

# ABOUT THE AUTHORS

**Abdulasheed Abdulyakeen** is a lecturer in the Department of Political Science at Al-Qalam University, Katsina, Nigeria. His primary research interests lie in Political Philosophy, Peace and Security Studies, and Public Policy. Abdulyakeen has authored over 100 scholarly publications in both local and international academic outlets. His notable books include *Re-Imposing Neoliberal Domination in the Global South: The Dynamics of Forced Neoliberalism and Its Discontents in Nigeria*; *Introduction to African Politics: Deconstructing the Constructive African History*; *Terrorism and Human Security in Nigeria: Challenges and the Way Forward*; and *Issues in Nigerian Government and Politics*. Abdulyakeen has served in various academic and administrative roles, including Level Adviser, Departmental Part-Time Coordinator and Member of the Examination Monitoring Committee. He is a Chartered Conciliator, Mediator and Counterterrorism expert.

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Her Master's research focuses on 'Ireland's Climate Policy and Global Sustainability Role Through the Lens of Small-State Politics'. Mnyanda has developed extensive academic experience through her roles as a writing consultant and tutor for Politics and International Relations students at the University of Johannesburg. She has also published work at the undergraduate level and has been an active participant in several academic conferences. Her engagements include presenting research at international platforms such as the University of Namibia and serving as both a speaker and organiser for departmental conferences at the University of Johannesburg. Mnyanda's areas of academic interest include small states diplomacy, climate change, international law, security studies, foreign policy, gender studies and interstate wars. Through her research and academic involvement, Mnyanda aims to contribute to the evolving discourse on small-state politics, climate governance and global sustainability.

**Christopher Afoke Isike** is a Professor of African Politics and International Relations, and Head of the Department of Political Sciences at the University of Pretoria. The founding Director of the African Centre for the Study of the United States, University of Pretoria (ACSUS-UP), Professor Isike is also the current President of the African Association of Political Science (AAPS) and a member of the Board of Directors of Global Development Network (GDN), a public international organisation established by Nobel Prize Economist Joseph Stiglitz, that promotes better policies and better lives through high-quality policy-oriented social science research conducted in developing and transition countries. Professor Isike sits on the Advisory Board of the Society of Gender Professionals (SGP), an international association of gender practitioners, academics and activists dedicated to promoting feminist action and applied research as well as raising the profile of gender expertise around the world. With over 100 publications in top national and international peer-reviewed journals, including chapters in books published by reputable publishing houses globally, Professor Isike's research interests include African soft power politics, women, peace and conflict studies, women and political representation in Africa, rethinking state formation

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regulatory frameworks governing South Africa's water resources and service delivery. As a policy and governance specialist with extensive experience in water and sanitation, spatial planning and public sector innovation, his research bridges academic inquiry and community-based evidence to promote equitable, sustainable and inclusive water governance. As an interdisciplinary researcher, his scholarship explores environmental justice, governance inequities and participatory decision-making in water and sanitation systems.

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