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A Comparative Study of the Sino-African Civil Wars and its Peaceful Settlements: A case study of the Central African Republic

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Abstract. Civil war is armed violence perpetrated by civilians. Its objective is the exercise or seizure of power. It takes place within a national territory, involving the participation of the population. It is carried out by means of arms either between armed groups or between different communities. The civil wars of China and Africa are quite unique insofar as the People's Republic of China and Africa were not only colonized but also experienced civil wars in their respective territories and the CAR is nonetheless exempt from this situation. This study tries to understand the difficulties of constructing the nation-state, violating recurrent post-conflict political instability on the one hand, and on the other hand, it helps to determine the problems of building a partnership relationship. The first part highlights the environmental and character aspects of civil wars by taking seriously the difficulties encountered in the construction of the nation state. The second part deals with the peaceful settlement of civil wars in China as well as in Africa with the mechanisms implemented in general and in CAR in particular.

Keywords. Central African Republic, China, Civil war, peace

Introduction

More often than not, war is born out of disagreement, an argument or a systematic rejection of the other leading to sustained and large-scale violence. It is the armed struggle which opposes, within a State, important groups including social classes, ethnicities, or religious groups. Civil war is armed violence perpetrated by civilians and its objective is the exercise or seizure of power. "Civil" means that the struggle takes place within a national territory, and it involves the participation of the population. Furthermore, it is a war of "hostile contestation by means of armed forces (Jeune A, 2007). The current borders were bequeathed to the Central African state by the French colonizer. The borders with Cameroon have remained those fixed by the Franco-German agreement of April 18, 1908. The borders with Sudan and South Sudan, coinciding for the most part with the Congo-Nile watershed, are determined by the Franco-British convention of September 8, 1899. The borders with the Democratic Republic of the Congo result from the agreement of August 14, 1894. The borders of the Central African Republic with Chad and the People's Republic of the Congo come from last administrative boundaries between the colonies, of Oubangui Chari.

Over three decades, the CAR faces recurring instability and insecurity. Since 2012, the armed groups "Seleka", composed mainly of Muslims, and "anti-Balaka", formed by Christians, clash violently in the country. This cross-examination of civil wars consists in understanding not only the difficulties of building the nation-state, violating recurrent post-conflict political instability, but also examining the mechanisms for peaceful resolution of the disputes that are put into practice. This is why it is obvious to be able to analyze first environmental aspects and characteristics of the civil war in the Central African Republic, the second part deals with the peaceful settlement of civil wars in China as well as in Africa with the mechanisms implemented in general and in CAR in particular.

Environmental Aspects and Characteristics of the Civil War in the Central African Republic

After the tragic death of the founding father of the CAR on March 29, 1959, the country acceded to international sovereignty on August 13, 1960. From 1960 to 1965, it was led by David DACKO. He was overthrown by a coup d'etat by Colonel Jean Bedel BOKASSA supported by the French army on January 1, 1966. Jean Bedel BOKASSA ruled the country from 1966 to 1979 of which from 1976 to 1979 as Emperor of the Central African Republic (Journal, 1976). He was overthrown again by David DACKO. From 1981 to 1993, the country was led by President André KOLINGBA. He established the Military Committee for National Recovery (MCNR), (Daniele, 2018). Elections had been organized during which he lost power in favor of Ange Felix Patassé, democratically elected in October 1993.

From 1993 to 2003, the Central African Republic was ruled by President Ange PATASSE, His second term was characterized by coups d'état May 28 by General André KOLINGBA and the rebellion of François BOZIZE who finally overthrown him on March 15, 2003 (Daniele, 2018).

From 2003 to 2013, the CAR was led by General François BOZIZE. As soon as he takes office, General François BOZIZE suspends the constitution of January 14, 1995, puts an end to the functions of the President of the Republic and of the Government and dissolves the National Assembly. However, in the north of the country, a rebellion led by Michel DJOTODJIA organized and took power on March 23, 2013.

From 2013 to January 2014, the CAR was led by Michel DJOTODJIA, from the Muslim community and at the head of several armed groups established a political transition which he failed to restore public order. President DJOTODJIA Michel was forced to resign by the international community on January 11, 2014.

From 2014 to 2016, the country was led by Catherine SAMBA PANZA in a political transition. She faces two nebulous armed groups which sows fear within the population among others the armed group called SELEKA of the Muslim confession and that of Anti BALAKA of the Christian confession.

From 2016 to the present day, the country is leading by President Faustin Archange TOUADERA who, despite several challenges, has succeeded not only in involving a major player in the geopolitical sphere of the Central African Republic by signing defense agreements with the Russian Federation in 2017, but also to organize a political dialogue for peace on February 5, 2019, and re-elected in 2021 for a second term.

