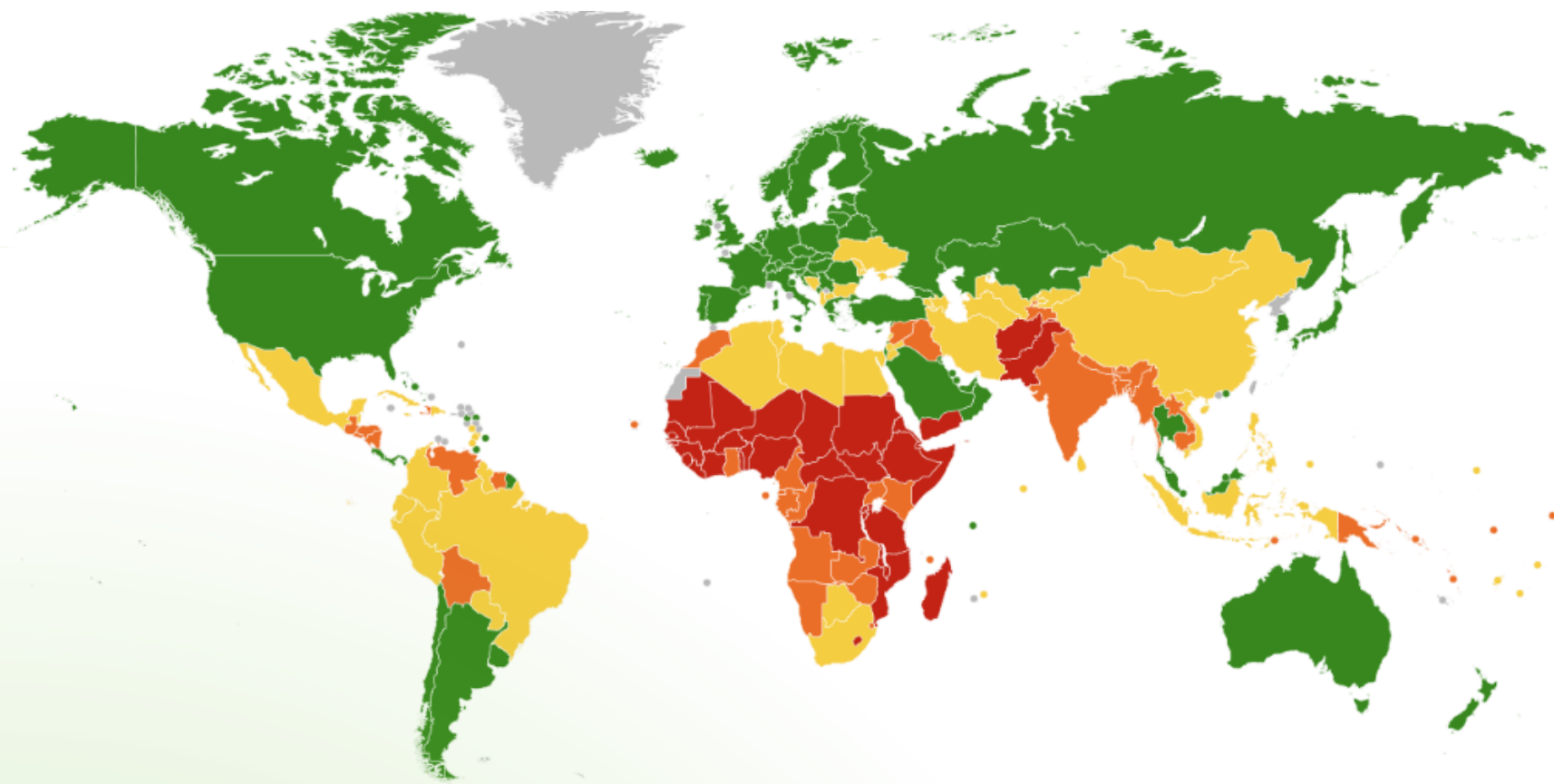


Comparative Politics & Development

THE SECURITY & DEVELOPMENT NEXUS



04/02/2026

Alicia Domitile
Maddalena Croci

The security-development nexus: how to bridge the gap between foreign/security policies and development policies (Giorgia Giovannetti)

Learning Stream: Navigating the Nexus (International Council of Voluntary Agencies)

WHAT IS THE SECURITY AND DEVELOPMENT NEXUS?

