

ABSTRACT

The hybrid governance theory has facilitated the shift beyond the state-centric perspective on security governance. Yet the theory has never been tested under the conditions absent from an active or recent military conflict. It tends to neglect the relations between the state and non-state security actors and superfluously praises non-state and hybrid security orders.

The paper elaborates on these academic gaps. Based on secondary data, it investigates hybrid security governance in South Africa. The paper demonstrates that hybrid security governance can exist in a non-conflict setting. It discusses the patterns of the emergence of non-state security actors, their relations with the population and the state. The findings are found to be consistent with the hybrid governance theory, though there are a number of peculiar features. Additional studies on hybrid governance in a non-conflict setting will help to distinguish the features of South African hybrid security from the general logic of hybrid security governance in a non-conflict setting.