

**THE ALGIERS PEACE TREATY AND THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE
DISARMAMENT, DEMOBILIZATION AND REINTEGRATION
PROGRAMME IN MALI**

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Degree of Master of Science in Governance, Peace and Security, in the
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and Social Sciences Africa Nazarene University**

JUNE, 2025

DECLARATION

DECLARATION

I declare that this work has not been previously submitted and approved for the award of a degree by this or any other University. To the best of my knowledge and belief, the document contains no material previously published or written by another person except where due reference is made in the research concept itself.

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30th JUNE 2025

Approval

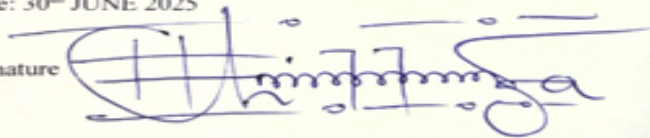
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DEDICATION

I dedicate my thesis to my family and friends. A special feeling of gratitude to my loving wife, Idah Nguma whose words of encouragement and push for tenacity ring in my ears. My dad Peter Nzioka and friends Karen and Hanan who have greatly contributed to the drive for this academic pursuit.

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ABSTRACT

Despite the comprehensive provisions of the 2015 Algiers Peace Accord, the implementation of the Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration (DDR) programme in Mali has remained largely ineffective, with limited reintegration of combatants. These coupled with the ongoing insecurity in the regions, lack of cooperation from both the political sector and armed groups has greatly affected implementations of the peace accord. The main objective of this study was to evaluate whether the reforms outlined in the Algiers Treaty could improve the implementation of the Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration (DDR) programme in Mali, addressing the previous unsuccessful attempts and contributing to the ongoing academic debate on effective DDR implementation strategies. The specific objectives of this study were to determine the influence of political reforms, defence and security sector reforms, development and reconciliation reforms, and justice and humanitarian affairs reforms outlined in the Algiers treaty on the implementation of the DDR program in Mali. The Theory of Justice anchored the study. This study employs a mixed methods approach, incorporating two designs—correlational design for the quantitative data and phenomenological design for the qualitative data. The research took place in Bamako, Mali. Mali was selected due to limited research on DDR programs. Bamako hosts key institutions like the Permanent Mission of Mali to the UN and MINUSMA. The study targeted individuals knowledgeable about the Algiers Treaty and DDR, including those in civil society, government, and international organizations. Mali has 1,014 civil society organizations (CSO) (IFPRI, 2022), and 11676 military personnel and 1588 police personnel deployed in its peacekeeping missions (MINUSMA, 2023). This study adopts snowball-sampling approach in order to recruit participants for the proposed study. The study utilized a sample comprising 366 respondents. Multiple methods of data collection were adopted to facilitate triangulation including semi-structured interviews and questionnaires. This study also employs thematic content analysis and statistical analysis. Additionally, descriptive and inferential analyses were utilised. This study used descriptive statistics to summarize the study sample and variables. It also employed inferential tests to assess the relationships between variables. The study found that 42% of respondents disagreed on improved governance transparency, reflecting a persistent trust deficit in Mali. A strong positive correlation ($r = .750$, $p = .000$) and a beta coefficient of $\beta = .208$, $p = .002$, showed political reforms significantly support DDR outcomes. Public perception of defense reforms was ambivalent, with only 26% supporting increased trust in law enforcement, and $r = .769$, $p = .000$ indicating a significant relationship with DDR. Judicial and humanitarian reforms, with a beta of $\beta = .529$, $p = .000$, were found to significantly drive DDR success, emphasizing the importance of legal and humanitarian improvements. The study recommends the need to strengthen governance transparency and anti-corruption efforts through accountability, enforcement, and citizen engagement; Prioritize inclusive, community-focused security sector reforms to rebuild trust in law enforcement; Ensure equitable implementation of peace reforms, addressing regional disparities and fostering local participation; and Strengthen judicial independence, improve legal services, and develop victim assistance programs for DDR success.

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DEFINITION OF TERMS

Algiers Peace Treaty: refers to the 2015 peace agreement signed in Algiers between the Government of Mali and armed groups including the Coordination of Azawad Movements (CMA). It serves as a political and legal framework for achieving peace, reconciliation, and national unity in Mali. In this study, the treaty is understood as the foundation for implementing reforms in political governance, security sector transformation, and social justice mechanisms necessary for the successful implementation of DDR programs.

Disarmament: refers to the formal process of collecting, registering, and disposing of weapons from combatants, both individually and collectively. In the context of this study, disarmament involves the surrender and destruction of arms by armed groups and individuals as a confidence-building measure necessary for long-term peace and the successful transition of former fighters into civilian life.

Demobilization: refers to the process by which armed forces or groups are officially disbanded, and combatants are discharged from military structures. In this study, demobilization includes the temporary assembly of ex-combatants in cantonment sites, verification of their identity, and preparation for civilian

reintegration or integration into national security forces, in accordance with the provisions of the Algiers Peace Treaty.

Defense and Security Sector Reforms: refer to institutional changes aimed at restructuring Mali's national defense and internal security forces to ensure they are inclusive, professional, accountable, and representative of all ethnic groups. In this study, these reforms include integrating former rebel fighters into the national armed forces (FAMa), improving training and oversight of security agencies, and promoting civilian control and oversight to restore trust and enhance national security.

DDR Implementation: refers to the practical application and execution of the processes of Disarmament, Demobilization, and Reintegration as outlined in the Algiers Peace Treaty. In this study, it encompasses the mechanisms, timelines, institutions, and political commitments required to disarm combatants, disband armed groups, and support their reintegration into civilian or military life as part of the broader peacebuilding strategy in Mali.

Development and Reconciliation Reforms: refer to strategic efforts aimed at promoting socio-economic development and healing historical divisions among communities in conflict-affected regions. In this study, these reforms include decentralization of governance, equal resource allocation,

investment in infrastructure, and the establishment of truth, justice, and reconciliation mechanisms to address grievances and promote national cohesion.

Justice and Humanitarian Affairs Reforms: refer to initiatives to address the humanitarian needs of vulnerable groups, such as internally displaced people (IDPs), and to increase access to just and impartial legal systems. According to this study, these reforms include strengthening humanitarian aid for conflict victims, guaranteeing accountability for violations of human rights, reestablishing the judiciary, and assisting transitional justice systems.

Political Reforms: alludes to the constitutional and institutional modifications intended to improve democratic governance, political participation, and fair power distribution. According to the Algiers Peace Treaty, political reforms in the context of this study include enacting decentralization legislation, setting up representative regional assemblies, and guaranteeing the involvement of historically marginalized communities—particularly those from northern Mali—in national decision-making processes.

Reintegration: refers to the gradual process of social, political, and economic inclusion that grants former combatants civilian status and stable means of subsistence. According to this study, reintegration encompasses initiatives that give

former combatants access to education, job training, psychological support, and revenue-generating opportunities so they can reintegrate into their communities and make constructive contributions to peace and development.

ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

CMA	Coordination of Azawad Movements
CPA	Comprehensive Peace Agreement
CSO	Civil Society Organization
DDR	Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration
ECOWAS	Economic Community of West African States
EU	European Union
FAMa	Forces Armées Maliennes
GRP	Government of the Republic of Philippines
IDPs	Internally Displaced Persons
MINUSMA	United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission to Mali
MNLA	National Movement for the Liberation of Azawad
MNLF	Moro National Liberation Front
POW	Prisoners of War

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CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Introduction

Chapter One introduces the foundation of the study by presenting the context, motivation, and structure of the research. It begins with a general introduction followed by the background of the study, which outlines the historical and political developments surrounding the Algiers Peace Agreement and the DDR (Disarmament, Demobilization, and Reintegration) process in Mali. The chapter further defines the research problem, the purpose of the study, and outlines the main and specific objectives, along with the research questions guiding the investigation. It also highlights the significance of the study, the scope and limitations, delimitations, and key assumptions. Theoretical and conceptual frameworks are presented to guide the analysis, demonstrating how the reforms stipulated in the Algiers Accord are expected to influence DDR implementation.

1.2 Background of the Study

The implementation of the Disarmament, Demobilization, and Reintegration (DDR) program is a critical component of post-conflict peacebuilding. DDR programs aim to

disarm combatants, dissolve armed groups, and assist former fighters in reintegrating into civilian life. Globally, DDR has been recognized as essential to ensuring lasting peace, with over 60 programs implemented across war-torn nations since the 1990s (United Nations, 2022). However, success has been uneven. For example, while Nepal's DDR program is credited with contributing to stable post-conflict recovery through inclusive governance mechanisms, Afghanistan's efforts failed largely due to exclusionary practices and weak institutional support (Giustozzi, 2021). The mixed success of DDR programs worldwide underscores the importance of examining the contextual and structural reforms that influence their implementation.

Historically, DDR emerged as a structured strategy in post-conflict environments following the Cold War, when internal conflicts replaced interstate wars. The United Nations Integrated DDR Standards (IDDRS) laid out comprehensive guidelines for implementation, aiming to standardize practices globally (UN DDR, 2021). The transformation of DDR from a purely military to a multidimensional socio-political process highlights how governance, justice, and economic reforms are now viewed as essential enablers. In Colombia, more than 12,000 former FARC fighters were demobilized under the 2016 peace accord, supported by political and legal reforms that facilitated transitional justice and land restitution (International Crisis Group, 2023). Yet, reintegration remains fragile where economic support and political inclusion are

inadequate. This evolution in DDR practice reflects a shift from disarmament logistics to deeper state-building and reconciliation efforts.

The end of the Cold War in the early 1990s played a significant role in ending many conflicts in Africa and Latin America (Altier, Leonard Boyle, & Horgan, 2021). These countries adopted a new strategy of disarmament, demobilization and reintegration (DDR) to bring about a peaceful end to the conflict, reduce the size of the armed forces in the field code and provide both short-term and long-term alternatives to public employment. Unfortunately, the end of the Cold War saw an increase in the availability of simple, soft weapons, leading to civil wars, some of which lasted for many years or several years (Millen & Seligsohn, 2021). These conflicts led to an increased demand for demobilization programs to disarm armed forces, armed groups and irregular forces, and to rehabilitate veterans for their return to society. Organizations often use these programs in many post-conflict and peacebuilding projects around the world. Countries such as Haiti, Afghanistan, Congo, Ivory Coast, Philippines, Cambodia, South Africa, Mozambique, Namibia, Guatemala, El Salvador, and Sierra Leone exhibit the presence of these issues (Ebiede, Langer, & Tosun, 2020).

Across Africa, DDR has played a pivotal role in transitional peace processes but has often encountered significant challenges. In Liberia, over 100,000 combatants were demobilized between 2003 and 2009, yet lack of job opportunities and weak

reintegration frameworks led to widespread re-recruitment into illicit groups (Molloy, 2022). Similarly, South Sudan's DDR program faltered due to inconsistent political will, financial shortfalls, and a resurgence of violence, which left over 50,000 ex-combatants in limbo (UNMISS, 2021). In contrast, Sierra Leone's program was relatively successful due to strong international backing and community involvement, resulting in the disarmament of over 70,000 fighters and significant post-conflict stability (Sesay, 2021). These examples reveal a common trend: DDR success is not merely about disarming soldiers but ensuring their long-term socio-political integration.

Additionally, DDR is crucial for restoring stability and enhancing the long-term growth of war-torn societies (Dione & Togola, 2018). DDR's overarching objective is to advance peace and stability. By addressing security concerns that might surface as veterans adjust to normal life, DDR programs foster an atmosphere of political stability and peace (Talentino & Pearson, 2020). Through these initiatives, veterans can disarm, be removed from military institutions, take part in peacekeeping missions, and receive assistance for their social and economic advancement.

Despite the importance of DDR in achieving peace and stability, many challenges hinder its implementation, such as unrealistic expectations, financial situation, lack of support from warring parties, countrywide disruptions, poor integration, economic insecurity, social unrest, etc. Financial constraints can hinder the effectiveness of DDR

programs (United Nations DDR Resource Centre, 2022). In the absence of DDR support, ongoing conflicts can hinder the implementation of the economic development needed to revitalize society (Di Salvatore, 2019). In addition, transnational situations, such as the cross-border movement of foreign insurgents and combatants, can pose serious challenges to the implementation of DDR interventions. Local actors can manage DDR programs for military, intelligence, and mission support purposes (Tarantino and Pearson, 2020). In 2019, the researchers also observed and recorded the procedures in a Mato Oput case. Following the commission of serious harm by one individual against another, Mato Oput is the second final step in the process of reconciliation and the restoration of peaceful coexistence. For Mato Oput to be relevant in the reconciliation process, the victim and the offender must be known, and the offender must have intentionally caused the victim serious harm (Mwaka, 2023). Furthermore, given the broad scope of DDR initiatives, effective coordination and integration will be difficult to achieve. According to Alusala (2007), a key example of documented use of DDR in the literature was in the Central African Republic (CAR) after the 1996–2003 conflict. The DDR program, which ran from December 2004 to February 2007, aimed to disarm, demobilize, and rehabilitate 7,565 veterans and the communities that supported them. The disarmament, demobilization, and demobilization program, called the “Project de Réinsertion des ex-combatants et d’Appui aux Communautés (PRAC),” is a collaboration of the United Nations Development Program, the National Commission for Disarmament, Demobilization,

and Reintegration (MDRP), and the multinational recovery programs. Recovery Program (MDRP).

One of the challenges faced by this program is to establish and identify the list of people who are suitable for combatant training (Alusala, 2007). In addition, delays in delivery and lack of effective and consistent communication have affected the project. Many citizens also believe that rewarding former combatants is the same as rewarding those who started the conflict. Soldiers receive up to \$700 in cash for training and school fees, construction equipment, livestock, fishing equipment, metal sheets and recyclable materials including cement (Alusala, 2007). These results create a situation of dual registration, where combatants are registered under different names in different centers. The analysis of the project showed that most of the ex-soldiers who received money to start businesses failed, and that the problems caused by the lack of housing, such as schools, health facilities, infrastructure and clean water in conflict zones were not resolved. Alusala (2007) argued that the success of DDR depends on the allocation of resources for social development after reconstruction. The programme will be more effective when you focus resources on supporting the community. This shows that DDR is not only about disarmament and integration, but also about achieving sustainable development and providing support to the affected communities. Other studies show that the use of DDR has been successful. Mugumya (2004) conducted a study to evaluate the implementation of DDR after the 1997 conflict in Albania.

In response to civil unrest in Albania in 1997, the Albanian government requested the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) implement a disarmament, demobilization, and reintegration (DDR) program in the Gramsh district. As a result, an estimated 10,000 illegal firearms were seized from the 50,000 inhabitants. In the absence of identifiable military personnel, the DDR used incentives to encourage individuals to return their weapons. Given the high unemployment rate in the region, the programme focused on supporting disarmament and engaging in community development projects that helped create jobs. Local NGOs supported the disarmament development approach, which supported voluntary referrals (Mugumya, 2004).

Overall, Albania's success in disarmament, demobilisation and reunification stems from its approach of prioritising the needs of the community. Things began to change in Haiti. After the mid-1990s, many DDR and arms reductions, mostly through buybacks, small-scale efforts, and voluntary work, became problematic (Mobekk, 2016). However, following Security Council Resolution 1702 (2006) in 2006 and the establishment of the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti (UN Stabilization Mission in Haiti), a general DDR process began. The program reoriented disarmament, demobilization, and reintegration efforts and aimed to reduce violence. It develops a local contextual approach by supporting projects aimed at strengthening local governance and legislation. DDR focuses on cultural, economic and human security. In addition to the state, other social partners, including society, are involved in the

implementation of the plan (Mobekk, 2016). The Haitian government has negotiated with armed groups and promised effective cooperation with the aim of eliminating communities and individuals. The program is successful because it owes its success to the security of society.

One of the last applications of DDR in the peace process is the ongoing war in Mali, which began in January 2012. The Malian government's quest for freedom and independence (Dione & Togola, 2018). The DDR process in Mali is the result of a peace agreement and involves many actors, including self-defense rebels, terrorist groups, and military groups (Millen and Seligsohn, 2021). In addition, DDR plays an important role in resolving conflicts in the country. The 2013 Preliminary Agreement on Presidential Elections and Peace Negotiations and the 2013 Algerian Process Agreement for Peace and Cooperation in Mali (Algeria Peace Agreement) (Kamara, 2015) clarify DDR. The Azawad Movement (CMA), a coalition of rebel groups, the Malian government, a coalition of government forces in northern Mali known as the Supreme Council of the Azawad Union (HCUA), and the Movement for the Liberation of Azawad National Movement (MNLA), held a conference in Bamako in June 2015.

Direct and indirect negotiations between ECOWAS, the African Union, MINUSMA, the European Union, the United States, and France guided this, with all entities acting as members of the Algerian-led negotiating team initially identified as the “Friends of the Dialogue. This agreement aims to restore peace in Mali, primarily through a process

of decentralization or the regionalization and reorganization of the country's armed forces by former Fatah members. Chapter 8 of this article explains this. Because of the cultural and ethnic diversity between southern and northern Mali, the principles of inclusion and representation of the Malian people in the security and military guide the DDR process in Mali. In addition, the DDR process addresses national security and the unification of the military's responsibility to the country. Mali has made several attempts at disarmament, demobilization and reunification in the past, but all failed after the Tuareg rebellions of 1964, 1995 and 2009 (Camara, 2015). In addition, the ineffectiveness of cooperation between the Malian army and the rebel group in reducing attacks and protests has caused great discontent among the Malian military. Similarly, the integration of former combatants into the civil service will not help build peace. The Algiers Agreement was Malley's attempt to reorganize and regroup the rebels and insurgents. Camara (2015) describes Mali's DDR process as "the country's hope for success in its long-term search for security," highlighting the commitment of all partners who signed the agreement.

Each party has specific roles and responsibilities to ensure the success of the DDR. In addition, international actors support the DDR process by providing benchmarks and ensuring that the DDR process is fair to all parties. The Algiers Treaty gives the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (MINUSMA) a central role in the country's DDR process, which requires assistance to ensure that the

government adheres to best practices and standards in the DDR process (Forje, 2021). Although the Algiers Treaty did not set a timetable for the implementation of the DDR process in Mali, the path outlined in the agreement emphasized the existence of unity and good security (Camara, 2015). Following the important role played by DDR in Mali, it is necessary to assess how these programs can be strengthened and implemented, especially in the areas of change, political change, defense and security sector reform, development and reconciliation, decision-making and human rights. This is the purpose of this study. These conditions create an unstable environment, leading to violence and instability. Lack of financial opportunities is a source of conflict, especially among young people. Poverty leads to dissatisfaction with the government, as vulnerable communities feel neglected and excluded from economic development. This makes them more vulnerable to recruitment by armed groups that promise financial incentives and a sense of belonging. With few job opportunities, many young Malians turn to illegal trade or the military as a means of survival. Lack of access to money not only causes stress, but it also fuels violence, as unemployed youth easily recruited into the military. The lack of a recycling system for veterans is causing more hardship, losing support for many and pushing them back into conflict. Minorities, especially the Tuareg in the north, are deeply resentful of the central government, which they believe privileges some groups over others. This sense of exclusion is leading to a greater need for independence and recognition of their rights. The government's failure to address these grievances has led to armed protests, further stressing the socio-

political landscape. As poverty and unemployment increase, racism can lead to violence. It is important to resolve these issues for peacebuilding, such as enacting the disarmament, demobilization, and reintegration (DDR) program defined by the Algiers Peace Agreement. In order to understand peace initiatives in Mali, we should consider the main sources of the conflict.

