

Analysis of the Efforts of *The United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (MINUSMA)* in Handling Conflict in Mali 2013-2023

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ABSTRACT

Since 2012, Mali has been experiencing a protracted conflict fueled by insurgency by the Tuareg and armed extremist groups, exacerbated by a military coup and weak state institutions. This situation has led to a deep security, political and humanitarian crisis. To response, the UN Security Council established MINUSMA in 2013 as a multidimensional stabilization mission. as a multidimensional stabilization mission with the objective of supporting the political transition and security restoration of security. However, a decade later, conditions in Mali remain unstable, raising questions regarding the effectiveness of this mission in creating long-term peace. This research utilizes Triple Peace theories and concepts that This study uses the theory and concept of Triple Peace, which includes peacekeeping, peacemaking, and peacebuilding, which is analyzed as MINUSMA's strategy in creating stability in Mali. MINUSMA's strategy in creating stability in Mali. Peacekeeping is carried out through security patrols and civilian protection; peacemaking is analyzed as MINUSMA's strategy in creating stability in Mali. security patrols and protection of civilians; peacemaking through facilitation of dialogue and peace agreements between the government and armed groups. agreements between the government and armed groups; and peacebuilding is realized through infrastructure development and socio-economic reintegration of ex-combatants. Despite these important achievements, the implementation of this mission was faced with obstacles such as low levels of confidence in the Malian government and unfavorable security dynamics. The withdrawal of MINUSMA's withdrawal in 2023 reflects the need for a more contextualized, adaptive and collaborative approach to peacekeeping in similar international missions

Keywords Mali, MINUSMA, Triple Peace, Conflict, Stability

INTRODUCTION

The Republic of Mali is the largest country in the West African region with a population of approximately 14.5 million. The country has significant ethnic diversity, with more than 24 different ethnic groups inhabiting its territory, and about 90% of the total population is Muslim (Badale & Isvoraru, 2013). On January 17, 2012, Mali faced a deep crisis, which had far-reaching political, security, socio-economic, humanitarian, and human rights impacts (United Nations Security Council, 2012). This crisis has had a devastating impact on the structure of the state as well as the humanity of its citizens, requiring various forms of intervention in an effort to resolve the conflict.

The crisis in Mali began on 17 January 2012 when the *Mouvement National pour la Libération de l'Azawad* (MNLA), a Tuareg-led group along with a number of Islamist armed organizations, including Ansar Dine, Al-Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb (AQIM), and *Mouvement pour l'unicité et le jihad en Afrique de l'Ouest* (MUJAO), as well as defectors from Mali's armed forces, launched a series of attacks against government forces in northern Mali (Thurston & LebovichLebovich, 2013, 2013). The uprising was triggered by the crisis in Libya and the fall of the regime of Muammar Qadhafi, who was killed on October 20, 2011 (Sköns, 2016). These events led to the return of hundreds of Malians who had previously served in the Libyan armed forces, accompanied by a large influx of weapons and ammunition into Mali. The MNLA aims to establish an independent state called "Azawad", which includes the northern Malian regions of Gao, Kidal, and Timbuktu.

On March 21, 2012, there was a mutiny by middle and lower ranking officers at a military base in Kati, about 16 kilometers from Bamako. This mutiny led to the occupation of the presidential palace in Bamako and the announcement of a military coup on March 22, 2012. A military junta, the *Comité National pour le Redressement de la Démocratie et la Restauration de l'État*, under the leadership of Captain Amadou Sanogo, assumed power by suspending the constitution and dissolving various government institutions. The coup in Mali accelerated the collapse of government control in the north, allowing the MNLA to easily capture key cities such as Gao, Kidal, and Timbuktu. On April 6, 2012, the MNLA officially declared the independence of the northern region, which covers about two-thirds of Mali's total national territory, as an independent state called "Azawad". However, on the same day, the *Economic Community of West African States* (ECOWAS) and the military junta reached an agreement on the transition of power to civilian rule. This agreement led to the resignation of President Amadou Toumani Touré on April 8 and the appointment of the Speaker of the National Assembly, Dioncounda Traoré, as interim president on April 12. Despite the MNLA's successful declaration of independence, tensions soon emerged between armed groups in the north, mainly over ideological and strategic differences. On November 18, Ansar Dine and MUJAO groups expelled the MNLA from key cities, including Gao, Timbuktu, and Kidal, giving them control of most of northern Mali.