Meaning of the term “nexus”



Traditional vs modern concept of security



Human security ≠ state security

SECURITY AND DEVELOPMENT AS A LINKED AGENDA

“Development and security are **inextricably linked**. A more secure world is only possible if poor countries are given a real chance to develop. Extreme poverty and infectious diseases threaten many people directly, but they also provide a fertile breeding ground for other threats, including civil conflicts. **Wars kill development as well as people**. The poor therefore need security as much as they need clean water, schooling or affordable health”

(UN secretary-general Kofi Annan, UN 2004, vii)

MAIN APPROACHES,
KEY ASPECTS,
KEY ACTORS

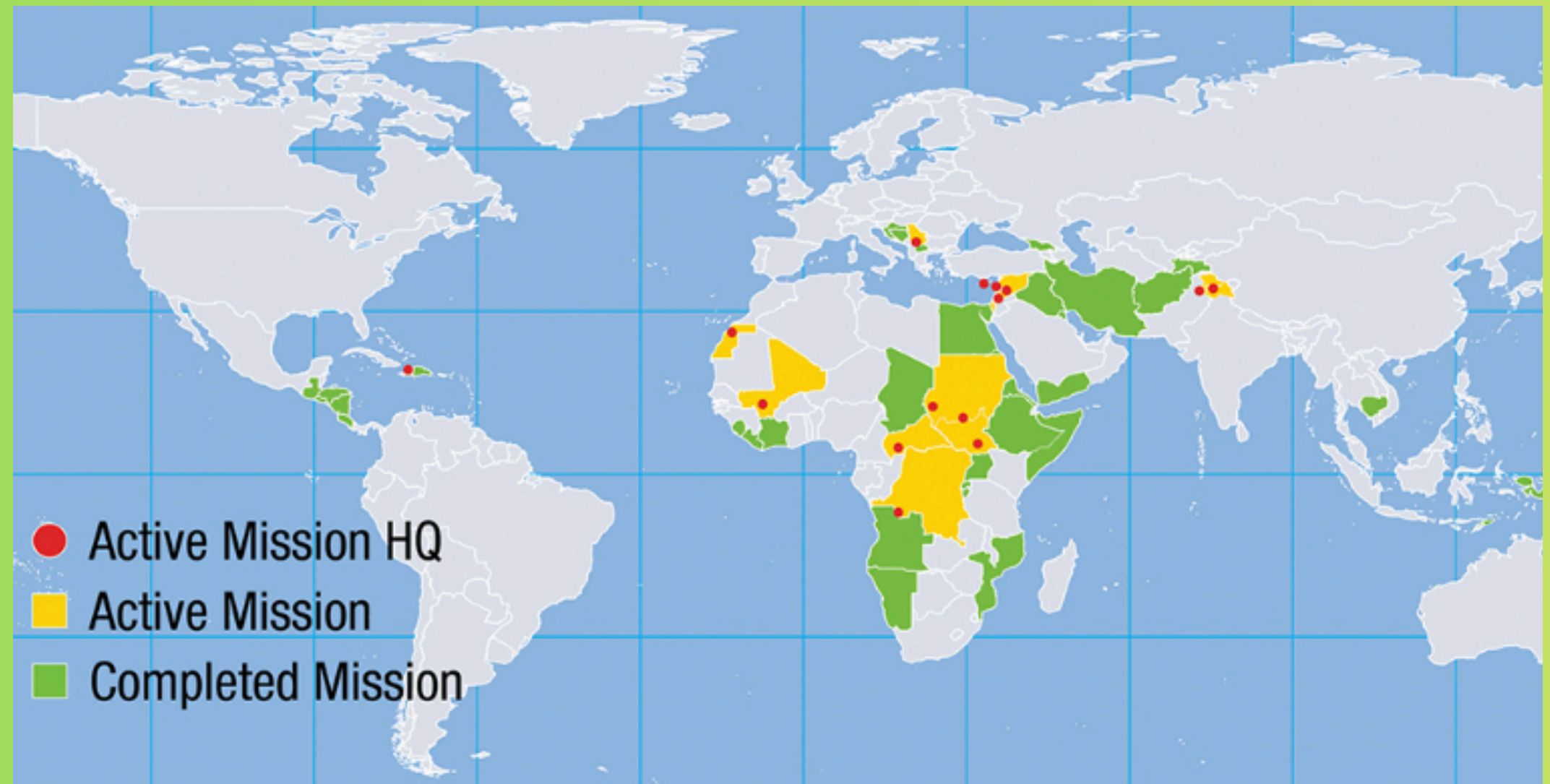
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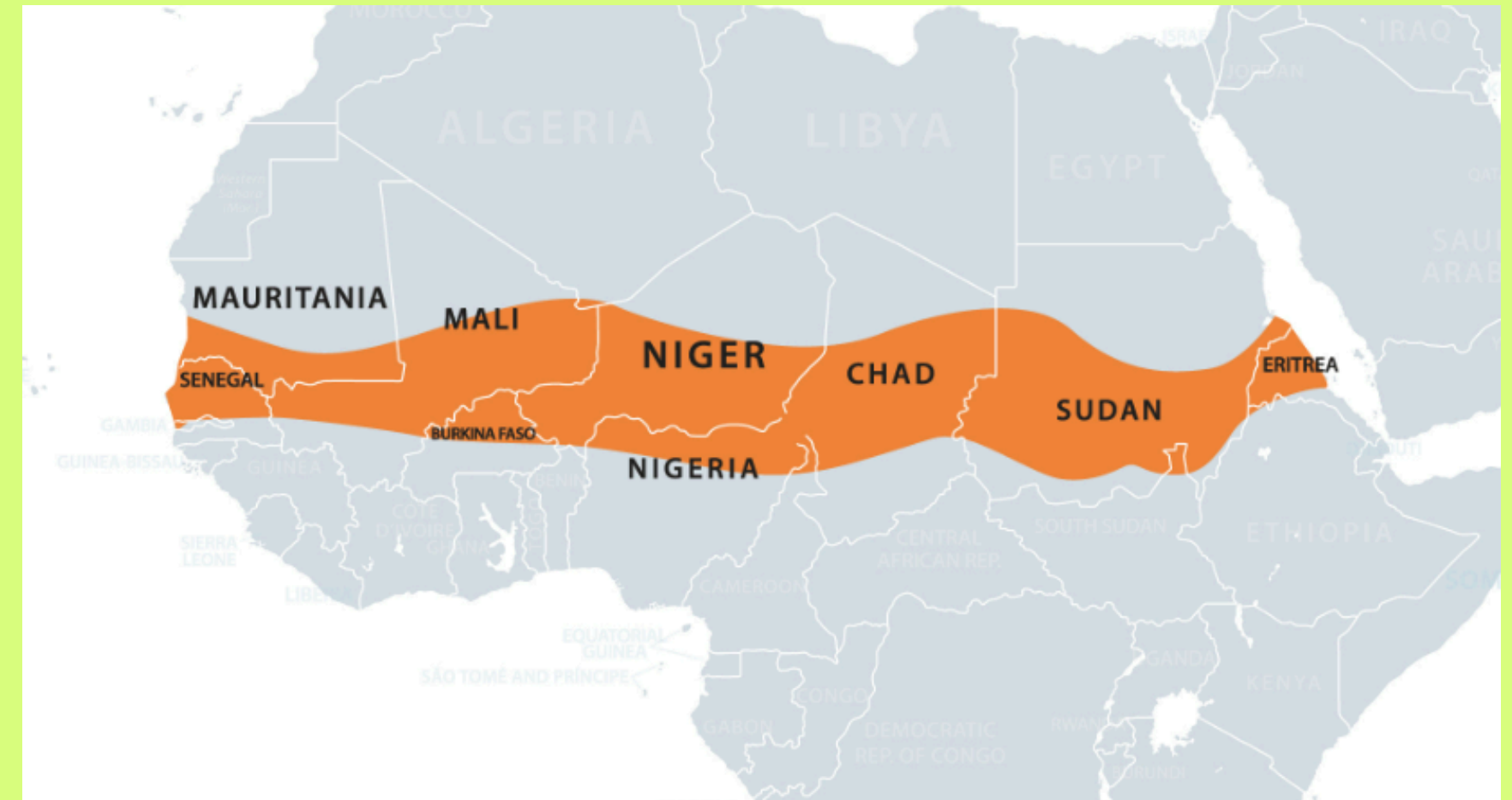
AFRICA AND THE S-D NEXUS

