

GODWIN ONUOHA

ACADEMIC, RESEARCHER AND CONSULTANT

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PROFESSIONAL PROFILE

Broadly trained social scientist with more than two decades experience in critical social science and humanities research and practice. Extensive research experience on broad pan-African questions of state and citizenship; culture, power and identity in the modern world; conflict resolution; memory and post-war conflict resolution; post-conflict peace, reconciliation and social justice; questions of genocide; self-determination, nationalism and identity politics; conflict, resources and development in Africa. Demonstrated skills in independent in-depth research and analysis, excellent interpersonal and communication skills in a variety of working environments spanning five countries across three continents.

EDUCATION

PH.D. SOCIAL ANTHROPOLOGY

Martin Luther University | Germany | 2007-2011

M.A POLITICAL SCIENCE

Central European University | Hungary | 2006/07

M.SC POLITICAL SCIENCE

University of Lagos | Nigeria | 2002-2003

BA HISTORY

University of Lagos | Nigeria | 1995-1999

WORK EXPERIENCE

CONSULTANT, EXPERT REVIEWER AND FACILITATOR **SSRC (APN/NextGen) | New York | 2016----**

Since 2016 I have been working as a consultant, facilitator and expert reviewer with the African Peacebuilding Network (APN) and the Next Generation Social Sciences Programs of the Social Science Research Council.

- Consultant: Expert Reviewer of Social Science Research Council (SSRC) Research Grant Competition.
- Consultant: Expert Reviewer of Social Science Research Council (SSRC) Working Papers Series.
- Consultant: Commissioned to Develop Social Science Research Council Working Papers Series, No. 19.
- Consultant: Commissioned to Facilitate Social Science Research Council (SSRC)/Next Generation Social Science Research Themes/Methods Workshop.

ADJUNCT TEACHING AND ADVISING POSITIONS

Various Institutions | New Jersey | 2016-2019

Since 2016 I have designed and taught several courses in an Ivy League institution, four-year college, state university, public university and a community college.

- Program in African Studies, Princeton University: "Resource Curse and Development in Africa" (2018)
- Rowan University, Glassboro, NJ: "Introduction to Africana Studies" (2017/18) "Model African Union (2018)
- The College of New Jersey, Ewing, NJ: "Introduction to Cultural Anthropology" (2018/2019)
- Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ: "Sub-Saharan African Politics" (2017) "Politics and Culture" (2017)
- Mercer County Community College, West Windsor, NJ: Introduction to Anthropology" (2016 - 2019)

POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCH ASSOCIATE

Princeton University | Princeton, NJ | 2014-2016

First African Humanities Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Princeton Institute for Int'l & Regional Studies, PIIRS

- Co-convener of the 2015 Princeton African Humanities Colloquium (PAHC).
- Designed and taught a course, titled: The Resource Curse and Development in Africa.
- Participated in the Seminar on Global Systemic Risk.

AFRICAN RESEARCH FELLOW

Human Sciences Research Council | Pretoria/SA | 2011-2014

I was mandated to network with major users and those financing social science research to understand their research needs, and develop contacts with policy-makers and researchers outside the organization

- Conducted high quality research, analyzed data, interpreted & reported findings in high-level forums;
- Designed and participated in multi-year, collaborative research projects with partners in Africa & globally;
- Developed research proposals in line with program's research agenda;
- Communicated and published research findings in peer-reviewed journals and other publications;
- Communicated and reported research findings on country and regional risk assessment to high-level government, law enforcement and diplomatic forums and agencies;
- Designed projects for problem-oriented interdisciplinary research;

SKILLS

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|----------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|
| • Problem solving | • Attention to detail | • Strategic planning |
| • Project management | • Time management | • Critical thinking |
| • Team building | • Verbal communication | • Individual Networking |