To quell the worsening crisis, on March 27, 2012, ECOWAS appointed Burkina Faso's President Blaise Compaoré as mediator and established a 3,000-person standby force in case the rebels rejected a peaceful solution. A transitional agreement signed on April 6 led to the formation of an interim government led by Prime Minister Cheick Modibo Diarra, tasked with organizing elections and dealing with the security crisis. However, instability continued. A counter-coup by elite forces on April 30 failed, with several of its personnel detained or mysteriously missing. On May 21, the interim President was attacked by pro-coup demonstrators, forcing him to undergo medical treatment in France until July. Upon his return, he announced plans for a High Council of State as well as a negotiating commission to dialogue with groups in the north who rejected violence. On August 8, Captain Sanogo was appointed to oversee military reforms, while on August 20, the Prime Minister formed a 32-member national unity government. Despite these measures, armed groups, including terrorists and criminals, remain in control of northern Mali. With around 3,000 core combatants, they continue to recruit members, including children, and possess sophisticated weaponry from Libya as well as weapons looted from the Malian military. Criminal networks, such as drug dealers, are also strengthening their links with terrorist groups in the region.

The escalating crisis in Mali prompted the government to request military intervention from the United Nations (UN) and France (Sköns, 2016). France subsequently launched Operation Serval on January 11, which within days succeeded in driving the extremist group from Konna and establishing a base in northern Mali. In response, ECOWAS accelerated the deployment of the *African-led International Support Mission in Mali* (AFISMA), which was originally planned for full deployment in September 2013, as mandated by UN Security Council Resolution 2085 of December 20, 2012. However, logistical, capacity and coordination limitations led to delays in implementation. France and the United States then proposed the establishment of a UN operation, which was eventually approved by the African Union (AU) and ECOWAS with some conditions. On 25 April 2013, the UN Security Council granted a mandate to *The United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali* (MINUSMA), with authority for French forces in Operation Serval to provide support if MINUSMA faced a serious threat at the request of the UN Secretary-General. On July 1, 2013, security authority was officially transferred from AFISMA to MINUSMA, with AFISMA troops participating in the mission. France then began to gradually withdraw its troops on May 2013. By July 1st, 2014 Operation Serval officially ended.

Through UN Security Council Resolution 2100 on 25 April 2013, *The United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali* (MINUSMA) was established to support the political process and carry out various security-related tasks in Mali. The mission aims to assist the transitional authorities in stabilizing the country and implementing the transition roadmap. Furthermore, on 25 June 2014, the UN Security Council adopted Resolution 2164, which affirmed that MINUSMA should prioritize several key aspects, including maintaining security, stabilizing the situation and protecting civilians, facilitating national political dialogue and reconciliation processes, and supporting the restoration of state structures, security sector reform, and the

strengthening and protection of human rights in Mali (United Nations Peacekeeping, 2025) . However, Malian authorities doubted the effectiveness of MINUSMA in carrying out its mandate, which exacerbated tensions between the two. In response to this situation, the UN conducted a strategic review and in January 2023 proposed three options: increased personnel, optimized presence, or a change to a special political mission (International Peace Institute, 2024) . In June 2023, the Malian government requested the immediate withdrawal of MINUSMA, considering the mission incapable of handling the security situation and lacking the trust of Malian authorities and society. Through Resolution 2690, MINUSMA officially ended its operations and began the process of task shifting and the orderly and safe withdrawal of personnel (United Nations Security Council, 2023) .

This research reviews previous studies on the role of *The United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali* (MINUSMA) in resolving the conflict in Mali, as researched by Jofi Pamungkas in his work entitled "The Role of *The United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali* (MINUSMA) in Mali Conflict Resolution"(2016) . Pamungkas analyzes the role of MINUSMA as an initiator of cooperation between countries and actors, provider of information and supervision, provider of assistance, coordinator of international activities, and negotiator in conflict resolution. In addition, he also connects MINUSMA's role with the concept of *Peacekeeping Operations*, which aims to assist conflict-affected countries in achieving peace without violence.In addition, previous research by Fiorentina Anggrein, entitled "*Peacemaking Efforts of the United Nations in Afghanistan* (UNAMA) in Taliban and Afghan Conflict Management"(2024) highlights the various efforts made by UNAMA in carrying out its mission. UNAMA is a similar mission to MINUSMA implemented by the *United Nations* in overcoming conflict in Afghanistan. Anggrein uses the conflict management framework, which includes *peacemaking*, *peacekeeping*, and *peacebuilding* as the main efforts made in carrying out the mission.

