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The Impact of Globalization on Transnational Terrorism: A Case Study of Boko  
Haram in Nigeria 2005-2015

BY

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## DECLARATION

I hereby declare that all information in this document has been obtained and presented in accordance with academic rules and ethical conduct. I also declare that this is my original work and have never been presented for a degree or any award in any university or any academic institution of higher learning.

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## APPROVAL

The jury members certify that the study conforms to acceptable standard of scholarly presentation and is fully adequate in scope and quality as a dissertation for the degree of Master of Science in International Relations.

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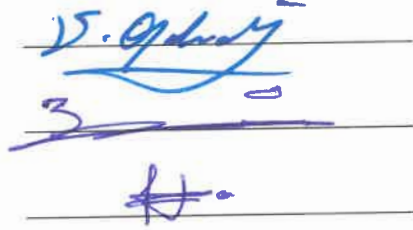
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## **DEDICATION**

This research work is dedicated to my beloved mother, Ms. Bokimeh Robinson Inyang. Her sacrifices and unyielding determination laid the foundation upon which I stand today. You are forever in my heart, and your memory will always guide me. Rest well, “Aunty.”

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## ABSTRACT

This research examines the impact globalization played in promoting transnational terrorism, particularly the Boko Haram insurgency in Nigeria between 2005 and 2015. Globalisation, which entails the increasing interdependencies of economies, societies, and technologies, has provided both opportunities and risks, in terms of terrorism across borders. Regarding terrorism, globalization has played a very significant role in the movement of ideas and publicities, access to resources, and synchronization of actions. This study explores how globalization has affected the activities of Boko Haram in terms of operation, recruitment as well as its internationalization over the said period. Key factors contributing to the group's resilience include the use of social media for propaganda and expansion, while exploiting the weak borders in the Lake Chad Basin, and the lack of strong institutions in the region. Additionally, Boko Haram has leveraged global illegal trade networks, which includes drug trafficking, arms smuggling, and kidnapping for ransom, to finance its activities. Socioeconomic inequalities, combined with political exclusion, have deepened feelings of frustration in north eastern Nigeria, hence driving more people towards radicalisation. This research primarily uses thematic analysis of reports from international governmental and non-governmental organizations, peer-reviewed journals and media articles to gain an appreciable insight into the relationship between globalization and Boko Haram insurgency. The findings necessitate the importance for a cooperative international counterterrorism strategy that addresses both the root causes and transnational dimensions of terrorism. The recommendations include improving regional security partnerships, tightening border security, and introducing initiatives that reduces social and economic inequalities. This study offers valuable insight for policymakers and academics trying to manage the challenges of globalisation while mitigating its role in enabling transnational terrorism.

**Keywords:** Boko Haram, Counterterrorism, Globalization, Transnational Terrorism, North-Eastern Nigeria

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## **LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS**

**AI** - Artificial Intelligence  
**AQIM** - Al-Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb  
**BBC** - British Broadcasting Corporation  
**CNN** - Cable News Network  
**CT** - Counterterrorism  
**CTC** - Counter-Terrorism Committee  
**DFID** - Department for International Development (UK)  
**ECOWAS** - Economic Community of West African States  
**FATF** - Financial Action Task Force  
**GCTF** - Global Counterterrorism Forum  
**GDP** - Gross Domestic Product  
**GTD** - Global Terrorism Database  
**ICRC** - International Committee of the Red Cross  
**ICT** - Information and Communication Technology  
**IMF** - International Monetary Fund  
**ISIS** - Islamic State of Iraq and Syria  
**ISS** - Institute for Security Studies  
**ISWAP** - Islamic State West Africa Province  
**JSOU** - Joint Special Operations University

**JSTOR** - Journal Storage (Digital Library)

**JTF** - Joint Task Force

**MLA** -Mutual Legal Assistance

**MNJTF** - Multinational Joint Task Force

**NATO** - North Atlantic Treaty Organization

**NGO** - Non-Governmental Organization

**NWO** - New World Order

**PTSD** - Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder

**SSRN** - Social Science Research Network

**TFTN** - Terrorism Financing Tracking Program

**TSCTP** - Trans-Sahara Counterterrorism Partnership

**UK** - United Kingdom

**UN** - United Nations

**UNHCR** - United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

**UNODC** - United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

**US** - United States

**WHO** - World Health Organization

**WTO** - World Trade Organization

# **CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION**

## **1.1 Introduction**

Warfare and disputes have been inherent to human existence since ancient times (Cashman, 2013). Disagreements arise in families, communities, organizations, and between nations, often escalating due to differing perspectives and ideologies. In international relations, ideological clashes have led to seemingly irreconcilable conflicts (Pitman, 2010). Similarly, globalization has intensified these disparities as countries exert influence through diplomacy, political pressure, cultural assimilation, and economic and educational initiatives (Chinnammai, 2005).

Defining transnational terrorism in the modern era of globalization requires precision. Transnational terrorism can be defined as the use of physical violence or economic coercion by states against groups or individuals perceived as resisting neoliberal globalization. This phenomenon is evident in countries like Libya and Syria, where state actions target those opposing global economic policies (Nairn & James, 2005, pp. 45-47). Transnational terrorism also focuses on states that have not fully assimilated into the New World Order (NWO), either due to their association with national liberation movements (such as the Ba'athist regimes in Iraq and Syria or the Jamahiriya in Libya) or because they are comprised of people who strongly value self-determination and are actively defending their national sovereignty in the era of globalization (Fotopoulos, 2014).

The Global Terrorism Database (GTD) distinguishes between transnational and domestic terrorist incidents (Global Terrorism Database, 2022). This distinction is crucial because these forms of terrorism may have different impacts and causes. Transnational terrorism may pose a greater threat to economic growth, and its origins may differ from those of domestic terrorism. However, research suggests a strong correlation between the two. Enders et al. (2011) found that shocks to domestic terrorism significantly influence transnational terrorism, suggesting that domestic terrorism can spread across borders. This implies that nations cannot afford to ignore domestic terrorism abroad and may need to assist in its prevention.

Terrorism is a global concern, presenting governments with complex security challenges. Africa, with its unique developmental challenges, is particularly vulnerable to the impacts of terrorism (Asongu et al., 2018). In West Africa, numerous countries have experienced devastating terrorist attacks, resulting in loss of life and damage to infrastructure. Between 2015 and 2016, Mali, Nigeria, Burkina Faso, and Cote d'Ivoire all suffered significant terrorist attacks, including those perpetrated by Boko Haram in Nigeria and assaults in Burkina Faso and Cote d'Ivoire (Akanji, 2019).

## **1.2 Background of the Study**

Understanding the root causes of terrorism is a complex endeavor. Terrorist motivations are diverse and often intertwined with political, economic, and social factors (Crenshaw, 1981). While some groups engage in international terrorism, many others operate with more localized objectives, focusing on specific states or grievances (Enders & Sandler, 2006; Li & Schaub, 2004; Newman, 2006). Globalization plays a significant role in shaping these motivations, as it can exacerbate existing inequalities, facilitate the spread of extremist ideologies, and create new opportunities for transnational terrorist networks to operate (Li & Schaub, 2004).

The history of terrorism is long and varied, with roots tracing back to the late 19th century. Since then, terrorist activity has occurred in "waves," with periods of increased activity followed by relative calm. Early examples include the anarchist movement in France, which shifted from targeted attacks to indiscriminate violence, and the actions of various Polish, Armenian, Ukrainian, and factions within the Russian Empire seeking to overthrow the czarist regime (Weinberg, 2018). Terrorism encompasses a wide range of tactics, including assassinations, bombings, hijackings, and kidnappings. The resurgence of terrorism in the late 20th century, after a period of relative peace, led many to view it as a new phenomenon, highlighting the evolving nature of this threat in the context of globalization.

Laqueur (2017), in his seminal work *A History of Terrorism*, provides a comprehensive overview of the evolution of political terror, tracing its trajectory from 19th-century Europe through the anarchist movements of the late 1800s, the ideological conflicts of the 20th century, and the rise of contemporary international terrorism.

### **1.3 Statement of the Problem**

Globalization has undeniably fostered increased trade, the exchange of political ideas and cultural values, and global integration. However, this interconnectedness has also facilitated the spread and execution of transnational terrorism. Despite efforts by international organizations like Europol and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) to combat cross-border criminal activities, including terrorism, the threat persists.

Advancements in technology have further complicated the fight against transnational terrorism. Terrorists now have access to tools like drones and artificial intelligence (AI), enabling them to carry out increasingly devastating attacks. This study aims to investigate the impact of globalization on transnational terrorism by examining:

- The role of enhanced communication in facilitating terrorist activities.
- The exploitation of Boko Haram by political and religious extremists.
- Effective counterterrorism strategies to mitigate the threat of transnational terrorism.

### **1.4 Objective of the Study**

1. To find out, via communication developments, how globalization affects transnational terrorism.
2. To assess the extent to which Boko Haram terrorism has affected Nigeria.
3. To show how counterterrorism is used to stop international terrorism.

### **1.5 Importance of the Study**

The world has shrunk to the size of a "global village" due to the proliferation of worldwide online communication (McLuhan, 1964). The rise in global relationships has led to an expansion in international trade and the sharing of ideas, values, and culture, fostering economic and sociocultural processes including interaction and integration (Held et al., 1999). However, it has also brought about conflicts, particularly in the form of terrorism. Terrorism, a significant societal threat, has resulted in the destruction of human lives and caused more premature and horrific deaths than natural calamities (Laqueur, 2017). This threat has become more severe with technological advancements. The use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and drones by terrorists to carry out devastating attacks has resulted in more harm than benefit (Clarke & Knake, 2019).



There is a wide range of publications and periodicals discussing the increased risks of terrorism due to globalization; however, the existing resources are insufficient. Writers and researchers in this field sometimes fail to keep their knowledge up to date with global developments (Newman, 2006). Curiously, the study of terrorism is often limited to specific students in the military, police, and paramilitary forces, as a course, field of study, or area of expertise. Obtaining up-to-date and sufficient information on this topic is challenging due to the classification of certain sources (Enders & Sandler, 2006).

Hence, this study will make a significant contribution to the current understanding in this field and have a substantial impact on the policies and programs implemented by governments and decision-makers at all levels. This study will be highly beneficial for researchers, knowledge seekers, policy formulators, implementers, and students in making informed decisions and acquiring knowledge. It will analyze the relationship between local grievances, socio-economic decline, culture, religion, and politics in exacerbating the Boko Haram threat within the context of global pressures (Onuoha, 2014).

It is crucial to emphasize that regardless of the number of books produced on a topic, it will never be sufficient due to variations in individual viewpoints, upbringing, environment, social status, level of competence, and acquisition of knowledge between globalization and transnational terrorism.

## **1.6 Research Gaps**

The current literature does not fully explore or analyze some areas in relation to Boko Haram. This section will highlight significant gaps that the research will address.

### **1.6.1 Insufficient Exploration of Local Grievances and Globalization**

One of the significant gaps in the existing literature is the insufficient exploration of the interaction between local grievances and globalization in the context of Boko Haram. While many studies have examined the local factors contributing to Boko Haram's rise, such as economic challenges, governance issues, and cultural dynamics, there is a lack of comprehensive analysis on how these

local grievances are exacerbated or influenced by globalization. For instance, the impact of global economic policies on local economies and how this contributes to the sense of relative deprivation among the local population has not been thoroughly investigated. Cold-Ravnkilde and Plambech (2015) highlight the need for a comprehensive approach that includes socio-economic perspectives. Odogun (2018) also examines how global economic policies impact local economies and contribute to the rise of Boko Haram.

### **1.6.2 Underexplored Aspects of Globalization's Impact**

Another gap is the underexplored aspects of globalization's impact on Boko Haram's operations and strategies. Although there is some literature on the role of technology and communication in facilitating Boko Haram's propaganda and recruitment, there is limited research on how globalization has enabled the group to establish and maintain transnational networks. This includes the flow of ideas, resources, and personnel across borders, which is crucial for understanding the group's resilience and adaptability. Adeyeye, Akinrinde, and Omodunbi (2021) discuss how globalization has enabled Boko Haram to establish and maintain transnational networks. Eveslage (2012) analyzes Boko Haram's public statements to understand its transnational intentions.

### **1.6.3 Narrow Focus on Specific Factors**

The existing literature often has a narrow focus on specific factors, such as the ideological or psychological aspects of terrorism, without adequately considering the broader socio-economic and political context. This narrow focus limits the understanding of the complex interplay between local and global forces in shaping Boko Haram's evolution. For example, the role of international financial networks in funding Boko Haram's activities or the influence of global political dynamics on local insurgencies are areas that require further exploration. Campbell (2020) explores the various sources of funding for Boko Haram, including international financial networks. Fatile and Ejalonibu (2024) examine the role of global terrorism networks in supporting Boko Haram.

### **1.6.4 Addressing the Gaps**

The research aims to address these gaps by providing a comprehensive analysis of the interaction between local grievances and globalization. By examining how global economic policies impact

local economies and contribute to the rise of Boko Haram, the research will offer new insights into the socio-economic factors driving the insurgency. Additionally, this work will explore the transnational networks established by Boko Haram, shedding light on the group's ability to operate across borders and the role of globalization in facilitating these networks.

## **1.6 Theoretical Framework**

Globalization has profoundly impacted the world, bringing both benefits and challenges. One of the significant challenges is the rise of transnational terrorism, fueled by increased interconnectivity and interdependence between states and regions. This section examines several theoretical frameworks that help explain the complex relationship between globalization and transnational terrorism, with a particular focus on how these theories illuminate the case of Boko Haram in Nigeria.

### **1.7.1 Relative Deprivation and Economic Inequality**

The theory of relative deprivation suggests that feelings of frustration and resentment arise when individuals or groups perceive themselves as disadvantaged compared to others (Power et al., 2020). This perception of inequality can be exacerbated by globalization, as it can lead to uneven economic development and increased awareness of disparities between different regions and populations. In the case of Boko Haram, relative deprivation, particularly among marginalized communities in northeastern Nigeria, has been identified as a key factor contributing to the group's rise. These communities have felt excluded from the benefits of globalization and have experienced economic and political marginalization, fueled resentment and created a fertile ground for extremist ideologies to take root (Coccia, 2018).

### **1.7.2 Identity Crisis and Cultural Homogenization**

Globalization can also lead to cultural homogenization, where dominant global cultures erode traditional values and identities. This can trigger identity crises among individuals who feel a sense of detachment from their cultural roots. Terrorist organizations often exploit these feelings of alienation, positioning themselves as defenders of cultural and religious identities. Crenshaw (1981) argues that terrorism can be understood as a reaction to perceived threats to one's identity

and cultural heritage. In the context of Boko Haram, the group's ideology emphasizes a rejection of Western influence and a return to a perceived "pure" form of Islam. This resonates with individuals experiencing a sense of cultural dislocation in the face of globalization.

### **1.7.3 Political Instability and Failed States**

While terrorism can occur in states with strong governments, weak or failed states often provide fertile ground for terrorist groups to operate (Newman, 2007). Globalization can contribute to political instability by exacerbating existing tensions and inequalities within states. In Nigeria, Boko Haram has exploited the weaknesses of the state, particularly in the northeastern region, to establish strongholds and launch attacks. The group's ability to operate is linked to the state's inability to provide basic services, ensure security, and address the root causes of discontent, which are often amplified by the pressures of globalization.

### **1.7.4 The Role of Technology**

The rapid advancement of communication technologies, a key facet of globalization, has significantly impacted the spread of information and ideas. These technologies, including the internet and social media, can be exploited by terrorist organizations to disseminate propaganda, recruit followers, and coordinate attacks (Mahmood & Jetter, 2020). Boko Haram has effectively used social media to spread its message, attract recruits, and gain international attention. The group's use of technology highlights the challenges of combating terrorism in the digital age, where globalization has facilitated the rapid and widespread dissemination of information.

## **1.8 Methodology**

This study examines the impact of globalization on transnational terrorism by employing a systematic literature review, focusing specifically on the activities of Boko Haram in Nigeria from 2005 to 2015. Our use of the case study method arises from its ability to provide a comprehensive insight of real-life situations. A substantial amount of secondary data will be collected from news articles, government reports, academic journals, videos, and publications from international

organizations. The research will be conducted through an in-depth analysis of the chosen time frame by considering the historical context and additional data, which will provide a clear understanding of the patterns and trends. Qualitative data will be examined and processed using thematic analysis to identify and understand recurring themes and patterns. This method encodes the data, categorizes the codes into themes, and subsequently analyzes the themes about our research questions. The analysis involves description of qualitative data obtained from secondary sources, such as the frequency and intensity of Boko Haram assaults and their geographic distribution. This study will adhere to ethical norms to protect the rights and well-being of participants. We may have limited access to reliable and comprehensive data, particularly in obtaining accurate documentation of Boko Haram's actions. We will use several data sources to effectively tackle these difficulties and ensure both the authenticity and reliability of the results.

