



# NIGERIA'S NATIONAL SECURITY INTEREST



N I G E R I A

**AMB. ANDERSON MADUBIKE**



# OUTLINE OF THE PRESENTATION

Understanding Nigeria's National Interest/Values

Effects of Nigeria's Posture on National Interest

Challenges to Nigeria's National Interest

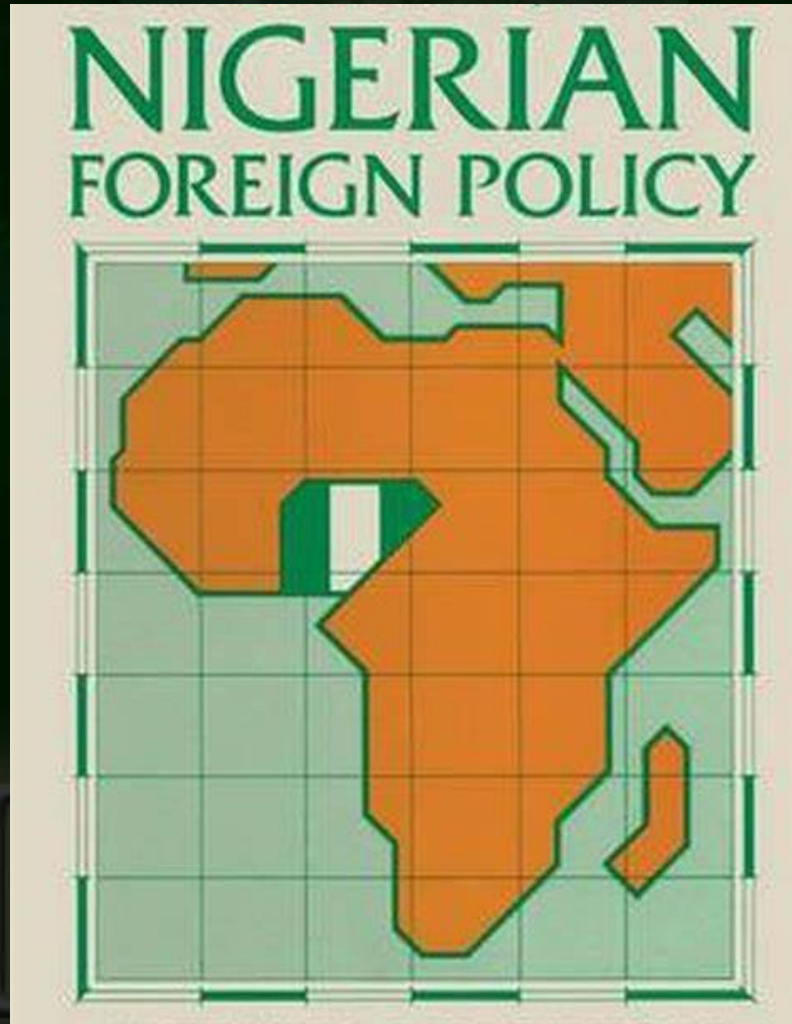
Strategies to mitigate challenges to Nigeria's National Interest

A close-up photograph of two hands shaking. The hands are wearing white gloves with green palms and fingers. The background is a textured green surface with a white vertical stripe in the center, resembling the Nigerian flag.

