

Security and fragile states: The spaces of vigilante legitimacy in Burkina Faso

Summary/Zusammenfassung

The provision of security services to citizens is an important challenge in Africa where many nation-states are considered as “fragile” because the rule of law is weak. Vigilante policing has been shown to palliate weak state security provision, but it also brings up important questions about the contributions of vigilantism to dynamics of state-building, which ultimately necessitates an understanding of the legitimacy of vigilante policing. This project investigates the legitimate basis of non-state informal security based on the case of the “kogl weogo” vigilante group in Burkina Faso. It will generate knowledge on the conditions under which the legitimacy of kogl weogo vigilantism comes about.

Keywords/Suchbegriffe

Non-state security, vigilante, legitimacy, community-based security

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