



**ECONOMIC CRIMES IN SOUTH-EAST NIGERIA: ITS IMPLICATIONS ON SECURITY OF BUSINESS AND SURVIVAL**

**Akankpo Udom E: Prof. Otu Ekpenyong and Prof. K A. Anele**

**Department of Sociology**

**Faculty of Social Sciences**

**University of Port Harcourt**

**Email: [efiong\\_udom@uniport.edu.ng](mailto:efiong_udom@uniport.edu.ng)**

**Abstract**

New dimensions of economic crimes have emerged in south-east Nigeria, in violent mode as; kidnap, violent protest and demonstrations, unknown gunmen and sit-at-home. In the face of these, businesses that hold options for job creation and self-employed are seriously put to risk and extinction. Expositive method was adopted for the study. In meeting with the study objectives, it was discovered that, business crimes impact negatively on the region. Businesses have failed to effectively and efficiently contribute to national development in the face of insecurity. Other ethnic and foreign nationals have migrated to other parts of the country. The application of technology in crime operations (drones, GPS,) is recommended, as necessitated by the trending crime patterns of the time. Solutions to be facilitated by time, accurate efficiency and enduring. Provision of adequate police stations in rural communities to monitor socio-economic infrastructures. Government to develop the rural communities.

**Keywords:** Economic crimes, Business, Security, Business

## 1.0 Introduction

New dimensions of economic crimes have emerged in south-east Nigeria, in violent mode as; kidnap, violent protest and demonstrations, unknown gunmen and sit-at-home. In the face of these, businesses that hold options for job creation and self-employed are seriously put to risk and extinction. Sympathy stemmed to the small scale businesses that are not financially strong to sustain long closure and absence of proprietors. This trend has created business stagnation, poor growth, poverty in the region in pursuit of Biafra. Whereas the perpetrators are thriving on the sustained conflicts and insecurity. According to Egbelade and Ojo (2015), business crimes in all magnitudes have extreme economic, social and security impacts on the populace.

The social, political and security uncertainty of the south-east has posed serious economic crimes to the citizens, residents and government. These new economic crimes are caused by the resurgence of the Indigenous People of Biafra (IPoB) and their civil unrest quest for self-determination. Economic crimes have seriously affected the communal lifestyles of the Igbos and residents. Okwuwada (2023) noted threats to businesses and persons that, all domains in south-east are permeable to economic crimes.

By the insecurity level in Nigeria, economic crimes are the dominant and persistent crime yet to be

solved. Economic crimes are affecting the political, social, economic, educational development of the country especially the south-east region. Economic and financial crimes ranges from fraud, money laundering, tax evasion, identity fraud. But in south-east Nigeria, such economic crimes are; kidnap, violent demonstrations and protest, unknown gunmen and attacks at business places and sit-at-home, different from the usual. These have become a social problem affecting every business and person in the region. The society cannot meet basic needs through its economic activities. All the institutions are grossly affected, in sociological context, south-east region cannot fulfil conditions of functional prerequisites of society.

There are divergences to the meaning of economic crimes. Egbelade and Ojo (ibid) posit that, "it must have the consequences of violating the economic activities of the government" p. 20. From the study perspective, money laundering, fraud, corruption, tax evasion etc. are violating consequences of economic activities of the government in a non-violent mode; whereas kidnapping, sit-at-home, violent protests have their economic consequences on the citizens directly, either violently or threat. Both have subversive economic impact on the nation through diversion of funds.

Security is essential for individuals, businesses and country to thrive. But without it, no recognizable economic growth and development would take place. Some implications on economic crimes in south-east are in the area of businesses and investments. Economic crimes are destructive in this order; unappealing to business investors, depict Nigeria as unsafe for investments, terminate abruptly business activities, transfer of business from tensed region to relatively safe areas, sometimes closure of the business, death of business owners in risk prone areas, loss of business capital, impact on safe co-existence (Okonkwo, Ndubuisi-Okolo and Anagbogu, 2015). Notably, there are significant decrease in revenue, disrupted cashflow, strain on business capital and difficulty to source for funds as well as forced liquidation of business (FPI, 2010).

