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FOR STRATEGIC STUDIES

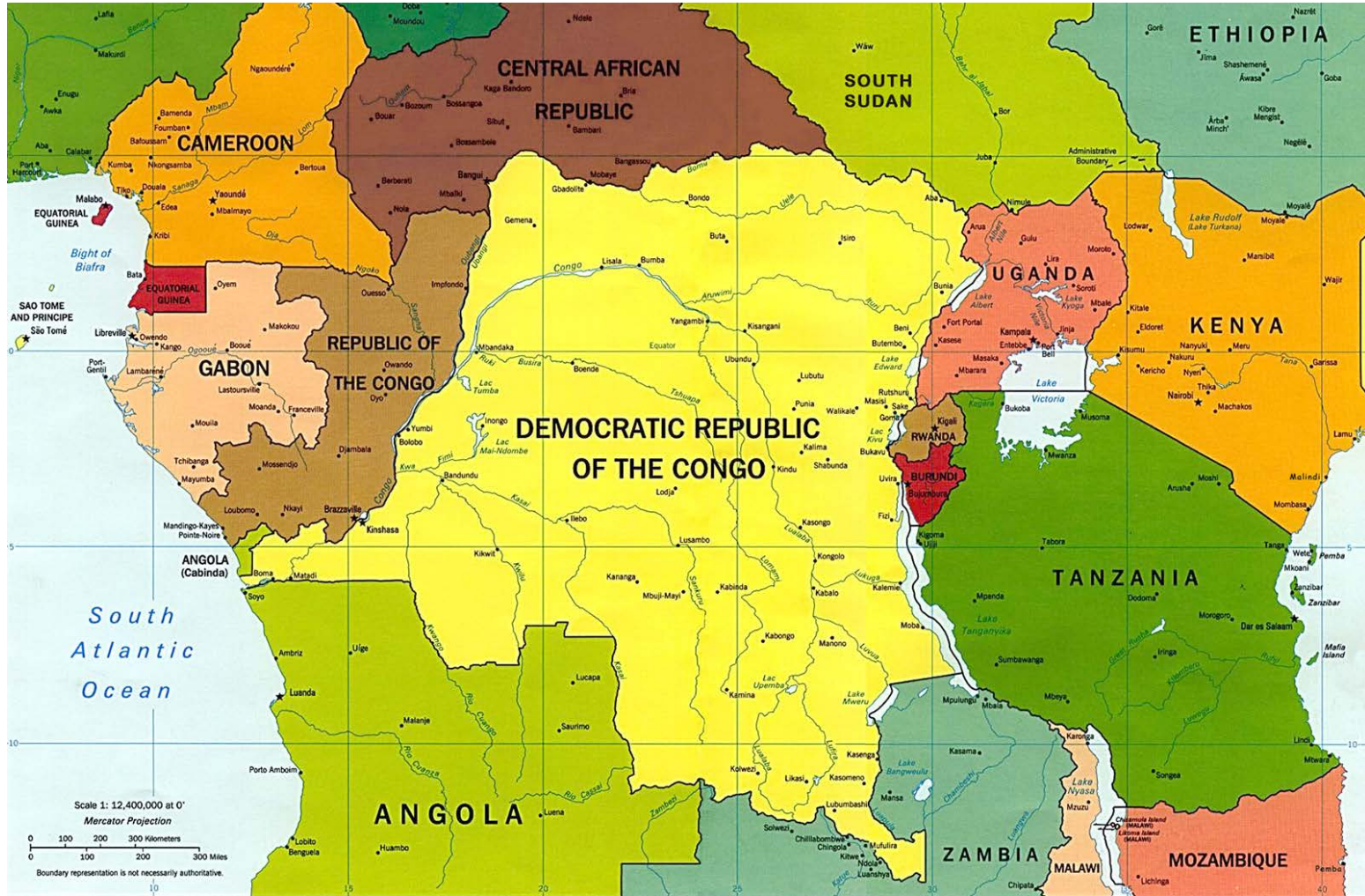
Session 2: Democracy and Governance in Post-Authoritarian Transitions

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Africa



Central Africa



Authoritarianism

- **Authoritarianism** is a government system that values order and control over personal freedom.
- An authoritarian government is typically headed by a dictator.

Post-Authoritarian Transition

- A post-authoritarian transition is the period following the end of a dictatorship or an authoritarian regime. This transition is typically characterized by the re-establishment of democratic institutions, restoration of a transparent and accountable management of resources, opening of political space, and the promotion and defense of civil liberties and human rights.
- The transition happens through either a coup, a revolution or war, among others.
- Failure of this transition can lead to conflict or return to dictatorship.

Governance in Post-Authoritarian Transitions

- Nation-Building
- Centralized vs. Decentralized Power
- Mismanagement vs. Good Governance of Resources
- Dictatorship vs. Rule of law

Reconstruction, Security Sector Reform and Justice

- Consolidating the Peace
- Rebuilding Institutions: Courts, Security, Law Enforcement, Schools, etc.
- Reaffirmation of State Authority
- The ICC as Source of Instability?

Risks and Challenges of Post-Authoritarian Transitions

- Adieu, Strongman, Long Live the Dictator
- Liberation, the Constitution and Democracy
- Institutional Failure
- Ethnic Leadership, Regionalism, and National Unity
- State as Source of Instability
- Privatization and Criminalization of the Public Space

Elections, Governance and Legitimacy

- Voting for Change in 2006 (DRC)
- The Mirage of Democracy in 2011(DRC)
- Legitimacy and Leadership (or lack thereof) and the consequences for security
- Constitutional revisions, Term limits, Protests and Repression (Central Africa)

Post-Authoritarian Transition Failure

The failure of post-authoritarian transition leads to instability and conflict. Cases of DRC, CAR, Burundi and South Sudan.

- State Collapse
- Conflict Creates Refugees and Refugees Create Conflict
- The Emergence of Militias
- Regional Actors and their Influence on Peace and Stability
- The Role of International Actors and Donors

Peacemaking and Peacekeeping

- The United Nations: Part of the Problem or Part of the Solution?
- The Emergence of a Strong Civil Society and its Impact on Peacemaking and Governance
- What is the alternative to the United Nations?
- Case of Force Intervention Brigade in DR Congo?

**QUESTIONS/
COMMENTS?**



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