### **1.9 Research Questions**

1. To what extent has globalization influenced transnational terrorism?
2. What is the extent of exploitation of Boko Haram by political and religious extremists?
3. What are counter-terrorism measures needed to counter the menace of transnational terrorism?

### **1.10 Thesis Outline**

The first chapter will present a comprehensive introduction to, 'The Impact of Globalization on Transnational Terrorism: A Case Study of Boko Haram in Nigeria 2005-2015'. Additionally, it will underscore the objective and significance of the research. Chapter Two involves a literature survey of Boko haram, its evolution and ideology. Chapter Three will involve a comprehensive analysis of 'The Impact of Globalization on Transnational Terrorism: A Case Study of Boko Haram in Nigeria 2005-2015' and the past scholarly contributions made to the subject under investigation. Chapter Four will provide a detailed explanation of the methodology to accomplish the study's goal. Chapter Five will comprise an evaluation of the study's analytical findings and an elaborate discourse on the noteworthy revelations. Chapter Six will consolidate the study's findings and offer suggestions.

### **1.11 Scope and Limitations**

Undoubtedly, globalization and transnational terrorism are worldwide occurrences that have consistently influenced the Gross Domestic Product, GDP, of several nations. This study may not comprehensively address the fundamental principles due to the restricted time frame allocated to it. It necessitates the involvement of specialists in this field of human activity, who must possess extensive networks, contacts, a willingness to provide confidential information, and diplomatic skills.

The study had numerous challenges in obtaining necessary data on the influence of globalization on transnational terrorism, specifically focusing on Boko Haram.

Due to the academic nature of the study, we restricted ourselves to the timeframe required for completing the research and operated within the constraints of our available resources.

### **1.12 Definition of Terms**

#### **1.12.1 Terrorism**

Terrorism is intended to achieve political goals by using or threatening to use violence, thereby creating fear in the minds of people and involving a much larger audience than those directly affected (Siqueira & Sandler, 2010). As stated by Ganor (2009), terrorism aims to attain political objectives by generating fear and worry within the targeted populace, as asserted by two theories: the "psychological-sociological" theory and the "political-rational" theory.

Terrorism involves repeated violent acts that spread terror. Secretive individuals, groups, and states employ it. Terrorism can be personal, criminal, or political. Terrorist violence targets non-combatants, unlike assassination. Usually, victims of violence are chosen at random (opportunistic targets) or deliberately (symbolic or representative targets) from a group to send a message. Threats and violence are used by terrorist organizations to control their audience. Depending on the goal of intimidation, compulsion, or propaganda, this manipulation can make the audience a target of fright, demands, or attention (Schmid, 2004).

Terrorism is political violence intended to create fear and alarm, and it is also characterized by the use of violence towards noncombatants and civilians to achieve political goals (Crenshaw, 1981).

NATO defines terrorism as the illegal utilization or imminent utilization of force or violence, inducing fear and terror, against individuals or property with the aim of pressuring or intimidating governments or societies, or attaining control over a population, in order to accomplish political, religious, or ideological goals (Larsen, 2016).

The United Nations established a High-Level Panel on Threats, Challenges, and Change in 2004. The experts, in their report to the UN Secretary-General in December 2004, suggested defining terrorism as any deliberate action that aims to cause death or severe physical harm to civilians or non-combatants. This act of terrorism is intended to intimidate a population or force a government or international organization to take or refrain from taking certain actions. "Terrorism is the intentional and indiscriminate killing of innocent individuals with the aim of instilling fear among an entire population and coercing its political leaders to take certain actions" (Walzer, 2002, p. 153).

### **1.12.2 Transnational Terrorism**

Transnational terrorism can be defined as a form of insurgency that operates on a global level. It involves a violent campaign with the objective of influencing a worldwide audience and motivating supporters by utilizing modern communication technology (Amin, 2021).

Bruce Hoffman is a distinguished expert in the field of terrorist studies. According to Hoffman (2017), transnational terrorism refers to acts of terrorism carried out by groups whose terrorist activities extend across national boundaries, involving numerous nations as either operational bases or locations where attacks are planned, funded, or executed. The term highlights the transnational and global character of terrorist actions.

Transnational terrorism refers to acts of violence committed by independent non-state actors, who may or may not get assistance from sympathetic states.

Transnational terrorism refers to acts of terrorism that take place outside the borders of a particular country and pose a threat to entire regions or numerous countries.

### **1.12.3 Globalization**

Globalization is a complex and multifaceted concept with varying interpretations. According to the World Health Organization (WHO), it refers to the heightened interconnection and interdependence of individuals and nations, encompassing economics, culture, technology, and governance. People worldwide are increasingly influenced by events in distant regions (United Nations Development Programme, 1999).

The term "globalization" gained popularity through Thomas Friedman's book *The Lexus and the Olive Tree* (1999). Friedman (2005) argues that globalization is characterized by the increasing integration and interdependence of economies, creating a 'flat world' where individuals and businesses can connect and compete globally, potentially reducing conflicts.

Critics argue that globalization is just the latest trend. Persistent territorial disputes, resource conflicts, cultural clashes, power disparities, and various inequalities challenge the notion that a new empirical reality called "globalization" has truly emerged (Friedman, 2005).

Globalization results from the advancement of capitalism (Glatzer & Rueschemeyer, 2005). It involves the exchange of economic, political, social, cultural, and technological aspects between individuals, nations, and regions. The world is becoming increasingly interconnected in terms of economy, beliefs, technologies, lifestyles, and political laws (Gale, 2022). Mittelman (2004) describes globalization as a significant change in how market forces, political authority, and societal norms interact and adapt to local circumstances.

### **1.12.4 Technological Advancement**

Technological advancement, as defined by Smith (2020), encompasses the ongoing enhancement and progression of technology, resulting in heightened efficiency in manufacturing processes, improved quality products and services, and total economic expansion. This dynamic process



involves the creation of novel concepts, techniques, and tools that improve efficiency and productivity. It includes introducing new technologies, acquiring knowledge about them, and developing them further, while also considering their impact on technical, economic, and social dimensions.

Technological advancement encompasses the ongoing development and enhancement of different technologies and their practical uses, driving economic expansion and transforming various aspects of society. This ongoing process applies to both established and emerging technologies (The World Bank, 2023).

### **1.13 Analyses and Underlined Ideologies**

This section examines the perspectives of prominent scholars in terrorism studies, analysing their key arguments and highlighting their contributions to understanding transnational terrorism.

#### **1.13.1 John Horgan: The Psychology of Terrorism**

John Horgan, a renowned psychologist specializing in terrorism and deradicalization, emphasizes the psychological dimensions of terrorist behaviour (Horgan, 2005). While Horgan does not offer a specific definition of transnational terrorism, his work implicitly equates it with violence carried out by individuals or groups across national borders, often targeting international interests or seeking to influence foreign policy (Horgan, 2005). He highlights the role of technology and global communication networks in facilitating these activities, posing a significant threat to international security (Horgan, 2005).

Horgan's primary focus is on the psychological motivations behind terrorism, particularly the factors that drive individuals to join and leave terrorist groups (Horgan, 2005). He explores the mechanisms of radicalization, the dynamics of sustained involvement in terrorism, and the process of disengagement (Horgan, 2005). Unlike scholars who prioritize security perspectives, Horgan emphasizes the importance of understanding the psychology of terrorists as a cornerstone of effective counterterrorism strategies (Horgan, 2005).

Horgan argues that radicalization is a complex process influenced by personal, social, and psychological factors (Horgan, 2005). He challenges the notion of a "typical" terrorist profile, highlighting the psychological diversity of individuals involved in terrorism (Horgan, 2005). He suggests that people join terrorist groups for several reasons, including a desire for belonging, purpose, and meaning, particularly when these needs are unmet in other aspects of their lives (Horgan, 2005). This is especially relevant in transnational terrorism, where participants come from diverse backgrounds and have varied motivations (Horgan, 2005).

Horgan also emphasizes the role of psychological processes in maintaining individuals' involvement in terrorism (Horgan, 2005). He notes that initial motivations may fade, and continued participation can be driven by loyalty to the group, fear of reprisals, or a lack of alternatives (Horgan, 2005). The psychological bonds between group members become crucial in sustaining their commitment, particularly in transnational terrorism, where operatives may be isolated from their home countries and rely heavily on their fellow terrorists (Horgan, 2005).

Furthermore, Horgan explores the concept of disengagement, the process of leaving a terrorist group (Horgan, 2005). He stresses the importance of understanding why and how individuals disengage from terrorism, noting that it is not always synonymous with deradicalization (Horgan, 2005). Disengagement can be driven by disillusionment with the group's cause or leaders, exhaustion, fear of capture, or opportunities for a new life (Horgan, 2005). Horgan advocates for supporting individuals who wish to disengage, providing psychological help, employment opportunities, and social reintegration programs (Horgan, 2005).

### **1.13.2 Martha Crenshaw: The Strategic Logic of Terrorism**

Martha Crenshaw, a leading political scientist in terrorism studies, focuses on the causes and dynamics of transnational terrorism. While she does not offer a single, widely quoted definition, her work suggests that transnational terrorism involves operations and effects that extend beyond national borders (Crenshaw, 1981). These groups often utilize international structures to attack international or foreign targets, impacting multiple countries beyond their operational base

(Crenshaw, 1981). This type of terrorism aims to influence international policies and relations, requiring extensive planning and coordination due to its cross-border nature (Crenshaw, 1981).

Crenshaw emphasizes the rationality of terrorism, arguing that it is a deliberate and strategic choice made by groups to achieve political goals (Crenshaw, 1981). She challenges the notion that terrorism is solely driven by desperation or extremism (Crenshaw, 1981). Her work highlights the importance of understanding the context in which terrorism occurs and the conditions that facilitate it (Crenshaw, 1981).

Crenshaw argues that terrorism is a form of strategic communication, where violence is used to send a message to a wider audience beyond the immediate victims (Crenshaw, 1981). In transnational terrorism, this involves targeting international bodies, foreign powers, or global society to attract attention, elicit government responses, or disrupt political systems (Crenshaw, 1981). Organizations like al-Qaeda and ISIS exemplify this strategic logic, operating in multiple countries and exploiting modern communication technologies to pursue their ideological goals (Crenshaw, 1981).

Crenshaw also explores the factors that contribute to the rise of terrorism (Crenshaw, 1981). She notes that terrorism often occurs in areas with political instability, weak economic growth, or social injustice (Crenshaw, 1981). In these contexts, groups may resort to terrorism to push for change when other avenues of political dissent are blocked or ineffective (Crenshaw, 1981). This perspective is crucial for understanding transnational terrorism, as many such organizations originate in politically unstable or repressed regions (Crenshaw, 1981).

Furthermore, Crenshaw examines the decision-making processes within terrorist organizations (Crenshaw, 1981). She argues that terrorism arises from internal deliberations about how to effectively advance political agendas (Crenshaw, 1981). This highlights the importance of understanding the organizational dynamics and strategic calculations that lead to terrorist violence, particularly in transnational networks that rely on complex logistical and financial support across borders (Crenshaw, 1981).

### **1.13.3 Bruce Hoffman: Terrorism as a Dynamic and Evolving Process**

Bruce Hoffman, a prominent terrorism and counterterrorism analyst, defines transnational terrorism as actions carried out by actors or networks with international or foreign targets and goals (Hoffman, 2006). These incidents involve operations across multiple countries, often far from the group's centre of operations, exploiting global communication, financial, and supply chain systems to conduct coordinated attacks with significant political consequences (Hoffman, 2006).

Hoffman emphasizes the dynamic and evolving nature of terrorism, highlighting its ideological and strategic foundations (Hoffman, 2006). He argues that terrorism adapts to its environment, influenced by political, technological, and social factors (Hoffman, 2006). This is particularly relevant in transnational terrorism, where groups exploit globalization trends to operate globally, recruit members, and disseminate their message (Hoffman, 2006).

Hoffman focuses on terrorism as a communication process, where violence is used to convey a message, instil fear, or influence government policies (Hoffman, 2006). In transnational terrorism, this involves targeting audiences beyond the immediate victims, including foreign governments, international organizations, and the global public (Hoffman, 2006). He notes how terrorist organizations have become increasingly adept at using technology and adapting their structures to enhance their effectiveness (Hoffman, 2006).

Hoffman's work highlights the challenges of combating transnational terrorism in a globalized world (Hoffman, 2006). He emphasizes the need for international cooperation and comprehensive counterterrorism strategies that address the root causes of terrorism, disrupt terrorist networks, and prevent the spread of extremist ideologies (Hoffman, 2006).

### **1.13.4 Jessica Stern: The Psychological and Ideological Appeal of Transnational Terrorism**

Jessica Stern, an expert on terrorism and religious extremism, views transnational terrorism as a phenomenon that transcends borders in its actors, impacts, and goals (Stern & Berger, 2015). These groups operate in multiple countries, target foreigners or international interests, and utilize international networks for recruitment, financing, and operations (Stern & Berger, 2015). Their

attacks are often designed to be catastrophic, with far-reaching consequences for international relations and security (Stern & Berger, 2015).

Stern focuses on the psychological and ideological drivers of terrorism, particularly within religious extremist movements (Stern & Berger, 2015). She argues that terrorist groups offer a sense of belonging, purpose, and identity to individuals who feel powerless, humiliated, or marginalized (Stern & Berger, 2015). In transnational terrorism, this psychological appeal is amplified by global narratives of struggle, such as global jihad or the establishment of an international caliphate (Stern & Berger, 2015).

Stern's research on religious extremism, particularly Islamist terrorism, highlights how religious beliefs can be used to justify violence and mobilize individuals to join transnational terrorist groups (Stern, 2003). She emphasizes the importance of understanding the ideological motivations behind transnational terrorism and addressing the grievances and psychological vulnerabilities that make individuals susceptible to recruitment (Stern, 2003).

Stern also recognizes the role of globalization in facilitating transnational terrorism, noting how advancements in communication, transportation, and finance have enabled these groups to operate across borders more effectively than ever before (Stern, 2003). She highlights the challenges of countering the spread of extremism through social media and other digital platforms (Stern, 2003).

Stern advocates for multifaceted counterterrorism approaches that go beyond the use of force and law enforcement (Stern, 2003). She stresses the need to address the root causes of terrorism, including political grievances, economic inequalities, and social exclusion, to effectively combat the narratives used by terrorist groups to recruit and radicalize individuals (Stern, 2003).

#### **1.13.5 Walter Laqueur: The Rise of "New Terrorism"**

Walter Laqueur, a prominent historian and terrorism scholar, coined the term "new terrorism" to describe the evolving nature of terrorist threats (Laqueur, 2016). He differentiates it from "old

terrorism," which typically involved defined ideologies, specific objectives, conventional weapons, and limited casualties (Laqueur, 2016). In contrast, Laqueur views transnational terrorism as driven by extremist ideologies, often religious in nature, with the aim of fundamentally altering the world order (Laqueur, 2016). These groups are willing to engage in extreme violence, including the use of weapons of mass destruction, to achieve their goals (Laqueur, 2016).

Laqueur highlights the rise of groups like al-Qaeda as a defining characteristic of this new terrorism (Laqueur, 2016). These groups are less concerned with political concessions or power-sharing and more focused on waging war against perceived enemies, often those with international influence (Laqueur, 2016). This ideological shift, coupled with the increased capacity for violence, represents a notable change in the nature of terrorism (Laqueur, 2016).

Laqueur emphasizes the role of fanaticism in transnational terrorism, suggesting that these groups are driven by a "religious streak" rather than instrumental rationality (Laqueur, 2016). They are willing to die for their cause, making them more dangerous and unpredictable (Laqueur, 2016). He also notes the emergence of radical Islamist groups in the late 20th century as a significant departure from earlier secular forms of terrorism (Laqueur, 2016). These groups view their actions as a divine mission in a global war, justifying attacks against both non-combatant and military targets worldwide (Laqueur, 2016).

Laqueur recognizes globalization as a key factor contributing to the rise of transnational terrorism (Laqueur, 2016). He argues that advancements in communication, transportation, and finance have facilitated the global reach of terrorist organizations, enabling them to recruit members, transfer funds, and coordinate attacks across borders (Laqueur, 2016). This globalization of terrorism poses significant challenges for individual states and requires international cooperation to effectively counter the threat (Laqueur, 2016).

