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**Impact of Democratic Governance on Human Security: Implications for  
Nation-Building and International Image of Nigeria****<sup>1</sup>Shaibu M. T., <sup>2</sup>Anum Victoria & <sup>3</sup>Patrick Ukwumonu Okeme**<sup>1</sup>Department of Political Science

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**Abstract**

Human security is essential to any governance and it is not expected that democratic governance will fail in its responsibility to impact significantly on human security by tackling threats. On the contrary, in Nigeria the significant impact of democratic governance on human security in the fourth republic is perceived to be under threat. Besides, despite solutions proffered by extant related researches, the phenomenon has remain unresolved with its implications. This study investigates whether democratic governance has impacted significantly on human security, as well as examines the implications for nation-building and international image of Nigeria. The social contract theoretical propositions underpins this study. The study depends largely on quantitative research technique (QRT). The purposive sampling technique (PST) was employed to select a sample size of 200 comprising male and female Nigerians, and a self-designed Likert style rating scale measuring instrument was administered to elicit responses. This study findings revealed that human security threats are linked to the failure of democratic governance; it equally, shows that the impact of democratic governance on human security in Nigeria's fourth republic is low; and by implications, would continue to stimulate citizens distrust, disloyalty and separatists agitation for ethno-centric governance in Nigerian state. It recommends that except the Nigerian state embrace the principles of good governance while systemically building: trust, capacities, tracking crimes to transform conflict-habituated communities, human security threats will continue to thrive, nation-building will remain problematic and international image of Nigeria state will ebb.

**Keywords** 1.Citizens distrust 2. Ethno-centric agitations 3. Governance failure 4. Nation-building 5. Human Security

## Introduction

Human security is a multidimensional issue central to governance, and it is expected that democratic governance should have significant impact on human security globally. However, it is perceived that in Nigeria, the significant impact of democratic governance on human security with special reference to the fourth republic has been under threat. Omodia & Aliu (2013) claimed that the expectation at the return to democratic governance from many years of military governance in May 29, 1999, which marked the beginning of the country's fourth republic was ruined by threats to human security, manifested in the high rate of unemployment, lack of potable water, low quality healthcare and poor quality education due to disregard for the principle of rule of law; lack of accountability and transparency. Similarly, Ewetan & Urhie (2014, pp.53 & 54) argued that threats to human security in the fourth republic reflected an increase in the rate of theft, fraud, armed robbery attack on bank, kidnapping and assassination in different parts of the country.

Worst still, the threats to human security appears to have uncontrollably deepened in recent time with the violence operation of Boko-Haram uprising in the Northern region, herders-crop farmers crises in states across the country, gun men invasion of communities, abduction and kidnapping for ransom, extrajudicial killing, rape, ethnic clashes in communities due to marginalization, competing claims over scarce resources, discrimination and economic frustration including increase in price of food, irregular payment of workers salary in some states. Perhaps these threats may have reinvigorated the separatists agitation and the citizens support for ethno-centric or regio-centric governance as Alumona, Ojukwu & Azom (2017, p.2); Ibeanu, Orji & Iwuamadi (2016, p.11); British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC, 2021) suspected for instance, that the renewed agitation by the Igbos in Nigeria's South-East under the umbrella of the Movement for the Actualization of Sovereign State of Biafra (MASSOB); the Yorubas in South West under the umbrella of the Movement for the Actualization of Oduduwa Nation (MAON); the Movement for Emancipation of the Niger Delta (MEND); as well as the ongoing skepticism on the credibility of the imported COVID-19 vaccine bolster from the feeling of insecurity and distrust for democratic governance in the contemporary Nigerian state.

Besides, readings from researches by Leke (2010); Ogundiya (2010); Yagboyaju (2011); Maurice, Emmanuel & Patrick (2012); Omodia & Aliu (2013); Ewetan & Urhie (2014); Adediran (2015); Ozohu-Suleiman (2018) on governance and human security reveal that the current security situation in the country has defiled extant solution. Hence, inspiring the need for a re-assessment to frame systemic therapies to address the challenge while clearing doubts. Therefore, this study re-assesses whether democratic governance has significant impact on human security in Nigeria's fourth republic as well as the implications for nation-building and international image of the country. To achieve this, three fundamental questions are raised as guide: What is the nexus between democratic governance and human security threats? To what extent has democratic governance in Nigeria reduced human security threats? What are the implications for nation-building and international image of the country? Based on the aforementioned, this paper addresses these issues thematically under: conceptual clarification, theoretical reflection, empirical relevance, methodology, findings, discussion, conclusion and recommendations.

