

UNSC

Table of Content

2. Letter from the Secretary General.....	2
3. Letter from the Under Secretary General.....	3
3. Letter from the Academic Assistant.....	4
4. Introduction of the UNSC Committee.....	5
5. Definitions of Key Terms.....	6
6. Introduction to the Agenda Item.....	7
1. What is the Mozambique crisis?.....	7
2. Violence in Northern Mozambique.....	8
3. Right to Peaceful Protest.....	9
4. Freedom of Media and Expression.....	10
5. Unresolved Kidnapping.....	11
6. Key International Partners.....	12

7. Ansar al-Sunna.....	14
7. Current Situation.....	15
8. Historical Background.....	16
9. Major Players.....	17
a. United States of America.....	17
b. Portugal.....	17
c. Mozambique.....	18
d. South Africa.....	18
Point to be Addressed.....	19
Further Reading.....	20
Bibliography.....	21

2. Letter from the Secretary General

Most Esteemed Participants of OAALMUN'24,

It is with great excitement that I extend my warmest invitation to each one of you for the upcoming conference; OAALMUN'24.

As the Secretary General of OAALMUN'24, it is my utmost pleasure to present to you our meticulously crafted study guides, designed to enhance the delegate experience and promote meaningful discussions on critical global issues.

I am honored to welcome you to this significant gathering, where we will embark on a journey of intellectual exploration, collaboration with fellow delegates from various backgrounds and the formation of lasting connections.

Throughout the three days ahead of us, we anticipate engaging debates that will not only enhance your understanding of global affairs but also contribute to the development of critical diplomatic skills. Our dedicated academic team has spared no effort in ensuring that this event becomes a reality, working tirelessly to curate an enriching and memorable experience for all participants.

I encourage you to seize this moment, participate wholeheartedly, and embrace the chance to broaden your horizons academically and professionally. I wholeheartedly wish you all the creation of lasting memories.

Let us all recognize our potential as catalysts for global progress, ready to transcend borders and make a handful out of the opportunities that lie ahead.

Best of regards,

Selma Süeda Çayır,
Secretary General

3. Letter from the Under Secretary General

Dear delegates of UN Security Council,

As your under secretary general Tuğba Sevdenur Karataş and academic assistant Taha Gani Çalışkan, we are more than pleased to welcome you to OAALMUN'24 UNSC committee. It is both an immense privilege and a great responsibility for us to take it upon ourselves to guide you through this journey that we will be embarking on together for a peaceful world.

With great effort and diligence, we have prepared this study guide for you. This guide is meant to assist you in researching the agenda item, by providing you instruments that will help you to understand the issue. You should, however, bear in mind that the information that this Study Guide is going to provide you with, is only an overview of this complex and challenging topic area. Therefore, we

strongly encourage you to do your personal research both on the topic and on your personal country's position.

In the next three days, you will discuss the Mozambique crisis, one of the important problems in the world. We hope that, as the security council members, you will find effective solutions for the terrorist attacks in Mozambique, where human rights are ignored. If you have any questions please don't hesitate to ask.

Kind Regards,

Your lovely USG; Tuğba S. Karataş

3. Letter from the Academic Assistant

First of all, I'd like to express warm greetings to every one of you and introduce myself as your academic assistant through this letter since it's a genuine privilege for me to be on the Committee. Having said that, we propose that you develop a comprehensive portfolio in which you clearly express your country's position and perspective on the topic in order to play an exemplary role as delegates on the Committee. I'd also like you to do some research on the subject, especially considering that if you have any questions while working on the portfolio or doing your research, you can feel free and safe to ask me about any particular aspect. I am really looking forward to presiding over the course of actions that you will take throughout the discussion sessions. I am convinced that your investigation, arguments, solutions, and proposals will be carried out with dedication as well as thoroughness.

Kind Regards,

4. Introduction of the UNSC Committee

The United Nations Security Council held its first session on 17 January 1946 at Church House, Westminster, London. Since its first meeting, the Security Council has taken permanent residence at the United Nations Headquarters in New York City. It consists of 15 members. Out of these 5 are permanent members, they are also known as “Veto Owners” or “P5 Nations”. These permanent members are; the USA, France, China, Russia and the UK. Alongside these 5 member states, there are 10 non-permanent member states appointed for the tenure of 2 years by the United Nations General Assembly.