## **CHAPTER 2: LITERATURE REVIEW**

### **2.1 Conceptual Framework**

This section explores concepts integral to the study, including globalization, transnational terrorism, and the dynamics of Boko Haram. These concepts and clarifications provide the foundation for comprehensively analyzing the research subject matter.

### **2.2 Concept of Globalization**

Globalization, derived from the Latin root *globus*, meaning sphere or round mass, refers to the increasing interconnectedness and interdependence of nations, economies, and cultures (Steger, 2017). Historically, globalization emphasized trade and economic exchanges, but today it encompasses a multifaceted web of ideologies, technologies, and transnational interactions (Steger, 2017). While often lauded for fostering economic growth and cultural exchange, globalization has also provided fertile ground for transnational terrorism (Steger, 2017). Globalization can be defined as the way the world is integrating or becoming one market for economic, political, cultural, or even technological units. It means broadening the patterns of trading, speaking, and moving beyond borders, facilitating the exchange of products, services, knowledge, and messages (Held et al., 1999).

According to Akinyemi (2018), globalization facilitates the rapid movement of ideas, people, goods, and finances across borders, which has a dual impact: it creates opportunities for development and amplifies vulnerabilities, including the proliferation of extremist ideologies. Boko Haram's growth, for instance, cannot be divorced from global flows of radical Islamic ideologies, particularly through the internet and transnational networks (Akinyemi, 2018). Scholars like Olayemi (2021) argue that globalization not only enables the cross-border spread of terrorism but also exacerbates socio-economic inequalities that foster conditions ripe for radicalization. These conditions are apparent in Northern Nigeria, where economic disparities have intensified local grievances, creating an enabling environment for Boko Haram's recruitment strategies (Olayemi, 2021).

Idris and Okeke (2020) define globalization as the process by which global and local forces intersect, influencing terrorism by providing both resources and ideological justification. This definition highlights the role of globalization as a double-edged sword, amplifying both state power and non-state actors like Boko Haram (Idris & Okeke, 2020). Critics, however, contend that this perspective neglects grassroots drivers of terrorism and overemphasizes external influences. Ogunlana (2022) notes that while globalization promotes transnational cooperation, it also facilitates illicit flows of weapons, funding, and fighters. This duality is evident in Boko Haram's ties to global terror networks like Al-Qaeda and ISIS, which leverage globalization for operational and logistical support (Ogunlana, 2022). Nonetheless, globalization also prompts international responses to mitigate such threats, underscoring its complex role in the terrorism landscape (Ogunlana, 2022).

In this research, globalization is defined as a multidimensional process that accelerates the movement of resources, ideologies, and actors across borders, influencing the dynamics of transnational terrorism. This definition is particularly apt for analyzing Boko Haram, given its reliance on global networks and ideologies to expand its influence in Nigeria and beyond.

## **2.3 Concept of Terrorism and Transnational Terrorism**

### **2.3.1 Concept of Terrorism**

Terrorism is a complex phenomenon mentioned by many authors and can be described simply as the process of using violence and/or the threat of violence to change the political, ideological, or religious situation in some state or society by creating a climate of fear among people. Bruce Hoffman (2006) defines terrorism as "meant to have a wide psychological impact beyond the target or victim of the terrorists' act." This aspect of psychological warfare is core, with the aim of putting pressure on governments or societies to comply with the demands of the terrorists through the use of force in the form of fear. Hoffman goes on to define terrorism more specifically from other categories of violence by pointing to its political goal and by the inclusion of civilians or noncombatants as targets precisely for the purpose of creating fear.



As much as the problem of terrorism is not new, changing or enhancing, it is evident throughout the modern world and globalization. This can be attributed to the fact that today's terrorism tends to involve weapons of mass destruction and is in the hands of non-state actors, as aptly noted by Laqueur (1999). In fact, it is often hard to distinguish between terrorism, insurgency, and other types of political violence, though terrorism tends to be the use of asymmetric force whereby a small and powerless group attacks a large and powerful state or organization with the aim of bringing change to politics.

Terrorism can be categorized into different types based on motivation: political, religious, and ideological terrorism. Political terrorism, according to Crenshaw (2007), is mainly executed to change governments, instigate revolutions, or attain independence by a group or region. Religious terrorism, a major factor in today's war, stems from prejudiced fundamentalism; all terrorist groups, including ISIS and Al-Qaeda, want the state of a theocracy or to punish those considered rebels or infidels. As Stern (2003) has pointed out, religious terrorism is special in terms of its absolutism, as its goals are viewed as God-given; therefore, all attempts at negotiations and compromises are nearly inconceivable. In the same way, political terrorism is religious terrorism where it is based on religion, while the other type is ideological terrorism that arises from the extreme left-wing or right-wing. For instance, acts of terror perpetrated by communist groups during the Cold War or recent acts of terror committed by white nationalists. Most of them want to eliminate certain features of social or economic life based on their doctrinaire views. Over the past few decades, the concept of globalization has affected the size and extent of terrorism in one way or another. Horgan (2014) affirms that it is most apparent in the emergence of transnational terrorism or the operations of terrorist networks cross-border due to improvement in the methods of communication as well as transport technology. This has specially made counterterrorism challenging because terrorist organizations have transformed into global networks and thus need to be fought collectively.

### **2.3.2 Concept of Transnational Terrorism**

Transnational terrorism, in its broadest sense, is a complex phenomenon that has gained significant global interest, particularly in the context of globalization. In simple terms, transnational terrorism refers to acts of terrorism that transcend national borders, involving perpetrators, victims, or targets

from different nations. In the Nigerian context, understanding this concept is crucial as it interacts with cultural, political, and socio-economic factors, especially regarding groups like Boko Haram.

Okunade (2023) defines transnational terrorism as the use of violence and intimidation across national borders by non-state actors to achieve ideological, political, or religious goals. This definition emphasizes the cross-border nature of terrorism but is criticized for its inability to address the evolving technological methods used by terror groups in the digital age. Adesua (2018) further describes transnational terrorism as a process driven by globalization, where porous borders and technological advancements enable terror networks to thrive. While this highlights systemic challenges, it lacks measurable criteria to track the mechanisms enabling such threats.

Impey et al. (2019) discusses transnational terrorism from an economic perspective, focusing on how financial globalization facilitates funding for terror networks. They argue that transnational terrorism thrives on illicit financial flows, unregulated markets, and international smuggling. This economic lens is useful but may oversimplify the motivations and strategies behind terrorism. Nanni (2023) provides a legal perspective, defining transnational terrorism as criminal acts conducted across borders aimed at destabilizing sovereign states or international peace. This legal framing aligns with international efforts to combat terrorism but often fails to address the socio-political grievances that fuel such acts.

Similarly, Olonade et al. (2021) discuss transnational terrorism as a cultural clash, where globalization fosters ideological extremism through exposure to conflicting values and norms. This perspective offers valuable insights but risks oversimplifying the cultural dimensions of terrorism. Muftahu (2021) links transnational terrorism to education, emphasizing the role of miseducation and propaganda in radicalizing individuals across borders. While this highlights the importance of counter-radicalization efforts, it may overlook structural inequalities contributing to terrorism.

In this research, transnational terrorism is defined as a global phenomenon fueled by ideological, economic, and technological factors that enable cross-border violence and intimidation. This definition reflects the multifaceted and interconnected nature of terrorism in a globalized world, especially in the context of Boko Haram's operations in Nigeria.

Transnational terrorism is a form of terrorism that has a cross-border dimension in terms of actors, victims, and targets. It is characterized by international connections with terrorist groups planning, funding, and staging acts of terrorism across borders. As defined by Bruce Hoffman (2006), transnational terrorism is the concept whereby terrorists cause their actions in more than a single country and usually intend change over the administrative systems of governments, the economy, or the politics within the global community. This kind of terrorism operates effectively within globalized societies, taking advantage of communication and transportation systems, as well as financial systems, to propagate its ideologies and conduct its actions.

Transnational terrorism reached its peak in the last quarter of the 20th century and remains strong today, as shown by groups such as Boko Haram, which mostly acts in Nigeria and neighboring countries but maintains worldwide connections. Examining Boko Haram's experience elucidates the operational mechanisms of terrorist organizations inside global networks to further their activities. The group's activities are mostly concentrated on Nigeria, Chad, Niger, and Cameroon; however, it has received substantial political and material backing from several foreign organizations that align with its philosophy and operational methods. Boko Haram has acquired funding, armaments, and recruits from several overseas sources, highlighting the need for global cooperation in counter-terrorism efforts.

Boko Haram's transnational impact highlights the distinctive characteristics of transnational terrorism, as identified by Crenshaw (2010): these include heightened complexity, expanded scope, and cross-border engagement, which differentiate it from domestic terrorism. To confront such organizations, nations must exchange information, monitor financial activities, and implement strategic measures. These entities possess substantial resources that no one government can counter, necessitating collaboration across several nations to address the threat of transnational terrorism.

### **2.3.3 Important Factors in Transnational Terrorism**

Various causes of transnational terrorism include globalization, technology, and international politics. Laqueur (1999) also acknowledges the kind of roles played by modern technology, especially the internet, which facilitates both convection and communication among terrorists spanning across borders. The internet is used for propaganda, member recruitment, and planning attacks. The communications that the groups engage in are also encrypted, making it hard for intelligence agencies to monitor them. The process of globalization has made trade liberalization, free movement of people, and technology transfer possible in this world, but at the same time, it has provided new avenues for terrorism. Transnational terror organizations find a soft target in countries with open borders, vulnerable governments, and interstate and intrastate conflicts to enjoy safe sanctuaries.

Stern (2003) highlights that political instability in the operational territories of terrorist groups, such as northern Nigeria and neighboring regions of Chad and Cameroon, facilitates the establishment of these networks. International terrorism, including Boko Haram, operates with the objective of conveying political and religious messages that extend beyond the immediate act. Boko Haram aims to establish an Islamic state characterized by strict adherence to Sharia law and seeks to eliminate current non-Islamic governments in the region.

This ideology facilitates Boko Haram's ability to attract supporters and recruits across borders, enabling the formation of a group capable of executing attacks in various locations. The global ideological component enables the organization to attract individuals from various regions, thereby ensuring the achievement of its objectives and preventing it from being confined to a local Nigerian context.

Combating transnational terrorism is among the hardest tests that governments and intergovernmental organizations face. The threat is transnational in nature and therefore requires multi-state cooperation – this can be in the form of intelligence sharing, combined military operations, or even common legal codes that can be used to prosecute terrorists. According to John Horgan (2017), counterterrorism strategies must be dynamic and involve both kinetic and non-

kinetic approaches, including militarized counter-terrorism measures and tackling the political-socio-economic environments that give rise to terrorism.

## **2.4 Boko Haram and its Evolution**

### **2.4.1 Formation of Boko Haram**

Boko Haram, also known as the “Congregation of People” that promote the prophet’s teachings and jihad, was founded by Mohammed Yusuf in 2002 in the northeastern part of Nigeria. The formation of the group can be attributed to perceived social economic injustice, high levels of corruption, and perceived exclusion of the northerners in the Nigerian project. By doing so, Yusuf’s early sermons and teachings garnered followership through complaints about the Nigerian state’s inability to provide basic amenities, employment opportunities, and development in the Northern region, which was predominantly Muslim (Zenn, 2018). Yusuf called for a puritanical form of Shariah law with a specific regard to education and westernization, which he claimed was the root of moral and economic degeneration of northern Nigeria. The sect is named Boko Haram, a name derived, though inaccurately, from “Boko” meaning “Western education” and “haram” meaning “forbidden.” In the past, Boko Haram was an Islamic group formed to propagate the correct way and tenets of the Qur’an. Yusuf built a mosque and Islamic school where the group recruits its members (Onuoha, 2014).

### **2.4.2 Evolution and Ideology**

The ideology of Boko Haram is rooted in a fundamentalist interpretation of Sunni Islam, advocating for the establishment of an Islamic state governed by Sharia law. The group vehemently opposes Western education, which it views as corrupt and un-Islamic. This anti-Western stance is a core component of Boko Haram’s ideology and recruitment strategy. The group’s propaganda emphasizes the decadence, corruption, and injustice associated with Westernized systems and leaders in Nigeria (Thurston, 2016).

Under the leadership of Abubakar Shekau, who took over after Yusuf’s death in 2009, Boko Haram became more radical and violent. Shekau’s leadership marked a shift towards more extreme tactics, including suicide bombings, mass abductions, and attacks on civilians. The most infamous act

perpetrated by the group that gained global attention was the April 2014 abduction of approximately 270 schoolgirls from the Government Secondary School in Chibok, Borno State, Nigeria; many of these girls remain missing to this day, having been taken as sex slaves and beheaded to deter Western education and culture (Callimachi, 2014).

### **2.4.3 Boko Haram's Operations and Tactics**

Boko Haram's operations have evolved over the years, adapting to changing circumstances and leveraging globalization to enhance their capabilities. The group has utilized modern communication technologies, including social media and encrypted messaging apps, to recruit members, spread propaganda, and coordinate attacks. These technologies have allowed Boko Haram to operate more effectively and evade detection by intelligence agencies (Hoffman, 2006).

The group's tactics have also become more sophisticated, involving coordinated attacks on military installations, government buildings, and civilian targets. Boko Haram has engaged in guerrilla warfare, using hit-and-run tactics to destabilize the region and create a climate of fear. The group has also established links with other terrorist organizations, such as Al-Qaeda and ISIS, which have provided training, funding, and logistical support (Ogunlana, 2022).

### **2.4.4 Impact of Globalization on Boko Haram**

Globalization has played a significant role in the evolution of Boko Haram, providing both opportunities and challenges for the group. The spread of radical ideologies through the internet and social media has facilitated the group's recruitment efforts, allowing them to reach a global audience. Additionally, the global financial system has enabled Boko Haram to access funding through illicit means, such as drug trafficking, arms smuggling, and money laundering (Stern, 2003).

However, globalization has also prompted international responses to counter Boko Haram's activities. Efforts by global bodies such as the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) have sought to disrupt the group's financial networks and reduce their ability to operate. International

cooperation and intelligence sharing have also played a crucial role in combating Boko Haram's influence and mitigating the threat they pose (Ogunlana, 2022).

## **2.5 Local Factors Influencing Boko Haram**

### **2.5.1 Governance**

Weak governance, corruption, and political instability in Northern Nigeria have significantly contributed to the rise of Boko Haram. The Nigerian government's inability to provide basic services, maintain law and order, and address the grievances of the local population has created a fertile ground for extremist ideologies to take root. The lack of effective governance has led to widespread disillusionment and frustration among the populace, making them more susceptible to Boko Haram's recruitment efforts (Idris & Okeke, 2020).

### **2.5.2 Economic Challenges**

Economic inequalities, unemployment, and poverty are major factors that have fueled Boko Haram's growth. Northern Nigeria has historically been marginalized in terms of economic development, with limited access to education, healthcare, and employment opportunities. This economic disparity has created a sense of hopelessness and desperation among the youth, who are often targeted by Boko Haram for recruitment. The promise of financial incentives and a sense of purpose offered by the group can be appealing to those facing economic hardships (Olayemi, 2021).

### **2.5.3 Cultural Dynamics**

Cultural and religious factors play a significant role in Boko Haram's ideology and recruitment strategies. The group capitalizes on local grievances related to cultural and religious identity, promoting a puritanical form of Islam that rejects Western influences. Boko Haram's anti-Western stance resonates with segments of the population who feel alienated by the perceived imposition of Western values and education. This cultural dynamic is further exacerbated by the historical marginalization of the Muslim-majority Northern region within Nigeria's predominantly Christian South (Thurston, 2016).

## **2.5 Regional Factors Influencing Boko Haram**

### **2.5.1 Cross-Border Effects**

The porous borders of Nigeria with neighboring countries such as Niger, Chad, and Cameroon have facilitated the movement of Boko Haram fighters, weapons, and resources. These cross-border dynamics have allowed the group to evade Nigerian security forces and establish bases in remote areas. Additionally, regional conflicts and instability in these neighboring countries have created an environment conducive to Boko Haram's operations, providing opportunities for recruitment and collaboration with other militant groups (Ogunlana, 2022).

### **2.5.2 Security Issues**

Regional security challenges, including the lack of coordinated efforts among West African nations, have hindered effective counter-terrorism measures against Boko Haram. The Multinational Joint Task Force (MNJTF), comprising troops from Nigeria, Niger, Chad, Cameroon, and Benin, has faced logistical and operational challenges in combating the group. Furthermore, the limited capacity and resources of regional security forces have impeded sustained efforts to dismantle Boko Haram's networks and safe havens (Ogunlana, 2022).

