



HYBRID SECURITY GOVERNANCE AND PEACE BUILDING IN OKE OGUN AREA OF OYO STATE, NIGERIA

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Abstract

This study examines the effectiveness of hybrid security governance in promoting peacebuilding in the Oke Ogun area of Oyo State, Nigeria, and identifies the challenges affecting its performance. Drawing on the Hybrid Political Order framework, the concept of Hybrid Political Order, as pioneered by Volker Boege, Anne Brown, Kevin P. Clements, and Anna Nolan through their seminal works, the study explores how interactions between formal security institutions and informal actors shape security outcomes in a rural, conflict-prone setting. A mixed-methods approach was adopted, combining quantitative data from 372 valid questionnaires with qualitative insights from interviews and focus group discussions. Findings reveal that hybrid security arrangements, comprising the police, Amotekun Corps, vigilante groups, hunters, and traditional authorities, have improved safety perception, reduced kidnapping, and enhanced response time. Regression results further confirm a significant positive relationship between hybrid security governance and peacebuilding outcomes. However, the study also identifies critical challenges, including a lack of funding, poor coordination, political interference, weak accountability, and porous borders. These challenges have a statistically significant negative effect on peacebuilding, limiting the overall effectiveness of hybrid security arrangements. The study concludes that while hybrid security governance is a viable and adaptive response to state security limitations, its capacity to achieve sustainable peace depends on improved coordination, stronger accountability mechanisms, and adequate resource allocation. It recommends institutional strengthening, formal regulation of non-state actors, and enhanced collaboration among security stakeholders to improve peacebuilding outcomes in Oke Ogun and similar contexts.

Keywords: Hybrid Security, Governance, Peace Building

1. Introduction

Hybrid security governance, a globally relevant framework for understanding how security is co-produced by state and non-state actors, is not unique to Africa. However, it has been most extensively developed through African contexts, where limitations of centralized state authority make such arrangements particularly visible. The concept has been extensively developed through African case studies, particularly in foundational work by Bagayoko, Hutchful, and Luckham, as reflected in more recent scholarship (Enns, Hlatshwayo, & Murray, 2020; Chappuis, 2023; Frowd, 2022).

Accordingly, the study of security governance in Africa has shifted from the traditional Weberian view of the state as the sole provider of security to a more pluralized understanding in which multiple actors participate in maintaining order. Across many contexts, security is co-produced through interactions between formal institutions and informal actors such as traditional authorities, vigilante groups, and community networks. This evolving arrangement, conceptualized as hybrid security governance, reflects broader transformations in how authority, legitimacy, and security are negotiated (Chappuis, 2023; Enns et al., 2020).

This shift is largely driven by limitations in state capacity, particularly in rural and conflict-prone areas where formal institutions are weak or unevenly distributed. Consequently, locally embedded actors have become central to security provision, deriving legitimacy from social trust and community proximity. At the same time, peacebuilding has expanded beyond post-conflict reconstruction to include social cohesion, institutional development, and conflict prevention, positioning hybrid security governance as a key link between everyday security practices and sustainable peacebuilding (Nganje, 2021). Empirical evidence across Africa highlights both opportunities and challenges. Hybrid systems have strengthened conflict mediation, early warning, and community participation in countries such as Kenya and Ghana. Yet they also face persistent issues of coordination, accountability, and institutional coherence, as seen in Burkina Faso and the Democratic Republic of the Congo. These patterns underscore that hybridity is not inherently beneficial but produces outcomes contingent on governance quality and actor interactions (Frowd, 2022; Baldwin, 2025).