The historical evolution of the Central African political system is characterized by an increased influence of France in the governance of this country and often leads to institutional instability.

The Influence of Long-standing French Colonial Rule

Formerly called “Oubangui-Chari” (Oubangui), today’s territory of Central African Republic was discovered in 1889 by French explorers and traders. Annexed to the French colony of Central Africa, the "Territoire de l'Oubangui-Chari" was created by the decree of December 29, 1903, organizing the French Congo and its dependencies (Décret, 1903). On February 11, 1906, a decree created the colony of Ubangi-Chari, placed under the authority of a French lieutenant-governor. On December 11, 1906, Bangui, the current capital of the CAR, became the capital of the colony. In 1910, Oubangui-Chari became one of the territories of the Federation of French Equatorial Africa French Equatorial Africa, then Overseas Territory of the French Republic in 1947. Finally, it became a member state of the French Community in 1958, before gaining independence on August 13, 1960. The “Territoire de l'Oubangui-Chari” is administered, by delegation of the commissioner general in “French Congo and dependencies”, by a civil administrator carrying the title of “permanent delegate” and resident in Bangui (France Archives).

Oubangui-Chari after the Second World War

On August 13, 1940, during World War II, several nationals of Ubangi-Chari were deported and fought for the liberation of Nazi-occupied French on the side of General de Gaulle. In 1946, a small electoral college appointed Barthélemy Boganda as deputy, representing the territory of Ubangi in the National Assembly of French Equatorial Africa. He was subsequently re-elected in 1951 and 1956. Barthelemy BOGANDA deputy of the French Equatorial Africa (FEA), was unanimously elected president of the Grand Council of the AEF in June 1957. He advocated the creation of a largely decentralized unitary state made up of Oubangui, Congo, Chad and open to 'other territories. The idea of a union of the States of Latin Africa also including the Belgian and Portuguese territories was under study but the project did not succeed. The day after the constituent referendum of October 28, 1958, the Central African Republic (CAR) was proclaimed. Shortly after, while the institutions of the new state were being put in place, Barthélemy Boganda, elected president of the government, died or disappeared on March 29, 1959, and the country gained independence on August 13, 1960.

The Dilemma of Political Development after the Independence of China and Africa

After the Second World War, the main concern of the southern states which gained international sovereignty was the problem of development in order to reduce the gap between the industrialized countries and the poor countries. Internationally, it was to be the expression of a current leading to a transformation of the existing economic, political and legal order (Ben, 1983). Having experienced the same problems and difficulties of political development through the construction of the "Nation-State", of poverty and internal disturbances at the dawn of independence, the political history of China and Africa is identical.

The People's Republic of China gained its independence on October 1, 1949, while most of the African states, especially French-speaking ones, gained independence in 1960. The next day, China and Africa encountered great difficulties. The foreign policies of the People's Republic of China and the African states since their independence have been characterized by diplomacy largely dominated by the general internal situation. Despite official declarations and, at times, appearances, almost all of the new states pursue a prudent foreign policy, dictated by security considerations of the regimes in place and, moreover, by the weak economic situation of these states. Most of the diplomatic actions of these newly independent countries were inspired by the strategy of defeated countries at the end of a lost war, starting from a position of weakness, trying to establish a balance between the main currents and power relations in the

international situation (McGowan, 1969). This is why Chinese diplomacy in the post-independence era were focused on the idea of peaceful coexistence (Gibert, 1979) and Africa when it refuses to appear openly on the international stage by conducting preventive diplomacy.

For the People's Republic of China, the post-independence political construction was not at all easy; it was done in pain, thanks to the tenacity and rigor of a visionary leader Mao Zedong. The period 1949-1954 was that of the establishment of a communist state based on republican and patriotic values, on the rule of law, justice by adopting in 1950 laws on Marriage, equality between the 'man and woman. From 1955 to 1960 was a period of great difficulty and famine for China after its independence. At the outset, hope seems to be high with land reforms initiated by the authorities. Unfortunately, these will be abandoned leading to a famine in the country (Twenty to thirty million Chinese died of famine). From 1960 to 1966, during this period the People's Republic of China was relatively calm. The production system was gradually picking up.

From 1966 until 1976, the People's Republic of China lived in a vacuum and faced unrest from students defending the ideals of communism against capitalism. An uprising called "Cultural Revolution" was unleashed across China, led by Jiang Qing to fight against Western cultural values. The army's bloody crackdown shook the political system followed by the death of Mao Zedong on September 9, 1976, paving the way for the succession. Deng Xiaoping comes to power and launches the reform phase. It legitimizes the quest for material goods as being a transitional phase before communism, it opens China to foreign investment, creates "special economic zones" and proposes the idea of "one country, two systems" (socialist and capitalist) as being able to coexist perfectly.

