

The master thesis presented the failure of the state in Sub-Saharan Africa with the concern on Somalia as a case study. The objective of the master thesis was to verify proposed assumptions that examined the causes of the state failure in Sub-Saharan Africa, the impact of the state failure on the civilians and on the international security as well as the effectiveness of the humanitarian intervention to contribute greatly to the issues of preventing violence against civilians and its spread to the neighbouring countries.

The main cause of the failure of the state in Sub-Saharan Africa was found to be the post-colonial governance influenced by the colonial experience, the Cold War period and guaranteed by the norms of international legal sovereignty.

The master thesis confirmed that failed and collapsed states are unable to grant its inhabitants the crucial need of security and represent a threat to its inhabitants. However the experience from Somalia showed that the additional structures can appear providing security even in the collapsed state.

The events of September 11, 2001 changed understanding of failed states in the international politics classifying them as a security threat to the security of the United States and to the international security. The failure of the state afflicting many countries in Africa influenced the perception of key issues of the international security.

Defining the humanitarian intervention represents an important step towards the protection of civilians; however the contradiction persists about its performance and implementation into the international law. According to findings when analyzing the humanitarian interventions in Somalia and Rwanda it is argued that the humanitarian intervention is insufficient in preventing violence against civilians and its spread to the neighbouring countries.