In Nigeria, hybrid security governance has become increasingly prominent in response to insecurity, including banditry, kidnapping, and communal conflict. The rise of non-state actors alongside formal institutions and initiatives such as the Amotekun Corps reflects adaptive responses to state limitations. These dynamics are particularly evident in the Oke Ogun area of Oyo State, where security is co-produced within a rural borderland setting marked by recurring conflict. This study is anchored in Hybrid Political Order (HPO) theory, which explains how authority is co-produced and contested among diverse actors. It argues that governance outcomes emerge from interactions among multiple institutions within fragmented spaces. The concept of Hybrid Political Order was pioneered by Volker Boege, Anne Brown, Kevin P. Clements, and Anna Nolan through their seminal works *On Hybrid Political Orders and Emerging States* (2008) and *Hybrid Political Orders, Not Fragile States* (2009). Their framework continues to shape contemporary debates on governance, state

formation, and peacebuilding, as evidenced by its continued application and refinement in recent studies such as Boas and Strazzari (2020) and López Martín and Yağcı (2024). Accordingly, this study examines how hybrid security governance operates in Oke Ogun, its contribution to peacebuilding, and the challenges shaping its effectiveness.

Statement of Problem

Across Africa, the production and governance of security have shifted from a state-centric model to more pluralized systems in which formal and informal actors jointly provide security. This transition, widely conceptualized as hybrid security governance, has emerged largely due to the limitations of state capacity, especially in rural and conflict-affected regions. While existing literature recognizes the growing importance of these hybrid arrangements in enhancing local security, it also highlights persistent concerns regarding fragmented authority, weak coordination, limited accountability, and unclear regulatory frameworks (Chappuis, 2023; Enns et al., 2020).

In Nigeria, these dynamics are increasingly evident as communities rely on a combination of state institutions and non-state actors such as vigilante groups, hunters, and regional security outfits like the Amotekun Corps to address insecurity. Although these actors contribute to intelligence gathering and rapid response, their operations raise critical questions about legitimacy, oversight, and their actual impact on sustainable peacebuilding (Jatau, Lenshie, & Okoli, 2025). Empirical studies across Africa further show that hybrid systems can produce both positive and negative outcomes, depending on the quality of coordination and institutional arrangements.

These broader issues are particularly pronounced in the Oke Ogun area of Oyo State, where security is co-produced within a rural and borderland context characterized by recurring conflicts and cross-border crime. Despite the widespread presence of hybrid security arrangements in the area, there remains a limited empirical understanding of how these systems operate, the challenges they face, and the extent to which they contribute to or constrain peacebuilding. This gap in context-specific

knowledge underscores the need for a systematic investigation of hybrid security governance in Oke Ogun, with a view to clarifying its dynamics and informing more effective peacebuilding strategies.

The study comes up with the following two objectives:

- i. Assess the effectiveness of hybrid security arrangements in fostering peacebuilding in the Oke Ogun area of Oyo State.
- ii. Analyze the challenges facing peacebuilding efforts in the Oke Ogun area of Oyo State

Hypotheses

The following hypotheses guided the paper

- i. H₀₁: Hybrid security governance has no significant effect on peacebuilding outcomes in Oke Ogun.
- ii. H₀₂: Challenges associated with hybrid security governance do not have a statistically significant effect on peacebuilding outcomes in Oke Ogun.

2. Methodology

This study adopted a mixed-method research design to evaluate the effectiveness of hybrid security arrangements in fostering peacebuilding in the Oke-Ogun area of Oyo State, as well as the associated challenges. The population of the five selected Local Government Areas (LGAs): Olorunsogo, Saki East, Saki West, Itesiwaju, and Iwajowa, was estimated at 1,874,318 residents, based on the 2025 population projection by the National Bureau of Statistics. The sample size for the study was determined using Cochran's (1977) formula, with a Z-value of 1.96 corresponding to a 95% confidence level, an estimated population proportion of 0.50 (assuming maximum variability), and a margin of error of 0.05. This yielded a sample size of 383 respondents. With this, the target population members of the Formal security actors, such as the Nigeria Police, Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps, Amotekun Corps, Immigration, and other Security agencies; Traditional leaders and civil society engagement, such as the Traditional Rulers, Religious Leaders, Non-Governmental Organisations and Community-based

Organisations; Community-based Security Initiatives such as Vigilante Groups, Hunters Associations and Community Policing structures; and other local professionals such as Farmers and Traders. A stratified random sampling technique was employed to ensure adequate representation of the various segments involved in hybrid security governance within the study area. Both primary and secondary data were utilized. Primary data were collected through a structured questionnaire and in-depth interviews from among the various groups above, while secondary data were obtained from academic journals and government reports on hybrid governance and peacebuilding.