The Algiers Peace Agreement, which was signed in 2015, has significant components that seek to bring peace and stability to Mali, which are applicable to this research. One of the key points is political reforms, such as granting greater authority to local governments so that citizens can be governed closer to home and address regional disparities. This change seeks to promote greater participation in politics and address past injustices suffered by communities in northern Mali (United Nations Security Council, 2015).

The other essential element is the overall defense and security sector reform. The agreement stresses the need for security sector reform (SSR), based on lessons learned from past experiences and major African Union and United Nations reports. This entails building defense and security institutions that can respond to the country's security requirements and provide regional stability. The National Council for Security Sector Reform was created in this effort. It is to create a new national vision for security and defense that takes into account local, regional, national, and international factors

(Devermont & Harris, 2020). Judicial and human rights reforms are also prominent features of the agreement.

The implementation of transitional justice mechanisms, including truth commissions and reparations programs, needs to be carried out in order to deal with past human rights abuses and advance national reconciliation. An Anti-Corruption and Financial Crime Commission, as well as an International Commission of Inquiry, are also requested by the agreement to examine serious breaches of international law, human rights, and international humanitarian law in Mali. These actions are designed to make the courts more autonomous and efficient, accountable, and so that people will have faith in legal institutions. These critical areas—political decentralization, reforms in defense and security, and justice and human rights reforms—are interlinked and complement each other to assist in the central aim of durable peace and stability in Mali. But there are still obstacles in implementing these measures, and there needs to be further research into the problems hindering their success.

1.3 Statement of the Problem

The Algiers Peace Agreement, signed in 2015, aimed at ending the war in Mali by addressing key issues related to political, security, and humanitarian matters. The agreement made provisions for the establishment of a comprehensive Disarmament,

Demobilization, and Reintegration (DDR) process, which was to involve disarming and integrating former combatants, and reasserting state authority over the affected regions, particularly the north. Despite all of these grand objectives, the DDR process has encountered substantial issues, hindering Mali's transition to permanent peace.

Though DDR has been carefully planned, there are many problems that make it challenging to put an end to the conflict in Mali in the near future. Disarmament, demobilization, and reintegration of former fighters have not been successful, mainly because armed groups are still active across the nation (Forje, 2021). Little advancement has been made towards the reintegration of combatants into society. Five years after the 2015 agreement was signed, only 1,840 combatants had been reintegrated. This is very much off the target of retraining 3,000 combatants by 2020. Furthermore, about 85,000 combatants were still in line to be reintegrated, which shows the vast difference between what was planned and what was achieved. Reconstituted Army Battalion (RAB) was created in northern Mali under the Algiers Peace Treaty but has faced several challenges. Some of these include a lack of enough funds from the government, poor training, and politics interfering. All these have made it difficult for armed actors to disarm and have slowed down the pace expected in the Algiers Peace Treaty.

Despite the comprehensive provisions of the 2015 Algiers Peace Accord aimed at disarming, demobilizing, and reintegrating former combatants in Mali, the implementation of the DDR program has remained largely ineffective, with persistent insecurity and minimal reintegration achievements. As of 2020, only 1,840 combatants had been integrated into national forces against a target of over 80,000, reflecting a significant gap between policy intent and practical outcomes (Forje, 2021). Numerous studies have explored DDR processes globally, emphasizing the importance of political inclusion, justice reform, and economic reintegration; however, few have examined how the specific reforms outlined in the Algiers Accord—particularly political, security, development, and justice measures—collectively influence DDR outcomes in the Malian context. This creates a critical knowledge gap in understanding why, despite having a clear legal and institutional framework, DDR efforts in Mali continue to stall. The absence of localized, empirical assessments on the alignment between these reforms and the realities of DDR implementation undermines the potential for evidence-based interventions. Therefore, this study seeks to fill that gap by analyzing how the reforms stipulated in the Algiers Peace Accord affect the effectiveness of DDR in Mali, with a focus on the experience in Bamako and surrounding regions.

1.4 Purpose of the Study

The purpose of this study is to examine how the reforms outlined in the Algiers Peace Accord influence the implementation of the Disarmament, Demobilization, and Reintegration (DDR) programme in Mali.

1.5 Objectives of the Study

This study's main goal is to ascertain whether the changes envisioned in the Algiers Accord could help Mali achieve DDR. The following are the specific goals:

- i. Evaluate how the Algiers Treaty's political reforms have affected Mali's DDR implementation in Mali.
- ii. Analyze the impact of the defense and security sector reforms foreseen in the Algiers Treaty on the implementation of the DDR in Mali.
- iii. Analyze the impact of peace reforms in the Algiers Treaty on the implementation of the DDR program in Mali.
- iv. Evaluate the impact of the judicial and human rights changes in the Algiers Treaty on the implementation of the demobilization and demobilization program in Mali.

1.6 Research questions

- i. What impact did the political reforms envisage in the Algiers Agreement have on the implementation of DDR in Mali?
- ii. To what extent do the defense and security sector reforms envisaged in the Algiers Agreement affect the implementation of DDR?
- iii. How do the development and reconciliation processes of the Algiers Agreement affect the implementation of Mali's demobilization program?
- iv. What impact do the judicial and humanitarian reforms in the Algiers Agreement have on the implementation of the DDR program in Mali?

1.7 Significance of the Study

For practitioners and policy makers, the insights from this study will be useful in developing recommendations to enhance peacebuilding, particularly in improving the implementation of DDR plans. Based on these findings, peacemakers can design effective demobilization programs that will enhance peacebuilding in Mali and around the world. For researchers and scholars, the results of this study can help develop a concept to explain and better understand the DDR process. The study's suggestions can help policymakers, including governments and peacebuilding organizations, create policies that direct the DDR process. Additionally, communities engaged in conflict will benefit from the study's findings since they will help them comprehend the most effective ways to cooperate for the good of the community. The results may also offer

suggestions for improving DDR's efficacy and bringing about peace, which would be advantageous for the whole nation. The study's conclusions are helpful for the East African region, particularly for war-torn nations like South Sudan. This study can shed light on how DDR should be implemented successfully in impacted nations like the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Kenya is currently involved in the South Sudan peace process and participates in other peace processes in the region. The results of this study can help Kenya mediate to achieve peace.

1.8 Scope of the Study

This study is limited to analysing the relationship between the reforms envisioned in the Algiers Treaty and the implementation of DDR. This study specifically examines reforms in the areas of politics, defense and security, development and reconciliation, and justice and human rights. DDR's complexities, therefore, offer specific insights that can improve peacebuilding and influence peace choices in Mali. Financial constraints also influenced the decision to limit the study area to Mali. Researchers chose Mali due to the failure of the DDR program and the inadequate recognition and implementation of the Algiers Protocol (Cardenas, Pérez, & Triana, 2016).

The study population includes civil society organizations, the Malian government, the Malian people and MINUSMA. The researchers will conduct the study from April to

June 2024, aiming to complete it before the scheduled withdrawal of the United Nations mission in August 2024.

1.9 Limitations of the Study

One key limitation of this study is the sensitivity of the research topic, particularly regarding security and political matters in Mali. Due to the delicate nature of DDR and peace agreements, some potential respondents may be unwilling to fully disclose information, leading to incomplete or biased data. Additionally, the study's findings may be limited in generalizability because of the relatively small number of respondents who are accessible or willing to participate. To mitigate this, the researcher will ensure strict confidentiality, obtain informed consent, and use neutral language in questionnaires and interviews to encourage openness and honesty.

Another limitation arises from the timing of the study, as the socio-political and economic context in Mali is highly dynamic and may affect the relevance or accuracy of the data collected. Ongoing instability or sudden changes in DDR policy may limit the study's ability to capture the full picture. To address this, the researcher will focus on recent and verified secondary sources, conduct timely data collection, and clearly define the period under study to ensure contextual accuracy. Where possible,

triangulation of data from multiple sources will be used to enhance validity and minimize bias.

1.10 Delimitation of the Study

This study was geographically delimited to the Republic of Mali, a West African country that has undergone a protracted conflict, especially in its northern and central regions. The decision to focus solely on Mali was informed by the historical and political significance of the Algiers Peace Accord signed in 2015 and its unique relationship with the DDR (Disarmament, Demobilization, and Reintegration) process. By narrowing the geographical scope, the study was able to concentrate on the specific dynamics within the Malian context, thus enabling in-depth exploration of the local political, security, and humanitarian developments arising from the Accord's implementation. This delimitation excluded other Sahelian or post-conflict countries undergoing similar DDR efforts, allowing the research to maintain contextual precision and avoid overgeneralization.

Thematically, the study was delimited to the assessment of the specific reforms articulated in the Algiers Accord. These consist of judicial and human rights reforms, development and reconciliation initiatives, defense and security reforms, and political reforms. The study did not cover broader international peacebuilding policies or non-

DDR related interventions. It specifically examined how each of these reform areas contributed to or hindered the DDR process in Mali, thereby excluding other post-conflict mechanisms such as transitional justice or post-war economic recovery not directly linked to the Algiers Accord. Furthermore, while DDR often involves multiple stages (disarmament, demobilization, and reintegration), this study emphasized their implementation as an integrated process influenced by peace agreement provisions.

Methodologically, the study was delimited to a qualitative and descriptive design, focusing on insights gathered from 66 key stakeholders, mainly civil society organization (CSO) leaders, government officials, and peace actors involved in the implementation of the Accord. This decision allowed for a deeper exploration of perceptions, experiences, and challenges rather than large-scale statistical generalizations. The study period, April to June 2024, was also deliberately chosen to align with the anticipated withdrawal of the UN mission in August 2024. As such, the findings are time-bound and may not reflect subsequent developments. These methodological boundaries allowed the research team to gather timely and context-specific data that contribute to the ongoing discourse on peacebuilding in Mali.

1.11 Assumptions of the Study

This study assumed that respondents were honest, knowledgeable, and willing to share their experiences and perceptions regarding the implementation of the DDR program under the Algiers Peace Accord. It was expected that participants, drawn from civil society organizations, government agencies, and international actors like MINUSMA, would provide accurate accounts of the challenges and successes encountered in DDR implementation. The researcher assumed that respondents would reflect on real-life experiences based on their involvement or observation of the DDR process in Bamako and surrounding areas. These insights were anticipated to offer critical perspectives on the effectiveness of the political, security, development, and justice reforms outlined in the Accord. Furthermore, the study assumed that participants would respond objectively and without fear of reprisal due to the confidentiality measures taken during data collection.

Another assumption was that the participants had sufficient understanding of both the Algiers Peace Accord and the DDR processes in Mali to provide relevant and context-specific information. It was expected that their responses would reveal patterns of implementation gaps, highlight institutional challenges, and identify areas where reforms have either contributed to or hindered progress. The researcher also assumed that respondents would be able to distinguish between the intentions of the Accord and

the practical outcomes on the ground. Based on these expectations, the findings were assumed to reflect both structural and operational realities, enabling the study to draw meaningful conclusions about the linkage between the Accord's reforms and DDR outcomes. These assumptions guided the formulation of research instruments and the interpretation of data within the framework of peacebuilding and post-conflict recovery.

1.12 Theoretical Framework

This study focused on the Theory of Justice formulated by Rawls (1971). This theory posits that the peacebuilding process relies on the principles of justice and equity in the distribution of resources.

Justice theory argues that peace depends on a sense of justice. In addition, the theory states that peace is a condition for people to choose between freedom, justice, and social justice. According to Rawls (1971), the theory of justice emphasizes the importance of equal rights and equal opportunities for peace. More importantly, the theory supports a peacebuilding approach that goes beyond simple problem solving to include addressing injustice and economic inequality. The theory is also about protecting people's freedoms, rights, and ensuring justice in resources (Said and Nurhayati, 2021). Rawls' theory also holds the belief that a fair society takes care of less advantaged persons

(Rawls, 1971). Since it is geared towards the establishment of peace, it is a viable tool through which the implementation of DDR can be analyzed. DDR is a combined process that consists of economic development, people, security, army, and politics.

The aim of DDR is to assist the former combatants by disarming them, making their transition to civilian life smoother, and assisting them economically and socially so that they may participate in peacemaking (Forje, 2021).

The Theory of Justice, as developed by John Rawls, directly supports the objectives of this study by emphasizing fairness, equality, and the protection of rights in post-conflict societies—principles that align with the reforms outlined in the Algiers Peace Accord. The theory underscores the importance of establishing just political, security, economic, and legal institutions to promote lasting peace and social stability, which mirrors this study's aim of examining how such reforms influence the implementation of the DDR program in Mali. Political reforms reflect Rawls' idea of equitable participation in governance, security reforms relate to the fair protection of all citizens, development reforms support equal opportunity, and justice reforms uphold basic rights and freedoms. By evaluating how these components have been implemented in Mali, the study seeks to determine whether they meet the conditions of justice necessary for successful reintegration of ex-combatants and sustainable peace. Thus, the Theory of

Justice offers a relevant conceptual lens through which the study's objectives are examined.

Justice theory assists in the establishment of a secure atmosphere for peace-building and reconstruction through the engagement of communities and empowerment of the government. The contribution of women to peace-building. Resilience helps rebuild societies and communities in conflict regions. Resilience helps communities and societies live together and resolve other future challenges without violence (Devermont and Harris, 2020). Notwithstanding this weakness, Rawls' theory is a decent place to start analyzing how DDR programs are conducted (Said and Nurhayati, 2021). The objective of DDR is not to punish combatants, but to integrate them into society. Rawls' theory of justice is therefore the most suitable foundation for this discussion. In addition, this study discusses the general theory of peacebuilding, which includes the variables of political process, defense and security, development and reconciliation, justice, and human activities (Willems and Van Leeuwen, 2015).

1.12 Conceptual Framework

Figure 1.1 depicts the conceptual framework for this research. The independent variable in the conceptual framework are the reforms outlined in the Algiers Treaty, which will be operationalized in terms of political reforms, defence and security sector reforms, development and reconciliation, and justice and humanitarian affairs (Kelly, 2022).

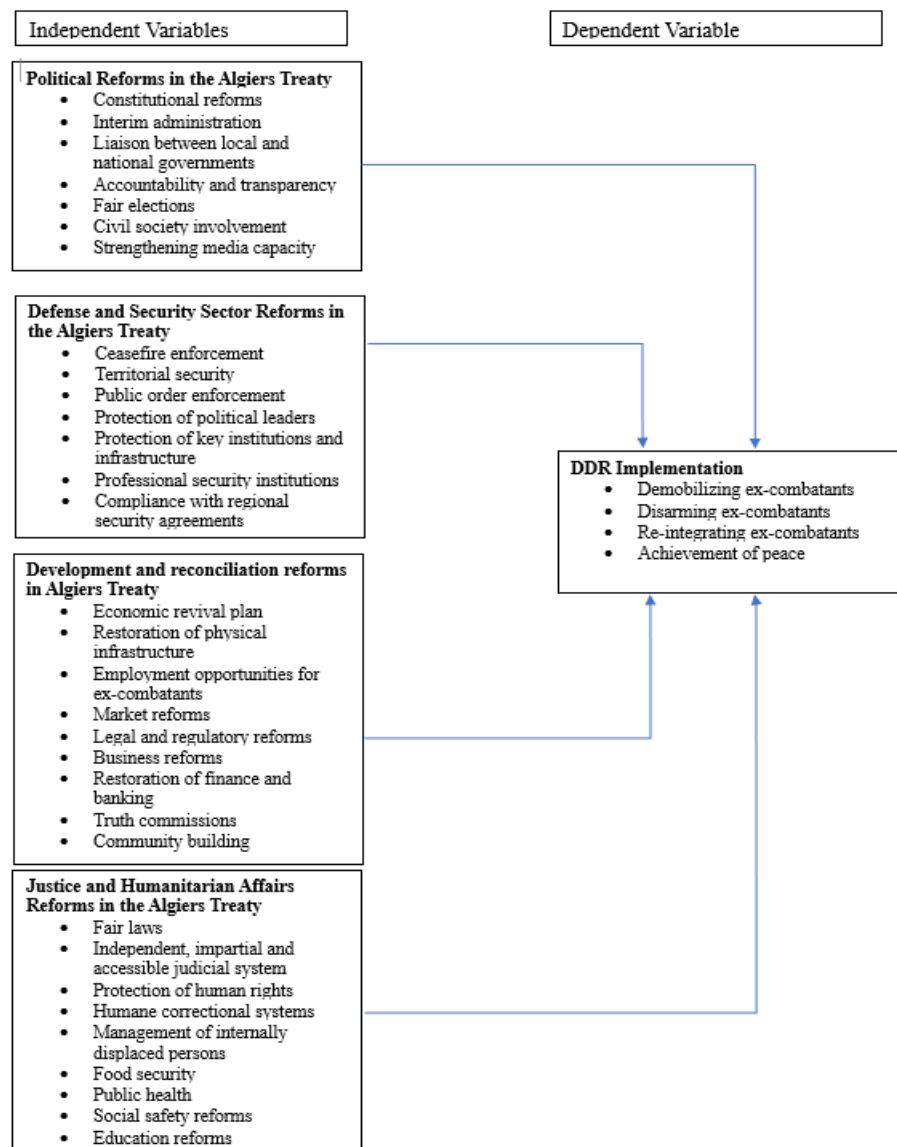


Figure 1. 1: Conceptual Framework, adapted from the work of Mitra (2022)

Figure 1.1, the conceptual framework for this study is structured around the relationship between the independent variables—reforms outlined in the Algiers Peace Accord—and the dependent variable, which is the implementation of the Disarmament, Demobilization, and Reintegration (DDR) programme in Mali. The independent variables include four main reform categories: political reforms, defense and security sector reforms, development and reconciliation reforms, and justice and humanitarian affairs reforms. Each reform category comprises specific indicators that are expected to influence the outcomes of DDR. The framework reflects the assumption that the successful implementation of DDR depends on how effectively these reform components are realized within the Malian context.

Political reforms are measured through indicators such as constitutional amendments, establishment of an interim government, improved communication between national and local governments, and the promotion of accountability and transparency. Additional indicators include the organization of fair elections, active engagement of civil society groups in peacebuilding, and the strengthening of the media. These elements are essential in ensuring inclusive governance and the equitable distribution of power, especially to previously marginalized groups in northern Mali. The study assumes that where political reforms are effectively implemented, ex-combatants and affected communities will have greater trust in the DDR process and be more likely to support reintegration efforts.

Defense and security sector reforms focus on restructuring and professionalizing the national security apparatus to reflect inclusivity and restore public trust. Key indicators include conflict management initiatives, expansion of secured zones, maintenance of public order, protection of political leaders and national infrastructure, and the reintegration of former rebels into the national military. Additional indicators involve the monitoring of regional security and reconstruction efforts to stabilize conflict-prone areas. The study posits that these reforms are critical in disarming combatants, reducing armed violence, and creating a secure environment for reintegration to occur.

Development and reconciliation reforms are designed to address the root causes of conflict and support long-term peacebuilding. Indicators in this category include economic recovery plans, investment in physical infrastructure, creation of employment opportunities for ex-combatants, and reforms in business governance and legislation. Other measures include the development of financial systems, establishment of truth and reconciliation commissions, and implementation of community empowerment initiatives. These reforms are expected to reduce grievances, promote social healing, and provide ex-combatants with viable alternatives to violence, thereby supporting reintegration and discouraging recidivism.

