

SOUTH SUDAN'S FOREIGN POLICY IN RELATION TO UGANDA

BY



**CHAN DENG ADIM
MIR/27326/115/DF**

**A THESIS REPORT SUBMITTED TO THE COLLEGE OF HIGHER DEGREES
AND RESEARCH IN PARTIAL FULFILMENT FOR THE AWARD
OF A MASTERS DEGREE IN INTERNATIONAL
RELATIONS AND DIPLOMACY OF
KAMPALA INTERNATIONAL
UNIVERSITY**

JUNE, 2017

ABSTRACT

This research aimed at investigating the South Sudan foreign policy in relation to Uganda. The study was guided by three objectives including: to examine the various factors shaping South Sudan's foreign policy, to examine South Sudan's relations with Uganda and identifying South Sudan's foreign policy strategies in relation to its neighbors. The research methodology was based on a case study research design. This used specific subjects with common characteristics enough to represent the rest other than studying the entire population. Besides, the design facilitated the acquisition of in-depth analysis of data got from both countries because it engulfs the use of a variety of techniques for the same purpose. The findings indicated that there were four major factors that shaped South Sudan's foreign policy and the respondents majorly agreed with economic and political factors with up to 75% of the entire population whereas military intervention/strategies were also pointed out with 20% of the respondents and lastly but not least social relations that covered 5%. It also established that there are strong ties between the two countries (80%) despite of the ongoing conflict in the country. Both political and economic wise the two countries are almost inseparable with the JPDF intervention in South Sudan and Uganda's role in the Peace talks amongst South Sudan's leaders (50%). The researcher concluded that decline in economic and social factors have complicated standards of living, children having to flee their villages in fear of being starved, abducted and recruited by the rebels, shortage of money due to displacement by civil wars, poverty since cows were the only source of livelihood among the communities such as Dinka and scaring away investors thus affecting the economy of the country were the economic impacts that children and women had on the economy of the county, state and country. As well, the implementation of law's and order by the Central Equatorial state authorities was poor and that most of the respondents reacted by taking revenge and condemning the raids when their community members had been raided or abducted by other communities. The researcher recommended that the government of the Republic of South Sudan and state governments should encourage its citizens to diversify in other economic activities like farming and mining apart from cattle keeping which is the only source of livelihood among the pastoral communities such as the Dinka, Lou Nuer and Murle of Jonglei state. In order to bring a sustainable peace and security in the region, IGAD's role and its capacity should be strengthened, especially with related to the two Sudan. Its role, moreover, should be free from the influence of member states and some of the international actors.