## Conceptual Clarification

### The Concept of Nation-Building cum International-Image

The term nation-building is conceived by Dinnen (2006) as developing: an effectively functioning state accepted by the citizens; a state with monopoly of the control of force; a state guaranteeing security for the population and even neighbouring countries as well as entrenching the rule of law and provision

of public assets. Dinnen added that building a nation could be difficult where part of its population are marginalized and have no say. Because if the state is not responsive to the plight of the marginalized population, it may lead to disloyalty and project bad international image. International image as Egwemi cited in Chidozie, Ibieta & Ujara (2014, p.51) conceptualizes is the impression and perception about an independent state in the international arena stimulated by certain negative or positive domestic manifestations that contradict or align with international agreements, standards and obligation, especially, the obligation to ensure the protection of the fundamental human rights and to guarantee human security. Moreover, the Center for Strategic and International Studies, CSIS, (2021) views international image not only as an essential source of state power but as a conduit through which states can convert resources into policy outcomes, command international respect, recognition and influence and attract foreign investors as well as diplomatic presence. In contrary, bad image is disadvantageous as it can discourage foreign investors, breed diplomatic disengagement, weaken foreign policy and sometimes attract international sanctions as well as isolationism policies against a state as a member of international community particularly when it affect human security which is the responsibility of governance.

### **The Concept of Democratic Governance**

The Center for International Private Enterprise (CIPE, 2021) defined democratic governance as a participatory system of control that gives people a say in how decisions are made in order to deliver equal opportunity for all within the society. According to Fye (2015) democratic governance is under obligation to organize itself and operate to ensure equality of opportunity, equity for all without discrimination in terms of implementation of regulations, laws, programmes on human welfare, environment and natural resources protection. In corroboration,, the Belgian Technical Cooperation (BTC, 2021) avers that democratic governance requires: a legislature which represents the people; an independent and a non-discriminatory judiciary able to uphold the rule of law for all citizens; professional and politically neutral security forces that act in the interests of the common good. Hence, this conceptual notions, suggest that a democratic governance is expected to embrace the principles of good governance which according to Okoroafor (2010, p.176) entails meeting the aspirations and the needs of the people while conforming to the rule of law without any form of abuse and corruption. In other words, good governance translates to concrete provision of basic necessities and improvement in human security to promote the general wellbeing of the people without compromising or contradicting domestic and international legal agreements on human rights and security.

### **The Concept of Human Security**

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP, 2006, p.5); African Union Nonaggression and Common Defence Pact (AUNCDP, 2005); Commission on Human Security (CHS) cited in a report by Human Security Unit of United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (HSU-OCHA, 2009, p.6) conceived that human security is about protecting people from critical (severe) and pervasive (widespread) threats and situations as well as addressing threats to socio-economic, political, food, health, environmental, community and personal security which are vital core of all human lives to enhance human freedoms, human fulfillment; creating the culture or the environment necessary for the survival, livelihood, and dignity of the individuals in the society. In conformity, Obuchi Keizo cited in Hussein, Gnisci & Wanjiru (2004, p.13), explains that human security represents “the keyword to comprehensively seizing all of the menaces that threaten the survival, daily life, and dignity of human

beings and to strengthening the efforts to confront these threats. A broader categorization of human security threats and their possible root causes have been documented as presented in Table 1.

**Table 1: The categories of human security threats and possible root causes at a glance**

Human security Threat	Possible Root Causes
Economic security threat	Persistent poverty, unemployment
Food security threat	Hundreds of millions of people in the world remain hungry either through local unavailability of food or, more often, through lack of entitlements or resources to purchase food.
Health security threat	Deadly infectious diseases, unsafe food, malnutrition, lack of access to basic health care.
Environmental security threat	Environmental degradation, resource depletion, natural disasters and pollution.
Personal security threat	Physical violence, crime, terrorism, domestic violence and child labor.
Community security threat	Inter-ethnic, religious and other identity based tensions that often arise between these groups due to competition over limited access to opportunities and resources.
Political security threat	Political repression, human rights abuses. Living in a society that cannot guarantee basic human rights and freedom of expression.

