

# GLOBALIZATION AND HUMAN SECURITY CHALLENGES IN NIGERIA

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**ABSTRACT-** Human security challenges facing Nigeria in this age of globalization is revealed by massive suppliers and importation of small arms and light weapon. Nigeria has no visible trace of substantial arms and light weapon production, yet there is so much of these weapons in the wrong hands. This made the transnationalization of instability possible in Nigeria. This is further revealed when some northern Nigerians Islamic extremists picked up arms against their target in Nigeria, in reaction to western role in the Middle East crisis and perceived killings in the Arab world. The presence of small arms and light weapons causes crisis of security among different ethnic, religious and political class. It is so unprecedented that both the security of the state and human security is threatened. The basis for this position is that globalization takes its toll on peace and security in Nigeria because the inspired relaxation of boundary enforcement rules appears to have made Nigerians lost much of its powers on transnational crimes including arms importation. Though human security is threatened, it is also human security neglect by the institution of the state that created fertile ground for the illegal importation and used of small arms and light weapons. However, it is the position of this paper, that a shift in focus to human security would therefore require understanding sources of threat and the reformulation of strategies towards ameliorating conditions that favour illegal importation and use of small arms and light weapon in Nigeria. This will greatly reduce arms proliferation and its attendance consequences.

**KEYWORDS:** Globalization, Human Security, Small arms and Light weapons, Proliferation

## 1. Introduction

The term globalization was first employed in a publication entitled: Towards New Education in 1930, to denote a holistic view of human experience in education. In the 1960s, the term began to be used by economists and other political and social scientists. The term began to be used by economists and other political and social scientists. The term reached the main stream press in the later half of the 1980s. Since its inception, the concept of globalization has inspired competing definitions and interpretations, with antecedents dating back to the great movements of trade and empire across Asia and the Indian Ocean from the 15<sup>th</sup> century onwards.

Hopkins (2004) coined the related term to describe the largely national trusts and other large enterprises of the time. When used in an economic context, it refers to the “reduction and removal of barriers between national borders in order to facilitate the flow of goods, vital capitals, services and labour”. To Palmer (2002), globalization is the diminution or elimination of state enforced restrictions on exchanges across borders and the increasingly integrated and complex global system of production and exchange that has emerged as a result. Friedman (2000) popularized the term “flat world”, arguing that globalized trade, outsourcing, supply-charming, and political forces had permanently changed the world for better and worse. He asserted that the pace of globalization was quickening and that its impact on business organization and practice would continue to grow. Fotopoulos (2001) defined “economic globalization” as the opening and deregulation of commodity, capital and labour markets which led to the present new liberal globalization.

The role of globalization in the world system has been the subject of numerous and often conflicting interpretations. In recent years, a growing number of world order theories have highlighted the declining importance of state by drawing attention to several contemporary trends; notably the erosion of dividing line between domestic and global politics and the ineffectiveness of government in many critical areas of policy. According to perspective, world society now comprises a whole range of systems, some basically economics, others scientific, cultural or ideological. In this world order, the traditional nations state boundary appears to have lost much of its former relevance, especially at a time when global terrorist groups are networking, creating tension within territorial sovereign states.

The internationalization of all trade, the deep and accelerating interpretation of national economics and the increasing institutionalization of trade, financial and technological exchange across national boundaries sharply encourage good and bad transnational transaction. One of such phenomenon is the emergence of arms proliferation with its threat to both national and human security. This view is well represented by Maclens (2007) who remarked thus:

“The emergence of globalization does not only encompass the growing internationalization of financial, industrial and commercial capital, but also highlighted the feeling of insecurity of nations of the world as it facilitate the activities of terrorist groups across national boundaries.”

As more people are working in the informal sector, others have joined organized terrorist groups. Available literature on the transnational crimes shows that no region or country of the world is spared of this phenomenon. Maclens (2007) submitted that “the problems of crimes and violence, drug and weapons trafficking and others are factors that make the Caribbean countries and their economics most vulnerable.

