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The Mirage of the State

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The Mirage of the State

Why the West has failed in Afghanistan, Iraq, Libya, Mali and Central African Republic

by Maxime H. A. Larivé*

The *state* still matters. However, the members of the Euro-Atlantic community may be misinterpreting this crucial baseline prior launching their military interventions since 2001. The latest violence and collapse of the state of Iraq after the invasion of Northern Iraq by a radical Sunni Muslim terrorist group, so-called Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS), demonstrate once again the centrality and requirement of a functioning state in order to maintain violent forces to disrupt domestic and regional stability. Since 2001, the US and its European allies have waged wars against failed-states in order to increase this security and national interests, and then have been involved in some type of state-building.¹ This has been the case in Afghanistan, Iraq, Libya, Mali, and Central African Republic (CAR).

France went into Mali (2012) and CAR (2013), which preceded two European Union military and civilian Common Security and Defense Policy missions (CSDP), in order to avoid the collapse of these two states. The threat of the collapse of both states was a concern for the members of the Euro-Atlantic community as it could have spread to the region and causing even greater instabilities. In Mali, the country was under radical Islamic pressures coming from the North after the collapse of Libya ensuing the 2011 Western intervention, while in CAR it was mainly an ethno-religious crisis. Failed states are a real concern, as they can rapidly become training grounds for radical groups and permitting all types of smuggling and trafficking.² In Mali, France wanted to protect its large French population and avoid the fall of Mali in the hands of radical Islamic groups directly or indirectly linked to Al-Qaeda. A fallen Mali could have destabilized the region of the Sahel and ultimately affected the stability of Southern European borders. France wanted to avoid the development of a safe haven across the Sahel where movements of people and goods are uncontrolled and illegal.³

Since the end of the Cold War, Western powers have been involved in stabilizing neighborhoods and regions, like the Balkans, Africa, and Middle East, which at the exceptions of the Balkans, have led to failed policies. 9/11 changes everything. The US, under President George

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¹ The author recognizes that the invasion of Iraq in 2003 was part of a broader neoconservative agenda seeking to develop a model of liberal democracy throughout the Middle East. Nevertheless, the crisis in Iraq remains connected to the argument of this article.

² For instance, after the departure of the Soviet Union from Afghanistan in 1989, Afghanistan became a training ground for terrorist networks until the Western intervention in 2001.

³ On August 1st, the French military intervention in Mali, Operation Serval, will end leading to the beginning of a broader regional French-led military mission, Operation Barkhane, throughout the Sahel region. The French will on August 1st, 2014 launch a region-wide counterterrorist military mission with five African countries – Chad, Mali, Burkina Faso, Niger, Mauritania –. Such mission brings the fight against terrorism to another level, regional.

W. Bush, started to wage war against terrorism and all states link to it. This started a period of continuous Western interventions in this post-9/11 era in Afghanistan, Iraq, Libya, Mali and CAR. If history has demonstrated one thing, the members of the Euro-Atlantic community are struggling and will continue to struggle to stabilize Afghanistan, Iraq, Libya, Mali and Central African Republic (CAR) for one simple reason: no clear endgame. Is it the creation of a state *à la Westphalian* in order to permit these states to operate as the sole guarantor of security? Or is the reestablishment of *status quo* in these countries permitting to exit and end Western operations?

This article seeks to analyze Western interventions in these five countries in order to reflect on the concept of the state and the erroneous starting point for each intervention.⁴ In the first part, the political status of each country is analyzed in order to understand the internal and regional crisis. In a second time, the concept of the state, framed into the Buzanian trinity, is discussed and applied to the cases. In the last part the European and American civilian-military doctrines are examined in accordance with their latest military interventions and in their broader spectrum.

The Mirage of the State

Mali and Central African Republic (CAR) are in the continuity of Afghanistan, Iraq, and Libya. The members of the Euro-Atlantic community – Western European powerhouses and the United States (US) – have been committing the same error every time they have launched a military intervention since the end of the Cold War. Their decision is directly embedded into one wrong assumption: the state as the primary holder of power. The policy-makers and leaders of the Euro-Atlantic community assume that each military intervention is taking place in state similar to a western model. This mirage of the state has led Western powers into unwinnable battles. Afghanistan, Libya, Iraq, Somalia, Mali and CAR were and are all failed-states. Some were holding under the authority of an authoritarian regime like in Iraq, Libya and Syria organized around a father figure. Nevertheless, their networks of institutions are either ineffective or inefficient, their governments do not have legitimate control of power, corruption is rampant, and flagless tribes are ruling part of the land. In each case, states are unable to control their borders, do not have legitimacy, and are not the primary holder of power. The porousness of the borders in Afghanistan, Libya, Iraq,⁵ Mali and CAR is a real challenge when fighting non-state actors and/or rebuilding a state.

