

**Yvan Yenda Ilunga, Ph.D.**

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**EDUCATION**

- 2019 Ph.D. in Global Affairs**, Concentration in Global Policy and Security, Rutgers University- Newark  
**Dissertation:** *Go Green or Stay on Red: Critical Time in Humanitarian Action*  
Committee: Stephen Bronner (Chair), Alexander Hinton, Edward Ramsamy, and Thomas Matyok
- 2017 MS in Global Affairs:** Concentration in Global Policy, Rutgers University-Newark
- 2013 MA in Social Development**, University of Cape Town (UCT)  
Graduated with distinction to the dissertation  
**Thesis:** *An investigation into the social dimensions of mining in Africa: a case study of Kakanda city in the Democratic Republic of Congo*
- 2012 BA (Honours) in Development Studies**, The Institute for Social Development (ISD), University of the Western Cape
- 2009 Licentiate (BAC+5) in International Relations:** Concentration in International Politics, University of Lubumbashi (UNILU)  
**Thesis:** *Exploration of oil in the Central African region and prospect of rivalry of superpowers*  
Original title (French) : *Exploration du pétrole en Afrique Central et perspective de Rivalité de Puissances*
- 2007 BA in International Relations**, University of Lubumbashi (UNILU)

**ACADEMIC AND RESEARCH POSITIONS**

**August 2021- Present:** Assistant Professor of Political Science (Tenure Track), *Department of Social and Behavioral Sciences*, Central State University, Ohio

**Courses (Fall 2021):**

PSC 1100 – 01W and 02W: American National Government

PSC 2202-01H: International Politics

PSC 3361-01H: African American Politics

**June 2021- Present:** Deputy Director, *Joint Civil-Military Interaction (JCMI) Research and Education Network*

The purpose of the Joint Civil-Military Interaction (JCMI) Research and Education Network is to bring civil and military stakeholders and scholars together to investigate issues impacting civil-military interaction in peacebuilding and humanitarian actions.

**January 2021- June 2021:** Visiting Assistant Professor, *Department of Political Science*, Providence College, Rhodes Island

**Courses Taught:**

PSC 334-001 & BLS 334-002: African Politics

PSC 205001 & PSC 205002: Comparative Politics

**August 2019- May 2021:** Instructor (PT), *Departments of Political Science and Philosophy and Religion*, James Madison University, Virginia

**Courses Taught:**

POSC 361: Humanitarian Intervention, Spring 2020 and Spring 2021

REL 300: Religion and Society in the Congo, Spring 2020

POSC 340: Politics of Development, Fall 2019

- June 2019- December 2019:** Research Associate (Non-Resident), *Norwegian Institute of International Affairs (NUPI)*
- September 2018- June 2019:** Research Fellow, *Division of Global Affairs*, Rutgers University
- September 2017- June 2018:** Visiting Scholar, *Department of Peace and Conflict Studies*, University of North Carolina at Greensboro,
- September 2015- June 2018:** Graduate Research Assistant, *Office of the Dean of the Graduate School Newark (GSN)*, Rutgers University,
- June 2014 – September 2015:** Visiting Scholar, *Division of Global Affairs*, Rutgers University
- February-May 2014:** Research and Teaching Assistant, *Department of Social Development*, University of Cape Town
- March-April 2013:** Visiting Scholar, *Department of Humanities*, New Jersey Institute of Technology (NJIT)
- 2012- 2013 :** Visiting Lecturer, *L'Ecole Supérieure de la Gouvernance Economique et Politique de Lubumbashi* (EcoPo-Lubumbashi).
- Master level courses:** 1. Food security in developing Countries  
2. Technology and Management of food quality in the DR. Congo
- Fall 2012:** Researcher: Institute for Justice and Reconciliation, *Africa Program-Great Lakes Desk*, Cape Town, South Africa.