Finally, justice and humanitarian affairs reforms focus on ensuring accountability and restoring the rule of law while addressing the humanitarian needs of conflict-affected

populations. Indicators include the protection of human rights, improvement of public health, access to justice, food security, climate adaptation, vocational training, and support for displaced persons. By ensuring fair treatment and equal access to services, these reforms aim to create a sense of justice and inclusion that is essential for sustainable reintegration. Within this conceptual framework, the successful implementation of DDR is viewed as dependent on how comprehensively and equitably these four reform areas are executed, thus enabling the study to evaluate the holistic impact of the Algiers Accord on post-conflict recovery in Mali.

CHAPTER TWO

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 Introduction

Chapter Two presents a comprehensive review of existing literature relevant to the implementation of the Disarmament, Demobilization, and Reintegration (DDR) programme under the Algiers Peace Accord in Mali. It explores scholarly findings and theoretical perspectives related to the study's key variables, including political reforms, defense and security sector reforms, development and reconciliation reforms, and justice and humanitarian affairs reforms. The chapter critically examines global, regional, and local studies to highlight trends, successes, and challenges in DDR implementation, and identifies knowledge gaps that justify the need for the current study.

2.2 Empirical Review

DDR has a complex system of socio-economics, human health, security, military, and politics. The aim of DDR is to support ex-combatants by disarming them, facilitating their transition to civilian life and helping them economically and socially by enabling them to participate in peace (Forje, 2021). Through community participation and

national capacity building, DDR has laid the foundation for the creation of a sustainable environment necessary for peacebuilding and recovery. Improved. Traditionally, actors have initiated (first-generation) DDR programs in post-conflict situations where peace prevails and war has ended. The DDR process is simple and begins with the disarmament, demobilization and reintegration of veterans (Tar & Onwurah, 2021). To effectively implement these DDR projects, actors must first accomplish several tasks: sign a peace agreement/consensus to provide a legal framework, build trust among ex-combatants in the peace process negotiations, ensure security guarantees, and satisfy ex-combatants. Participate in DDR programs. Although the results of DDR programs are always mixed, their implementation is simple. Second-generation DDR programs began in a period of conflict without a peace agreement, with multiple armed forces fighting, and blurred boundaries between citizens and activists (Molloy, 2022). Actors developed these programs after realizing that the preconditions for the first generation of DDR were not always present. While traditional DDR programs targeted only veterans, secondary DDR programs are broader and involve communities. These DDR programs are not linear. The new generation of DDR, described as more flexible and more broadly linked to national development goals, justice reforms, and security reforms (Carranza-Franco, 2019). Furthermore, actors can tailor negotiations for the new generation of DDR to the needs of the local context, rather than following the standard rules set out in the first and second generations of DDR.

The next DDR article seemed to address the rise of non-state groups.

2.2.1 Impact of Political Reforms and DDR Implementation

Subedi (2018), Kaufman and Williams (2015) investigated how political reforms contributed to DDR success in Nepal, South Africa, and Bosnia. Using cross-country comparative methodologies and interviews with DDR experts, both studies found that DDR programs that incorporated political reconciliation, inclusion of ex-combatants in political institutions, and civil society participation saw better outcomes in terms of peace and reintegration. In Nepal, the inclusion of the Maoist fighters in the national military and political party structure helped to preserve peace. In South Africa, the Truth and Reconciliation Commission helped individuals to heal, whereas international monitoring helped to bring together various ethnic groups in Bosnia through shared governance. However, in all three cases, incremental judicial reform and ongoing ethnic tensions were considered to be ongoing problems. These results imply that Mali's political transformation has to be based on inclusive practice and reconciliation mechanisms rather than only legal texts, hence requiring a closer inspection inside the Bamako setting.

Giustozzi (2016) compared the DDR results from Afghanistan and Tajikistan. It examined how external assistance and local politics shaped the results. Using several strategies, the studies revealed that DDR projects in Afghanistan mostly failed. This was so because they omitted ex-Taliban fighters and applied blueprints created by

foreigners without considering the dynamics of the local government. On the contrary, experience in Tajikistan showed that integrating former opposition fighters into politics, for example, in government jobs, was essential to successful DDR. In Giustozzi's view, there were no new conflict cycles unless political reforms at the local level were implemented. The report highlights the need for flexible political approaches specific to particular contexts and not repeating the same method everywhere. In Bamako, where international players facilitate peacebuilding through the Algiers Accord, this research warrants localized evaluation of political reforms to ascertain whether or not northern Malians are actually integrated into national systems of governance.

Ghais (2022) looked at the Philippines, specifically the successful DDR with the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF). The research utilized a case study design using political actor interviews and analysis of peace agreement documents. For Ghais, the DDR process was successful because MNLF members were integrated into government and given political representation at the regional and national levels. This strategy not only demilitarized combatants but also established broad-based institutions that could resolve long-standing grievances of marginalized communities. In spite of early setbacks, sustained efforts at transforming governance structures helped in consolidating peace. The example has some useful lessons for Bamako, Mali, specifically in terms of bringing former northern insurgents into politics and the degree

to which the Algiers Agreement has helped in inclusive governance in areas after the conflict.

Ayissi (2021) analyzed the impact of political changes on DDR success, focusing on enhanced governance, greater public participation, and better rules in post-conflict Central Africa. The study applied an approach combining policy analysis with interviews of leaders in government and civil society. Political reforms such as improved laws, public administration, and decentralization, Ayissi discovered, improved institutional trust and DDR effectiveness. In many states, though, poor implementation systems and lack of responsibility undermined reform progress. Furthermore observed in the study was the fact that political reforms may become symbolic unless underprivileged groups are empowered and included. These outcomes show flaws in political reform implementation and design. Regarding Bamako, Mali, we have to closely examine the Algiers Agreement objectives of decentralization and see how they practically help in the reconstruction following war and the attainment of long-lasting peace.

2021's Millen and Seligsohn concentrated on transitional political institutions and their role in DDR realization in Rwanda following genocide. By means of comparative policy analysis and interviews with practitioners of transitional justice, the study underlined the need of institutional legitimacy and political inclusiveness in

reconstruction. Their results revealed that lower political tensions and better reintegration of former fighters were achieved by means of the integration of political institutions with inclusive governance structures. Still, problems of limited political options and restrictions of civilian space made long-term stability challenging. The writers observed the need of striking a balance between inclusive leadership and security-oriented political changes. For Bamako, this study is important since it highlights political inclusion and openness—qualities still divisive in Mali's Algiers Agreement decentralization strategy. This calls for more investigation into the process of establishing political legitimacy.

With an emphasis on President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf's leadership, Molloy (2022) examined the function of local governance and political will in DDR in Liberia. By using field interviews and government reports, Molloy illustrated that strong political support by top-level leaders, together with enhanced local governance, played a crucial role in the reintegration process. Vocational training was provided to ex-combatants, and civil society groups were strengthened to help with reintegration and reconciliation. The research pointed out the success of the Liberian DDR model as community-centered, transparent, and inclusive of local actors in the political process. The study emphasized that without political ownership and effective local governance, DDR programs are likely to fail. Such lessons are particularly necessary for the Malian situation where the central authority needs to demonstrate long-term political will and

entrust local rule in Bamako and northern provinces to ensure that DDR reforms really work.

2.2.2 Impact of Defence and Security Sector Reform and DDR Implementation

Molloy (2022) had performed research which sought to investigate the role of demobilization centres in the beginning of DDR processes, with special emphasis placed upon physical protection, food and drink, and servicing support to ex-combatants. Research took place in South Sudan, which had a fluid post-conflict environment posing the challenge of instability. With the qualitative research process, Molloy utilized qualitative information gathered during interview sessions and observational studies in numerous DDR centres. The study found that demobilization centers were responsible for the disarming of ex-combatants and for rendering immediate material and psychological support. Molloy, however, noticed a wide vacuum in long-term security strategies since most ex-combatants did not have an evident line of reintegration due to weak institutional support. This gap highlights the need for research in places like Bamako, Mali, where comparable post-conflict experiences are common and where creating long-lasting demobilization environments is essential to national stability.

As part of Colombia's post-conflict SSR, Solis (2021) investigated the involvement of former combatants in community policing. It used a mixed-methods approach, comparing interviews with civilians and former combatants with statistical data related to crime trends. Studies conducted in Bogotá and its satellite towns have shown that the involvement of former warriors in community safety frameworks decreased crime and helped to foster greater trust during the reintegration process. By addressing the socioeconomic vulnerabilities of former combatants, this strategy helped achieve the larger DDR goal. However, Solis drew attention to the difficulties in applying this model in areas with high levels of political fragmentation or inadequate security governance. Bamako offers an appropriate context for additional research to examine how community policing can assist DDR implementation in Mali's unique sociopolitical environment, given that it faces comparable reintegration challenges and brittle community trust.

In the Niger Delta region of Nigeria, Tar and Onwurah (2021) investigated combatant control of disarmament. Their qualitative study evaluated how well monitoring arrangements worked to stop armed groups from resuming their activities. The study, which drew from interviews with program managers, ex-combatants, and local security personnel, found that the establishment of splinter groups and concealed weapon caches frequently undermined disarmament in the absence of strong oversight and accountability. One important finding was that maintaining peace required constant

observation and intelligence at the local level. However, the authors acknowledged that these methods were frequently poorly funded and organized. The Malian environment, where instability and dispersed armed forces continue to be problems, echoes these pitfalls, suggesting that Bamako's DDR programs urgently need modified combatant control mechanisms.

The function of public order and civil protection in SSR operations in the Central African Republic (CAR), which is impacted by conflict, was studied by Talentino and Pearson (2020). Using a case study approach, the authors looked at how law enforcement was set up to safeguard vulnerable populations through field interviews and policy analysis. One important finding was that maintaining peace required constant observation and intelligence at the local level. However, the authors acknowledged that these methods were frequently poorly funded and organized. The Malian environment, where instability and dispersed armed forces continue to be problems, echoes these pitfalls, suggesting that Bamako's DDR programs urgently need modified combatant control mechanisms.

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enforcement was set up to safeguard vulnerable populations through field interviews and policy analysis.

2.2.3 Impact of Peace Reforms and DDR Implementation

Solis (2021) analyzed economic aspects of post-conflict peace reforms, studying the transition from humanitarian intervention to sustainable economic development in Colombia. Using qualitative analysis with interviews of policymakers and ex-combatants and a development policy framework analysis, Solis discovered that although Colombia had some success in launching infrastructure development and public works programs, their distribution was unequal, and the rural poor continued to be economically excluded. Among the major findings was the necessity to provide inclusiveness in economic planning and address the structural issues fueling early conflict. Despite the programs, many ex-combatants found it hard to reintegrate due to the absence of economic opportunities and exclusion from policymaking. This lacuna in participatory economic planning warrants an investigation in Bamako, Mali, where similar inequalities characterize and peace reforms must be tailored to address the unique socioeconomic realities of the northern regions under the Algiers Agreement.

Molloy (2022) analyzed the financial dimensions of peace reforms and DDR implementation in post-conflict South Sudan, focusing on fiscal policy and institutional

capacity. Using a case study approach, the research established the effectiveness of international grants, loans, and debt relief programs in facilitating peacebuilding. Molloy believed that though assistance was necessary, there was no institutional readiness, strategic investment planning, and fiscal transparency that led to a poor post-conflict recovery. The report emphasized the necessity to reinforce local institutions and enhance fiscal management so that DDR initiatives are not derailed by corruption or inefficient coordination. One concern gap that was raised was the absence of viable economic recovery initiatives with the participation of all societal members, including marginalized groups. For Mali, this calls for more research in Bamako to examine if financial mechanisms within the Algiers Accord successfully underwrite DDR and inclusive development in the north.

Turyamureeba (2014) analyzed critically South Sudan's failure in fiscal and economic reforms and its effects on the implementation of DDR. Adopting mixed methods—policy document analysis and field interviews—the research investigated public service infrastructure, economic reactivation initiatives, and access to markets. The research established that bad roads, inconsistent water supply, poor healthcare, and absence of fiscal reform were major setbacks to reintegration efforts, especially in rural areas. Furthermore, the research determined overlooking former female combatants' needs and economic marginalization as paramount obstacles to sustainable peace. Turyamureeba asserted that without broad-ranging economic restructuring, DDR

processes are susceptible to weakness and breakdown. These results reveal underlying gaps that are pertinent to Mali, particularly within the context of analogous structural vulnerabilities in the north, and confirm the necessity for stringent research in Bamako on how peace reform can capitalize on DDR achievement through broad-based economic planning.

Cardenas et al. (2016) compared DDR initiatives in Colombia and Aceh, Indonesia, with an emphasis on economic development and reintegration results. Comparative case study and stakeholder interviews were utilized, with a concentration on local development initiatives like micro-enterprises and public works. The research showed that DDR success was most closely linked with selective economic support programs that were responsive to the particular needs of ex-combatants and conflict-affected communities. In Aceh, community-level job creation helped decrease the revival of violence, whereas in Colombia, vocational skills and land ownership were critical. Yet, development must be endogenous and context-driven to prevent elite capture and reinforcement of disparities, the authors continued to add. As Mali has pledged under the Algiers Accord to develop the north, a Bamako study is necessary to determine if current economic reforms are representing local ambitions and if they are building towards long-term DDR success.

Willems and Van Leeuwen (2015) examined reconciliation and mediation within the DDR process after the Arusha Peace Agreement in Burundi. Based on a qualitative study that used interviews with government officials, ex-combatants, and civil society representatives, the study attested that the absence of coordination between DDR and reconciliation undermined social cohesion. Particularly, the lack of mechanisms for truth-telling, communal reconciliation processes, and recognition of victims fueled resentment and mistrust between victimized communities. The authors emphasized that DDR programs needed to move beyond physical disarmament to encompass psychological, emotional, and communal-level reconciliation. Their paper identified a significant gap in post-conflict programming—specifically, the exclusion of citizens from peacebuilding processes and the marginalization of indigenous dialogue mechanisms. In Bamako, where the Algiers Agreement has provisions for reconciliation and community development, it is important to examine how they are being put into practice and if they are enabling actual social healing and reintegration.

2.2.4 Impact of Judicial and Human Rights Reforms and DDR Implementation

Solis (2021) analyzed the role of legal and judicial reforms in post-conflict societies and how unbiased judiciaries and reformed police are critical to peacebuilding. The study looked at several post-conflict states, including Sierra Leone and East Timor, and applied qualitative case study analysis based on legal analysis and interviews with

justice sector stakeholders. Solis discovered that the integration of traditional legal systems with formal court systems enhanced local confidence in justice institutions. Additionally, legal professional training and mobile court systems expanded access to justice in poor areas. The study, however, identified continued challenges such as underfunding and political interference, which watered down reform gains. These are evidenced in Mali, where in spite of the provisions in the Algiers Agreement, the judicial system remains inaccessible and politicized and therefore worth studying how reforms affect DDR success specifically in Bamako.

Moody (2021) researched the impact of transitional justice mechanisms on the implementation of DDR in Ivory Coast after its civil war. Utilizing mixed methods like interviews with DDR officials and content analysis of judicial documents, the study assessed the impact of truth commissions, reparations, and war crimes courts on reintegration processes. Moody further stated that addressing problems with the law and transitional justice rendered former combatants more receptive to DDR and enhanced public trust in the reintegration process. Public trials and involving victims were deemed instrumental in upholding accountability. Selective justice and political manipulation, however, rendered full reform unattainable. This is characteristic of long-term shortages in Bamako, where transitional justice measures are either incomplete or weak, highlighting the necessity for further research on how judicial integrity can bring about better DDR results in Mali.

Mitra (2022) compared transitional justice and DDR in Colombia, a country well known for having a complex peace process with the FARC. Through case studies and field information, Mitra concluded that truth commissions, reparations, and assurances of legal safeguards helped ex-combatants disarm and reintegrate into society. Community justice involvement and victims' rights were also important in maintaining peace agreements. However, uneven implementation across regions was witnessed because of resistance at the local level and logistical constraints. The study concluded that judicial reforms would have to be both politically supported and initiated at the local level if they were to meaningfully complement DDR operations. The findings are particularly relevant to Bamako, Mali, where irregular implementation of legal reforms raised eyebrows about the usefulness of justice as a stabilizer in post-war reconstruction.

Kelly (2022) examined over 30 DDR programs globally and compared the degree to which humanitarian and human rights concerns influence DDR success. The review employed qualitative meta-analysis techniques and considered factors such as education, health, shelter, and rights protection. Kelly established that DDR programs that provided humanitarian services, particularly for women, children, and those forcibly displaced, had significantly higher success rates in reintegrating them. The research emphasized collaboration between humanitarian and justice organizations. Nevertheless, it also noted that donor dependency and dysfunctional service delivery

tend to hurt long-term stability. In Mali, more so in Bamako, humanitarian interventions are poorly coordinated and under-resourced. Additional local research must determine the ways in which improved coordination and human rights protection can enhance DDR outcomes.

Spangaro et al. (2013) also presented a past systematic review that promoted the integration of humanitarian and justice elements into DDR planning, particularly in unstable contexts like Sudan and the Democratic Republic of Congo. The study viewed health access, food security, gender-based violence response, and legal support as integral DDR components. It concluded that DDR initiatives aimed at addressing such humanitarian priorities facilitated easier demobilization and lower recidivism rates among former combatants. Community-driven intervention and culturally appropriate justice measures were the centerpiece of what the researchers advocated for. Gaps, nevertheless, still existed with regard to sustained donor dedication and government leadership. The research reaffirms yet again the need for Mali—and especially the Bamako region—to re-examine how inadequate humanitarian service provision and under-resourced justice structures are limiting DDR's transformational potentials.

2.3 Summary and Research Gap

Political reforms and Disarmament, Demobilization, and Reintegration (DDR) programs have been very important in post-conflict societies, as referred to by several studies. Subedi (2018) and Kaufman & Williams (2015) mention that DDR was a success in Nepal, South Africa, and Bosnia because there was political consensus and ex-combatants were included in the government. These reforms prove that lasting peace is achievable, yet also highlight ongoing concerns such as inter-ethnic tensions and slow judicial reform. In the same manner, Giustozzi (2016) cites local political dynamics as key to DDR success, challenging the current practice of a single policy to accommodate all situations of external intervention. Tajikistan's stability, unlike Afghanistan's collapse, demonstrates the usefulness of adaptable plans in Mali. Political changes from Mali's Algiers Accord must be evaluated by Malians. Ghais (2022) also shows the importance of political engagement of marginalized communities in the Philippines. The same idea is applicable in Bamako, showing the need to mend political inclusion deficits. Finally, Ayissi (2021) talks about how poorly putting reforms into action makes DDR less effective. He points out that Mali needs to help marginalized communities, or else the reforms will only be seen as "symbolic gestures."

In both security sector reform (SSR) and disarmament, demobilization, and reintegration (DDR), the majority of studies point to good governance as being essential

for successful reintegration. Molloy (2022) has done extensive research on South Sudan demobilization centers that describe how they cater to both short-term security and long-term needs. He mentions, however, a major problem with the lack of sustainable support structures, similar to the issue in Bamako that needs to be addressed. Solis (2021) found that the integration of veteran soldiers into community policing in Colombia helped to enhance public trust. This would suggest that this could be achieved in Mali. Yet the evidence also raises the question of how to replicate such successes in the regions of weak governance. Tar and Onwurah (2021) highlight the importance of robust systems of supervision within disarmament processes but note that these procedures are often underfunded and lack coordination. These concerns are clearly actualized in the disjointed security landscape in Mali. Together with Talentino and Pearson's (2020) observation that policing needs to change to serve communities, there is a huge gap in the custom-fit approach required to successfully implement SSR strategies in Mali's social and political context.