These nations represent their region and foreign policies exhibiting leadership on an international platform. The presidency of the Security Council is held by each member for one month in alphabetical order. The Security Council can be

convened anytime by the president at the request of the member states. Consequently, the president also holds the power to call upon member states for a meeting in an urgent crisis, emergency or dispute situation. The member states could extend an invitation to the observer nations who are not allowed to vote but could submit their proposals or draft resolutions. The observers are also welcome to apprise the council regarding any contemporary issue ongoing in their territory.

The Security Council's members meet regularly to assess threats to international security, including civil wars, natural disasters, arms proliferation, and terrorism. It is the only body whose resolutions are binding and therefore has the ability to influence the direct behavior of the member states. Unlike the General Assembly, the Security Council is not bound to sessions. Each Security Council member must have a representative available at UN Headquarters at all times in case an emergency meeting becomes necessary.

The Security Council is also responsible for the supervision of the Peacebuilding Commission (PBC). Each nation is granted one vote, and it requires a special majority (2/3) to pass a resolution. However, if any P5 nation says no, the resolution won't pass, this is known as an exercise of "Veto Power".

5. Definitions of Key Terms

Terrorism: In its broadest sense, is the use of intentional violence and fear to achieve political or ideological aims. The term is used in this regard primarily to refer to intentional violence during peacetime or in the context of war against non-combatants, mostly civilians and neutral military personnel. There are various definitions of terrorism, with no universal agreement about it.

Insurgency: Insurgencies fall into the category of "irregular warfare", since an insurgency normally lacks the organization of a revolution, even though it has the same aims. Revolutions often begin within a country's armed forces, whereas insurgencies often arise in remote areas, where they gain strength slowly by winning the confidence of rural populations. An insurgency may be based on ethnic or religious identity, or its roots may be political or economic. Since

insurgencies are rarely strong enough to face a national army head-on, *insurgents* tend to use such tactics as bombing, kidnapping, hostage-taking, and hijacking.

Defense: The statement of the case in which the defendant sets out the facts on which he relies in response to the particulars of the claim.

Invasion: An invasion is a military offensive of combatants of one geopolitical entity, usually in large numbers, entering territory controlled by another similar entity, generally with the objective of either: conquering; liberating or re-establishing control or authority over a territory; forcing the partition of a country; altering the established government or gaining concessions from said government; or a combination thereof. An invasion can be the cause of a war, be a part of a larger strategy to end a war, or it can constitute an entire war in itself. Due to the large scale of the operations associated with invasions, they are usually strategic in planning and execution.

Occupation: a person's usual or principal work or business, especially as a means of earning a living; vocation

6. Introduction to the Agenda Item

1. What is the Mozambique crisis?



The humanitarian situation in Mozambique worsened in 2022 amid ongoing attacks by an Islamic State (ISIS)-linked group locally known as “Mashababos” or Al-Shabab. Mozambican forces, with the support of troops from Rwanda and the Southern African Development Community (SADC) regional force, have significantly increased their presence in the region and recovered areas previously under the control of the insurgents.

The situation remained volatile in 2022, with fighting shifting to southern areas of Cabo Delgado and northern areas of Nampula province that had not experienced attacks before.

Government security forces across the country continued to use force and arbitrary detentions to restrict people’s right to peacefully protest. Press freedom came under pressure as new laws limiting freedom of expression and the work of journalists were debated or passed in the national parliament. The European Union approved additional military support for the SADC mission to Mozambique (SAMIM). Mozambique was elected as a non-permanent member of the United Nations Security Council for a two-year membership starting in January 2023.

2. Violence in Northern Mozambique

The humanitarian situation in northern Mozambique worsened as attacks by an Islamic State (ISIS)-linked group, known locally as Al-Shabab or “Mashababos” led to a spike in abductions and destruction of homes by the armed group. The violence has displaced thousands of people, and by the end of August, more than 946,000 were internally displaced in northern Mozambique after fleeing their homes in Cabo Delgado province.

In early March, local Al-Shabab fighters reportedly killed at least 15 civilians in the villages of Mbuidi, Malamba, and Nangomba, in Nangade district, Cabo Delgado province.

In June, the group staged a series of attacks in Ancuabe district, 45 kilometers from the provincial capital, Pemba, an area previously considered safe, killing at least seven people, four of whom they beheaded, and forcing thousands to flee their homes. Several people who fled the attacks told Human Rights Watch that hundreds of children had gone missing, as they fled separate ways from their parents, neighbors, and family members.

