

Article

Unraveling the root causes and challenges of organized crime at South Africa's border posts

Shingirai Stanley Mugambiwa*, Kholofelo Annah Rakubu

Tshwane University of Technology, Pretoria 0183, South Africa

* **Corresponding author:** Shingirai Stanley Mugambiwa, mugambiwashingirai@gmail.com

CITATION

Mugambiwa SS, Rakubu KA. (2024). Unraveling the root causes and challenges of organized crime at South Africa's border posts. *Journal of Infrastructure, Policy and Development*. 8(14): 8697. <https://doi.org/10.24294/jipd8697>

ARTICLE INFO

Received: 20 August 2024
Accepted: 29 September 2024
Available online: 25 November 2024

COPYRIGHT



Copyright © 2024 by author(s). *Journal of Infrastructure, Policy and Development* is published by EnPress Publisher, LLC. This work is licensed under the Creative Commons Attribution (CC BY) license. <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/>

Abstract: South Africa's border posts are increasingly becoming crucial hubs for organized crime posing serious national and regional security implications with far-reaching consequences. The country's national security, economic stability, and community safety are significantly jeopardised by organised criminal enterprises at border posts. As a result, the porous borders of South Africa have fostered an environment that is conducive to a variety of unlawful activities, such as the smuggling of drugs into the country and human trafficking. This paper seeks to identify political, economic, and social factors that lead to organised crime, corruption, and weak border management systems. The paper employed a secondary data analysis of existing scholarly articles, government reports as well as relevant case studies. The study found that local communities are most affected by illegal activities at the ports of entry. The findings further emphasize the importance of inclusive approaches in responding to security challenges that address cross-border flow regulation, fight corruption in service delivery, and promote community resilience. The paper concludes with recommendations for strengthening border controls towards enhancing cooperation between countries and curbing transnational crime networks.

Keywords: organised crime; law enforcement; human trafficking; South Africa; smuggling; border posts

1. Introduction

Organized crime at South Africa's border posts is crucial, given the country's strategic location in Southern Africa, making its borders vulnerable to various illicit activities such as smuggling, drug trafficking, and human trafficking. The importance of addressing this issue lies in its impact on national security, economic stability, and social cohesion, with organized crime networks exploiting weak law enforcement and systemic corruption. This paper brings novelty by focusing specifically on the root causes and operational challenges at border posts, offering a more localized and targeted examination compared to previous studies, which have typically focused on broader, transnational crime trends. It further builds on the argument that addressing organized crime requires a nuanced understanding of its socio-economic and political drivers. Through a conceptual framework rooted in criminology and border management theories, this article positions border posts not only as physical entry points but as socio-political spaces where corruption, economic desperation, and transnational syndicates intersect. This framework will help in articulating the need for a multi-pronged approach to combatting crime, incorporating local governance, regional cooperation, and enhanced law enforcement.

Organized criminal enterprises at border posts pose major risks to South Africa's national security, economic stability, and community safety (Moyo and Zanker, 2020). Consequently, South Africa's porous borders have created a conducive environment for various types of illegal acts like smuggling drugs into the country or human trafficking (Mahlangu and Obioha, 2015; INTERPOL, 2019). This paper seeks to investigate the causes of organized crime and expounds on the hurdles law enforcers face when tackling this phenomenon at South Africa's ports of entry. Organized crime at South African border posts is not new but has rather increased both in scale and sophistication. For instance, apartheid has left numerous spaces that were exploited by criminals when it ended resulting in weak state structures, poorly managed boundaries among others (Lehohla, 2015; Okunade and Ogunnubi, 2019). At the same time smuggling and human trafficking have been encouraged by huge differences in income between South Africa and its neighbouring states as desperate people seek better living standards or flee their homes due to turmoil. There are multiple challenges associated with fighting organized crime at these border posts. It is worth noting that many officials working along borders have been accused of corruption while others ignore illegal entry thus promoting unlawful activities (Horne, 2011). It is also important to note that inadequate resources such as appropriate infrastructure prevent effective law enforcement at entry points. Hence, authorities face difficulties observing goods movement through borders because of such reasons.