- Majority of UN peacekeeping operations
- Fragile states
- Ground for development strategies
- Internal conflicts

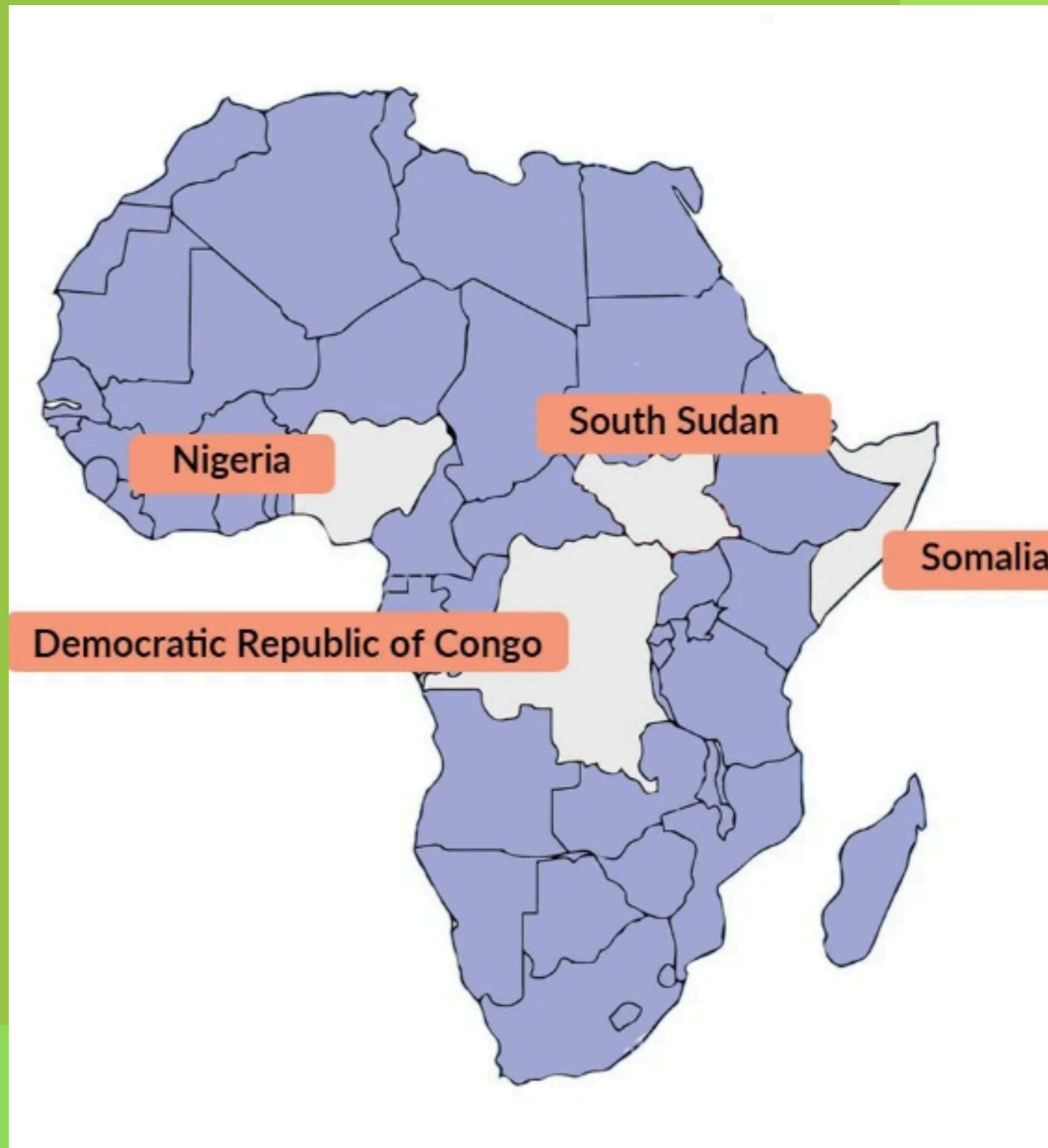


THE SAHEL REGION

- Strategic location and natural resources
- Migration control policies linked to security agendas
- Military coups
- Withdrawal of UN peacekeepers



DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO, SOUTH SUDAN AND SOMALIA



- Extreme underdevelopment
- Chronic state fragility
- Challenges of post-conflict state-building
- Rwanda  more successful example