# **UNDERSTANDING NIGERIA'S NATIONAL INTEREST/VALUES**



# UNDERSTANDING NIGERIA'S NATIONAL INTEREST/VALUES (CONT)

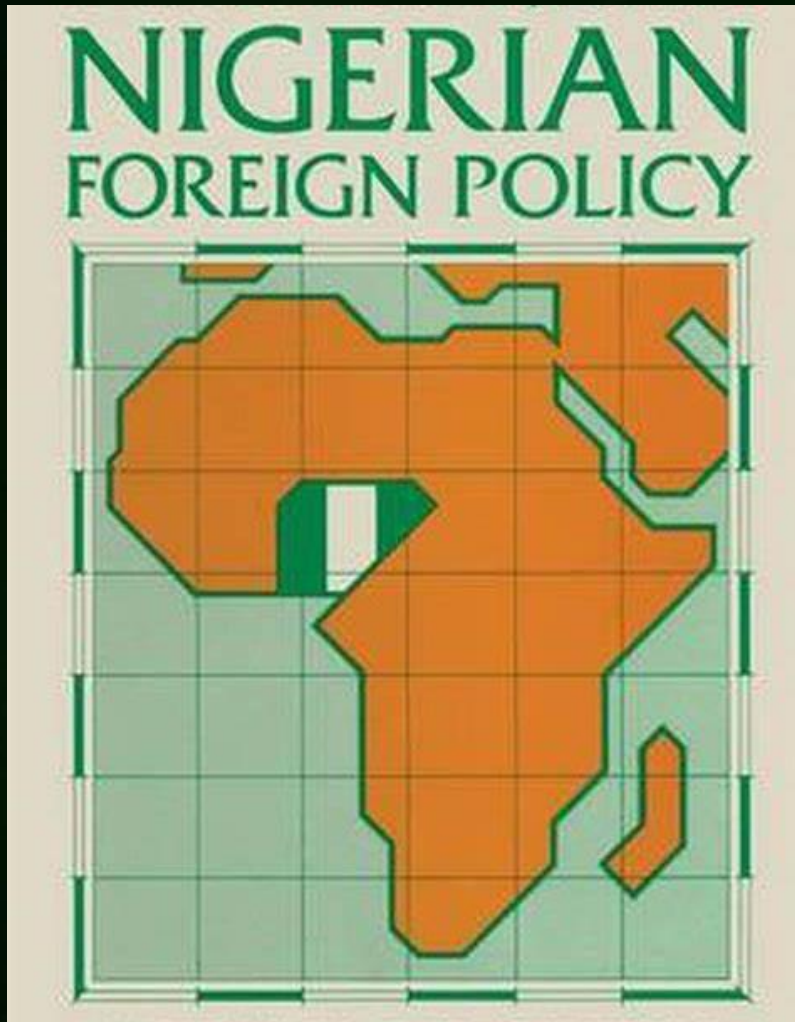


NIGERIA



# UNDERSTANDING NIGERIA'S NATIONAL INTEREST/VALUES (CONT)

## FOREIGN POLICY



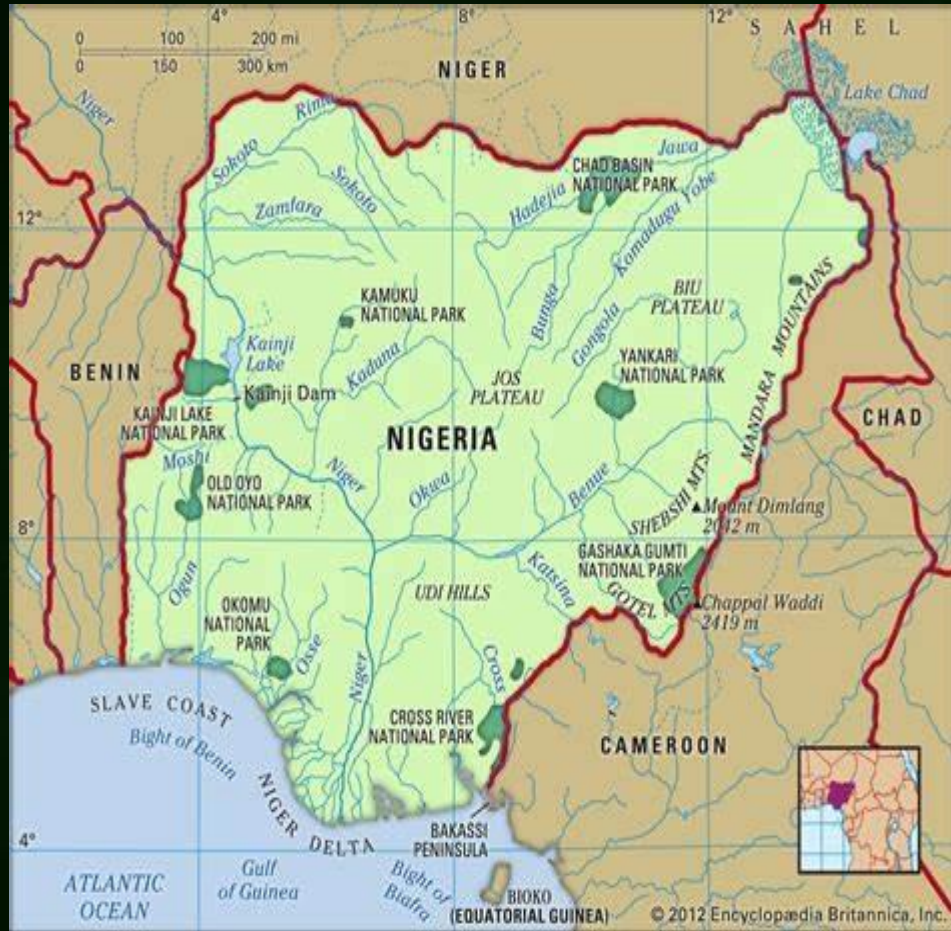
- ❖ Foreign Policy is the mechanism National governments use to guide their diplomatic interactions and relationships with other countries.
- ❖ A Country's foreign policy reflects its values and goals and helps drive its political and economic aims globally.
- ❖ It could also be social and cultural aims or objectives of a Nation.
- ❖ A foreign policy is also the extension of its domestic policy.