## **RESEARCH INTEREST**

Humanitarian action and security, Peace Operations (keeping, building and recovery), American Foreign Policy, international development, ethnicity and modern violent conflicts, regional security and development in Africa, religion and peace, civil-military interaction, natural resources-based conflicts, governance and policy modeling, non-state actors, race and democracy, non-western political thoughts.

## **PUBLICATIONS**

### **Book**

Yvan Yenda Ilunga (2020), *Humanitarianism and Security: Trouble and Hope at the Heart of Africa*, Palgrave McMillan, Inc.

### **Book Chapters**

- 2019 Yvan Y. Ilunga “New Era in Global Security: When peace means Global complex operations,” In Sean Byrne, Thomas Matyok, Imani Michelle Scott, and Jessica Senehi (Eds) *Routledge companion to peace and conflict studies*. (New York, Routledge Publishing), Pp 481-490
- 2018 Yvan Y. Ilunga "Regional Political Leadership and Policy Integration in Great Lakes Region of Africa." In Andrew H. Campbell (Ed) *Global Leadership Initiatives for Conflict Resolution and Peacebuilding*, (IGI Global), Pp 267-277
- 2016 **Yvan Y. Ilunga** and Marc Eric Lane “The Democratic Republic of Congo: Language as tool of social cohesion or inter-provincial social conflict” In Peter M. Kellett and Thomas G. Matyok (Eds) *Communication and Conflict Transformation through Local, Regional, and Global Engagement: Through Local, Regional, and Global Engagements*. (Lexington books), Pp 343-354

### **Research Reports**

- 2020 Lise M. Howard, Gino Vlavonou, Nina Steinitz, **Yvan Ilunga**. “Assessing the Effectiveness of the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the Central African Republic/MINUSCA.” (Norwegian Institute of International Affairs, 2020) <https://effectivepeaceops.net/publication/minusca/>
- 2020 **Yvan Y. Ilunga**, and Olajumoke Ayandele. “African Wars in the 21st Century: The Militarization of Politics and The Politicization of the Military Workshop Report.” (New Brunswick: Rutgers University Center for African Studies, 2020) <https://ruafrica.rutgers.edu/resources/graduate-and-post-doc-research/african-wars-in-the-21st-century>