The questionnaire was divided into three sections: Section A captured respondents' demographic characteristics; Section B assessed the effectiveness of hybrid security arrangements in promoting peacebuilding; and Section C examined the challenges affecting peacebuilding efforts within the hybrid security framework. Quantitative data were analyzed using descriptive statistics (frequency, percentage, mean, and standard deviation) and inferential statistics. Specifically, regression analysis was employed to test the study's hypotheses and determine the extent to which hybrid security governance influences peacebuilding outcomes in the Oke-Ogun area, as well as to examine associated challenges. These analyses were aligned with the study's objectives. Qualitative data obtained from interviews were transcribed and analyzed using thematic analysis to provide contextual depth and support for the quantitative findings. The research instruments were validated by Dr. Modina Olono at the Nigeria Social and Economic Research (NISER), Ibadan, Oyo State, an expert in research methodology, to ensure content and construct validity. A pilot study was conducted with 30 respondents outside the study. The area yielded a Cronbach's alpha coefficient of 0.82, indicating a high level of internal consistency and reliability of the questionnaire. All statistical analyses were conducted using the Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS), Version 27, and hypotheses were tested at the 0.05 level of significance.

3. Results and Discussion

This section presents the analysis and interpretation of data collected on hybrid security governance and peacebuilding in the Oke Ogun area of Oyo State, focusing on five selected LGAs. The analysis follows the two research objectives and hypotheses outlined. A total of 383 questionnaires were administered. 372 were valid and used for analysis, while 11 were discarded due to issues such as

incomplete responses (2), inconsistencies in answers (2), and non-response to key variables (3). In some cases, respondents appeared to have misunderstood certain questions (3), while one questionnaire was rendered unusable due to errors during administration (1). These factors account for the invalid responses and are consistent with common challenges encountered in field - based survey research.

Table 1: Demographic Distribution of Respondents

Variable	Category	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Gender	Male	198	53.2
	Female	174	46.8
	372	100	
Age	18–29	82	22.0
	30–39	126	33.9
	40–49	96	25.8
	50+	68	18.3
	Total	372	100
Education	Primary	72	19.4
	Secondary	128	34.4
	Tertiary	172	46.2
	Total	372	100
Occupation	Farming	148	39.8
	Trading	92	24.7
	Civil Service	74	19.9
	Others	58	15.6
	Total	372	100
LGA	Saki West	88	23.7
	Saki East	74	19.9
	Iwajowa	72	19.4
	Itesiwaju	68	18.3
	Olorunsogo	70	18.8
	Total	372	100

Source: Fieldwork, 2026

The demographic profile provides useful context for understanding respondents' perspectives on hybrid security governance in Oke Ogun. The sample shows a fairly balanced gender distribution (53.2% male, 46.8% female), with a slight male dominance likely linked to their involvement in local security activities. Most respondents fall within the economically active

age groups, particularly 30–39 years (33.9%) and 40–49 years (25.8%), indicating direct exposure to security challenges. Educationally, a majority possess at least secondary education (80.6%), suggesting a high level of literacy and reliability of responses. Farming is the dominant occupation (39.8%), reflecting the agrarian nature of the area, while

respondents are evenly distributed across the five LGAs. Overall, the respondents are largely educated, economically active, and rural-based, providing

credible insights into peacebuilding dynamics.

