Mare Matthew- PhD Student systematic theology (UNISA), Master of Human Rights, Peace and Development (AU), Master of Religious Studies (UZ), Master Peace, Leadership and Conflict Resolution (ZOU), Master of Developmental Studies, Honours in Religious Studies (UZ), Part Time student, Honours in Political Science (UZ) and 12 Executive certificates in various fields.

Fortunate Chingono- BSC Honours in Sociology (UZ)

Spencer Mbazangi- MSC in Intelligence and Security (BUSE), BSC Honours in Intelligence and security (BUSE)

Simbarashe Mangezi- Hon in Political Science (UZ), Master of International Relations (Student-UZ)

**GLOBALISATION AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS: A REFLECTION ON
THE EFFECTS OF CORONA VIRUS (COVID 19)**

Preamble

This study is informed by the threat posed by the novel Corona Virus to international relations. The Coronavirus has a lot of hidden dimensions and implications like racial war, trade wars, higher chances of infiltration by intelligence officers from China and USA under the cover of medical experts for Coronavirus, arm-twisting of global markets to devalue targeted resources like oil, compromised disaster preparedness, espionage, human rights concerns, protectionist policies, global xenophobic tendencies, conspiracy theories, disaster profiteering, threats of retreating and pulling off from treaties and conventions entered into by member states, rise of African consciousness, neo-colonial tendencies, scramble of Africa and economic implications, amongst others. These, amongst other variables have necessitated this research, making use of Kent's approach of predicting the six worst case scenarios, and whilst Kent would propose how each of the identified scenarios can be responded to, this research is limited to predictions. In terms of predictions, this study chiefly is of the view that, the escalating conspiracy theories over Coronavirus by China and USA have higher chances of triggering WW111. Germany has rattled China by joining the UK, France, and the USA in a rare attack,

after Belin called out Beijing's responsibility for the global pandemic and a leading newspaper issued a 139billion pound invoice. Thus, the Corona virus has seen hidden variables and chief among them is threat to global peace in an attempt by China to alter the world order. What also influenced this research is that since 1720 when the world began to experience and record world pandemics of health nature, states are yet to consider health security a threat to national security. States are investing in conventional warfare negating unforeseen threats to national security like health pandemics, natural disasters, corruption, and smuggling amongst others.

Introduction

The COVID 19 has brought about a more nuanced thinking where natural phenomenon such as diseases have an influence on international relations. Unlike conventional warfare, Corona virus is a unique and faceless war, non-discriminatory, its movement is not governed by conventions or protocol except maybe by WHO regulations, neither does it seek to take over government or to consolidate any mineral wealth, in fact it is ruthless, fleet-footed and metaphorically a ruthlessly effective army (Fasheun: 2020). Throughout the duration of the spread of COVID 19 novel virus, a number of states are likely to effect an array of measures meant to deter the spread of the disease but at the same time potentially destroying the spirit of globalisation. States, having been faced with a health scare posed by the COVID 19 novel virus, started to prioritise national interests over interstate interests. The relationship between and amongst states has been put to test by this virus. When the disease started, various and diverging perspectives were proffered with some alleging that blacks were immune, some called it a disease for the elite, with the developments in Italy some called it a disease for the old, the USA President in one of his press briefs preferred to call it a 'Chinese or Kung Fu disease', while others called it the disease for the cold regions amongst others. In spite of all these labels, the disease has reshaped international relations more than any other none state actor has done in the global history. In Africa, especially SADC where shared liberation history was the glue, states were forced by the health scare to shut borders, shredding the SADC solidarity and redefining history. The threat of xenophobic behaviour is also likely to be rekindled as countries such as South Africa are grappling to provide for their citizens as well as a bulge of foreign nationals living in South Africa. The world is gravitating towards an economic and military war which can result in the birth of a new world order. Whilst the Just war theory does not recognize non-state actors from controlling sovereign states, COVID 19, like terrorism in the aftermath of the 12/11 attack, will potentially alter history and reconfigure international relations. The theory is a largely Christian philosophy that attempts to reconcile

three things, that is, taking human life is seriously wrong, states have a duty to defend their citizens, justice and important moral values and that protecting innocent human life sometimes requires willingness to use force and violence.

Background

This study opined that disasters should be considered a serious threat that can potentially recreate the world order, impact on international relations, catalyze global war, impact on human security, trade, cast doubt on international and regional organisations and creates a new philosophy of protectionism.

Foreign Policy, Sovereignty and jurisdiction's impact on globalisation

Jurisdiction

Faced with the health scare, most states globally used the jurisdiction principle to try managing and containing the spread of the Coronavirus. Whilst WHO tried to manage the affairs of member states affiliated to its Convention, countries such as the USA withdrew funding and accused WHO of being part to the Chinese conspiracy theory against it. The USA invoked its jurisdiction powers to challenge the efficacy of WHO in USA's internal affairs. Within SADC, most SADC member states imposed lockdowns while Tanzania did not and the lockdowns by other SADC states do not have any legal effect to Tanzania. Jurisdiction can be defined as the Government's general power to exercise authority over all persons and entities within its territory. It is the sum total of all the competences and authority of a State to exercise its governmental functions within its territory. It is closely related to and stems from the principle of state sovereignty, sovereign equality and independence of states from interference in essentially internal affairs by other States.

Whilst states have no locus standi to declare laws for another sovereign state unless there is a treaty signed between and amongst member states, the declaration of lockdown had ramifications on international relations. Public health safety concerns pushed states to make drastic measures void of strategic foresight of the impact these measures had on the interstate relations. Theoretically, states have jurisdictional power to manage own affairs but in practice globalisation had reduced the world to be a global village. In the aftermath of Coronavirus, a state would need the same states it had been closing its borders for in order to manage the

impending global recession. International law does not allow a state to enforce its legislation outside its territory without an international agreement or a rule of customary international law permitting states to do so. The International Criminal Justice in the Lotus case stated that “in these circumstances all that can be required of a state is that it should not overstep the limits which international law places upon its jurisdiction; within these limits, its title to exercise jurisdiction rests in its sovereignty” (the lotus case: 1927). This indicates that jurisdiction is territorial in nature. In the case of National Commissioner of the South African Police and another South Africa Litigation Centre and Zimbabwe Exile Forum the court held that jurisdiction is territorial (SCA 485/2012-SA). State cannot exercise jurisdiction for offences committed in other territory unless there is a rule of customary law or convention which allows it.

International law therefore provides for the rules which permit the State to exercise jurisdiction for acts committed outside its jurisdiction. There are a number of principles which guide the State in the exercise of jurisdiction which a State must always be conversant with as it interacts with other States. With regards to the exercise of criminal jurisdiction a foreign policy therefore should therefore be in conformity with international law principles in order to maintain the foreign relations. This is important because countries such as Zimbabwe have gazetted a law in the category 14 that any person who shall publicize fake news on Coronavirus shall be liable to prosecution and if convicted shall serve a 20-year jail term. It remains to be seen if the law has an extra judicial effect given the fluid nature of the ICT and that the majority of social media weaponeers often use foreign registered cellphone numbers. In terms of jurisdictional effect not much is known on whether social media abuse is one of the crimes recognized under extradition crimes.

Politics behind Corona

The extensive spread of the virus worldwide then became a fact; it respected no borders. Figures published by the Chinese government in January and February 2020 of the scale of new cases of infections and deaths put the world mainly in a ‘stay tuned’ position until governments initiated action when cases arrived on their doorstep. It is pertinent to note that governments were so relaxed and never imagined the virus within their areas of jurisdiction. They followed the news but never thought the mode of spread plus globalisation will make China’s situation their situation too; and as such there were no plans put in motion to manage the virus in case it came to their doorsteps. Weeks later, the virus that is suspected to have

emerged in China, evolved into a worldwide crisis that countries such as Italy, Spain and then the USA recorded non-comparable figures of casualties to those announced by Chinese authorities. This is (again) a materialization of the butterfly effect.