The progressive integration of the world economy has drastically increase proliferation of small arms and light weapons. Nigeria is one of the third world countries where the proliferation of weapons is manifested in crisis proportions and its society has fully enmeshed in the culture of the gun. Nigeria’s internal security environment has deteriorated in the last decade. Security

threats have remained or even assumed worrisome dimensions. It is disheartening to discover that in place of enhance security, virulent internal conflicts accompanied by unprecedented abused of human security have emerged at an alarming rate. This situation is obvious because Nigeria now features prominently in the three spot continuum of transnational organized trafficking of weapons in West Africa.

## 2. Human Security

Although the concept of human security has gained currently recently, the idea is not fundamentally new. The ontological and epistemological assumptions that have underpinned previous orthodox security and policy formation simply did not recognize, include or value it. The specific term “human security” was first officially introduced by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in its 1994 Human Development Report. The report captured seven dimensions of the human security concept: economic security, food security, health security, environmental security, personal security, community security and political security.

Two main aspects of human security are identified in the report; safety from chronic threats such as hunger, disease and repression, and protection from sudden disruptions in the pattern of daily life, whether in homes, jobs, or communities.

The conceptualization of security from the human security perspective represents a paradigmatic shift from orthodox security thinking, which privileges the protection of state power over an approach that accounts for the complex social and economic relations of its citizens. Human security is defined have as a freedom from actual or potential threats to human life that may arise either as a result of human actions or in actions, or from natural disaster such as flood, earthquake, famine, drought, disease and other natural calamitous events resulting in death, human suffering and material damage. The emphasis and human security derives essentially from three fundamental convictions.

- 1) The sanctity and inviolability of human life.
- 2) The equality and dignity of human rights.
- 3) The existential imperatives of and value for individual safety in a world full of multifarious threats.

Human security is, therefore, rooted in three basic human instincts.

- 1) Self-preservation.
- 2) Self- extension and
- 3) Self-fulfillment.

A conceptualization of security that is centered primarily on the individual or community can be understood as *human security*. This notion grows from the assumption that there are needs, problems, and issues that are common to all of mankind no matter what part of the world they live in. For example, poverty; the spread of communicable diseases; environmental degradation; the loss of faith in institutions; population pressures; and economic crisis. It is imperative that we view these concerns in terms of global trends and forces that affect the individual. These trends include such processes as: the depletion of non-renewable resources; drug trafficking; human trafficking; the rapid spread of communications technology; the rampant growth of capitalist markets with no controls to avoid the excesses of the capitalists; poverty, inequality and human misery; and the HIV/AIDS pandemic. Human security, then, primarily relates to the safety and well being of people everywhere. It has been found that a sense of insecurity among certain groups invariably leads to group conflict and political instability. The threats involved may relate to the physical well being of individuals and groups, but they might also---and often do involve a perception that values are being threatened. Ajulo (2004) believed that the most appropriate and security is the one that dwell more on human security, that is, the welfare of the individual, and by extension, the community, as against threats to regimes and the territoriality of nation states. Then concept of human security is assuming global salience with its focus on core values of human freedom and human fulfillment.

Kofi Annan, has distinguished between “territorial sovereignty” and individual sovereignty, iclde the “fundamental freedom of each individual... enhanced by a renewed and spreading consciousness of individual rights... not to protect those who abuse them” (Cited in Oberleitner, 2005: 194). According to Sadako Ogata and Amartya Sen, human security means “protecting vital freedoms- fundamental to human existence and development. Human security means protecting people from severe and pervasive threats, both natural and societal, and empowering individuals and communities to develop the capabilities of making informed choices and acting on their own behalf”<sup>6</sup> (Cited in Oberleitner, 2005). Human security is also the safety for people from both violent and non-violent threats. It is a condition or state of being characterised by freedom from pervasive threats to people’s right, their safety or even their lives... It is an alternative way of seeing the world, taking people as its point of reference, rather than focusing exclusively on security of territory or government. Like other security concepts- national security, economic security, and food security- it is about protection. Human security entails preventive measures to reduce vulnerability and minimize risk, and taking remedial action when prevention fails (Sabelo, 2003, David Hubert, 1999). Boyd (2005) defined human security as “the ability to pursue those choices in safe environment broadly encompassing seven dimensions of security- economic, food, health, environmental, personal, community, and political”. Kanbur (2002) conceptualised human security in terms of vulnerability and voicelessness associated with poverty in the face of unresponsive local and national institutions. Having watched ‘smart’ public office holders and their chronics defile all words of cautions to lead a lifestyle of conspicuous consumption at the expense of promoting the interest of the greater majority otherwise known as “common good”, the people’s resolve to avoid the state for their survival has snow balled into taking past time in crimes in which proliferation of small arms and light weapon occupies a central place.