**Source:** UNDP (2006); *United Nations Human Security Unit (UNHSU, 2016, p.7).*

### Theoretical Reflection

The social contract theoretical propositions are relevant to understanding that the fundamental reason humanity created civil society, Government and its institutions was to move out of the State of Nature - a State of Lawlessness and be protected. The main proponents of Social contract theory are: Thomas Hobbes (1588-1679), John Locke (1632-1704), Jean-Jacques and Rousseau (1712-1778) (Internet Encyclopedia of Philosophy (IEP, 2021).

The basic propositions include: that state or civil society is the product of a contract or an agreement (Nbeta cited in Olu-Adeyemi and Shaibu, 2019, p.532); that human being has a natural desire for security and order, therefore, man entered into a contract in order to protect, preserve and avoid constant: fear, pain, chaotic, poverty, lawlessness that characterized the State of Nature where lives and property was not safe by voluntarily surrendering all their rights and freedoms to higher authority called Government; that the purpose of Government and law is to uphold and protect the human rights to lives and property; that as long as the Government fulfils this purpose, the laws given by it are valid and binding but if the Government fails, then it can be resisted, thrown out of power or the citizens withdraw their loyalty. In this sense, D'Agostino Fred cited in Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy (SEP, 2017, p.3) wrote, social contract theorists showed that people in the society have reason to endorse and comply with the fundamental social rules, laws and institutions of that society as well as justify and determine whether

or not a given regime is legitimate and therefore worthy of loyalty. To this end, the social contract theorization is based on the fact that people can revolt, resist or throw the Government out of power when it fails to protect them. This logically, interface with frustration–aggression hypothesis which agreed that the occurrence of aggressive, violent, antagonistic or disloyalty behaviour always presupposes the existence of frustration and, contrariwise, that the existence of frustration always leads to some form of aggression (Breuer & Elson, 2017).

It follows therefore, that though, the Government of the Nigerian state has not been thrown out of power as proposed by social contract theorists, the renewed agitations: in Nigeria's South-East, by the Movement for the Actualization of Sovereign State of Biafra (MASSOB); in South-West, by the Movement for Actualization of Oduduwa Nation (MAON); in Niger Delta region, by the Movement for Emancipation of the Niger Delta (MEND), in Northern region, the declaration of caliphates by the Boko-Haram terrorist amongst others, apparently represent the withdrawal of loyalty stimulated by the frustration, from the failure of democratic government to adequately provide human security in the country (Alumona, Ojukwu & Azom 2017; Ibeanu, Orji & Iwuamadi 2016; British Broadcasting Corporation BBC, 2021). More so,, that Omodia, & Aliu (2013); Ewetan & Urhie (2014) narratives supported that the inability of democratic government to manage the threats breed unhealthy competition, resentment and frustration among various social groups and perhaps the ethno-centric and regio-centric agitations for self-actualization in the country, given credibility to the social contract theoretical propositions and frustration-aggression hypotheses.

### **Empirical Relevance**

Scholarly research contributed by Leke (2010); Yagboyaju (2011); Ogundiya (2010); Maurice, Emmanuel & Patrick (2012); Omodia & Aliu (2013); Adediran (2015); Ozohu-Suleiman (2018) on governance and human security are empirically relevance to this study. Leke (2010) revealed that democratic governance has not made positive impact on human security in fourth republic because the political class continues to demonstrate militaristic and unconstitutional attributes on issues that are characteristically civil. That rather than demonstrate the culture of good governance to develop the state in a way that will impact human lives, bad governance pauperized the citizenry. However, the study failed to measure the extent democratic governance has reduced human security threat and the implications for nation-building and international image of Nigeria. Also, Yagboyaju (2011) disclosed that democratic governance could not have positively impact human security in the fourth republic because of weak institutions and political elites total disregard for the people they are supposed to serve and suggested the state as well as its institutions should be strengthened to promote the democratic principles. In a similar study, Maurice, Emmanuel & Patrick (2012) identified some factors that hindered the positive impact of democratic governance on human security iwhich nclude electoral malpractice, inter- and intra-ethnic cleavages, religious crises, weak democratic institutions, institutionalized corruption and leadership crises; and recommended that if democratic principles must be consolidated in Nigeria, institutions need to be strengthened. Similarly, like Leke (2010), Yagboyaju (2011); Maurice, Emmanuel & Patrick (2012) did not measure the extent democratic governance has reduced human security threat as well as on the implications for nation-building and international image of the country.