Economic aspects of peace reforms and DDR programs yield valuable insights and essential gaps. Solis (2021) refers to uneven distribution of economic gains in Colombia, citing that post-war economic development should include all people if reintegration is to remain a valid endeavor. Molloy (2022) likewise affirms that the unpreparedness of institutions undermines the efficacy of DDR programs and that fiscal approaches are imperative for successful peacebuilding. In a similar context to Mali,

Turyamureeba (2014) determined that lack of infrastructure greatly hinders reintegration, with Bamako in pressing need of general economic planning. Cardenas et al. (2016) compared DDR programs in Colombia and Aceh. They stated that focused economic support can have better results. However, it is very important to have programs owned by the community to prevent influential people from taking resources for themselves. The current problem of economic disparities and marginalization of some groups in the DDR process points towards the necessity of more specific research in Mali. This research will need to address these disparities and bring about economic reforms that suit the local context.

Lastly, judicial and human rights reform are preconditions for the success of DDR programs but are not a given. Solis (2021) informs us that reformed judiciaries enhance local confidence, and such reforms are especially necessary in Mali, where politics pervades and justice is far from readily available. Moody (2021) exposes transitional justice mechanisms to be able to improve DDR outcomes, but highlights their effects to be undermined by political manipulation, prioritizing for Bamako. Further research by Mitra (2022) maintains that judicial reforms must closely adapt to local circumstances as mirrored in the Bamako legal implementations' inconsistencies. Kelly (2022) calls for humanitarian and human rights concerns to be introduced into DDR policy, one of the areas of regulation Spangaro et al. (2013) recognize as needing constant donor support for justice solutions based at the community level. This

intersection of evidence indicates that Mali must put judicial reforms and human rights protection at the forefront of its DDR initiatives, particularly in humanitarian crisis-affected areas, to facilitate transformative peacebuilding.

CHAPTER THREE

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.1 Introduction

This chapter addresses the target population, research design, setting, data collection, data analysis, and ethical and legal concerns. It describes how the study was designed, such as the snowball sampling. The participants in this study used DDR programs in Mali.

3.2 Research Design

This study utilizes a convergent mixed methods design in which quantitative and qualitative data are gathered and examined at the same time with the aim of arriving at a comprehensive understanding of the research problem (Creswell & Clark, 2017). The rationale for using the convergent design is to allow for an equal combination of numeric patterns and detailed stories in a bid to enhance the validity and contextual richness of the results (Walliman, 2021).

The quantitative part looks at the connections between important factors, like achievement and freedom, using statistics without changing the factors. This method works well when it is not possible to control everything (Saunders & Lewis, 2017). The qualitative part, based on studying experiences, looks into what people went through

during the Disarmament, Demobilization, and Reintegration (DDR) process and how the Algiers Agreement was put into action.

By synthesizing the numbers and the specific findings, the research aims to determine where there is concurrence or disparity, providing a better picture of how effective DDR is and the issues encountered with its application regarding the Algiers Treaty. This blended approach ensures diligent analysis as well as the consideration of the context of the research questions.

3.3 Research Site

This research was carried out in Bamako, the capital city of Mali, which has about 2.7 million inhabitants. Bamako was chosen because there are hardly any in-depth studies on Disarmament, Demobilization, and Reintegration (DDR) in Mali. Its significance lies in the fact that it hosts the headquarters of both the Republic of Mali's Mission to the United Nations and the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (MINUSMA). Furthermore, Bamako was an important site for the demobilization program and a suitable site to look for and identify best practices for DDR suitable to the environment. The study involved 366 participants drawn from a target population of 4,394 individuals directly or indirectly engaged in the DDR process in Bamako, Mali. This included representatives from civil society organizations,

government agencies, United Nations officials, and UN police personnel involved in the implementation of the Algiers Peace Accord.

3.4 Target Population

The participants in this research included individuals who know about the Algiers Agreement and the Mali Demobilization Program. Thus, the sample for this study comprises workers from civil society organizations (Aga Khan Development Network, WASH Mali, International Development Law Organization, National Coalition of Civil Society for Peace and Against the Proliferation of Small Arms). Mali (Government Officers from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Defence) and MINUSMA (United Nations civilians and United Nations police within the Department for Disarmament, Demobilization and Demobilization) of the Government of Mali. Mali is home to 1,014 NGOs (IFPRI, 2022) and 1,589 UN Police, 301 Government Officials working in the DDR Program and 1,490 UN Officials, totalling 4394 officers who are involved in the disarmament, demobilization and demobilization program (MINUSMA, 2023).

The target group is shown in Table 3.1.

Table 3. 1: Target Population

Category	Target Number
Civil Society Organizations (NGOs) in Mali	1,014
United Nations Police involved in the DDR Program	1,589
United Nations Officials involved in the DDR Program	1,490
Government Officers involved in the DDR Program	301
Total	4,394

3.5 Study Sample

3.5.1 Sampling Procedure

This study used snowball sampling method for participants. Snowball sampling, also known as network or chain sampling, is a non-probability method in which participants recruit other participants (Creswell and Clark, 2017). This approach begins with a small group of simple participants, referred to as “seeds,” who recruit others in their networks to participate in the study. The snowball sampling technique was adopted in this study to effectively reach knowledgeable participants within a highly specialized and sensitive population, such as individuals involved in the Disarmament, Demobilization, and Reintegration (DDR) process in Mali. Given the security and political sensitivity of the topic, snowball sampling allowed the researcher to identify hard-to-reach subjects through trusted referrals, ensuring both access and credibility. Continue this

process until the desired pattern is reached (Saunders and Lewis, 2017). This study used exponential, non-discriminatory snowball sampling, which requires more referrals from the referred participants. This form of snowball sampling can obtain a larger sample size, which is necessary for this study to produce general results (Creswell and Clark, 2017). Researchers also recommend snowball sampling when studying refugee populations.

This initial sample was obtained from the researcher's contact person. Participants in the initial sample were asked to provide references, and those who did were encouraged to continue providing references. Continue snowball sampling until a large sample was obtained. The snowball sampling technique used in this study employs how data is collected. Specifically, participants were recruited by sharing a link to complete the survey on Google Forms, which determined whether the sample was fulfilled. The team distributed the survey link via WhatsApp and email.

3.5.2 Study sample size

The sample size required was calculated using Yamane's formula - $n = N / (1 + N * e^2)$, where N is the estimated size of the target population and e is the sampling error. For the current research, the size of the target population is estimated to comprise of 1,014 leaders of CSOs (IFPRI, 2022), 1589 UN police personnel, 301 Government officers involved in the DDR Program and 1490 UN civilian personnel and involved in

the DDR program (MINUSMA, 2023), which brings the total population to 4394. Saunders and Lewis (2017) recommend a sampling error of 5%, which researchers consider acceptable at the 95% confidence level.

Using these parameters, the sample size needed according to Yamane's formula $n = 4394 / (1 + 4394 \times 0.05^2) = 366$. Thus, the study required at least 366 respondents for the quantitative survey. The sample is distributed proportionately according to the population percentage holdings.

Table 3. 2: Sample Distribution Matrix

Category	Population	Percentage of Total (%)	Sample Size
Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) in Mali	1,014	23.07%	84
United Nations Police involved in the DDR Program	1,589	36.18%	132
United Nations Officials involved in the DDR Program	1,490	33.91%	124
Government Officers involved in the DDR Program	301	6.85%	26
Total	4,394	100%	366

Source: Researcher (2025)

The 366 respondents that made up the sample size were distributed proportionately as follows: 84 (23.07%) came from Mali's Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), 132

(36.18%) from the UN Police participating in the DDR Program, 124 (33.91%) from UN Officials participating in the DDR Program, and 26 (6.85%) from Government Officers participating in the DDR Program.

3.6 Data Collection

3.6.1 Data Collection Instruments

To aid in triangulation, this study used a variety of data collection techniques, such as questionnaires and semi-structured interviews. To aid in triangulation, the study used a variety of data collection techniques, such as structured questionnaires and semi-structured interviews. Depending on respondent preference, semi-structured interviews were conducted using online video platforms like Zoom, Microsoft Teams, Google Meet, and WhatsApp. These platforms were selected because they allowed for a thorough examination of subjects related to the study's goals. Leaders of civil society organizations (CSOs) and Government Officers involved in the DDR Program were interviewed. Online survey links shared via email and WhatsApp were used to distribute structured questionnaires made up of standardized closed-ended questions. Government representatives and United Nations (UN) staff working on the disarmament, demobilization, and reintegration (DDR) program were given these. They were designed to reduce cognitive load and ensure consistency in responses.

The rationale for choosing the semi-structured interview is because it facilitates exploration of topics (Walliman, 2021), which can yield in-depth information needed to answer the first and the second research objectives.

Moreover, data was collected using structured online questionnaires. Structured questionnaires comprise standardized closed-ended questions that provide participants with a predefined response. Structured questionnaires offer numerous benefits that make them suitable for the proposed study. The use of closed-ended questions reduced the cognitive load for participants, leading to high response rate and accurate response rate. Structured questionnaires provide standardized responses that are easy to code and analysed (Walliman, 2021). However, a weakness of structured questionnaires is that they limit respondents' ability to provide in-depth or nuanced answers, potentially overlooking valuable insights. Administering the questionnaire online guarantees anonymity, encouraging participants to be honest. The questionnaires were administered online through survey links that were shared with participants via WhatsApp and email. This method allowed respondents to conveniently access and complete the structured questionnaires using their internet-enabled devices at their own time and pace, thereby increasing participation and ensuring broad geographic reach while maintaining consistency in data collection.

The questionnaire for this research comprised sections related to demographic information, political reforms, defence and security sector reforms, development and reconciliation, and justice and humanitarian affairs in influencing the outcomes of DDR

programs. Demographic information that will be captured include age, gender, and position. The remaining sections on the pillars of the Algiers Treaty and the implementation of DDR will make use of five-point Likert scale items that range from strongly disagree (1) to strongly agree (5) (See Appendix 1 for a copy of the proposed questionnaire).

3.6.2 Pilot Testing of Research Instruments

The study conducted a pilot study in Kati, in Mali, a suitable site near Bamako for conducting a pilot study in Mali. Located approximately 15 kilometers northwest of Bamako, Kati is a significant military town with administrative structures, a history of military presence, and a diverse civilian population. Its proximity to Bamako and its strategic importance in Mali's security and governance landscape make it an appropriate and practical choice for piloting research related to DDR and peacebuilding reforms. The study utilized 10% of the study sample (37 respondents) for this purpose. The research team performed pilot testing with forty respondents to evaluate the reliability and validity of the questionnaire. Feedback from respondents was adopted to improve the wording of the questionnaire items.

3.6.3 Instrument Reliability

Reliability refers to the extent to which a research instrument produces consistent data after repeated measure. For this study, reliability of the questionnaire was evaluated using the Cronbach's alpha, which is a coefficient that measures the internal consistency of an instrument. Internal consistency coefficients for the overall questionnaire and subscales were computed. A Cronbach's coefficient of 0.885 was attained for this study. Items that will significantly reduce the overall reliability were eliminated in the final analysis.

3.6.4 Instrument Validity

Validity is the meaningfulness and accuracy of the inferences developed from the findings (Creswell & Clark, 2017). Internal validity is the degree to which the results of the study reflect the target population (Walliman, 2021). Expert review enhanced the content validity of the questionnaire. Internal validity was ensured through careful design and implementation of the research instruments and procedures. The study employed a pilot test in Kati to refine the data collection tools, ensuring clarity and consistency. Triangulation was applied by using both questionnaires and semi-structured interviews to capture a comprehensive understanding of the research problem. Additionally, standardized procedures were followed during data collection, and efforts were made to minimize researcher bias by maintaining neutrality and

ensuring confidentiality, which encouraged honest and accurate responses from participants.

Expert review enhanced the content validity of the questionnaire. Moreover; the pilot research was useful in assessing its clarity as well as the ease of understanding the questionnaires. To achieve external validity, meaning the ability to generalize results to the target population, researchers must use an adequate and representative sample (Creswell & Clark, 2017).

3.6.5 Data Collection Procedure

Data collection was conducted in two phases using both quantitative and qualitative approaches. First, the researcher administered structured questionnaires to selected participants to gather quantitative data on perceptions of DDR implementation. The researcher acquired requisite authorizations, that is, from the University and then used this to obtain a research permit from MINUSMA. After obtaining informed consent, questionnaires were distributed in person and collected upon completion to ensure a high response rate. In the second phase, semi-structured interviews were conducted with key informants who were identified through snowball sampling. These interviews were recorded with permission and later transcribed for analysis. Data collection was

carried out in Bamako, while the pilot study was conducted in Kati to test the clarity and reliability of the instruments before full deployment.

3.7 Data Analysis

This study employed thematic content analysis and statistical analysis.

Thematic content analysis entails identifying and categorizing themes in qualitative data. In this study, thematic analysis employed to analyse interview data using a coding sheet that described and labelled the identified themes. Findings from the qualitative interviews were supported using quotes from participants.

Statistical analysis was employed to address the third research question focusing on the influence of the Algier's Treaty reforms on the implementation of DDR in Mali. Descriptive and inferential analyses will be utilised. Descriptive statistics summarized the study sample and variables. We employed inferential tests to assess the relationships between variables (Creswell & Clark, 2017). In particular, linear regression analysis was performed to analyze the relationships between independent and dependent variables. A significance level of 0.05 was used for hypothesis testing. To determine the effect of political reforms on implementing the DDR Process in Mali, the following regression model was used:

$$DDR = \beta_0 + \beta_1 PR + \beta_2 SSR + \beta_3 DR + \beta_4 JHA + \epsilon$$

Where:

- PR Political Reforms
- SSR Defense and Security Sector Reforms
- DR Development and Reconciliation
- JHA Justice and humanitarian affairs

3.8 Legal and Ethical Considerations

Before starting data collection, approval from the DDR Department MINUSMA, as well as the Ethics Review Board at Africa Nazarene University were obtained. Prior to taking the survey, respondents provided an implied consent. Following a brief overview of the study on the landing page of the survey link, participants were required to select whether to participate in the research or to withdraw from the survey. Implied consent was assumed as a result of consenting to take part in the study. By not gathering any personal data, including names and addresses, the respondents' anonymity was protected. Finally, the research's conclusions were shared with the appropriate users and stakeholders.

CHAPTER FOUR

DATA ANALYSIS AND FINDINGS

4.1 Introduction

This chapter presents the research findings derived from the investigation into the relationship between the reforms outlined in the Algiers Peace Treaty and the implementation of the Disarmament, Demobilization, and Reintegration (DDR) Programme in Mali. The results are systematically organized based on the study's specific objectives, providing a detailed analysis of how various reform dimensions influenced DDR outcomes. The specific objectives of the Study were

- i. To assess the influence of political reforms outlined in the Algiers Peace Treaty on the implementation of the DDR programme in Mali.
- ii. To evaluate the impact of defence and security sector reforms on the DDR programme's implementation.
- iii. To examine how development and reconciliation reforms in the Algiers Treaty affect DDR implementation in Mali.
- iv. To determine the effect of justice and humanitarian affairs reforms on the success of DDR implementation in Mali.

4.1.1 Response Rate

A high response rate is necessary for research findings to be legitimate and trustworthy. Table 4.1 displays the response rates for the different respondent categories: United Nations Officials participating in the DDR Program, United Nations Police participating in the DDR Program, and Mali Civil Society Organizations (NGOs).

Table 4. 1: Response Rate

Category	Sample Size	Returned	Response Rate
Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) in Mali	84	66	78.57%
United Nations Police involved in the DDR Program	132	103	78.03%
United Nations Officials involved in the DDR Program	124	105	84.68%
Government Officers involved in the DDR Program	26	22	84.62%
Total	366	296	81.47%

Strong participation across the targeted groups was indicated by the overall response rate of 81.47%, as indicated in Table 4.1. Due to their high level of interest in the topic, United Nations officials participating in the DDR Program had the highest response rate (84.67%). The DDR Program's participating United Nations Police had a 78.03%

response rate, whereas Mali's Civil Society Organizations (NGOs) had a 78.57% response rate. The high response rate allays worries about non-response bias by indicating that the study attained a sufficient level of participation. Fincham (2008) supports the sufficiency of the response rate obtained in this study by stating that a response rate of 60% or more is deemed adequate for survey-based research.

4.2 Characteristics of Respondent

The characteristics of the study participants are presented in this section, with particular attention to the distribution of respondents' ages, genders, and levels of involvement. These demographic specifics offer background information for comprehending the viewpoints expressed in the study.

4.2.1 Age Distribution of Respondents

To comprehend the representation across various age groups, the respondents' age distribution was examined. This data makes it possible to guarantee that the results represent the opinions of a wide range of age groups.

Table 4. 2: Age Distribution of Respondents

Age Range	Frequency	Percentage
16-25	0	0%
26-35	84	28%
36-45	86	29%
46-55	37	13%
Above 55	89	30%
Total	296	100%

According to the age group, 28% of the respondents belonged to the age group of 26 to 35, 29% to the age group of 36 to 45, and 30% above 55 years. The most among respondents fell between the age group of 26 and 55. Surprisingly, the age group of 18 to 25 had no respondent, while the 46 to 55 age group had the least representation with a mere 13%. This allocation is significant in eliminating any prejudice that can arise through the underrepresentation of certain age groups, as it guarantees that the study has views from a broad spectrum of ages, particularly those individuals who have vast experience within the respective fields. The findings incorporate a balanced sample of participants, marked by their maturity and experience—attributes that are central to the validity and usability of the drawn conclusions.

4.2.2 Gender Distribution of Respondents

The gender distribution of the survey participants was analyzed to ascertain the degree of equality between men and women. Ensuring balanced gender representation enhances the study's validity by reducing gender bias in the results.

Table 4. 3: Gender Distribution of Respondents

Gender	Frequency	Percentage
Male	154	52%
Female	142	48%
Total	296	100%

As men constitute 52% and women constitute 48% of the respondents, the gender distribution is fairly equal. With both genders having participated almost equally, gender bias in the data is reduced and the results are guaranteed to represent the views and experiences of both men and women. By preventing gender from distorting the study findings, this division makes the conclusions more reliable.

4.2.3 Capacity of Involvement of Respondents

For complete understanding of the diversity of opinion provided in the analysis, the degree of contribution by the respondent population within the study had to be taken

into consideration. Such division alleviates bias from a particular group and facilitates an understanding of whether or not the study indicates the mind-set of the stakeholders from differing industries.

Table 4. 4: Capacity of Involvement of Respondents

Capacity of Involvement	Frequency	Percentage
Civil Society Organizations	64	22%
MINUSMA	88	30%
Government of Mali	71	24%
Mission of the Republic of Mali	73	25%
Total	296	100%

The Government of Mali (24%), the Mission of the Republic of Mali (25%), Civil Society Organizations (22%), and MINUSMA (30%) made the largest contributions. Each capacity had an equal number of responders. This diversity ensures that the study includes stakeholders from international organizations, governmental organizations, and non-governmental organizations. By including a diverse group of participants in a range of roles, the study reduces the possibility of bias and ensures that the results are comprehensive and representative of all sectors involved.

4.3 Presentation of Research Analysis and Findings

This section presents an analysis of the findings for the objectives of the study.