Problems Linked to Post-independence African Political Construction

With regard to the African continent, after having hailed independence as a victory. However, these have not been able to transform into a development impetus. According to Mohamed Bedjaoui in his remarkable work on "The New International Economic Order: fictitious independence triumphs and state sovereignty takes the form of a mirage" (Mohamed, 1978). Convinced of the economic and political balance of power on the international scene, African foreign policy has been focused on national security on the one hand and on the other hand on economic development. Few African states today have found this diplomatic realism to pay off. Indeed, failing to have succeeded in overcoming its internal contradictions, Africa today finds itself internationally more marginalized and more dependent than ever.

In all cases, security consisted, for the governments in place (China-Africa) after their independence, in doing everything to ensure its absolute control over all national life and centralizing all decisions at its level; this, in order not only to control the population, but also to control all the external interventions likely to compete with the influence of the local authorities (Robert, 1962), thus constituting a dilemma for the political and economic development post-independence.

The Difficulties of Economic Development after the Independence of China and Africa

After the Second World War, decolonization appeared as a hope for independent states to reduce the North-South gap. The objective was economic development with a view to creating jobs and improving the living conditions of peoples.

A Similarity of the difficulties encountered between China and Africa after their Accession to International Sovereignty

The measures put in place in the aftermath of independence will experience enormous difficulty with the economic boom slowing the momentum of developing countries, particularly China and Africa. The weakness of the production machine, the lack of human skills, the obsolete infrastructure, poverty and the lack of openness to the outside world have been the major causes of the economic slowdown in the countries of the South. After 1949, the People's Republic of China was off to a good start with the regaining of control of the regions and the progress of agricultural, industrial and military modernization. When Mao Zedong died, China that Deng Xiaoping inherited truly became a great power, but a great weak power handicapped by the incompleteness of its economic modernization, the archaism of its bureaucracy, the political instability induced by violence against Western capitalism (Marie, 1996). Africa, for its part, after 1960, most States came up against the issue of obsolete production capacities in order to boost the economy, the lack of technology transfer and the disappearance of precocious from some of its leaders.

In addition, for the two peoples, there was the problem: low purchasing power due to poverty; low agricultural production; the lack of legislation that can attract investors; growing inequality between rural and urban dwellers; the inadequacy of the reform plans initiated by the authorities; the over-indebtedness of Chinese and African public enterprises; transport and infrastructure difficulties.

Difficulties at the International Level

Internationally, the foreign economic policy of China and African states was essentially based on regional economic cooperation and import substitution. In the post-independence international economic climate, African states and China were economically dominated and extremely dependent on the decision-making centers of the international market over which they have no decision-making and were heavily dependent on external aid. However, development aid granted to newly independent countries was a tool of domination, of exploitation of dependence (McGowan and Smith, 1978). This dependence naturally had political and military dimensions and the political power of states was a function of their decision-making power on the economic level.

In addition, taking into account the economic difficulties of developing countries and their increasing number with the wind of independence in Africa, Asia and Latin America, resolution 1515 (XV) of December 15, 1960, by which it recommended not only respect for the sovereign right of each State but also to promote international cooperation for the economic development of developing countries and that economic and financial agreements between developed and developing countries should be based on the principles of equality. Thus, within the United Nations, the governments of Africa, China and all the countries of the South will attempt to modify the structural inequalities of the trade system in 1964 with the formation of the group of 77 at the 1st United Nations Conference on Trade and Development in Geneva. This initiative aimed to conduct negotiations for a new international economic order at the Non-Aligned Summit Conference in Algiers in 1973, (Ben, 1983).

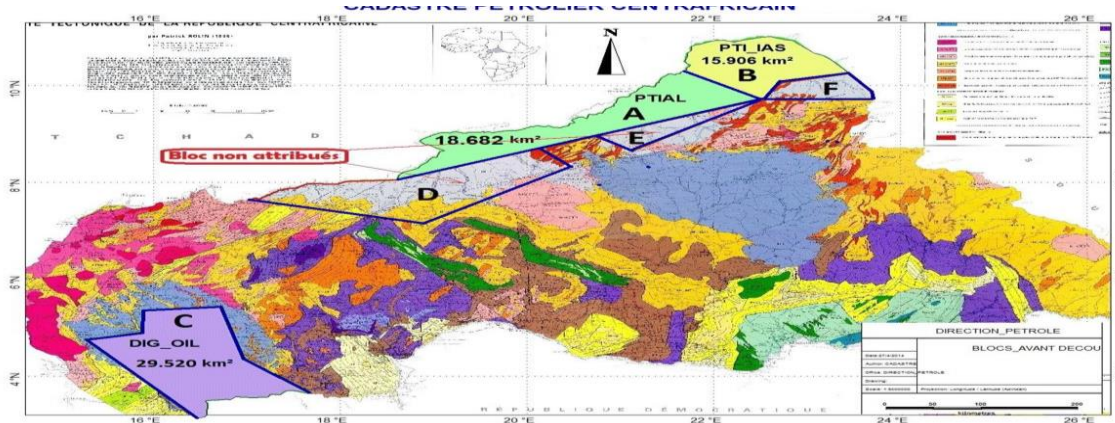
The Geopolitical Environment of the Central African Republic