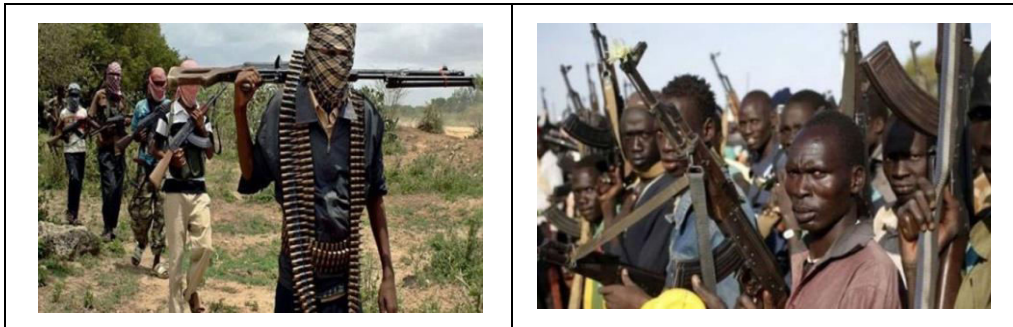
Accordingly, Omodia & Aliu (2013) revealed that the failure of democratic governance to deliver public goods and services, political corruption, high level extravagance, lawlessness, fraud, blatant looting of the national treasury and injustice have constrained and undermined popular trust in government, democratic institutions, subverted accountability and the rule of law, are reasons for insecurity manifested in economic inequality, social tensions, violence, and legitimacy crisis, with grave danger to



national stability. Ewetan & Urhie (2014) agreed with Omodia and Aliu that failure of governance was the root causes of human insecurity characterized by: ethno-religious conflicts, politically based violence, systemic and political corruption, economic-based violence, pervasive material inequalities and unfairness; unemployment, poverty, organized violent groups, weak security system, porous borders, and terrorism. But, caught in the same web for not measuring opinions as to whether democratic governance have reduced human security threats, the extent and implications for nation-building and international image of Nigeria.

Moreover, Adediran (2015) argued that despite some years of uninterrupted democratic rule in Nigeria, there has not been positive significant link between democracy, economic development and human security but observed increase in unemployment, poverty rate and ineffective healthcare. His study recommended strict compliance to the principles of democracy, good governance, sound anti-corruption policies and that the legislative, judiciary and executive arms of government should be alive to their responsibilities. The study also failed to show the extent democratic governance reduce human security threats, the implications for nation-building and international image of the country. Nevertheless, Ogundiya (2010) on the impact of governance on development which also affect human security, identified that the problem of development in the fourth republic is bad governance evidenced in the lack of proper, fair and equitable allocation of resources for the achievement and promotion of the common good of the Nigerian state; and proffered that for good governance to be feasible, sound anti-corruption policies devoid of mere speeches, a functional legislature, independent judiciary and attitudinal transformation on the part of the political elite are required. Like similar studies, It failed to reflect the extent democratic governance has reduced human security threat and the implications for nation-building and international image of Nigeria. In the same way, a more recent research by Ozohu-Suleiman (2018) equally observed that despite two decades of democratization process, good governance cum development in the fourth republic has not been visible due to lack of inclusion and recommended that the social democratic option - one that can set in motion a democratization process that places emphasis on the people's active participation in the development process be put in place.. Thus, this study did not probe the extent democratic governance has reduced human security threat as well as the implications for nation-building and international image of Nigeria.

Therefore, the aforementioned scholarly researches identified useful variables that have hindered democratic governance from imparting positively on human security in Nigeria's fourth republic, however, did not systematically measure the responses on the nexus between democratic governance and human security threat; the extent democratic governance has reduce human security threat as well as the implications for nation-building and international image of Nigeria using the broad based United Nations human security threat indicators which this current research has done to fill methodological lacuna. Perhaps, the solutions proffered as revealed in the literature did not sufficiently address the current human security situation in the country. To support this, Figure I and Table 2 captured some evidences of human security threats in the country that are yet unresolved.