The history of apartheid as well as continuing socio-economic hardships in South Africa's neighbouring countries such as Zimbabwe, Mozambique, Malawi, Lesotho, and Eswatini have shaped criminal dynamics in border areas making it difficult to enforce the law (Goodger, 2024). To develop effective strategies against organized crime these complexities must be taken into consideration. For many years now, South African borders have always posed challenges. They have served both as gateways for trade, travel and cultural exchanges but at the same time battlegrounds for various forms of organized crimes including human trafficking across many types of borderlines (Lehohla, 2015). As such, the interplay between geography, historical legacies, and socio-economic disparities has made these borders particularly vulnerable to criminal exploitation. The roots of organized crime at South Africa's borders can be traced back to the apartheid era when the emphasis was on maintaining tight internal security and little attention was directed towards border control (Goodger, 2024). After the end of apartheid in 1994, South Africa faced a twofold challenge namely; reintegrating into the world economy while dealing with porous and inadequately policed borderline areas that had been neglected for decades (Martin, 2013). The transition from an authoritarian regime to a democratic state exposed South Africa to numerous internal as well as external pressures including increased migration flows both legal and illegal as people sought refuge from conflicts in neighboring countries or pursued economic opportunities in South Africa.

South Africa's porous borders make the problem worse as they allow the free movement of illegal drugs and weapons (Laine and Moyo, 2021). These actions not only undermine economic stability in the country but also contribute to growing levels of violence and insecurity within South Africa and around the region (Obah-

Akpowoghaha et al., 2020). In recent times, there has been a high emphasis on toughening border security and enhancing regional cooperation in fighting organized crime (Ashe and Ojong, 2022;). Nevertheless, many times these efforts are frustrated by competing national interests, bureaucratic red tape and limited resources. Furthermore, organized crime gangs are extremely versatile since their methods keep changing so that they can avoid detection or exploit new vulnerabilities (Goitom, 2013; Gakunga, 2020; Horne, 2011). Therefore, this article ought to dig into the mysteries surrounding organized crime networks operating at South Africa's border posts. This will be achieved by highlighting some potentially significant issues affecting security and stability at the ports of entry by considering historical origins; current challenges, and potential solutions. Therefore, this persistent organized crime at these critical ports of entry necessitates an all-round approach that tackles underlying socio-economic conditions, improves governance and rule of law as well as promoting increased collaboration among states in a sub-region.

Theoretical framework

Routine Activity Theory, first formulated by Cohen and Felson (1979) and later developed by Felson (1995), is one of the most widely cited and influential theoretical constructs in the field of criminology and in crime science more broadly. Radar-based Automated Targeting (RAT) provides a fitting lens through which to analyse organized crime at South Africa's border posts by focusing on the convergence of three key elements: motivated offenders, suitable targets, and the absence of capable guardians. Cohen and Felson (1979) initially posited that alterations in the structure of urban daily activities post-World War II could elucidate the increase in crime observed, as indicated by leading studies of that period. Their hypothesis posited that postmodernity has enabled the spatial and temporal convergence of potential criminals with the intent to perpetrate crimes against vulnerable targets in the absence of effective guardianship. In the context of border posts, economic desperation in neighboring countries and within local communities creates a large pool of motivated offenders who are driven to engage in illicit activities, such as smuggling and trafficking, to make a living. These offenders target lucrative contraband, including drugs, firearms, and illegal goods, which offer high profits with relatively low risk. Additionally, the lack of capable guardians, manifesting in the form of weak law enforcement, insufficient resources, and corruption, provides criminal networks with an opportunity to operate with little resistance. The convergence of these factors transforms border posts into hotspots for organized crime. Applying RAT to this paper allows for a systematic analysis of how the vulnerabilities at South Africa's border posts are being exploited by criminal syndicates. The theory highlights how motivated offenders take advantage of socio-economic inequalities, engaging in illegal activities to survive or profit from borderland economies.