"Central African Republic" is located in the center of Africa with an area of 623,000 km². It is limited to the north by Chad; in the South by the two Congos, Democratic Republic of Congo and Congo-Brazzaville in the East by the two Sudans North Sudan and South Sudan, to the west by Cameroon.

Economic Potentials; Subjects of Greed

This country is full of agricultural opportunities with nearly 15 million hectares of arable land, with a central position in the sub-regional market (Kamach Group, 2018). More than 70% of the working population works in agriculture, this accounts for 56% of a GDP which reached 2.16 billion dollars in 2011. The Central African Republic is a country that abounds with a lot of natural wealth, more than 470 mineral indices made up of energetic substances, non-metallic, non-ferrous metals, diamonds and gold (Le Code Minier, 2018). This country has raw materials such as wood 50% of the 156 million dollars of legal exports, in 2011, gold which was discovered in 1912 in the Bambari region, uranium in Bakouma, in the south-east of the country, oil in Boromata region in the north-east and Doba-Dosea-Salamat area in the north, diamonds, the first were discovered in 1914, in 2008, the last year for which official production is known, 400,000 carats were extracted from alluvial deposits in the region of Carnot, in the west of the country and that of Mouka-Ouadda, in the eastern part.

Central African oil Reservoirs



Zone A, B, C, D, E, F are areas of the oil field



Source: Ministry of Mines and Petroleum of the CAR

The population is estimated at around 5 million and mostly young. With a low density of 8 inhabitants per square kilometer, the territory remains poorly controlled, the east and north-east (40% of the territory) are practically empty while 90% of Central Africans live in the center and west of the countries, regions where their ancestors took refuge.

The country has two great interests: economic i.e., controlling natural resources and geostrategic i.e. countering foreign forces for the great powers (France, China, USA, and Russia) and Africa (Libya in 2002, South Africa in 2012 etc.).

UN Involvement

To avoid the conflagration of conflicts in the sub-region, since the late 1990s, the UN has been trying to stabilize the CAR. In March 1998, a United Nations Mission in CAR (MINURCA) was sent to supervise the elections (legislative in November-December 1998; presidential in September 1999). The peacekeepers were withdrawn in February 2000 but remained a United Nations Office for the Consolidation of Peace in CAR (BONUCA), transformed into the United Nations Integrated Office for the Consolidation of Peace in CAR (UNOCA) in the month April 2009. That was why adopted, on August 14, 2013, a declaration deeming that the crisis in CAR constitutes a "serious threat". This was followed by two resolutions: Resolution 2121 of 10 October relating to the strengthening of the United Nations Office for the consolidation of peace in the Central African Republic, and that of December 5, 2013, putting the CAR under a military embargo (UN, 2013).

However, all these resolutions were drafted by France in the name of the principle of pen holder. Putting the CAR under UN trusteeship was intended to block any attempt to exploit natural resources on the one hand and to counter the military presence of a foreign power on the other.

Dynamics of the 2013 Civil War in the Central African Republic

The notion of civil war has acquired importance only recently. At the beginning of the 19th century, Karl Von Clausewitz¹, who designated it under the benign terms of "civil dissensions" or "internal discords", still rejected it outside the domain of war. However, this notion has evolved well and is now part of a dimension of internal armed unrest in which the civilian population is believed to participate either for cultural-religious reasons or for political and economic reasons.

The Religious Conflict between Islam and Christianity

At the end of article 24 of the Constitution of March 30, 2016, which devotes to the Central African Republic a country of law, unitary, sovereign, secular, indivisible and democratic etc., it remains until the advent of this civil war a country where Christians and Muslims lived in perfect harmony.

Christians represent over 80% of the general population, Muslims nearly 15% of the population and animists nearly 5% (Lepoint, 2013). These different communities have always lived together without any form of armed and generalized violence that could compromise social cohesion. In an interview with Fides (Ndeke Luka, 2014), Father Aurelio Gazzera, Carmelite missionary in Bozoum, specifies "that there has never been any conflict in the country between the Christian, animist and Muslim communities. However, religion has been manipulated in order to get young people to join their cause. But what really happened?"

