

Politics of Security: Democracy, Governance and National Security in Cameroon 2014-2021

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Abstract

This paper examines how elected governments use national security to sway good governance and democracy for political gains. The study focuses on the case of Cameroon between 2014 and 2021. To demonstrate this view, the paper employs the content analysis technique to analyze 40 selected government communication documents. Through this, the paper contributes to the method and understanding of ways in which national security policies affect democracy and governance. Drawing from classical realism and security theories, the paper concludes that national security is detrimental to the practice of good governance and democracy unless a balance is created between these elements. This balance can be achieved by lessening the power of the executive and attributing proper independence to the judiciary, legislative and election bodies among others.

Keywords: National Security, Democracy, Governance, Cameroon, Anglophone Crisis.

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