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### **The book review**

***“Darfur Peacekeepers, The African Union peacekeeping mission from the perspective of a Hungarian military advisor”*** by prof.dr Janos Besenyó

The book by Janos Besenyó, *Darfur Peacekeepers, The African Union peacekeeping mission from the perspective of a Hungarian military advisor*, is written on 215 pages and contains six chapters, a conclusion, an annex, and a list of references.

In the first chapter entitled *Geography and History of Darfur*, the author briefly introduces us to the Geography, climate, vegetation, and wildlife of Darfur, important cities, economy, infrastructure, major national and ethnic groups, and the history of this area.

Chapter Two (pp. 39-57) The author devotes itself to Operation AMIS I. The author describes Operation AMIS I through Causes of the Darfur conflict; The outbreak of Darfur Conflict and The engagement of the African Union- the African Union s operation in Sudan AMIS.

In the third chapter (57-73 pages), the author dedicates to the analysis of the AMIS II operation, its history, organization, and structure.

The fourth chapter (pp. 73-113) is devoted to Operation AMIS II E or AMIS III. Operation AMIS III, the Author explains to us through two subchapters: The Foreshadow of the Fall and The creation of UNAMID.

The fifth chapter (pp. 113-143), entitled *The Support Mission of the European Union*, was divided by the author into four sections: Beginnings, EU / NATO airlift, Logistic Advisors of the EU, and EU supporting operation in Darfur.

The sixth chapter, entitled *Hungarian Experience (143-171)*, contains three sections: Transformation of Hungarians participation, The Field support service, and Hungary's withdrawal from the mission.

In a very extensive conclusion (171-187), the author gives exhaustive conclusions about all the problems faced by the international community, embodied in several international organizations in Operation AMIS.

From the very beginning, the author very skillfully and systematically introduces us to the problems in Darfur, through a description of all relevant factors, from historical, geographical, economic, religious, ethnic to current political factors that led to sharp conflicts in this part of the world. The book is written on several levels, the personal confession of an international peace officer, who describes his "African adventure", is often intertwined in style and language, but in the next moment, the author speaks more like a professional who writes an objective report, easily and almost imperceptibly

moved to the field of academic analysis in which it gives a broad, academic, view of the problems that are the subject of analysis. This approach makes the book interesting to a very wide readership who can, depending on their affinities, find in the book almost everything they are interested in about a specific conflict and its causes, an interesting personal confession, "human dimension" of the conflict, but also a very competent insight into current problems of international peacekeeping operations, especially when more than one international organization is involved, as is the case in Darfur.

This book is a very important source of information and an excellent framework for anyone who wants to engage in academic analysis of the new generation of peacekeeping operations. Peace operations from the beginning of this century, significantly expand their field of action concerning the classic peace operations, which were exhausted on the imposition or preservation of peace. Modern operations are characterized by a broader intervention, but also a deeper involvement of international actors in the affairs of the state and local communities on whose territory the peace operation is being conducted. In several places, the author very vividly explains the problems with the supply of drinking water, food, provision of medical services to the population, and the like.

Modern peacekeeping missions are increasingly focused, in addition to establishing and maintaining peace, on creating conditions for sustainable and lasting peace. Such peace is possible only if the conditions for a normal and prosperous life are established, which means helping the local community to establish stable institutions that will prevent the resumption of conflict, democratic elections, rebuilding destroyed infrastructure, establishing a health and education system, training local security forces and many other jobs that establish post-conflict stabilization of society.

A special problem of modern peacekeeping operations is the actors who need to provide their services to the population of crisis areas. The number of international organizations that appear as providers in modern conditions has increased significantly, but all these organizations are far from having the necessary capacity to respond to the demands of modern crises.

The author gives us a great analysis of the relations between the African Union, which had a strong political will to solve the problem on its own "African problems should be solved in the African way", but did not have the economic, political, diplomatic or military capacity to solve the Darfur problem. Some African leaders have refused to accept UN, EU, and NATO peacekeeping missions, despite the awareness that no problem in the relations between Sudan and the rebels in Darfur can be solved without the political, diplomatic, and financial support of the USA, EU, and UN. To illustrate this, the author states that the Sudanese authorities agreed to the negotiations solely because of the threat of sanctions imposed on them by the United States. In the end, a mission was launched under the auspices of the UN, with the dominant participation of the USA, EU, and NATO, as an organization that has sufficient capacities and capable personnel that can adequately manage the operation.

A special angle of observation, very important for understanding this type of operation, is the national angle, ie the perspective of a Hungarian officer as a participant in such a complex mission.

The author brilliantly analyzes all the problems of these types of missions in which a large number of different organizations participate. Coordination is a sore point of each of these missions, and finding answers to this type of problem will be key to the success of future peacekeeping missions, which will be increasingly complex, the problems they will solve but also the number of actors who will participate in them.

The book in front of us is indispensable material for anyone who wants to study modern peacekeeping missions. The author systematized the experiences he gained during his participation in the Mission, which made this book scientifically valuable and raised it above the memoir text.

In addition to the academic public, to whom this book is certainly valuable, large parts of the text can serve as a practical manual for training future participants in peacekeeping missions, which is a special value of the text before us,

The book by Janos Besenyo is great and important refreshment in the literature dealing with issues of international security and international relations.