**Figure I: Some evidences of human security threats despite democratic governance in Nigeria.**

**Sources:** Extracted from different sources in April 5, 2021.

**Table 2: Some costs of democratic governance failure in Nigeria's fourth republic.**

	<b>The challenges</b>	<b>Level of casualties</b>
	Unemployment	In 2021, the unemployment rate in Nigeria is estimated to reach 32.5 percent.
	Hunger	3,000 Nigerians die daily.
	Boko-Haram conflict	In 2014, between 6,500 and 10,900 was recorded death in the conflict. Of the 2.3 million people displaced by the conflict since May 2013, at least 250,000 have left Nigeria and fled into Cameroon, Chad or Niger.
	Air pollution	In 2018 caused an estimated 11,200 premature deaths in Lagos alone.
	Security forces intervention and extra judiciary killings	killings by the security forces peaked at 80% between June 2013 and May 2014. 58% of police intervention cause fatalities compare to 60% in

		the case of the army.
	Election-related violence	In 2003, 100 people were killed in election-related violence. In 2007, 300 people were killed. In 2011 about 800 lives were lost, between 48,000 and 65,000 persons were displaced in 12 states. In 2015, 100 people were killed. In 2019, 626 people were killed.
	Herdsman and farmers conflicts in communities	At least 310 attacks were recorded between 5 January 2016 and 5 October 2018. From 2015 to 2018, between 3,000 and 4,000 people died. At least more than 10,000 people in the have killed in the last decade.
	Armed bandits	Since 2019, 262 people have been killed.
	Kidnapping for ransom	In 2021, school kidnapping in within three months claimed 633 victims.
<b>Source:</b> Extracted from deferent sources in April 6, 2021.		

## Methodology

The research design adopted was descriptive survey design. In terms of sampling technique, the purposive sampling technique (PST) was adopted to draw 200 sample size amongst male and female Nigerians. A self-designed Likert style rating scale measuring instrument titled: democratic governance and human security in Nigeria questionnaire (DGHSNQ) with 21 close-ended questions requesting respondents to strongly agree, agree, disagree or strongly disagree was administered to elicit responses after expert validation, and the reliability was determined to be adequate. The data collected were analyzed using the Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS) analytical tools to determine the mean and standard deviation of the data gathered upon which the conclusion of study was drawn. However, the results were discussed thematically using tables.

## Results and Discussion

### The answers to the research question 1

What is the nexus between democratic governance and human security? as shown in Table 3 reveals that human security threats is due to democratic governance failure.

**Table 3: Nexus between democratic governance and human security**

Item	SA	A	D	SD	Mean	Std. D.	Remark
Economic threats i.e. unemployment, poverty, high education fees, increase in electricity tariff, fuel/gas/kerosene price, irregular salary payment are due to failure	102	98	0	0	3.51	.50	Accepted



of democratic governance.							
Community threats i.e. incessant attacks by Boko-Haram group, militants, armed bandits, kidnappers, abductors, herders-crop farmers clashes cannot be linked to failure of democratic governance.	0	0	71	129	1.35	.47	Not Accepted
Health threats i.e. spread of disease, importation of unsafe food, malnutrition, lack of access to basic healthcare can be linked to the failure of democratic governance.	155	45	0	0	3.77	.41	Accepted
Political threats i.e. marginalization, discrimination, human rights violation, elections violence stimulating freedom fighters/protesters/justice seekers/agitators are linked to failure of democratic governance.	103	78	0	19	3.32	.89	Accepted
Personal threats i.e. physical violence, crime, terrorism are all linked to the problems and failure of democratic governance.	71	110	0	19	3.16	.84	Accepted
Food threats i.e. scarcity and the inability to afford some available food, high level of hunger manifesting in begging for food by some persons cannot be linked to the problems and failure of democratic governance.	32	78	0	90	1.87	1.03	Not Accepted
Environmental threats i.e. resource depletion, erosion, flood, indiscriminate dumping of waste, open burning and pollution can be linked to the problem and failure of democratic governance.	51	90	59	0	2.96	.74	Accepted