It is observable that, there is a symbiotic relationship between economic crimes and business security in south-east Nigeria. The interplay is that; economic crimes have come to be successful business venture with little or no prevention, obstruction and on punishment. Okokhere (2020) noted that, while the atmosphere is full of fear and capricious for the citizens, the criminals are having free days for themselves, unleashing terror on persons. Jimoh, Okwe, Abuh, Daka and Afolabi, (2021), observed the wanton amount involved in security budget and

votes. Resources that would have been diverted into socio-economic development.

It is generally viewed that IPoB emerged in the year 2012 with its demands for self-determination have created the recent spate of economic crime rate in the region. The IPoB era of agitations for self-determination has been destructive with the institutionalization of economic crimes. This is the benchmark for this study, as businesses and lives have changed in the region with the creation of the armed wing - Eastern Security Network (ESN) on 5<sup>th</sup> September, 2015 at the World Igbo Congress (WIC) in Los Angeles, California by the leader. According to Nwangwu (2018), 'we need gun and we need bullets'. Eastern Security Network (ESN) has challenged the security architecture of the south-east region. Other dimensions for relentless attacks by the IPoB within the scope of armed struggle, Nwangwu (2018) stated to include founding the stillbirth Biafran Security Agency (BSA), Biafra Secret Service (BSS) and Biafra National Guard (BNG).

There is a great relationship between the nature of IPOB agitations for self-determination in South Eastern Nigeria, with particular reference to how the business sector is operating. Ostia, Anoke, and Eze (2022) noted economic activities both in public and private sectors are grounded, especially on Mondays

in the South-eastern part of Nigeria. The fears of the unknown hovers around the air. People no longer trust their next-door neighbour. This is because, public offices, private businesses, schools, markets and other concerns are shut down in compliance with the order and directives of the IPoB. The nature and mode of their operational activities within the region varies; unequal right, injustice, bad governance and abuse of democratic norms.

On 18<sup>th</sup> September, 2017, the Nigerian government declared IPoB as a terrorist organization in Nigeria (Mark, Obi, and Chibuzor, 2022). Terrorism is a dangerous state of affairs, defined by Sampson and Onuoha (2011) as 'the premeditated use of threats or use of violence by an individual or group to cause fear, destruction or death, especially against unarmed targets, property or infrastructure in a state, intended to compel those in authority to respond to their demands and expectations of the individual or group behind such violence acts'. Achumba, Ighomereho, and Akpor-Robaro (2013) noted that, insecurity within the environment of business refers to insecurity variables that affect the performance of a business, but that the business enterprise has little or no direct control.

Security and business are highly intertwined, in the sense that security is the backbone upon which business flows. Insecurity destroys and prevent

business friendly environment. The analysis by Oluwarotimi (2012), is that, security is a prerequisite for successful development in Nigeria. She noted that, prevalent pervasive insecurity in the country, threatens the country's economic progress. Shedrack (2020) noted persistent protest in South Eastern states. Clashes between IPoB members and the Nigerian security officials, leading to several deaths, injuries and burnt of Police stations. Ndibe (2016) ibid noted in another incidence of 31<sup>st</sup> May, 2016, more than five police officers were killed, several soldiers wounded. Police and Military vehicles were burnt and vandalised. Eze (2017), reported that in line with the development, the South-East Governors proscribed the activities of the IPoB to stop the rising tension in the zone. In their view, IPoB has lost its original ideal by causing unnecessary tension and killings in the South-East which has affected investment in the region.

The event of September 11, 2011 (terrorist attack of World Trade Centre and Pentagon), has drawn the world's attention more to security than ever, especially in the business places. It is on this premise that the study anchors on the economic crimes and implications to business security and survival in the face of IPoB in south-east.

## Aims and Objectives

- a. Identify economic crimes dominant in south-east region of Nigeria.
- b. Examine implications of economic crimes to business security and survival in south-east Nigeria.

## 2.1 Conceptual definitions

**Economic Crimes:** This is the collection of two broad concepts – economy and crime. Sometimes called financial crimes is the unauthorized acts by either an individual or group by any means obtain financial benefit or advantage (www.europol.europa.eu). The practice by this definition is that, it implies the use of threats, force to obtain financial benefits from the populace, especially business operators. Within the context of this paper, an expanded definition of economic crimes has to include – both non and violent dimensions of obtaining financial benefits either from the citizens or government sector.