The religious fact came to be grafted to the pre-existing political conflict because of the numerous abuses committed by the ex-Séléka against the civilian population, mainly Christian.

¹ De la guerre, est un traité de stratégie militaire écrit par le général prussien Carl von Clausewitz. Rédigée en majeure partie après les guerres napoléoniennes, entre 1816 et 1830, et laissée inachevée à sa mort en 1831, l'œuvre fut compilée et publiée à titre posthume entre 1832 et 1835 grâce aux soins de sa femme,

They attacked non-Muslim communities and applied this discrimination to places of worship, looting churches but sparing mosques. In addition, the presence within the ex-Séléka of fighters from Chad and Sudan has finally convinced some Central Africans that the conflict was between Christians and Muslims. The actions carried out by the elements of the ex-Séléka provoked the reaction of the anti-Balaka who, in addition to the attacks carried out against the ex-Séléka, targeted Muslim civilians by attacking, in September 2013, the population of Bossangoa. The current situation is therefore not one of a conflict between only the ex-Séléka and the anti-Balaka. Every Muslim and every Christian, due to supposed links with one of the armed groups, has become a target.

The divide between religious communities is widening as the atrocities committed by the ex-Séléka and reprisals carried out by the anti-Balaka continue, and vice versa. However, sensing this division coming, in December 2012, an interfaith platform was created to respond to former President Bozizé's attempt to incite Christians to use violence against Muslims by raising the threat of Islamization of the country. Today it continues to provide a framework for consultation allowing initiatives to be taken to stem the tide of interfaith violence.

Inter-ethnic Conflicts

The Distortion between the Goula and Rounga Ethnic Groups

For decades, there has been a tension between two ethnic groups, the Goula and the Rounga in the Central African Republic. These tensions, having internal causes, often lead to deadly violence. Sometimes we are witnessing a moment of divorces, sometimes of reconciliations between these ethnic groups. By way of illustration, on the sidelines of the military-political crisis that has shaken the Central African Republic for several decades; inter-community conflicts have deteriorated relations between the Goula and Rounga ethnic groups in the Prefectures of Bamingui-Bangoran, Haute Kotto and the Vakaga. The situation has worsened with the involvement of armed groups and the recent violence in the Northeast region. But for the first time since the last hostilities in February, these two communities shook hands and bury the hatchet on Wednesday July 29, 2020, in Ndélé, capital of Bamingui Bangoran.

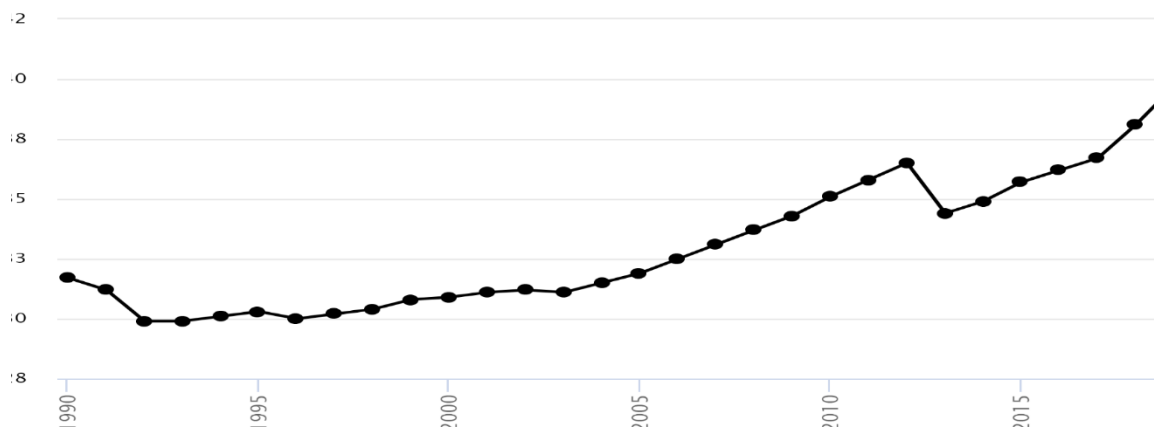
Indeed, the recurrent military-political crises that have rocked the Central African Republic since the 1990s have severely weakened relations between the communities. In addition to the shattered economic fabric, these repeated crises have created inter-community conflicts between several ethnic groups in the country. The last is the one that has been opposing since November 2019, the Goula and Rounga communities in Bamingui-Bangoran, Haute-Kotto and Vakaga through armed groups close to these ethnic groups. These conflicts have for a long-time deteriorated relations between these two ethnic groups. The situation had worsened with the involvement of armed groups and the recent violence which caused many deaths and significant material losses.

