

# PEACE EFFORTS IN AFRICA



"Africa is often presented as a war-ridden continent, but this depiction is becoming outdated. In the 21st century, the amount of warfare in Africa has declined dramatically, and today most Africans are more secure than ever." - David T. Burbach (Oxford Research Group)



## MAJOR DEVELOPMENTS IN THE HORN OF AFRICA IN 2018

- June** Ethiopia and Eritrea cease hostilities after almost 20 years (agree to open borders and resume flights)
- July** Eritrea and Somalia restore relations after 15 years of hostilities
- Sept** Eritrea and Djibouti end border dispute  
South Sudan's warring leaders sign peace deal



**KEY ROLE PLAYER:**  
Dr Abiy Ahmed (42 years old)  
Ethiopia's Prime Minister  
(doctorate in conflict resolution)

## WARS DECREASING

### In the 1990s

**3/4** of the world's war deaths were in Africa



### NUMBER OF PEOPLE KILLED EACH YEAR IN WAR

- 1980s** 32 people per 100,000
- 1990s** 45 people per 100,000
- 2013** 8 people per 100,000

(SOURCE: Burbach & Fettweis, 2014)

### From 2000-2012

World Health Organisation (WHO) data showed a **95%** decrease in African conflict deaths



### In the 1980s

Warfare killed more Africans than vehicle accidents did



**In 2017** 3-6 times as many Africans died in road accidents than from conflict

## WHAT INFLUENCED THIS?

### DURING THE COLD WAR

The US and the Soviets armed and funded rival factions in civil wars that festered for decades in countries like Angola, Mozambique, and Ethiopia



### DURING THE 1990s

Superpower-sponsored regimes collapsed and conflicts escalated. Africa was left to its fate and weapons and resources trade with warlords abounded



### DURING THE 2000s

The US, Europe and China became more active in diplomacy, security assistance, and peacekeeping



## AFRICAN CONTRIBUTIONS

"African solutions for African problems"