**Business Security:** This is the various modes and approaches adopted by the business owner to guard the business place, customers and the materials from unauthorized access and use, either against damage, theft, fire, virus etc. Such measures could be through the provision of locks, fence, personnel security, surveillance cameras/alarms, firewalls, malware

protection. It is a defence against business threats and attacks.

## 2.2 Theoretical framework

The theoretical framework for this paper is the Emile Durkheim's (1858-1917) model of structural functionalism. Social system as a theoretical approach in Sociology emerged in the 19<sup>th</sup> century with the industrial revolution. This was to deal with the institutional problems of social systems at that time. Most founding fathers of sociology tilted to functionalism, referring to an inexpugnable structure of relationships amongst social units.

Functionalism as a term was borrowed to sociology from the biological sciences, referring to the body of organs in a living organism, demonstrating the interrelationship with one another. As each body organ has a function to play in the life of a being, so also is its malfunction having implications on the organ's life. In sociology, this analogy implies that society in totality is made up of institutions that play roles for the existence of the social system. Society is the primary unit of varying institutions as, religion, education, legal, political, family, economic co-relating/functioning for survival of society (Okorie-Ajah, Nwokeoma and Okpan, 2018).

The dominant focus of functionalists is how social order would be achieved and endured in society. The

position of Emile Durkheim is that, a breakdown of law and order, rules in society as a result of any failure will result in anomie. Anomie means normlessness, absent of rules and norms. He identified two types of anomie – acute anomie, being a crusty change; and chronic anomie – sort of a steady change (Wallace and Wolf, 1999). Durkheim identified anomie as “a pathological state for society” Wallace and Wolf (ibid) p. 24. The relationship between the study and theory is that, the changes in the IPoB ideology and collective belief (agitations patterns) have led to changes in the social currents of economic crimes in the south-east region, leading to the changes in business rates and operations. This is creating business depression out of the modes of agitations.

### **3.0 Methods**

The study is an expository analysis of secondary sources of data which includes published sources as journals, documents.

#### **a. Implications of Economic Crimes in South-East Nigeria**

Most businesses cannot plan to protect, response and recover from incidents as they occur, hence closure. The following four economic crimes that are currently trending in the region leading to business insecurity and survival.

#### **i. Kidnap:**

One of the fundamentals of rights of persons is liberty or freedom and is enshrined in the 1999 constitution, Federal Republic of Nigeria (as amended). Kidnap varies from nation to nation and on motive. According to Abraham (2010), kidnapping is the capture, preservation of a person in a confined and secret place by force or fraud. Thomas and Nta (2009) see kidnapping as armed robbery, organized for profit, but preferred to robbery. To Demola (2011) kidnapping in Nigeria soon became a business venture by way of large amount of ransoms.

The problems of kidnap are enormous and impacting on both victims, social and business cost including; restriction of persons’ liberty, fear, patting with ransom, ritual purposes, death of victim and due to health challenges or other reasons. Edike (2009) noted that, south eastern Nigeria comprising of Abia, Anambra, Enugu, Ebonyi and Imo are dominated by kidnapers, changing the social narrative of the populace most especially the affluent members of society and alien citizens.

The study of kidnapping by Inyang and Ubong (2013) led to the classification of its economic effects. Direct cost – involving economic benefits to the adopters as ransom, but of lost to the government and victims. Next is the indirect cost – as fatalities of

victims, absent from business, injuries and permanent deformity, assault and agony, including rape. Soyombo (2009) identified spending under security cost as one that would liberate the economy, educate the populace as well as create economic opportunities but are diverted. He noted that, if allowed at the current rate, will jeopardise the economy and citizens wellbeing.

## **ii. Violent Demonstrations and Protests:**

The business place is no longer safe given violent demonstrations and protest across the south-east region in the march for self-determination. Agitations for the new Biafran is the cause for demonstrations. Every day demonstrations are made, the end result is violence with the police and military. Fatalities are usually recorded with both public and private properties destroyed and businesses are closed. Hoodlums always hijack the programme and take to economic crime of looting shops and grabbing goods. According to Humayun and Dahiya (2020), usually the consequences of agitations for self-determination always bring out supporters for solidarity marches and protest usually turned violent, overtaken by arsonists and looters. There cannot be businesses booming in the mist of violence, conflicts and war. Ikeh (2021) opined that, pro-Biafra protests disrupt economic activities in the major commercial areas of

the south-east, causing disruption of economic activities, disengagement of investment in the region.