However, it should be noted that for the first time, since the last hostilities in February 2020, marred by deadly violence, Goula and Rounga shook hands and buried the hatchet this Wednesday, July 29, 2020, in Ndélé. These two communities have come together for the good of the Central African Republic. The reconciliation took place inside the city hall. This, thanks to the work done by community leaders and the Central African government. This reconciliation comes after several months of intercommunal violence that resulted in the death of a hundred people. However, the agreement between the two communities favored the free movement of people and goods.

The Conflict between the Traders of Cattle: the Fulani and the Arabs Originating in Chad

The second inter-ethnic armed violence is that which often opposes the Fulani and Arabs from Chad, all livestock traders. The Peuls are simple breeders or keepers of cattle, which they do not own. The owners of the cattle are often Arabs of Chadian origin who uses them for the conveyance or transhumance of cattle because they are gifted in raising cattle. Arrived at the destination, they refuse to pay them the costs of the conveyance or want to buy the oxen of which they are not the real owners at low prices. This is what most often leads to conflicts between the two ethnic groups. These conflicts have become recurrent and deadly to such an extent that they are obliged to defend themselves at all costs and by all means. In order to stop hostilities, it usually takes mediation either from the government or from the respective community leaders leading to a non-aggression pact. In addition, the Fulani have been the target of successive regimes for over twenty years. At each alternation, the new power accuses them of being in the pay of the previous one; they have suffered reprisals, fines, illegal taxes, cattle theft (Lacroix, 2014). They are often marginalized. These Central African Fulani are not to be confused with foreign Fulani from neighboring countries such as Chad and Sudan; Niger or Nigeria who joined the Séléka rebellion in 2013.

Here is the graphic representation on the social situation of the CAR from 1990 to 2018
dice de développement humain (IDH), Centrafricaine (rep)



The period from 2012 to 2014 saw a drop. This drop in living standards is linked to the consequences of the civil war in CAR

Intervention of External Forces

In 2012 the social distortion was great and deep. The various armed groups have formed a coalition under the leadership of Michel DJOTODJIA in order to overthrow the regime of President François BOZIZE. Taking into account the reality and the weakness of the Central African government, the Security Council of the United Nations on the proposal of the Central African government adopted on December 5, 2013, resolution 2127 under chapter 7 of the United Nations charter, authorizing the French forces in the Republic Central African Republic to take the necessary measures to support the African-led International Support Mission to the Central African Republic (ISMCA). This is how France deployed additional military personnel as part of Operation Sangaris by increasing the number of elements from 600 to 1,600 French in the CAR. While this increase has brought an end to the escalation of violence, it has not solved the problem.

At the same time, the United Nations Security Council entrusted additional missions to Union Nations office in Central African Republic (UNOCA) in support of the enlarged operation of the African Union and requested the Secretary General "to undertake without delay" the necessary preparation and planning activities with a view to the eventual transformation of ISMCA into a United Nations peacekeeping operation. This was the reason why the United Nations Security Council adopted resolution 2149 on September 15, 2014, establishing the United Nations Multidimensional Mission in the Central African Republic (MINUSCA). It is made up of 12,000 soldiers and has a mandate to: protect civilians; support for the implementation of the transition, including through actions to extend state authority and maintain territorial integrity; facilitating the immediate, safe and unimpeded delivery of all humanitarian assistance; protection of United Nations personnel and property; the promotion and protection of human rights; action in favor of national and international justice and the rule of law; disarmament, demobilization, reintegration and repatriation of ex-combatants and armed elements.

The Peaceful Settlement of the Civil War in the Central African Republic

Africa has seen many wars on its continent. All of its conflicts have different origins and different resolutions. It continues to suffer the effects of wars linked to mutation and change in the world. Considered to be the continent, the most fragile in terms of security and underdevelopment, Africa most often adopts its own mechanisms in order to resolve its conflicts. They can be directly linked to ordinary justice or transitional justice systems. This is the case with the CAR. The People's Republic of China, for its part, was part of the same dynamic of peaceful settlement of their disputes. At the end of the Chinese civil wars, the legal mechanisms made it possible to settle social distortions despite their shortcomings in order to create the conditions for development. But how should we understand the process of the peaceful regulation of civil wars in Africa in general and in CAR in particular and compare it with that of the People's Republic of China?