- What explains this contradictory situation between economic underdevelopment (poverty) on the one hand and given proliferation and political violence on the other is the strongest expression of injustices in the paradox of wealth that characterizes situation of Nigeria? In Nigeria, political violence is becoming institutionalized. This is because, not even party primary election is free of violence compounded by proliferation of weapons.
- Also related to the problem of governance failure is the issue of corruption. Corruption creates a security paradox that feeds into the circle of proliferation of weapon in Nigeria. Widespread poverty and the low wages of security agents, some greedy security personnel are easily corrupted by transnational arms traffickers. For instance, a major and five other soldiers (Nigeria Army) were convicted in November 2008 of selling over 7000 arms valued at over 100 million to Niger Delta Militants between January 2000 and December 2006.
- The failure of public security in Nigeria has lead communities to indulge in different forms of self security measures, ranging from vigilante groups to community – owned arms stockpiling. Having lost confidence in the Nigerian state, parties to some of the entangle conflicts have become entangled in security dilemma. The quest to procure more arms to guarantee personal and community protection from perceived and real enemies is finding the domestic arm race.

By contributing to the disruption of the pattern or daily life at the individual, community and social levels, the proliferation of SALWS plays a key role in denying people entitlement of those three core human values, central to the nation of human security. The problem this study is designed to investigate the correlation between globalization and arms proliferation and its attendant consequences on human security in Nigeria.

### 3. The Study Method

Research method deals with a description of the study procedure adopted and implemented in the execution of a research work. It deals, with the general approach adopted in carrying out the study method shapes and further provides the user with a framework for selecting the means to find out, analyze order and exchange information about an issue (Osuala, 1987).

For the purpose of this study, the survey approach is adopted. But in chosen the survey method, the descriptive and explanatory variants are used. This method is chiefly concerned with finding, describing and interpreting the prevailing conditions of human security in Nigerian. Using the descriptive and explanatory designs, my sources of information mostly involved collection of data, and testing of the data using my guided hypotheses. The target population of this study was drawn from public security outfit; which include Nigerian police, Nigeria army, Nigeria Navy, Nigeria Custom, retired security officers and the political class.

Nigeria Immigration officers, 24 respondents were sampled for the. The sampled respondents were all high ranking officers and those working within the border posts.

The data for this study was analysed using descriptive statistical tools, sample percentage and testing hypotheses using the chin square test statistics.

**Table 1 response to question 1**

S/N	Research question one	Yes	No	Undecided	Total
1	Do globalization increase proliferation of weapons in Nigeria	18	6	0	24

**Source: survey data (2015)**

The table shows that 18 respondents out of the 24 respondents, representing 75% were of the opinion that the interplay of globalize the increased proliferation of weapons in Nigeria, while 6 or 25% of the total respondents answered no. the hypothesis concerning this relationship which states that the reduction and removal of barriers between national border does not facilitate trafficking of arms was tested and the result shows that at the 0.5 percent level of significant and one degree of freedom, the calculated value of chin square (6.00) in higher that the critical value (3.84).

We therefore, reject the mill hypothesis and conclude that the reduction and removal or barriers between national borders does significantly facilitate the proliferation of weapons in Nigeria.