Work safety according to Jonathan and Mbogo (2016) requires safe working conditions devoid of significant risk of people being rendered unfit to perform their work. Agogbua et al (2022) revealed that, Eastern Security Network (ESN) and Unknown Gunmen (UG) also parade their might, claiming lives, destroying properties. This is a complex problem in Nigeria, and the threat has paralyzed every reasonable activities going on in the region. Investors are not secure, businesses have stopped operations, some have moved away from high risk areas to low risk areas. Many others have left the region. In corroboration to the disturbances within the region, Nwangwu (2022) identifies the main drives of insecurity in the South-East as: (a) armed transhumant pastoral attacks on farming communities, (b) coordinated attacks on state facilities by unknown gunmen, and (c) ferocious military response of the Nigerian state to the separatist uprising in the region. In the same vein, Onyekelu (2022), identified two main issues of why the Unknown Gunmen in the South-East region started in the year 2021, as: (1) the launch of military operation in South-East by the Nigerian Army, (2) the meeting by governors of the South-East states, to explore political and operational solutions to the

increased wave of insecurity and uncertainty in the region. Leading to the establishment of Ebubeagu, a security initiative to counter insurgency within the states.

Ikeh (2021) study of the impact of sectional agitation for self-determination of south-east Nigeria, align to the opinion that, since November 2015, the region has witnessed demonstrations by Biafra separatists (IPoB and MASSOB). The protests have always degenerated into violence, where two policemen and nine protesters were killed, when thousands of protesters blocked the Niger Bridge and several properties destroyed. Onime (2018) asserted that, in areas where insecurity is prone in Nigeria, economic activities and variables have been lagging behind.

### **iii. Unknown Gunmen (UG) and attacks at Business places:**

The issue of the unknown gunmen (UG) and surprising attacks at business places is a recent and worrisome development. Unknown gunmen are usually referred to criminal perpetrators from the south-east whose identity is unheard-of (Nda-Isaiah, 2021). It would be assumed that, most of them are paid for the assassinations, implying economic gains. Nkwatoh and Nathaniel (2018) opined that, one of the key determinants of economic development of any nation is peace and security. They observed the

spate of terrorist activities that breeds insecurity has threatened the economic progress of the nation over the years. This has caused significant loss of human capital, closure of business and increased level of poverty in the areas. According to Nkwopara (2021), the damnable activities of official and unofficial armed men particularly in Owerri, Imo state, have changed the economic and social life of the people. Unknown gunmen have caused private business establishments in Owerri to close between 4.30pm and 5pm for fear, a situation that can be referred to as self-imposed curfew.

Many scholars have added credence to the fact that terrorism is on the negative of economic growth. The work of Akindiyo (2014) expressed that, the menace of insecurity remains a threat to governance and economic growth in Nigeria. Insecure prone areas in the country are lacking behind with respect to economic activities and other variables. All rebellious groups greatly constitute threat to individuals, and to the internal security of the country, vis a vis business development. Imobighe (2001) cited in Zubairu (2020) noted that, it will be difficult for individuals to participate in productive activities without security.

Ebipre and Wilson (2020) examined impact of national insecurity on economic growth in Nigeria, the result showed that national insecurity has not only



impeded the attainment of sustainable economic growth, but of a drastic decline in economic activities in all geo-political zones in the country.

The effects of IPOB, ESN and UG in the southeast is dreading to business survival and activities. Nwangwu (2022) study on Neo-Biafra separatist agitations, lamented the level of destruction that occurred in Imo State. For several days in December 2020, Orlu communities in Imo State became the theatre of war between the Nigerian military and the ESN militia. Njoku and Elekwa (2021), collaborated that, several lives were lost and billions of naira worth of properties destroyed during the clash. A total of 32 security incidents occurred. 14 battles, 1 explosion, 13 violent cases, 4 riots were recorded in Imo State all resulting in 59 deaths (European Asylum Support Office, 2021).

