



### THE PROTECTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS IN CENTRAL AFRICA

The article aims to analyze the problem of ensuring a balance between the protection of the human rights and the fight against international terrorism in Central Africa, which has become an increasingly serious threat in recent years. The question is much more relevant ever since the authority of the African-led International Support Mission to the Central African Republic (MISCA) – shared between the Security Council of the African Union and the Security Council of the United Nations – was transitioned into a UN peacekeeping operation and the UN Security Council authorized the deployment of the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the Central African Republic (MINUSCA). Indeed, in the transition process, some critical issues related to the fight against the terrorist group Boko Haram emerged. In this context the African Union proved to be strongly focused on granting an effective protection of the human rights to the civilians, along with the promotion of a sustainable development in the area. At the same time, in the Central African Republic a decisive role for the full enjoyment of human rights, as well as for an effective functioning of the justice system and the respect for the environment, has been played by the ECOWAS Court of justice. The ongoing debate definitely requires a reflection about the different targets of operations authorized under Chapter VII or Chapter VIII of the Charter of the United Nations and the effect that a closer cooperation between regional and international organizations could have in fighting terrorism and ensuring the stabilization of the conflict in the area.