Based on previous studies, the existence of MINUSMA still has various dimensions that can be explored further. This research identifies a gap in previous studies, namely the absence of studies that specifically discuss the efforts made by MINUSMA in resolving conflicts in Mali. Therefore, this study aims to analyze the steps taken by MINUSMA in resolving the conflict in Mali during the period 2013-2023.This research uses a system level of analysis that refers to *The United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali* (MINUSMA) which will analyze its efforts to deal with the conflict in Mali in 2013-2023. This analysis includes how MINUSMA operates in Mali, the *triple nexus* strategy applied in conflict resolution efforts, and the challenges faced in achieving peace.The formulation of the problem that then arises for this research is "How is the effort of The United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (MINUSMA) in handling conflict in Mali in 2013-2023?".This research will use the concept of *Triple nexus (peacekeeping, peacebuilding, and peacemaking)*.

METHODS

To find out what efforts MINUSMA made in handling the conflict in Mali in 2013-2023, the author used qualitative and descriptive methods. According to Moleong(2000) , qualitative research is a research method that aims to obtain data in the form of descriptions, both through written and spoken words from the subjects studied, as well as through observations of their behavior. Meanwhile, descriptive research is a type of research whose main focus is to describe in detail a phenomenon that occurs, both natural and the result of human intervention. In this study, the authors will utilize secondary qualitative data, which is data obtained indirectly from various previously documented sources (Sugiyono, 2013) . The main source of secondary data collection will be obtained from reports published by the Secretary-General of the United Nations (UN), which can be accessed through the official MINUSMA website. In addition to official reports from the UN, this research will also utilize other relevant documents, such as research reports, analyses from non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and journal articles that examine the effectiveness of the MINUSMA mission in conflict situations in Mali. By combining these secondary sources, the research is expected to provide a comprehensive picture of MINUSMA's efforts in handling the conflict in Mali.

TRIPLE NEXUS

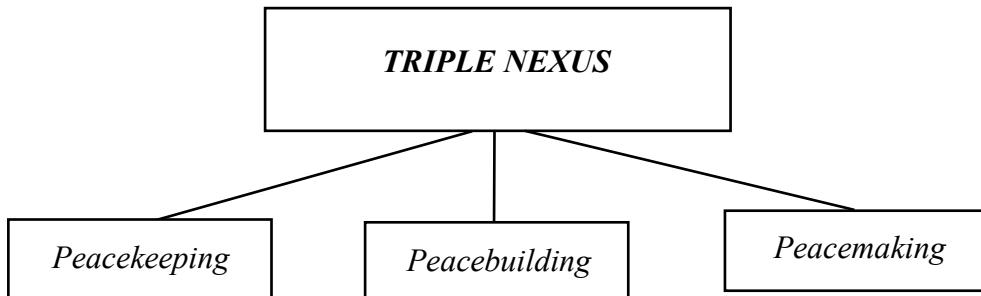
These three processes are interrelated and are often carried out sequentially or simultaneously to ensure sustainable peace. *The triple nexus* process involves various aspects, including social, political, economic and international. Usually, these efforts are carried out by internal actors such as governments, communities and NGOs. However, the role of external parties, such as international organizations and *international non-governmental organizations* (INGOs), is also often needed to support and facilitate the process of the *triple nexus* (Miall, 2002) .*The Triple Nexus* is a concept that integrates three main approaches to achieving and maintaining sustainable peace: *peacekeeping*, *peacemaking* and *peacebuilding*. These three approaches are interrelated and are often applied simultaneously to address conflict and build peaceful societies. The concept is based on the idea that the three elements are interrelated and can be mutually reinforcing in addressing the challenges faced by conflict-affected communities (Cochrane & Wilson, 2023) . The concept is also based on the understanding that effective solutions to conflict include not only short-term stability, but also involve long-term strategies to build more stable and prosperous societies. *The Triple Nexus* seeks to combine urgent humanitarian responses with long-term development approaches and proactive peace initiatives. *The Triple Nexus* aims to create synergies between the three elements in order to provide more effective and holistic solutions in addressing the root causes of conflict, inequality and social vulnerability (Norman & Mikhael, 2023) .