2. Materials and methods

The study employed a secondary data analysis in which existing scholarly articles, government reports as well as relevant case studies were thoroughly

reviewed. The researcher made use of databases such as Web of Science, Embase, General Strategies, Scopus, and Google Scholar to explore the major themes and findings about organized crime in South Africa's border posts. This made it possible to understand the complex historical, socio-economic, and political roots of criminal networks at the ports of entry. The process involved a critical examination of secondary data that revealed the systemic issues at stake and evaluated how effective present countermeasures are thereby identifying gaps in current research and policies.

3. Results and discussion

3.1. Organized crime at border posts

The roots of organized crime at South African border posts are complexly interwoven into the country's historical context; socioeconomic situation; and politics (Gastrow, 1998; Lehohla, 2015). Over time, these roots have developed extensively, creating a conducive environment where criminal networks can now thrive on the borders with various challenges that police face to maintain security peacefully therein (Border Management Authority, 2023). One such root cause of organized crime at border posts was apartheid which involved an internal surveillance system together with strict internal controls but weak border security, especially for remote areas (Shaw, 1998). This is because little attention was paid to providing resources required for maintaining order and security. Another factor contributing to the growth of organized crimes at South African borders is significant economic disparities across the region. Higher levels of development relative to neighboring countries make South Africa appear attractive both to immigrants desiring better lives and to those who desire opportunities for economic growth.

Organised crime at South Africa's ports of entry is further exacerbated by the porous nature of South African borders. The country's vast land borders which are thousands of kilometers long make it difficult to effectively secure these borders because comprehensive monitoring can be very expensive owing to limited resources (Koff, 2013). These weaknesses have allowed criminal networks to establish sophisticated smuggling operations that exploit these loopholes in border security functions (Ewi, 2017). Therefore, South Africa's border posts are characterized by corruption which is another significant root of organized crime. The problem of corruption among border officials is so widespread that some people can be ready to accept bribes for illegal goods to pass through checkpoints easily (Martin, 2017). Smuggling through corrupt persons not only discredits government institutions but also undermines the efforts of law enforcement agencies.

Political and economic instability in neighboring countries are other major factors fueling the growth of organized crime at South African borders (Dlamini and Maluleke, 2017). Insecurity, poor governance, and economic difficulties in countries such as Zimbabwe and Mozambique have led to increased migration both legal and illegal (Govender, 2015; Hubschle, 2010). This has created opportunities for human trafficking organizations and illicit networks involved in smuggling (Ewi, 2017). In most cases, there is no formal business activity taking place in many border towns making black market trade an attractive yet hazardous. As such, communities form

symbiotic relationships with organised crime syndicates hence further consolidating criminal activities across international boundaries (Goga, 2015; Zolberg, 2006). It should therefore be noted that there are various roots to this kind of organized crime within South Africa’s borders such as poverty and unemployment, political instability, lack of cooperation, socio-cultural factors, and inadequate social structures (see **Table 1**).

Table 1. Organised crime roots at South Africa ports of entry.

Organised crime roots	Explanation
a. Socio-Economic Factors	The high-level differences between South Africa and its neighboring countries encourage large-scale illegal cross-border activities.
b. Poverty and unemployment	Poverty diminishes the capability of the criminal justice system to indict and punish individuals involved in organized crime.
c. Political Instability	Political instability in South Africa and its neighbouring states establish conditions that favour organised criminal activities.
d. Lack of Cooperation	Lack of cooperation among regional countries is hindering efforts aimed at combating transnational organized crime.
e. Socio-Cultural Factors	Social exclusion and marginalization are some of the socio-cultural factors contributing to high levels of organized crime at border entry points in South Africa.
f. Inadequate Social Structures	Weak social institutions situated along border communities often become easy targets for infiltration by various syndicates involved in organized crime.