CHALLENGES TO SECURITY AND DEVELOPMENT

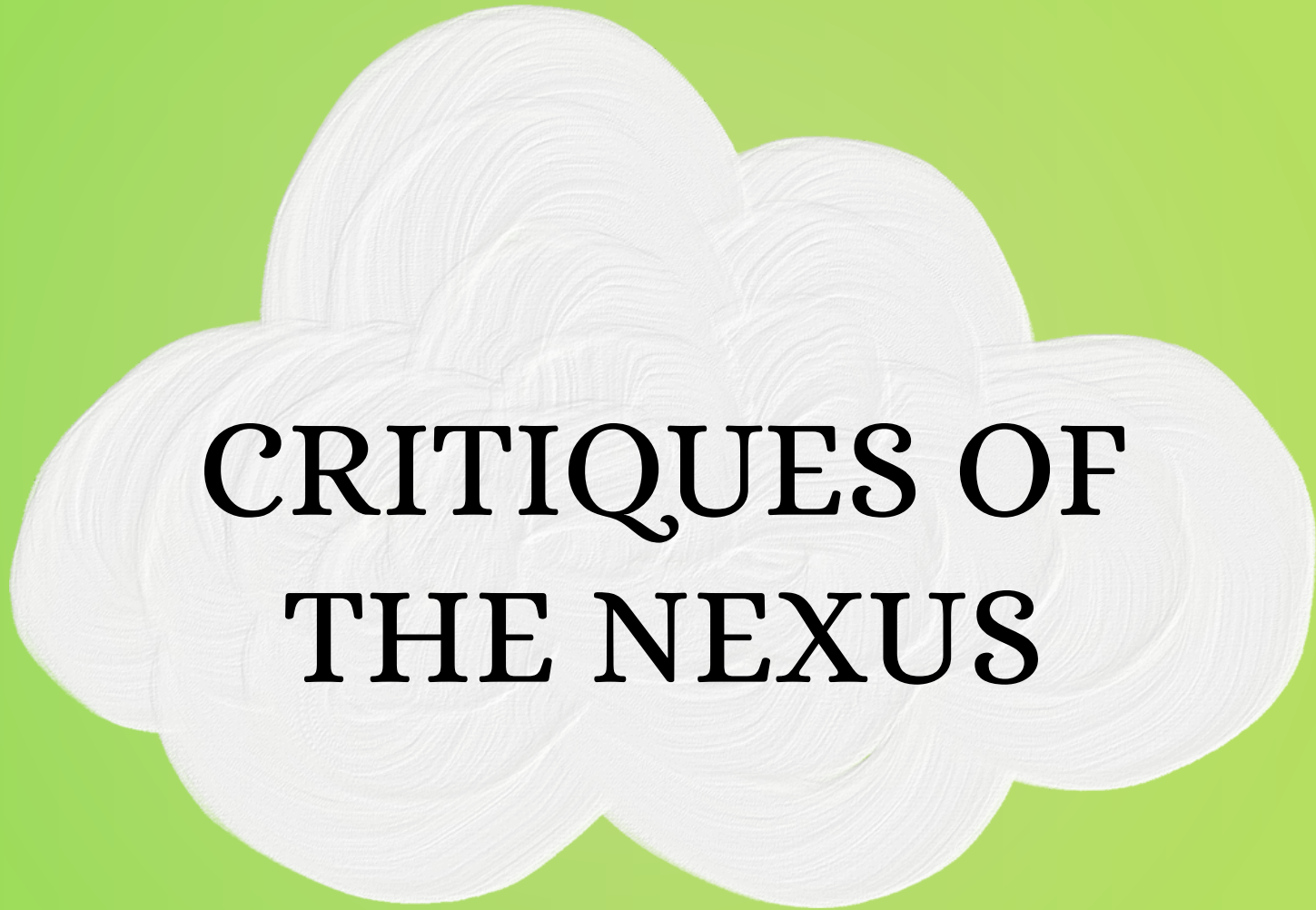
- The role of civil society
- The lack of common understanding
- Alignment of plans

- The difficulty of securing funding
- The protection of humanitarian space
- Disagreements, corruption, violence...

Securitizing
development

Militarization of Aid

Relevance?



CRITIQUES OF THE NEXUS

Security risk

Low income and conflict

THANK YOU FOR
LISTENING

LET'S DEBATE !