Worldwide, countries began sharing information about the upcoming tsunami of the Covid-19 virus. Political analysts and politicians asked many questions and received less answers. Discourses then took another turn by the heated exchange and accusations of the source, cause and the spread of the virus. For instance, American intelligence community concluded that Beijing obscured the “extent of the coronavirus outbreak in its country,” while China framed its disagreement with such allegations by clarifying that their country was “open and transparent.”

Approaching the verge of the chaos generated waves of new international relations. China engaged in health diplomacy by sending medical supplies and staff to many countries. The World Health Organization became the compass of the mainstream and the social media. News of potential vaccines/ treatments are received in a hopeful manner. Even protocols of hand shaking among leaders took on different forms. Unique tensions among countries emerged. Germany accused the US of “seizing thousands of protective face masks that Berlin authorities have already paid for,” and a similar war for masks erupted between France and Turkey.

China's ambassador to the UK has hit back at the United States, saying that Washington should not seek to "bully" Beijing. During a rare question and answer session, Liu Xiaoming dismissed claims of a Chinese cover-up of the coronavirus pandemic. Mr Liu accused Western countries of "gunboat diplomacy" and called on the world to work together to put lives first. The USA is accusing WHO and China for colluding against the West on issues about the corona virus. The ambassador went on to emphasise that "China is not an enemy of the United States. If they regard China as an enemy, I think they choose the wrong target." Instead China has donated 1.8 billion masks to the US, six for every citizen.

On another hand Germany has sparked outrage in China after it put together a £130bn invoice that Beijing "owes" Berlin following the impact of the coronavirus pandemic. Germany has followed France, the UK and the US in directing its coronavirus anger at China, where the virus originated. Recent attacks come amid findings that Beijing appeared to cover up the true scale of the crisis, as the source of the outbreak remains a mystery. The UK has joined US

intelligence officials in investigating claims that the virus originated in a Wuhan virus lab and not a wet market.

Diplomatic Relations in disaster situations: A shift towards Disaster Diplomacy

The issue of diplomatic relations is an international customary law principle which had been observed for a long period of time. However, most of the customary law principles governing diplomatic relations were codified in 1961 through the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations. Diplomatic relations are an important aspect when it comes to the implementation of foreign policy. Any government which has diplomatic relations with another country does so in its own interest, and in the interest of its nationals living abroad. The coronavirus has seemingly caused an acute diplomatic turf amongst the UN member states, individuals and international organisations like WHO and IMF. When one talks of possible WW111 erupting, the diplomatic quagmire becomes the first pointer. In as much as WW111 may not be that bloody and messy; or go directly to a savage war with guns blazing, it will certainly erupt on a diplomatic front, with embargoes being effected and strict travel and trade routines coming into effect in the name of COVID-19. It is the role of diplomacy to ensure that diplomatic relations in disaster situations are not torn apart as a result of questions over racial discrimination especially of Africans by the Chinese authorities, conspiracy theories that Chinese invented coronavirus to exterminate the African race and that the Chinese 5G technology is causing the transmission of coronavirus, xenophobic tendencies on Chinese nationals in Africa, suspected Chinese origins of coronavirus, negative sentiments by the UN and WHO over Africa as the epicenter of the epidemics, the Bill Gates Foundation's proposal to use Africans as experiments, IMF's political stance over Zimbabwe, complaints by South African authorities over foreigners and the allegations that Africans who contracts coronavirus are being denied access to ventilators. These variables are a threat to diplomatic relations and yet there is no known disaster diplomacy. There is need to consider disaster diplomacy given the impact of some epidemics like coronavirus to international relations.

Accordingly, it is the executive function of the leader of the state concerned to appoint diplomatic and consular representative and to receive and recognize foreign diplomatic representatives. The main functions of diplomatic representatives according to article 3 of the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations includes

- a) Representing the sending State in the receiving State;

- b) Protecting, in the receiving State, the interests of the sending State and of its nationals, within the limits permitted by international law;
- c) Negotiating with the Government of the receiving State;
- d) Ascertaining by all lawful means conditions and developments in the receiving State, and reporting thereon to the Government of the sending State;
- e) Promoting friendly relations between the sending State and the receiving State, and developing their economic, cultural and scientific relations.

Due to the diplomats' immense contribution to the implementation of their nations' foreign policies, international law provides privileges and immunities enjoyed by diplomats in foreign lands. It is a settled principle of international law that their person, premises and property are inviolable (Vienna Convention on diplomatic relations, Articles 22, 24, 27, 29, 31). According to Sen, the principle of inviolability in respect of the person of the diplomatic agent originally arose out of the concept that the diplomat represented the person of a sovereign and that any insult to him constituted an affront to the prince who had sent him (Sen: 1965). It was therefore realized that it was essential to ensure inviolability of the person of the diplomat and his family members in order to allow him to perform his function without any hindrance from the government of the receiving state, its officials and even private persons (ibid).

The custodian of all diplomatic relations within the government, however, is the Minister of Foreign Affairs. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs is the interface between the Government and the diplomatic community. With regards to matters of foreign relations the Minister oversees the implementation of foreign policy by diplomatic representatives. In order to enable the Minister to effectively perform his duties, international law plays a crucial role in this regard by providing personal and functional immunity to Ministers of Foreign affairs. This was pointed out in the case of Democratic Republic of Congo v Belgium (Arrest Warrant case) (ICJ Rep 3:2002). In this case Belgium issued and circulated internationally an arrest warrant against the incumbent Foreign Affairs Minister of Congo, Yerodia based on universal jurisdiction. Yerodia was accused of inciting racial hatred which resulted in the attack of Tutsi residents in Rwanda. Congo in its application asked the ICJ to decide that Belgium violated international law because it did not respect the inviolability and immunities of the incumbent foreign minister from criminal process before Belgian court. The court held that the issuance and circulation of the arrest warrant violated Belgium's international obligations towards the

Congo. Belgium was held to have failed to respect and infringed Yerodia's immunity and the personal inviolability of the minister of foreign affairs enjoyed by him under international law.

As a result of corona virus there is exchange of harsh words between the USA and Chinese Ministers of foreign affairs over the origins of Coronavirus and the sour relationship between these two states has escalated more than it was during the trade-war era.

Australia has asked the Chinese ambassador to explain his 'economic coercion' threat made in response to Canberra's push for an inquiry into the source of the coronavirus. Ambassador Cheng Jingye said Australia's push for an inquiry into the origins of the virus could result in China rejecting Australian products. 'Maybe also the ordinary people will say, "why should we drink Australian wine or to eat Australian beef?"', he told the Australian Financial Review. Australia responded quickly, informing the ambassador that his comments were out of line. China accounts for 26 per cent of Australia's total trade, worth around \$235 billion in 2018/19, and is the biggest single market for Australian exports such as coal, iron ore, wine, beef, tourism and tertiary education. But the Morrison government stood firm in its decision to back the calls for a global inquiry into how the virus was able to spread from its epicentre in Wuhan, China, and cause a global pandemic

At the heart of peace and security lies the issue of use of force. When formulating a foreign policy, the nation needs to know that the use of force against another sovereign States is not condoned under international law. Article 2(4) of the UN Charter provides that all Members of the United Nations in their international relations are obliged to refrain from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any state, or in any other manner inconsistent with the Purposes of the United Nations. In the case of *Nicaragua v United State of America* (*Nicaragua v USA* ICJ Rep 11986 p14), the United States had engaged in military and paramilitary activities against Nicaragua. Nicaragua, therefore, brought the matter before the International Court of Justice asking it to declare those activities to be in violation of international law. The court held that USA violated customary international obligation not to use force against another State when it attacked Nicaragua in 1983 and 1984. Similarly, the trade and cold war between the USA-China is not managed has the propensity to trigger WW111. The Coronavirus is likely to trigger a full-scale war between these two states. The USA is likely to unleash its military hardware on China as evidenced by continued conspiracy theories over the Coronavirus and the USA has only left with one option of military warfare as

China has seemingly managed to economically arm-twist the USA. If it is true that the Chinese government used biological warfare to forcibly change the world order in its order by creating Coronavirus the UNSC should institute investigations and if China is found guilty, appropriate action should be taken to avert the recurrence of similar threats to global peace and trade through biological wars. In this modern era an all guns war may not be the best thing. Every nation wants to be a human rights champion. This means that espionage, trade fights and bio warfare can be the best way to wage a war; thus WW111 is most likely to erupt in the eyes of the global citizens but no country may acknowledge that they are at war, or that they waged war against another country, otherwise WW111 has already began and most people are unaware of the raging war. This makes this century the most dangerous and this kind of war the most lethal, as most countries may fail to mobilize to fight back, but rather they will be targeting to improve economic situations in their country which will be a result of this form of war.