On security challenges and the implications for business activities in Nigeria, Okonkwo, Ndubuisi-Okolo, and Anagbogu, (2015), noted that, insecurity situation actually halted business operations during the periods of violence, also caused outright closure of many businesses mostly in zones where cases of insecurity are rife on regular occurrence. The cost of life and material resources lost to insecurity in the past years cannot be unquantified. In this vain, Suleiman (2012) cited by *ibid*, noted that, non-

indigenes have to return to their states for fear of death. Insurgency has compounded the qualitative manpower to improve the educational standard in Nigeria, along with attacks on schools, hostage taking of school children, killing of teachers and students. By this, the ratio of uneducated people has increased (Awortu, 2015).

#### **iv. Sit-at-Home:**

Sit-at-home is an order issued by IPOB. The act is an economic crime against any business activities and operations. Sit-at-home was as an annual event for Biafra day celebrations. It changed to Mazi Nnamdi Kanu court days. In recent times, it is a pressure event on the government to grant his release. On sit-at-home days, all shops and business places (hospitals, schools, eateries, movement etc.) private and public are closed to members of the public. This is an economic crime, sabotage depriving business of time, and money transactions. Within the period, much goods especially perishable ones are lost, some expired. There arises controversy recently, as Monday 31<sup>st</sup> July – Friday 04<sup>th</sup> and Monday 07<sup>th</sup> – Friday 11<sup>th</sup> August, 2023 as prolonged sit-at-home was declared. Owoeye, Ezeanya and Oniegbunam (2022), raised the issue that sit-at-home seriously affect economic and social activities in all the States,

create a serious setback as everyone remained indoors.

Sit-ins in 2022 according to Newi Chamber of Commerce, Industry, Mines and Agriculture (NACCIMA), business operations stopped and ruin suffered were estimated at 8 Billion Naira daily (Orugun and Nafiu, 2014). Udo (2022) leans to the position that insecurity is negative to development. He evaluated that, IPOB has perpetrated a lot of criminal and violent activities in the southeast to the poor leadership of the country and a separatist state. Policemen killed, citizens murdered, police stations raided and burnt, weapons stolen among others. He concluded that these activities have led to a state of insecurity in the region. Workers are unsafe to go to work, businesses closed, markets locked down and hunger and inflation are on the rise in the region, stoppage/reduction of market activities, because of the loss of human lives and property.

On the educational business sub-sector, Ogunode, Johnson, and Olattunde-Aiyedun, (2022), highlight the impacts of insecurity on administration of post-basic education and career development (Pbecd) in south-east geo-political zone of Nigeria to include; lack of implementation of teaching programmes, as schools have suspended teaching. Academic calendar is poorly implemented due to closure of schools.

Internal and external examinations suspended, in some schools' students are forced to close. On brain drain, many teachers, school administrators have left the region to peaceful zones.

### **3.0 Conclusion**

The breakdown of Igbo cultural norms has created organized economic crimes. There are new criminal ventures springing up in the south-east region of Nigeria. These are kidnap, demonstrations and violent protests, the use of unknown gunmen to attacks business places and sit-at-home orders which have turned to business crimes, impacting negatively on the region. Businesses have failed to effectively and efficiently contribute to national development in the face of insecurity. Many other ethnic and foreign nationals have migrated to other parts of the country. The policing strength and other security agencies within the region is seriously depleted. Fears and anxiety hovers the area on what next, as most business are grounded with no hope of survival. There is a decline in business earnings. In south-east, the IPoB creation include economic disruptions (sit-at home orders); murder (attack on security operatives; Hausa and Fulani tribes); renewed violence (jail breaks); political instability and boycott of national events (no elections in 'Biafra land' threats) as well as social and cultural mire (poor night life; suspension of yam festival celebrations).

#### 4.0 Recommendations

In the light of the above, the following are recommended to assist ameliorate the rising trend.

