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## REVIEWER'S REPORT

Manuscript No.: IJAR-55452

**Title: Deconflicting Nigeria's Inter-agency Intelligence Rivalry: An Effective Measure to the Security Operations Against Armed Banditry and Kidnapping for Ransom in Northwest Nigeria.**

**Recommendation:**

Accept as it is .....  
Accept after minor revision.....  
Accept after major revision .....  
Do not accept (*Reasons below*) .....

Rating	Excel.	Good	Fair	Poor
Originality	✓			
Techn. Quality	✓			
Clarity	✓			
Significance	✓			

Reviewer Name: Abdul Hameed Shah

### Reviewer's Comment for Publication.

The manuscript examines a critical and policy-relevant security challenge in Nigeria—inter-agency intelligence rivalry—and its implications for countering armed banditry and kidnapping for ransom in the northwest region. The study is timely, contextually grounded, and contributes to both academic discourse and policy debates on intelligence coordination in complex security environments.

#### Strengths:

1. The topic is highly significant given the persistent security challenges in northwest Nigeria and the increasing need for effective inter-agency intelligence collaboration.
2. The study demonstrates strong engagement with national security policy documents, legal frameworks, and relevant scholarly literature.
3. The adoption of Organizational Culture and Identity Theory provides a suitable and coherent theoretical lens for explaining persistent inter-agency rivalry.
4. The qualitative methodology, including key informant interviews and document analysis, is appropriate for exploring institutional dynamics and perceptions.
5. The paper offers clear policy-oriented recommendations, particularly the call for an integrated and enforceable legal framework to compel intelligence coordination.

#### Areas for Improvement (Minor Revisions Suggested):

1. **Language and presentation:**
  - The manuscript contains frequent grammatical errors, typographical issues, and inconsistent spacing, which affect readability.
  - Sentence structure should be simplified in several sections to enhance clarity and flow.
2. **Conceptual clarity:**
  - Some key concepts (e.g., rivalry, coordination, collaboration) are repeatedly defined across sections; consolidation would reduce redundancy.

**REVIEWER'S REPORT****3. Methodological detail:**

- Greater clarity is needed on data analysis procedures, including how themes were derived and how interview data informed findings.
- Ethical approval and consent procedures could be summarized more concisely.

**4. Structure and focus:**

- Certain sections of the literature review and institutional description are overly detailed and could be streamlined to maintain focus on the research problem.
- The findings section could be more explicitly distinguished from background and descriptive content.

**5. Referencing consistency:**

- Ensure uniform citation style and consistency in referencing policy documents, reports, and web sources.

**Conclusion:**

The manuscript makes a valuable contribution to the study of intelligence coordination and security governance in Nigeria. With minor revisions addressing language clarity, structural coherence, and methodological transparency, the paper is suitable for publication.