A key tenet of the *Triple Nexus* is the importance of cooperation between the three aspects. Effective humanitarian assistance can create more stable conditions for development, while successful development can support stronger peace. Therefore, collaboration between various actors from the humanitarian, development and peace sectors is essential so that interventions are not only temporary, but also have a long-term impact on conflict-affected communities (Brown, et al., 2024). ***Peacekeeping*** is the initial peacekeeping effort after an armed conflict involving international forces or civilian observers. The aim is to prevent a return to violence by providing physical security and supporting political processes. ***Peacekeeping*** operations are often conducted by the United Nations (UN) with mandates such as disarmament and protection of civilians (Walter, et al., 2021). ***Peacemaking***, focuses on negotiation and mediation to reach a peace agreement between conflicting parties. The process involves diplomacy and dialogue to resolve differences and find mutually acceptable solutions. ***Peacemaking*** often involves international mediators or neutral regional organizations to facilitate peace talks. With this approach, peace can be built through constructive channels of communication, aiming to defuse tensions and prevent conflict from recurring (Brown, et al., 2024).

Peacebuilding has a broader scope as it aims to address the root causes of conflict and build socio-economic and political structures that support sustainable peace. It involves activities such as community reconciliation, strengthening state institutions, security sector reform, and economic development. ***Peacebuilding*** is often undertaken after a conflict has ended to ensure that violence does not recur. These three approaches complement each other in creating sustainable peace. ***Peacekeeping*** provides initial stability after conflict, ***peacemaking*** stops conflict through diplomacy, while ***peacebuilding*** addresses the root causes of conflict to ensure long-term peace. Within the *Triple Nexus* framework, these three approaches can be integrated for maximum impact in the context of multidimensional crises (Ide, et al., 2021).

Peacekeeping, ***peacebuilding*** and ***peacemaking*** are the three main concepts in efforts to create and sustain peace, each with a different focus and approach. ***Peacemaking*** aims to stop an ongoing conflict through diplomacy, negotiation, or mediation, usually carried out by actors such as the UN, international mediators, or conflicting governments. Once the conflict has subsided, ***peacekeeping*** plays a role in maintaining stability and preventing violence from reoccurring by deploying neutral peacekeepers in the post-conflict region. Meanwhile, ***peacebuilding*** focuses on building the foundations of long-term peace by strengthening social, political and economic structures, such as through institutional reform, social reconciliation and economic development. Reconciliation can be done by creating forums or meetings that facilitate the exchange of perspectives between parties that were once enemies. It is usually guided by a neutral facilitator. Reform can be done by reducing corruption, increasing public participation, and strengthening accountability mechanisms such as public audits or fair elections as well as by restructuring the military, police, and intelligence. Meanwhile, economic development can be done by creating jobs and developing adequate infrastructure.

SYNTHESIS OF THOUGHTS



Peacemaking, *peacekeeping*, and *peacebuilding* are the three main approaches to peacemaking known as the *Triple Nexus*. *Peacemaking* focuses on negotiation and mediation to reach a peace agreement between conflicting parties through diplomacy and dialog. *Peacekeeping* is an effort to maintain post-conflict peace by involving international forces or civilian observers to prevent the return of violence and provide physical security. Meanwhile, *peacebuilding* aims to address the root causes of conflict by building social, economic and political structures that support sustainable peace. These three approaches complement each other to ensure long-term peace in conflict-affected areas.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

The *United Nations* through the MINUSMA mission in overcoming the conflict that occurred in Mali in 2013-2023 made three *triple Nexus* efforts, namely:

Peacekeeping through the Maintenance of Stability and Security in Post-conflict Mali.

In 2013, when MINUSMA was first deployed, the main focus was to secure strategic areas by establishing peace posts in important cities such as Gao. These posts served to Monitor the movement of armed groups, Protect critical infrastructure, such as communication centers and logistics lines, Provide a base of operations for MINUSMA forces to respond quickly to threats.

Peacemaking through Dialogue and Implementation of Peace Agreements.

In *Peacemaking* efforts, the MINUSMA Mission seeks to achieve peace by seeking communication and dialogue between actors involved in the conflict. This effort is carried out through facility support from MINUSMA Mission in assisting conflict actors to dialogue, especially, in the process of making peace agreements such as Resolution 2164 in 2014, the *Agreement for Peace and Reconciliation* led by Algeria, and Resolution 2227.

Peacebuilding Through Environmental Reconstruction.