**Table 2 response to question 2**

s/n	Research question 2	Agreed	Disagreed	Undecided	Total
	The proliferation of small arms and light weapons engenders violent conflict and robbery	22	02	-	24

**Source: survey data (2015)**

The result obtained in table 2 above shows that 2 or 92 percent of our total respondents agreed that increase in violent crimes and conflicts in the country are compounded by proliferation of small and light weapon 2 or % however disagreed. The hypothesis designed to this relationship observed that. There is no correlation between proliferation of small and light weapons, and seuetal violent conflict and crimes. The test shows significantly relationship between arms proliferation and violent conflict in Nigeria. This is revealed by the chin square test result. The result shows that, the calculated  $x^2$  result of 16.67 is greater than the critical  $x^2$  value of 3.84 at 0.5 level of significance and one degree of freedom

**Table 3 response to research question 3**

s/n	Research question 3	Yes	No	Undecided	Total
1	Does arms proliferation affect, human security in Nigeria	20	4	-	24

Source: survey data (2015)

Table 2 shows that in the opinion of the respondents, 20 or 83% of the total respondents affirmed that arms proliferation affect human security in Nigeria while 4 or 17% answered no, giving the impression that arms proliferation does not affect human security in Nigeria.

We also test the hypothesis that examined the relationship between the two variables, arms proliferation and human security. The test result shows that at 0.5 level of significance and one degree of freedom, arms proliferations significantly affect human security in Nigeria. This is revealed by the result obtained on this relationship. The calculated chin square result of (10.67).

#### 4. Summary of Test Result

Hypothesis	Calculated value	Critical value	Decision
Hypothesis 1	6.00	3.84	Significance
Hypothesis 2	16.67	3.84	Significance
Hypothesis 3	10.67	3.84	Significance

Source: Survey Data (2015)

#### 5. Discussion of Findings

The result of our findings revealed that globalization; especially the subjective dimensions affect human security in Nigeria. The emerging concerns in the above result point to the existence of a correlation between globalization and proliferation of weapons in Nigeria. This, ideally, is understood in the growing tendency to discuss contemporary human security challenges in the logic of globalization, as a phenomenon describing the revolutionary structural changes in contemporary world of increasing interdependence and denationalization of clusters of political, economic an social activities in which people, capital images, ideas and values enjoy free and speedy flow across collocated national boundaries (wood, 1995).

While the wave of economic globalization has given rise to increase internationalization of economic activities, it has equally opened the door for weapons proliferation to flourish. This subjective dimension of globalization beyond interlacing individuals and groups who are now increasingly aware (consciously and unconsciously) if the globalize world, provide s the premise upon which the nexus between globalization and human security finds easy comprehension.

The regular interception of illegal arms trafficking across the borders by security agencies reveal the worrisome dimension that weapon proliferation has recently assumed in Nigeria. The media is a wash with frightening reports of sophisticated small arms and light weapon being seized by security operatives either at ports, borders or highways. In August, 2010, security agents in Maiduguri arrested a commercial driver carrying 25AK-47 riffles allegedly smuggled into the country from Cameroon. These arms according to (Ajayi 2013) were destined for Jos Plateau state where ethno-religious conflicts has caused serious devastation in human security.

In November 2010, a woman identified as Lucy Danagana was intercepted at Dabar Nasara, Borno State trying to smuggle 10 AK-47 rifles from Chad Republic into Nigeria. Around the same period, the police in Ibadan, Oyo State, intercepted a large cache of arms from a suspected bank robbery squared.

In July 2010, Nigeria intercepted heavy arms shipment from Iran. The 13 containers shipment contained artillery rockets and small arms and uploaded at the Lagos Port (Tell Magazine, 2012). The accident caused diplomatic row between Nigeria and Iran and this compelled Nigeria to report Iran formerly to the UN.

Frank Mba (2012) observed that when conflicts in Liberia, Sierra Leone, Ivory Coast, Libya Chad and Mali ended, arms and other weapons used were not retrieved. Some of these arms according to him slip into unlawful hands in the country through infernos border trade. Also, the Nigeria customer service, NCS claimed in a recent publication revealed that between January and June 2012, a total of 2,294 imported arms were seized throughout the country.

Shehu Abdulkadir, the Chief of Army standards and Evaluation and a Major General, disclosed that of the 10 million illegal weapons in circulation in West Africa, 70 percent or seven to eight million are in Nigeria alone.