SCHOLARSHIPS, RESEARCH GRANTS AND AWARDS

- PhD Scholarship, Martin-Luther University, Halle-Wittenberg, October 2007 – January 2011.
- MA Scholarship, Central European University, September 2006 – June 2007
- African Humanities Program, ACLS: 2013/14 (\$17,000 – I declined the offer)
- Harry Frank Guggenheim Foundation Research Grant: 2014-15 (Amount \$14,800 x 2/Individual)
- International Development Research Centre, 2013-15 (CAD 441,665.06, Team Grant)
- National Treasury of South Africa and the World Bank: 2013 (R4,000,000.00, Team Grant)
- Mellon/American Council of Learned Societies (ACLS) Community College Faculty Fellowship (\$40,000)

PUBLICATIONS

Book

2011: *Challenging the State in Africa: MASSOB and the Crisis of Self-Determination in Nigeria* (LIT Verlag: Munster. 216 pp).

Peer-Reviewed Articles

2004: "Local and External Intersections in African Conflicts: Issues, Trends and Perspectives in the Liberian Experience", *Nigerian Journal of Policy and Development*, Vol. 3.

2006: "Contextualizing the Proliferation of Small Arms and Light Weapons in Nigeria's Niger Delta: Local and Global Intersections", *African Security Review*, Vol.15, No. 2: 108-114.

2009: "Energy and Security in the Gulf of Guinea: A Nigerian Perspective", *South African Journal of International Affairs*, Vol. 16, No. 2: 245-264.

2011: "Contesting the Space: The 'New Biafra' and Ethno-Territorial Separatism in Southeastern Nigeria", *Nationalism and Ethnic Politics*, Vol. 17, No. 4: 402-422.

2012: "Contemporary Igbo Nationalism and the Crisis of Self-Determination in Nigeria", *African Studies*, Vol. 71, No. 1:29-51.

2012: "The Presence of the Past: Youth, Memory-Making and the Politics of Self-Determination in Southeastern Nigeria", *Ethnic and Racial Studies*, Vol. 36, No. 12: 2182-2199.

2013: "The Fractured Multi-Ethnic State: Contemporary Igbo Quest for Self-Determination in Nigeria", *African Identities*, Vol. 11, No. 1: 19-32.

2013: "Cultural Interfaces of Self-Determination and the Rise of the Neo-Biafran Movement in Nigeria", *Review of African Political Economy*, Vol. 40, No. 137: 428-446.

2014: "The Politics of 'Hope' and 'Despair': Generational Dimensions to Igbo Nationalism in Post-Civil War Nigeria", *African Sociological Review*, Vol. 18, No. 1: 2-26.

2015: Review Article, "Development and Diffusionism: Looking beyond neopatrimonialism in Nigeria, 1962–1985* Democracy in Nigeria: Thoughts and selected commentaries* The Jonathan presidency: The first year* Nigeria: Dancing on the brink", *African Affairs*, Vol. 114, No. 457: 649-654.

- 2016: "A 'Rising Africa' in a Resource-Rich Context: Change, Continuity and Implications for Development", *Current Sociology*, Vol. 64, No. 2: 277-292;
- 2016: "Shared Histories, Divided Memories: Mediating and Navigating the Tensions in Nigeria-Biafra War Discourses", *Africa Today*, Vol. 63, No. 1: 2-21;
- 2018: "Bringing 'Biafra' Back In: Narrative, Identity and the Politics of Non-Reconciliation in Nigeria", *National Identities*, 20, 4: 379-399;
- 2018: "Plurality and Disempowerment in an Era of Neo-Liberal Democracy: Nigeria and South Africa Compared", *Revista do Programa de Pós-Graduação em Direito da UFC*, Vol. 38, No. 1: 441-455;