Source: Author.

3.1.1. Socio-Economic factors

Socio-economic factors play a very important role when it comes to driving organized crime within South African border post areas (Goga, 2015; James, 2017). The high-level differences between South Africa and its neighboring countries encourage large-scale illegal cross-border activities. Migrants from countries Zimbabwe, Mozambique, and Lesotho that are facing economic and political instability have for a long time dominated the number of people migrating to South Africa which is better developed and offers better economic opportunities (Dlamini and Maluleke, 2019). Consequently, some of these migrants are involved in smuggling of illegal goods such as drugs for them to make ends meet. This makes it possible for organized crime networks to exploit such vulnerable individuals thus deepening their roots at the borders through which they operate.

3.1.2. Poverty and unemployment

Poverty enhances corruptness and diminishes the capability of the criminal justice system to indict and punish individuals involved in organized crime (Geldenhuys, 2015). Occasionally, officials may directly aid illegal activities or give protection to groups of criminals in return for money. This destroys confidence in the government and law enforcement agencies, further undermining their authority and

effectiveness. Further, Dlamini and Maluleke (2019) emphasised the impact of poverty and unemployment on vehicle hijacking asserting that vehicles are hijacked for numerous reasons chief among them being poverty and unemployment.

3.1.3. Political instability

Political instability in South Africa and its neighbouring states establish conditions that favour organised criminal activities (Goga, 2015). Frail governance structures, political fights and power wrangles can result in the breakdown of law enforcement which presents a fertile ground for exploitation by criminal gangs. Security personnel might be engaged in quelling unrest and safeguarding their interests during periods marked with political turbulence thus leaving border posts porous to infiltration by organized crime syndicates.

3.1.4. Lack of cooperation

Lack of cooperation among regional countries is hindering efforts aimed at combating transnational organized crime within Southern Africa (Okunade, 2017). Scarce resources; conflicting priorities as well as absence of trust between governments could hamper sharing intelligence reports or undertaking joint operations against cross-border criminal networks (Ani, 2012; Arieli, 2016). Moreover, different legal regimes coupled with extradition procedures may create technicalities through which offenders can evade justice.

3.1.5. Socio-Cultural factors

Social exclusion and marginalization are some of the socio-cultural factors contributing to high levels of organized crime at border entry points in South Africa (Goodger, 2024). Many individuals living within poverty-stricken communities near national borders feel sidelined by society and denied access to mainstream economic opportunities available elsewhere within their country (Mahlangu and Obioha, 2015). Such a state of mind breeds alienation thereby forcing people into illegal acts so that they can gain recognition, acquire wealth, or boost status among peers living around them.

3.1.6. Inadequate social structures

Weak social institutions situated along border communities often become easy targets for infiltration by various syndicates involved in organized crime (Govender, 2015). Lack of education, limited healthcare provision alongside other basic needs may leave individuals with no other choice but to rely on gangs for their survival. Criminal syndicates take advantage of this dependency by offering welfare benefits or shielding such persons from harm thereby solidifying their grip over the affected community and weakening resistance against their presence.

3.2 Challenges in addressing organized crime

3.2.1. Insufficient resources

Resource constraints are often faced by border enforcement agencies making it impossible for them to detect and prevent illegal activities. A scarcity of personnel, equipment and funds hinders their operations (Ryab, 2020). The insufficiency of resources is a significant impediment towards effective management of the borders in South Africa, thus, the Border Management Authority cannot fight against

organized crime effectively. Ewi (2017) asserts that a plethora of border posts are not funded adequately; they lack necessary infrastructure for monitoring vast areas that need to be secured along the borders. Without modern surveillance technology like drones, cameras, or sensors among others it becomes difficult for authorities to identify where illegalities such as smuggling or human trafficking occur most frequently. Another problem caused by lack of resources is understaffing at border posts because law enforcement officers also have other duties elsewhere. The lack of resources goes beyond just physical structures and personnel, it also affects operational capabilities too (Van der Heijden, 2003). For example, limited funding may hinder thorough investigations from being carried out or advanced training programs to be implemented so as to deal with various types of crimes perpetuated along border posts especially those involving gangs that are well organized internationally (Chihuri 2003). This means that without adequate financial support given towards them by concerned authorities involved, the Border Management Authority may find it difficult to come up with intelligence networks.