**IMPROVED OPPORTUNITIES FOR POLITICAL PARTICIPATION**

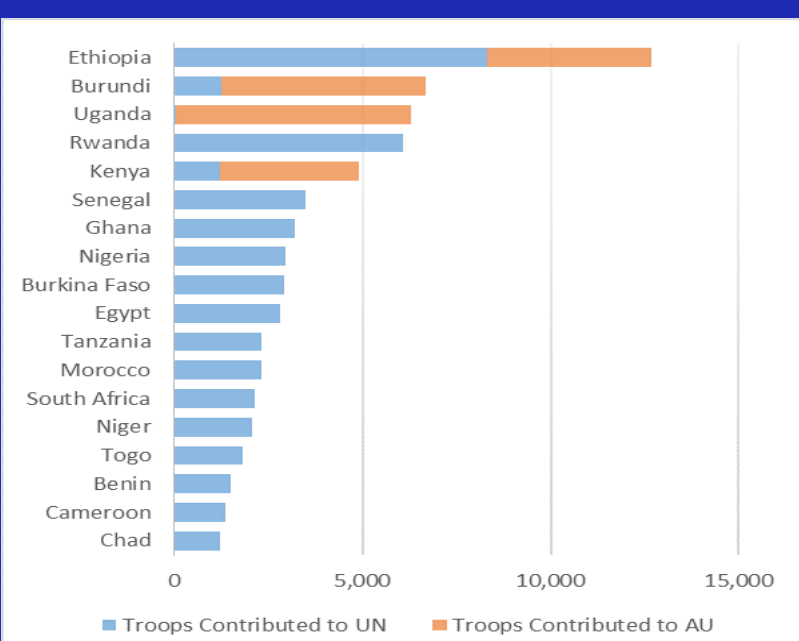
**ECONOMIC GROWTH**



**IMPROVED GOVERNANCE**



**STATE FAILURE & INTERNAL CONFLICT LESS LIKELY**

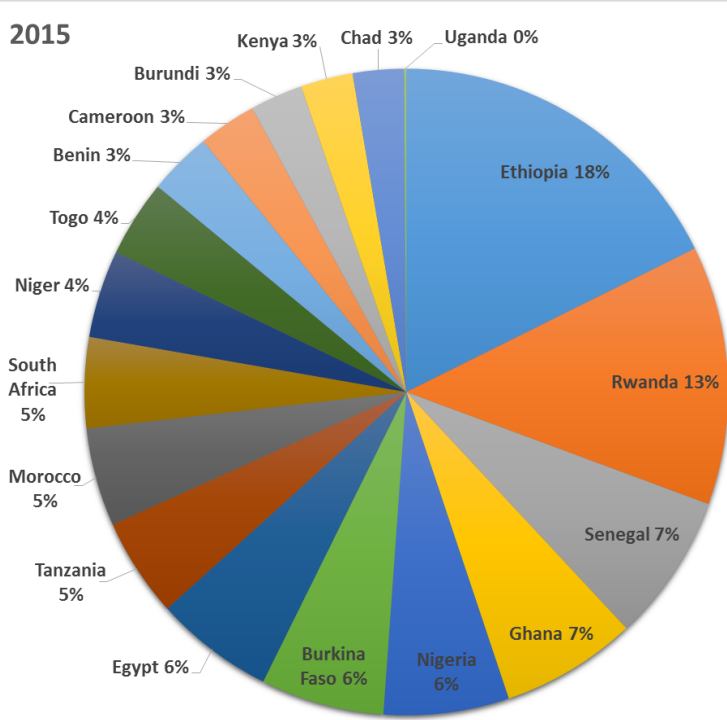
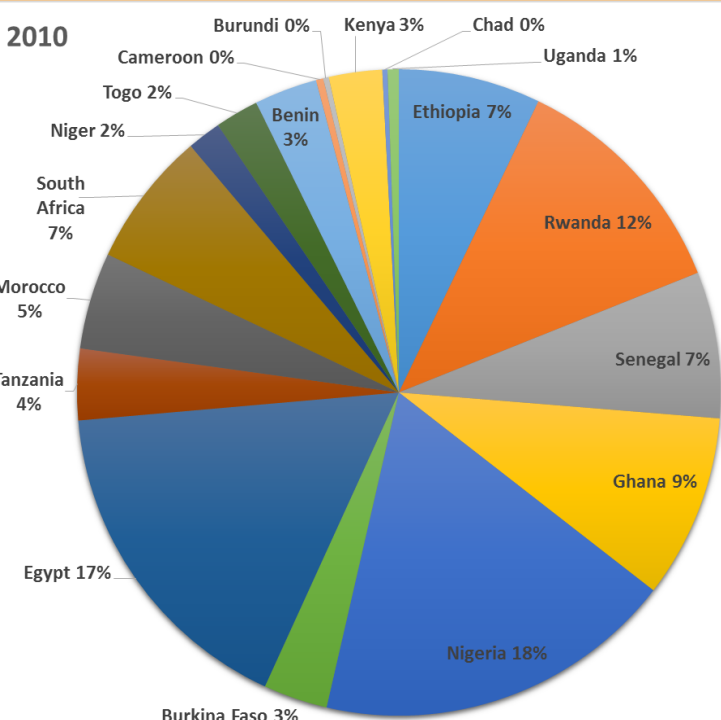


### INCREASE IN AFRICAN PERSONNEL TO PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS

**10** PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS  
**100,000** TOTAL PERSONNEL  
**65,000** AFRICAN PERSONNEL  
**5 years** = **46%** increase in African troop contributions (2010-2015)

Sources: United Nations Department of Peacekeeping Operations, African Union

## TROOP DIVERSIFICATION



The burden of peacekeeping contributions became more evenly spread among troop-contributing-countries between 2010 and 2015, leaving the continent less reliant on any particular contributing country

**Africa has made important peace and security gains over the past two decades. Large-scale conflicts have declined and fewer people are dying in wars. But other forms of political violence have increased, and the continent is still turbulent.**

### SOURCES

- <https://www.oxfordresearchgroup.org.uk/Blog/the-coming-peace-africas-declining-conflicts>
- <https://africacenter.org/spotlight/evolution-african-peacekeeping/>
- United Nations Department of Peacekeeping Operations
- African Union