Peer-Reviewed Chapters

- 2011: "The 'Igbo Question' and the Reinvention of Igbo Nationalism in Contemporary Nigeria". In Apollos O. Nwauwa and Chima Korieh (eds.), *Against All Odds: The Igbo Experience in Post-Colonial Nigeria*. New Jersey: Goldline and Jacobs Publishing, 2011.
- 2013: "'Exit' and 'Inclusion': The Changing Paradigm of Pentecostal Expression in the Nigerian Public Space". In Irene Becci, Marian Burchardt, and José Casanova (eds.), *Topographies of Faith: Religion in Urban Space* (Int'l Studies in Religion and Society Series), Brill Publishers: Leiden, 2013, pp. 207-226.
- 2014: (With Cyril Obi) "Nigeria and the Biafra War of Secession: When National Unity Triumphs Over Self-Determination". In Redie Bereketeab (ed), *Self-Determination and Secession in Africa: The Post-Colonial State*. Routledge: New York, 2014, pp. 180-196.
- 2014: (With Nedson Pophiwa) "The National Question and Citizenship Deficit: South Africa and Nigeria". In Thenjiwe Meyiwa, Muxe Nkondo, Margaret Chitiga-Mabugu, Moses Sithole, and Francis Nyamnjoh (eds.), *State of the Nation: South Africa 1994-2014, A Twenty-Year Review of Freedom and Democracy*. Human Sciences Research Council: Cape Town, pp. 496-509.
- 2014: "Is Another Transition Possible? African Transitions to Democracy and the Limits of Praxis". In Claudio Lara Cortes and Consuelo Silva Flores (eds.), *Democratic Renewal versus Neoliberalism: Towards Empowerment and Inclusion*. CLACSO: Buenos Aires, 2014, pp. 65-79.
- 2015: "Igbo Politics and the Elusive Quest for Presidential Power". In Ebenezer Obadare, ed., *Nigeria: What is to be Done?* (<http://africasacountry.com/nigeria-what-is-to-be-done>).
- 2015: "Culture, Identity and the 'Re-making' of Political Resistance: The Case of the Neo-Biafran Movement in Nigeria". In Kenneth Nwoko and Omon Osiki (eds.), *Dynamics of Culture and Tourism in Africa: Perspectives on Africa's Development in the 21st Century*. Ilishan: Babcock Univ Press, pp. 320-339;
- 2016: (with Yul Derek Davids, Len Verwey, Ali Bhagat) "Community Advice Offices: Taking Charge in Marginalized Communities". In Daniel Plaatjies, Margaret Chitiga-Mabugu, Charles Hongoro, Thenjiwe Meyiwa, Muxe Nkondo, and Francis Nyamnjoh (eds.), *South Africa 2016: Who is in Charge? Mandates, Accountability and Contestations in the South African State*. Cape Town: Human Sciences Research Council Press, pp. 257-278;
- 2018: "Post-colonialism: Theoretical Foundations and Relevance to African Politics". In Samuel Oloruntoba and Toyin Falola (eds.), *The Palgrave Handbook of African Politics, Governance and Development* (Palgrave Macmillan, New York); pp. 71-82;
- 2020: "State, Resources and Developmental Prospects in Sub-Saharan Africa". In Samuel Oloruntoba & Toyin Falola (eds.), *Palgrave Handbook of African Political Economy*. NY: Palgrave Macmillan, pp. 621-643;
- 2021: "Elite Incorporation in Nigeria: The Case of Ohanaeze Ndi-Igbo". In Wale Adebaniwa and Rogers Orock (eds.), *Elites and the Politics of Accountability in Africa*. Ann Arbor: UMP, pp. 280-307;

Occasional Papers/Working Papers (Peer Reviewed)

- 2008: *Local and Global Intersections: Resources, Conflicts and the Politics of Development in West Africa*, Working Paper, No. 8. Graduate School Society and Culture in Motion (SCM), Martin Luther University, Halle-Wittenberg, Germany, 24 pp.
- 2008: *Resources and Development: The Role of the State in Sub-Saharan Africa*, Occasional Paper, No. 58, Institute for Global Dialogue, Midrand, South Africa. 41. pp.
- 2018: *Memory, Reconciliation and Peacebuilding in Post-Civil War Southeastern Nigeria*, APN Working Papers Series, African Peacebuilding Network (APN), SSRC, New York (No. 19).