**Key:** SD = Strongly Disagree, D = Disagree, A = Agree, SA = Strongly Agree

**Decision value for remark:** 0.00 - 2.49 = Not Accepted, 2.50 - 4.00 = Accepted

From Table 3, it is crystal clear that the respondents strongly agreed that: economic threats i.e. unemployment, poverty, high education fees, increase in electricity tariff, fuel/gas/kerosene price, irregular salary payment are due to failure of democratic governance ( $\bar{x} = 3.51$ ) and health threats i.e. spread of disease, importation of unsafe food, malnutrition, lack of access to basic healthcare can be

linked to the failure of democratic governance ( $\bar{x} = 3.77$ ). Also, the table shows that the respondents agreed that: political threats i.e. marginalization, discrimination, human rights violation, elections violence stimulating freedom fighters /protesters/justice seekers/agitators are linked to failure of democratic governance ( $\bar{x} = 3.32$ ), personal threats i.e. physical violence, crime, terrorism are all linked to the problems and failure of democratic governance ( $\bar{x} = 3.16$ ) and environmental threats i.e. resource depletion, erosion, flood, indiscriminate dumping of waste, open burning and pollution can be linked to the problem and failure of democratic governance ( $\bar{x} = 2.96$ ). Furthermore, Table 3 shows that the respondents disagreed to the following: community threats i.e. incessant attacks by Boko-Haram group, militants, armed bandits, kidnappers, abductors, herders-crop farmers clashes cannot be linked to failure of democratic governance ( $\bar{x} = 1.35$ ) and food threats i.e. scarcity and the inability to afford some available food, high level of hunger manifesting in begging for food by some persons cannot be linked to the problems and failure of democratic governance ( $\bar{x} = 1.88$ ).

**The answers to research question 2:** To what extent has democratic governance reduced human security threats as shown in Table 4 reveals that the extent to which democratic governance has reduced human security threats in Nigeria's fourth republic is low.

**Table 4: Extent to which democratic governance has reduced human security threats**

Item	SA	A	D	SD	Mean	Std. D
Democratic governance has significant impact on human security because economic threats have reduced in the country.	0	65	45	90	1.88	.87
Democratic governance has no significant impact on human security because community threats have increased in the country.	90	19	91	0	2.99	.95
Democratic governance has significant impact on human security because health threats have reduced in the country.	0	32	78	90	1.71	.73
Democratic governance has no significant impact on human security because political threats have increased in the country.	64	104	32	0	3.16	.67
Democratic governance has significant impact on human security because personal security threats have reduced in the country.	19	91	0	90	1.74	.87
Democratic governance has no significant impact on human security because food threats have increase in the country.	65	135	0	0	3.32	.47

Democratic governance has significant impact on human security because environmental threats have reduced in the country.	0	0	122	78	1.61	.49
<b>Weighted Average</b>						<b>2.34</b>

**Key:** SD = Strongly Disagree, D= Disagree, A = Agree, SA = Strongly Agree

**Decision value:** Low =0.00-2.44, High = 2.45-4.00

Table 4 shows that the respondents disagreed to the following items: that democratic governance has significant impact on human security because economic threats have reduced in the country ( $\bar{x}$  = 1.88), democratic governance has significant impact on human security because health threats have reduced in the country ( $\bar{x}$  = 1.71), democratic governance has significant impact on human security because personal security threats have reduced in the country ( $\bar{x}$  = 1.74) and democratic governance has significant impact on human security because environmental threats have reduce in the country ( $\bar{x}$  = 1.61). Table 4 further shows that the respondents agreed to the following: democratic governance has no significant impact on human security because community threats have increased in the country ( $\bar{x}$  = 2.99), democratic governance has no significant impact on human security because political threats have increased in the country ( $\bar{x}$  = 3.16) and democratic governance has no significant impact on human security because food threats have increase in the country ( $\bar{x}$  = 3.32). Meanwhile based on the value of the weighted average (2.34 out of 4.00 maximum value obtainable) which falls, within the decision value for **low**, it can be inferred that the extent to which democratic governance has reduced human security threats in Nigeria's fourth republic is low.

**The answers to research question 3:** What are the implications for nation-building and international image as shown in Table 5 reveals that threats to human security will motivate disloyalty, make nation-building problematic and portray the country's international image as a weak nation.