The MINUSMA mission seeks to restore the damage caused by the conflict. This is done through civilian protection, law enforcement, and social reconstruction, such as the *Quick Impact Project* (QIP) which has resulted in the provision of public services, improved access to water and environmental protection, the implementation of sanitation works or the improvement of electricity distribution networks. Whereas *peacekeeping* builds infrastructure to support military operations and maintain temporary stability, *peacebuilding* builds infrastructure that focuses on the long term and benefits communities.

Peacekeeping Through the Maintenance of Post-Conflict Stability and Security

Since its establishment in 2013, MINUSMA (United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stability Mission in Mali) has carried out *peacekeeping* missions in a highly complex post-conflict context. The war that broke out in Mali in 2012, particularly in the north, created an urgent need for an international force to maintain stability, protect civilians, and support the political transition process (United Nations Peacekeeping, 2025) . One of the concrete manifestations of MINUSMA's peacekeeping mission is to maintain security and protect civilians in areas most affected by the conflict, such as Timbuktu, Gao, Kidal, and Menaka. MINUSMA troops regularly carry out armed patrols and guard important objects, including local government offices and humanitarian aid distribution routes. In areas such as Kidal and Menaka, which are centers of conflict between ethnic and armed groups, MINUSMA established *Temporary Operating Bases* (TOBs) to avoid militant infiltration and strengthen surveillance of the area. In addition, MINUSMA also established temporary safe zones for threatened communities, and provided humanitarian corridors for refugees and internally displaced persons (IDPs). This phase aims to physically stabilize the region and ensure the protection of civilians' basic right to life.

In addition, MINUSMA has the important task of monitoring and guaranteeing the implementation of the ceasefire between the Malian government and armed groups. After the signing of the Algiers Peace Agreement in 2015, MINUSMA served as a neutral monitor in the implementation of the agreement. One concrete action was through its participation in the *Comité de Suivi de l'Accord* (CSA) or Agreement Monitoring Committee, which regularly monitors ceasefire violations and submits reports to the UN Security Council. For example, in 2016 and 2017, MINUSMA actively engaged in high-level dialogue with the government and signatory groups to address the political impasse and promote the resolution of the ongoing conflict on the ground (Gaston, et al., 2024) .

To support national political reconciliation, MINUSMA conducts peacekeeping operations integrated with assistance to security sector reform and the reintegration of ex-combatants. The mission actively organizes training for the Malian armed forces (FAMa) and internal security forces on operational standards, human rights protection, and military professionalism. In addition, through its *Disarmament, Demobilization, and Reintegration* (DDR) program, MINUSMA supports the transition of former members of armed groups to civilian life, including skills training, economic assistance, and social support. This step is crucial to reduce the potential for recruitment back into armed groups and strengthen social cohesion in vulnerable areas.

MINUSMA also combines peacekeeping with structured human rights monitoring, including violations against women and children in conflict situations. The mission has a specialized Human Rights Unit that investigates and reports violations, and makes recommendations to the Malian government for improved protection of the population. Throughout its operational years, MINUSMA has uncovered cases of sexual violence, extrajudicial executions, and abuses committed by state and non-state actors, while encouraging the establishment of accountability mechanisms at the national level (UNIDIR, 2024).

Overall, MINUSMA's peacekeeping mission in Mali involves not only military operations or physical protection, but also political and institutional aspects. Despite facing major challenges such as terrorism, political uncertainty, and lack of local support, MINUSMA's ten-year presence has been a crucial foundation for the national stabilization and reconciliation process. This case study illustrates that successful peacekeeping requires collaboration between security, politics, and institutional development, a fundamental principle of the *Triple Nexus* approach applied in the MINUSMA mission.

Peacemaking Through Dialogue and Peace Agreement Implementation

Based on the results of the analysis obtained, MINUSMA has implemented various peacemaking efforts by prioritizing communication and dialogue as the main strategy, especially through direct approaches to the Malian people. In this process, MINUSMA acts as a facilitator that allows the parties involved in the conflict to dialogue and establish communication in order to reach a peace agreement. Not only at the negotiation stage, MINUSMA also directly assisted in the process of drafting and monitoring the implementation of the peace agreement, to ensure its effective and sustainable implementation. In 2014, through Resolution 2164, MINUSMA expanded its mandate to support the implementation of the ceasefire as well as confidence-building measures on the ground, as stipulated in the Ouagadougou Agreement which reaffirmed the principles of sovereignty, territorial integrity, national unity and secular nature of the State of Mali. To effectively carry out the mandate, capacity building in terms of negotiations is required, as well as strengthening facilitation and confidence-building roles at the national and local levels. This aims to anticipate, prevent, mitigate and resolve conflicts. Resolution 2164 affirms that MINUSMA will concentrate and expand its focus on supporting national political dialogue and reconciliation involving a

wide range of stakeholders, from Malian government authorities to entire local communities (United Nations Security Council, 2014) .

