



La Repubblica Democratica del Congo: conflitti e problematiche socio-territoriali
Francesco De Pascale, Luca Jourdan, Kalenge Nguvulu Chris (Eds.)

Addressing the geoethic challenge on environmental security in post-conflict areas: the case study of the Democratic Republic of Congo

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Abstract

This chapter seeks to analyze the causes of repeated armed conflicts in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), particularly in the southern and northern Kivu provinces where the Banyamulenge tribe and Rwanda have played a fundamental role. To achieve this goal, we examined the Belgian colonial immigration and land access policies and the various measures adopted by the Congolese government after independence (1960) for the recognition of the political and civil rights of the Banyamulenge, with the aim of understanding to what extent they represent the cause of armed conflicts in eastern Congo. The second part of the chapter analyzes the post-conflict environmental challenges of the Congo, taking into account some significant recommendations and geoethic guidelines. Indeed, armed conflicts, in addition to causing a human and economic catastrophe, also trigger ecological disasters. Congo is one of the richest countries in the world in terms of gold, diamonds and various minerals deposits, including Coltan, a mineral very important in the field of electronics, but also in terms of flora and fauna biodiversity. At the same time, it is also one of the most troubled and poor countries in the world. Consequently, in this chapter, we will examine how the decisive development of an environmental ethics should take into account both environmental protection (reduction of pollution, protection of natural resources for future generations, protection of biodiversity, etc.), and the protection of the rights of the poorest and most disadvantaged.

Keywords: Banyamulenge, conflicts, geoethics, sustainable development, Democratic Republic of Congo

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