A close-up photograph of two hands shaking. The hands are positioned in the center of the frame, with the fingers interlaced. The background is a textured green surface, possibly a wall or a large piece of paper. The lighting is soft, highlighting the texture of the skin and the green background.

# **NIGERIA'S NATIONAL INTEREST/VALUES**



# NIGERIA'S NATIONAL INTEREST/VALUES (CONT)



- ❖ National interest brings purpose to the conduct of foreign policy.
- ❖ This has been defined as a set of values, goals and objectives which a country seeks to protect and promote in its relations with the rest of the world.



# NIGERIA'S NATIONAL INTEREST/VALUES (CONT)

- ❖ The national interest of any country can be sub-divided into core and non-core.
- ❖ The core national interests of any country are those values that are dear and fundamental to the very existence of any country.

NIGERIA





# NIGERIA'S NATIONAL INTEREST/VALUES (CONT)

- ❖ These include;
  - ✓ Sovereignty.
  - ✓ Independence and territorial integrity of the country
  - ✓ Self-preservation of its people.
  - ✓ Its internal security.
  - ✓ The human rights of its people.
  - ✓ Democratic values.
  - ✓ Peace, harmony.
  - ✓ Economic prosperity.
  - ✓ National unity.
  - ✓ Internal cohesion.



## NIGERIA'S NATIONAL INTEREST/VALUES (CONT)

❖ Countries are prepared to use every available means, including the use of force to defend and protect these core national interests since they are at the heart of the country's survival.

NIGERIA



# NIGERIA'S NATIONAL INTEREST/VALUES (CONT)



Hans Morgenthau



Kenneth Waltz

❖ It should now be clear why the Realist School of international relations with scholars like Hans Morgenthau, Kenneth Waltz, and other foreign policy analysts posit that the nations act in pursuit of their interests and nothing more.



## NIGERIA'S NATIONAL INTEREST/VALUES (CONT)

- ❖ Other interest non-core may fall outside the inner circle, these include the promotion of world peace, a just world economic, social order, localized regional disputes, bilateral relations of distant lands that has no direct impact.
- ❖ Only global powers who ascribe to themselves the role and status of global Policemen aspire to fight over such matters which they sometimes treat as duty beyond the border.



# NIGERIA'S NATIONAL INTEREST/VALUES (CONT)



Sworning in of President,  
Bola Ahmed Tinubu

- ❖ Identified eight priorities for his Government in this order;
  - ✓ Security.
  - ✓ Economic growth.
  - ✓ Job creation.
  - ✓ Access to Capital.
  - ✓ Food Security.
  - ✓ Fight against corruption.
  - ✓ Inclusivity
  - ✓ Ending Poverty.
  - ✓ Fairness and supremacy of law.
- ❖ To drive his administration's foreign Policy agenda.



# NIGERIA'S NATIONAL INTEREST/VALUES (CONT)

- ❖ It is instructive to note that these eight priority areas have been driving our diplomatic engagements with nations both at bilateral and multilateral levels. One can see the correlation or relationship between domestic policies and foreign policy
- ❖ Policies and strategies were developed to engage in kinetic and non-kinetic warfare, to deal with the humanitarian crisis, to address issues of de-radicalization, religious extremism, issues of internally displaced persons and overwhelming refugee crisis, as well as food crisis.



# NIGERIA'S NATIONAL INTEREST/VALUES (CONT)



MNJTF

❖ Our foreign policy strategy therefore, was developed to mobilize a military coalition with our immediate neighbours Cameroon, Chad, Niger and Benin Republic known as the multinational Joint Task Force to exterminate the nefarious activities of all forms of insurgency operating within our borders.



## NIGERIA'S NATIONAL INTEREST/VALUES (CONT)

❖ We also collaborated with those countries to address the refugee crisis in partnership with the United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR). Nigeria also mobilized the support of the international community in the framework of the global war on terror as well as the African Union.







# NIGERIA'S NATIONAL INTEREST/VALUES (CONT)



❖ The recent coup d'etats among our neighbours in the ECOWAS region poses threat to our security interests. It should be recalled that on assumption of duty by our President, as the Chairman of the Authority of Heads of State and Government of ECOWAS, (July 2023), reaffirmed that we will not accept coup d'état in West Africa again.



## NIGERIA'S NATIONAL INTEREST/VALUES (CONT)

❖ Democracy remains the best form of government for achieving collective goals and aspirations of our people. Nigeria has a responsibility and indeed all of us to ensure that democracy is defended and sustained in the sub-region and beyond.