## **2.6 Boko Haram's Recruitment Strategies**

Boko Haram employs a range of recruitment strategies to mobilize followers, leveraging both local grievances and global ideologies. The group uses propaganda to highlight the failures of the Nigerian government and the perceived injustices faced by the Muslim population in Northern Nigeria. Boko Haram also exploits social media and other communication technologies to spread its message and attract recruits from within and outside Nigeria. The promise of financial incentives, social status, and a sense of belonging are key elements in their recruitment tactics (Thurston, 2016).



## **2.7 Impact of Globalization on Boko Haram**

Globalization has played a significant role in the evolution of Boko Haram, providing both opportunities and challenges for the group. The spread of radical ideologies through the internet and social media has facilitated the group's recruitment efforts, allowing them to reach a global audience. Additionally, the global financial system has enabled Boko Haram to access funding through illicit means, such as drug trafficking, arms smuggling, and money laundering (Stern, 2003).

However, globalization has also prompted international responses to counter Boko Haram's activities. Efforts by global bodies such as the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) have sought to disrupt the group's financial networks and reduce their ability to operate. International cooperation and intelligence sharing have also played a crucial role in combating Boko Haram's influence and mitigating the threat they pose (Ogunlana, 2022).

## **2.8 Conclusion**

In conclusion, the literature review highlights the complex interplay between globalization and the rise of Boko Haram. The group's evolution and operations are deeply influenced by global trends, including the spread of radical ideologies, advancements in communication technologies, and the interconnectedness of financial systems. Understanding these dynamics is crucial for developing effective strategies to counter Boko Haram and similar terrorist organizations. Future research should continue to explore the local and global factors that contribute to the emergence and persistence of such groups, with a focus on addressing the underlying socio-economic and political grievances that fuel their growth.

## **CHAPTER 3:**

### **GLOBALISATION AND EVOLUTION OF BOKO HARAM**

#### **3.1 The Role of Globalization in the Spread of Transnational Terrorism**

##### **3.1.1 Information and Communication Technologies**

This is with a view to establishing that globalization has particularly shifted the way different terror groups such as Boko Haram operate, particularly through the utilization of ICT. Some of these instruments have enabled Boko Haram to become a transnational terrorism force by spreading its menace beyond the boundaries of Nigeria. ICT has helped the group to effectively sway members, spread propaganda, and coordinate activities and plans more efficiently than in the past due to the expansion of the group's activities. The internet and social networking sites are some of the ways that Boko Haram uses to recruit members. The group also utilizes social media tools such as YouTube, X, and Facebook to post extremist content and lure youths, especially in Nigeria and other parts of West Africa. Agbiboa (2018) argues that through such technologies, the group can seek candidates that cannot easily be reached through face-to-face recruitment. For instance, Boko Haram propagates its causes through videos, some of which depict violent acts or religious sermons; these videos serve as sources of recruitment and intimidation. Propaganda remains another key role played by ICT in addressing Boko Haram's needs, as it enables them to spread their messages to the public domain. The tactics used by the group are similar to those of global jihadist networks like ISIS and Al Qaeda, which also relay information through videos, blogs, and various social media platforms. According to Thurston (2018), over the years, the media aspect of Boko Haram's operation has evolved, enhancing its capability to expand its outreach and affiliate itself with other jihadist networks worldwide. ICT has made it easier for the group to brand its local campaign as part of the global jihad, thereby gaining support from jihadists in other parts of the world.

This aspect has also not been left behind by globalization, whereby through ICT, different operations are being coordinated by Boko Haram. The group employs encrypted messaging systems, mobile phones, and satellite communication when planning and executing attacks in

Nigeria and other states in the region. This ability has proved essential in enhancing its coordination, particularly in its transformation from a local threat to a regional one. Boko Haram's activities have also been made difficult for government forces to monitor due to the interference of technology that has enabled Boko Haram to form cross-border networks, allowing them to recruit from different areas and conduct operations in various parts of the world simultaneously. Therefore, ICT innovations in globalization have provided Boko Haram with the necessary tools to spread its net wider to more followers, disseminate its propaganda globally, and plan and execute complex operations across different borders. These factors have assisted Boko Haram in transforming from a local rebellion to an international terror group.

### **3.1.2 Globalization's Impact on Boko Haram's Transnational Terrorism: In what ways can the mentioned six GVCs be financed through the global networks?**

Boko Haram uses globalization to get funding through formal and informal methods inclusive of funding through banking systems and through smuggling. Although the group first relied on local types of financing including benefactors' donations and racketeers, after its links to transnational jihadist movements, and possibility to use international financial networks, the group was able to expand and develop other types of financial sources. Studies conducted by the United Nations indicate that Boko Haram has relied on the revenue generated from the following unlawful business ventures such as smuggling of drugs, sale of arms and abducting people with intent of getting ransom for their release (UNODC, 2020). These activities are not limited to Nigeria as the group has connections with other networks both in the Western and Northern part of Africa that connects the group to other criminal activities.

Also, the group has been linked to the operations of the hawala banking system which is an international system of transferring money that does not use the banking system. This system of money transfer commonly employed by diaspora embarks on remittance, Boko Haram has adopted it by transferring funds in anonymity. The inconspicuous affiliation of the group with international jihadist groups including Al-Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb (AQIM) has also extended the group's money laundering linkages to the global Terrorism Financing Network (TFTN) (Okoli, 2020).

Smuggling of contraband including wildlife products, precious minerals and human persons has also become one of the major sources of funding for Boko Haram. These transnational criminal activities include smuggling and armed robbery which are commonly practiced in the Sahel region due to weak borders, and more so a weak law enforcement mechanism that has enabled the group to sustain and even extend its operations throughout the area despite several domestic and international military operations against them. In a nutshell, it can be agreed that Boko Haram has adopted the use of transnational financial systems and routes in the management of its terrorism activities and thus evolved to be a transnational threat to both the regional and global financial systems.

### **3.1.3 Globalization's Impact on Boko Haram's Transnational Terrorism: Internationalization and/or Regional Ventures**

The transformation of Boko Haram, from a domestic group seeking state power in Nigeria to an international terror organization that has spread its operations into countries within the Chad Basin Commission namely Chad, Cameroon and Niger is an ideal example of how globalization and geographic interconnectivity turn local conflicts to transnational ones through weakness of borders. This cross-border expansion has been aided by factors such as, poor or porous borders, insecurity in the region, and this has also enabled the group to associate with other terrorist groups in West Africa.

Boko Haram has been able to stretch its operations across borders and the porous borders especially with the neighbors like Niger, Chad and Cameroon along the Lake Chad Basin has been instrumental to this. These borders are ill-protected due to lack of resources, several kilometers of terrains and other barriers which Boko Haram fighters use to cross to the other side without much difficulty. The increase in the groups' operation in Chad, Cameroon, and Niger has given it safe space to organize its operations since it cannot be easily dealt with by the Nigerian military (United Nations Security Council, 2017). This cross-border movement has also helped Boko Haram in its smuggling activities where it has been moving people, weapons and other necessities with a lot of ease. In addition to this, there is the regionalization of the Boko Haram group because of affiliation

to other jihadist groups which are active in the West Africa region. The group is alleged to have connection with Al-Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb (AQIM), has been trained as well as being provided with support from jihadist networks in Mali and other Sahel regions (African Union, 2019). These alliances have boosted its operational capacity so that it can stage more complex operations and conglomerate its operations across national borders.

This has also helped Boko Haram's movement especially with its neighboring and nearby countries such as Chad, Cameroon, and Niger experiencing political turmoil. The internal security threats that these countries are grappling with include poverty, political corruption and ethnic tensions which help Boko Haram perpetrate and establish itself. In Chad, Boko Haram exploited the sentiment of the people who are dissatisfied with the government and used this to recruit its fighters and other collaborators that fueled its expansion across the region as documented by the African Union in 2019. Therefore, a variation of Boko Haram cross-border activities and its regionalization are explained by the dynamics of globalization highlighted by open porous borders, international linkages with other jihadist groups, and regional insecurity. The transnational nature of Boko Haram has made it a very dangerous group not only in Nigeria but in the whole of West Africa.

### **3.2 Global Counterterrorism Strategies and their Effectiveness**

#### **3.2.1 The efforts of international organizations in combating Boko Haram group.**

The emergence of Boko Haram in West Africa has received much attention globally, which has seen a number of counterterrorism measures by various countries including the United State of America, United Kingdom and France among others. These nations have ministered, intelligence, and humanitarian approaches with other regional and international organizations to fight the violent insurgent group and its transnational expansion.

The United States has been one of the most involved international leaders in fighting Boko Haram; it has supplied Nigeria and regional countries with military assistance, equipment, and training. Moreso, through programs like the Trans-Sahara Counterterrorism Partnership (TSCTP), the

United States has provided support to counter Boko Haram's attacks in the region by training and arming local security forces. In the same year, also in 2013 the US also sanctioned the group as a Foreign Terrorist Organization making it legal to freeze the assets and prosecute the financiers of the group and sanction its leaders (Department of State, 2013). In addition, the United States Africa Command AFRICOM has offered intelligence and reconnaissance assistance especially aerial whereby drone cameras have been used to capture Boko Haram leaders and their movements.

The UK has also been closely involved in the fight against Boko Haram, having been involved in training Nigerian Forces under the Operation ZENON. Technology and help of personnel from the British side has been provided to the local Afghan security forces that include training in counter-terrorism and bomb disposal, intelligence, among others (UK Government, 2019). Besides, the UK has offered some humanitarian aid to Boko Haram affected IDPs and refugees in Nigeria and other neighboring countries through offering food, shelter, and medical needs for millions (DFID, 2020). UK security has also worked hand in hand with the US in sharing of intelligence in programs that would try to monitor and counter Boko Haram international networks.

France has been particularly active in this regard with operations in the Sahel region where Boko Haram has been extending its reach. The French military has carried out operations in the region under operations Barkhane aimed at counterterrorism especially targeting jihadist groups including Boko Haram. MNJTF is a force composed of troops from seven West African countries that Acts as a force multiplier for counter Boko haram operations that France has been a key player in coordinating efforts of this force (African Union, 2019). Also, France has provided intelligence cooperation and backup support by using its military base in Chad and other parts of West Africa in aerial and ground assistance in the battle against the group.

However, financing continues unabated and Boko Haram remains a very powerful organization in West Africa, which only confirms how difficult it is to fight terrorism. Other factors like regional insecurity, open borders and social economic demands have remained constant and have cheered the group often despite formidable global hostility.

### **3.2.2 Problems associated with combating transnational terrorism in a Globalized World**

In a world growing ever more interconnected as a result of globalization, combating transnational terrorism remains a major problem in local and global counter-terrorism efforts. These challenges stem from factors like; the freedom of movement across borders, use of Information and Communication Technologies – ICTs and the interconnectedness of the global financial systems that terrorists leverage on. These challenges reduce the ability of the states / and international organizations to effectively respond to terrorism especially internationally, due to lack of coordination.

#### **3.2.2.1 International, Domestic and Transnational Movements and Border Protection**

They are acts of international terrorism where the biggest problems are the transport of people and objects across international borders. Globalization has resulted in ease in cross border movement while most countries today have open borders which are hard to police. For instance, Boko Haram books porous borders to transport personnel, resources as well as weapons between countries especially within the West African region (African Union, 2019). Terrorist groups are known to operate across many countries, so absence of synergy in border control ensures that these groups cannot be captured easily as they shift base to other countries.

#### **3.2.2.2 ICT A – Use of Information and Communication Technologies**

The advancement in technology namely information and communication technologies has also added to the uniqueness of transnational terrorism thus making the fight more complicated. Modern terrorist organizations such as Boko Haram have adopted the use of social media platforms, encrypted messaging applications, darknet, and the internet to propagate, mobilize and incite the populace. ICT assists terrorists to reach out and enlist-subjects, polarize minds, and plan assignments irrespective of distance (Agbiboa, 2013). Suppressing such strategies prove difficult for counterterrorism agencies as surveillance of activities within cyberspace is usually followed by legal and privacy issues especially in democratic nations. Moreover, the impossibility to identify many participants due to ‘masking’ possible in some of them makes it difficult to track and combat terrorists and their networks.

### **3.2.2.3 Complexity of global financial networks.**

Another formidable challenge on the way towards overcoming transnational terrorism is the result of the globalization of financial systems. Terrorists use formal and informal Fund transfer systems including banking systems, crypto-currencies and hawala without trace. This makes it slightly difficult for international bodies to monitor and therefore, choke the funding sources of these organizations. For instance, Boko Haram has engaged in the illicit smuggling operations, international donations to fund its operations, and taken advantage of the layered financial structures which are hard to monitor to fund its activities (UNODC, 2019). Again, the absence of uniformity in financial regulations amongst different sovereign nations also poses additional challenges to international organizations with the aim of freezing assets in addition to eradicating sources of financing for terrorism.

### **3.2.2.4 Regional instability and insufficient coordination are regarded as the key challenges.**

Internal conflict and situations that are characterized by insecurity and poor governance increase the chances of the breeding of terrorist organizations. Most of the nations that experience terrorism are politically unstable and the political systems are characterized by corrupt practices, poor governance, and unequal economic distribution that worsens the local grievances. Such instability is well exploited by terrorist groups in their process of recruitment, operation and expansion across the region. In addition, the lack of synergy or cooperation in international counterterrorism has been known to weaken international tactics. Although there are international coalitions including Global Counterterrorism Forum (GCTF), due to variation of political interests which might differ among the various countries and inability of countries to organize synergy in their operations, this might greatly hinder combo's efforts (African Union, 2019).

And in conclusion it could be asserted that such complex threats as global mobility of persons, ICT or multifaceted financial regulation, regional instabilities, etc., oppose very sophisticated strategies to counter the prospective threat of transnational terrorism. This scenario reveals that



there are challenges to the growth of biomedical engineering but through collaboration with other countries, adopting new regulations, and using advanced technology, they can be prevented.

### **3.3 Insufficient Substantiation by the Author about the Use of Global Networks by Boko Haram**

A major research niche that has been left virtually untouched in the studies of Boko Haram activities and its capability is the role of the group in international networking and terrorism financing, recruitment, procurement of weapons, and its affiliation with international terrorist organizations. The terrorism threat which was deemed local or regional in the past has attained transnational relating aspects of Boko Haram, means global connections. However, research in ways through which these overseas connections are developed and maintained is still insufficient. Although much of the literature emphasizes Boko Haram's regional affiliation with other groups such as al-Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb (AQIM) and ISIS, relatively little has been done to understand the role of the group in international financial and transnational criminal activities (Thurston, 2018).

Regarding funding, Boko Haram connection to flow of money and other assets across the global financial system is rarely given much attention. It has employed all sorts of tactics to obtain funds, including; kidnapping and receiving ransom, robbing banks and engaging in black market dealing in fish, cattle and human trafficking. A few scholars have expressed the likelihood of Boko Haram taking part in the hawala, an informal money transfer service that cannot be tracked through conventional banking techniques; however, extensive research on this factor is rather limited (Onuoha, 2014). Another important research question that should be examined includes understanding how Boko Haram gets its funds, whether it gets it from sympathizers or from the diaspora or from money laundering the group's coffers from the global financial market is still unknown. Furthermore, little is known about how ICTs contributed to Boko Haram and its expansion around the world. Even though recruitment, spreading propaganda and even operations' coordination are performed through social media profiles, the research that describes the functioning of such online networks is scarce. For instance, some work using Boko Haram

recognizes that this group has been known to have linkages with jihadist groups in the Middle East and may be receiving direct orders from them although little or no efforts has been made to understand how this boost or inform its operations and strategies (Agbiboa, 2013). That is why it is quite concerning that despite the general trend towards the utilization of encrypted communication applications and darknet sites by international terrorism, including Boko Haram, there are still deficiencies in the current research concerning these questions. Moreover, the Nigerian Boko Haram group's relations to international arms trade deserve more focus. Although it is common knowledge that the group acquires its weapons contraband, transports especially across the borders with Chad, Niger and even Cameroon little is known about the international sources that feed Boko Haram's arsenal. Anyway, more research is needed to identify where those arms originate from – whether it is a case of bringing arms left from another conflict country like Libya or a situation where arms are being supplied through more elaborate SRs. Knowledge of such supply chains may well prove decisive in denying the sect access to weapons; however, this is an area where research is severely lacking still (Hansen, 2017).