Book Reviews and Essays

- 2013: Review of Dani Rodrik, *The Globalization Paradox: Why Global Markets, States, and Democracy Can't Coexist*. OUP, Oxford, 2011, 321pp. *Kujenga Amani: A SSRC Online forum*, November 20.
- 2013: "African Scholars Finding their Voices", *HSRC Review*, Vol. 11, No. 3 (July): 6-7.
- 2014: Review of Joey Power, *Political Culture and Nationalism in Malawi: Building Kwacha*. Rochester: University of Rochester Press, 2010, X + 332pp. £55 (hbk). *Nations and Nationalism*, 20/1:180-182.
- 2014: Review of Gaim Kibreab, *Eritrea: A Dream Differed*. Oxford: James Currey (East African Series), 2009, XXVI + 420pp. £50 (hbk) *Nations and Nationalism*, Vol. 20, No. 2: 392-393;
- 2014 "South Africa: 2014 Elections", On the Spot Section. *Kujenga Amani: A SSRC Online forum*, May 5;
- 2015 "Transactional Politics and Nigeria's 2015 Elections", On the Spot Section, *Kujenga Amani: A SSRC Online forum*, March 23;

PRESENTATIONS:

Invited Talks

2017 -

"Why "Biafra" Persists: Memory, History and Identity Transformation in Contemporary Nigeria. Paper presented at the Fung Global Fellows Conference on the theme: Boundary Matters: Interdisciplinary Engagements with Ethnic Difference, Princeton Institute for Int'l and Regional Studies, April 21-22;

2016 -

Princeton University, "Evidence of What? Challenging Everything We Know about Development in Africa". Panellist and Presenter: "It's the Scramble for Resources". Princeton, New Jersey, 10/13-14.

2015 -

Princeton University, Princeton African Humanities Colloquium on African Memory and the Crisis of the Present. Panellist and Presenter: "Between Personal and Official Memory: Memory, Opposition and the Nigeria-Biafra War". Princeton, New Jersey, 11/15.

City University of New York, The Wolfe Institute for Humanities on Discussion on Boko Haram and Nigeria's Bellwether Elections. Invited Panellist and Presenter: "Boko Haram in the Aftermath of Nigeria's General Elections". New York, 4/22.

City University of New York, Advanced Research Collaborative and The Graduate Center Panel Discussion on Nigeria's General Elections. Invited Panelist and Presenter: "Reflecting on Elections in Nigeria: Lessons Learned and Future Scenarios". New York, 3/13.

2014 -

Kyoto University, Center for African Area Studies, Forth Forum on "Comprehensive Area Studies on Coexistence and Conflict Resolution Realizing 'African Potentials'. Invited Panelist and Presenter (With Cyril Obi): "Youth Conversations in a Post-Amnesty Niger Delta: An Analysis of the Potential for Sustainable Peacebuilding in Nigeria's Oil-Rich Region". Yaoundé, Cameroon, 12/4-6.

2013 -

CLACSO/IDEA/CODESRIA Sixth South-South Institute. Invited Panelist and Presenter: "Is Another Transition Possible? African Transitions to Democracy and the Limits of Praxis". Santiago, Chile, 9/26-10/3

Department of International Relations and Cooperation (DIRCO), South African Heads of Mission Conference. Invited Panelist and Presenter: "Implementing a South African "Concentric" Approach to Peace and Stability in Africa: Lessons Learned and Future Scenarios". Pretoria, South Africa, 4/11.

2012 -

South African Institute for International Affairs, Roundtable Discussion on Sustainable Prosperity: New Challenges for Natural Resource Governance Theory in Africa. Invited Panelist and Presenter: "Resources and Development in Sub-Saharan Africa: The State as the 'Problem' and 'Solution'". Johannesburg, South Africa, 11/27.

Council for Social Science Research in Africa (CODESRIA) Child and Youth Institute on Youth, Social Transformation and Development in Africa. Invited Panelist and Presenter: "Youth, Culture and Identity Politics: Post-War Dimensions to the struggle for self-determination in South-Eastern Nigeria". Dakar, Senegal, 10/22-11/9.

Woodrow Wilson International Centre for Scholars, The Africa Program and The Project on Leadership and Building State Capacity. Expert Panelist and Lead Author (With Mzukisi Qobo): "Africa and Twenty-First Century Development Challenges: North-South Development Agenda Reconsidered". Washington DC, US, 6/5-7.