The Development Process of the Civil War in the Central African Republic

There are three (3) major stages of the civil war in the Central African Republic:

The First Stage of the Central African Civil War (2004-2007)

On November 13, 2006, the UDFR rebels continued to advance and took control of Sam-Ouandja, a town in northern CAR (Sudan, 2006). Barely three days later, Ouadda, a town of 20,000 inhabitants, was in turn captured by the rebels. The UDFR was also reportedly considering capturing Bria and launching an offensive on Ndélé, but this will be stopped by the national army on November 28. Negotiations between the parties were opened (Human Right Watch, 2012), in 2007, two successive peace agreements were signed. On February 3 in Libya, a first peace agreement known as the "Sirte Accord" was signed by the government with a rebel leader, Abdoulaye Miskine. However, its scope remained very limited because many rebel leaders like Michel Djotodia of the UDFR subsequently affirmed that they were not affected by this agreement, denying any link with Abdoulaye Miskine. On April 13, 2007, a peace accord known as the "Biraio accord" was signed between the government and the UDFR in the capital of Vakaga. This provides for an amnesty for UDFR combatants, its recognition as a political party and the integration of its combatants into the army.

The Second Stage (2012-2013)

Séléka's rebel coalition, formed by members of the Convention of Patriots for the Salvation of Kodro (CPSK), the Convention of Patriots for Justice and Peace (CPJP), the UDFR, and the People's Democratic Front Central African and led by Michel DJOTODJIA,

resumed arms on December 10, 2012, and conquered a number of towns in the north, center and east of the country, believing that the government did not respect the peace agreements signed between them. On March 23, 2013, the rebels of the Seleka coalition entered Bangui and took the presidential palace, causing President François Bozizé to flee for the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Michel Djotodia, leader of the rebellion, proclaims himself President of the Republic (Jeune, 2012).

The Third Stage of the Central African Civil War (2013-2014)

After the seizure of power and the atrocities committed by rebels against the civilian population, the situation deteriorates, spreads and becomes chaotic. On the one hand there were the Seleka militias, with a Muslim majority and loyal to President Michel Djotodia and on the other hand the Christian and animist self-defense groups called the anti-balaka, loyal to the former president (CAR TaipeiTimes, 20th Janvier 2009) François Bozizé and supported by former soldiers of the Central African Armed Forces. Fighting between self-defense militias known as anti-balaka ("anti-machettes") and Seleka troops increased from October 2013 and the state no longer seemed able to maintain order. The Central African multinational force deployed by the Economic Community of Central African States to help secure the region is outdated (Human Rights Watch, 2013).

On December 5, 2013, by resolution 2127, the United Nations Security Council authorized the "deployment of the International Support Mission to the Central African Republic under African leadership (ISMCA) for a period of 12 months" officially to end the total bankruptcy of public order, the absence of the rule of law and interfaith tensions. On July 23, 2014, the belligerents signed a cessation of hostilities agreement in Brazzaville. But the situation remains precarious across the country and the violence continues to rage. This is how a Bangui National Forum will be held in the Central African capital from May 4 to 11, 2015, bringing together all social layers in order to make a diagnosis of the overall situation of the country. Its objective was to create the momentum necessary for the successful completion of the peace and national reconciliation process in the Central African Republic. On February 6, 2019, the government and the various armed groups from the ranks of the SELEKA and that of the Antibalakas signed an agreement called "Political Agreement for Peace and Reconciliation" (PAPR).

The International Regulation of the Civil War in China and Africa

Chinese and African societies have produced, over a sometimes very long history, a set of conflict resolution practices that are linked to their cultures.

International Mechanisms for Resolving African Conflicts

It all started with the "Declaration and Program of Action for the Culture of Peace" (A / 53/243) in 1999, then the celebration of the "International Year for the Culture of Peace" in 2000, and finally the International Decade for the Promotion of a Culture of Non-violence and of Peace for the Benefit of the Children of the World (2001-2010). This vision was implemented by the organization of the Pan-African Forum entitled "sources and resources for a culture of peace" held from March 26 to 28, 2013 in Angola, which aimed to build on the sources of inspiration and on the potential of the continent's cultural and to build lasting peace. In order to respond to these concerns, Reflection Forums, the first of which was held on June 4 and 5, 2013, in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire, on the theme: "Culture of peace (Relief, 2019). In West Africa: an imperative for economic development and a requirement for social cohesion".

In addition, there are also African legal and institutional mechanisms for conflict resolution such as the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights which was adopted on

June 27, 1981, in Nairobi (Kenya) during the 18th Conference of the Organization of African Unity and entered into force October 21, 1986, and others.