Therefore, there is a need to look at Boko Haram in a more enhanced way through the scrutiny of how the group operates through global networks of financing, communication and arms procurement. As is shown by the activities of the group under consideration that operates internationally, knowledge of these international ties may be instrumental in enhancing the effectiveness of counter-terrorism measures. More research should be directed at understanding how funds are channeled, means of communication, and the sources of the procurements of weapons used by Boko Haram in relation to the connection between this group and other global jihadists as well as the smuggling business.

### **3.3.1 Lack of Attention to the Negative Aspects of Globalization as a Counterterrorist Activities Threat on Local Level**

Globalization has changed the type of terrorism and this has brought new problems into counter-terrorism, especially in the countries exposed to Boko Haram activity, such as Nigeria. Despite success stories in international cooperation, intelligence sharing, and military assistance, it has not been without several challenges towards the formulation of efficient local counterterrorism

strategies. Globalization on the other hand is the process of global integration based on the improvement of various ways through which flow of goods, capital, people and even arm and ideologies of extreme nature is made easier. It has allowed Boko Haram to re-supply and continue its operation after localized counter-terrorism measures have been put in place; there is however a relative lack of work in the literature that demonstrates how globalization can sometimes stunt the flows. The spread of radical messages is very fast and this has put much pressure on the local government to provide solutions in such regions where most people have not been exposed to technological development or where internet connection is prohibited. The group has also been very active in the use of new media platforms such as social media and encrypted messaging to propagate the group's jihadist agenda, radicalize its fighters and orchestrate its activities. However, as much as the Nigerian government continues to try and counter the problem of online radicalization, through the globalization effect, the online platform provides fertile ground for loose social order, hence counter efforts (Agbibo, 2013). Furthermore, the internet giant, including YouTube and Twitter, fails to immediately remove terrorist content; therefore, Boko Haram successively disseminates the provocative messages.

There is therefore increased flow of arms and other illicit goods which poses a new threat to counterterrorism measures at the local level. Boko Haram has been able to acquire most of its weapons through cross-border purchases, and Nigeria's open borders and inefficient customs services has contributed greatly to the acquisition of the arms. Other activities include smuggling of resources including fish, cattle, and human beings where they get financial support. Globalization has aided Boko Haram to embrace these illicit economies considering that regulation and law enforcement globally particularly in some parts of the world are weak (Zenn, 2020). Besides, the local counter terrorism forces which are usually lacking in some equipment and funds experience a hard time to combat the complex smuggling networks caused by globalization.

Military assistance from other countries like the United State and United Kingdom has also posed some problems for local counter terrorism strategy. Most of the time, these interventions are noble but they produce dependency, where instead of empowering the local forces as a way of combating the menace, they instead look forward to being assisted by outsiders. Furthermore, the foreign entities involved may have their own political bias, besides the security priorities of the people on

the ground. For instance, while the use of foreign soldiers notably the CAS in Nigeria has been welcomed, the appearance of foreign advisors in the country has raised the eye brow of some of the locals and this makes it difficult for the Nigeria government to engage the citizens in anti-terrorism operation (Hansen, 2017). In conclusion, therefore it can be deduced that although globalization offers avenues for joint cooperation in counterterrorism, it poses considerable difficulties for local endeavors to confront al Qaeda or Boko Haram like groups. Technicalities of movement of extreme ideologies, weapons and people, funds across borders add to the potholes and erode strength of local plans and measures. Further study must be conducted in order to determine manners in which globalization influences counterterrorism work on the local level as well as how these issues might be best solved without undermining the sovereignty and security of states.

### **3.4 Globalization as a Catalyst to Transnational Terrorism**

#### **3.4.1 Cross border ideas, weapons and resources exchange**

The influence of the phenomenon of globalization in the extent, expansion of both transnational terrorism which encompasses the traffic of ideas and the traffic of weapons and other resources: the supply side, which supports groups such as Boko Haram. The integration due to globalization makes it easy for the passage of radicalism through the use of the internet and social media. They have allowed – even facilitated – terrorist organizations to recruit and mobilize people around the world and synchronize their activities. Secondly, globalization has contributed to the ease in crossing borders and hence the easy shipment of weapons and resources. Al Qaeda and other terrorist groups, could get some of their local and international requirements, such as weapons and ammunition, through smuggling. These networks are commonly tangled in global trade systems and thus hard to detect or intercept. Even the fact that relates to finance has something to do with globalization. Al Qaeda and other terrorist groups have an added advantage with regard to the movement of funds in the financial system and use of cryptocurrencies. For instance, Boko Haram is believed to have used local and international sources of funding to fuel its operations. In addition, cooperation between the terror groups is due to globalization. That Boko Haram is connected to

international terror groups such as ISIS shows how international connections increase their functionalities and influence

Therefore, globalization assists the spreading of transnational terrorism by opening borders and promoting the sharing of resources, ideas, and interactions. That is why understanding and managing them is vital for counter-terrorism measures.

### **3.4.2 Internet and social media in Boko Haram's Propaganda**

This paper finds that globalization has compounded the role of the internet and social media in terrorism, making them essential for the terror group's operations. These platforms have thus been crucial for Boko Haram in disseminating information particularly propaganda, recruiting followers and intimidating the public. Through social media, Boko Haram is therefore able to spread its extremism cross-state and, even cross-border, given that restrictions such as physical geography and state censorship do not impede social media outreach. This connectivity has helped the group to recruit members, gain supporters and even get funds from related networks across the world (BBC News, 2015).

Documentaries such as "The Terrorist Network: The articles, "Boko" Haram's Use of social media or "Boko" Haram's Global Reach" demonstrate social media in the form of Facebook, twitter and even lenses like what-app in communicating as well as organizing its activities. These tools also allow them to post graphic videos, display acts of violence and threats, which makes a bigger psychological effect on the residents and world-wide web users locally and internationally (Al Jazeera, 2016). Also, the internet is a source of training aids where handouts in the form of tutorials on how to prepare a bomb or even use the same for combat are provided to the followers with ease across the world. Such free accesses further take the group's operational efficiency to a higher level. For instance, in 2015 Boko Haram declared its allegiance to ISIS and this was accompanied by its attempts at using social media in order to announce its presence as one of the biggest players in terrorism across the globe (CNN, 2015).

### **3.5 Boko Haram's Link to Global Networks**

#### **3.5.1 Boko Haram's Link to Global Networks: Ties to Al-Qaeda and ISIS**

Al Qaeda and ISIS relation to Boko Haram have greatly influenced its strategies and influence. While initially an affiliate of Al-Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb (AQIM) to which it initially received financial support as well as training and logistics, Boko Haram was transformed into a formidable force. Information and evidence indicate that the group used suicidal rampages and large-scale kidnappings including under AQIM. These links let Boko Haram become an organized rebellion and later turn into a regional threat.

Boko Haram became the Islamic State West Africa Province formally in 2015. This change also contributed to making ISIS known all over the world and aligned it with the group's propaganda system while offering the latter a tool to spread its radical message. Allegations have been made and published that ISIS has provided shooting and operational advice to Boko Haram and a cut of its funding. This alliance relieved Boko Haram on recruitment, even attracting international terrorists and creating friendly fund sourcing through practices such as acts of smuggling and kidnapping for ransom.

However, these connections have not always been friendly as there are differences in styles of leadership, and internecine competition. As for Boko Haram that thrived under the networks' support, these links also attracted international attention and military actions against those networks.

Reuters news and BBC have comprehensive information on changes in Boko Haram and its relation to international terrorism. These sources provide information regarding the functioning of the group and its links with other groups in foreign nations.

Boko Haram has been showing signs of a transnational insurgent group as it has continued to plug itself into the global network. This study aims to identify one of the key links, namely the recruitment of foreign fighters and the creation of financiers.

### **3.5.2 Boko Haram's Link to Global Networks: Recruitment of Foreign Fighters and Funding Channels**

Through its relation with international jihadist groups such as Al-Qaeda and ISIS, the group has been able to mobilize fighters from neighboring countries such as Chad, Niger and Cameroon and other parts of the world. When Boko Haram pledged its allegiances ideologically and structurally to ISIS in June 2015, it retooled itself as ISIS's West Africa Province, ISWAP. This helped in enabling this group to get fighters, logistical support and propaganda from ISIS reaching the world thus it was liberating its base of recruitment. Some of the activities carried out by the group are business kidnaping, extorting monies from the locals, raiding and robbing villages. The group is also said to have funding from international jihadist related structures. A case has been made that money transfers internationally and the hawala systems are some of the most likely mechanisms of fund transfers. Also, members of the group, sympathizers and non-governmental sponsors abroad also contribute towards the group's funding, and the money is channeled through non-governmental organizations which are apparently charitable organizations. With this globalization, the group is able to go beyond its local structural foundation and now function on an international level, which is a problem for counter-terrorism. This capability of the group to recruit foreign fighters and secure its funding provides a clear reason for synergy of regional and international effort.

## **3.6 Impact of Globalization**

### **3.6.1 Impact of globalization on Northern Nigeria**

The local context in Northern Nigeria has been altered profoundly due to instances of radicalism as well as the emergence of extremist groups like Boko Haram in response to Globalization. This can be explained in part with reference to economic deprivation, and exposure to foreign cultures, and politics of exclusion.

As reported by The Guardian, one of the root causes of radicalization is sustained depersonalization of cultures and religions that inevitably happens when their territory is exposed

to the forces of globalization. Many people in Northern Nigeria have been offended by the emergence of Western ideas and culture which they perceive to be averse to Islamic ideologies. Boko Haram takes advantage of this discontent by stating that western forces are trying to destroy their culture by globalization. The negative consequences of western education are stressed, due to the domination of Turkish and Arab Islamists, coining the expression 'Boko Haram'; western education is banned (The Guardian, 2014).

Globalization has taken the economic imbalances up a notch leading to some sectors of the population becoming more radicalized than others. Historically and even today, northern Nigeria has lagged behind in development as compared to its southern counterparts in terms of available economic activities and level of education. The adoption of such global aspects gave an unjust advantage to urban regions in the south while the north was erected marred in isolation. In the shadows of this disparity emerged the youth who became radicalized and the vulnerable group that had become the soft targets for Boko Haram's recruitment tactics. These include people who are offered jobs, acceptance into a community and other things that give them meaning (BBC, 2015). Additionally, globalization has facilitated the penetration of extremist teachings into various regions through the use of the internet. Boko Haram uses social media and other encrypted platforms to spread its messages and aid in the recruitment of supporters in Nigeria and outside its borders. This forms part of the group's extended reach allowing its radical ideas to be unleashed to wider audiences (Al Jazeera, 2016).

Globalization in Northern Nigeria also stresses the interaction between the grievances in a specific locality and global processes prevalent in the region and the need to encourage displacement radicalization policies that are sensitive to inequality in the economy as well as prevailing ideas in the society.

### **3.6.2 Impact of Globalization on Local Dynamics: Economic and Social Disparities Exacerbated by Globalization**

The global economic system has varied too much and Northern Nigeria has suffered in more ways than it has gained, and in turn, this has fueled the rise of Boko Haram. Globalization has provided



opportunities, but Northern Nigeria has repeatedly faced marginalization, chronic unemployment, and poverty. There are reports that claim this was not the case for the southern parts of Nigeria. Such imbalances have fueled the frustration of the northern population and have made it easier for Boko Haram to recruit them (The Guardian, 2014).

Foreign goods, for instance, have their advantages but they have detrimental effects on the economy of the region. In that context, people of the region cannot afford to launch a business and have no exports as the region is highly reliant on agriculture and informal business activities. This is also consistent with the findings that globalization has created further disparities in the areas that cannot effectively engage in global markets (BBC, 2016).

The global media's penetration has increased the cultural detachment in society. Northern Nigerian youths, through the exposure to global lifestyle by the internet and satellite television, often find it extremely difficult to reconcile ideals propagated in the media and the harsh realities of existence—poverty and 'lack of alternatives.' Indeed, the cultural gap they are made to suffer has further left them open to extremist ideas, usually promising change through violent means (Al Jazeera, 2015).

Furthermore, the depletion of government services in the era of globalization—often in the form of structural adjustment programs imposed by international financial institutions—has left Northern communities with inadequate educational, health, and security structures. This vacuum has been exploited by Boko Haram, which portrays itself as a defender of the marginalized (The New York Times, 2017). In effect, globalization has increased economic and social inequalities in Northern Nigeria, which have provided fertile ground for extremism. Addressing these inequalities requires national policy changes with international support aimed at ensuring equitable development.

### **3.7 Media Representation of Boko Haram (2005–2015)**

#### **3.7.1 Media Coverage of Key Attacks and Boko Haram's Growth**

Boko Haram is a Nigerian Islamist Sect that has embarked on terrorism since 2002, up to the time it became an al-Qaeda link terror group by the early 2010s, and has been in the gallery of many local and international media organizations. Besides, for the readers who knew little or nothing about the activities of the group, this coverage provided them with an insight about Boko Haram and how it influenced Nigerian society and others. Important events which took place became reference points for media coverage which in turn informed public awareness and basis to sensationalize the activities of the group.

There was ample media coverage granted to Boko Haram in 2010, after the group attacked some police stations and government installations in the north eastern part of Nigeria (Walker, 2012). These episodes were a more tangible step up in terms of deadly brutality and led to a streak of articles concentrating on Boko Haram's ability to stage massive acts of terror. Other local newspapers like The Guardian Nigeria, and Premium Times gave rather detailed coverage, which also offered local perspectives that were essential in situating the group's local grievances mainly against poverty and government's indifference (Smith, 2014).

Nonetheless, it rose to the apex after the Chibok abduction in April 2014 when the insurgents kidnapped 276 school girls – an incident which prompted global condemnation and became a campaign slogan for activists across the globe (Kirkpatrick, 2014). Many of the major Western news sources including the New York Times and BBC news picked up the story, and the call to action became the now viral Twitter hashtag #BringBackOurGirls. Apart from exhibition of a radical face of Boko Haram, this incident created pertinent questions on how the Nigerian government has failed to protect lives, and the marginalization of women and education in Nigeria (Sengupta, 2014).

As the group's fame grew the representation in the media changed, and Boko Haram changed its representation and became part of a global terrorism narrative. This was most apparent when Boko

Haram seemed to declare its loyalty to ISIS in March 2015, blaming its operations on the global jihadist war (Ekwueme, 2016). There seems to have been a tendency in media reporting of Boko Haram to focus on the ideological grievances of the group and not so much on the socio-political and economic factors that propelled the group to become so popular in Northern Nigeria. This portrayal has been criticized for distorting a complicated situation and so contributing to the stigmatization of all entities in Nigeria (Pate, 2015).

Moreover, local media fail terribly to strike between the act of narrating the violence and the act of representing the socio-political causes. Bias in framing could at sometimes amplify the conflict by merely concentrating on the number of gains and losses or attacks and loss of lives while almost completely overlooking structural systems hence giving an undue truncated view of the conflict (Agbibo, 2015). On the other hand, international coverage focused on spectacular events to provide the global versions of terrorism, thus erasing the voices of those Nigerians who sought non-violent solutions and emphasized other difficulties of Nigeria's crisis.

Concisely, while the media has spoken about Boko Haram both in terms of it emerging and the most crucial attacks that it has conducted, the protesters have played a critical role in influencing their perception both within Nigeria and outside the country. Media covered events, such as the Chibok kidnapping, and various attacks that informed the general public's concern and the media actively participated in demanding action. Nevertheless, the media was not entirely accurate in painting a picture of the region and its socio-economic and political situation.

### **3.7.2 Problem of Biases, Framing, and Sensationalism in News Reporting**

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portrayal has been criticized for distorting a complicated situation and so contributing to the stigmatization of all entities in Nigeria (Pate, 2015).

Moreover, local media fail terribly to strike between the act of narrating the violence and the act of representing the socio-political causes. Bias in framing could at sometimes amplify the conflict by merely concentrating on the number of gains and losses or attacks and loss of lives while almost completely overlooking structural systems hence giving an undue truncated view of the conflict (Agbibo, 2015). On the other hand, international coverage focused on spectacular events to provide the global versions of terrorism, thus erasing the voices of those Nigerians who sought non-violent solutions and emphasized other difficulties of Nigeria's crisis.

Concisely, while the media has spoken about Boko Haram both in terms of it emerging and the most crucial attacks that it has conducted, the protesters has played a critical role in influencing their perception both within Nigeria and outside the country. Media covered events, such as the Chibok kidnapping, and various attacks that informed the general public's concern and the media actively participated in demanding action, Nevertheless, media was not entirely accurate in painting a picture of the region and its socio-economic and political situation.