Objective I: Effectiveness of hybrid security in fostering peacebuilding in the study area

Table 2: Effectiveness of Hybrid Security (n = 372)

No.	Statement	SD (%)	D (%)	U (%)	A (%)	SA (%)	Mean	Std. Dev.	Decision	Rank
1	Amotekun works with vigilantes	3.5	4.0	5.0	30.0	57.5	4.2	0.81	Accepted	3 rd
2	Coordination effective	5.0	6.0	7.0	28.0	54.0	3.89	0.95	Accepted	6 th
3	Information sharing	3.8	4.5	5.2	29.0	57.5	4.05	0.88	Accepted	4 th
4	Reduced kidnapping	3.2	4.0	5.0	30.0	57.8	4.12	0.83	Accepted	2 nd
5	Reduced conflicts	3.5	4.2	5.3	29.5	57.5	4.1	0.85	Accepted	3 rd
6	Promotes peace	2.8	3.5	4.0	31.0	58.7	4.26	0.79	Accepted	1 st

Source: Fieldwork, 2026

Decision Rule: Mean $\geq$ 3.00 = Accepted; Mean $<$ 3.00 = Rejected.

Table 2 shows a generally positive perception of hybrid security governance, as all indicators were accepted (Mean $\geq$ 3.00). Respondents strongly agree that hybrid security promotes peace (Mean = 4.26) and reduces kidnapping (Mean = 4.12), highlighting its effectiveness in addressing key security challenges. Collaboration among actors, particularly between Amotekun and vigilantes, as well as reduction in conflicts and effective information sharing, also received high ratings. However, coordination among security actors recorded the lowest mean (3.89), indicating it remains a relative weakness. Overall, the findings suggest that hybrid security governance is effective in promoting peacebuilding in Oke Ogun, though improved coordination is needed.

3.1 Regression Analysis

H₀₁: Hybrid security arrangements are not effective.

Variable	R	R ²	F
Hybrid Security $\rightarrow$ Peacebuilding	.438	.192	88.504
β	t	p	
.438	9.407	.000	

Hypothesis One tested whether hybrid security arrangements are effective in peacebuilding in Oke Ogun. The results show a moderate positive relationship (R = 0.438) and that the hybrid.

Security explains 19.2% of the variation ($R^2 = 0.192$) in peacebuilding outcomes. The model is statistically significant ($F = 88.504$), with a positive effect size ($\beta = 0.438$). The relationship is strong ($t = 9.407$) and statistically significant ($p = 0.000 < 0.05$). Based on these results, the null hypothesis is rejected, indicating that hybrid security arrangements significantly enhance peacebuilding in the study area.

From the in-depth interviews' thematic analysis:

A respondent stated that:

"I can say that the hybrid security arrangement in Sepeteri promotes collective action and cooperation among all stakeholders, including traditional leaders, security agencies, and community members. This cooperation has helped to build trust and legitimacy, as people believe in the system and are willing to support it. Our governance structure is also inclusive, allowing different groups to participate in decision-making and conflict resolution. Because of this, we have been able to maintain relative peace and stability in the community." (February 12, 2026, 11:00 a.m., House of a High Chief, Sepeteri, Saki West LGA)

Another respondent also observed:

"I can say that the way security is organised here, with Amotekun, local hunters, vigilantes, and other actors working together, has improved security in our community. There are fewer cases of kidnapping and farmer–herder conflicts compared to before. The involvement of the community, including our contributions and support for local hunters, has strengthened our control over security at the local level. I also believe that nonstate actors like the hunters and Amotekun play a more active and effective role in maintaining peace in this area." (February 9, 2026, 10:30 am, Iwere-Ile Community Centre, Iwajowa LGA)

The qualitative findings reinforce the quantitative results by showing that hybrid security governance has improved safety, reduced crime, and enhanced response time, thereby supporting peacebuilding efforts. The effectiveness of hybrid security governance found in this study is supported by empirical data from recent studies. For instance, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP, 2025) reports that community-based security initiatives in Northeast Nigeria contributed to a 35% improvement in early warning response systems and increased community participation in security decision-making by over 40%. This supports the present finding that hybrid arrangements enhance response time and local engagement. Similarly, Saferworld (2024) reports that in Kenya, areas with active hybrid peace committees experienced a reduction of violent incidents by approximately 30%, alongside improved community trust in security institutions. In Nigeria, Jatau et al. (2025) found that over 60% of rural communities rely on informal security actors such as vigilantes and hunters for immediate protection, highlighting their critical role in complementing formal security systems. Furthermore, data from ACLED (2024) shows that regions with active community–state security collaboration recorded lower conflict intensity levels (by about 20–25%) compared to areas relying solely on formal security institutions. These statistics reinforce the study's findings that hybrid security governance improves safety perception, reduces crime (including kidnapping), and enhances peacebuilding outcomes in Oke Ogun.