**Table 5: Implications for nation-building and international Image**

Item	SA	A	D	SD	Mean	Std. D.	Remark
Economic threats will motivate disloyalty, make nation-building problematic and portray the country's international image as a weak nation, incapable of providing the basic economic needs of her citizens.	181	19	0	0	3.90	.29	Accepted
Community threats will neither inspire disloyalty, affect nation-building negatively nor portray the country's security agents as weak and will not lower her international image as the giant of Africa.	25	0	72	103	1.74	.97	Not Accepted
Health threats including doubt about	129	71	0	0	3.64	.48	Accepted

accessibility, effectiveness and safeness of medicines and vaccines will inspire fear and disloyalty that could hinder nation-building and portray the country's international image as a weak nation.							
Political threats will neither promote disloyalty, support for regional/ethnic-centered governance, make nation-building problematic nor point the country's international image as anti-democracy.	0	25	137	38	1.94	.56	Not Accepted
Personal threats will cause frustration and disloyalty, hinder nation-building and portray the country's international image as unsafe for foreign investors, investments and diplomatic presence.	148	52	0	0	3.74	.44	Accepted
Food threats will not encourage crime, frustration and disloyalty that could hinder nation-building and portray the country's international image as a weak incapable of protecting human rights to basic foods.	19	0	84	97	1.71	.88	Not Accepted
Environmental threats will stimulate agitation for the rights to healthy living, community clashes, displacement, conflict over scarce resources and disloyalty that could make nation-building problematic and portray the country's international image as weak nation.	137	44	19	0	3.59	.65	Accepted

**Key:** SD = Strongly Disagree, D = Disagree, A = Agree, SA = Strongly Agree

**Decision value for remark:** 0.00 - 2.49 = Not Accepted, 2.50 - 4.00 = Accepted

Table 5 shows that the respondents strongly agreed that: Economic threats will motivate disloyalty, make nation-building problematic and portray the country's international image as a weak nation, incapable of providing the basic economic needs of her citizens ( $\bar{x} = 3.90$ ), health threats including doubt about accessibility, effectiveness and safeness of medicines and vaccines will inspire fear and disloyalty that could hinder nation-building and portray the country's international image as a weak nation ( $\bar{x} = 3.64$ ), Personal threats will cause frustration and disloyalty, hinder nation-building and portray the country's international image as unsafe for foreign investors, investments and diplomatic presence ( $\bar{x} = 3.74$ ) and environmental threats will stimulate agitation for the rights to healthy living,

community clashes, displacement, conflict over scarce resources and disloyalty that could make nation-building problematic and portray the country's international image as weak nation ( $\bar{x} = 3.59$ ). Furthermore, the table shows that the respondents disagreed to the following: community threats will neither inspire disloyalty, affect nation-building negatively nor portray the country's security agents as weak and will not lower her international image as the giant of Africa ( $\bar{x} = 1.74$ ), political threats will neither promote disloyalty, support for regional/ethnic-centered governance, make nation-building problematic nor point the country's international image as anti-democracy ( $\bar{x} = 1.94$ ) and Food threats will not encourage crime, frustration and disloyalty that could hinder nation-building and portray the country's international image as a weak incapable of protecting human rights to basic foods ( $\bar{x} = 1.71$ ).