1. Economic development – since economic crimes affect development negatively, economic indices as unemployment, poverty, hunger, poor health status and living conditions responsible for crimes should be looked into by the government.
2. Community engagement – since the youth are highly populated and vulnerable, there is a need to establish cottage industries in each local government areas to absorbed them. Farm settlement centres need be established to engage their productive energies. Vigilante groups and other means of crime control need awakening.
3. Case determination – there is a need for dialogue between the IPoB faction and the federal government on the issues of the agitations, and the pending case determined to foreclose these incidences.
4. Crime management – members of the security forces need to be adequately trained in crime fighting. The application of technology in crime operations (drones, GPS,) is necessitated by the trending crime patterns of the time. Solutions will be facilitated by time, accurate efficiency and

enduring. Provision of adequate police stations in rural communities to monitor socio-economic infrastructures.

5. Rural development – the need to develop the rural communities cannot be overemphasised. This will help keep a balanced population on check, provide necessary amenities to all.
6. Socialization – community norms and values have been broken, therefore all agents of the social institutions must be upheld. Members of the community need be engaged in the prevention of crime/control and security operations.

#### 5.0 References

- Abraham, U. E. (2010). The social problem of kidnapping and its implication on the socio-economic development: A case study of Uyo metropolis. Unpublished Thesis, University of Uyo.
- Achumba, I. C., Ighomereho, O. S., & Akpor-Robaro, M. O. M. (2013). Security Challenges in Nigeria and the Implications for Business Activities and Sustainable Development. *Journal of Economics and Sustainable Development*. Vol. 4, No. 2.
- Akindiyo, O. (2014). Security challenges and development in Nigeria: Leadership to the rescue? *International Journal of Academic Research in Public Policy and Governance*. DOI: 10.6007/ijarepg/vi-il/759
- Awortu, B. E. (2015). Boko Haram insurgency and the underdevelopment of Nigeria. *Research on Humanities & Social sciences*. 5(6), 213-220.
- Demola, A. (2011). Confessions of undergraduate kidnapers. *News watch magazine*. 12-21.
- Ebipre, P. & Wilson, G. (2020). National insecurity and economic growth: The case of Nigeria. *International Journal of Innovative Legal and Political Studies*. 8(2), 13-21.

