



Call for Contributions: *Intelligence and the State in Africa*

The Institute for Security Studies (ISS) invites scholars, practitioners, researchers and policy analysts to submit abstract proposals or articles relating to the nature and functions of the intelligence sector in Africa.

Background

Of all the sub-sectors of the security sector, the intelligence domain is probably the least often discussed and researched. The whole notion of secrecy and covert activities make the sector difficult to understand and to engage in. However, as one of the most essential weapons in the arsenal of the state, the intelligence sector cannot and should not be ignored as a field of research. Being able to operate in secret presents challenges to creating a system of democratic control and the ability to function in secret can present real challenges to human security.

The challenge of intelligence governance is ultimately concerned with harnessing the tools of covert and coercive power for the purposes of the state and society as a whole. The risk is that if intelligence services are uncontrolled, poorly managed and not held to account, there is the possibility of misuse of the state security structures for personal or group interest and that the activities of the intelligence services could actually threaten the security of citizens. Ultimately, allowing the prevalence of secrecy and lack of accountability, increases the risk of impropriety and in the long-term threatens democracy.

In considering these complex issues in various contexts on the African continent, this monograph seeks to provide insight into the current nature and functions of the intelligence sector in various states in Africa. We are interested in a variety of themes and case studies.

The following are merely suggestive examples:

- Intelligence and regime security
- National case studies on the intelligence sector including legislative mandate, role and oversight and controls on the use of intrusive methods of investigation
- Parliamentary oversight of the intelligence sector
- The role of intelligence in conflict resolution, management and prevention
- Regional intelligence cooperation
- Comparative case studies
- Intelligence reform

Abstracts of between 300-500 words should be submitted to Lauren Hutton at lhutton@issafrica.org by 31 July 2008. The abstract must include the following details:

- Title and outline of the proposed paper
- Name of the author, organization to which he or she belongs and email address;
- If there are several authors, please give the particulars of each of them.

Authors of accepted abstracts will be notified by 15 August 2008. Accepted papers should average between 6 000 - 10 000 words (including of references and endnotes) and must be submitted by 30 September 2008. Early submission of articles is strongly encouraged. If you have any queries regarding the submission of abstracts and papers, please contact:

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