The 2011 small Arms Survey released by the UN, disclosed that about 825 million of such weapons produced by over 1,00 companies in 100 countries are in circulation worldwide, Nigeria shave of the between seven to eight million in West Africa puts it in the league of weapons like South Africa, Yemen where the quantity of small arms in civilian hands is 5.95million, 11.5million and 270 million respectively.

In Nigeria, there is little or no visible trace of substantial weapon production, yet conflicts in Nigeria is being dominated by small arms and light weapons. In nearly all terrorist related attacks in Nigeria, the diffusion of small arms has played a decisive role in the escalation, intensification and prolongs resolution of these conflicts. The sophisticated nature of the methods and techniques employed by international arms dealers' network confirms the fact that arms traffickers cooperate faster with terrorist groups than states. Unlike the earlier situation where arms trade was the exclusive preserve of states, that operational under strict law, contemporary transnational arms traffickers have successfully used the influence of globalization to infiltrate arms militias in sovereign states, to further help them export terrorist related activities.

Nigeria is one country believe to be victim of the subjective dimension of globalization. Both international and local security agencies confirm foreign infiltration of Nigeria's militia groups. In 2011, the international security agency disclosed the presence of AL-Qaeda in some African countries, including Nigeria. Both international security and local security agencies had in the past intercepted some accounts said to have held money alleged to have been transferred to the Boko Haram groups in Nigeria. On January 4, 2011, US disclosed that AL-Qaeda was the financier of the Mogadishu December 31, 2010 bomb attack in Abuja (Tell Magazine, 2011).

In December 2006, Mohammed Ashafa, a kano born Nigerian was charged with receiving funds from two Pakistani Al-Qaeda operatives to "identify and carry out terrorist attacks on Americans Nigeria and recruiting 21 fighters who were sent for training with an unspecified Algerian terrorists group believed to be GSPC (Tell May 16, 2011 p 10).

Over the years, some radical Islamist in Northern Nigeria continue to show affinity with the conflict and sentiments of the middle east believing to be Muslim solidarity several events supported this line of thought. First, after the dastardly 9/11 attack, which was widely condemned by the rest of the world, some Northern Nigeria Islamist showed open support for the terrorist attack. Some parents named their sons Osama after Bin Laden (Tell May 16, 2011 p. 50).

Again each time the Israel Palestinian conflict reared its head; some Northern Nigeria Islamists mobilized people to demonstrate against Israel in the North. Global defines analysis see these as "pro-terrorism tendencies in the North" it also largely accounts for the perception of Nigeria as a volatile country.

Assessing African continent's potential for terrorism Abu Azzain, an Islamic analyst observed:

This continent has an immense significance. Whoever looks at Africa can see that it does not enjoy the interest, efforts, and activity it deserves in the war against the crusaders (Christians). This is a continent with many potential advantages and exploiting this potential will greatly advance Jihad. It will promote achieving expected targets of Jihad. Africa is a fertile seed for the advance of Jihad and the Jihad cause" (Tell, May 16, 2011)

As terrorists groups continue to be rooted out of Afghanistan, Iraq, the Abraham peninsula, Al-Qaeda is seem to be relocating to Africa, which appears helpless in resisting them due to widespread poverty, corruption and illiteracy. The boundary region between Sub-Sahara Africa and North Africa, known as the Mahreb is porous and vulnerable and considered "especially fertile for extremist penetration. Nigeria is at the vortex of this continental mix with its near 50-50 Christian-Muslim population.

The contentious historical events in the Middle East and the alleged continue killing perpetrated by Western Military bases in the Arab world, are issues of global politics that infiltrate the fabric of Nigeria society, making Islamic admirers to pick up arms against their targets. These analyses can credence to the nexies between globalization haven security challenges in Nigeria.

Arms proliferation is one serious problem facing the ECOWAS Sub-region where the relaxation of national boundaries intended to enhance regional integration, have inadvertently facilitated arms trafficking. With the peculiar difficult terrai in the Nation's border areas, in effectual security system arms proliferation has grown by heaps and bounds in Nigeria.