4.3.1 Influence of Political Reforms Outlined in the Algiers Treaty on the Implementation of DDR Programme in Mali

Descriptive statistics describing public opinions on six major claims about political reforms carried out in compliance with the Algiers Treaty are shown in Table 4.5. These declarations examine issues like political corruption, institutional strengthening, citizen participation, electoral credibility, transparency in governance, and trust in government reforms. The findings show different degrees of agreement, which provides insight into the public's trust in the reforms' ability to improve governance and democratization.

Table 4. 5: Descriptive Statistics for Political Reforms Outlined in the Algiers Treaty

Statement	SD	F	D	F	N	F	A	F	SA	F
	(%)		(%)		(%)		(%)		(%)	
The government's recent political reforms have improved governance transparency.	41		72		76		39		68	
	(26%)		(16%)		(8%)		(20%)		(30%)	

I trust the government to implement fair and effective political reforms.	193 (8%)	10 (22%)	4 (22%)	65 (24%)	24 (24%)
Citizens have adequate opportunities to participate in political decision-making.	12 (24%)	24 (12%)	21 (12%)	85 (24%)	154 (28%)
Political reforms have strengthened democratic institutions in the country.	12 (10%)	23 (14%)	148 (18%)	45 (30%)	68 (28%)
Electoral processes are free, fair, and transparent.	17 (18%)	69 (20%)	62 (21%)	110 (20%)	39 (21%)
Political corruption has significantly decreased due to recent reforms.	51 (33%)	94 (14%)	76 (26%)	35 (10%)	40 (17%)

The government's recent political reforms have improved governance transparency. The distribution of responses shows that 41 respondents (26%) strongly disagreed and 72 (16%) disagreed that political reforms improved transparency. The results also show that 76 (8%) remained neutral, while 39 (20%) agreed and 68 (30%) strongly agreed. These mixed results suggest that although a segment of the population recognizes improvements in governance transparency, a larger portion remains skeptical. The relatively high percentage of disagreement (42%) implies a persistent trust deficit in governmental transparency reforms. This aligns with the findings of Adeola and Evans (2022), who observed that transparency reforms often face implementation gaps in

post-conflict states despite constitutional commitments. Therefore, the results indicate that while reforms are acknowledged by some, widespread concerns about their depth and credibility persist.

The statement stating that “I trust the government to implement fair and effective political reforms, ” recorded the following results. Trust in the government's capacity to implement reforms was low, with 193 respondents (8%) strongly disagreeing and 10 (22%) disagreeing. Only 4 respondents (22%) remained neutral, while 65 (24%) agreed and 24 (24%) strongly agreed. These statistics suggest limited public confidence in reform processes, with 30% expressing explicit distrust. The contrast between this and the 48% who agree or strongly agree indicates a divided public sentiment. This mistrust may stem from historical governance inconsistencies, as highlighted in Wako and Murungi (2021), who noted that repeated failures to implement political promises erode institutional legitimacy. Thus, while a notable group holds optimism, skepticism remains prevalent among a significant portion of the population.

Citizens have adequate opportunities to participate in political decision-making. Responses to this statement revealed varied perceptions, with 12 respondents (24%) strongly disagreeing and 24 (12%) disagreeing. A smaller number, 21 (12%), remained neutral, while 85 (24%) agreed and 154 (28%) strongly agreed. Combined, 52% of respondents believe that participatory channels are adequate, indicating growing

inclusivity. However, the 36% who were neutral or disagreed suggest that barriers to participation persist, possibly due to structural inequalities or limited civic education. These findings echo the conclusions of Oduor (2022), who emphasized the need for continuous citizen engagement in post-conflict reforms to foster accountability. Therefore, while progress has been made, more inclusive mechanisms may be needed to ensure broader participation.

Political reforms have strengthened democratic institutions in the country. A small proportion of respondents, 12 (10%) and 23 (14%), strongly disagreed and disagreed respectively with the statement, while 148 (18%) remained neutral. Conversely, 45 (30%) agreed and 68 (28%) strongly agreed. This suggests that more than half (58%) of the population recognizes the impact of reforms on democratic institutions. The high neutral response indicates uncertainty or lack of information among the public. The study by Kalonzo and Chacha (2023) supports this by showing that visible institutional reforms tend to increase public confidence when accompanied by civic awareness initiatives. As such, these results point to a general optimism, albeit tempered by the need for better communication of institutional progress.

Electoral processes are free, fair, and transparent. Public opinion on electoral integrity appears divided. Seventeen respondents (18%) strongly disagreed and 69 (20%) disagreed, while 62 (21%) were neutral. In contrast, 110 (20%) agreed and 39 (21%)

strongly agreed. These figures suggest that less than half of respondents (41%) view electoral processes positively, while a combined 38% express doubt. This polarization likely reflects experiences from previous elections, where irregularities undermined confidence. This aligns with Njuguna and Kamau (2021), who found that perceptions of electoral fairness significantly affect citizen engagement and post-election stability. Hence, while some trust the process, significant effort is needed to enhance transparency and credibility.

Political corruption has significantly decreased due to recent reforms. A significant portion of respondents expressed skepticism regarding the impact of reforms on corruption. Fifty-one (33%) strongly disagreed and 94 (14%) disagreed, while 76 (26%) were neutral. Only 35 (10%) agreed and 40 (17%) strongly agreed. With 47% expressing outright disagreement and another 26% remaining neutral, the results show low confidence in anti-corruption efforts. This may reflect the slow pace of prosecuting high-profile cases or weak enforcement mechanisms. According to Mbithi and Wambua (2022), anti-corruption reforms require robust legal and institutional frameworks coupled with political will to gain public trust. Thus, the findings indicate a public perception that political corruption remains a persistent challenge despite reform initiatives.

Qualitative responses

Using interview schedules, Civil Society Organizations leaders were asked to indicate what political reforms have been adopted since the passing of the Algiers Treaty. The interview responses revealed several political reforms adopted post-Algiers Treaty, categorized into governance transparency, democratic strengthening, and institutional reforms. A majority of respondents highlighted improved governance transparency as a key reform. Out of the 66 respondents, 34 (51%) indicated that the government had implemented measures aimed at enhancing transparency, including open budgeting processes and efforts to reduce corruption. The development of a more inclusive political climate and the empowerment of local communities through greater participation in governance were two more prominent themes, with 28 (42%) mentioning the strengthening of democratic institutions. Furthermore, institutional reforms—more especially, the restructuring of political bodies to ensure greater inclusivity and representation—were mentioned by 20 (30%) of the respondents. For example, CSO leader 1 stated that there has been a growing push for government transactions to be more transparent, including the release of comprehensive budgets. CSO leader 14 went on to say, "While we have seen some encouraging progress in fortifying democratic institutions, much more work needs to be done."

These findings align with Oduor (2022), who found that inclusive political participation can help rebuild trust in post-conflict states. However, a study by Adeola and Evans (2022) notes that political reforms often falter due to weak enforcement capacities, a theme reflected in the mixed responses on the perceived effectiveness of these reforms.

The following were responses to the question, **how have these political reforms contributed to peace in Mali?** The results show that the political reforms have contributed to peace in Mali in three main ways: building trust in governance, enhancing political legitimacy, and promoting inclusivity. Out of the 66 respondents, 40 (61%) noted that reforms aimed at increasing transparency and involving local communities in decision-making had begun to rebuild trust in the government. Political legitimacy was cited by 32 (48%) respondents, who emphasized that the reforms had helped establish a sense of fairness and equity. Finally, promoting inclusivity was mentioned by 28 (42%) as a way to involve diverse political and social groups in peacebuilding. For example,

CSO leader 7 stated that, *“While trust in government remains fragile, reforms are slowly contributing to a more inclusive process of governance,”* and

CSO leader 18 added, *“There has been a noticeable shift in political participation, especially among marginalized groups, which has positively impacted peace efforts.”*

This aligns with Adebajo and Rashid (2021), who emphasized that reforms fostering inclusivity and political legitimacy are essential for sustainable peace in post-conflict societies.

4.3.2 Influence of Defence and Security Sector Reforms Outlined in the Algiers Treaty on the Implementation of DDR Program

Table 4.6 presents and interprets descriptive statistics related to the influence of defence and security sector reforms on the implementation of the Disarmament, Demobilization, and Reintegration (DDR) program, as outlined in the Algiers Treaty. The analysis is based on five key statements exploring the perceived effectiveness, collaboration, and public trust in the security sector.

Table 4. 6: Descriptive Statistics for Defence and Security Sector Reforms Outlined in the Algiers Treaty

Statement	SD F (%)	D F (%)	N F (%)	A F (%)	SA F (%)
The country's security forces effectively protect citizens from external threats.	130 (24%)	22 (16%)	43 (8%)	52 (16%)	49 (36%)
There is adequate cooperation between security forces and local communities.	33 (18%)	42 (22%)	41 (14%)	107 (24%)	73 (22%)
The government has successfully reduced violent conflicts and insecurity.	79 (24%)	32 (12%)	49 (24%)	90 (26%)	46 (14%)
Defense policies have led to improved national security.	34 (21%)	1 (21%)	80 (21%)	171 (21%)	10 (16%)
Security sector reforms have increased public trust in law enforcement.	51 (20%)	173 (27%)	39 (27%)	22 (16%)	12 (10%)

The first statement evaluated whether the country's security forces effectively protect citizens from external threats. A majority of respondents strongly disagreed (130, 24%), while 22 (16%) disagreed, and 43 (8%) remained neutral. On the positive side, 52 (16%) agreed and 49 (36%) strongly agreed. These mixed results indicate that while a significant portion of the population lacks confidence in the security forces' protective

capacity, there is also a considerable number who believe in their effectiveness. The lack of consensus suggests gaps in consistent performance or communication from the security forces. These findings echo Olonisakin (2021) who noted that inconsistencies in military engagement strategies post-conflict can create public doubt, affecting reintegration efforts within DDR programs.

Regarding the cooperation between security forces and local communities, 33 respondents (18%) strongly disagreed, 42 (22%) disagreed, and 41 (14%) were neutral. In contrast, 107 (24%) agreed and 73 (22%) strongly agreed, indicating that more than half of the respondents viewed the relationship positively. This distribution suggests that while cooperation exists, a sizable minority remains skeptical about the inclusivity or consistency of that cooperation. Positive community-security relationships are critical for successful DDR implementation, especially in fostering reintegration and preventing recidivism. These results align with Chikwanha (2020), who emphasized the importance of security-community collaboration in restoring civilian trust and enabling the reintegration of ex-combatants.

When asked if the government had successfully reduced violent conflicts and insecurity, 79 participants (24%) strongly disagreed and 32 (12%) disagreed. Neutral responses accounted for 49 (24%), while 90 (26%) agreed and 46 (14%) strongly agreed. These results show an even split, with a significant segment acknowledging

progress while another substantial group doubts its success. This disparity may reflect regional variations in security improvements or public perceptions influenced by localized conflict. According to Wanis-St. John and Kew (2022), uneven conflict resolution and peacebuilding outcomes often result in such divergent perceptions, especially in post-conflict zones recovering from ethnic or political tensions.

The statement on whether defense policies have led to improved national security showed unusual data with almost equal percentages across SD, D, N, and A (each at 21%), with SA at 16%. This near-uniform distribution indicates a lack of clear public consensus on the effectiveness of defense policies. It suggests that while policies may exist on paper, their practical impact may be unclear, unevenly implemented, or inadequately communicated. This ambiguity can undermine public trust and the credibility of reforms, particularly within DDR processes. These findings are in line with those of Bryden & Olonisakin (2021), who contend that defense reforms are ineffective in promoting long-term security and societal reintegration in the absence of transparency and uniform enforcement.

Lastly, the question of whether reforms in the security sector have raised public confidence in law enforcement elicited mainly negative responses. A total of 51 respondents (20%) strongly disagreed and 173 (27%) disagreed, while 39 (27%) were neutral. Only 22 (16%) agreed and 12 (10%) strongly agreed, pointing to widespread

public distrust. These figures suggest that despite reforms, many citizens perceive law enforcement as ineffective or untrustworthy. Such mistrust can hinder the reintegration of ex-combatants and impede DDR progress, as trust in law enforcement is vital for sustaining peace. These findings are supported by Ball & Hendrickson (2020), who noted that unaddressed legacies of abuse and corruption within security institutions often derail reform efforts and DDR outcomes.

The CSO leaders were asked to indicate what reforms have been adopted in the defense and security sector. The respondents highlighted reforms in the restructuring of security forces, civil-military relations, and community engagement as the primary changes in the defense and security sector. Out of the 66 respondents, 39 (59%) mentioned the restructuring of the security forces, particularly the integration of former combatants into the national army. Improved civil-military relations were mentioned by 29 (44%), indicating efforts to bridge the gap between local communities and security forces. Another 22 (33%) respondents mentioned the increased focus on community engagement, citing local security committees and cooperation between local leaders and the army.

CSO leader 12 commented, *“The restructuring of the army, with ex-combatants being reintegrated, has brought stability in some areas,”*

CSO leader 29 noted, *“However, the relationship between civilians and the military remains tense in many areas.”*

These results support Muggah and O'Donnell (2015), who argue that effective DDR programs depend heavily on successful security sector reforms, which can only be achieved through strong civil-military cooperation.

Regarding what ways these defense and security sector reforms have contributed to peace in the country, The CSOs had these to say. They identified the reduction in violence, improvement in public trust, and increased cooperation between communities and security forces as key outcomes of the defense and security sector reforms. Of the 66 respondents, 45 (68%) mentioned a reduction in violence, particularly in areas where former combatants had been reintegrated into national security forces. Improved public trust was mentioned by 36 (55%) respondents, who noted that the security forces were now seen as more accountable and transparent. Thirty-one (47%) respondents mentioned increased cooperation, pointing out that local communities were now more willing to work with the military to address security issues. For example, CSO leader 5 said, "Violence has significantly decreased in certain areas since the integration of former rebels into the army," while CSO leader 22 noted, "There is now a noticeable shift toward more community-based security solutions." These results are consistent with the work of Olonisakin (2021), who pointed out that community engagement and a comprehensive approach to security sector reform are essential for the success of peace initiatives.

4.3.3 Effect of Peace Reforms in the Algiers Treaty on the Implementation of the DDR Programme in Mali

This section examines how the Algiers Treaty's peace reforms have affected Mali's DDR (Disarmament, Demobilization, and Reintegration) program's execution. Ten reform areas—economic revival, infrastructure restoration, employment, market regulation, and community engagement—are the subject of the descriptive statistics shown in Table 4.7. In post-conflict contexts, these areas are thought to be crucial for attaining long-term peace and reintegration results. Responses are categorized across five levels of agreement: Strongly Disagree (SD), Disagree (D), Neutral (N), Agree (A), and Strongly Agree (SA). The findings offer insights into the perceived effectiveness of peace reforms and provide evidence-based implications for policy and program improvement. Each response is interpreted to understand public perception and is linked to relevant academic findings from the literature.

Table 4. 7: Descriptive statistics for Peace Reforms in the Algiers Treaty

Statement	SD F (%)	D F (%)	N F (%)	A F (%)	SA F (%)
There is a plan for economic revival	65 (19%)	73 (21%)	42 (11%)	56 (19%)	59 (30%)
Physical structure, like power, transportation and telecommunications, have been restored	50 (21%)	78 (14%)	55 (14%)	60 (22%)	53 (29%)

Initiatives have been made to provide employment opportunities to ex-combatants	53 (21%)	62 (16%)	53 (19%)	61 (24%)	67 (20%)
Market reforms have been adopted to prevent black market activities	75 (21%)	60 (22%)	46 (20%)	61 (16%)	54 (21%)
Regulatory and legal reforms on property rights, business and labor have been adopted	51 (16%)	70 (24%)	53 (24%)	66 (20%)	56 (16%)
An environment that enables international trade has been created by reviewing trade barriers, tax structures and tariffs	49 (17%)	63 (17%)	76 (22%)	45 (21%)	63 (23%)
An environment that fosters private investment has been created	54 (20%)	65 (21%)	57 (20%)	65 (21%)	55 (18%)
Finance and banking have been restored	55 (17%)	51 (20%)	64 (20%)	65 (22%)	61 (21%)
Truth commissions have been established	62 (18%)	54 (19%)	55 (21%)	70 (21%)	55 (21%)
Community building initiatives have been adopted (neutral spaces and strengthening role of religious leaders)	58 (30%)	65 (23%)	57 (14%)	54 (12%)	62 (21%)

Regarding the presence of a plan for economic revival, 65 respondents (19%) strongly disagreed and 73 (21%) disagreed, while 42 (11%) remained neutral. On the other hand, 56 respondents (19%) agreed and 59 (30%) strongly agreed, showing that nearly half believe a revival plan exists. However, the large percentage of disagreement points to a divided opinion, potentially rooted in regional implementation disparities or limited public awareness. This dual perception suggests that while policies may exist, their visibility and effectiveness vary among communities. These findings resonate with Boås and Torheim (2021) who observed that post-conflict economic frameworks in Mali tend to be top-down and poorly localized, leading to mixed reception among

affected populations. The results underscore the need for inclusive and clearly communicated economic plans within the DDR framework.

Concerning the restoration of physical infrastructure such as power, transportation, and telecommunications, 50 respondents (21%) strongly disagreed and 78 (14%) disagreed, while 55 (14%) were neutral. Positive responses included 60 (22%) who agreed and 53 (29%) who strongly agreed. This mixed perception reflects moderate progress in infrastructure restoration, with almost half affirming improvements. Infrastructure is key to enabling reintegration and economic activity, yet the data suggest uneven or delayed restoration across regions. This aligns with Keita and Sangaré (2021) who found that rural areas often lag in receiving post-conflict infrastructure investments. These disparities can hinder reintegration and affect DDR outcomes, especially for ex-combatants returning to poorly resourced areas.

In terms of providing employment opportunities to ex-combatants, 53 respondents (21%) strongly disagreed and 62 (16%) disagreed, with 53 (19%) neutral responses. Those in agreement included 61 (24%) and 67 (20%) who strongly agreed, indicating moderate optimism regarding employment initiatives. While encouraging, the substantial disagreement points to gaps in inclusivity, accessibility, or communication of these programs. Work is a pillar of reintegration, and such imbalanced perceptions can result in frustrations or recidivism for ex-combatants. According to Knight and

Özerdem (2020), successful DDR relies on vocational reintegration, which involves not only training but also sustainable employment placement. The evidence emphasizes the necessity of focused labor market interventions and long-term employment planning for former combatants. Responses about market reforms to prevent black market activities show divided views, with 75 respondents (21%) strongly disagreeing, 60 (22%) disagreeing, and 46 (20%) remaining neutral. Meanwhile, 61 (16%) agreed and 54 (21%) strongly agreed. The responses suggest skepticism about the success of market reforms, with many unsure or unconvinced of their impact. Black markets can undermine both economic stability and security, and weak regulation can exacerbate this issue. Muggah (2022) argues that post-conflict market reforms often fail when enforcement mechanisms are weak and informal economies remain dominant. The data imply that unless reforms are transparent and accompanied by strict enforcement, their credibility will remain in question.

The statement about the adoption of regulatory and legal reforms on property rights, business, and labor received 51 (16%) SD, 70 (24%) D, and 53 (24%) N. Meanwhile, 66 (20%) agreed and 56 (16%) strongly agreed. The high neutrality and disagreement may reflect a lack of public understanding or visible enforcement of these reforms. Regulatory clarity is essential for economic participation and conflict prevention, especially around contested resources. According to de Coning and Karlsrud (2021), unclear land and labor rights post-conflict can fuel renewed grievances. Thus, these

findings point to the need for better public communication and legal infrastructure supporting these reforms.