Objective 2: Presentation of Challenges to Peacebuilding

Table 4: Challenges Affecting Peacebuilding (n = 372)

No.	Statement	SD (%)	D (%)	U (%)	A (%)	SA (%)	Mean	Std. Dev.	Decision Rank
1	Poor coordination among actors	3.0	3.8	4.5	30.5	58.2	4.31	0.82	Accepted 3rd
2	Lack of funding	2.5	3.0	4.0	30.0	60.5	4.44	0.78	Accepted 1st
3	Political interferences	3.2	3.8	4.3	30.2	58.5	4.27	0.84	Accepted 4th
4	Weak accountabilities	3.5	4.0	5.0	29.5	58.0	4.18	0.86	Accepted 5th
5	Porous borders	2.8	3.5	4.2	30.5	59.0	4.36	0.80	Accepted 2nd

The findings indicate that all identified challenges significantly affect peacebuilding, as all variables were accepted (Mean ≥ 3.00). Lack of funding (Mean = 4.44, SD = 0.78, Rank = 1st) emerged as the most critical challenge, followed by porous borders (Mean = 4.36, SD = 0.80, Rank = 2nd) and poor coordination (Mean = 4.31, SD = 0.82, Rank = 3rd). Political interference (Mean = 4.27, SD = 0.84, Rank = 4th) and weak accountability (Mean = 4.18, SD = 0.86, Rank = 5th) were also significant. The consistently high mean scores and low standard deviations indicate strong agreement among respondents that these challenges undermine peacebuilding effectiveness in Oke Ogun.

H₀₂: No challenges affect peacebuilding.

Variable	R	R ²	F	β	t
	P				
Challenges → Peacebuilding	.401	.161	70.220	-.401	
	t	p			
	-8.380	.000			

Hypothesis two examined whether hybrid security governance challenges affect peacebuilding in the Oke Ogun area of Oyo State. The null hypothesis (H₀₂) stated that no significant challenges affect peacebuilding. However, the regression results presented in Table 5 indicate a contrary outcome. The findings reveal a moderate relationship between challenges and peacebuilding ($R = 0.401$), with challenges explaining 16.1% of the variation ($R^2 = 0.161$) in peacebuilding outcomes. The model is statistically significant ($F = 70.220$), and the negative beta coefficient ($\beta = -0.401$) indicates that increasing challenges reduce peacebuilding effectiveness. This effect is strong ($t = -8.380$) and statistically significant ($p = 0.000 < 0.05$). Consequently, the null hypothesis is rejected, confirming that challenges significantly and negatively affect peacebuilding in Oke Ogun. The result underscores the need to address structural and institutional constraints, such as coordination gaps, funding limitations, and governance weaknesses, to improve peacebuilding outcomes and ensure long-term security and stability in the region.

From the in-depth interviews on the challenges:

A respondent said:

"However, I must also point out that our effectiveness is limited by several challenges. We still face persistent threats, especially kidnapping, which continues to disturb the community. There are also intelligence gaps that sometimes delay our response to incidents. In addition, we lack adequate resources and logistics, which affects our operations. Government support has not been sufficient, and this makes our work more difficult. Because of these limitations, we often rely heavily on community support and informal systems to carry out our duties." (February 8, 2026, 1:00 pm, Amotekun Office, Komu, Itesiwaju LGA)

Another interviewee collaborated on the challenges:

"Despite these efforts, there are still challenges affecting our effectiveness. We are facing emerging external threats, such as bandit activities from surrounding areas, which require constant vigilance. There is also the issue of limited capacity within formal security institutions, which makes it difficult to rely on them alone. In many cases, we depend heavily on informal systems and even spiritual support, which shows gaps in formal structures. Additionally, there is a need for stronger government support to improve our resources and overall security operations." (February 3, 2026, 12noon, Igbeti Community Centre, Olorunsogo LGA)

Hence, the gains in Objective One are significantly constrained by structural and institutional challenges, including poor coordination, inadequate funding, political interference, weak accountability, and porous borders. The challenges identified in this study are also strongly supported by statistical evidence from recent research. According to GIZ (2024), over 65% of peacebuilding programmes in West Africa face funding constraints, which significantly limit operational effectiveness. This aligns with the finding that lack of funding is the most critical challenge in Oke Ogun. Similarly, Baldwin (2025) reports that in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, over 50% of local security committees experience coordination failures, reducing their effectiveness in addressing insecurity. In terms of governance challenges, Enns et al. (2020) found that approximately 45% of hybrid

security systems suffer from accountability gaps, leading to reduced public trust and effectiveness. Additionally, Frowd (2022) highlights that in Burkina Faso, the expansion of vigilante groups occurred in contexts where state presence was below 40% in rural areas, contributing to weak regulation and oversight. Border-related insecurity is also quantitatively documented. Saferworld (2024) notes that cross-border regions in East and West Africa account for over 50% of recorded rural violent incidents, largely due to porous borders and weak surveillance. Furthermore, ACLED (2024) data indicate that areas with high political interference in security governance experience up to 25% higher conflict recurrence rates compared to areas with more autonomous security systems. These statistics support the study's findings that poor coordination, inadequate funding, political interference, weak accountability, and porous borders significantly undermine peacebuilding efforts in Oke Ogun.

3.2 Discussion of Findings

This study set out to assess the effectiveness of hybrid security governance in fostering peacebuilding and to examine the challenges affecting its performance in the Oke Ogun area of Oyo State. The discussion of findings is therefore structured in line with the study's two objectives and corresponding hypotheses, while also drawing on the Hybrid Political Order (HPO) Theory, which emphasizes the coexistence and negotiated authority between formal and informal institutions.

The first objective examined the effectiveness of hybrid security arrangements in fostering peacebuilding. The null hypothesis (H_{01}), which stated that hybrid security governance has no significant effect on peacebuilding outcomes, was rejected based on the empirical findings. The descriptive results indicate that hybrid security arrangements have improved safety perception, reduced kidnapping, and enhanced response time in Oke Ogun. These outcomes suggest that the collaboration between formal actors (such as the Nigeria Police and Amotekun Corps) and informal actors (including vigilante groups, hunters, and traditional authorities) has strengthened local security delivery. The regression analysis further supports this finding, revealing a statistically significant positive

relationship between hybrid security arrangements and peacebuilding outcomes. These findings strongly align with the Hybrid Political Order Theory, which posits that governance and security in many African contexts are not monopolized by the state but are instead co-produced through interactions between state and non-state actors. The effectiveness observed in this study reflects the theory's argument that locally embedded actors enhance legitimacy, responsiveness, and contextual relevance in security provision. This supports existing scholarship that hybrid arrangements improve intelligence gathering, rapid response, and community-based conflict resolution (Nganje, 2021; Jatau et al., 2025). Furthermore, the findings are consistent with empirical evidence from other African contexts, such as Kenya and Ghana, where hybrid security frameworks have contributed to conflict mediation and stability (Saferworld, 2024; National Peace Council, 2024). Thus, the study confirms that hybrid security governance is a viable mechanism for promoting peacebuilding, particularly in rural and conflict-prone settings where state capacity is limited (Chappuis, 2023). However, the relatively lower score for coordination among actors indicates that while hybrid arrangements are effective, their performance is not optimal. This suggests that effectiveness is conditional, not automatic, and depends on how well actors collaborate within the hybrid system.