In September, the ISIS-linked group claimed responsibility for attacks on several villages in northern Mozambique, including two in Nampula province. Several witnesses told Human Rights Watch that armed men burned homes, a school, and a church in the Catholic Comboni Mission in the town of Chipene in Nampula. Many civilians were killed, including an Italian nun.

3. Right to Peaceful Protest

State security forces used lethal force and arbitrary arrest and detention to limit people's right to peaceful protest across the country.

In January, a group of women activists led by Observatorio da Mulher (Women Observatory) opened a formal complaint with the Attorney's General Office against police officers who in December 2021 forcibly broke up a peaceful protest against gender-based violence. During the protest, which was organized as part of the 16 Days of Activism to End Violence Against Women campaign, police arbitrarily arrested at least 17 women, who were released on the same day. As of September 2022, the case was still under investigation.



(Conflict in Mozambique: 30,000 people displaced in just one month)

In April, during a session in parliament, the minister of interior, Arsenia Massingue, pledged to punish police officers who unlawfully prevented the right to peaceful protest. Despite the minister's comments, members of the security forces continued with impunity to prevent peaceful protests.

In August, police used live bullets to disperse hundreds of unarmed market traders in Gondola, Manica province, who were demanding better work conditions. At least three people were injured and 21 were arrested. Also in August, police used tear gas to disperse a crowd at the Maputo fish market, where mostly women were protesting the lack of compensation for being transferred from the old to the new market.

4. Freedom of Media and Expression

Press freedom was under pressure as new laws limiting the work of journalists and freedom of expression were debated or passed in the national parliament. Lawmakers continued to hold public hearings on the proposed drafts of a new media law and a new broadcasting law that were introduced in 2021, which local and international groups said would "criminalize the work of journalists."

The draft law bans the rebroadcasting of foreign political shows and limits the number of correspondents from international broadcasters and other foreign media to two per outlet. The draft law also includes a provision that limits the right of journalists to defend themselves in cases of defamation against the president. At the time of writing, parliament had not scheduled a date for the final debate and approval of the draft laws.

In May, parliament approved a new counterterrorism law with a clause stating that anyone intentionally spreading false information about a terrorist act can be punished with a prison term of 8 to 12 years. The law also includes prison terms of between 12 and 16 years for anyone who publishes “classified information.”

The media rights group MISA-Mozambique urged parliament to amend the law, saying that “criminalizing the publication of classified information punished journalists and ordinary citizens, rather than the officials who failed in their duty to safeguard state secrets.” Despite growing opposition from local and international media rights groups, the law was published in the government gazette in July.

5. Unresolved Kidnapping

Police officers continued to be implicated in cases of kidnappings for ransom across the country. In May, the Mozambican Criminal Investigation Service (Sernic) [announced](#) the arrest of three members of a gang of kidnappers, two of whom were members of the national police force, and one a Sernic agent.

In April, Attorney-General Beatriz Buchili [denounced](#) police complicity in cases of kidnappings in Mozambique in her annual report on the country’s state of justice. She claimed the involvement of some “members of the police, lawyers, magistrates, and other figures in the judiciary creates fragilities in investigating these cases.” In February, President Filipe Nyusi [said](#) it was unacceptable that police stations had been transformed “into breeding grounds for kidnappers.”

In May, the National Police chief, Bernardino Rafael, [announced](#) that of the six cases of kidnapping of businesspeople or their relatives reported in the first quarter of 2022, only one was resolved after the family paid an undisclosed amount of ransom.

In May alone, two cases of kidnapping were reported in the capital, Maputo. One of the cases involved the son of a businessman who was kidnapped near his house in a well-secured area, close to the president's office.

In July, a businessman and owner of a hotel in Maputo was kidnapped by unknown men in front of his house, which is located between the houses of the national police chief and the head of the State Information and Security Service (SISE).

6. Key International Partners



International partners continued to respond to requests from the Mozambican government to support its military operations against Islamist armed groups in northern Mozambique.

In April, the United States government named Mozambique a priority country for the US Strategy to Prevent Conflict and Promote Stability. The US Strategy aims to support a locally-led approach to address the causes of conflict and strengthen the foundation of stability. In July, the US Congress sent a bipartisan delegation to Mozambique, and in August, the US House of Representatives passed a resolution calling on the Mozambique government to protect its civilians and restore security in Cabo Delgado.