However, there are exceptions to the prohibition of use of force which a State must be conversant with when it is also formulating and implementing foreign policy. The first exception is that of collective self defence. The UN Security Council is the one bestowed with primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security. Therefore, in collective self defence they can authorize use of force against any nation when other peaceful means to bring peace and stability have proved to be insufficient (Article 42 of the UN Charter). The other exception where use of force is permitted is when a State uses force in self defence. According to article 51 of the UN Charter, a State can resort to the use of force in self defence when there is an armed attack against it. Measuring on the steps currently being taken by USA on the Coronavirus's origins and its perceived target at USA over the existing trade war tension, the USA is likely to invoke Article 51 of the UN Charter to wage a war against China. Global peace is currently highly volatile as a result of the Coronavirus epidemic as the disaster is likely to trigger a series of disasters ranging from security, peace and stability, economic, diplomatic and religious.

The role of the military and civil intelligence is to defend the state by taking a pro-active action and this involves regularly redefining the security concept such that it would not be obsolete. The concept of security is a highly neglected concept and has led to series of global intelligence failures and Coronavirus is one of the world's intelligence failures. It would be an exaggeration to say that conceptual analysis of security began and ended with Wolfers' article in 1952

(Knorr: 1973). The neglect of security as a concept is reflected in various surveys of security affairs as an academic field (Bock and Berkowitz: 1966). In 1965 one such study lamented that 'thus far there have been very few attempts ... to define the concept of national security' (Smoke: 1975). In 1973 Klaus Knorr began a survey of the field by stating his intention to 'deliberately bypass the semantic and definitional problems generated by the term "National Security"' (ibid). In 1975, Richard Smoke observed that the field had 'paid quite inadequate attention to the range of meanings of "security"' (Walt: 1991). In 1991, Buzan described security as 'an underdeveloped concept' and noted the lack of 'conceptual literature on security' prior to the 1980s (Buzan: 1995). Although Buzan sees some progress in the 1980s, there are still indicators of neglect. Two recent surveys of security studies, for example, did not bother to define security (Nye, Jr and Lynn-Jones: 1988) and none of the eleven course syllabi described in *Security Studies for the 1990s* includes Wolfers' seminal article on the concept of national security (Schultz, Godson, and Greenwood eds: 1992, 1993). The literature reviewed clearly points to security as a complex and dynamic phenomena without a straight forward definition.

Considering the plethora of attempts to 'redefine' security since the end of the Cold War, one might question whether security should be described as a neglected concept (Tickner: 1995). Two reasons for doing so are compelling. First, security is an important concept, which has been used to justify suspending civil liberties, making war, and massively reallocating resources during the last fifty years. Despite the flurry of recent works, it seems fair to describe security as a concept that received far less scholarly attention than it deserved during that period. And second, most recent works on security would not qualify as conceptual analysis in the sense described in the previous section (ibid). Security has not received the serious attention accorded to the concepts of justice, freedom, equality, obligation, representation, and power (Digeser: 1994). Buzan suggests five possible explanations for the neglect of security (Buzan: 1994). First, is the difficulty of the concept. As Buzan admits, however, this concept is no more difficult than other concepts. Second, is the apparent overlap between the concepts of security and power. Since these are easily distinguishable concepts, however, one would have expected such confusion to motivate scholars to clarify the differences. Third, is the lack of interest in security by various critics of Realism (ibid). This, however, does not explain why security specialists themselves neglected the concept. Fourth, is that security scholars are too busy keeping up with new developments in technology and policy. This, however, is more an indication that such scholars give low priority to conceptual issues than an explanation for this lack of interest. And the fifth explanation considered by Buzan is that policy-makers find the

ambiguity of 'national security' useful, which does not explain why scholars have neglected the concept. On balance, none of Buzan's explanations is very convincing (ibid).

International Trade

International law provides a framework on issues of trade. A state has a right to freely engage in international trade with other states. Issues of trade are fundamental in the international arena because the success of a state's economy is based on the level of trade. The World Trade Organization (WTO) is the international organization which deals with the global rules of trade between nations. Its main function is, therefore, to ensure that trade flows as smoothly, predictably and freely as possible. The rules of international trade, therefore, have significance on foreign policy because non-adherence can result on the down fall of the economy. Currently most states have embarked on protectionist policies with some shutting their borders resulting in shredding of WTO, and in the aftermath of Coronavirus where most countries would be faced with varied recessions, it remains to be seen if the core values of the WTO would be respected and adhered to.

Implications

Zimbabwe's vigorous pursuit of its re-engagement policy has rendered it, at least at the declaratory level, a non-threat to Western interests. In this regard, USA sanctions against Ambassador Amsalem Sanyatwe are in themselves meant to send a message to Harare to re-adjust its foreign policy posture especially in terms of relations with Russia and China. The US government in their latest National Security strategy and National Defence strategy have declared Russia and China as the biggest challenges to US national security (Herald: 28 May 2020). It follows then that any country forging and cementing their relationship with these two countries becomes a natural enemy of the US. It is no coincidence that Ambassador Sanyatwe was sanctioned on the eve of an official trip to Russia by the Zimbabwean Minister of Foreign Affairs Honorable Minister S.B Moyo. The narrative by the USA that Sanyatwe was sanctioned for his involvement in the August 1, 2018 shooting is a mere smokescreen. Sanyatwe was placed under Section 7031(c) of the FY 2019 Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act (Div. F, P.L. 116-6) due to his involvement in gross violations of human rights. Section 7031(c) provides that, in cases where the Secretary of State

has credible information that foreign officials have been involved in significant corruption or a gross violation of human rights, those individuals and their immediate family members are ineligible for entry into the United States (DRL-Press@state.gov). The US has also declared the re-emergence of great-power competition in their National Security Strategy and National Defence Strategy and is clearly threatened by China and Russia. China now has access and control of most Cobalt deposits in the world, and given that Cobalt plays a significant role in electric cars, China automatically plays a leading role in the electric car revolution and next generation of industrialization. Russia and China share the border and the US is compelled to feel that the two have a grand plan against the US and as such any other country showing an inclination towards the two nations would seem to collude with them, unless they show a shift in foreign policy. Zimbabwe was not spared of this suspicious and paranoid behavior, hence the stern warning in the sanctioning of Sanyatwe.

In South Africa, the centrifugal forces seem to be in ascendance, highlighting the ethnic/tribal fault lines that might threaten national cohesion. The deterioration of interethnic relations within the ANC has poisoned the whole body politic. There is a danger of balkanization and the free fall into Bantustan laagers. It is not far-fetched to anticipate open conflict with spillovers into Zimbabwe. Strategic planning should factor a humanitarian (refugee) crisis along the border towns such as Beitbridge and Mussina should the situation deteriorate further.