On the creation of an environment that enables international trade, 49 (17%) strongly disagreed, 63 (17%) disagreed, and 76 (22%) were neutral. Those who agreed totaled 45 (21%) and 63 (23%) strongly agreed. The results show uncertainty about Mali's readiness for international trade, with many either neutral or unconvinced. Although they frequently take time to show results, trade reforms are essential for long-term peace dividends. This supports the findings of Curtis and Dzinesa (2020), who noted that trade incentives associated with peace treaties frequently experience limited regional uptake and delayed implementation. Although reforms may exist, the public's perception of their impact is still low, according to the data.

54 (20%) strongly disagreed, 65 (21%) disagreed, and 57 (20%) were neutral about the climate for private investment. Positively, 55 (18%) strongly agreed and 65 (21%) agreed. Once more, the distribution of responses is even, suggesting that opinions on the investment climate are not all the same. Maintaining reintegration and the expansion of local businesses requires private investment, but investor confidence frequently hinges on legal, financial, and security circumstances. As noted by Langer and Brown (2022), political instability and bureaucratic inefficiencies have historically deterred investment in Mali's post-conflict zones. These results emphasize the importance of

building transparent, investor-friendly institutions as part of DDR-linked economic reforms.

In terms of restoring finance and banking systems, 55 (17%) strongly disagreed, 51 (20%) disagreed, and 64 (20%) were neutral. However, 65 (22%) agreed and 61 (21%) strongly agreed, suggesting slight optimism. These findings suggest that while efforts to rebuild financial systems are acknowledged, a significant portion of the population remains unconvinced. Functional banking is vital for economic revitalization and social trust, particularly in DDR contexts where ex-combatants require access to financial services. Gould and Chandler (2020) observed that where financial inclusion is weak, reintegration programs often fail to sustain themselves. The results imply progress but highlight the continued need for inclusive financial infrastructure.

The establishment of truth commissions saw 62 (18%) strongly disagree, 54 (19%) disagree, and 55 (21%) neutral responses, while 70 (21%) agreed and 55 (21%) strongly agreed. The fairly balanced results suggest a cautiously positive perception of truth-seeking mechanisms. Truth commissions are vital in reconciling past grievances and supporting reintegration by acknowledging victims' experiences. Hayner (2021) emphasized that public involvement and transparency determine the success of such commissions in post-conflict societies. In this case, the data indicate awareness but possibly limited public engagement or delayed results from truth-telling processes.

Finally, for community-building initiatives—such as neutral spaces and the involvement of religious leaders—58 respondents (30%) strongly disagreed and 65 (23%) disagreed. A smaller number agreed (54, 12%) or strongly agreed (62, 21%), while 57 (14%) were neutral. The data reflect significant dissatisfaction, which may be due to a lack of visible or inclusive initiatives. Community rebuilding is central to reconciliation, and exclusion or weak engagement with local stakeholders undermines DDR efforts. Nathan (2020) argues that traditional and faith-based actors play critical roles in trust-building, and their neglect often leads to missed peacebuilding opportunities. The data suggest the need to prioritize grassroots and culturally resonant initiatives for effective DDR implementation.

The following are responses provided by the CSO leaders regarding in what ways the Algiers Treaty has helped to achieve reconciliation between the conflicting parties in Mali. Reconciliation efforts linked to the Algiers Treaty were seen through dialogue initiatives, ceasefire agreements, and confidence-building measures. 41 (62%) of the 66 respondents highlighted the importance of dialogue, pointing out that the treaty made it easier for parties to negotiate with one another. Thirty-three (50%) cited ceasefire agreements as an important factor in lowering hostilities. According to 27 (41%) respondents, establishing trust between the disputing parties requires confidence-building strategies like cooperative patrols and community involvement initiatives. For instance, CSO leader 3 observed that "the Algiers Treaty peace talks have allowed the

warring factions to start communicating," while CSO leader 19 added that "ceasefire agreements have provided a much-needed break in violence, allowing for peacebuilding efforts to take root."

These results are consistent with those of Boås and Torheim (2021), who highlighted the value of confidence-building and negotiation in post-conflict reconciliation.

4.3.4 Effect of the Judicial and Humanitarian Affairs in the Algiers Treaty on the Implementation of the Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration Program

The Algiers Treaty's judicial and humanitarian reforms have an impact on Mali's DDR program's implementation, as shown in Table 4.8. In order to facilitate reintegration and avoid a return to conflict, these reforms are essential to transitional justice, institutional accountability, and the provision of fundamental human rights. The statements under review address access to justice, human rights protection, legal independence, and humanitarian aid distribution. Responses are categorized into five levels: Strongly Disagree (SD), Disagree (D), Neutral (N), Agree (A), and Strongly Agree (SA). The analysis reveals public sentiment towards the judicial and humanitarian framework post-conflict and identifies key areas needing reinforcement. Each statement is examined below and interpreted alongside relevant scholarly findings.

Table 4. 8: Judicial and Humanitarian Affairs in the Algiers Treaty

Statement	SD	D	N	A	SA
	F (%)	F (%)	F (%)	F (%)	F (%)
The judicial system operates independently and fairly.	63 (18%)	69 (22%)	53 (8%)	47 (24%)	64 (28%)
Government institutions adequately protect human rights.	51 (23%)	50 (14%)	71 (14%)	64 (20%)	60 (29%)
There are effective legal mechanisms for addressing human rights violations.	69 (20%)	76 (16%)	47 (21%)	55 (20%)	49 (23%)
The justice system ensures equal access to legal resources for all citizens.	59 (20%)	76 (20%)	62 (22%)	48 (21%)	51 (17%)
Government programs effectively address humanitarian crises.	54 (17%)	65 (22%)	71 (22%)	58 (22%)	48 (17%)
International humanitarian organizations provide meaningful support to vulnerable populations.	62 (20%)	43 (17%)	64 (23%)	62 (21%)	65 (19%)
Victims of violence and displacement receive adequate legal and social assistance.	59 (17%)	53 (19%)	67 (21%)	65 (21%)	52 (22%)
The government is committed to addressing past human rights abuses.	44 (18%)	74 (21%)	56 (20%)	59 (19%)	63 (22%)

The government provides	54	51	77	50	65
adequate legal aid for	(18%)	(17%)	(26%)	(17%)	(22%)
marginalized groups.					
Humanitarian aid distribution is	56	65	56	42	78
fair and effective.	(19%)	(22%)	(19%)	(14%)	(26%)

On whether the judicial system operates independently and fairly, 63 respondents (18%) strongly disagreed and 69 (22%) disagreed, while 53 (8%) were neutral. On the positive end, 47 (24%) agreed and 64 (28%) strongly agreed. These results suggest a split perception, with slightly more respondents believing in the independence and fairness of the judicial system than those who doubt it. Judicial independence is critical for addressing war crimes and rebuilding trust among former combatants and civilians. The results align with Boone and Bøås (2020) who argue that although Mali has taken steps toward judicial reform, perceived political interference continues to limit full public confidence. Strengthening judicial institutions is essential for delivering impartial justice, which is a cornerstone of successful DDR programs.

For the statement on whether government institutions adequately protect human rights, 51 respondents (23%) strongly disagreed and 50 (14%) disagreed, while 71 (14%) were neutral. In contrast, 64 (20%) agreed and 60 (29%) strongly agreed, indicating a modest majority affirming protection efforts. This shows that while some confidence in government human rights protection exists, a notable segment remains skeptical.

Institutional protection of rights is vital to ensure safety and justice for former combatants and victims. According to Keita and Sangaré (2021), institutional efforts often lack consistency and regional coverage, explaining the mixed perceptions. These results underscore the importance of comprehensive human rights monitoring mechanisms within DDR frameworks.

When asked about the presence of effective legal mechanisms to address human rights violations, 69 (20%) strongly disagreed, 76 (16%) disagreed, and 47 (21%) were neutral. However, 55 (20%) agreed and 49 (23%) strongly agreed. The responses indicate a high degree of uncertainty and skepticism, suggesting perceived gaps in enforcement or accessibility of these legal remedies. For DDR to succeed, affected populations must see tangible legal outcomes for violations committed during the conflict. Hayner (2021) emphasizes that transitional justice must not only exist in policy but also be felt in practice. These findings imply that while frameworks may be in place, public access and trust in their efficacy remain limited.

Concerning equal access to legal resources, 59 (20%) strongly disagreed, 76 (20%) disagreed, and 62 (22%) were neutral. Only 48 (21%) agreed and 51 (17%) strongly agreed, pointing to a dominant perception of inequality in legal access. Equal access is fundamental for reintegration, especially for marginalized populations and ex-combatants reintegrating into society. The disparity in responses likely reflects

persistent socioeconomic and geographic inequalities in the justice system. Langer and Brown (2022) argue that weak access to justice perpetuates marginalization and hampers peacebuilding. The results suggest that expanding legal aid and outreach is necessary for inclusive post-conflict recovery.

Regarding government programs addressing humanitarian crises, 54 (17%) strongly disagreed, 65 (22%) disagreed, and 71 (22%) were neutral. The responses in agreement included 58 (22%) and 48 (17%) strongly agreeing. This balance indicates an ambivalent perception, with nearly equal representation of trust and doubt. Humanitarian response effectiveness is critical in post-conflict scenarios where displacement and deprivation are prevalent. de Coning and Karlsrud (2021) note that government capacity and coordination with humanitarian partners often determine the success of relief interventions. The results point to the need for greater transparency and community engagement in humanitarian programming.

On the statement regarding international humanitarian organizations' support for vulnerable populations, 62 respondents (20%) strongly disagreed, 43 (17%) disagreed, and 64 (23%) were neutral. Those in agreement were 62 (21%) and 65 (19%) who strongly agreed, revealing a near-even distribution across the board. The mixed responses reflect uncertainty about the visibility or impact of international support at the local level. Humanitarian organizations play a critical role in DDR, especially in

providing health, psychosocial, and resettlement services. Muggah (2022) observed that coordination challenges and limited local partnerships often reduce the effectiveness of international agencies. The data highlight the importance of inclusive, context-specific aid delivery strategies.

For the statement on whether victims of violence and displacement receive adequate legal and social assistance, 59 (17%) strongly disagreed and 53 (19%) disagreed. A further 67 (21%) were neutral, while 65 (21%) agreed and 52 (22%) strongly agreed. This fairly even spread suggests divided opinions, pointing to variability in the quality or availability of support. Victim assistance is a core pillar of DDR, crucial for reconciliation and long-term peace. Knight and Özerdem (2020) stress that such assistance must be sustained and integrated into broader justice and development strategies. The results call for increased funding and monitoring of support programs targeting victims of violence and displacement.

On whether the government is committed to addressing past human rights abuses, 44 (18%) strongly disagreed, 74 (21%) disagreed, and 56 (20%) were neutral. Agreement was expressed by 59 (19%) and 63 (22%) who strongly agreed. These results show a relatively even split, with slightly more respondents expressing belief in government commitment. Addressing past abuses is key to building legitimacy and public trust in post-conflict governance. Curtis and Dzinesa (2020) highlight the importance of state-

led truth and reconciliation efforts in healing national trauma. This perception of moderate commitment suggests progress, but also signals a need for more visible and accountable actions.

For the question on whether the government provides adequate legal aid for marginalized groups, 54 (18%) strongly disagreed, 51 (17%) disagreed, and 77 (26%) were neutral. Meanwhile, 50 (17%) agreed and 65 (22%) strongly agreed. The high neutrality and division in responses point to inconsistent experiences or lack of awareness of available services. Marginalized groups often face systemic barriers that hinder their access to justice and reintegration resources. Boås and Torheim (2021) argue that tailored legal frameworks are essential to support vulnerable populations post-conflict. These results advocate for scaling up inclusive legal aid programs and conducting awareness campaigns.

Finally, on whether humanitarian aid distribution is fair and effective, 56 (19%) strongly disagreed and 65 (22%) disagreed, while 56 (19%) were neutral. In contrast, 42 (14%) agreed and 78 (26%) strongly agreed. The data indicate a polarized perception, but with a slightly higher number affirming the fairness of aid distribution. Fair distribution is vital for maintaining peace and avoiding the re-emergence of local grievances. According to Nathan (2020), inequalities in aid allocation can fuel distrust and tension, especially in fragile contexts. This finding suggests some progress in

equity but highlights the need for continuous monitoring and community feedback mechanisms.

The CSO leaders' responses to question, "*What reforms have been adopted in the judicial system since the passing of the Algiers Treaty?*" is given below

Reforms in the judicial system focused on independence of the judiciary, legal framework improvements, and human rights protections. Out of the 66 respondents, 38 (58%) mentioned efforts to strengthen judicial independence, citing reforms aimed at reducing political influence on the judiciary. Legal framework improvements were mentioned by 32 (48%) respondents, highlighting the introduction of new laws to support human rights and the rule of law. Human rights protections were noted by 30 (45%) as essential to ensure the fair treatment of all citizens, particularly victims of the conflict. For instance,

CSO leader 6 stated, "*There have been notable reforms in the judicial system to ensure the independence of judges,*"

CSO leader 26 observed, "*However, the full implementation of these reforms remains slow.*"

This supports the findings of Boone and Bøås (2020), who noted that judicial reforms are often hampered by political interference, which can undermine the effectiveness of peacebuilding efforts.

To the question, “**How has the humanitarian situation improved after the Algiers Treaty?**”, the CSOs leaders responded as follows. The improvements in the humanitarian situation were largely seen in increased aid distribution, healthcare access, and victim support. Out of the 66 respondents, 43 (65%) reported that aid distribution had improved, with humanitarian organizations now better able to reach conflict-affected areas. Healthcare access was mentioned by 39 (59%), who noted that medical assistance had increased, especially in rural areas. Victim support was highlighted by 28 (42%) as an area where progress had been made, with more resources directed toward the rehabilitation of conflict victims.

CSO leader 8 stated, “*Humanitarian aid is now reaching more communities, especially those affected by the conflict,*”

CSO leader 34 remarked, “*There are now better healthcare facilities available in the northern regions, where previously there was very little support.*”

These findings echo the work of Knight and Özerdem (2020), who emphasized that comprehensive humanitarian efforts are critical in post-conflict recovery, particularly for vulnerable populations.

The CSOS leaders' responses regarding, what economic reforms have been adopted since the Algiers Treaty was passed and in what ways these reforms have helped Mali to move towards peaceful conflict resolution are as follows. Economic reforms focused on infrastructure development, employment creation, and financial inclusion. Out of the 66 respondents, 44 (67%) mentioned infrastructure development as a key reform, noting improvements in roads, schools, and public services. 38 respondents (58%) brought up the creation of jobs, emphasizing the need for employment opportunities for displaced people and former combatants. Thirty (45%) respondents cited financial inclusion as an essential element of the economic reforms, particularly with regard to giving marginalized groups access to economic opportunities. For example, CSO leader 2 said, "Infrastructure projects have significantly improved access to basic services in remote areas." CSO leader 25 added, "Many former combatants have been able to reintegrate and start new lives thanks to the employment programs."

These findings corroborate those of Muggah (2022), who maintained that economic reforms—especially those pertaining to infrastructure and employment—are essential to establishing lasting peace.

4.4 Correlation Results

4.4.1 Correlation between Political Reforms Foreseen in the Algiers Treaty and the Implementation of the DDR Program

The findings of a Pearson correlation study that looked at the connection between the Disarmament, Demobilization, and Reintegration (DDR) program in Mali and the political reforms outlined in the Algiers Treaty are presented in this section. Given that political reforms are essential to establishing an atmosphere that supports DDR procedures, it is imperative to comprehend this relationship. Power-sharing, constitutional amendments, electoral inclusivity, and decentralization are a few examples of these reforms. The significance and strength of the relationship between the two variables are shown in Table 4.9.

Table 4. 9: Correlation between Political Reforms Foreseen in the Algiers Treaty and the Implementation of the DDR Program

		Political Reforms Foreseen	Implementation of DDR
Political Reforms Foreseen	Pearson Correlation	1	.750**
	Sig. (2-tailed)		.000
	N	295	295

Implementation of DDR	Pearson	.750**	1
	Correlation		
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000	
	N	295	295

** . Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed).

The findings are reported in the following paragraphs. The correlation results are strongly positive between political reforms and successful DDR program implementation with a Pearson correlation coefficient of $r = .750$ at a 0.01 significance level ($p = .000$). The implication is that as political reforms are put into place, there is a highly significant increase in successful implementation of DDR activities. The coefficient of determination (r^2) is approximately 0.56, implying that 56% of differences in DDR implementation can be explained by political reforms. This suggests that successful DDR outcomes are largely a function of inclusive governance and readiness to change. The foregoing findings are consistent with Adebajo and Rashid (2021), which emphasize that within post-conflict settings like Mali, the inability to establish functional political reforms has continually hampered peacebuilding activities. Therefore, the findings emphasize that political reform and legitimacy remain fundamental pillars of the DDR process and reaffirm the need for aligning political agendas with provisions under the Algiers Treaty.

4.4.2 Correlation between Defense and Security Sector Reforms and Implementation of DDR Programme

The study's conclusions about the connection between Mali's implementation of the Disarmament, Demobilization, and Reintegration (DDR) program and reforms in the defense and security sectors are presented in this section. The Pearson correlation results, which assess the direction and strength of the relationship between the two variables, are displayed in Table 4.10. 295 respondents who were knowledgeable about the DDR program and the Algiers Treaty participated in the correlation analysis.

Table 4. 10: Correlation between Defense and Security Sector Reforms and Implementation of DDR Programme

		Defense and Security Sector Reforms	Implementation of DDR
Defense and Security Sector Reforms	Pearson	1	.769**
	Correlation		
	Sig. (2- tailed)		.000
	N	295	295
Implementation of DDR	Pearson	.769**	1
	Correlation		
	Sig. (2- tailed)	.000	
	N	295	295

** . Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed).

Table 4.10's findings show a significant positive correlation ($r = .769$; $p = .000$) between the deployment of DDR and reforms in the defense and security sectors. This implies that better DDR initiative implementation is substantially correlated with advancements in defense and security sector reforms. A high degree of confidence in the outcome is indicated by the correlation's statistical significance at the 0.01 level. This strong relationship implies that reforms aimed at restructuring the defense and security

sector—such as integrating ex-combatants, restructuring military commands, and enhancing accountability—are crucial for the success of DDR processes. These results support the view that sustainable peace and reintegration require robust and inclusive reform of security institutions. Therefore, addressing the structural deficiencies in the defense sector is not only necessary for national security but also central to reintegration and long-term peacebuilding.

These findings are consistent with a study by Muggah and O'Donnell (2015), as cited in the literature review, which emphasized that DDR programmes can only be successfully implemented in contexts where meaningful defense and security sector reforms have been enacted. The reviewed literature in section 2.2.2 of the thesis also highlights that DDR efforts in post-conflict societies like Mali are often hampered when such reforms are absent or poorly implemented. Specifically, the Algiers Treaty underscored the importance of these reforms as a foundation for DDR implementation, and the correlation results provide empirical support for this theoretical proposition. Thus, the study confirms that defense and security sector reforms are not only supportive mechanisms but also drivers of DDR success, aligning well with existing scholarship and the theoretical framework adopted in this study. This relationship highlights the interdependence between institutional reforms and the effectiveness of peace processes in fragile post-conflict environments.