Gabriel Ajayi, a retired Colonel in Nigerian Army made this point very clear when he stated that:

Nigeria is a very big country and you bring in artillery piece into Nigeria without being detected because the borderlines are very long and cannot be cover effectively.

Ajayi (2015) is certainly not exaggerating. Nigeria has a total of 3,770 kilometer of shared land borders between its neighbors, 850km maritime borders on the Atlantic ocean and many airports. The borders are so porous that virtually every good, banned and unbanned, is smuggled in on a daily basis. Areas notorious for arms smuggling are Idi Iroko and Seime in Ogun state, the Port City of Warr in Delta State, and the Northern States of Adamawa, Borno and Yorbe that share Cameroon border with Niger Republic and Cameroon (Tell Magazine). Government failure in

Besides porous border governance failure in Nigeria is another factor. The concept governance is used here in its generic terms to mean the pattern of state institutions and structures management, including decision making and policy formulation. It also embraces the ability and credibility to implement formulated policies, and efficiency in essential service delivery. However, the abysmal and exacerbating governance failure in Nigeria resulted in poverty, unemployment, death tells dearth of basic services. This observation is corroborated by (Ajayi 2015) who had earlier stated that:

The prevailing economic situation, with declining fortunes and bad government exacerbated to the extent that many Nigerians lost confidence in the government's ability deliver essential services. It is in the midst of this lamentable array of unfulfilled expectations, confusion, dislike and distrust for government that the people now see the former as the problem to be resolved; rather than the solution.

## **6. Implications of Security Challenges in Nigeria**

Although, Nigeria is not officially at war, the increasing level of insecurity and violence in the country is becoming more vicious by the day, thus giving the impression that the country is at best not at peace with itself. Armed militias and insurgents are sprigging up in many parts of the country either to attack or to engage in a balance of terror in defense of their sectional, political or religious interests.

The proliferation of small and light weapons according to UN, “Wreaks havoc everywhere; mobs terrorizing a neighborhood; rebels attacking civilians or peace keepers; drug lords randomly killing law enforcers or anyone else interfering with them illegal business (and) bandits hijacking humanitarian and convoys. In all continents, uncontrolled small arms form a persisting problem”.

Nigeria is reeling under the throes the UN painted above. Facts from a recent small Arms Survey indicated that over 100,000 Nigerians have died since 1999 in ethno-religious conflicts “which have been characterized by the increased involvement of small arms and light weapons (SALWS) from international sources, with little percent of it from local source.

Figure from gun policy.com, an international agency portal dealing in small arms researchers, indicate that the number of homicides increased from an average of about 1,500 persons per annum between 1995 and 2000. The figures climbed to an average of over 2,000 from 2001 to 2008. The peak was in 2004 when the nation recorded 2,550 homicide victims.

The prevalence of small arms has made such acts of Maghem, including armed robberies, kidnapping and other crimes, much more gruesome and perennial in Nigeria. The campaign for democracy CD, a civil society organization claimed that no fewer than 938 persons were kidnapped between January 2008 and August 2012 in the south eastern part of Nigeria alone, with three states, Anambra, Imo and Abia, topping the list in that order Anambra recorded 273 victims, Imo 265 and Abia 215. Enugu and Ebonyi, two other states in the five state geopolitical zone notorious for kidnapping, recorded 95 and 90 cases respectively. While a few of the relatives, or governments in some cases, buy freedom for them to escape death.

According to CB, Kidnappings in the area within the survey period led to the payment for about N1.2 billion as ransom to the accidents. Nigeria and other West African countries are increasingly being dominated by internal conflicts involving irregular as well as regular forces. In these conflicts, major weapons system are of less significance than cheaper, more easily available and more numerous light and small weapons.

The political, social and economic condition of the sub-region simply guarantee easy break down of border within the various countries, requiring arms for settlement since there is no culture for peace. Although there is virtually no visible traces of substantial production of small arms in the region, small arms are freely available and widely used. Fiske (2000) observation makes the point clearly:

With a seemingly constant supply of smuggled arms at their disposal, groups at battle field in West Africa have been able to prolong conflict with disastrous effects on their immediate communities and beyond; gunrunners need war to keep them in business.