However, the Ouagadougou Agreement has not succeeded in defusing the continuing conflict in Mali. In 2015, the *Agreement for Peace and Reconciliation*, also known as the Algiers Peace Agreement, was signed as the main framework for MINUSMA's *peacemaking* efforts. This agreement was the result of a long negotiation process between the Malian government and various armed groups, especially those in northern Mali, with the main mediation of the Algerian government. In the process of formulating and negotiating the draft agreement, MINUSMA acted as one of the mediators between the Malian government and the armed groups, as well as providing logistical support during the discussions. This effort was later strengthened through Resolution 2227, which expanded MINUSMA's mandate to support the implementation of the *Agreement for Peace and Reconciliation*, among others through facilitating dialogue involving all parties involved in the conflict in Mali (United Nations Security Council, 2015) .

In the period 2016 to 2019, MINUSMA was actively involved in dialog with various parties as part of the implementation of the Algiers Peace Agreement. Following the signing of the agreement, MINUSMA regularly organized dialogues and consultations with the transitional authorities, armed groups that were signatories to the agreement, as well as actors from civil society. On January 16, 2016, MINUSMA took part in a high-level consultative meeting of the Agreement Monitoring Committee to encourage all parties in Mali to revive the peace process and implement the agreement without delay (United Nations Security Council, 2016) . In 2017, as part of the international mediation team in the Agreement Monitoring Committee, MINUSMA continued to initiate dialogue and encourage the active engagement of all groups in the peace process (United Nations Security Council, 2017) . This commitment continued in 2018, where MINUSMA continued to participate in various sessions of the committee meetings and provided support to the discussions. Then, in 2019, a national dialogue was organized that was inclusive and participated in by diverse actors, including representatives of political parties, civil society, and women and youth groups (United Nations Security Council, 2019) . In planning and implementing the dialog, MINUSMA worked with other mediators to encourage all stakeholders to participate in the national dialog process.

The outcome of the inclusive national dialogue led to the expansion of MINUSMA's mandate during the period 2020 to 2022, particularly in supporting the political transition process in Mali through a series of negotiations and consultations with various stakeholders. Throughout 2020, MINUSMA held a number of consultations with civil society organizations, including youth groups, women, workers, trade unions, religious leaders, and traditional leaders. These activities aimed to encourage their involvement in the electoral process (United Nations Security Council, 2020) . In 2021, MINUSMA continued its support by creating enabling conditions for elections through continuous dialogue with various stakeholders (United Nations Security Council, 2021) . One concrete form of this effort is the facilitation of the implementation of the *Assises nationales de la refondation*, which is a national dialogue involving consultations at the

local, regional and national levels. The main objective of this dialog is to formulate political and institutional reforms to address the root causes of the ongoing crisis in Mali. In this process, MINUSMA provides technical, logistical, and advocacy support so that all elements, including political groups, civil society, and minority communities, can actively participate.

MINUSMA's decade-long *peacemaking* efforts through dialogue and implementation of the Peace Agreement have made an important contribution to maintaining stability and supporting the political process in Mali. The mission successfully facilitated dialogue between the government and armed groups, supported the reintegration of former combatants, and strengthened state institutions and reconciliation mechanisms, despite facing major challenges such as escalation of violence, political instability, and operational restrictions. While a stable peace has yet to be fully achieved, MINUSMA's presence is helping to reduce violence against civilians and create space for an inclusive political transition process.

***Peacebuilding* Through Environmental Reconstruction**

The United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (MINUSMA) has since 2013 played an important role in supporting the reconstruction of the post-conflict environment in Mali, not only as a peacekeeping force, but as a *peacebuilding* agent. This analysis highlights MINUSMA's key activities in supporting civilian development, infrastructure rehabilitation, and strengthening local institutions as part of a sustainable peace strategy (United Nations Security Council, 2023).

