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Forum för Afrikastudier

Friday Research Seminar in Africa Studies

Medicine and Armed Conflict in Africa

with

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House 3, room 2028, Engelska Parken
Thunsbergsvägen 3H, Uppsala

Whereas there is a decrease in armed conflicts around the world, armed conflict and civil war is a constant threat in many countries in Africa where poverty reduction, transparent and accountable governance and citizen satisfaction with the delivery of public goods and services have shown no sign of significant improvement. Notwithstanding, the causal relationship between armed conflict and underdevelopment is complex. Analyses and prognoses that link conflict and underdevelopment require qualification. Thus, with the notion of medicine as processes and outcomes that include diagnosis, prognosis, treatment, disease prevention, food and nutrition, this paper examines the connections between armed conflicts and medicine in Africa. Specifically, how has the practice of medicine influenced violence and armed conflicts in Africa? On the other hand, what has been the impact of violence and armed conflicts on health care provisioning in Africa? The paper also interrogates the increased use of food and drugs blockade as weapons of war, and seek justification for the importance of medicine in intervention programmes for conflict zones and post-conflict situations. It further examines the possibilities for establishing peace and security in Africa with the improved practice of medicine.

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