In June, the SAMIM began implementing the Peace Building Support initiatives in the northern part of the country. The program was designed to enhance social

protection mechanisms, law and order, humanitarian assistance, and capacity-building initiatives in areas under attack from armed groups.

Also in June, Mozambique was elected as a non-permanent member of the United Nations Security Council. During the two-year term starting on January 1, 2023, President Nyusi said Mozambique would contribute to building peace in the world, advocating dialogue and multilateralism.

In September, the European Union approved about US\$15 million in additional military support for the SAMIM, in Cabo Delgado, under the bloc's European Peace Facility. Also in September, during a visit to the country, EU High Representative Josep Borrell announced that Rwandan troops in Mozambique would receive EU financial support. Borrell referenced the need for a multifaceted approach and to respect human rights and international humanitarian law to successfully fight terrorism, but did not call for accountability for abuses committed by security forces.

There is ongoing conflict and instability in Mozambique, particularly in the northern province of Cabo Delgado. The situation, often referred to as the Mozambique Crisis, involved clashes between government forces and insurgent groups, notably the Islamist militant group known as Ansar al-Sunna, locally referred to as Al-Shabaab.

The conflict in Mozambique has been characterized by violence, displacement of civilians, and humanitarian challenges. The militants sought to establish an Islamic State in the region, leading to clashes with government forces. The crisis has resulted in a significant number of casualties, displacement of communities, and a humanitarian emergency.

The humanitarian situation in Mozambique remains concerning, particularly due to insecurity in Cabo Delgado Province, which has left more than 946,000 people displaced, including 517,986 children. In addition, significant climate shocks including drought and storms are likely to impact communities in the central and southern areas of Mozambique in 2023, if conditions similar to those in 2022 persist. This will drive persistent humanitarian needs across Mozambique, particularly among vulnerable populations including women, adolescent girls, children, and people with disabilities.

7. Ansar al-Sunna



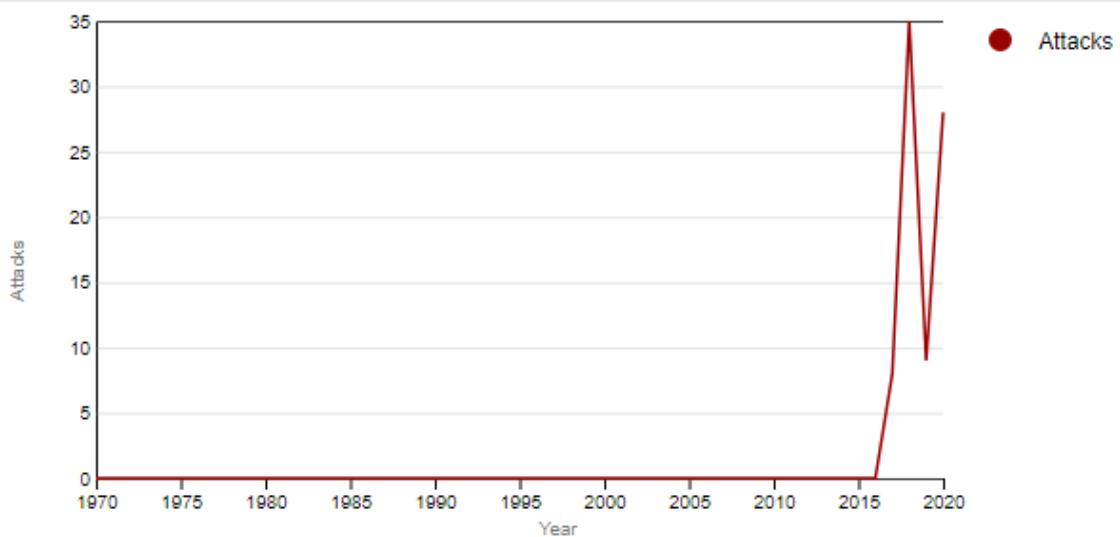
Ansar al-Sunna, a non-State group, initiated a violent conflict in Cabo Delgado, Mozambique. In April 2018, the group pledged allegiance to the Islamic State (IS) and, from 2019, IS endorsed its activities. In March 2021, the U.S. government designated Ansar al-Sunna a terrorist group. Four months later, on 15 July 2021, an Extraordinary Summit of Heads of State and Government of the South African Development Community (SADC) approved a regional response to support the Republic of Mozambique.