Imgard Coninx Foundation 15th Berlin Roundtable on Transnationality, Borders and Borderlands: Contested Spaces between States. Invited Panelist and Paper Presenter: "The 'Bondage' of Berlin: Citizenship, Conflict and Precarious Statehood in Africa". Berlin, Germany, 3/28-31.

2010 -

Harvard University, Institute for Global Law and Policy (IGLP), First Annual Workshop on Alternative Approaches to Global Law, Economic Policy and Social Justice. Invited Panelist and Presenter: "Challenging the State in Africa: MASSOB and the Crisis of Self-Determination in Nigeria". Cambridge, Massachusetts, 6/2-11.

2009 -

Imgard Coninx Foundation 11th Berlin Roundtable on Transnationality, on Memory Politics: Education, Memorials and Mass Media. Invited Panelist and Presenter: "The Powerful Presence of the Past: Memory Politics, Self-Determination and the Reinvention of Igbo Nationalism in Contemporary Nigeria". Berlin, Germany, 10/21-26.

Government of Senegal, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Cheikh Anta Diop University Plenary Session of the Symposium on the United States of Africa. Invited Panelist and Presenter: "Federalism, Sovereignty and the United States of Africa: Emergent and Contending Perspectives". Dakar, Senegal, 7/27-30.

Imgard Coninx Foundation 10th Berlin Roundtable on Transnationality, on Urban Governance: Innovation, Insecurity and the Power of Religion. Invited Panelist and Presenter: "Trans-National Religious Identities and Contemporary 'Forms of Exit/Inclusion' in the Nigerian Public Sphere". Berlin, Germany, 3/18-23.

University of Oxford, Centre for Research on Inequality, Human Security and Ethnicity (CRISE), Workshop on 'Mobilization for Political Violence: What Do We Know? Panelist and Presenter: "Emergent Forms of Self-Determination: Contemporary Igbo Nationalism and the 'Order of Violence' in South-eastern Nigeria". Oxford, UK, 3/17-18.

2008 -

Council for Social Science Research in Africa (CODESRIA) 12th General Assembly on Governing the African Public Sphere. Invited Panelist and Presenter: "Contemporary Igbo Nationalism and the Crisis of Self-Determination in the Nigerian Public Sphere". Yaoundé, Cameroon, 11/7-11.

Scholarly Conferences and other Presenting Roles

2018

International Studies Association (ISA) 59th Annual Convention on "The Power of Rules and the Rule of Power", Panel on Pan-African Identity and Africa's Development: Towards Integrative Politics, Economics, and Culture. Paper title: "Rethinking Pan-Africanism, the "Social Question", and Development in Africa". April 4th - 7th, 2018, San Francisco, California, USA;

2015

African Studies Association (ASA), 58th Annual Meeting on 'The State and the Study of Africa', panel on 'The Making of Modern Nigeria'. Paper Title: "Between Personal and Official Memory: Memory, Opposition and the Nigeria-Biafra War", San Diego, California, 11/19-22.

African Studies Association (ASA), 58th Annual Meeting on 'The State and the Study of Africa'. Panel Discussant: "Challenges and Innovations in the Study of Peacebuilding and State-Building in Africa". San Diego, California, 11/19-22.

2013

Columbia University, Alliance for Historical Dialogue and Accountability (AHDA) Third Annual Conference on 'Historical Justice and Memory: Questions of Rights and Accountability in Contemporary Society'. Paper Title: "Conflicts of History and Memory: The Nigeria-Biafra War and the Search for Master Narratives". New York, 12/5-7.

2011

Human Sciences Research Council (HSRC) Social Science Conference, on 'Tackling Inequalities? Framing and Investigating Structural Change, Social Policy and Politics'. Paper Title: "Rethinking the 'Social Question': Politics, Social Policy and the Crisis of Citizenship in Africa". Johannesburg, South Africa, 9/7-8.