- Edike, T. (2009). Nigeria: Deadly kidnappers besiege south-east. Vanguard Newspaper. Retrieved from <http://allafrica.com> 09/8/2022
- Egbelade, M. O. & Ojo, S. S. (2015). Impact of economic and financial crimes on the Nigerian economy: An assessment of money laundering. *J. of Business and Organizational Development*. 7(1), 19-25.
- Eze, R. (2017). International law and political realism: Lessons for the Third World. Anambra: Ekumex Company Limited.
- Humayun, S. I. & Dahiya, N. (2020). Agitational dynamics in the Kashmir valley and its impact. *International Journal of Advanced Research*, 8(10), 297-305. DOI: 10.21474/IJAR01/11857.
- Ikeh, C. P. (2021). Impact of sectional agitation for self-determination on national development: A study of IPOB and MASSOB of south-eastern Nigeria. *Journal of Research in Humanities and Social Science*, 9(10), 36-59.
- Inyang, J. D., & Ubong, E. A. (2013). The social problem of kidnapping and its implications on the socio-economic development of Nigeria: A study of Uyo Metropolis. *Mediterranean Journal of Social Sciences*. 4 (6), 531-544.
- Jimoh, A. M., Okwe, M., Abuh, A., Daka, T. & Afolabi, A. (2021). Worsening insecurity: seven-year N8tr defence spending, fresh N762b loan worry Senate, CSOs. The Guardian Newspaper. [www.guardian.ng](http://www.guardian.ng) retrieved on 08/08/2023.
- Jonathan, G. K. & Mbogo, R. W. (2016). Maintaining health and safety at workplace: Employee and Employer's role in ensuring a safe working environment. *Journal of Education and Practice*. 7(29).
- Mark, K. C., Obi, C. B. & Chibuzor, O. P. (2022). The ills of IPOB sit at home and its implication on the economy of the south-east geo-political zone of Nigeria. *IEEE-SEM*, 10(4), 11-18.
- Nda-Isaiah, J. (2021). Reign of the unknown gunmen. The Cable, June 3. <https://www.thecable.ng>. retrieved on 16/07/2022.
- Ndibe, O. (2016). Biafra and the business of killing. Retrieved from [www.premiumtimes.com](http://www.premiumtimes.com) on 12/10/2017.
- Njoku, C. & Elekwa, E. (2021). IPOB gives South-East governors 14 days' ultimatum to ban open grazing. Retrieved from [www.thenationonlineng.net](http://www.thenationonlineng.net) on 14/10/2022
- Nkwatoh, L. S. & Nathaniel, H. A. (2018). Effect of insecurity on economic growth in Nigeria. *Journal of Economics and Management Sciences*. DOI: 10.30560/JEMS.VIN2P69
- Nkwopara, C. (2021). Insecurity: Time to change strategy. Retrieved from [www.vanguard.com](http://www.vanguard.com) on 14/06/2021
- Nwangwa, Chikodiri (2022). Neo-Biafra Separatist Agitations, state Repression and Insecurity in South-East, Nigeria. Springer Science & Business Media. November.
- Nwangwu, C. (2018). Ako-na-uche versus nzogbu-nzogbu: interrogating the rupture between Igbo elite and their lumpen in Igbo nationalism. AfriHeritage Research Working Paper, 005.
- Ogunode, N. J., Johnson, A. G. & Olattunde-Aiyedun, T. G. (2022). Education crisis in Nigeria and way forward. *Kresna Social Science & Humanities Research*. <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/>.
- Oluwarotimi, A. (2012). US to use more balanced security strategy to fight insecurity in Nigeria. Leadership Newspaper, Lagos. Retrieved from [www.leadershipnews.com](http://www.leadershipnews.com) on 05/04/2022.
- Orugun, J. J. & Nafiu, A. T. (2014). An exploratory study of Igbo enterprises activity and business success in Nigeria as the panacea for economic growth and development. *International Journal of Scientific & Technology Research*. 3(9), 158-165.
- Onime, Bright Enakhe (2018). Insecurity and Economic Growth in Nigeria: A Diagnostic Review. *European Scientific Journal*. Vol. 14, No.4.
- Ostia, Fabian Chinedu, Anoke, Amechi Febian, & Eze, Solomon Uchechukwu (2022). Mandatory Sit-at-home Order by the Indigenous People of Biafra (IPOB) and Economic Activities in South East, Nigeria. *International journal of Economics, Business and Management Research*. Vol. 6, No. 07.
- Okonkwo, R. I., Ndubuisi-Okolo, P. & Anagbogu, T. (2015). Security challenges and the implications for business activities in Nigeria: A critical review. *Journal of Policy and Development Studies*, 9(2), 157-168.
- Okorie-Ajah, B., Nwokeoma, B. N. & Okpan, S. O. (2018). Socio-economic implication of kidnapping and hostage taking in southern Nigeria. *Journal of Law and Judicial System*, 1(1), 51-59.
- Okwuwada, N. (2023). The modern day consequences, causes, and nature of kidnapping, terrorism, banditry, and violent crime in Nigeria: A comprehensive analysis. Munich Personal RePEc Archive. Retrieved from <https://mpra.ub.uni-muenchen.de/117671/>

- Owoeye, Dada, Isaac, Ezeanya, Vincent Emeka, Obiegbunam (2022). Separatists' Strategy: Appraising the Effects of IPOB Monday Sit-at-home Order on Political Economy (Socio-Political and Economic Activities) of the South-East Region of Nigeria. *International Journal of Advanced Academic Research*. Vol. 8, Issue 1.
- Sampson, I. T. & Onuoha, F. C. (2011). "Forcing the horse to drink or making it realize it thirst? Understanding the enactment of anti-terrorism legislation (ATL) in Nigeria". *Perspectives on Terrorism*. 5(3-4), 33-49.
- Soyombo, O. (2009). *Sociology of crime controls*. 2<sup>nd</sup>ed. New York, USA: West Publishing Company.
- Thomas, T., & Nta, P. (2009). Kidnapped and persecuted Coman Clem's wife. *Community Pulse*. 6.
- Wallace, R. A. & Wolf, A. (1999). *Contemporary sociological theory: Expanding the classical tradition*. 5<sup>th</sup> ed. New Jersey: Prentice Hall.
- Economic crimes <https://www.europol.europa> retrieved on 08/08/2023.
- An introduction to business protection. Retrieved from [www.fpi.com](http://www.fpi.com) on 07/08/2023.

© GSJ