The aim in deploying the SADC Mission in Mozambique (known as SAMIM) is to support the Republic of Mozambique to combat terrorism and acts of violent extremism. Despite this regional military intervention, May to mid-August 2023 saw an increase in violence and fighting between Ansar al-Sunna, the armed forces of Mozambique, and the regional support forces.

Finally, the involvement of the UN Security Council is an additional indicator of the intensity of the conflict. The UN Security Council expressed its concern, specifically in respect of Ansar al-Sunna and the continued security threat in Mozambique, most recently in a report dated February 13, 2023. From the assessment above, the nature of the violence in Cabo Delgado clearly is protracted.

7. Current Situation

The humanitarian situation in northern Mozambique worsened as attacks by an Islamic State (ISIS)-linked group, known locally as Al-Shabab or “Al sunne” led to a spike in abductions and destruction of homes by the armed group. The violence has displaced thousands of people, and by the end of August, more than 946,000 were internally displaced in northern Mozambique after fleeing their homes in Cabo Delgado province.



The table above shows the emergence of terrorist acts in recent years and the increase in terrorist acts with the increase in Mozambique's resources. To solve the problem, the Mozambican state attended the United Nations Security Council.

In order to reduce the number of deaths in the attack, it was decided to reopen the closed schools in the Cabo Delgado region. Tightened security measures were taken. But these measures still could not stop the terrorist attacks that have been occurring since 2017.

8. Historical Background

Conflict erupted in Mozambique's northern Cabo Delgado province just a few years after some of Africa's biggest gas reserves were discovered in the Rovuma Basin off the coast. Mozambicans see this as no coincidence.

A new study by the Institute for Security Studies and the Judicial Training Institute of Mozambique conducted extensive field research in Cabo Delgado. It shows that citizens blame the discovery and bad governance of resources, notably natural gas and rubies, for the escalation of terrorism in the province. Over 4 000 people have been killed and 800 000 displaced due to the insurgency that broke out at the end of 2017.



In a survey of 309 people and 28 key informants, nearly half of the respondents said natural resources escalated the crisis. The announcements of US\$60 billion investments in liquid natural gas came with promises of huge wealth and opportunity for the country. But locals feel marginalised by corrupt elites. Some have lost their land and livelihoods to the gas infrastructure built onshore. They are doubtful that these projects will reduce poverty and improve services.

Meanwhile, the discovery of some of the world's largest ruby deposits in Cabo Delgado attracted fortune seekers and

informal miners from across East Africa. They were chased away when multinationals took over the mine, leading to protests in 2019.

Asked to choose between a range of options, 45% of respondents said the main root cause of the insurgency was the discovery of rubies and natural gas. Another 4% mentioned the bad governance of natural resources. Far fewer people thought the availability of illicit arms (13%), economic marginalisation (6%) and elite greed (5%) were the primary causes.

This confirms that recruitment drives by the militant group Ahlu-Sunnah wal Jama'a (ASWJ), supported by Islamic State in Mozambique, were facilitated by the so-called natural resource curse. It not only increased inequality but raised the stakes in the province. What was initially a small radical group grew to become a major menace that drove away big multinationals like TotalEnergies.

Lastly, citizens of Mozambique blame the discovery of natural resources for the escalation of terrorism in Cabo Delgado.

9. Major Players

a. United States of America



After the failure of the National Defense Forces, the Mozambican Government resorted to military companies such as the Russian company Wagner to solve the problem, however, due to lack of knowledge of the region, they were at a disadvantage in relation to the insurgents, a fact that led to their failure. After these two failures, the government decided to change its strategy and showed itself to be open to receiving international help to solve the problem, resorting to the help of Rwanda, which sent military troops to Mozambique, as well as SADC military forces, and received logistics support including troop training coming from the USA.

b. Portugal



In the late 1950s, early 1960s, many African nations had gained their independence. In 1961, the Portuguese Colonial War began in Angola. The Mozambican War of Independence officially started on 25 September 1964 and would last 13 years.

