

Violent Extremism in Tanzania: Does the Hard or Soft Measure Security Approaches Wins the Fight Against Violent Extremism?

Silla, Beatus Said

Email address: sillabeatus@yahoo.com

Abstract— *The Violence Extremism (VE) is not a new phenomenon in East Africa and across the globe by and large. However, in the East Africa region came into overt in the Tanzania and Kenya bomb incidence hitting Dar es Salaam and Nairobi Embassies respectively. In responding to the tragedy present the East African States uses various initiatives to curb the same including the Preventive Violence Extremism PVE and Counter Violence Extremism CVE. These two philosophies employ differing methods to tackle the problem at hand in order to preserve their citizens in their region. The given information at hand most of countries do use reactive approach as compared to the proactive measures which normally reduces the number of causalities during confrontation. This paper seek discuss the methodology as to whether the hard part or soft part of fighting the VE will finish the atrocities of the disturbing element within the region.*

Keywords— *Violence Extremism, Community Policing, Hard measure security and Soft measure security.*

I. INTRODUCTION

Sarota (2017) asserted that, “Tanzania has historically been known as a peaceful and stable nation, violent extremism (VE) and radicalization have increasingly become a concern” Sarota, (2017). The VE is diverse term it depends on the geographical location, culture and civilization of the present community (FRS, 2016). With diversities, Tanzania experience VE of pastoralists to farmers, farmers to farmers (land scarcity), pastoralists to pastoralists (grazing land). Consequently, farmers kill their counter parts or pastoralists kill their fellow (Mwambashi, 2015 and Mwashu, 2016). This paper will look into the presence of VE in Tanzania and seek to explain the measures as to whether the hard or soft security measures will win to fight against VE.

II. THREAT OF VIOLENCE EXTREMISM

VE poses a threat to the world, continent and regional areas where Tanzania is no exception. There are wide spread of the VE across the globe as Styszynski (2015) stated that “...at present, an estimated 20,000 foreign fighters have joined ISIS from various countries across the world, with at least 2,500 from France, Germany, Sweden, Belgium and the United Kingdom”. Tanzania too, experiences the same from the neighbouring countries who are attached from the Al-Shabab group based in Somali. Tanzania as well experience increasing violence guided by home grown groups and overseas combatant Islamists, some of whom are straight connected with Al Qaeda and its national affiliate founded in

Somalia, Al Shabab (LeSage, 2014). Considering these threats, the United Republic of Tanzania prepared National Counterterrorism Strategy and Action Plan, establishment of National Counter Terrorism Center (NCTC) and enactment of The Prevention of Terrorism Act, No 19 of 2002 as a means to Preventive/Counter Violent Extremism (P/CVE) in the country. There are two approaches used to deal with VE; hard or soft security measures which in some cases hard security measure fail to P/CVE.

III. HARD SECURITY APPROACH

Hard-security measures used direct confrontation with the terrorist groups without caring the civilians because combatants take hide in the civilian residence. Over time, this approach calls for Human Rights activist to intervene the operations during Countering Violence Extremism (CVE). CVE do use the missions like The African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM), The United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS) as compared to Preventing Violence Extremism (PVE) which this paper will explore. LeSage, (2014) coined that, the armed forces in Tanzania are thought to be feeble, low financed, inadequately organized to make sure that security of the national’s boundaries are safe. The country faces permeable land and sea boundaries; dysfunctional arrangement of law and enforcement, prevalent of organized illegal actions and relative nearness to famous Islamist logistic centers to mention Yemen and the United Arab Emirates. The hard security measure face challenges as some of the security stakeholders are not fully involved in VE fight.

IV. SOFT SECURITY APPROACH

Conversely, the soft security measures involve all stakeholders in PVE in the community. PVE build on resilience-building procedures and major strategies to decrease state friendly to violent extremism (Sharland, L. *et al.*, 2017). The VE is rampant and localized and therefore the security agencies will not be sufficient to counter and prevent its spread and calls for all security stakeholders’ involvement. So there an inclusive and planned methodology that allows local actors and community-led involvement to tackle VE occurrence is needed. These include, among others, to develop strategies and plans as well as varied set of players, including public health, mental health, or social services providers; parents; researchers; teachers; businesses; and women’s,

religious, and youth leaders as well as Police and Prisons officers (Rosand, 2016, OSCE, 2014).

V. PREVENTING VIOLENCE EXTREMISM

The PVE consider the women involvement in dealing with VE in the society. The women have a close tie with the children behavior or environment surrounding them. Women are distinctively better placed in domicile and people to recognize changes in the behaviors' of the kids and in their own locales, and to give strong countervailing motivations (FRS, 2016 and Ali, 2017). So, is very instrumental to use women in a fight against VE and important in the development of informed society, uncompromised PVE strategy as well.

VI. COMMUNITY POLICING INITIATIVES

In Tanzania, community policing initiatives are used where Security Council's from national to village level are fully involved. The various programs are used, such as sports to youth who are likely to be trapped through social media used by the extremist groups. Globally, involving the public and creating their resilience turn them from reactive to vigorous stakeholders and add value to an increased answerability of decision makers to general public while enhancing citizens trust in the government's security policies, procedures and institution of law and order (Tadjbakhsh, 2016). The soft measures abide to human rights, community trust their Government and increased public trust to law enforcement agencies while the former is not.

VE is on the increase across the globe, Europe, Africa and Middle East. In Tanzania, the incidence are sporadic some occurs during the political activities, such as during campaigns, election period and announcing the results. Equally so, during the harvesting period where the pastoralists feed cattle from the staple food of farmers or farmers stealing from their counter parts. In this regards, the URT prepared National Counterterrorism Strategy and Action Plan, the establishment of National Counter Terrorism Center (NCTC) and enactment The Prevention of Terrorism Act, No 19 of 2002 as a means to P/CVE in the country. In dealing with the VE two approaches are used; hard measure (CVE) and soft measure security (PVE).

VII. CONCLUSION

Hard measure security use military and law enforcement to counter the VE and causing causality to the communities because the VE combatants hide in civilians residence, this is true for groups like AMISOM and UNMISS. Conversely, soft security measures use security stakeholders to fight the VE in

community at local level. They set of strategies and plans and the participation of a more varied set of players. Women are also very instrumental in fighting the VE they have time to stay with children and a first teacher above all. The fight against VE is a shared responsibility; all community has a role to play their part VE will end soon.

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