Standby Force (EASBRIG). By bringing 14 states with a common purpose having accepted, the leadership role of EASBRICOM and having realized that co-operation, especially in issues of peace and security offers, tangible benefits to all participating parties, the Eastern African countries are on the best track of overcoming the dynamics of national interests and competing regionalism. However, there are many factors that sustain insecurity and instability in the region, making the promoting of peace a major challenge. During the cold War, it was evident that the Organization of Africa Union, which was founded to provide the African people with a better life, did not achieve this objective. However, the end of the Cold War brought about a rudimentary shift in the structure of the international system. This gave rise to pressures and opportunities for a fundamental and unconstrained re-assessment of the root causes of war, conflict and human suffering, as well as appropriate response mechanisms.