Dissatisfaction with the government, economic situation in Portugal and the colonial wars,

culminated on 25 April 1974, when the Carnation Revolution, a peaceful leftist military coup d'état in Lisbon, ousted the incumbent Portuguese government. With the change of government in Lisbon, many soldiers refused to continue fighting, often remaining in their barracks instead of going on patrol. The new head-of-government in Portugal, President António de Spínola, called for a ceasefire to the war in Mozambique. Negotiations between the Portuguese administration culminated in the Lusaka Accord signed on 7 September 1974, which provided for a complete hand-over of power to FRELIMO. As a result, thousands of Portuguese citizens left Mozambique.

c. Mozambique



The year of 2017 marks the beginning of a series of attacks which are considered to be terrorism in Mozambique. It started as a group of militants of unknown identity attacked 3 Mozambican police stations. The attacks carried out by this group resulted in the death of more than 4000 citizens as well as the displacement of more than half a million citizens. This research is important insofar

as it seeks to determine the factors that prevented the Mozambican Government from efficiently resolving this problem that led to the suspension of gas exploration projects in the country, a fact that negatively affects its future. Lack of understanding of the problem, lack of experience and equipment to deal with the militants, as well as the focus on military operations, only prevented the Mozambican Government from finding an efficient solution to the situation in Cabo Delgado.

d. South Africa



Mozambique is a scenic country, endowed with rich and extensive natural resources. The country's economy is based largely on agriculture, but industry is growing, mainly food and beverages, chemical manufacturing, aluminium and petroleum production. The tourism sector is also expanding. South Africa is Mozambique's main trading partner and source of foreign direct investment, while Belgium, Brazil, Portugal and Spain are also among the country's most important economic partners, since 2001.

Points to be Addressed

1. What is a terrorist organization in Mozambique?
2. What are the main factors that cause terrorist incidents?
3. What role did the availability of natural resources in Mozambique play in the emergence of terrorist incidents?
4. What are the measures taken in the Cabo Delgado region and how can it be improved?
5. How to prevent terrorist groups from kidnapping people in Mozambique?
6. What policy should neighboring countries follow to reduce terrorist acts?

Further Reading

<https://dergipark.org.tr/tr/pub/africana/issue/79225/1317159>

<https://www.state.gov/reports/country-reports-on-terrorism-2021/mozambique/>

<https://dergipark.org.tr/en/download/article-file/3220964>

<https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/18186874.2022.2034483>

https://www.egmontinstitute.be/app/uploads/2022/06/PB-281-Tom-VR_Al-Shabab-in-Mozambique.pdf?type=pdf

<https://www.hrw.org/world-report/2023/country-chapters/mozambique>

<https://thesoufancenter.org/intelbrief-2021-march-31/>

<https://engelsbergideas.com/reviews/inside-mozambiques-war-on-terror/>

<https://www.hrw.org/news/2023/02/10/mozambique-draft-law-threatens-civil-society-groups>

Bibliography

Ramos, M. (2022). Cabo Delgado: Cinco anos depois dos primeiros ataques, conflito tem novas dimensões. Voa Português.

<https://www.voaportugues.com/a/cabo-delgado-cinco-anos-depois-dos-primeiros-ataques-conflito-em-novas-dimens%C3%B5es/6780551.html> Rawoot, I. (2020). Gas-Rich Mozambique may be headed for a disaster. Aljazeera.

<https://www.aljazeera.com/opinions/2020/2/24/gas-rich-mozambique-may-be-headed-for-a-disaster> Rentergem, T. V. (2022). Al-Shabaab in Mozambique: Taking stock of an insurgency under cover. (Policy Brief 281). Royal Institute for International Relations. SADC Regional Counter-Terrorism Centre. (n.d.). SADC.

<https://www.sadc.int/services-and-centres/sadc-regionalcounter-terrorism-centre> SADC mission in Mozambique (SAMIM) in brief. (2021). SADC.

[https://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/ATAG/2021/689376/EPRS_ATA\(2021\)689376_EN.pdf](https://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/ATAG/2021/689376/EPRS_ATA(2021)689376_EN.pdf) Sitoé, R. (2019). Terrorismo em Moçambique? Que Soluções de Política? Um olhar aos ataques de Mocímboa da Praia, Revista Moçambicana de Estudos Internacionais. 1(1), 158-186 Sousa, G. (2013). Gás Natural traz nova Dinâmica a Cabo Delgado. DW.

<https://www.dw.com/pt-002/g%C3%A1snatural-traz-nova-din%C3%A2mica-a-cabo-delgado/a16529579%20accessed%20by%202006/01/2023%20accessed%20by%202006/01/2023>

Schmidt, A. (2004). Terrorism - The definitional problem. Case Western Reserve Journal of International Law, 38(8): 375-419.

<https://scholarlycommons.law.case.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1400&context=jil> Terrorism Monitor. (2018). Ansar al-Sunna: A new militant Islamist group emerges in Mozambique. Terrorism Monitor.