Institutionally, the AU commission also has a mediation unit, as well as 13 liaison offices established across the continent, Ms. Mohammed said General Secretary. As for the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS), it is currently strengthening its architecture with its Central Africa Early Warning Mechanism (MARAC) and the Central African Multinational Force, which has the advantage to be close to the field in order to prevent and resolve conflicts. Demonstrating a similar desire for anticipation, the West African Community of States (ECOWAS) has also set up an early warning mechanism called ECOWARN, which has enabled it, over the past few years, of carrying out numerous preventive diplomacy actions. At the national level, states have set up international judicial bodies with a view to resolving conflict-related problems. This is the case of the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda set up on November 8, 1994, of the Extraordinary African Chamber, created under an agreement between Senegal and the African Union to try former President Hissene Habré of Chad on July 20, 2015, of the Special Criminal Court for the Central African Republic created by Law No. 15.003 of June 3, 2015, etc.

International Modalities for Conflict Resolution in China

In the aftermath of the Cold War, intra-state conflicts constitute the main threats for states, and may in some cases lead to their existence being called into question. China favors the peaceful resolution of disputes through multilateral channels while respecting the principle of non-interference. According to the principle of non-interference, China's mediation does not impose anything on the opposing parties. It tries to persuade the different parties to dialogue without being able or wanting to offer a precise perspective of ending the crisis. At the institutional level, however, the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) created on June 15, 2001, in Shanghai is a framework par excellence where all issues related to unrest and collective security must be resolved. Mediation and negotiation are the preferred modes in intra-state conflicts.

This is also the reason why China encourages the parties to seek the solution through dialogue in order to resolve their problems. The five principles of peaceful coexistence, which are the foundation of Chinese diplomacy, are more concerned with the survival of the state, the preservation of national sovereignty and territorial integrity in which the Taiwan issue then falls (Jin, 2017). Equality and reciprocal benefits also reflect Chinese perceptions of what cooperation depends on. Peacebuilding, although it is more and more the consolidation of intra-state peace, requires the sensitization and mobilization of different types of actors at the international level, especially since threats to the consolidated peace transcend national borders and capacities (Yan, 2011). China's policies are more socio-economic oriented.

The Signing of the "Agreement", a New Dawn for Peace in the Central African Republic

In Central African political history, there had been several agreements signed between the government and armed groups. However, the Political Agreement for Peace and Reconciliation in the Central African Republic (PAPR-RCA) was signed on February 6, 2019, in Bangui by the Central African Government and 14 armed groups, following talks in Khartoum (Sudan) from January 24 to February 5, 2019, under the auspices of the African Union (AU) and the support of the United Nations (UN). It is characterized by the involvement of both national and international actors. This gives it an undeniable and indispensable for the final exit from the recurring crises that plague this country. It appears to be a framework par

excellence in which the government and the signatory armed groups should gather around a mediator and discuss in order to resolutely turn the page on violence and move towards peace. This agreement brings together the driving forces of the CAR as well as technical and or financial partners (UN, Aprr). Among other things, it provides for: the restoration of state authority; Disarmament, Demobilization, Reintegration and Repatriation (DDRR); the establishment of a Commission, Truth, Justice, Reparation and Reconciliation (CTJRR) and so.

The Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of the United Nations Stabilization Mission in the Central African Republic (MINUSCA) Mr. Mankeur Ndiaye also underlined that thanks to this agreement a "net" reduction in violence and the gradual extension of violence. State authority over the entire territory has been established, the disarmament process continues and the establishment of special mixed security units, even if many logistical and political challenges remain to be met before their operationalization. According to the representative of the European Union Mr. Olof Skoog Stakeholders should now have understood that the Bangui Accord is the only viable framework for peace in which every signatory, facilitator, member of civil society, political actor and partner in the country has a role to play in make it work and therefore denounces the fact that some armed groups still do not respect their commitments going so far as to withdraw from the agreement (UN 2020) in order to carry out a coup attempt on January 13, 2021.

Conclusion

The apprehension of civil war in developing countries is linked to the history of the political construction of each country. Africa, like the People's Republic of China, has a similarity of socio-political events leading to the establishment of the nation-state. The case of the CAR cannot be dissociated from this reality. Since its independence on August 13, 1960, the CAR has been plunged into socio-political instability which handicaps its development. Its multiple crises are linked not only to internal problems, in particular those of the construction of a dignified State, respectful of social values and good governance, but also of external environments, i.e., the growing influence of certain foreign powers, which influence is the cause of political instability. This cross-study allowed us to understand the real causes of civil wars both in China and in Africa and more particularly in the CAR. Ranked 4th among the richest countries in Africa in natural resources, and 189th according to the Human Development Index and plunged into political instability for almost 3 decades, the CAR is beginning to reborn, but it just needs support. However, often to emerge from these crises, Africa and China adopt a mechanism for the peaceful settlement of disputes. This conflict resolution system produces positive effects but is also often fragile. The instability in Africa in general and in the CAR in particular is not linked to the development problem as some think, but it is linked to the building of partnership relations between African states and foreign powers.

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