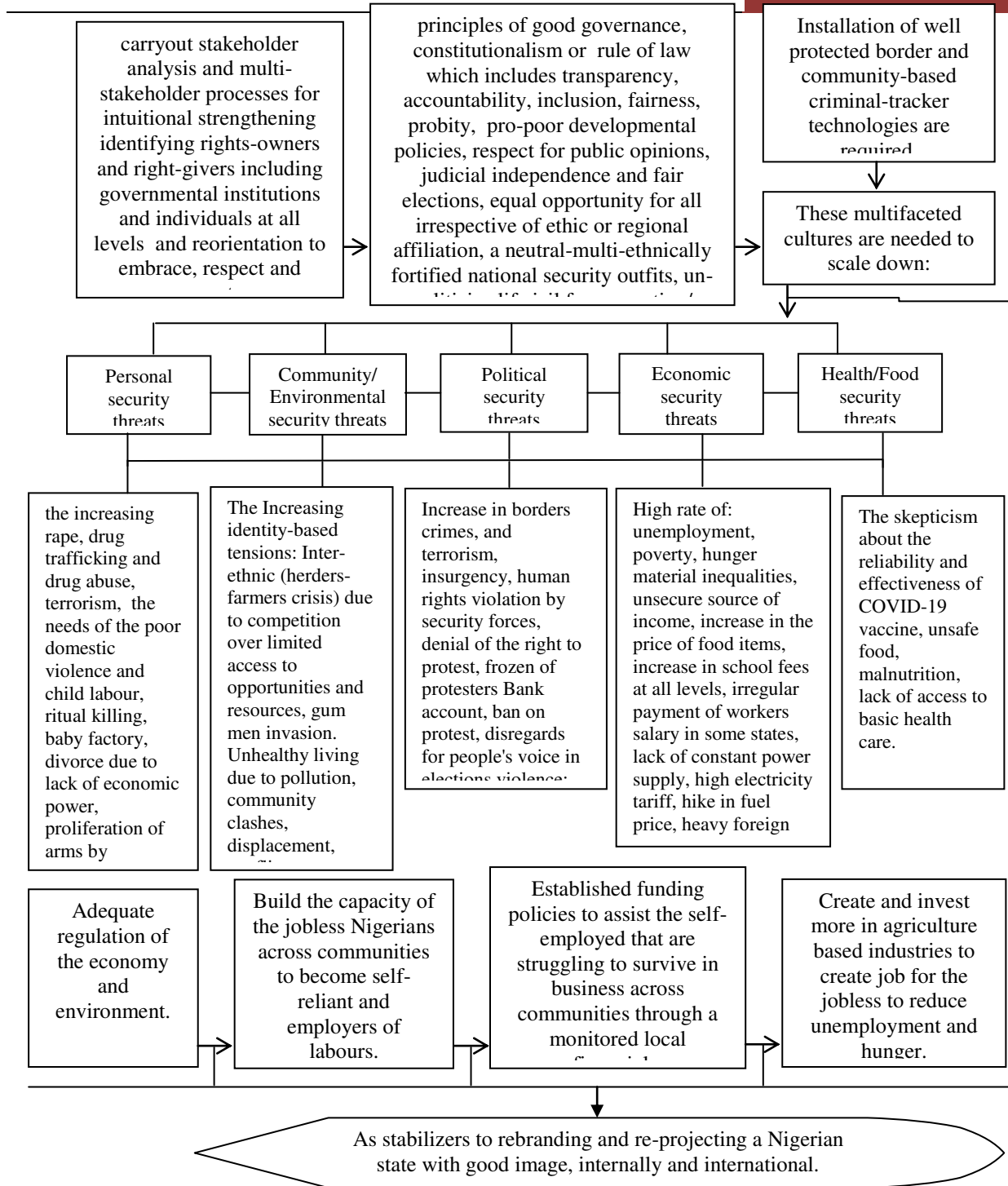
### Conclusion and Recommendations

It can be concluded first, that economic threats, health threats, political threats, personal environmental threats, community threats and food threats are all linked to the problems and failure of democratic governance. Secondly, that the impact of democratic governance in reduced human security threats in Nigeria's fourth republic is low because it has not reduce human security threats and by implications, human security threat would continue to amongst others, stimulate citizens distrust, disloyalty and separatists agitation for ethno-centric governance, hinders foreign investment, diplomatic presence, make nation-building problematic and portray the Nigerian State's international image as incapable of ensuring economic, health, political, personal, environmental, community and food security. Therefore, except the Nigerian state uphold the principles of good governance in this fourth republic, threats to human security will thrive, nation-building would remain problematic and the country's international image would continue to ebb.

Interestingly, for democratic governance to reduce threats and have significant impact on human security, build a nation that would be respected globally, this study *recommends* a systemic therapies as captured in Figure II. However, it must be noted that the systemic therapies require a strong political will, individual and institutional readiness to embrace the culture that will facilitate the trust, reduce threat, breed peace system and inspire national cohesion as well as good international image.







**Figure II:** Systemically build trust, capacities, creating jobs and track crimes  
**Source:** Framed by the Author in April 27, 2021.

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