MINUSMA *Peacebuilding* Milestones (2013-2023):

1. 2013 - Initial Civil Service Restoration

Having been established through UNSC Resolution 2100, MINUSMA began its mission by focusing on restoring basic public services in conflict areas such as Gao and Timbuktu. These initial activities included the rehabilitation of government administration buildings, the rebuilding of the mayor's office, and the provision of means of communication for local officials to effectively carry out government functions.

2015 - Role in the Algiers Peace Agreement

MINUSMA played a role in promoting the peace process by facilitating the signing of the Peace and Reconciliation Agreement signed in Algiers. MINUSMA also helped establish interim authority structures and conducted training for local civil servants as well as involving women in the monitoring committee for the implementation of the agreement to ensure inclusivity and sustainability of political reconstruction.

2016 - Basic Infrastructure Rehabilitation

MINUSMA implemented various construction and rehabilitation projects in the public infrastructure sector such as health centers, sanitation and clean water systems, and community halls. This project was carried out to increase the METs (*Metabolic Equivalents*) of residents' lives, reduce social tensions, and restore community trust in local government in areas that had been isolated due to armed conflict.

2018 - Youth Economic Empowerment

As a form of conflict prevention and part of the sustainable development program, MINUSMA launched skills training such as carpentry, agriculture, and workshop for youths at risk of being recruited by armed groups. These activities were implemented in Kidal, Gao, and Mopti to provide viable economic alternatives and develop local post-war potential.

2020 - Humanitarian-Based COVID-19 Response

MINUSMA distributed personal protective equipment, established public handwashing facilities and organized health awareness campaigns in remote villages. These actions helped to increase the resilience of local communities and strengthen their fragile health systems, making the COVID-19 response part of a context-sensitive *peacebuilding* strategy.

2021 - Reintegration of Ex-Combatants

Within the framework of DDR (*Disarmament, Demobilization, Reintegration*), MINUSMA works with the Government of Mali and local actors to register and train former combatants. The program includes job training, psychosocial assistance, and the provision of business capital to support the socio-economic reintegration of ex-combatants into their communities (United Nations Security Council, 2023).

2023 - Evaluation and Phased Withdrawal

Ahead of total withdrawal, MINUSMA completed various community development projects such as traditional market repairs, community hall construction, and local governance training. The aim is to ensure that communities and civil institutions can continue development independently post-withdrawal (Rédaction Africanews, 2023). MINUSMA does not only perform a military role, but is significantly involved in *peacebuilding* with civil reconstruction and social strengthening approaches. Despite facing political and security challenges, their efforts form an important foundation in creating long-term stability in Mali (Africanews with Agencies, 2023).

CONCLUSION

Based on the analysis of the efforts of *The United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali* (MINUSMA) in handling conflicts in Mali during the period 2013-2023, it can be concluded that MINUSMA has played a significant role in promoting peace through the application of the *Triple Nexus* concept: *peacekeeping*, *peacemaking*, and *peacebuilding*. In the *peacekeeping* aspect, MINUSMA has successfully maintained stability and security in strategic post-conflict areas through the establishment of guard posts, routine patrols, and protection of civilians. This effort was also supported by ceasefire monitoring and supervision of the implementation of peace agreements. In the *peacemaking* dimension, MINUSMA acts as a facilitator in the dialogue and negotiation process between the Malian government and armed groups. The mission was directly involved in drafting and monitoring the implementation of various peace agreements, such as the Ouagadougou Agreement and the Algiers Peace Agreement, which became important milestones in Mali's national reconciliation process.

Meanwhile, in the field of *peacebuilding*, MINUSMA demonstrated tangible contributions through social and economic development projects, such as public infrastructure rehabilitation, community economic empowerment, training for former combatants, and capacity building of local government institutions. MINUSMA has also adapted its response to crises, such as during the COVID-19 pandemic, to ensure community stability is maintained. Despite challenges such as a lack of local support, a dynamic security situation, and logistical limitations, MINUSMA's efforts remain an important part of the peace process in Mali. However, the long-term effectiveness of the mission still requires further evaluation, as the Malian government has decided to end MINUSMA's presence in 2023. This decision reflects the need for a more adaptive and sustainable approach to managing conflict in the region. Thus, the implementation of the Triple Nexus strategy by MINUSMA has contributed greatly to stabilization and peace in Mali, although it has not fully succeeded in permanently addressing all root causes of conflict

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