

Abstract

Keywords: Value of Territory, Natural Resources, Niger Delta Region, Ethnic Conflict, Separatist movements, Biafra.

This study deals with the ethnic conflict in the Federal Republic of Nigeria. The main objective of this study is to analyse whether the valued territory of the Niger Delta region is the cause of the ethnic conflict in the country. Moreover, the geographical south-east region of Nigeria is trying to separate itself from the rest of the federation because the Igbo population inhabiting this region claims they are being marginalised in the country. However, if the south-east region, called also Biafra, becomes the Biafran Republic it is highly probable that the south-south is going to separate along. The federal government is not satisfied with the fact, as 80% of the federal revenue comes from the Niger Delta region and they do not want to loose it. Therefore, my findings show that if the movement for the secession of Biafra is going to be crushed down by force, the movement will radicalise and get stronger with the intensified dissatisfaction of the local population. The local population of these two geographical regions created many movements which are fighting not only the federal government but also the multination corporation exploiting oil and natural gas from the Niger Delta region. Many of these movements are also on the list of terrorist organisations as they

are know from kidnappings, various attacks on cities and its populations, vandalism, pipe-tapping, piracy, and illegal refining.