4.4.3 Correlation between Peace Reforms and Implementation of the DDR Programme

Table 4.11 presents the correlation results between peace reforms and the implementation of the Disarmament, Demobilization, and Reintegration (DDR) programme. The data was collected from a sample of 295 participants who were knowledgeable about the peace reform efforts and the DDR process in Mali. The analysis aimed to determine whether there exists a statistically significant relationship between the two variables, particularly in the context of the Algiers Peace Agreement.

Table 4. 11: Correlation between Peace Reforms and Implementation of the DDR Programme

		Peace Reforms	Implementation of DDR
Peace Reforms	Pearson Correlation	1	.790**
	Sig. (2-tailed)		.000
	N	295	295
Implementation of DDR	Pearson Correlation	.790**	1
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000	

N	295	295
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**. Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed).

The results in Table 4.11 indicate a strong positive correlation between peace reforms and DDR programme implementation ($r = .790$; $p = .000$). The implication is that greater achievement in peace reforms is strongly correlated with greater effective implementation of DDR activities. The level of significance ($p < 0.01$) confirms that the said correlation is not accidental. The strong correlation indicates that peace reforms create a favorable climate for disarmament and reintegration of former combatants. The reforms give rise to trust and legitimacy, crucial for the acceptability and sustainability of DDR interventions. The implication is that DDR cannot succeed in isolation but must be rooted in wider peace reform processes that tackle underlying causes of conflict.

This observation is in line with observations in chapter 2.2.3 of the thesis literature review, where de Vries and Wiegink (2011) outlined the key role peace reforms play in making post-conflict operations such as DDR possible. Success in DDR is reliant on an overarching peace plan that extends beyond security to encompass social, political, and economic aspects of reconstruction, as contended in the literature reviewed. The observation in this study empirically validates such assertions and reiterates that the DDR program in Mali is positively impacted by the scope and extent of peace reforms made under the Algiers Accord. This justifies the assertion that DDR can never be

initiated as an isolated process but within an overall peacebuilding agenda. The results therefore bring to attention the need for policymakers to prioritize peace reforms as a strategic foundation for effective reintegration and sustainable peace

4.4.3 Correlation between Judicial and Human Rights Changes and Implementation of the DDR Programme

The results regarding the connection between the Disarmament, Demobilization, and Reintegration (DDR) program's implementation in Mali and judicial and human rights reforms are shown in Table 4.12. The Pearson correlation values calculated from responses provided by 295 participants who were familiar with both the DDR process and judicial/human rights reforms are displayed in Table 4.12. The goal was to determine whether the application of DDR is substantially linked to changes in the legal system and human rights framework.

Table 4. 12: Correlation between Judicial and Human Rights Changes and Implementation of the DDR Programme

		Judicial and Human Rights Changes	Implementation of DDR
Judicial and Human Rights Changes	Pearson Correlation	1	.838**
	Sig. (2- tailed)		.000
	N	295	295
Implementation of DDR	Pearson Correlation	.838**	1
	Sig. (2- tailed)	.000	
	N	295	295

** . Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed).

The findings indicate a very strong and statistically significant positive relationship between judicial and human rights reforms and the implementation of DDR ($r = .838$; $p = .000$). This indicates that the advancements in the justice sector and the improved protection of human rights are directly related to the successful implementation of DDR programs. The high coefficient of correlation implies that where the rights of victims are protected, transitional justice is pursued, judicial accountability is boosted, DDR

processes are most likely to gain credibility and public support. Such reforms pave the way for an atmosphere of trust and legality that will be needed to encourage ex-combatants to disarm and return to society. The implication is that a robust justice and human rights regime is essential to supporting the objectives of DDR and promoting peace and reconciliation in the long run.

This close association is in line with the evidence of the literature review in chapter 2.2.4 of the thesis, where authors like Lamb (2014) posit that in the absence of justice and human rights reforms, DDR programmes can be resisted and suffer from legitimacy deficits. Literature consulted indicated that the Algiers Peace Agreement highlighted judicial reform and human rights protection as a key pillar of the general strategy of achieving peace in Mali. The results of the correlation here empirically confirm those theoretical standings by demonstrating that the more those reforms are realized, the better the DDR process. These findings validate the necessity of situating DDR within a human rights framework in order to ensure both justice for victims and opportunities for former combatants. DDR is therefore not just a security process but also a justice-oriented process of national healing and peace building.

4.5 Regression Analysis

Section 4.5 presents the regression analysis used to determine the predictive power of the independent variables—political reforms, defence and security sector reforms, development and reconciliation reforms, and justice and humanitarian affairs reforms—on the implementation of the DDR programme in Mali. This section includes the model summary, ANOVA results, and regression coefficients, which collectively illustrate the strength, significance, and direction of the relationships between the reforms and DDR outcomes.

4.5.1 Model Summary

Table 4.13 presents the model summary of a multiple regression analysis conducted to determine how well a combination of four independent variables—judicial and human rights changes, political reforms foreseen, peace reforms, and defense and security sector reforms—predicts the implementation of the Disarmament, Demobilization, and Reintegration (DDR) programme in Mali. The regression model was based on data from 295 respondents. The model aimed to test the collective influence of the reform variables on the dependent variable, which is the implementation of DDR.

Table 4. 13: Model Summary

Model	R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of the Estimate	Durbin-Watson
1	.884 ^a	.781	.778	.34621	1.218

a. Predictors: (Constant), Judicial and Human Rights Changes , Political Reforms Foreseen , Peace Reforms, Defense and Security Sector Reforms

b. Dependent Variable: Implementation of DDR

The regression results reveal a high multiple correlation coefficient ($R = .884$), indicating a strong overall relationship between the independent variables and the implementation of DDR. The R Square value of .781 means that 78.1% of the variance in DDR implementation is explained by the combined influence of the four reform dimensions, with an adjusted R Square of .778 confirming the model's robustness even when adjusted for the number of predictors. The standard error of the estimate (.34621) is relatively low, implying that the predictions made by the model are precise. The reliability of the regression results is further supported by the Durbin-Watson statistic of 1.218, which indicates that there is no discernible autocorrelation in the residuals. These findings suggest that the effectiveness of DDR implementation is highly

dependent on comprehensive reforms in the political, judicial, peace, and defense sectors.

4.5.2 ANOVA Results for Predictors of Implementation of the DDR Programme

The Analysis of Variance (ANOVA) results for the regression model used to evaluate the combined impact of political reforms anticipated, peace reforms, defense and security sector reforms, judicial and human rights changes, and other reforms on the execution of the Disarmament, Demobilization, and Reintegration (DDR) program are shown in Table 4.14. To ascertain whether the model significantly predicts the dependent variable, the ANOVA test was employed. The F-statistic, degrees of freedom (df), mean square values, sum of squares, and significance level (Sig.) are all included in the table.

Table 4. 14: ANOVA Results for Predictors of Implementation of the DDR Programme

Model		Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
1	Regression	123.984	4	30.996	258.598	.000 ^b
	Residual	34.760	290	.120		

Total	158.743	294
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a. Dependent Variable: Implementation of DDR

b. Predictors: (Constant), Judicial and Human Rights Changes , Political Reforms Foreseen , Peace Reforms, Defense and Security Sector Reforms

With an F-value of 258.598 and a p-value of .000, both below the 0.05 cutoff, the ANOVA results show that the regression model is statistically significant. This indicates that the predictors taken together have a statistically significant impact on the application of DDR and that the model fits the data well. The four reform variables account for a significant amount of the variance in DDR implementation, as further supported by the regression sum of squares (123.984) compared to the residual sum of squares (34.760). These results suggest that political, judicial, defense, and peace reforms meaningfully contribute to the success of DDR efforts in post-conflict Mali. This aligns with the findings of Knight and Özerdem (2004), as discussed in the literature review (section 2.2.5), where they emphasized that DDR programmes must be embedded in broader political and institutional reforms to be sustainable and effective. Therefore, the significant ANOVA results reinforce the argument that institutional reform is not only complementary but essential to successful DDR implementation.

4.5.3 Regression Coefficients for Predictors of Implementation of the DDR Programme

Table 4.15 presents the regression coefficients for the variables predicting the implementation of the Disarmament, Demobilization, and Reintegration (DDR) programme in Mali. The analysis includes both unstandardized and standardized coefficients, t-values, and significance levels for each independent variable. This table helps to determine the individual contribution of each reform variable—political reforms foreseen, defense and security sector reforms, peace reforms, and judicial and human rights changes—toward explaining the variation in DDR implementation.

Table 4. 15: Regression Coefficients for Predictors of Implementation of the DDR Programme

Model		Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients	t	Sig.
		B	Std. Error	Beta		
1	(Constant)	.496	.108		4.582	.000
	Political Reforms Foreseen	.171	.055	.208	3.100	.002

Defense and Security Sector Reforms	-.001	.067	-.001	-.013	.989
Peace Reforms	.208	.050	.231	4.181	.000
Judicial and Human Rights Changes	.517	.042	.529	12.314	.000

The results show that three variables recorded the following beta coefficients: political reforms foreseen ($\beta = .208$; $p = .002$), peace reforms ($\beta = .231$; $p = .000$), and judicial and human rights changes ($\beta = .529$; $p = .000$) are statistically significant predictors of DDR implementation, while defense and security sector reforms ($\beta = -.001$; $p = .989$) are not. Among the significant variables, judicial and human rights changes have the strongest influence with the highest beta value, indicating they play a critical role in shaping DDR outcomes. Political and peace reforms also contribute meaningfully, albeit to a lesser extent. The lack of significance for defense and security sector reforms suggests that, while important, these may not directly drive DDR implementation without support from broader institutional and legal changes. These results imply that successful DDR processes are more strongly associated with governance, legal accountability, and peacebuilding frameworks than with security restructuring alone. As supported by Lamb (2014) and noted in the literature review (section 2.2.4), human rights and transitional justice reforms lay the foundation for reintegration, social trust, and sustainable peace, reinforcing their central role in DDR success.

4.6 Diagnostic Tests

Section 4.6 presents the diagnostic tests conducted to assess the validity and reliability of the regression model used in the study. These tests include checks for multicollinearity using collinearity statistics (Tolerance and Variance Inflation Factor), as well as an examination of residual statistics to evaluate the normality, linearity, and homoscedasticity of the data. The results ensure that the assumptions underlying multiple regression analysis were met, thereby confirming the robustness of the findings.

4.6.1 Collinearity Statistics

Table 4.21 presents the collinearity statistics for the independent variables included in the regression model predicting the influence of various reforms on national stability and security. The statistics reported include the Tolerance and Variance Inflation Factor (VIF) values, which help assess the presence of multicollinearity among the predictors. High multicollinearity may distort the estimates of regression coefficients, making it essential to evaluate these values before interpreting the regression results.

Table 4. 16: Collinearity Statistics

Model	Collinearity Statistics	
	Tolerance	VIF
1 (Constant)		
Political Reforms Foreseen	.168	5.961
Defense and Security Sector Reforms	.137	7.273
Peace Reforms	.248	4.033
Judicial and Human Rights Changes	.409	2.444

The results in the table show that all variables have VIF values below the commonly accepted upper threshold of 10, suggesting that multicollinearity is not severe enough to invalidate the regression analysis. However, the VIF values for Defense and Security Sector Reforms (7.273) and Political Reforms Foreseen (5.961) are relatively high, indicating moderate multicollinearity, which could slightly inflate the standard errors of the estimated coefficients for these variables. Peace Reforms recorded a VIF of 4.033 and Tolerance of 0.248, reflecting a fair level of independence from other predictors. Judicial and Human Rights Changes had the lowest VIF of 2.444 and the highest Tolerance of 0.409, implying it is the least correlated with the other predictors. These results suggest that while multicollinearity is present, it remains within tolerable limits and does not pose a serious threat to the reliability of the regression coefficients. The implication is that the regression analysis can proceed, but interpretations involving

Defense and Security Sector Reforms and Political Reforms Foreseen should be made with caution due to their relatively higher multicollinearity.

4.6.2 Residuals Statistics

Table 4.22 presents the residual statistics for the regression model predicting the implementation of Disarmament, Demobilization, and Reintegration (DDR). Residual statistics are used to assess the accuracy and reliability of the model by evaluating the distribution and spread of errors (residuals) between observed and predicted values.

Table 4. 17: Residuals Statistics

	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std. Deviation	N
Predicted Value	2.0170	4.9736	3.8876	.64939	295
Residual	-1.86640	.97350	.00000	.34385	295
Std. Predicted Value	-2.881	1.672	.000	1.000	295
Std. Residual	-5.391	2.812	.000	.993	295

a. Dependent Variable: Implementation of DDR

The predicted values for the dependent variable range from a minimum of 2.0170 to a maximum of 4.9736, with a mean of 3.8876 and a standard deviation of 0.64939, indicating that the model's predicted values are clustered around the average and span a reasonable scale. The residuals range from -1.86640 to 0.97350, with a mean of 0.00000 and a standard deviation of 0.34385, suggesting that the model's prediction errors are centered around zero and are relatively small in magnitude. The standardized predicted values range from -2.881 to 1.672, and the standardized residuals span from -5.391 to 2.812, which may suggest the presence of a few outliers but no severe violations of normality. The standard deviation of the standardized residuals is approximately 0.993, which is close to the ideal value of 1, implying that the residuals are reasonably standardized. These results imply that the regression model fits the data adequately and the residuals are normally distributed, thus validating the appropriateness of the regression model for explaining variations in DDR implementation.

Figure 4.1 presents a histogram of the regression standardized residuals for the dependent variable, Implementation of Disarmament, Demobilization, and Reintegration (DDR). This visual diagnostic is used to assess whether the residuals are approximately normally distributed, a key assumption in linear regression. The histogram is overlaid with a normal curve to facilitate comparison between the observed distribution of residuals and the ideal normal distribution. The graph is based on a

sample size of 295, with a mean of approximately zero and a standard deviation of 0.993.

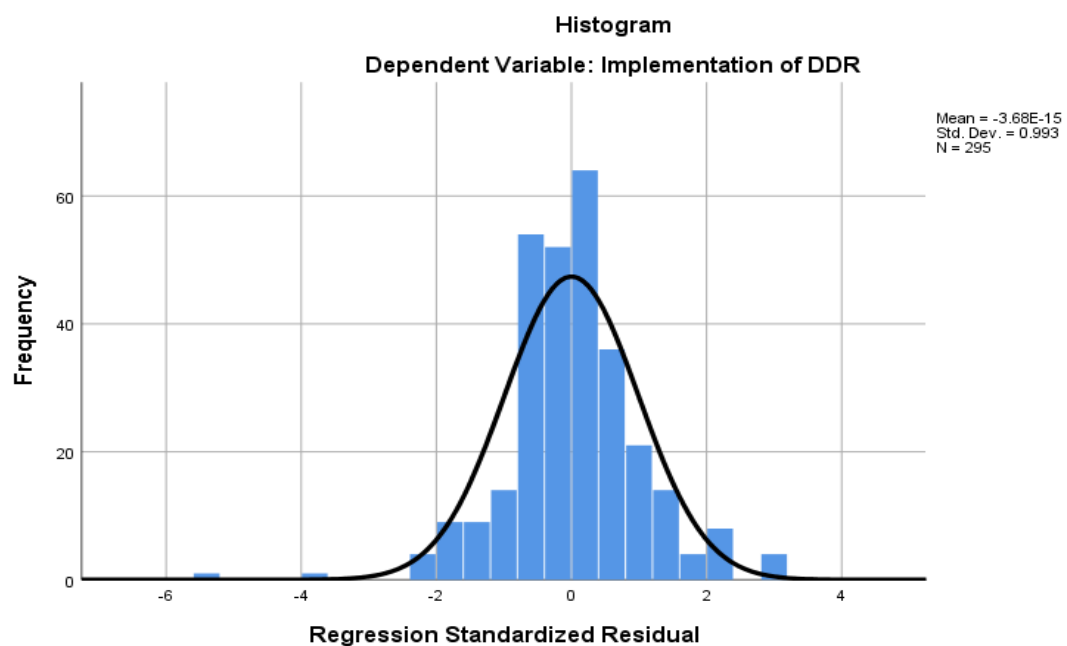


Figure 4. 1: Histogram of the Regression Standardized Residuals

The histogram reveals a bell-shaped distribution with most of the standardized residuals clustered around the center (0), and gradually tapering off toward both tails, indicating an approximate normal distribution. Although a few extreme values appear on both ends, particularly to the left (around -5 and -6), they are isolated and do not distort the overall pattern. The majority of the residuals fall within the ± 2 range, which is acceptable in standard normal distribution analysis. The mean of the residuals is

effectively zero ($-3.68\text{E}-15$), and the standard deviation is close to 1, both of which confirm the assumption of standard normal residuals. These results imply that the regression model fits the data well, with residuals that satisfy the assumption of normality, thereby enhancing the validity of the regression outcomes. However, the presence of a few outliers suggests a need for further investigation to ensure they do not unduly influence the model.

CHAPTER FIVE

DISCUSSION, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1 Introduction

The following topics are covered in this chapter's discussion: conclusions regarding the primary findings and the goals of the study. This chapter also discusses how the Algiers Peace Treaty has affected DDR (disarmament, demobilization, and reintegration) in Mali and makes suggestions for future study, policy, and practice.

5.2 Discussions

5.2.1 Political Reforms Outlined in the Algiers Treaty and the Implementation of DDR Programme in Mali

The descriptive statistics in Table 4.5 present differing sentiments between the Malian public and the political reforms as encapsulated in the Algiers Treaty. Whereas there is modest support in areas like enhanced governance openness and strong democratic institutions, there remains scepticism regarding matters like trust in the government and the minimization of political corruption. Specifically, 42% disagreed or strongly disagreed that there was better governance transparency, indicating a persisting trust

deficit. Similarly, 47% strongly doubted the impact of reforms in reducing corruption. These perceptions are consistent with Adeola and Evans (2022), who clarified that post-conflict reforms are likely to fail due to institutional lack of commitment and capacity for enforcement. Conversely, over half of the respondents identified progress in democratic institutionalization and participatory governance, reflecting cautious optimism. These findings align with Oduor (2022), who emphasized that wide political participation can recover trust and strengthen reform legitimacy in fragile states.

Statistical analysis continues to reveal the key linkage between political reforms and successful DDR programme implementation in Mali. Pearson correlation coefficient ($r = .750$, $p = .000$) reveals a statistically significant and high correlation between the two variables. With the coefficient of determination (r^2) being 0.56, the findings reveal that 56% of the variation in DDR implementation is explained by political reforms. In addition, the standardized beta coefficient of political reforms ($\beta = .208$, $p = .002$) shows the substantial positive contribution of the reforms towards DDR outcomes. The study justifies the research of Adebajo and Rashid (2021), which hypothesized that sustainable peacebuilding is significantly correlated with political legitimacy and trust-building reforms, inclusivity, and transparency. On this aspect, the political assurances of the Algiers Treaty seem pivotal to creating a favorable climate for DDR initiatives, especially by setting the groundwork for state credibility and citizen buy-in in the post-conflict Mali.

5.2.2 Defence and Security Sector Reforms Outlined in the Algiers Treaty and the Implementation of DDR Program

The descriptive results of Table 4.6 provide significant information regarding public attitudes towards defence and security sector reforms and their effects on the behavior of the Disarmament, Demobilization, and Reintegration (DDR) program. The responses suggest that while there are favorable sentiments towards certain aspects, for instance, cooperation between the security forces and the local population (with 46% agreeing or strongly agreeing), there remains significant public mistrust. For instance, as few as 26% of the respondents agreed or strongly agreed that security reforms have increased the public's faith in the police, while as high as 47% disagreed or strongly disagreed. It was observed that although institutional reforms were in progress, they were neither fully inclusive nor widely regarded as successful across all segments of society. These are complemented by earlier research of Olonisakin (2021), in which public confidence was generally lost due to contradictoriness in military operations following conflicts. Moreover, the extremely narrow margin for opinion about whether defence policies have improved national security shows public indecisiveness, which implies a potential lack of communication or implementing reform policies (Bryden & Olonisakin, 2021).