Every nation has its own peculiar security threats, and Nigeria is no exception. The country, especially in the last six years, has been going through its most devastating security challenges, while kidnapping, crude oil theft have become serious threats to both human and national security, none has threatened the existence of the country as the Boko Haram insurgency. The 2015 Amnesty international reports on human rights in Nigeria said at least five thousand five hundred civilians have been killed by Boko Haram while over two thousand women and girls were adopted (Tell Magazine June 2015). The international Red Cross also said that over 1.5 million people have been displaced by the insurgency in the North-East Nigeria since 2009.

Countless number of Nigeria security operatives including the military, police and state security services lost their lives to the insurgency. Scores of men in the paramilitary forces such as the Nigeria Immigration Service, Nigeria Custom Service, Federal Road Safety Corps and the Nigerian Civil Defence Corps have also been killed.

The declaration of state of emergency in the North-East Nigeria did little to halt the tempo of terrorist activities in the area because perpetrators accessed small arms and light weapons. While Boko Haram is making a rebound across the North-East, crude oil theft has continued to inflict damages of its own. According to Ngozi Okonjo Iweala over four thousand barrels of crude oil were stolen every day. PENGASSAN believes also that oil theft exceed one hundred and eighty thousand barrels per day. Babatunde said in an interview with Tell Magazine 2015 that the country loses six billion US Dollar annually to crude oil theft another 105 billion Naira to theft of refined petroleum products through pipeline vandalism. In a situation where these amounts of money is going into the wrong pocket and Boko Haram continues its devastating attacks, human security and democracy in Nigeria is under serious threat.

Availability of small arms outside the formal security structures had contributed greatly in creating continuous circle of violence and instability in which particularly women and children are brutalized in Nigeria.

Since the inception of democracy, the nature of political actors have changed and the use of violence hold a strong footage in the in the country's politics. Arms have diffuses into the political system to the extent that issue of contention which could have remained confined to peaceful demonstration or other approaches of non-violence funds expression in the form of violence in which small arms are the main instrument (John, 1999). Political violence could have never sustained for every elections had there been no proliferation of small arms and light weapons in such a massive scale. Proliferation of weapon has been catalyst in complicating political process to the extent that many sectors of the society that deals directly with human security is hostage to it directly or indirectly. In this case, political power, complement with muscle power and financial strength, have created a political environment in which the cause of healthy democracy, economic prosperity and social welfare are the worst victims.

## **7. CONCLUSION**

In the current world environment in which the realities of globalization are literarily facing the break down of borderlines, low intensity conflicts in which small arms are crucial, and widely used, are threatening the non-negotiable ore-value of human security, especially, developing countries of a African and indeed countries of the ECOWAS sub region.

In Nigeria, life is British, nasty and short. The danger is apparent. Every Nigerian is faced with danger pose by the presence of small arms and light weapons. The fluidity of the international supplies and weakening controls on arm how pose serious challenge to human security in Nigeria.

## 8. RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on the above result and finding the study suggests the following policy actions in order to address that trade in arms across the nation's border, and perhaps recover existing ones.

- i. The custom officers and other security agencies that guard the nation's borders should double their effort at combating struggling at the borders.
- ii. The signed security bilateral agreements with neighboring countries should be made practical and effective.
- iii. The Nigeria's firearms Act, enacted in 1959, reviewed in 1990 should be amended to contain the emergence of new trends in the use, repair, importation and penal provisions to stop these problems. In this Loopholes in all legal instrument dealing with this matter, specifically section 5(3)(1);7 (2);8(3);12,20,29,30,32,(2); 33, 34, 35 and 36(2)
- iv. The adoption of South African Gun amnesty collection and seizure programme and the US, collection, Amnesty and destruction programme where good gesture is given the return of arms will help for the recovery of those in circulation: the country. This approach work well when dialogue is employed.  
Poverty and under development of the country should be tackled to avoid fertile ground that enhance terrorism

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