## Articles

- 2021 Yvan Y. Ilunga “Desecuritizing the Politics of the Eastern Democratic Republic of Congo” ACCORD, *COVID-19 Conflict & Resilience Monitor*, (July 14,2021) <https://www.accord.org.za/analysis/desecuritizing-the-politics-of-the-eastern-democratic-republic-of-congo/>
- 2021 Yvan Y. Ilunga “The Case for a more Prosperous and Stable Country: What is at Stake in the DRC?”, ACCORD, *COVID-19 Conflict & Resilience Monitor*, (March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2021) <https://www.accord.org.za/analysis/the-case-for-a-more-prosperous-and-stable-country-what-is-at-stake-in-the-drc/>
- 2020 **Yvan Y. Ilunga** and Thomas Matyok “Religion and Peacebuilding”, *Economia Journal*, (October 18<sup>th</sup>, 2020) <https://www.civilaffairsassoc.org/post/religion-and-peacebuilding>
- 2020 Yvan Y. Ilunga “Implications of the end of the national state of emergency in the DRC”, ACCORD, *COVID-19 Conflict & Resilience Monitor*, (August 19<sup>th</sup>, 2020) <https://www.accord.org.za/analysis/implications-of-the-end-of-the-national-state-of-emergency-in-the-drc/>
- 2019 Yvan Y. Ilunga “After Strategic Review, What Should be Done With MONUSCO?” International Peace Institute, *Global Observatory*, (June 24<sup>th</sup>, 2019) <https://theglobalobservatory.org/2019/06/after-strategic-review-what-should-be-done-monusco/>
- 2019 Yvan Y. Ilunga “How sustainable is the peace agreement in Central African Republic?” *Fragile States Forum*, (March 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2019) <https://www.fragilestates.org/2019/03/22/sustainable-peace-agreement-central-african-republic-yvan-yenda-ilunga/>
- 2017 Yvan Y. Ilunga “Stability in the DRC: a look beyond political agreements,” *The Conversation*, (April 23<sup>rd</sup>,2017)<https://theconversation.com/stability-in-the-drc-a-look-beyond-political-agreements-75705>
- 2016 Yvan Y. Ilunga “Failure to Manage Commodities Windfall Forces Congo Budget Cuts,” *World Politics Review*, (May 23, 2016) <https://www.worldpoliticsreview.com/trend-lines/18867/failure-to-manage-commodities-windfall-forces-congo-budget-cuts>
- 2015 Yvan Y. Ilunga “Why dependence on natural resources is bad for the DRC,” *The Conversation*, (November 9<sup>th</sup>, 2015) <https://theconversation.com/why-dependence-on-natural-resources-is-bad-for-the-drc-48788>
- 2015 Yvan Y. Ilunga “Africa needs more infrastructure investment that boosts long-term jobs growth,” *The Conversation*, (July 28<sup>th</sup>, 2015) <https://theconversation.com/africa-needs-more-infrastructure-investment-that-boosts-long-term-jobs-growth-42228>
- 2015 Yvan Y. Ilunga “Africa’s destiny depends on building a vibrant middle class,” *The Conversation*, (April 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2015) <https://theconversation.com/africas-destiny-depends-on-building-a-vibrant-middle-class-39023>
- 2015 Yvan Y. Ilunga “Eye on Africa: US and China tussle for economic influence,” *The Conversation*, (February 25<sup>th</sup> 2015) <https://theconversation.com/eye-on-africa-us-and-china-tussle-for-economic-influence-37009>
- 2013 Yvan Y. Ilunga “UN’s massive failure in Democratic Republic of Congo,” for *Center for Media and Peace Initiatives*, New York (September 25<sup>th</sup>, 2013)
- 2012 Yvan Y. Ilunga “The Economics of Reconciliation,” *Institute for Justice and Reconciliation*, Newsletter, Vol 3, Issue 8, Cape Town, (September 2012)

## **WORK IN PROGRESS**

### **Book**

The dynamics of religion in peacebuilding and peace operations (working title). With Thomas Matyok

### **Book Chapters**

1. Peace Leadership, Security and the Role of the Military in Ethnopolitical Conflict. With Thomas Matyok (Forthcoming, Routledge)
2. "State of fragility: Juxtaposing narratives of national interests and the rise of institutional corruption" (Manuscript stage, contracted for Routledge book)
3. "Re-learning your knowledge: The Loud Silence" (Forthcoming, contracting for SUNY Press)

### **CONFERENCE ACTIVITY/ PARTICIPATION**

#### **Conference organized (Chair of the committee)**

- 2021 "African Wars in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century: Post- COVID Emerging Trends, Challenges and Opportunities", New York University, USA (October 06<sup>th</sup>, 2021)
- 2020 "African Wars in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century: Understanding the Militarization of Politics and the Politicization of the Military in the Region" New Jersey, USA (February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2020),
- 2017 "Dynamics of Global Inequality: New Thinking in Global Affairs," Annual Global Affairs Conference, Newark, NJ (April 21<sup>st</sup>, 2017)