3.2.2. Community engagement

Establishing trust between police forces and local communities is essential if crime prevention efforts are going to succeed. However, there can be historical mistrust or fear within communities that hinders cooperation thus making it difficult for intelligence gathering or partnership building. Community engagement remains a key but often overlooked component in fighting organized crime at South African border posts (Govender, 2015). Residents living around the border areas are usually the most affected by crime activities hence they may possess vital information regarding criminals' movements as well as their modus operandi (Dlamini and Maluleke, 2019; Ryab, 2020). Active involvement of these societies into matters relating with security on the border posts will not only provide useful tips needed but also foster support towards enforcement authorities thereby bridging gap between government agents on one hand vis-a-vis its citizens on another.

Another aspect of successful community engagement is creating economic opportunities and social infrastructure that reduce the attractiveness of criminality (Grundling, 2013). In areas along border posts that are disadvantaged economically because jobs may be few and far between; these criminal outfits appear as easy money-making options for many people (Ashe and Ojong, 2022; Grundling, 2013;). Hence, authorities have to invest more in community development programs such as education, and training among others so that individuals in these places can find alternative sources of income apart from participating in organized crime. Moreover, it would help if leaders within these localities could collaborate with other relevant stakeholders like non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and civil societies that can come up with initiatives addressing such problems thereby fostering a sense of resilient society amongst them. The approach not only strengthens the fight against crimes but also creates a shared responsibility between residents living around border areas and law enforcement agencies.

3.3 Smuggling and human trafficking networks

3.3.1. Limpopo province

Many smuggling networks have been identified in Limpopo, where criminals use the same old tricks to transport goods illegally by passing through weak points around the borders such as the Beitbridge border post. The province is situated in northern South Africa and shares boundaries with Zimbabwe, Mozambique and Botswana making it one of the most strategic places for smuggling activities to take root (Goodger, 2024). With long stretches of porous borders that are sometimes not well guarded because they pass through remote areas or those with low population density criminals have all the opportunities needed for successful smuggling operations. Criminal gangs capitalize on this by using rough terrains that are hard to access hence providing ideal conditions under which different types of illegal commodities such as drugs, arms among others can be moved from one place into another undetected (Ahafa and Ani, 2020; Brenton and Chemutai, 2020).

Monitoring devices like cameras may not be functional always in such zones thereby giving smugglers room to use diverse tactics including but not limited to hiding their illicit cargo inside automobiles or employing routes which cross many countries on foot to evade arrest while passing through any jurisdiction where they might be wanted. The socio-economic setting found within Limpopo Province also fosters an environment conducive enough for more establishments involved in smuggling activities to thrive mainly because poverty rates are high coupled with unemployment levels being equally high thereby creating what experts call “a perfect storm” that could see even greater numbers getting involved into such activities. Further, it is worth noting that criminal networks usually take advantage of economic hardships by enlisting locals into their ranks who then become vital mechanisms within various stages involved. Such secret alliances between criminals and community members not only perpetuate illegalities but also complicate efforts aimed at dismantling them since it becomes difficult for law enforcement officers to distinguish between offenders or innocent citizens.