NIGERIA



# **EFFECTS OF NIGERIA'S POSTURE ON ITS NATIONAL INTEREST**



# EFFECTS OF NIGERIA'S POSTURE ON ITS NATIONAL INTEREST (CONT)



❖ Pan-Africanist in orientation and have remained largely viable even in a profoundly changed world and age. This policy of brotherhood with African states, especially those of them in the West African sub-region informs the nature and dimension of Nigeria's Afrocentric foreign policy.



# EFFECTS OF NIGERIA'S POSTURE ON ITS NATIONAL INTEREST (CONT)

❖ Considering the fact that Nigeria is a power to be reckoned with in Africa and the most powerful nation in West Africa, her regional responsibilities and commitment appears very huge. We need to note that these principles have been held in high esteem within and beyond our borders.

NIGERIA



# EFFECTS OF NIGERIA'S POSTURE ON ITS NATIONAL INTEREST (CONT)

❖ The anti-apartheid struggle; promotion of African unity and integration; facilitation of peace and stability in the continent; promotion of economic cooperation for development and growth as well as the maintenance of global peace and security.

NIGERIA



# EFFECTS OF NIGERIA'S POSTURE ON ITS NATIONAL INTEREST (CONT)

❖ Nigeria's political leaders believe that committing Nigeria to a foreign policy that encourages and promotes peace, security and development in the West African sub-region would enhance her national interest. Thus, Nigeria's national interest of domestic peace and regional responsibilities placed heavy commitment on her.



# EFFECTS OF NIGERIA'S POSTURE ON ITS NATIONAL INTEREST (CONT)

❖ Nigeria's Posture on its national interest is shaped by various factors, including its geopolitical position, historical experiences, and current challenges. Nigeria's posture on its national interest has various effects, influencing the country's international dynamics and external relations.

NIGERIA





# EFFECTS OF NIGERIA'S POSTURE ON ITS NATIONAL INTEREST (CONT)

**Internal Stability**

**Global Reputation**

**Investor Confidence**

**Diplomatic Relations**

**National Unity**

**Strategic Autonomy**



# **CHALLENGES TO NIGERIA'S NATIONAL INTEREST**



# CHALLENGES TO NIGERIA'S NATIONAL INTEREST (CONT)

**Security**

**Periods of Political  
Instability and  
Governance Issues**

**Environmental Issues**



# CHALLENGES TO NIGERIA'S NATIONAL INTEREST (CONT)

**Health Challenges**

**Unemployment**

**Ethnic and Religious Differences**



# **STRATEGIES TO MITIGATE CHALLENGES TO NIGERIA'S NATIONAL INTEREST**



# STRATEGIES TO MITIGATE CHALLENGES TO NIGERIA'S NATIONAL INTEREST (CONT)

- ❖ **Community Engagement:** Foster strong community relationships to enhance intelligence gathering and cooperation in identifying potential threats;
- ❖ **Improved Intelligence Agencies:** Invest in training and retraining, equipping security agencies to enhance their capacities and capabilities in intelligence gathering, analysis and response;
- ❖ **Border Security:** Strengthen border control measures to curb illegal activities; including smuggling and human trafficking which contribute to insecurity.



# STRATEGIES TO MITIGATE CHALLENGES TO NIGERIA'S NATIONAL INTEREST (CONT)

- ❖ Collaboration with Neighboring Countries and International Partners: This would help share intelligence, resources and strategies for tackling cross-border threats.
- ❖ Implement Community Policing Models: There is the need for a comprehensive review and reform of the security architecture in Nigeria, with targeted priority on police reform and repositioning, in terms of recruitment, training, motivating and equipping them for internal maintenance of law and order. A training and retraining of the armed forces whose core role is the protection and defense of the territorial integrity of the country and assisting the police in internal security.



# STRATEGIES TO MITIGATE CHALLENGES TO NIGERIA'S NATIONAL INTEREST (CONT)

- ❖ Implement Effective Counter Terrorism Measures: This can help in respecting human rights to combat extremist groups and insurgency; and
- ❖ Leverage Technology for Security: We can leverage on technology to help in communication and information sharing among security agencies to enhance their effectiveness.

NIGERIA



A person is seen from the chest up, holding a Nigerian flag high above their head with both arms. The flag is vibrant green and white, and it is blowing in the wind. The background is a warm, golden sunset sky. The word "CONCLUSION" is written in large, bold, black capital letters across the center of the image, overlaid on a semi-transparent green rectangular background.

**CONCLUSION**



**THANK YOU FOR YOUR  
ATTENTION**