2010

Igbo Studies Association (ISA) 8th International Conference on 'Nigeria at Fifty: The Igbo Experience'. Paper Title: "The 'Igbo Question' and the Reinvention of Igbo Nationalism in Contemporary Nigeria'. Howard University, Washington, D.C., 4/ 9-10.

2009

Third European Conference on African Studies (ECAS), on 'Re-spacing Africa'. Paper Title: "Contesting the Space: The State and Emergent Context(s) of Igbo Self-Determination in Nigeria'. University of Leipzig, Germany, 6/4-7.

2008

Annual Conference of the Canadian Association of African Studies (CAAS). Paper Title: "Local and Global Intersections: Resources, Conflicts and the Politics of Development in West Africa'. University of Alberta, Edmonton, Canada, 4/1 - 4.

POLICY CONTRIBUTIONS

- Contributor, International Development (Africa Program), Wilson Center, Washington, D.C (2012);
- Member, Establishment of an African Studies Centre, HSRC, South Africa (2012-2014);
- Contributor, PRIX Global Political Risk Index for Oil Markets, Country Expertise/Analyst: Nigeria;
- Contributor: Assessments of Elections in Africa for SSRC, Country of Expertise: South Africa (2014).
- Contributor: Assessments of Elections in Africa for SSRC, Country of Expertise: Nigeria (2015)

ACADEMIC CONTRIBUTIONS

- Member, Editorial Board: Journal of Democratic Theory
- Manuscript Referee/Expert Reviewer: African Conflict and Peacebuilding Review (2017)
- African Peacebuilding Network Research Grant Competition (Since 2015)
- Mandela Washington Fellowship (2016);
- African Peacebuilding Network (APN)/SSRC Working Papers Series (2016/17);
- Cogent Social Sciences (2015);
- Journal of Democratic Theory (2015);
- Regional and Federal Studies (2015);
- Nationalism and Ethnic Politics (2014);
- Memory Studies (2014);
- African Studies Review (2012/2015);
- Switzerland-South Africa Joint Research Program, NRF (2012);
- Nordic Africa Institute, Discussion Paper Series (2011).

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- Member, Canadian Association of African Studies (CAAS), Canada
- Member, African Studies Association (ASA), United States
- Member, Igbo Studies Association (ISA), United States
- Member, International Network of Genocide Scholars (INoGS)
- Member, Council for the Development of Social Science Research in Africa (CODESRIA)
- Member, British International Studies Association (Africa and Int'l Studies Working Group)
- Member, International Council of Museums (ICOM)
- Member, Int'l Committee of Memorial Museums in Remembrance of Victims of Public Crimes (ICMEMO)
- Member, Commonwealth Association of Museums (CAM)

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

MCGRAW CENTER FOR TEACHING AND LEARNING

Princeton University | Princeton, NJ | 09/2014 – 06/2016

DECOLONIZING KNOWLEDGE, POWER AND BEING

University of South Africa | Pretoria, South Africa | 01/2014 – 02/2014

SOUTH-SOUTH INSTITUTE DEMOCRATIC RENEWAL VERSUS NEOLIBERALISM

CLACSO-CODESRIA-IDEAS | Santiago, Chile | 09/2013 – 10/2013

CHILD AND YOUTH INSTITUTE: YOUTH, SOCIAL TRANSFORMATION AND DEVELOPMENT IN AFRICA

Council for the Development of Social Science Research in Africa | Dakar, Senegal | 10/2012 – 11/2012

INSTITUTE FOR GLOBAL LAW AND POLICY WORKSHOP

Institute for Global Law and Policy (IGLP), Harvard Law School | Cambridge, Mass | 06/2010 – 06/2010

SUMMER SCHOOL ON CULTURAL TRANSLATION

Martin Luther University | Halle-Wittenberg, Germany | 07/2008 – 07/2008

CERTIFICATE IN SOCIAL AND POLITICAL THEORY

Central European University | Budapest, Hungary | 09/2006 – 06/2007

LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY: English (Excellent); Igbo (Mother Tongue); Yoruba (Excellent); German (Beginner/Fair)