3.3.2. Human trafficking along the Mozambique border

The border between Mozambique and South Africa is a human trafficking hotspot where over one thousand girls are trafficked to South Africa from Mozambique each year (Yesufu, 2020). This example reveals how poverty, corruption, and weak law enforcement work together to make it difficult to fight such a serious crime. Human trafficking at the Mozambique-South African border is a critical issue. Vulnerability caused by socioeconomics combined with porous borders enables criminals to engage in this activity easily. Most of these illegal transactions take place through the vast expanses of poorly patrolled areas along this frontier; thus, criminals use secret routes and methods when crossing victims past authorities' watchful eyes which are quite a few given the remoteness and width of the territory involved. Socio-economic factors play a significant role in enhancing the prevalence rate of human trafficking within Mozambique. A lot still needs to be done as far as reducing poverty levels is concerned since they serve as breeding grounds for such crimes. Equally, political instability coupled with high rates of unemployment create an environment where people become susceptible to being exploited by individuals who promise them greener pastures across borders especially into countries like RSA. Many times, once inside these nations victims

find themselves trapped within violent relationships characterized by abuse while working under miserable conditions without any hope ever escaping from their abductors.

4. Conclusion

The persistent issues of organized crime at South Africa's border posts are deeply rooted in a complex interplay of socio-economic challenges, historical legacies, and governance deficiencies. This paper highlights the critical need for a multifaceted approach that not only bolsters law enforcement capabilities but also addresses the underlying conditions that breed criminality. Enhancing inter-agency collaboration and establishing robust operational protocols will be essential in creating a more unified front against these criminal enterprises. Furthermore, engaging local communities through trust-building initiatives and economic development programs can foster resilience and deter involvement in illicit activities. By recognizing border posts as socio-political spaces shaped by various influences, stakeholders can develop targeted strategies that not only enhance national security but also promote social cohesion and economic stability in the region. Ultimately, a comprehensive response to organized crime at South Africa's borders is vital for securing the nation's future and ensuring the safety and well-being of its citizens.

5. Recommendations

5.1. Involving local communities

Engaging the community in reporting incidents or preventing illegal activities through programs that build trust among them can offer very useful support and intelligence. Furthermore, investing in economic development initiatives around these border regions helps to reduce socio-economic vulnerability which tends to push people into smuggling or trafficking.

5.2. Boosting border security

Investments need to be made towards improving infrastructure including technology that can enhance monitoring capabilities thereby minimizing chances associated with organized criminal activities taking place at various border posts. Such measures ought also to incorporate training more personnel to have enough numbers capable of manning all sections related to physical security operations involved during such undertakings aimed at curbing transnational human smuggling across the country's land boundaries.

5.3. Modernizing technological systems for border protection

The use of up-to-date equipment like high-resolution cameras coupled with drones equipped with advanced sensors can go a long way in ensuring round-the-clock surveillance over vast remote border areas that are difficult to monitor due to their geographical features. Furthermore, there should be regular maintenance carried out on these gadgets besides having back-ups placed ready to serve as replacements whenever need arises because criminals tend to change strategies as

time goes by thus rendering some obsolete sooner than expected while still usable against current tactics employed them.

Author contributions: Conceptualization, SSM; methodology, SSM; software, SSM; validation, SSM and KAR; formal analysis, SSM and KAR; investigation, SSM; resources, SM and KAR; data curation, SSM and KAR; writing—original draft preparation, SSM; writing—review and editing, SSM and KAR; visualization, SSM; supervision, KAR; project administration, KAR. All authors have read and agreed to the published version of the manuscript.

Conflict of interest: The authors declare no conflict of interest.

