

BORDERS AND GLOBALIZATION

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BORDERS

CONTESTED CONCEPT

Lines dividing distinct political,
social, or legal territories

Symbols of power determining

inclusion and exclusion are based

Barriers constructed to protect
power and wealth

RATIONALE

Mechanisms to promote
prosperity and security

Prosperity through the beneficial flows
of people, goods, capital, and ideas.

Security – by managing flow of
people, goods, capital, and ideas

BORDERS AS CONSTRUCTS

Borders: constructed as tools to
manage complex societies

States require territorial
sovereignty, i.e. borders

BORDERS & GLOBAL DIVISIONS

Division of power and wealth:

North v. South

Some in the South show

disregard for Northern borders

Globalization: virtual borders

States increasingly powerless in
the face of globalization

Ideas and capital now operate in
a “borderless” world

Permeability of African borders:
advantage and existential threat

Terrorists recognized the porosity
of African borders

WMDs can penetrate Africa –
threat to global security

**PROLIFERATION,
NONPROLIFERATION, AND
COUNTERPROLIFERATION**

PROLIFERATION

Spread of chemical, biological,
radiological, and nuclear (CBRN)
weapons

NONPROLIFERATION

Frameworks preventing states
from developing WMDs

COUNTERPROLIFERATION

Proactive efforts to combat the
proliferation of WMDs

Focus of interdiction; military

force as last resort

Africa has been a WMD-free zone –
exceptions: South Africa and Libya

Libya-Mali Case-Study

- Hundreds of Tuareg fighters left

Libya during civil war

- Drove to northern Mali with sophisticated weapons

- Joined local Tuareg separatists

in Mali

- New weapons fundamentally

changed the security equation

- Within three months, rebels
poised to take Bamako

- France intervened to save

Malian government

What if Libya had not dismantled
its WMD program?

African states would be unprepared
to deal with the problem

The international community

would intervene

CONTINGENT SOVEREIGNTY

Libya and Mali: clear illustration
of importance of border security

Sovereignty and national security

hinge on control of borders

No control = no security = no
sovereignty

A state forfeits sovereignty when
unable to control its territory

BY WAY OF CONCLUSION

Borders are about control,
security, and prosperity

THANK YOU!!

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