#### **Paper presented**

- 2021 Panelist on expert roundtable "Does Peacekeeping Work? Assessing the Effectiveness of Peace Operations", Annual Conference of the International Studies Association (April 08<sup>th</sup>, 2021)
- 2021 "Civil-Military Interactions: a Practice of Maintaining Peace Beyond Peace Agreements" on the panel "Getting Beyond the Linear and Formulaic: Alternative Approaches to Peacemaking, Peacekeeping and Peacebuilding in the 21st Century", Annual Conference of the International Studies Association (April 7<sup>th</sup>, 2021)
- 2021 Human Security: Finding an holistic framework and an inclusive methodology, (Webinar session), Joint Civil Military Interactions (JCMI)-Human Security Webinar series (February 24<sup>th</sup>, 2021)
- 2020 Reimagining USA-Africa security engagement, (Webinar session), Joint Civil Military Interactions (JCMI). (October 14<sup>th</sup>, 2020)
- 2017 "Economic reforms and poverty eradication in post conflict and fragile states", Paper presented on a panel at the World Bank Civil Society Policy Forum/ World Bank-IMF Annual Meetings, Washington D.C. (October 12<sup>th</sup>, 2017)
- 2017 "The Construct of Legal and Political norms by Non-State Actors in the Pursuit of Security and Political Stability in Africa", panel on Security and Political Development in Africa, Organized by the Center for Democracy and International Affairs, Virginia International University (April 28<sup>th</sup>)
- 2016 "Limits of Truth and Reconciliation Commission as conflict resolution mechanism: strength and weakness." PhD Roundtable, Division of Global Affairs, Rutgers University, (February 16<sup>th</sup>, 2016)
- 2015 (With Durao, Rosario; Eriksson, Yvonne; Mattson, Kyle; Batova, Tatiana; El Hilali, Nabil; and Parianou, Anastasia), "Conveying meaning through shapes and lines: What practicing engineers can teach Higher Education (HE) about Information Literacy in g/local worksites" (2015). *Georgia International Conference on Information Literacy*. 76.
- 2015 "The competitive Africa: Marriage between natural resources and context-based education system in the Democratic Republic of the Congo". At the 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Graduate Student Conference in African Studies, *Globalization, Permeation, and Exchange: Africa and the New World Order*. Boston University (March 28<sup>th</sup>, 2015)
- 2012 "An integrated Community Development and Conflict Resolution approach to Peace building in Ituri District (Eastern province of the Democratic Republic of Congo)". Seminar at The Institute for Justice and Reconciliation, Cape Town, (November 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2012)

#### **Other paper accepted**

- 2018 "Humanitarian Crisis and the Dilemma of social identity" Midwest Political Science Association: Chicago, IL (April 2018)

2017 “Role and Influence of non-State actors in the construct of legal and political norms in fragile states”, International Studies Association Northeast Conference: Providence, RI (November 2017)

#### **Panel organized**

2016 “New Developments: Global Business, Sustainability, and Statecraft,” Rethinking Global Affairs Post 2015 Conference: Newark, NJ (April 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2016)

#### **INVITED LECTURES AND TALKS**

2021 “Humanitarianism and Security”, Guest lecture for Professor Lise Howard at Georgetown University MA-level course called "Peacekeeping and Peace Enforcement" (March 09<sup>th</sup>, 2021)

2021 “Humanitarianism in Action: Security and Peace in Central Africa”, Global Humanitarian Week, Center for International Stabilization and Recovery, James Madison University (March 30<sup>th</sup>, 2021)

2019 “The Age of Global Complexity: Revisiting US Foreign Policy and Engagement in Africa”, James Madison University, (Nov. 19, 2019)

2018 “Difficult turn to democratization: Human Rights at stake,” Greensboro College, (Nov 7<sup>th</sup>, 2018)

2018 “Interacting in a Collapsing and Rising World: Lessons from the legacy of American Foreign Policy in Africa,” *Public Lecture* hosted by the Department of Peace and Conflict Studies, University of North Carolina at Greensboro (April 11<sup>th</sup>, 2018)

2017 “Fragile states and priorities of development,” Rutgers University-Newark, (February 21<sup>st</sup>, 2017)

2015 “Technology and International Development: Role, Place and Impact in the 21<sup>st</sup> century: Reflection on developing countries,” New Jersey Institute of Technology, (April 29<sup>th</sup>, 2015)

2015/2014/2013 “Human Rights and Development: Twin pillars for sustainable society”, New Jersey Institute of Technology (March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2015, October 06<sup>th</sup> 2014, April 11<sup>th</sup>, 2013)

2013 (With Bernadette Longo) *Trust*. TEDxNJIT, New Jersey Institute of Technology, New Jersey (April 4<sup>th</sup>, 2013)