Local media outlets also face different challenges when reporting as per their several stations. Because of this they may only be able to disseminate sensationalist stories instead of the root causes of conflict within society. This could extend to a special sort of depersonalization, where small tales are quarantined under the barrage of headlines on violence (Walker, 2012). The domestic outlets are usually more detailed in reporting than foreign media but at the same time are under political pressure and may shift away from stories that might incriminate the state or the military.

Furthermore, since global media networks are intertwined, it is possible to see that the narrative that has been developed in one part of the world can rapidly spread to the other part of the world. This homogenization of news content is not healthy because it can put out similar stories from a given region as local issues being depicted as global acts of terror (Ekwueme, 2016). Most times,

this connection enhances the prejudices and emotional appeals inherent in breaking news reports instead of offering a complete clarification of Boko Haram's actions and the surroundings.

Overall, the coverage of the Boko Haram group by the media has presented a lot of biases, framing problems and sensationalism. This has led to the distortion of the public view on behalf of the group and the versatility of the group and the sociopolitical systems in Nigeria. It is about time; therefore, journalists shift toward responsible reporting that presents local contexts and the multiplicity of voices touched by Boko Haram, in order to gain a better understanding of challenges being faced.

### **3.8. Role of Videos and social media**

#### **3.8.1 Role of Videos and social media: Boko Haram's Use of Media for Propaganda**

Therefore, in this paper Boko Haram is considered to have effectively used videos and or social media other than as instruments of war, but as instruments for shaping public opinion. Western attention to the group's violence and human rights abuses also come from typical media provision of news, documentaries, however, the ability of the group has since been constructed into successfully producing its own video message to the world thereby creating a direct platform outside the conventional media.

Since 2009, newspapers have been replaced by videos by Boko Haram in terms of publicity and the most recent one is the publicity of the Chibok schoolgirls kidnap in May 2014. This recording not only aimed to generate awareness of the group but also create the resulting international unpleasantness that erupted after kidnapping (Kelly, 2016). Susceptible viewer/consumer: Since the appearance of this video people from all over the world especially the radicals have developed understanding for this group while foreign governments called for military action in West Africa in order to counter these terrorists' movements that shaped the discourses on terrorism and security in West Africa. The terrorist group had to revert to the basics, for sensationalism which was achieved by the use of such images, and the large number of people that were abducted, and at the same time the group ensured that they consolidated their brand of terror by projecting a united front.

Furthermore, Boko Haram improved the methods to disseminate propaganda messages through the internet and together with social networks. Places such as twitter, Facebook and YouTube become important places whereby videos can be posted with the aim of identifying new recruits. These platforms helped Boko Haram in expanding its coverage, which they in many cases sought to be across the international level, to rally its supporters, other than the indigenes of Nigeria (Terrorism Research Initiative, 2017). The terrorists were able to advertise themselves well on social media which is just like ISIS and enabled the group to fit into the global terrorism propaganda war.

I will prolong this paper by analyzing the following Boko Haram ISIS media tactics, which are the group's pledge of allegiance to ISIS in March 2015. Afterward, the group produced a new video which introduced a new leader, Abu Musab al-Barnawi who enumerated the group's objectives and rebranded the group as the Islamic State West Africa Province, ISWAP from its previous monicker Jamā'at Ahl as-Sunnah lid-da'wa wa al-Qital fi Bilad al-Sudan, Group of the People of Sunnah for the Summoning and Fighting in Therefore, the backing was an added bonus to Boko Haram in that even its story could be circulated more; putting the organization as one of the most notorious in the history of globalization of extremism.

It is impossible even to overstate the importance of these videos as far as people's perception of the world is concerned. The horrible aspects, which are usually evident in Boko Haram's video and audio productions such as executions, indoctrinations, and multiple deadly attacks fostered and elicited global concerns and disgust Hoffman, 2016. They exacerbated stereotyped views regarding the continent as violent and ill-disciplined and therefore justified as part of stereotype views that seek to portray Africa as culturally barbaric, which is unfair. Such specialization that was characteristic of these broadcasts determined perceptions of Boko Haram in the international system and influenced weapon + and no weapon fight against terrorism policies like use of force and non-use of force and humanitarian intervention.

However, as far as the strategic use of the media is concerned there were a number of worries also. As the group endeavored to employ propagandistic attempts to rationalize its actions, the emergent

localized counternarratives with emergent resistance expanded and developed. Boko Haram also attacked villages which also started posting their photos and videos in response to Boko Haram stories telling them they are alive and refused to bow down to the rule of the group. Thus, these counter-narratives unveiled that the local environment is dynamic and jihadist threats are received differently by Nigerians (Babajide, 2018).

### **3.8.2 Role of Videos and Social Media: Analysis of Major Video Releases and Their Impact on Global Perception**

Boko Haram uses videos and social media as persuasive tools to reshape the local and international narrative of the group, mobilizing followers and claiming its place among world fighters. One memorable video released in April 2014 showed kidnapped girls wearing hijabs and coerced, sparking international concern and changing the topic of the Boko Haram conflict significantly (Iyanda, 2016). After the Chibok incident, another sensitive video filmed in March 2015 announced Boko Haram's allegiance to the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS), making Boko Haram's violence attributable to a regional menace and a jihadist network of international status. This changed the lens through which the world viewed Boko Haram by implying a more severe threat (Woods, 2016). Boko Haram's propaganda contains violence such as beheading and firing at individuals in groups, serving dual purposes: making viewers feel scared and trying to allure would-be recruits who are tempted by violence, drama, and extremism. The sensationalistic aspect of these videos alters perceptions of a population and imbues negativity and instability to Nigeria and Africa as a whole while erasing the real experiences and stories of those affected (Hoffman, 2016; Pernik, 2017). Boko Haram has also used sophisticated methods like social networks and the dissemination of information through social media like Twitter, Facebook, and YouTube in its terrorism communications. These platforms help the group act independently of conventional media gate-keeping and offer a less moderated view of the group's work (Terrorism Research Initiative, 2017). The consequences of reaching people worldwide through these videos are significant, as they bring attention to Boko Haram's violent campaigns but also add to the evolving stereotype that Africa is a "failed state" dominated by terrorism and extreme violence.

### **3.8.3 Media Influence in Mobilizing International Responses**

The media has significantly influenced international responses to Boko Haram, shaping people's perception and paradigm shift towards fighting insurgency. Publicized operations, such as the capture of 276 students in Chibok in April 2014, sparked massive international attention and fast action. The hashtag #BringBackOurGirls, trending on social networks, put pressure on governments and organizations worldwide to stand against Boko Haram (Branigan, 2014). NGO and human rights organizations have created documentaries to raise awareness and raise money for humanitarian activities (Amnesty International, 2015). Visuals are often used in these documentaries, inspiring compassion and a better understanding of the consequences of Boko Haram's actions. News analysis of Boko Haram's actions has redefined the organization as an international security menace, leading to the United Nations and the African Union forming working partnerships to end the disaster (Chothia, 2015). However, the media has been accused of sensationalist coverage, leading to over-representation of the insurgency and misinterpretation of the group's reasons, potentially causing inefficient political or military responses (Friedman, 2016). The concentration on violent extremism may overshadow critical issues on social-economic factors, necessitating multi-sectoral approaches. Narrative and representation play a crucial role in media communication that mobilizes international responses to Boko Haram. Both conventional and new media should remain active to maintain focus on the crisis and its resolution.

### **3.8.4 Humanitarian and Military Response Initiatives**

The international community is waging wars against Boko Haram, forcing international organizations like the United Nations and several non-governmental organizations to work together in a humanitarian crisis. Boko Haram has forced over two million people out of their homes, requiring urgent assistance. Responses have mainly focused on providing basic needs such as food, shelter, healthcare, and psychological support to both internally displaced persons (IDPs) and host communities (ICRC, 2021). Many humanitarian organizations are active in the region, contributing to clinic establishment, distribution of food and drugs, and helping to restore families divided due to the conflict. These efforts have been highlighted through viral communication alerts and documentaries. On the military front, the Multinational Joint Task Force (MNJTF) was



established as a step towards increased regionalization of military efforts to counter Boko Haram. The forces, including troops from Chad, Cameroon, Niger, and Benin, are primarily concerned with cross-border offenses aimed at checking Boko Haram's ease of operation in the region. The international community, particularly western nations, has equipped and trained these forces to address security threats as cross-border issues. International media has played a dual function in publicizing these military efforts. It has mobilized support for the operations but also sparked debates about the implications of the operations. Some analysis suggests that military operations might increase the risk of civilian loss of life and exacerbate the situation (International Crisis Group, 2017). In conclusion, Boko Haram has been the recipient of interventions in both human rights advocacy and military force. Media coverage has been instrumental in supporting these responses while raising important debates about the consequences of interventions and humanitarian aid in the face of the complex and large crisis in Nigeria and West Africa.

### **3.8.5 Summary of Findings**

This review has also looked at how the phenomenon of globalization has influenced the metamorphosis of Boko Haram into an international terrorism conglomerate. A number of research findings reveal that globalization has affected Boko Haram group mainly on its operational capacity. Boko Haram has been able to use Information communication technologies as a tool of spreading its propaganda, recruiting more fighters for attacks as well as organizing attacks outside the Nigerian territory. Further, the facilities of global financial networks and the illicit trade channels have provided vital support to fund the group through mechanisms which are hard to track and choke. Also, weak and faulty borders as well as regional integration and cooperation have allowed Boko Haram to expand its activities to other neighboring countries such as Chad, Cameroon, and Niger thus posing challenges to the counter terrorism operations both locally and internationally. Although the countries around the world are trying to fight the growing influence of Boko Haram for instance through aid from the U. S, Britain and France in the provision of arms and training to the security forces in Nigeria and other conflict torn countries; these efforts are normally hampered by some aspects brought about by globalization. This is because the group continues to pose a challenge in combating them in terms of controlling them, especially the digital communities and illicit economies on which Boko Haram depends.

More studies should be carried out in future to establish the sustained use of social media as well as other ICT by Boko Haram in their recruitment and propaganda activities. Although a lot of emphasis has been placed on older counterterrorism measures, more still has to be achieved to understand just how the social media, encrypted messaging, and the dark web the group uses to carry on its activities. It becomes the concern of the researchers examining the propaganda architecture that nurtures the extremity of the content to demand an understanding of how Boko Haram's messaging chimes with the target audience. One of the profound areas that an organization would benefit from an investigation in the future is the financial connections. Although there is some literature on how Boko Haram gets its funds through kidnapping and other criminal activities as well as through the illicit chain, not much is known on how the group uses the international financial system. Below are some research areas that may help in understanding how Boko Haram is funded: the use of Bitcoin cryptocurrency, hawala system of money transfer which is used in majority of Muslim countries, and the manufacture and sale of arms which is another source of Boko Haram's funding. Lastly, it is highlighted that much emphasis should be placed on the influence of the international military operations on its counterpart on a local level. Although these interventions are noble, they have a potential of fostering dependence, and weakening local security forces. The given studies can be expanded into further works aimed at identifying how these and other measures can be more effectively aligned with local approaches to prevent Boko Haram and other transnational terrorist organizations' activities in the long run.

## **CHAPTER 4: METHODOLOGY**

### **4.1 Introduction**

This chapter presents the design of the thesis in alignment with the study of the impact of globalization on transnational terrorism, specifically through the case study of Boko Haram in Nigeria from 2005 to 2015. The chapter discusses the research design, selection criteria, data collection procedures, and method of data analysis.

Developing a robust study requires a clear guideline, which is achieved through a structured research methodology. Choosing the appropriate method for conducting research is crucial (Al-Zefeiti and Mohamad, 2015; Igwenagu, 2016; Mishra and Alok, 2017). It ensures that the study effectively meets its aims and objectives.

The authors argue (Sileyew, 2020) that the development of a well-planned and adequate research project is essential for any scholarly investigation. Further, the research design serves as the tool to guide the study and answer the stated research questions comprehensively.

### **4.2. Data Source**

Secondary data includes information that is available within or can be obtained from sources that are in some way already processed and made public. Secondary data from available sources including newspaper articles, video clips, documentary and scholarly articles offer the researcher multiple views and a detailed context flow for the analysis of multiple phenomena. Such sources are most helpful when working with the subject, which is connected with recent events, historical tendencies, or situations which involve several parties.

News articles provide reported observations of recent occurrences and are vital to appreciate the social, political and cultural context of a subject. For instance, if analyzing transnational terrorism sources such as The Guardian or The New York Times contain up-to-date and reliable information (Bryman, 2016).

Also, video reports and documentaries are always packed with visual and narrative material which is able to capture the emotional and cultural context of a particular study. It is most useful when handling topics that are social related issues like movements or humanitarian issues (Flick, 2018). In the same manner, the data is what makes the articles to give the academic base of the study by presenting analyzed data and theory. Nevertheless, these sources need to be critically assessed for reliability, prejudice and relevance to assist in answering the research question. When used collectively the sources help researchers to achieve convergence of data gathered, always a positive given the reliability it brings into the subject matter as well as the richness of the information provided.

### **4.3 Data Collection Techniques**

#### **4.3.1 Systematic review of media coverage**

A systematic review of media coverage means collecting, comparing and integrating information obtained from a range of media so that comprehensive information about the selected topic is revealed. This work is useful to be undertaken with the aid of this approach with references to Boko Haram, a transnational terrorist organization that undoubtedly has a broad media coverage across the world. The New York Times, BBC, and The Guardian have written news articles about Boko Haram, and its attacks, beliefs, and effects on people. When done systematically, these sources will help the researchers to recognize trends, strengths, weaknesses, and the overall biases of the group.

The possibility of data gathering implies determining inclusion and exclusion criteria. For instance, articles between 2005 and 2015 whereby they focus on the Boko Haram main events can be chosen. LexisNexis or ProQuest works as an online database that helps in the screening of news articles or reports. Also important are video reports and documentaries that are published on websites of outlets like for instance Al Jazeera or CNN, which offer video and contextual fill, inherent to assessment of the socio-political climate.

The validity of conclusions increases when information of various types is combined, eliminating the subjectivity characteristic for individual media outlets. Some of the difficulties are finding results of sensationalism, regionalism, and variations in reporting quality (Bryman, 2016). Therefore, this systematic review contributes to building an understanding of Boko Haram activities and the world views.

#### **4.3.2 Compilation of key events between 2005 to 2015**

Recapitulations of significant occurrences and trends between 2005-2015, and implicated historical narratives are useful sources of quantitative data collection for reviewing the growth, modus operandi, and effects of Boko Haram. This approach entails the collection of data from articles of newspapers, research findings, government reports, journal among others that would have captured the activities of the group in the specified time-frame. These include terrorism incidents, acts of kidnapping, which include the Chibok school girls' abduction in 2014 and counter insurgency operations.

The methodology starts with the selection of primary sources as candidates that include international news sources (BBC, The New York Times, Al Jazeera), government, and scholarly articles through JSTOR and ProQuest. When using search terms such as "Boko Haram attacks 2005–2015," one gets results that include a timeline of attack. Video reports and documentaries complement this assembly by offering human stories behind events together with analyzes crucial for identifying Boko Haram's purpose and surroundings. Arranging the data in chronological order helps in making variations which include the group changed from local rebellion to terrorism through association with groups like Al-Qaeda and ISIS as noted by Cook (2015). Drawbacks include the variation in reporting and the sources may be biased, therefore the use of multiple reports to counter check for accuracy.

#### **4.4 Data Analysis**

A versatile and methodical technique for finding, examining, and interpreting patterns or themes in qualitative data is thematic analysis (Boyatzis, 1998). It works especially well for examining how recurrent motifs appear and represent larger social processes. This approach was used in this

study to investigate the ways in which globalization affects transnational terrorism, with a particular emphasis on the tactics and beliefs of Boko Haram.

By using an iterative process of coding and categorization, thematic analysis allows researchers to find both hidden and evident patterns in data (Fereday & Muir-Cochrane, 2006). Through a thorough analysis of interview transcripts and secondary material, topics pertaining to the internationalization of terrorism and Boko Haram's cross-border activities were found for this study. This method gave a thorough grasp of how the group interacted with international networks. Thematic analysis, which looks at how language is used in society and for practical purposes to convey meaning and shape stories, depends heavily on language and discourse (Gee, 2014). When Boko Haram's language and communication tactics are analyzed in the context of globalization, it becomes clear how the group uses global narratives to further local concerns. This is consistent with Fairclough's (2003) focus on how speech is ingrained in society when creating meaning.