References

- Ahafa, P., Ani, K. J. (2020). Nigerian Border Security Management and Role of Personnel. *African Journal of Terrorism and Insurgency Research*, 1(3), 5–21. <https://doi.org/10.31920/2732-5008/2020/v1n3a1>
- Ani, K. J. (2012). Nigerian Security and Border Relations with her Neighbours. In: Odo, S. I., Onwe, S. O. (editors). *Nigerian Peoples and Culture*. Jones Communications Publishers. pp. 196–219.
- Arieli, T. (2016). Borders, conflict and security. *Borders, Conflict and Security*, 27 (4), 487–504. <https://doi.org/10.1108/IJCMA-08-2015-0050>.
- Ashe, M. O., Ojong, V. B. (2022). Border Management and Gender Issues in sub-Saharan Africa's Cross-Border Trade under COVID-19. *African Journal of Gender, Society and Development*, 11 (1), 33–25. <https://doi.org/10.31920/2634-3622/2022/v11n1a2>
- Border Management Authority. (2023). Border Management Authority (BMA) media statement on the events that took place at the Beitbridge border. Available online: <https://www.bma.gov.za/wp-content/uploads/2023/12/the-statement-on-border-management-authority-3rd-dec-2-1-003-pdf.pdf> (accessed on 22 May 2024).
- Brenton, P., Chemutai, V., (2020). Trade Responses to the COVID-19 Crisis in Africa. WORLD BANK GROUP
- Chihuri, A. (2003). Organised crime: A perspective from Zimbabwe. In: Albanese, J. S., Das, D. K., Verma, A. (editors). *Organised crime: World perspectives*. Prentice Hall Publishing. pp. 427–437.
- Cohen, L., Felson, M. (1979). Social change and crime rate trends: A routine activity approach. *American Sociological Review*, 44, 588–608.
- Crush, J., Williams, V. (2005). International migration and development: dynamics and challenges in south and Southern Africa. In: *Proceedings of the United Nations expert group meeting on international migration and development; 6–8 July 2005; New York, NY, USA*.
- Ewi, M. (2017). South Africa must move beyond its organised crime clichés. Available online: <https://issafrica.org/iss-today/south-africa-must-movebeyond-its-organised-crime-cliches> (accessed on 15 August 2024).
- Felson, M. (1995). Those who discourage crime. In: Eck, J. E., Weisburd, D. (editors). *Crime and place*. Criminal Justice Press. Volume 4. pp. 53–66.
- Gakunga, M. (2020). Small Cross Border Traders adopt New Business Tactics to Manage Pandemic Restrictions. Available online: <http://www.comesa.int/covid-19-c> (accessed on 25 May 2024).
- Gastrol, P. (1988). *Organised Crime in South Africa: An Assessment of Its Nature and Origins*. Institute for Security Studies, 177790.
- Geldenhuys, K. (2015). Organised crime-vehicle crime. *Servamus Safety and Security magazine*, 103(4), 38–41.
- Goga, K. (2015). The business of (dis) organised crime in South Africa. Available online: http://www.defenceweb.co.za/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=40440:iss-the-business-of-disorganised-crime-in-south-africa&catid=3:Civil%20Security (accessed on 25 August 2024).
- Goitom, H. (2013). *Citizenship Pathways and Border Protection: The Law Library of Congress, Global Legal Research Centre*. Available online: http://www.loc.gov/law/help/citizenship-pathways/2013-008872_final_rpt.pdf (accessed on 5 May 2024).
- Goodger, M. (2024). Beit bridge: The Zimbabwean versus South African side of the border-getting to grips with the issues. *Taxtalk*.