The inferential analysis also supports the point that defence and security sector reforms are instrumental to the effective roll-out of DDR programmes. The substantial positive

correlation ($r = .769$; $p = .000$) confirms a statistically significant relationship between reforms and DDR outcomes, and this emphasizes the significance of having good governance, transparency, and defence sector reorganization to achieve long-term peace. The verification of this in itself supports Muggah and O'Donnell's (2015) belief that successful DDR can only happen in environments in which proper reform of the security sector has taken place. Even the peace reform coefficient from the regression analysis ($\beta = .231$; $p = .000$) demonstrates the coercive predictive power of such reform towards achieving DDR. They support the requirement of ex-combatant integration, reform of command systems, and the rebuilding of public trust to ensure reintegration measures long-term sustainable. They also confirm that DDR cannot be standalone but needs to be rooted in broader peace and security reforms in a bid to address root causes of conflict and produce enduring peace.

5.2.3 Peace Reforms in the Algiers Treaty on the Implementation of the DDR Programme

The descriptive findings from the data indicate a trend of mixed perceptions regarding whether or not peace reforms spelled out in the Algiers Treaty have affected the application of the DDR programme in Mali. Economic recovery, infrastructure development, employment opportunities for former combatants, and reforms to the legal sector were some of the fields that received mixed reactions, reflecting

inconsistent application and lack of awareness. For example, 56 respondents (19%) agreed and 59 (30%) of the interviewees strongly agreed that there are economic revitalization plans and infrastructure development, many of them were uncertain or doubtful. This uncertainty points to differences in implementation possibly prompted by regional differences or top-down policy, as was also noted by Boås and Torheim (2021) in their study of post-conflict policy in Mali. Similarly, the reported gaps in job and market reforms can be symptomatic of structural difficulties and communication flaws, as held by Knight and Özerdem (2020) and Muggah (2022), who emphasized context-based and inclusive economic reintegration policies. The relatively high neutrality in responses across measures also reflects the absence of public participation or uncertainty over ongoing reforms.

Moreover, the correlation analysis revealed a statistically significant and strong positive relationship between peace reforms and DDR programme implementation ($r = .790$; $p = .000$), confirming that the success of DDR is intricately linked to broader peacebuilding efforts. This reinforces the assertion made by de Vries and Wiegink (2011) that DDR programmes thrive in environments where political, legal, and economic peace reforms create a supportive foundation for reconciliation and reintegration. Despite the challenges in some reform areas—such as private investment, financial inclusion, and community initiatives—the empirical evidence suggests that peace reforms under the Algiers Accord remain central to the DDR process. These

results further validate the importance of integrating DDR within a holistic and inclusive peacebuilding framework, highlighting that without comprehensive peace reforms, DDR outcomes are likely to be fragmented or unsustainable. The weak and statistically insignificant coefficient for defense and security sector reforms ($\beta = -.001$; $p = .989$) underscores the point that structural military reforms alone cannot drive DDR success without parallel efforts in socio-economic transformation and community trust-building.

5.2.4 Judicial and Humanitarian Affairs in the Algiers Treaty on the Implementation of the DDR Program

The study offers a complex but real link between human and judicial affairs and the proper implementation of DDR in Mali. Opinions about judicial independence and the protection of human rights were acrimoniously divided, and a slim majority supported the actions of the government. Nevertheless, the high percentage of disagreement and neutrality among interviewees indicates that there is not blanket confidence in legal and humanitarian institutions. This concurs with Boone and Bøås (2020) observation, which stated that political influence does negatively affect judicial credibility in Mali, impacting the general peacebuilding mechanism. This is consistent with Langer and Brown (2022) when discussing issues related to unequal access to legal services and inconsistent victim support, whereby they argue that transitional justice is undercut by

institutionalized inequality. Not having solid and fair legal systems undermines individuals' trust in DDR, thereby rendering its function less effective in reconciliation and reintegration.

Moreover, humanitarian aid delivery and government commitment to addressing past abuses also showed mixed responses, highlighting ongoing skepticism and unmet needs in post-conflict recovery. Despite some optimism, the split in perceptions underscores gaps in implementation and public engagement. As Knight and Özerdem (2020) suggest, DDR efforts must be integrated with robust victim support and legal aid systems that are responsive and transparent. The strong positive correlation found between peace reforms and DDR implementation ($r = .790$; $p = .000$) further supports this position. It aligns with de Vries and Wiegink (2011), who emphasized that DDR success relies on a broader peace architecture, including effective legal reforms and humanitarian responsiveness. The regression result ($\beta = .529$; $p = .000$) confirms that judicial and human rights improvements significantly drive DDR outcomes, making it clear that the Algiers Treaty's provisions in these areas are not peripheral but foundational to Mali's post-conflict recovery.

5.3 Summary of Key Findings

The study offers a complex but real link between human and judicial affairs and the proper implementation of DDR in Mali. Opinions about judicial independence and the protection of human rights were acrimoniously divided, and a slim majority supported the actions of the government. Nevertheless, the high percentage of disagreement and neutrality among interviewees indicates that there is not blanket confidence in legal and humanitarian institutions. This concurs with Boone and Bøås (2020) observation, which stated that political influence does negatively affect judicial credibility in Mali, impacting the general peacebuilding mechanism. This is consistent with Langer and Brown (2022) when discussing issues related to unequal access to legal services and inconsistent victim support, whereby they argue that transitional justice is undercut by institutionalized inequality. Not having solid and fair legal systems undermines individuals' trust in DDR, thereby rendering its function less effective in reconciliation and reintegration.

5.4 Conclusion

The findings in this study bring to light the complex relationship between political, defense, security, peace, judicial, and humanitarian reforms encapsulated in the Algiers Treaty and the successful implementation of the Disarmament, Demobilization, and

Reintegration (DDR) programme in Mali. Despite some positive views relating to the role of political reforms in governance transparency and democratic institution consolidation, the public remains highly skeptical, in particular regarding trust in government and political corruption mitigation. These contradictory views demonstrate the persisting trust deficit, eroding the legitimacy of the political reforms in post-conflict Mali. However, statistical tests confirm the strong positive correlation between political reforms and DDR implementation, emphasizing the critical role that political legitimacy and inclusiveness play in the success of reintegration initiatives.

In the area of defense and security sector reforms, opinions are also divided among the public. While some acknowledgment of cooperation between security forces and local communities is present, a significant proportion of respondents remain unconvinced that security reforms have led to increased public trust in law enforcement. This gap in perceptions reflects broader concerns about the inclusiveness and effectiveness of these reforms. Yet, regression analysis identifies that security and defense sector reforms are a precondition for successful DDR implementation, emphasizing that broader security sector reforms need to be pursued in tandem alongside other peacebuilding efforts if reintegration programs are to be effective.

The findings also suggest that peace reforms under the Algiers Treaty are pivotal to the success of the DDR programme but are not immune to challenges in their realization.

Economic recovery, infrastructure, and employment opportunities for ex-combatants remain core issues with mixed progress recorded across different regions. The divergence suggests that regional disparities or top-down initiatives compromise the broader success of peace reforms. Despite these challenges, correlation analysis attests to the significance of peace reforms in the establishment of an enabling environment for DDR, and that without such inclusive peacebuilding initiatives, DDR results will remain fragmented and unsustainable.

Finally, the study underscores the necessity of judicial and humanitarian matters to support DDR outcomes. In spite of some support of the government's efforts towards ensuring judicial independence and human rights protection, issues of disproportional access to legal services and inconsistent victim support remain prevalent. Such elements underscore the importance of embedding robust victim support frameworks and responsible legal processes to support DDR efforts. The strong positive correlation between peace reforms and DDR success reinforces the conclusion that judicial and humanitarian reforms are at the root of Mali's post-conflict reconstruction, and that DDR cannot be successful in the absence of overall legal and human rights development.

5.5 Recommendation

One of the research's general conclusions is that a significant level of public distrust of the government's openness and the eradication of corruption in Mali is present, in which a significant number of respondents questioned whether reforms in the political sphere were real. In light of this, it is recommended that the government of Mali boost measures to enhance the transparency of governance and fight corruption with more stringent policies and stronger enforcement practices. This could involve raising responsibility in state institutions, increasing the transparency of government operations, and enhancing active corruption combat on all levels. Facilitating citizen engagement in anti-corruption crusades and offering open avenues for reporting corruption would be crucial. These are founded on the premise that 42% disagreed or strongly disagreed that transparency in the government had increased, and 47% felt that political reforms had not reduced corruption (5.2.1). This recommendation is addressed to the Malian government, namely to ministries in charge of governance, justice, and anti-corruption.

The study found that most respondents have a restricted view that the reforms have enhanced the public confidence in the police, while several others are suspicious about their inclusion and effectiveness. The study thus recommends the need to improve defence and security sector reforms. Inclusive and people-centric security sector

reforms are promoted to be prioritized by the government so as to tackle such concerns. There is need for more efforts in forging better security force relations with the people in their surroundings on the principles of transparency and accountability in security activities. Open public engagement and security policy transparent communication must also take priority for good perception from the people. This will bring confidence back into law enforcement and facilitate a safer place for proper operation of the DDR program. This follows the fact that 26% of the respondents agreed that security reforms had increased trust in the police, whereas 47% did not agree. This suggestion is directed towards the government of Mali, in this case, the Ministry of Defense and security organizations.

The research also implies that the implementation of peace reforms, especially in economic revival and the development of infrastructure, has been uneven, particularly in regional balance. Given that the public's perception of these fields was mixed and with high fears in regional imbalances, it is recommended that the government and the international community give special attention to ensuring the even implementation of peace reforms across all Malian regions. This would involve concerted action towards closing the regional gaps, increasing citizen involvement in reforming processes, and crafting responses from the specific needs of different communities. Public consultations and community participation must be at the center of the planning and implementation phases of peace reforms so that a feeling of ownership and participation

is fostered. This is a recommendation that arises from the discovery that close to half of the interviewees recognized economic revival and improvements in infrastructure but indicated skepticism or uncertainty, probably due to regional inequalities. This recommendation is aimed at the Malian government, specifically the Ministry of Finance and the Ministry of Infrastructure, and international development institutions.

Lastly, the research emphasizes judicial and humanitarian reforms as essential to guaranteeing the DDR program's effectiveness. The government's respect for judicial independence and protection of human rights were met with divided opinions from the respondents, highlighting issues of unequal access to legal services and variable victim assistance. In turn, the Malian government should bolster judicial independence and increase access to the legal profession so that the victims of the conflict are appropriately aided. On top of this, victim support programs should exist which are far-reaching in helping to meet the needs of those who have been impacted and ease the reintegration of former fighters. These are vital to instilling public confidence and the overall success of the DDR process. This is a policy recommendation premised on the fact that the majority of the respondents were unhappy with the level of judicial independence and protection of human rights (5.2.4). The recommendation targets the government of Mali, specifically the judiciary and justice ministries, as well as international actors promoting human rights and legal reforms in Mali.

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APPENDICES

Appendix One: Introductory Letter

Ref: Research Questionnaire

Dear Respondents,

I am a student at Africa Nazarene University, where I am working toward a Master of Science in Peace and Security and Governance. I'm conducting research on the Algiers Peace Treaty and the Disarmament, Demobilization, and Reintegration program's execution in Mali as part of a requirement.

In light of the aforementioned, I kindly request that you fill out the attached questionnaire in order to supply the data required to achieve the goals of this study.

Please be aware that the data collected will be kept confidential and used exclusively for research. Thank you very much for your help.

Yours sincerely,

Aaron Nzioka Kimolia

Appendix Two: Questionnaire

To the respondent, The purpose of this questionnaire is to gather information about the Algiers Peace Treaty, the Disarmament, Demobilization, and Reintegration program's implementation in Mali, as well as its opportunities, difficulties, and future prospects. Information collected from this questionnaire will be handled with high confidentiality and will strictly be used for academic purposes only by the researcher.

Section A: Basic Information

1. What is your age?

18-25 ☐

26-35 ☐

36-45 ☐

46-55 ☐

Above 55

2. What is your gender?

Male ☐

Female ☐

Other ☐

3. In what capacity are you involved with the implementation of the DDR program in Mali?

Permission Mission of the Republic of Mali to the United Nations ☐

The United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission (MINUSUMA) ☐

Civil society organizations ☐

Government of Mali ☐

Section B: Political Reforms

In this section, you will be asked questions relating to political reforms adopted because of the implementation of the Algiers Treaty. Please rate the extent to which you agree with the statements below (SA – strongly disagree, D – disagree, N – neither agree nor disagree, A – agree, SA – strongly agree).

SD D N A SA

The government's recent political reforms have ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐
improved governance transparency.

I trust the government to implement fair and effective ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐
political reforms.

Citizens have adequate opportunities to participate in ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐
political decision-making.

Political reforms have strengthened democratic ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐
institutions in the country.

Electoral processes are free, fair, and transparent. ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

Political corruption has significantly decreased due to ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐
recent reforms.

Section C: Defense and Security Sector Reforms

In this section, you will be asked about reforms adopted in the defense and security sector after the Algiers Peace Treaty. Please rate the extent to which you agree with the statements below (SA – strongly disagree, D – disagree, N – neither agree nor disagree, A – agree, SA – strongly agree).

SD D N A SA

The country's security forces effectively protect ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐
citizens from external threats.

There is adequate cooperation between security forces ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐
and local communities.

The government has successfully reduced violent ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐
conflicts and insecurity.

Defense policies have led to improved national security. ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

Security sector reforms have increased public trust in ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐
law enforcement.

Section D: Development and Reconciliation Reforms

In this section, you will be asked questions regarding to development and reconciliation after the signing of the Algiers Peace Treaty. Please rate the extent to which you agree with the statements below (SA – strongly disagree, D – disagree, N – neither agree nor disagree, A – agree, SA – strongly agree).

SD D N A SA

The economic development initiatives under the ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐
Algiers Treaty have provided ex-combatants with
sustainable income opportunities

Physical structure, like power, transportation and ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐
telecommunications, have been restored

Initiatives have been made to provide employment ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐
opportunities to ex-combatants

Market reforms have been adopted to prevent black ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐
market activities

Regulatory and legal reforms on property rights, ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐
business and labor have been adopted

An environment that enables international trade has ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐
been created by reviewing trade barriers, tax structures
and tariffs

An environment that fosters private investment has ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐
been created

Finance and banking have been restored ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

Truth commissions have been established ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

Programs under the Algiers Treaty have successfully ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐
fostered trust and cooperation between formerly
conflicting communities

Initiatives have been adopted to empower people, such ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐
as counselling centers for victims

Section E: Judicial and Humanitarian Affairs

In this section, you will be asked about the extent to which justice and humanitarian affairs were addressed after the Algiers Treaty. Please rate the extent to which you agree

with the statements below (SA – strongly disagree, D – disagree, N – neither agree nor disagree, A – agree, SA – strongly agree).

	SD	D	N	A	SA
_____	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
The judicial system operates independently and fairly.					
_____	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Government institutions adequately protect human rights.					
_____	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
There are effective legal mechanisms for addressing human rights violations.					
_____	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
The justice system ensures equal access to legal resources for all citizens.					
_____	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Government programs effectively address humanitarian crises.					

☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

International humanitarian organizations provide
meaningful support to vulnerable populations.

☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

Victims of violence and displacement receive adequate
legal and social assistance.

☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

The government is committed to addressing past human
rights abuses.

Section F: DDR Implementation

In this section, you will provide an opinion regarding the extent to which the DDR program in Mali has been successful in demobilizing, disarming and re-integrating ex-combatants into society. Please rate the extent to which you agree with the statement below (SA – strongly disagree, D – disagree, N – neither agree nor disagree, A – agree, SA – strongly agree).

SD D N A SA

Do you believe the DDR program in Mali has been ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐
successful in demobilizing, disarming and re-
integrating ex-combatants into society

Economic support programs for ex-combatants have ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐
been effective.

Communities accept and support reintegrated ex- ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐
combatants.

The DDR process has contributed to long-term stability ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐
and peace.

Appendix Three: Semi-structured Interview Guide

Dear respondent,

This questionnaire is intended to collect data relating to the Algiers Peace Treaty and the implementation of the Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration programme in Mali, opportunities, challenges, and prospects. Information collected from this questionnaire will be handled with high confidentiality and will strictly be used for academic purposes only by the researcher.

1. What political reforms have been adopted since the passing of the Algiers Treaty?
2. How have these political reforms contributed to peace in Mali?
3. What reforms have been adopted in the defense and security sector?
4. In what ways have these defense and security sector reforms contributed to peace in the country?
5. In what ways has the Algiers Treaty helped to Achieve reconciliation between the conflicting parties in Mali?
6. What reforms have been adopted in the judicial system since the passing of the Algiers Treaty?
7. How has the humanitarian situation improved after the Algiers Treaty?
8. What economic reforms have been adopted since the Algiers Treaty was passed? In what ways have these reforms helped Mali to move towards peaceful conflict resolution?

Appendix Four: University Approval Letter



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23rd May 2024

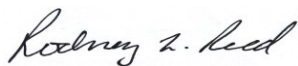
RE: TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

Aaron Nzioka Kimolia (22J01DMGP033) is a bonafide student at Africa Nazarene University.
He has finished his course work and has defended his thesis proposal

entitled: -

“The Algiers Peace Treaty and The Implementation of The Disarmament, Demobilization & Reintegration (DDR) Programme in Mali”.

Any assistance accorded to him to facilitate data collection and finish his thesis is highly welcomed.



Prof. Rodney Reed

Deputy Vice Chancellor, Academic & Student Affairs

Appendix Five: MINUSMA Approval Letter

UNITED NATIONS
United Nations Multidimensional
Integrated Stabilization Mission
in Mali



NATIONS UNIES
Mission multidimensionnelle intégrée
des Nations Unies pour la stabilisation
au Mali

MSO 3620
MAJ AARON K. NZIOKA

01 DECEMBER 2023

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

The above named staff officer has served with the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (MINUSMA) from 2021 to 2023 as a Battle watch Captain. His service and dedication towards peacekeeping and stabilization efforts in the region is highly valued.

After careful review, we are pleased to grant him official approval to proceed with his research titled "**Algiers Peace Treaty and Implementation of DDR in Mali.**" His study is expected to contribute valuable insights into the progress, challenges, and effectiveness of the Disarmament, Demobilization, and Reintegration (DDR) process as outlined in the Algiers Agreement.

This approval is granted under the following conditions:

1. **Compliance with UN and Malian Laws:** Your research must adhere to Malian national laws, UN operational policies, and ethical research standards.
2. **Security Clearance and Coordination:** You must coordinate with the United Nations Department of Safety and Security (UNDSS) and other relevant UN entities to ensure compliance with security protocols.
3. **Non-Interference in UN Operations:** Your activities should not disrupt ongoing UN operations or endanger personnel in Mali.
4. **Periodic Reporting:** You may be required to submit periodic updates to relevant UN offices regarding your research progress.

Kindly accord him the necessary assistance.

Geethan Krisantha BANDARA
OIC-DDR

Bamako Service Centre
P.O. Box 91095, Senou, Mali

Appendix Six: Study Area Map