2013 “The public voice – the Media and its view on the Congo”. Panel discussion on “The Democratic Republic of Congo, One country different stories”, University of Cape Town (August 16<sup>th</sup>, 2013)

#### **Television interviews**

September 11, 2021 “ Assessing the impact of 9/11 in Africa” interview with CGTN Africa

June 13, 2018 “Libération de Jean Pierre Mbemba et la crédibilité de la cour pénale internationale” interview by Anasthasie Tudieshe “Le Monde Aujourd’hui,” Voice of America TV

May 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2018 “Health policy and vaccine: Ebola in the Democratic Republic of the Congo” interview by Vincent Makori, “Africa 54,” Voice of America TV

#### **FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS**

Spring 2021 Seed grant for research on race and democracy with the Gandhi Center at James Madison University

Fall 2020 Research grant as finalist of the ACLS Emerging Voices Fellowship

Fall 2018-Spring 2019 Graduate Research Fellowship, Division of Global Affairs, Rutgers University

2014-2015 Media and Peace Fellowship, Center for Media and Peace Initiatives

2015-2018 Multiple academic awards at Rutgers University

## **CERTIFICATE OF TEACHING**

2017 Certificate in Effective Teaching Practices, Endorsed by the American Council on Education (ACE) and The Association of College and University Educators (ACUE), Rutgers University

## **OTHER PROFESSIONAL POSITIONS**

2011- 2017 International Representative and Project Consultant, *Lueur D'Espoir (NGO)* D.R Congo  
2010-2011 Program officer and Field worker, *Home Street People Ministry (NGO)*, Cape Town, South Africa  
Fall 2011 Project assistant (Part time), *NetWork (NGO)*, Cape Town, South Africa  
2008-2009 Project Manager, *Lueur D'Espoir (NGO)* D.R Congo

## **CONSULTING AND OTHER SERVICES**

2021 International Independent consultant on Food Security and Peacebuilding, Mercy Corps  
2014 Project consultant, *Knowledge Co-op* University of Cape Town  
(*Co-Investigator* on issues of social exclusion during the feeding scheme programs for Bridge Town school in Cape Town)  
2013-2014 Independent consultant *Center for Media and Peace Initiatives (CMPI)*, New York  
2007-2009 Strategist consultant to the CEO - First Step Initiatives (NGO), Minnesota based organization

## **VOLUNTEER POSITIONS**

July 2017-Present Ambassador Board Member, *Project C.U.R.E.*  
Fall 2017- Spring 2018 Elected University senator representing the Rutgers-Newark Graduate Student Governing Association (GSGA)- Executive Board  
Fall 2016-Spring 2017 Elected President of the Student Association of Global Affairs, Rutgers University  
Fall 2014-Spring 2015 Part time Volunteer, *African Women for Good Governance*, New York City  
Fall 2014 Part time volunteer, *UNESCO Center for Peace, New York State Chapter*

## **SELECTED POLICY AND CONSULTATION MEETINGS**

2019 International Peace Institute, World Bank Group Strategy for Fragility, Conflict & Violence, Consultation meeting, New York. (April 25<sup>th</sup>, 2019)  
2018 The World Bank & International Monetary Fund's 2018 spring meetings, Washington DC, (April 17<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup>, 2018)  
2018 "Fragility Forum 2018: Managing Risks for Peace and Stability," World Bank. Washington DC. (March 5<sup>th</sup> -7<sup>th</sup>, 2018)  
2017 The World Bank & International Monetary Fund's 2017 Annual Meetings, Washington DC, (October 09<sup>th</sup> -15<sup>th</sup>, 2017)  
2017 "Africa Knowledge Fest" at the World Bank Headquarters in Washington DC, (February 22<sup>nd</sup>)  
2017 The ECOSOC Youth Forum 2017- Regional Breakout Session on Sub-Saharan Africa, UN Headquarters in New York, (January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2017)  
2016 "African Diaspora Leaders Policy Briefing", White House, (February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2016)

## **LANGUAGES**

English, French, Swahili, Lingala