By letting emerging themes guide the study framework, thematic analysis, when paired with grounded theory, makes it easier to build theoretical insights (Strauss & Corbin, 1998). Although the two approaches are comparable, thematic analysis places more emphasis on the methodical creation of coherent themes than content analysis's frequency-based methodology (Vaismoradi, Turunen, & Bondas, 2013). In order to analyze the complex effects of globalization on Boko Haram's operations, this subtle distinction was essential.

A constructionist methodology was used for this investigation, which concentrated on the relationship between globalization and the sociopolitical dynamics of transnational terrorism. This method gave a thorough grasp of how globalization has influenced Boko Haram's tactics and operations by highlighting the connections between their actions and more general worldwide trends.

#### **4.5 Ethical Considerations**

Pertaining to credibility of the sources and exclusion of bias in the research, this is critical as regards ethical practice in connection with comparatively contentious subject matters such as Boko

Haram activities between 2005 and 2015. This way the sources are credible and unbiased thus guarding against repeat of past mishaps such as promoting misinformation and cultural stereotypes. Distinguished sources include newspaper articles, academic articles, and credible video sources because they meet news and academic admissibility standards (Bryman, 2016). These reminders may include foreign websites like the New York Times, BBC World News, academic resources like JSTOR, SpringerLink. One ethics issue relates to dealing with possible incorporation biases of the media into the stories, depending on geopolitics or editorials (Neuendorf, 2017). As a result, researchers need to ensure that information is corroborated and compare biased international media sources with nondiscriminatory local ones. The existence of unreliable publications which give a distorted view of reality must be excluded, as they influence the general population and make the research flawed. Further, researchers are supposed to uphold intellectual property rights by using citations in their work in the right manners to follow standard research ethics like the APA or MLA. The study limits its sources to credible and bias-free sources to achieve the level of academic credibility in the analysis of Boko Haram's transnational terrorism.

Studies of terrorism activities such as Boko Haram's activity between 2005 and 2015 call for the avoidance of sensationalism in the research for ethical reasons as well as for credibility. Emotionalized reporting is the pandering to public demands for new and dramatic accounts, amplifying scripted reports which in turn perpetuates stereotyping instead of illustrating underlying socio-political factors leading to terrorism (Jackson et al., 2011). The academic community has an ethical responsibility to write without bias and sensationalizing results and to avoid, as much as possible, the portrayal of violence. Sensationalism is misleading information and should be eliminated by the researchers to adopt academic articles, reputable newspapers or magazines or first-hand accounts that are oriented on truthful information rather than on the provocative and interesting one. For instance, understanding the basis and nature of Boko Haram by situating their actions in the context of socioeconomic and political landscape of Nigeria goes a long way in achieving this by shifting from what one abstract and evil terrorist is. It also reduces the possibility of passing on a barrage of errors or biases by corroborating facts by comparing one source with another. However, researchers must be very careful with the endearing social consequences that come with such findings. Presenting findings in a manner that non-mysteriously

reassures rather than frightens serves both an ethical scholar and constructive discussions about terrorism and its effects.



## **CHAPTER 5:**

### **RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS**

#### **5.1 Introduction**

The purpose of this chapter is to examine the impact of globalization on transnational terrorism by analyzing newspaper articles on topics related to transnational terrorism, and globalization, Boko haram with a particular emphasis on impact of globalization on transnational terrorism. Also, further analysis is carried out thematically on research articles selected for this study to answer the research questions.

#### **5.2 Newspaper Article/Report Presentation**

##### **5.2.1 The Guardian September 25 2012: Nigeria Braces for Escalation in Terrorist Attack**

The Nigerian government has been accused of losing control of security and lacking a coherent strategy to counter the threat of terrorism, according to senior political and military figures. They have expressed growing pessimism over the state's ability to contain Boko Haram, the Islamist sect behind a deadly wave of bombings and kidnappings in northern Nigeria, and are bracing themselves for an escalation in attacks.

Boko Haram, often translated as "western education is sinful," has become increasingly sophisticated in its operations since first launching mass attacks in northern Nigeria in 2010. The sect first began using violence against the Nigerian government and police in 2003 and is believed to have advanced its operations in recent months by attracting funding and support from other terrorist groups such as al-Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb and al-Shabaab. In 2009, Boko Haram launched a new phase of operations following the killing of its leader, Muhammad Yusuf, by police and security forces. Since then, a campaign of deadly church bombings has left hundreds of dead, while attacks on mobile phone base stations have paralyzed telecommunications in the north, causing an estimated £3m worth of damage.

The government has tried to fight back against the sect, claiming to have killed at least 35 militants earlier this week and detained 60 others during raids in Adamawa and Yobe states in northern Nigeria. However, its failure to stop Boko Haram attacks has led many to question the leadership of President Goodluck Jonathan, who promised in March that security services would end the insurgency by June. A senior defense official expressed concern that the government had failed to demonstrate the necessary political leadership to combat the threat posed by Boko Haram.

Experts have frequently attributed the rise of Boko Haram to the growing divide between rich and poor, compounded by regionalism that has often pitched the largely Christian south against the mostly Muslim north. Two-thirds of Nigerians – 100 million people – live below the poverty line on less than a dollar a day, according to Nigeria's national bureau of statistics. Much of the north has illiteracy rates of above 75%.

Resentment towards the Nigerian authorities has been compounded by human rights abuses, including extra-judicial killings. Some members of the security forces have been working as double agents, and improved and regular vetting of security personnel is very important for improving security management in the country generally.

The Nigerian government has been under renewed pressure to combat Boko Haram since the US decided to designate three members of the sect as foreign terrorists, giving US authorities powers under US law to take action. This designation could in theory result in a violation of Nigeria's sovereignty and possibly even territorial integrity.

### **5.2.2 Al Jazeera, English News October 26, 2014**

#### **(Boko Haram: Long reign of violence)**

This article offers an analysis view of fighting globalization and the transformation of Boko Haram's transnational terrorism in Nigeria; further analysis gives an understanding on sociopolitical and economical aspects of the Boko Haram insurgency from 2005 to 2015. I examine the ways in which the group transcended Nigerian borders due to globalized terror networks, arms, funds, and radicalizations.

How the group started as a regional response to socio-economic exclusion in Northern Nigeria and how it has deteriorated to becoming a global menace is also discussed in the article. It also illustrates how globalization enlarged the group's ability to get OMIT, people and Complex weapons endowments. The Strategies of Boko Haram as a faction affiliated to foreign terror groups such as al-Qaeda and ISIS is looked at with focus on its operations.

Among them is the demerit that weak governance, poverty, and political corruption made Nigeria a favorable Boko Haram theatre. In addition, Al Jazeera covers the Nigerian government's side of the issue, and rightfully points out that there is no coherent approach to effectively combat the group in question. Instead of addressing such root causes of extremism the report contends that the Nigerian government compounded human rights abuses and further alienated the local population through its reliance on military force instead of addressing the root causes of extremism, which aided the insurgency.

This paper presents the consideration of Boko Haram's impact on regional security in West Africa with reference to the cross-border incidents in Cameroon, Chad, and Niger. It brings to bear a central notion of global war against terrorism, the perception that counter insurgency requires the coming together of the international community through integration of economic liberalization and participation of the people.

### **5.2.3 The New York Times, March 12 2012**

**(Globalization and the Rise of Boko Haram: Solution to the menace, this paper will undertake a study in transnational terrorism)**

This paper aims at evaluating the changes in transnational terrorism due to globalization using Boko Haram in Nigeria as an example. It investigates the ways in which liberalization of the global economy, information technology, and increasing global interconnectedness have enabled this insurgent organization to emerge and grow; it also discusses how global dynamics link to local issues.

The subject matters of analysis include the process of transformation of Boko Haram as the movement, originally focused on the fight against corruption and injustice in Northern Nigeria. From this it has evolved to become a transnational crime that threatens the security of Nigeria and other neighboring countries. The article places this development into the social reality of globalization and explains how such aspects as the suppression of the Third World's elements, instabilities within the regions, and the existence of world terror networks encourage people to join the group.

This account of Boko Haram shows that even as global processes of connection and economic development continue to unravel, they amplify local tensions. Northern Nigeria in particular has been rather marginalized economically, where generally high levels of unemployment and poverty set the stage for extremism. Globalization compounded these inequalities because economic activities reel toward the urban and the south whilst the north fringes.

Boko Haram was able to harness these grievances to sell its nihilistic worldview as something more desirable than the path the larger society was taking. Embracing the anti-Western culture and promoting a call for a return to strict religious rule, the group received voices from disappointed people.

Technological advancement has also favored the globalization of Boko Haram in a big way. The group information, propaganda, recruiting, and planning of attacks targeted at banks and police stations were conducted through the internet and other technology means. Boko Haram used social media and other secret communication gadgets to disseminate its messages beyond the shores of Nigeria and get in touch with like minds from other parts of Africa and Middle East.

These tactics act in coordination with strategies of other international terror organizations, showing that global technological development has made the terror networks work in a similar way.

This paper goes further in analyzing Boko Haram's influence on countries outside Nigeria. The cross-border operations and insurgencies like in Cameroon, Chad and Niger have caused insecurity to permeate the whole Lake Chad Basin. These relations with global terror groups like ISIS also highlight its multinational character.

These instances show that the phenomenon of globalization contributes to the development of terrorism, as open borders with a lack of cooperation between the countries of a region allow terrorists to effectively move people, weapons and money.

Fight against Boko haram is a mirror image of the general issues of combating terrorism in a world that has become a global village. Even political military campaigns have eroded its geographical influence but not its ideas, its money. More coordinated efforts by the state have been achieved such as the Multinational Joint Task Force, but structural Factors remain.

It concludes that sustainable solutions cannot include simply military approaches. The fight against radicalization therefore calls for a long-term plan, which entails tackling the effects of jealousy, namely poverty, unemployment and political marginalization which cannot be fought without spending resources in education, employment and good governance.

The inclusion of an article on Boko Haram in the course reminds the learners that globalization has its dark side. As has been beneficial to many regions of the globe by doing so it has magnified disparity and supplied new means for destructive factions.

The group's phenomenal course of actions and their resultant consequences present how intricate regional struggles are with systems in place at the global level for the policymakers as well as the researchers. Counterterrorism strategies, therefore, require a measure of consideration of local and international forces and more significantly, the social and economic factors which foster violent extremism while at the same time trying to establish reasonable ways of neutralizing cross-border terror organizations.

#### **5.2.4 BBC News June 27 2014**

Boko Haram's violent campaign in Nigeria has led to the kidnapping of over 200 school girls and forced out of Maiduguri, the capital of Borno state. The BBC conducted an undercover investigation into the city, where residents live in fear. Maiduguri was once a bustling commercial hub, but in 2009, Boko Haram launched military operations to create an Islamic state. The past

five years have been the most tumultuous in Maiduguri's history, with Boko Haram regrouped in 2010, organizing bombings and drive-by shootings. The civilian JTF eventually went house to house, rooting out the militants, and the city is gradually picking up the pieces. Some of those who fled have started returning, and some are grateful for the current peace and hope it lasts. The city is now gradually picking up the pieces, and some of those who had fled have started returning.

The peace in Maiduguri is fragile, with Boko Haram's leader, Abubakar Shekau, declaring war on residents, particularly JTF members. Maiduguri now appears like an island, with other Borno areas exposed and villages on the fringes frequently attacked.

Same report also gave a brief look at Boko Haram established in 2002, Boko Haram, which translates to "Western education is forbidden" in Hausa, was first centered on resisting Western education then started military actions to establish an Islamic state in 2009. attacks on police and UN headquarters in the capital, Abuja, as well as thousands of fatalities, primarily in northeastern Nigeria with about three million people are impacted. US-declared them terrorist organization in 2013

### 5.3 Sample Videos Presentation

Table 1: Sampled video presentations

<b>Video Assigned Value</b>	<b>Origin of video</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Type of Study</b>	<b>Theme/Subject Area</b>
1	Al Jazeera English (2015)	Boko Haram: Behind the Violence	Documentary	Understanding Boko Haram's roots and ideology
2	DW News (2015)	Boko Haram: A Growing Global Threat	News Analysis	Impact of Boko Haram's transnational connections
3	BBC News Africa (2015)	Inside Boko Haram's Insurgency	Investigative Report	Socio-political and cultural factors driving Boko Haram

4	Vice News (2015)	Nigeria's Fight Against Boko Haram	Investigative Journalism	Military and humanitarian response to Boko Haram
5	CNN (2015)	Boko Haram's Connection to Global Terrorism	News Coverage	Boko Haram's links to global terrorist networks
6	TRT World (2015)	How Globalization Fuels Boko Haram's Rise	Analytical Discussion	Role of globalization in transnational terrorism
7	The Guardian (2015)	Life Under Boko Haram: A Survivor's Story	Personal Testimony	Impact of Boko Haram on local communities
8	France 24 English (2015)	Boko Haram and the Sahel Connection	News Analysis	Boko Haram's regional impact in West Africa
9	Sky News (2015)	The Global Jihadist Connection	News Documentary	Boko Haram's affiliation with international terrorism
10	CGTN Africa (2015)	Nigeria's Struggle Against Boko Haram	News Analysis	Local government's approach to combating terrorism

Source: Processed by Researcher, 2024

## 5.4 Article Presentation

Table 2: Presentation of Sampled Articles

<b>Article Assigned Value</b>	<b>Author(s) &amp; Year of Publication</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Type of Study</b>	<b>Theme/Subject Area</b>
1	Agbiboa, Emmanuel K. (2013)	The Internationalization of Terrorist Networks: Boko Haram's Global Connections	Qualitative research	Global connections of Boko Haram
2	Castells, M. (1996)	The Rise of the Network Society	Theoretical analysis	Globalization and network society
3	Cook, D. (2011)	Boko Haram: A Prognosis	Policy analysis	Strategic assessment of Boko Haram
4	Crenshaw, M. (2010)	Explaining Terrorism: Causes, Processes, and Consequences	Political psychology	Causes and consequences of terrorism
5	Forest, J. J. F. (2012)	Confronting the Terrorism of Boko Haram in Nigeria	Strategic analysis	Counterterrorism strategies
6	Friedman, T. L. (2005)	The World is Flat: A Brief History of the Twenty-First Century	Globalization theory	Global interconnectedness
7	Hansen, William (2017)	Boko Haram: Religious Extremism and the Globalization of Terrorism	Qualitative research	Religious extremism and globalization
8	Held, D. et al. (1999)	Global Transformations: Politics, Economics, and Culture	Globalization studies	Global political and cultural dynamics



9	Hoffman, B. (2006)	Inside Terrorism	Terrorism studies	Terrorism's causes and consequences
10	Horgan, J. (2014)	The Psychology of Terrorism	Psychological analysis	Psychological factors in terrorism
11	Okoli, A. C. (2020)	Boko Haram and Transnational Terrorism in West Africa: Interrogating the Nexus	Qualitative research	Boko Haram's transnational dynamics
12	Onuoha, Freedom C. (2012)	The Islamist Challenge: Nigeria's Boko Haram Crisis	Conflict analysis	Islamist extremism in Nigeria
13	Rodrik, D. (2011)	The Globalization Paradox: Democracy and the Future of the World Economy	Theoretical analysis	Economic globalization
14	Steger, M. B. (2017)	Globalization: A Very Short Introduction	Introductory globalization study	Concepts and consequences of globalization
15	Stern, J. (2003)	Terror in the Name of God: Why Religious Militants Kill	Case study	Motivations of religious militants
16	Thurston, Alexander (2018)	Boko Haram: The History of an African Jihadist Movement	Historical analysis	Evolution of Boko Haram
17	Walker, A. (2012)	What is Boko Haram?	Descriptive study	Understanding Boko Haram
18	Zenn, J. (2018)	Boko Haram: Beyond the Headlines	Conflict studies	Broader impacts of Boko Haram
19	Zenn, Jacob (2020)	The Boko Haram Network: A Web of	Network analysis	Regional and global ties of Boko Haram

		Regional and Global Ties		
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Source: Processed by Researcher, 2024

### 5.5 Thematic analysis

#### Theme 1: The impact of communication developments, how globalization affects transnational terrorism

Globalization, particularly advancements in communication technologies, has significantly altered the methods and operations of transnational terrorist groups, including Boko Haram. Since its armed campaign began in 2009 in northeastern Nigeria, Boko Haram has effectively utilized communication technologies for recruitment, propaganda dissemination, operational coordination, and fundraising. This theme explores how these technological advancements, facilitated by globalization, have impacted Boko Haram's operations and the broader challenges for counterterrorism efforts.