Evolution of non-global threats to global threats

Prior to September 11 attacks terror was never a global threat though countries were confronting it at domestic level. Pursuant to the September 11 attacks, the United Nations Security Council adopted Resolution 1373 of 2001, which compels states to develop and implement measures to enhance their capabilities to prevent future terrorist attacks. In order to ensure compliance amongst United Nations member states, the Resolution 1373 also established a committee known as the Counter- Terrorism Committee (CTC), to oversee the implementation of the resolution by states (Rapoport, 2016). The Resolution 1373 compels all UN member states to formulate Counter Terrorism Measures hereinafter CTMs that address Human Security hereinafter HS issues. This therefore means that every country is obliged to recognise CTMs regardless of whether the country has been affected by the threat of terrorism or not. Similarly, health has been a HS security issue but the two world pandemics The Spanish Flu in 1918 and Coronavirus in 2019 have compelled states to reconsider health security seriously. Disaster profiteering, securitisation, politicization, and racialization of disaster

situations, weaponization of social media and fake news in disaster situations, post-traumatic disorder considerations and health and environmental security are some of the emerging threats to the world order and the UNSC should consider these variables seriously.

Impact of Coronavirus on Strategic Vision in Africa

Although health security, like terrorism, is at its infancy within the SADC community, the situation is likely to be more demanding given that the A.U and SADC are pushing for free movement of people by 2063. The occurrence of The Spanish Flue, Ebola in West Africa and Coronavirus is indicative of the surge, in terms of health security, in Africa with a propensity to affect the AU's strategic vision. On the other hand terrorism, health security, natural disasters, weaker gun policy, fragile economies, weaponization of social media, food security, refugees and xenophobic attacks are amongst non-traditional threats that are threatening the AU's unity. While free movement is a noble idea, most SADC and A.U member states are yet to effectively build strong disaster infrastructure, disaster early warning systems, improve coping mechanism and sustainable livelihoods, adopt uniform governance system as well as to, disarm, and integrate their forces soon after internal conflicts to regain independence. It is also pertinent to note that the actual level of the threat of bio-terrorism or health affecting terrorism may not be well accounted for in Africa basing from past events as there has been limited investment in rigorous forensic services and a forensic approach in intelligence circles. This then means that any records of such events in Africa could be certainly underestimated and Africa could be underprepared for such attacks.

This free movement, if it succeeds, will increase the proliferation of small arms, spread of contagious diseases and endanger traditional conflict resolution mechanism and follow countries like South Sudan, Mozambique and South Africa where citizens take advantage of the gun policy and failed demobilization to abuse access to small arms to resolve conflicts violently. Same will exacerbate the spread of health hazards such as the Ebola in the past and currently the Coronavirus. In pursuit of human security, the AU must first silence the guns, institute strong and effective disaster infrastructure, establish robust early warning systems, adopt *Ubuntu* as its form of governance, work on the attitude problem to disasters amongst its citizenry, formulate a strong economic and defence policy and drop colonially inherited political systems before considering implementing the free movement policies and of course terrorism, human security and health security concerns must be factored in.

In terms of newly emerging trends in traditional threats such as terrorism, terrorist (cum refugees), while in transit would be carrying out reconnaissance for the purposes of future attacks. Any state without known deterrent measures and laws would be considered a safe haven by such groups. The position of the United Nations Commissioner for Refugees hereinafter UNHCR has not refuted the allegations that, its members are abusing it to carry out sinister operations. Regarding the Coronavirus, UNHCR has not stood for the plight of its members who were affected by lockdowns and jurisdictional stringent measures imposed to mitigate and minimise the spread of Coronavirus. Refugees are the worst vulnerable groups of people in global pandemics of infectious nature, they face domestic threats to their lives and while in transit they are viewed as couriers and sleeper cells for terror organisations. The UNHCR should consider, therefore, an additional protocol on the rights of refugees in global pandemics drawing lessons from Coronavirus. Similarly countries without strong disaster infrastructure will be manipulated by powerful states, for example, WHO had temporarily removed state sovereignty because of this Coronavirus pandemic.

Signing of treaties and conventions by African heads of state without due diligence is Africa's greatest tragedy as the Pacta Sunt Servanda principle was arbitrarily applied. With all these developments across the globe AU would need to come up with effective counter terrorism measures, health security, disaster management and early warning system for both conventional and non-conventional threats to protect human security. Without effective proactive counter terrorism measures, literary it means the level of disaster preparedness in the event of a terror attack is at its lowest ebb hence the purpose and significance of this study.

The de-mining exercise which was done on the borderlines in most AU member states has opened floodgates for all forms of boarder crimes and has made it impossible to impose such measures like effective lockdowns. Free movement will lead to culture dilution and erosion of the social fabric. The free movement mantra is a terror, health security and a human security concern. Instead, if not well calculated, these non-traditional threats can trigger massive and violent civil disobedience that can degenerate Africa to the Stone Age era. The West and Chinese interests, not only in African economies but also in African internal political affairs, are a cause for concern and sooner or later the nature of African politics shall assume the cold war posture. It would be either the ruling or opposition party is supported by the West or China with the intent to mop all its resources. The scramble for Africa has taken a new face and the one who is dangling a bigger carrot will certainly make inroads in Africa. The European Union

is preparing for life after Brexit and they are looking at Africa; Britain is also looking at life after Brexit, and they are targeting the commonwealth countries which are African. China has come out with the Silk Road, Japan is also trying to improve its investment in Africa, Russia is doing the same and America cannot be left out. This is going to complicate African politics and only shrewd and canning leaders with a powerful intelligence service will dissect their relations with all these powers and find a way which is favourable for the development of Africa. It is time that Africa begins to position itself as a threat and superpower.

Future analysis of the outcome of the Coronavirus by adopting Kent's approach of future case scenarios to the identified threat

Kent's six future case scenarios in strategic intelligence analysis play a central role in analyzing the aftermath of coronavirus. Using his projections, the following six worst case scenarios were projected in the aftermath of the coronavirus.

- The first worst case scenario is that, there is going to be a WW11 triggered by USA-China in the same way the aftermath of the 1918 Spanish Flu inadvertently influenced WW11. Meanwhile, states should start to prepare for another successive world disaster of conventional nature. Whilst China-USA is currently embarking on the fight to the finish approach, a bystander like North Korea or India will emerge as a super power in the new world order. The fight between the two will definitely weaken both of them and they will lose their global aura.
- Recession is going to trigger human insecurities resulting in popular revolts of the North African nature. Resultantly, politically volatile states should start to prepare for regime alterations or the prevention of such take overs. Powerful states are going to directly interfere in the political affairs of the weaker states in order to recover from impending global recession. Weaker and politically unstable countries endowed with natural resources shall be the weaker targets. There shall be a resource curse in Africa, as China and USA fight over who should control Africa and its resources. Powerful states shall manipulate the WTO to devalue resources such as oil, minerals so that they would get them for free.
- The USA and China are going to scramble for African resources to recover from the recession triggered by coronavirus. The Berlin Conference is coming back but now through a different form like unscrupulous trade investments, direct interference into

the internal affairs of the targeted African states and a surge in investors meant to syphon the resources in Africa. In simpler terms every African state with vital mineral and other precious resources shall be targeted and destabilized in the manner of Libya under Colonel Gadhafi, only that this time it shall be more aggressive yet so intricate. Countries such as China and the USA shall unleash its top intelligence personnel to conduct covert operations under the cover of being medical experts for Coronavirus to targeted countries across Africa and Zimbabwe being the first country in Africa to come up with Look East Policy becomes a soft spot for the Chinese. Zimbabwe's current economic status will not spare it from the attack as a primary target of all sorts of tricks. The belt and road Africa-China concept is instructive in this regard. Meanwhile, the estimated USD\$200 million USA foreign mission in Zimbabwe speaks volumes in terms of US-Africa strategy. The embassy was built with strategic foresight that the new dispensation's foreign policy would be pro-West as opposed to the old dispensation which at declaratory level was pro-East and China in particular. The intelligence services and the interstate African intelligence organizations like OSISA should seriously consider s vetting of experts from China and USA. Infact Africa should endeavor to develop its own experts in critical specialist services areas who have first world training and are competent enough to come up with solutions for all calamities that may befall Africa without major assistance from the West. In the past Africa has even gone to the extent of having expatriate teachers, which shows the huge gap in skills development which exposes Africa in many ways. The intelligence systems should also be staffed with more than 90% highly skilled personnel so that they are always on the radar looking out for dangers that they know. Had it been that Africa had highly trained Forensic Microbiologists or virologists working in intelligence they could have quickly reacted to give information that could have arrested the spread of corona virus to Africa. The lack of critical skills and the investment towards those skills is a serious scourge to the security of African States.