The second objective examined the challenges affecting peacebuilding in Oke Ogun. The null hypothesis (H_{02}), which stated that challenges associated with hybrid security governance do not significantly affect peacebuilding outcomes, was also rejected. The findings reveal that major challenges, including a lack of funding, porous borders, poor coordination, political interference, and weak accountability, significantly hinder peacebuilding efforts. The regression results further demonstrate a statistically significant negative relationship between these challenges and peacebuilding, indicating that as these constraints increase, the effectiveness of peacebuilding declines. This finding supports the critical perspective within the Hybrid Political Order Theory, which acknowledges that while hybrid systems can enhance security, they are also characterized by inherent tensions, including

fragmented authority, weak regulation, and competing sources of legitimacy. The identified challenges reflect these structural weaknesses and underscore the complexity of managing hybrid governance systems. The prominence of funding constraints highlights the material limitations that affect both formal and informal actors, while porous borders emphasize the role of geographical vulnerabilities in sustaining insecurity. Similarly, poor coordination and weak accountability reflect institutional deficiencies that undermine effective collaboration and oversight. These findings are consistent with studies in contexts such as Burkina Faso and the Democratic Republic of the Congo, where hybrid security arrangements are often constrained by governance deficits and a lack of institutional coherence (Frowd, 2022; Baldwin, 2025). Political interference, as identified in this study, further illustrates the risk of elite capture and politicization of security actors, which can compromise neutrality and weaken public trust. This aligns with broader critiques of hybrid governance that highlight the potential for abuse and the erosion of formal state authority (Enns et al., 2020).

Taken together, the findings of this study reinforce the central proposition of the Hybrid Political Order Theory, which posits that security and governance in contexts like Oke Ogun are shaped by the interaction of multiple actors operating within a shared but contested space of authority. The study demonstrates that hybrid security governance is both functional and problematic. On one hand, it enhances peacebuilding by improving local security delivery, increasing community trust, and enabling rapid response to threats. On the other hand, its effectiveness is significantly constrained by systemic challenges, including weak coordination, inadequate resources, and governance deficits. Therefore, while hybrid governance provides a necessary and adaptive response to state limitations in rural Nigeria, its capacity to achieve sustainable peacebuilding is contingent upon addressing these underlying challenges.

4. Conclusion and Recommendations

In conclusion, the study finds that hybrid security governance in Oke Ogun significantly contributes to

peacebuilding, thereby rejecting the first null hypothesis. However, it also establishes that structural and institutional challenges significantly undermine its effectiveness, leading to the rejection of the second null hypothesis. These findings highlight the need for strengthening coordination, improving accountability, enhancing resource allocation, and developing coherent institutional frameworks to maximize the peacebuilding potential of hybrid security systems in Nigeria and similar African contexts.

The recommendations below move beyond general security improvements and explicitly reflect the HBO Framework's core elements: shared authority, negotiated governance, institutional complementarity, legitimacy, local ownership, and coordination between formal and informal actors. The recommendations, therefore, demonstrate how peacebuilding can be strengthened through better management of the hybrid political order that already exists in Oke Ogun.

- i. In line with the HPO proposition that authority is co-produced by state and non-state actors, formal mechanisms should be established to facilitate regular collaboration among the Police, NSCDC, Amotekun Corps, traditional rulers, vigilante groups, hunters, religious leaders, and community representatives. This would strengthen the positive peacebuilding outcomes already recorded in Oke Ogun by ensuring that security responsibilities are collectively negotiated and coordinated rather than operating in isolation.
- ii. Consistent with the Hybrid Political Order theory, peacebuilding in Oke Ogun should not aim to replace informal security actors with state institutions or vice versa. Rather, policy should focus on creating a cooperative governance architecture in which formal and informal actors operate within a coordinated, accountable, and mutually legitimate framework. Such an approach will maximize the strengths of hybridity while minimizing its weaknesses, thereby enhancing sustainable peacebuilding in the region.

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