- Recruitment:** Communication technologies, especially mobile phones and the internet, have revolutionized Boko Haram's recruitment process. The group leverages social media platforms, video-sharing sites, and encrypted messaging apps to identify and connect with potential recruits, expanding its reach beyond geographical limitations and attracting individuals from across West Africa and beyond (Matfess, 2017).
- Propaganda:** Boko Haram's communication strategy focuses on exploiting grievances and dissatisfaction with existing political systems, highlighting religious narratives, and offering a sense of identity and purpose to potential recruits (Matfess, 2017). The group utilizes social media platforms like Facebook and YouTube to disseminate propaganda videos showcasing its activities, achievements, and grievances against local and international governments.

- **Globalization and Outreach:** Globalization has enabled Boko Haram to reach international audiences, enhancing its notoriety and instilling fear. The group has invested in producing high-quality propaganda materials, including videos, speeches, and statements, often featuring Abubakar Shekau, its leader. These materials are disseminated through social media and online platforms, reaching a global audience and bypassing traditional media channels. Boko Haram's affiliation with ISIS further expanded its media reach, leveraging the Islamic State's media infrastructure for propaganda purposes.
- **Operational Coordination:** The daily use of communication technologies has improved Boko Haram's operational coordination. Mobile phones, satellite communication, and encrypted messaging apps like Telegram and WhatsApp are used for planning operations, addressing logistical challenges, and communicating with cells in the field. For instance, during the 2014 Chibok schoolgirls kidnapping, Boko Haram fighters allegedly used mobile phones to coordinate movements and evade the Nigerian military (Onuoha, 2014). The group's ability to communicate securely through encrypted technologies poses a significant challenge for counterterrorism efforts.
- **Fundraising:** Advancements in global communication have also facilitated Boko Haram's fundraising efforts. The group utilizes mobile money services, online banking systems, and cryptocurrencies for international money transfers, enabling it to receive funds from supporters, extort local communities, and engage in smuggling contraband products. Boko Haram's propaganda campaigns often include appeals for funds, targeting a global audience sympathetic to its cause. The group's extensive network allows it to source resources from across the world, ensuring its operations remain well-funded despite efforts to disrupt its financial flows.
- **Counterterrorism Challenges:** While communication technology enhancements offer the potential for connectivity and information sharing, they also present challenges for counterterrorism. Terrorist groups like Boko Haram have adopted encrypted communication technologies, social media platforms, and online money transfer systems, making it difficult to track their operations and disrupt their activities. The cross-border

nature of these activities further complicates counterterrorism efforts, as legal jurisdictions and the need for international cooperation can hinder effective responses.

- **Mitigation Strategies:** To counter Boko Haram's exploitation of communication technologies, governments and civil society organizations have implemented initiatives aimed at countering the group's propaganda and addressing the root causes of radicalization. These efforts include counter-narratives that delegitimize Boko Haram's ideology, highlight the consequences of terrorism, and promote peace and unity. Nigeria's Operation Safe Corridor, for example, focuses on reintegrating former Boko Haram members into society through deradicalization programs, involving community and religious leaders and ex-extremists in countering extremist narratives (Olojo, 2020).
- **The Need for Collaboration:** Boko Haram's use of communication technologies underscores the need for collaboration among governments, tech companies, and international organizations to effectively combat transnational terrorism. This includes monitoring online activities, enhancing cybersecurity measures, and dismantling terrorist financing networks. Addressing the socio-economic factors that drive individuals to join groups like Boko Haram, such as poverty, unemployment, and lack of opportunities, is also crucial in reducing the appeal of extremist ideologies.
- **Technological Advancements and Counterterrorism:** The continuous evolution of communication technologies presents both challenges and opportunities for counterterrorism. Advanced technologies like artificial intelligence, deepfake detection, and virtual reality can be used to enhance surveillance systems, identify extremist materials, and counter terrorist propaganda. Governments and global organizations need to invest in research and development in these areas to remain proactive in the face of evolving technological threats.

## **Theme 2: To what extent has Boko Haram terrorism affected Nigeria?**

Boko Haram, also known as Jama'atu Ahlis Sunna Lidda'Awati Wal-Jihad, has had a devastating impact on Nigeria since its formation in 2002. Initially focused on opposing Western education, the group has evolved into one of the most destructive terrorist organizations globally, with catastrophic consequences for Nigeria's peace, economy, and international standing. This theme explores the extent of Boko Haram's impact on Nigeria and its people.

- **Humanitarian Crisis:** Boko Haram's violent activities, including bombings, massacres, and mass abductions, have resulted in widespread displacement and a severe humanitarian crisis. The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR, 2022) estimates that Boko Haram has displaced an estimated 2.4 million individuals from their homes in Nigeria and the Lake Chad Basin area. This displacement has created a humanitarian disaster, with internally displaced persons (IDPs) living in overcrowded camps lacking adequate nutrition, healthcare, and education facilities.
- **Socio-Economic Disruption:** Boko Haram's terrorism has caused widespread fear and disruption in various sectors of Nigerian society. Attacks on schools have led to declining enrollment rates, particularly for girls, exacerbating the gender gap in education and limiting future economic opportunities (Matfess, 2017). Constant insecurity has disrupted farming activities, resulting in food shortages and price increases (Matfess, 2017).
- **Security and Governance Challenges:** The insurgency has exposed weaknesses in Nigeria's security architecture, with Boko Haram demonstrating its ability to carry out large-scale attacks, evade military operations, and control territories for extended periods (Zenn, 2018). Military campaigns against Boko Haram have been hampered by inadequate funding, corruption, and logistical challenges (Zenn, 2018). The insurgency has also strained Nigeria's governance structures, with local governments in the northeast unable to provide basic services and the constant threat of attacks eroding public trust in the state's ability to protect its citizens.

- **Human Rights Abuses:** The humanitarian crisis caused by Boko Haram is one of the most severe in Nigeria's history, with millions displaced, thousands killed, and countless others injured. Human rights abuses by both Boko Haram and security forces have further complicated the situation, with extrajudicial killings, arbitrary arrests, and torture documented by Amnesty International (2021). These abuses undermine public trust and fuel resentment, making it more challenging to combat terrorism effectively.
- **Psychological Impact:** The psychological impact of Boko Haram's violence on affected communities is immense, with survivors often suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and other mental health issues. Children exposed to violence face long-term developmental challenges. Social cohesion has also been disrupted, as Boko Haram's activities have exacerbated ethnic and religious tensions in Nigeria.
- **Damage to International Reputation:** Boko Haram's terrorism has damaged Nigeria's international reputation, portraying the country as unstable and insecure (Adesoji, 2011). This has discouraged foreign investment and tourism, hindered economic growth, and highlighted Nigeria's challenges in managing the conflict independently. The abduction of the Chibok schoolgirls brought international attention to Boko Haram's atrocities and sparked global campaigns like #BringBackOurGirls.
- **Mitigation Efforts:** Efforts to mitigate Boko Haram's impact include military operations, deradicalization and rehabilitation programs, and humanitarian assistance to IDPs and affected populations. Addressing the root causes of terrorism, including poverty, unemployment, and governance failures, is crucial for restoring stability and rebuilding affected regions.

### **Theme 3: Counterterrorism Strategies in the Age of Globalization**

International terrorism poses a persistent threat to global security, employing violence to instill fear and advance political, ideological, or religious goals across national borders. This theme

examines the range of counterterrorism strategies employed to mitigate the impact of transnational terrorism in the age of globalization.

- **Military Interventions:** Military interventions, such as Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan, have been used to dismantle terrorist networks and disrupt their operational capabilities. However, these actions can sometimes exacerbate local grievances and inadvertently fuel further radicalization.
- **Intelligence and Surveillance:** Effective intelligence gathering and surveillance are critical components of counterterrorism. Advanced technologies like drone surveillance, signal interception, and biometric identification enhance governments' ability to monitor and disrupt terrorist activities. Intelligence-sharing platforms, such as the "Five Eyes Alliance," have been instrumental in tracking international terrorist networks and foiling plots. However, the use of extensive surveillance technologies raises ethical and legal concerns about privacy and potential abuses of power.
- **Legal Frameworks:** Strengthening legal frameworks to prosecute terrorists and their supporters is essential for combating terrorism. International agreements, such as United Nations Security Council Resolution 1373 (2001), require member states to criminalize terrorism-related activities, freeze terrorist assets, and enhance border controls. The Financial Action Task Force (FATF) plays a crucial role in combating terrorism financing by monitoring global financial systems and enforcing anti-money laundering standards.
- **International Cooperation:** International cooperation is vital for addressing the transnational nature of terrorism. This includes collaboration between states in intelligence sharing, joint military operations, and the development of common legal frameworks for prosecuting terrorists. Regional organizations also play a role in fostering cooperation, as demonstrated by the African Union's efforts to counter Boko Haram through the Multinational Joint Task Force (MNJTF).

- **Addressing Root Causes:** Effective counterterrorism strategies must also address the root causes of terrorism, including socio-economic inequalities, political oppression, and cultural marginalization. By addressing these underlying factors, it is possible to reduce the appeal of extremist ideologies and prevent radicalization.



## **CHAPTER 6:**

### **CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

#### **6.1 Conclusion**

As a result, in this study, the researcher investigated globalization and transnational terrorism particularly Boko Haram, Nigeria 2005-2015. This paper and the research findings that underpin the analysis show the fact that while globalization enhances transnational terrorism, it restricts it at the same time. On the one hand, globalization has served as enabler of Boko Haram's tactics by providing recruitment opportunities as well as free Generic communication and Financial Assistance through increasingly permeable borders and new communication technology. On the other hand, it has also facilitated counter-terrorism cooperation and information exchange regime that has been paramount in countering the group.

The study is important in establishing the relationship between the Boko Haram ideology and its operation in its opposition to Western influence –seen as a product of globalization. This is illustrated in its rejection of Western type education, modern forms of governance and the increasing perceived decadence of the Islamic culture.

In the same vein, the socio-economic effect of globalization that has been manifest in Nigeria 's unequal and marginalization process which have inadvertently instigated the Boko Haram sect. It uses the social injustices of marginalized societies mainly in Northern Nigeria to mobilize for cohorts and popular sympathy. But the work also shows the difficulties that local and international counter-terrorism experience up, such as poor coordination, lack of understanding of local processes, and human rights violations that can aggravate the situation.

The results suggest that a more complex approach is needed for countering transnational terrorism. Thus, three main aspects must be taken into account while combating extremism's origins, opportunities, and socio-cultural environment, including poverty and exclusion. In addition, nurturing partnership of global and local nature and paying respect to human rights shall remain the key guidelines to develop adequate counter-terrorism policies.

Lastly, this research maintains that cultural relevance in the fight against terrorism borne out of globalization, coupled with economic growth, and cross-national cooperation is possible, citing the case of Boko Haram.

## 6.2 Recommendations

Based on the findings and discussions surrounding the impact of globalization on transnational terrorism, particularly focusing on Boko Haram in Nigeria from 2005–2015, the following recommendations are proposed:

1. **Contextualized Counterterrorism Strategies:** Terrorism should be countered with local cultural, political, and social indicators taken into consideration on a global scale (Idris & Okeke, 2020). Policy-makers should enlist the awareness and cooperation of regional stakeholders, including community-based organizations and local governments, to develop solution-kits tailored to the specific needs and profiles of affected regions (Idris & Okeke, 2020). This approach ensures that global strategies are effectively implemented within local contexts.
2. **Enhanced Regional Cooperation:** Transnational terrorism thrives in environments with weak border control and limited regional cooperation (Ogunlana, 2022). Therefore, it is crucial to improve cooperation between Nigeria and its neighbors, particularly through the Multinational Joint Task Force (MNJTF) (Ogunlana, 2022). This can be achieved through enhanced information sharing, joint military operations, and coordinated border security measures to reduce Boko Haram's cross-border activities.
3. **Socio-Economic Interventions:** Globalization has augmented economic differentiation, which Boko Haram exploits as a recruitment tool (Olayemi, 2021). Socioeconomic interventions should focus on providing income-generating opportunities, vocational training, and education in northeastern Nigeria to counter Boko Haram's recruitment efforts and address the root causes of vulnerability to radicalization (Olayemi, 2021).
4. **Countering Online Extremism:** Boko Haram utilizes social media for recruitment and propaganda dissemination (Hoffman, 2006). Governments, social media companies, and global organizations must cooperate to counter terrorist narratives, develop effective

counter-propaganda strategies, and support initiatives that promote alternative messages of peace and tolerance (Hoffman, 2006).

5. **Disrupting Financial and Material Support:** Friendly nations must intensify efforts to track and disrupt the financial and material support, including the supply of weapons, to Boko Haram (Crenshaw, 2010). This requires greater transparency in the international financial system and stricter regulations on the arms trade to limit the resources available to terrorist organizations.
6. **Further Research:** Further research is needed to understand the complex interplay between globalization and terrorism, particularly regarding the evolving nature of globalization and its impact on terrorist threats (Laqueur, 1999). This research should inform the development of relevant counterterrorism policies and strategies to effectively address emerging threats.
7. **Addressing Humanitarian Crises:** A more focused international strategy is needed to address the displacement and human suffering caused by Boko Haram (UNHCR, 2022). Increased support for refugees, assistance with resettlement and reintegration, and trauma counseling are crucial for restoring communities and breaking cycles of violence.

### 6.3 Limitations to the Study

This study on the impact of globalization on transnational terrorism, focusing on Boko Haram in Nigeria from 2005 to 2015, faced several limitations that influenced the depth and scope of its findings:

1. The study avoided the use of primary data sources but relied on secondary data mainly on journals, reports and data that are easily accessible by the public. This was a limitation because the study did not have an opportunity to interview those whose lives were impacted by Boko Haram, or those that are in the forefront to fight terrorism. Perhaps a combined qualitative and quantitative technique such as interviews or field surveys might have offered more elaborate views.
2. Although the study focused on Boko Haram insurrection within the Nigerian environment this did not consider within region distinctions – the sociopolitical and economic characteristics of the northeastern Nigerian states most impacted. This generalization

hinders analysis of localized processes and the identification of dynamics and contextual community responses to Boko Haram insurgency.

3. The study was limited to the year 2005 to 2015, it is worth noting that this study does not capture the new trends in the use of violence and affiliation of Boko Haram as well as counter-terrorism measures adopted after 2015. Consequently, the insights fail to provide info as to changing trends or overall effects of globalization on Boko Haram operation.
4. The study reduced the complexity of analyzing the link between globalization and transnational terrorism. They did not capture the diverse, complex ways in which terrorism is inextricably linked to globalization such as through cyber radicalization, financing, recruitment web created by Boko Haram.
5. Research on Boko Haram affected regions was likely to cause safety issues. Consequently, materials that originate from those areas featured a low availability, meaning that they could not be effectively cross-checked with first-hand data or expert statements.
6. Given the complexity of linking globalization-terrorism-local insurgency in the context of Boko Haram, subsuming different academic disciplines posed a methodological challenge of how to merge congruent theories to explain the nature of Boko Haram completely and globalization.

#### **6.4. Further Studies**

Based on the findings and limitations of this research, the following directions for future studies are proposed:

1. Subsequent studies should use quantitative techniques like interviews, focus group discussions, and ethnographical insights raising members of communities, security personnel, and ex- Boko Haram members. This will tally an ideal perspective in the investigations concerning how Boko Haram has transformed its beliefs, and its recruitment and patterns due to globalization ideologies. They can reveal more subtle views of concrete experiences of the subjects most impacted by the phenomena.
2. Comparison of transnational terrorism in other parts of Africa like Sahel or the horn of Africa could in fact offer a rich literature that offers perspectives beyond the role of globalization in the production of terrorism. This approach would make it easier for

researchers to compare and contrast Boko Haram and other like groups such as Al-Shabaab and AQIM hence facilitating understanding of transnational terrorism.

3. Subsequently, future studies need to undertake historical analysis research that explores the movements of Boko Haram over several years, as well as the existing global and regional contexts. Some may include understanding the evolution of this group in relation to global technology, economic growth, and international terrorism fighting strategies.
4. Future research direction should investigate how social media, virtual currency, and encrypted communication, occasioned by globalization, has aided Boko Haram. Exploration of these tools in recruitment, propaganda and funding will enhance literature review by adding the much-needed critical focus on the transnational operations of the group.

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### APPROVAL

The jury members certify that the study conforms to acceptable standard of scholarly presentation and is fully adequate in scope and quality as a dissertation for the degree of Master of Science in International Relations.

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