- Through conspiracy theory by the USA, Chinese products shall be rejected by the global market and already the 5G has been a victim of the conspiracy theory. America is more experience in conspiracy theory than China and resultantly USA would be able to influence the global market to shun the Chinese products. In the global market derogatory terms such as 'Zhing Zhong' are very common in Africa. Such terms suggest that, the Chinese products are less durable and suggestive that Africa had been

considered a dumping ground of poor-quality Chinese products. This perception if fortified by allegations of the ill treatment of African nationals in China, catapults the possibility of the dumping of Chinese products on the global market. However, in economic terms, China's economy alone has drastically made it a nocturnal global economic power house ahead of USA. The Fortune 500 and the first 4 major banks in the world clearly indicate an impending new world order in favour of China. The resent protests hash tagged black lives matter in the US over the publicized death of George Floyd, a black American, at the hands of security details as captured by passersby cameras and circulated on the internet is even making it worse for the US. This saw America, a loud mouth about human rights and in particular press freedom trying to gag the press over the developments. The champion of human rights for once clearly came out to violet them, with the President Donald Trump threatening to release the military to protestors. This indicated that Trump was charmed by autocracy as the best way to deal with chaos. If China is to be the new unipolar giant in the new world order, western tenets like human rights and democracy would be replaced with one state partisanship and autocracy. Currently, all lockdowns are autocracies and human rights concerns in disaster situation are being ignored globally. Thus, the response to Coronavirus promoted autocratic systems as the best form of governance during disaster situations. Democracy has proven to be the worst form of governance in disaster situations and even the Western countries ended imposing military enforced lockdowns.

- There is going to be African consciousness and clash of civilization due to the manner in which Africans were treated during the Coronavirus. There is a trend in which all the novel viruses are being linked to Africa and Africans are to blame for the spread of such diseases. In China, despite the suspicion that coronavirus was manufactured in the Chinese laboratories, Africans in China are being accused for its spread and this has serious impact on China-Africa relations. The racial discrimination and neo-colonial mentality of regarding Africa as a dark continent was also sustained by the Bill Gates foundation that Africans be used as experiments for coronavirus trial medication. There are also allegations that distribution of ventilators in the USA is taking a racial route as blacks are being segregated against, and the Gorge Floyd murder at the hands of police officers in the streets at the full glare of members of the public in Minneapolis is not helping matters in relation to the racism issue. The threats and anxieties posed by the new disease result in segregation of victims, including their corpses. . For example, in

the 90s the first victims of HIV/MIV/AIDS were buried in the same way victims of coronavirus are being buried, wrapped in thick plastic bags, coffins fumigated, no body views and other bereavement procedures. Every novel virus is promoting stigmatization due to the fear of the unknown. The same can be said of Ebola and now coronavirus. In South Africa, domestic workers of the affluent and whites (and other African countries where whites are the most affluent members of society), have been relegated to poverty due to Coronavirus lockdown measures as most employers have decided to not to pay them, yet they survived on hand to mouth from their peanut earnings.

- Countries shall lose faith in global international organisations and shall use their sovereign rights to pull out of international organisations and conventions entered into. The US president has pointed out that he feels that WHO covered up for China or otherwise colluded with China in the spread of the coronavirus. The US then withdrew their financial contribution to WHO, and China doubled their contribution. Madagascar is also at logger heads with WHO as it feels they are blocking the sale of their traditional medicine which they say can cure COVID-19. Madagascar feels WHO is fronting for big western based pharmaceutical companies at the expense of Africa, and in particular Madagascar itself. This has seen the emergence of divided opinions on social media (which is the modern news vehicle which has more influence than traditional media) including fake news about the matter. The status of UN shall become like that of the League of Nations whose bark was more harmful than its bite. The Pact Sunt Servanda principle will collapse emerging economies. The majority of third world countries are imposing WHO prescribed lockdown policies whose conditions are untenable in Africa given its health sector situation. African states, for fear of losing member benefits of WHO are blindly following its prescriptive policies without any due diligence. The extent to which the lockdown would be sustainable in third world countries where the majority of the population is in the informal sector with unemployment rates varying between 65-95 percent remains questionable. WHO lockdown tenets shall trigger massive recession and weaken African's bargaining power against China and the Western hegemony in the aftermath of Coronavirus. The USA intelligence was the first to discover the hidden variables in the operations of the WHO. Africa has limited options due to donor dependence syndrome. Additionally, in most states there shall be disaster profiteering whereby monies being donated towards Coronavirus by such

international organisations like WHO would be diverted to personal use forcing the beneficiaries to make biased decisions

Observation on the extent to which corona virus has affected international relations

The researcher observed that visitors at Robert Gabriel Mugabe International Airport and at all border ports were only open for returning residences with all foreigners being turned away. At border stations only cargo goods were being allowed to enter and exit the country. This can be generalised to all states that have declared lockdown as a means to curb and contain the spread of coronavirus. The screening process at borders of interrogation has led to segregation of foreigners who are being treated differently from the locals at ports of entry and exit. This segregation has serious ramifications on relations among the UN member states and there is likelihood of post coronavirus segregation against foreigners. The lockdowns would be theoretically lifted but in terms of enforcement foreigners would continue to be subjected to strict uncoded conditions making it impossible for people to easily access any part of the world.

The study also observed SADC member states closing borders, foreigners being ill-treated and segregated against, illegal immigrants being deported, foreign nationals being forced to undergo mandatory testing, refugees being turned away and host states advising the foreign missions to arrange for voluntary repatriation in what looks like a precursor to xenophobic tenets. Trade between and amongst states has been negatively impacted on and countries are beginning to move towards protectionist policy posture owing to the adverse effects of the coronavirus.

The study also observed escalating tension between USA-China over the origins of the coronavirus and that it is biological warfare meant to weaken the USA. There are also conspiracy theories that the biological warfare was targeted at Africa but the manufacturers failed to contain it hence coronavirus. The study observed videos and pictures of Africans in China being subjected to inhuman and degrading treatment. The majority ended up sleeping in pavements and being barred from accessing shops, public places and pharmacies for basic amenities. There are also social media videos linked to the Bill Gates foundation to the effect that Africans be experimented on and South African president confirmed having a discussion with Bill Gates over the same. Whilst Africans in the past were used for medicinal experiments,

with the advent of the digital world there is a rise in African consciousness and collective bargaining against looking down upon African civilisation. The post Coronavirus period shall mark the birth of the clash of civilisation and cold war.