- Govender, D. (2015). A Conceptual Analysis of Strategies to Combat Organised Crime in South Africa. *Insight on Africa*, 7(2), 120–136.
- Grundling, A. (2013). Integrated approach needed for effective border security. In: Proceedings of the Aardvark Roost Electronic Warfare Conference (AREWC 2013); 4–5 September 2013; Pretoria, South Africa.
- Horne, J. (2011). The investigation of human trafficking and impossible mission without elemental identification of the crime. *Acta Criminologica: Southern African Journal of Criminology*, 24(3), 1–30.
- Hubschle, A. (2010). Organised crime in Southern Africa First annual review. In: The Organised Crime and Money Laundering Programme (OCML). Institute for Security Studies.
- INTERPOL. (2019). West Africa Border Operation Uncovers Trafficking Victims, Gold Bars and Fake Pharmaceuticals. Available online: <http://www.interpol.int/News/2019> (accessed on 14 June 2024).
- James, C. (2017). Carjacking in South Africa: Exploring its consequences for victims. *Acta Criminologica: Southern African Journal of Criminology*, 30(2).
- Kamidza, R. (2020). Trade under COVID-19 restrictions in eastern and southern Africa, ACCORD. Available online: <https://www.accord.org.za/analysis> (accessed on 10 June 2024).
- Koff, H. (2013). Bringing power into borderland studies: bringing the state back. In: Gilles, P., Koff, H., Maganda, C., Schulz, C. (editors). *Theorizing Borders Through Analyses of Power Relationships, Regional Integration and Social Cohesion*, P.I.E. Peter Lang. Bruxelles Publishing. pp. 9–26.
- Lehohla, P. (2015). Migration dynamics in South Africa. Available online: <http://www.statssa.gov.za/publications/Report-03-01-79/Report-03-01-792011.pdf> (accessed on 24 June 2024).
- Mahlangu, S.B., Obioha, E. E. (2015). Challenges in land border security and control experienced by the South African police service and other agencies. *Acta Criminologica: Southern African Journal of Criminology*, 4.
- Maluleke, W., Dlamini, S. (2019). The Prevalence of Organised Cross-Border Crimes In South Africa: A Non-Empirical Statistical Data Analysis on Stock Theft and Hijacking of Motor Vehicles. *International Journal of Social Sciences and Humanity Studies*, 11(1), 116–145.
- Martin, K. (2017). Measures to combat organised crime within African nations. Available online: https://www.aisjjhb.com/uploaded/201617/Student_Life/JoMUN/JoMUN_Website/CombatCrime_Final.pdf (accessed on 14 July 2024).
- Martin, P. (2013). The global challenge of managing migration. *Population bulletin*, 68(2), 1–17.
- Moodley, D. (2014). An investigation into illegal movement of goods from seaports-of-entry: A case study at Durban Harbour [Master's thesis]. University of South Africa.
- Moyo, I., Laine, L., Nshimbi, C. C. (2021). Precarity of borders and migration regimes in the Southern African region. In: *Intra-Africa Migrations: Reimagining Borders and Migration Management*. Routledge Publishing.
- Obah-Akpowoghaha, N. G., Ojajorotu, V., Tarro, M. L. (2020). Porous Borders and the Challenge of National Integration in Africa: A Reflection of Ghana, Republic of Benin and Nigeria. *Journal of African Foreign Affairs*, 7(3), 89–111.
- Okunade, S. K., Ogunnubi, O. (2019). The African Union Protocol on Free Movement: A Panacea to End Border Porosity? *Journal of African Union Studies*, 8(1), 73–91. <https://doi.org/10.31920/2050-4306/2019/v8n1a4>
- Okunade, S. K. (2017). Perspectives on Illegal Routes in Nigeria. *African Research Review: An International Multidisciplinary Journal AFRREV*, 11(2).
- Ryab, B. (2020). Immigration staff shortage proving bottleneck for returning migrant mine labour. Available online: <https://www.miningmx.com/news/markets/42403-immigration-staff-shortage-proving-bottleneck-for-returning-migrant-mine-labour/> (accessed on 24 June 2024).
- Shaw, M. (1988). *Organised Crime in Post-Apartheid South Africa*. Institute for Security Studies, 28.
- Van der Heijden, O. (2003). Organised crime: A perspective from Netherlands. In: Albanese, J. S., Das, D. K., Verma, A. (editors). *Organised crime: World perspectives*. Prentice Hall Publishing. pp. 101–26.
- Yesufu, S. (2020). Human Trafficking: A South African Perspective. *Journal of Social Sciences and Humanities*, 17 (6), 103–120.
- Zanker, F. L., Moyo, K. (2020). The Corona Virus and Migration Governance in South Africa: Business as Usual? *Africa Spectrum*, 55(1), 1–13. <http://doi.org/10.1177/0002039720925826>
- Zolberg, A. R. (2006). *A Nation by Design: Immigration Policy in the Fashioning of America*. Harvard University Press.