Session 2: Democracy and Governance in Post-Authoritarian Transitions

Mr. Mvemba Dizolele
Central and East 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)
Water Power: the Tale of the Congo River
Continental Hydroelectric Potential
## Continental Hydroelectric Potential

### Les Grands Fleuves du Monde

<table>
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<th>River</th>
<th>Mean Discharge (m³/sec)</th>
<th>Length (km)</th>
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Continental Hydroelectric Potential
Continental Hydroelectric Potential
Natural Resources, Human Resources
Inga I, 351 MegaWatts, 1972
Inga II, 1424 MegaWatts, 1982
Inga III, 4500 MegaWatts, TBD
Grand Inga, 39000 MegaWatts, TBD
The Cost of Untapped Power
Rare Earth Minerals
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?