The researcher also observed, with concern, failure to observe human security concerns when announcing lockdowns. The majority of states did not have adequate social nets to enhance human security during the lockdown period. Additionally, sexual health education was also lacking and there is likelihood of a child-boom and HIV/AIDS in the aftermath of most lockdowns. PTSDs trigger high sex drive taking cue from the studies which were carried out by clinical psychologists and as such sexual health education in disaster situations is central. Adolescence concerns were also neglected especially the provision of sanitary wear during the disaster phase. Equally important is the welfare of child headed families, people living with chronic health conditions, people living with disability, informal traders, unemployed, domestic violence amongst and within couples, orphans and families and the elderly which was not prioritised.

Corona virus, the death of globalisation and the rebirth of nationalism.

States responding to Coronavirus were observed to be putting in place protectionist policies, retooling their foreign policies and proposing restructuring of the whole bureaucratic system with the view to move towards inbound policies. Countries were observed closing borders with the possibility of xenophobic tendencies. Fake news in the international arena was observed triggering schism and promoting racial discrimination within the global politic. The USA decampaigned Chinese products, technology and also accused China for manufacturing Coronavirus. The US came out guns blazing against their almost total dependence on Chinese origin pharmaceuticals or pharmaceutical raw materials. Meanwhile, Africa was influenced not to accept Western medication and there was scepticism in the aftermath of the reckless statements by Bill Gates Foundation on the proposal to use Africans for experiment. At regional level SADC member states were observed locking up borders and putting stringent measures that made it impossible for the SADC member states to trade or visit each other. The Brexit, the Paris Agreement withdrawal by the USA, in 2018 Trump withdrew from UN Human Rights Council, US withdrew from UN Cultural organisation UNESCO citing anti-Israel bias, the racist utterances by the US president Trump, the conventional retaliation by Iran

to the stoppage of WHO funding by the USA were measures observed as pointing to the demise of the spirit of globalisation and rebirth of nationalism.

The Chinese government is a victim of social media, which has proven to be an international player in changing perceptions, attitudes and behavior of both states and individuals. The recent evictions of mostly Africans have been heavily politicized and misconstrued to mean that China is systematically racially targeting Africans for forced testing and evictions. The victims were quick to give a false alarm to the global world that China was conducting Afrophobic attacks on Africans. China as part of its raft measures to contain the COVID virus, introduced the nucleic acid test for Corona and it is done for locals and foreigners alike (Keigh Vour: 2020). After the test, one is given a green safety status which shows that you have been tested and you tested negative. Additionally, the government directed that any property owners who house any person without the green status shall be prosecuted with possibility of having the property taken over by the government. The property owners were left with no option but to evict the tenants who were not compliant with the health checks (ref). Africans who were being evicted had invalid visas and had been staying in China illegally after their business/tourists' visas expired, a common practice with most Nigerians (ref). The majority are private English teachers or those in self-initiated businesses who were operating without work visas. It is the role of Embassies to give a correct perspective than to surrender diplomacy to social media.

Meanwhile, the African Group of Ambassadors firstly acknowledged the role China played during the liberation struggle and Africa's support for China to secure a permanent seat in the United Nations Security Council hereinafter UNSC. Additionally, the support rendered to Africa by the Chinese Communist Party to fight the COVID 19 pandemic. However, the African Group of Ambassadors observed with consternation the discrimination and stigmatization of Africans whereby they are made to forcefully and in a very crude manner to undergo epidemic investigation and Nucleic Acid Test and a mandatory 14 days quarantine (African Group of Ambassadors: 2020). Pertinently, singling out of Africans for compulsory testing and quarantine in their view had no logical or scientific basis and amounts to racism towards Africans in China in Guangdong Province. The following violations were singled out, seizure of passport of African nationals in violation of international practices and conventions. Also, the threat of revocation of visas, arrest, detention and deportation of African legal

migrants for no cogent reason infringes on their human rights (ref). They also foresaw a possible backlash of the Chinese nationals in Africa, a threat which may not see the light of the day because of the donor dependence syndrome. Africa had mortgaged itself and is in serious debt due to reckless loans and abuse of the loans through uncouth and nefarious activities. For Africans to continuously think in terms of brotherhood in a pandemic situation like this where every global actor had ditched globalization tenets and its principles and adopted inbound policies. Even when considering the attitude of Africans to their own lockdowns one can safely conclude that the AU should work hard on attitude problems and propagating democracy in a disaster situation. If Africans are reacting the way they are to their respective government orders then China is not the right place for such behaviour. China has a strait jacket system of governance especially to elements that threaten its sovereignty and economy. In the aftermath of this pandemic, xenophobic attacks are inevitable across the globe.

The issue of migrants has always been a topical issue given the drastic fall of globalisation and all its tenets. In a letter dated 12 April 2020 on the response by African Union member states to COVID 19 and was directed to AU Chairman President Cyril Ramaphosa, a number of issues relating to foreign squatters living in the affected countries were raised. In a letter attributed to one Ncube, she indicated that whilst the implementation of the lockdown was a noble idea same was not supported by any scientific research.

“I concur that the lockdowns should have considered critical components like the poor, vagrants, child headed families, the elderly, those with disabilities, those with health conditions, self-employed, the violation of labor laws by companies taking advantage of the scaling down directive, a number of permanent employees had their contracts arbitrarily changed to temporary, those on contracts had their contracts terminated, salaries were arbitrarily scaled down, the number of domestic violence cases soured and heavy handedness by security services.” In the case of South Africa, Ncube spoke of the unemployed people who have no documents to take to the Department of Labor to apply for any pay-out (Ncube: 2020). She urged the government to investigate why the majority of the people were defying the lockdown order and want to be in the streets. She said that parents are faced with traumatic situation of watching their children starving to death and the government should have dealt with hunger issues before ordering people to stay indoors. Ncube also urged the government of South Africa to consider immigrants to include illegal immigrants who entered the country through evasion). In this regard, Ncube raised an important component of human security

considerations in the management of disasters and lack of disaster preparedness especially in dealing with non-traditional disasters.

This catastrophe showed the level and spectrum of global intelligence failure. In Italy, it is alleged that the President cried and surrendered governance to God and this is an epitome of intelligence failure, crying by the President not only does it prove his cluelessness but also demonstrated lack of knowledge of disaster management. His cry would cause panic and increased traumatic disorders. When managing disasters, management of traumatic disorders is key to all the three phases of the disaster. Karl Marx defined religion as opium of the people the coronavirus required laboratories and not religion. Whilst most states are looking into their laboratories for solutions, some are looking to religion for solutions to a non-religious biological warfare. Countries that neglected their health systems and failed to consider non-traditional threats in their strategic biological intelligence and defence warfare are the most vulnerable. It becomes critical for any forward thinking country to invest in the study and preparation for non-traditional threats. A neglect of such necessary investment leads to serious economic decline. Coronavirus has given a serious learning point. Most countries looked at investment from a business perspective and perception and never from a security and disaster management point of view. This has left the whole world in the present debacle or economic quagmire and is then going to lead to a new world order which is going to favour countries which have better disaster response systems or have invested in disaster management and security.

Of concern to this paper is the *Pacta Sunt Servanda* principle which demands that parties to a treaty or convention should be servants of that particular treaty or convention which they signed and ratified. The *Pacta Sunt Servanda*, in the 2001 Articles on State Responsibility, Articles 23 and 25, provides for temporary derogation from treaty obligation in extraordinary situations (Binder, 2013:671). The COVID 19 novel virus presented a new dimension to international law and international relations where a health scare acted as a test to the credibility of conventions, protocols, treaties and extent to which these legal instruments can be respected in extra ordinary circumstances. The conventions, treaties, agreements and protocols entered into by states proved to be counterproductive when circumstances changed substantively due to the COVID 19 epidemic. The *Pacta Sunt Servanda* is static but circumstances changes with the evolution of non-traditional threats.

