

Foreword

This volume, just like the others published before it, is another follow-up on the seminars and conferences organised for professionals and other players working in the field of justice in the Democratic Republic of Congo. These include legal practitioners from several professional sectors. The same applies, in particular, to professors and other scientists at the University of Lubumbashi, as well as lawyers and magistrates. They are all still working in collaboration with the Konrad Adenauer Foundation.

The nature of the articles contained in this volume stems from the fact that the authors, contrary to the long-standing practice, are not only limited to lawyers. This time around, criminologists, political scientists and analysts were also involved.

With regard to the themes, the most discussed one was the issue on security and/or insecurity in the Democratic Republic of Congo in general and in the City of Lubumbashi in particular. This is justified by the concern expressed by the organisers and speakers during the last seminar organised in Lubumbashi from 17 to 18 April 2019 for purposes of meeting the expectations related to the theme below: « Strengthening the rule of law to ensure security: Insecurity in the Democratic Republic of Congo ».

This is the perspective and reflection behind Jean-Bosco Germain Esambu Matenda's article on 'Eradication of Insecurity in the City of Lubumbashi'; the article by Norbert Lupitshi Wa Numbi on 'Socio-genesis of Incivilities and Crime in Urban Areas of the DRC' (Case of Lubumbashi City) as well as the article by Joseph Kazadi Mpiana on 'The role of a Mayor of the City in securing its administrative entity' and not forgetting Delphin Kaimbi Mpyana's article on 'Social indicators and determinants of insecurity in Lubumbashi City'.

Moreover, the issue of human rights on the African continent and in its linkage with the issue of insecurity in the context of the democratic process and the security of presidential candidates were also discussed.

For instance, Martial Mumba Kakudji draws a comparison between 'Human rights and insecurity during the democratisation process in the Democratic Republic of Congo: The case of the city of Lubumbashi'; Jean-Marc P. Mutonwa Kalombe proposes a review of the 'Mechanisms for the protection of human rights in African international law other than under the African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights'; while Martin Mwenze Minza explores the 'Electoral process and security of presidential candidates in the Democratic Republic of Congo' and, finally, on his part, Eliezer Costa Kolesha Tshangala examines, 'Jurisdictional aspects of Congolese penal law: challenges and opportunities'.

This is yet another opportunity to demonstrate the commitment of each of these authors to this programme, which aims at contributing, through scientific reflection, to the search for appropriate practical solutions with a view to establish and consolidate a genuine rule of law in the context of legal structure of the Democratic Republic of Congo in general and of the City of Lubumbashi in particular.

As has become customary, this is a clear testimony of the generous support that legal practitioners and other scientists are now enjoying from Prof. Dr. Kalala Ilunga Matthiesen of the Faculty of Law of the University of Lubumbashi, on the one hand, and from Professor Dr. Hartmut Hamann of the Free University of Berlin, on the other hand. We would like to sincerely and generously thank them together with the entire Konrad Adenauer Foundation team.

It is also an opportunity to pay a vibrant and well-deserved tribute to the late Professor Adalbert Sango Mukalay, who left us so soon, when we still needed his contribution, his guidance and his presence. May he rest in peace! In Africa, the dead never die; the dead never leave us! This is an opportunity for us to immortalise him in our midst.

Nevertheless, it is important to note once more that the articles in this volume do not represent the views of the supervisors in charge of the programme, neither do they represent the views of Konrad Adenauer Foundation. They are the sole and exclusive responsibility of the authors, who are personally and entirely responsible to the extent of their articles.

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