In pursuit of nationalistic approach, the Iran government has rejected ‘foreign’ help as the virus death toll nears 2, 000. This was posted on Alireza Vahabzadeh, advisor to Iran’s Health Minister’s Twitter handle. Meanwhile, the country’s supreme leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei has urged Iranians to follow state instructions ‘so that Almighty God will put an end to this calamity for the Iranian people, for all Muslim nations and for all mankind’. Relatedly, in terms of international relations, the United Nations human rights chief Michelle Bachelet called for any sanctions imposed on countries facing the corona virus epidemic like Iran, Zimbabwe, North Korea, Venezuela, Cuba to be ‘urgently re-evaluated’ to avoid pushing strained medical systems into collapse. Of note is the redefinition of the efficacy of the international instruments such as sanctions. Bachelet stated that, *‘at this crucial time both for global public health reasons, and to support the rights and lives of millions of people in these countries, sectorial sanctions should be eased or suspended’*. The sentiments were further echoed by United Nations Secretary General Antonio Guterres in a letter to G-20 countries called for rolling back international sanctions on countries amid outbreak of Coronavirus global pandemic. The letter further stated that, sanctions jeopardize health institutions and weaken the global effort to contain the spread of the new virus.

The appeal reflects mounting concerns that sanctions may be impeding efforts in Cuba, Iran, North Korea, Venezuela and Zimbabwe to battle the Coronavirus and enhancing the prospects of the pathogen’s spread to such countries. This reflection by the UN clearly states sanctions as impeding states from meeting their human security needs. The previously mentioned statement by Oppah Muchinguri-Kashiri during her address in Chinhoyi, though heavily criticized, seemed logical in evaluating Zimbabwe’s capacity to tackle COVID 19 and sanctions simultaneously. Sanctions as an international instrument of responding to errant states, seem to cause more harm than the intended consequences, more so during the time when states struggle to respond to natural hazards and non-traditional threats.

Through data mining from social media groups, one Prince Lfy Chijioke posted that, China created corona virus as a bio-weapon to destabilize Europe and bring United States global power to an abrupt end. In the Whats App blog, the writer went on to say that, China did this knowingly given that a full-scale war with the United States may spell doom for them and trade alone may not really see China becoming the world’s super power. China is said to have decided to hit the world with something more devastating than nuclear weapon and catastrophic

than an atomic missile. From a historical perspective, Chijioke argues that, many empires rose and fell, so was kingdoms too for example Egyptian, Persian, Roman, Ottoman, Spanish, British amongst others (Chijioke:2020). Meanwhile, China wants its civilization, language and currency to be the world's legal tender. The Chinese government and Jack Ma, a Chinese billionaire and cofounder of the Alibaba Group, have already sent doctors and medical supplies to France, Spain, Italy, Belgium, Iran, Iraq, the Philippines and the United States (ibid). This was what the United States ought to be doing, as a global power. With this China will win friends and allies across the globe. The Chinese one-belt concept was a precursor towards imperial foreign policy by the Chinese government.

The Coronavirus challenged the invincibility of the world's powerful states to include the USA. The USA's defence doctrine has always been, 'America first' and it went on to enact a law, the Patriotic Act, which is meant to fortify American supremacy. America, like the Roman Empire became the unipolar giant where the world had to look up to America for solutions. The virus changed hardline foreign policies of many powerful states and inbound policies replaced outbound policies. However, on 27 March 2020 through data mining, President Donald J. Trump, on his official twitter handle, @realDonaldTrump, made a climb down from his previous assertion that COVID 19 was a Chinese disease' sarcastically. In his words, Trump tweeted that, *'Just finished a very good conversation with President Xi of China. Discussed in great detail the Corona Virus that is ravaging large parts of our Planet. China has been through much and has developed a strong understanding of the Virus. We are working closely together. Much respect!'*. WHO Chief Director Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus posted on WHO official tweeter handle that, 'the world is at war with a hidden enemy'. This shows policy shift in international relations as a result of COVID 19 novel virus.

The spread of fake news during disaster situations is a new threat to international relations. In the past states had control over information dissemination and with the evolution of the digital world, states are beginning to lose control of control of the floor of information. The weaponization of social media is affecting both stable and unstable nations. Social media platforms disseminate information in real time and mostly by those with access to information of statecraft nature. Donald J. Trump @realDonaldTrump, on March 25, 2020, was forced by circumstances to tweet that *'I hear that Fake News CNN just reported that I am isolated in the White House, wondering out loud, "when will life returns to normal?" Does anybody really believe that? There was no leak, they made it up – they are CORRUPT & FAKE NEWS.'*

(Trump: 2020). In Zimbabwe, the police spokesperson Nyati on 27 March 2019 held a press brief where he divulged that the police were hunting for social media abusers who were said to be posting false news about COVID 19 novel virus (ZBC TV:27/03/2020). The fake news was said to be causing a lot of panic, anxiety and despondence about the statistics of COVID 19 novel virus. However, it remains to be seen on how ZRP will be able to effectively combat the spread of alleged fake news about COVID 19 novel virus. Many states have records of secrecy and poor communication strategies. In addition, on 29 March 2020, the government of Zimbabwe imposed a 20-year jail term for spreading fake news during the lockdown (Statutory Instrument SI83/2020) to give the total lockdown a legal effect. This 20 year jail term is in line with Section 31 of the Criminal Law Code which relates to publishing or communicating false statements prejudicial to the state.

The health sector has been highly neglected in Africa and the COVID 19 epidemic brought about a new perspective of securitization of the health sector. A number of heads of states neglected their health sector in favour of foreign health systems and the Coronavirus demanded inward looking solutions. Nations have closed borders to the rest of the world, globalisation was dismantled. In the absence of investing adequately in the health sector, Africans dramatically became superstitious. The COVID 19 novel virus is cannot be interpreted religiously; this is in line with an observation by Mbiti that Africans are notoriously religious. Whilst the inbound policy measures are critical in mitigating trans-boundary pandemics, the behavior and fundamental belief systems of the citizens remain a cause of concern. In Zimbabwe, churches believe that the disease is signaling the Parousia and they are teaching that only prayer can cure the scourge. Social media jokes have also trivialized government efforts to respond to the COVID 19 pandemic. Currently, poor people believe that the corona virus is for the urbanites and more importantly the elites. There is consensus in terms of the nature and scope of the COVID 19 novel virus. Various perspectives have been proffered and lack of consensus is the cause of concern in mitigating and responding to non-traditional threats.

Samuel Huntington talked of the clash of civilization where states are in a racial war. The novel virus, however, redefined history and race is no longer beneficial. In the United Kingdom, President Boris Johnson and Prince Charles were all affected. This is to say that the novel virus had closed the racial gap including the myths that blacks were immune because they have more color pigment than whites. . The COVID 19 novel challenged Huntington's theory of the

clash of civilization. In the aftermath of the novel virus race may not matter anymore. Notably, Africa is resisting the historical practice of using Africans as experiments in testing medicines. This clearly demonstrates that Africans no longer regard themselves as third class citizens. The Western civilization is no longer invincible after the novel virus affected the British Prime Minister Johnson, Prince Charles and the Canadian First Lady and has adversely affected America, a unipolar giant. In a social media article attributed to Abie Ruzvidzo who came gun blazing over the said proposal by two French doctors Jean-Paul Mira and Camille Locht who were allegedly recorded discussing Africa as the best destination to conduct tests for the COVID 19 vaccine (Ruzvidzo: 2020). They are alleged to have suggested that the vaccine should be first tested on vulnerable Africans the same way experimental treatment for AIDS was done on prostitutes. Meanwhile, former Ivorian professional footballer and Chelsea Talisman, Didier Yves Drogba reacted and took to social media to express his anger against the inhuman statement. In the twitter handle Drogba is quoted saying, *'Africans must not be taken as human guinea pigs to test vaccines. The suggestion is demeaning, deeply racist and must be condemned. Leaders protect citizens against this. Do not take Africans as human guinea pigs'* (Drogba: 2020). There is a call for collective response to challenge European cultural hegemony and the novel virus instilled a sense of unity around African identity, marking the end of Huntington's notion of the clash of civilization.

In terms of conflict resolution, the novel virus demonstrated that, if countries are focused on their own challenges there would be peace in the world. Currently states are pursuing inward policies in order to mitigate the impact of COVID 19 and no state is concerned with the affairs of another. There is no state that is currently pursuing foreign interests and the same applies to non-state actors like terrorists, smugglers and traffickers for example. In terms of conflict resolution states should be encouraged to focus and invest more on domestic policy, concentrating on issues such as innovation, research, early warning systems, establishing effective and robust disaster infrastructure amongst other key human security concerns. Non-traditional threats are becoming a formidable threat to global peace. In a WhatsApp social media quote attributed to Nelson Mandela, he says, *'time shall come where white man's country will no longer be safe for African leaders to travel to, they will be forced to stay and make a positive change for Africans'*. Africans are being encouraged to invest in their countries than to rely on foreign services from its former colonies. Thus, leaders are neglecting their people and are heavily relying on travelling to other jurisdictions for their personal services. Due to the COVID 19 novel virus, countries have closed borders and individual states are

supposed to look into their laboratories for solutions. Those countries without viable laboratories are now hiding behind religion for solace and now pushing for apocalyptic messages.

The elitist perspective to the COVID 19 novel virus is that the disease only affects the rich people and older persons from the upper class. Perception influences behavior and how people react to situations. Social media is awash with news that, the president of Botswana Mokgweetsi Masisi tested positive to the coronavirus. The Botswana government has not issued any official position either affirming or denying the social media news on president Masisi apart from the official position that he was put on 14-day quarantine after his state visit to Namibia for the presidential inauguration ceremony. According to insights from the social media, Masisi interacted with two South African officials whom he interacted with tested positive to coronavirus and given the fragility of African politics it remains unknown on whether domestic provision of incapacitation would not be evoked on targeted presidents. Meanwhile, African solidarity proved costly as the inauguration which was attended by SADC heads of state proved erstwhile as Masisi was allegedly contaminated whilst on a public relations and solidarity visit to Namibia. According to the Zimbabwean Ministry of Health and Child Care, on 5 April 2020, Zimbabwe had 9 patients who tested positive and Zororo Makamba son to a prominent business mogul James Makamba was the first fatality. So far in Africa, of the known COVID 19 victims, the majority are allegedly elites, who travelled to COVID hot spots abroad... It remains to be seen whether fragile economies will remain isolating themselves from the rest of the world in spite of a surge in prices and access to basic commodities. Zimbabwean opposition political party, Movement For Democratic Change Alliance Vice President Tendai Biti urged the government of Zimbabwe to consider international appeal given the socio-economic situation in Zimbabwe. The position by Biti resonates well with the statement by the Italian Prime Minister Conte on 21 March 2020 that, ‘we lost control of the epidemic. We died physically and mentally, we don’t know what to do anymore. All solutions on Earth have ended. The only solution is the sky (Conte: 2020)’. In stable economies like the USA where president Trump claimed to be on top of the situation and approved the chloroquine drug as a panacea, over 30 000 have been affected with more than 389 deaths during the material time.. Government has promulgated Statutory Instrument (SI) 77 of 2020 to contain and prevent the spread the spread of corona virus by banning public gatherings (SI77:2020). The lockdown in response to the spread and containment of the COVID 19 has dire economic consequences. In South Africa, in the aftermath of the imposition

of total lockdown, a number of citizens took to social media platforms to inquire on how the general poor populace survive, citing payment of rentals, food, access to health facilities for those with chronic conditions and possibilities of domestic disputes during the lockdown period. These diverge perspectives clearly indicate that, the majority of the populace are geared to defy the government directive.

The United Nations Security Council hereinafter UNSC should consider a convention on lockdown given that the same was adopted by many states in response to COVID 19 novel virus. Without clear terms of references, the human rights component would be abrogated. Same will also help to hedge politicization of the disaster situation under the pretext of human security and international humanitarian principle. These lockdowns are globally being implemented by countries' members of the defence forces and without proportionate principles, whether international or domestic, governing such, same will be prone to abuse. In the lockdown, the level to which the Pacta Sunt Servanda principle can be infringed upon is yet to be established as there are a number of conventions and treaties that were violated by the declarations on lockdown, for example, the International Refugee Law, Convention on torture, inhuman and degrading treatment and the Convention the civil and political rights.

The other danger befalling donor dependent states is that, in the aftermath of the COVID 19 novel virus, the number of states that would be requiring humanitarian aid would increase drastically. Those countries without proper and systematic inbound economic policies are going to face serious human security challenges. In other words, the human security component is likely to triumph over the state security component and coup de tats and counter coup de tats shall be prevalent in most fragile states.

Conclusion and Recommendations

Health security is a national security, human security and an international relations matter. The current wave of deportations on foreign nationals, trade wars, civil disobedience, voluntary deportations, humanitarian aid looting, corruption and generational cleansing are indications of how COVID 19 has changed the global outlook.

The study recommends the use of the new term ‘disaster international relations’ referring to how health disaster can influence a novel global order and affect regional and international blocs. The COVID 19 pandemic has seen the USA, a traditional powerhouse, being a failed state for falling short in the protection and preservation of the human security element of its citizens. The USA-China trade wars were escalated by COVID 19 with accusations and counter accusations over the origins of the novel virus. Within SADC, in the aftermath of the lockdown measures which saw countries closing borders for each other, tensions are escalating with xenophobic tendencies rekindling. Foreigners in countries such as South Africa were reportedly attacked, denied access to social safety net initiatives, COVID 19 positive cases being deported, security fence being erected to bar entry by evasion, borders arbitrarily closed and opened without consulting other border stakeholders from the neighbouring state and lack of uniform lockdown measures as states are digressing from globalisation to nationalism. COVID 19 threatened globalisation and promoted nationalism and individualism within international relations.

It can also be recommended that, ‘nationalism in a globalized society theory’ be adopted, this theory is influenced by the existence of two known antagonist elements in the same world order. Globalisation used to be known as creation of a global village where states enter into a social contract whereby its sovereignty is shared. Within the auspices of a global village, COVID 19 pushed a new political culture of nationalism where states pushed for national interest first. The COVID 19 pandemic exposed the weaknesses of globalisation and the concept had been put on a litmus test by a global pandemic resulting in states adopting radical measures of inbound nature like the total lockdown measures, deportations. South Africa, for example, stated that the conditions of reopening for its retail sector is the employment of more locals than foreigners. Similarly, Botswana is silently deporting foreigners while Mozambique is left out to single-handedly deal with its terrorism threats despite the crime having potential spill over effects. The revolutionary solidarity within SADC has been shredded and its future is no longer certain in the aftermath of the COVID 19 as nationalism takes precedence.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Bock P. G. and Berkowitz M. (1966). *The Emerging Field of National Security*. Cambridge University Press.

Case Concerning Military and Paramilitary Activities in and Against Nicaragua. International Court of Justice, 1986.

Charter of the United Nations (1945)

Department of State, Foreign Operations and Related Programs Appropriations Act(USA)

Digester P. E. (1994). *Friendship Between States*. Cambridge University Press.

International Court of Justice Report 3 (2002) Congo vs Belgium.

Nye J. and Jones L. (1988) *International Security Studies: A Report of a Conference on the State of the Field*. International Security Vol 12, No. 4. The Mit Press.

Sen B. (1965). *A Diplomat's Handbook of International Law and Practice*: Springer

South Africa Supreme Court of Appeal: 485/ 2012

The Herald , 28 May 2020.

Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations (1961)

Walt S.M. (1991). *The Renaissance of Security Studies*. Blackwell Publishing.