For instance, the movements of people and goods between Pakistan and Afghanistan have made the fight in Afghanistan unwinnable at least in the short-term. Experts understand that without the stabilization of Pakistan the reconstruction of Afghanistan will not be possible.⁶ In Libya, heavily armed non-state actors have simply flown through the Libyan borders into the desert of the Sahel during the NATO mission in the spring of 2011. Now in Mali with the fast and so far successful French military offensive, radical Islamic fighters are retrieving into the desert in Northern Mali, Mauritania, and Algeria. However, this quick advance of the French army is not

⁴ The author recognizes some serious limitation in the argument considering the lack of data. However, the principal purpose of the article consists in asking a N-question rather than a n-question.

⁵ The current rise of the ISIS in Iraq is a clear demonstration of the porousness of Iraqi and Syrian borders.

⁶ Riecke, H., Francke, K. (eds). 2013. *Partners for Stability: Involving Neighbors in Afghanistan's Reconstruction: Transatlantic Approaches*. Baden-Baden: Nomos.

synonymous of victory.⁷ Experts have argued that Islamic fighters have in fact learned the lessons of Afghanistan in 2001. Instead of fighting a superior military power, retrieving is a far better strategy at first in order to protect human and military capital, and then launch an insurgency-type offensive against the occupying force. This scenario is very much in the minds of French military leadership as it could lead to the bog down of the French army in Mali. In August, the French mission in Mali, Operation Serval, will end and give the buck to another French-led mission, Operation Barkhane, in charge of fighting terrorism throughout the Sahel region. The risks of an endless war are high, the same way they have been the case in Iraq and Afghanistan. Counter-insurgency wars and counterterrorist mission are difficult to win and may lead to lengthy and costly military occupations. Iraq and Afghanistan are the prime examples.⁸ Western forces have already been involved in Afghanistan for over a decade. As demonstrated by Stiglitz,⁹ the costs of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan are above three trillion dollars affecting the stability of the American economy especially during crisis times. France does not have the military and intelligence capabilities required for a lengthy counter-insurgency war and it does not possess the domestic economic engine needed to sponsor a decade-long war.¹⁰ Table 1 exposes the situation in six countries – Afghanistan, Iraq, Syria, Libya, Mali and CAR – and looks at the different types of Western interventions.

⁷ See Heisbourg, F. 2013. A Surprising Little War: First Lessons of Mali. *Survival* 55(2): 7-18; Merchet, J-D. 2013. Au Mali la Blitzkrieg de l'Armée Française, *Marianne*. 28 January; The Economist. 2014. The war is far from over; Mali and the Sahel. 31 May: 39-40; The Economist. 2014. François Hollande's African adventures. July 19th.

⁸ Rosenau, W. 2009. Counterinsurgency: lessons from Iraq and Afghanistan. *Harvard International Review* 31(1): 52

⁹ Stiglitz, J. 2008. *The Three Trillion Dollar War: The True Cost of the Iraq Conflict*. New York: W.W. Norton & Company.

¹⁰ Larivé, M. 2013. France in War: Operation Serval. *Foreign Policy Association's Blogs*. January 16. Available on <http://foreignpolicyblogs.com/2013/01/16/france-in-war-operation-serval/> [Accessed on July 20th 2014].

Table 1: Euro-Atlantic interventions in the post-9/11 world order

Countries ¹¹	Afghanistan	Iraq	Syria	Libya	Mali	CAR
Year of invasion	2001	2003	None	19 March 2011	11 January 2013	2013
Western forces	US, most European nations and NATO	US and Coalition of the Willing	US and France	France-led, US, Britain	France	France
Transatlantic solidarity	Yes, used of Article 5 of Transatlantic Charter	No, only coalition of the willing	No for strategic and domestic reasons	Yes	Yes	Yes
Causes for intervention	Terrorism + failed state led by the Taliban	Manufactured causes (Weapons of Mass destruction)	Chemical warfare against civilian	Arab Spring + violence orchestrated by the Qaddafi regime against opposition	Stopping the rise of AQIM + rise of Islamic radicalization + spread of violence with the fall of the Qaddafi regime	Political tensions + risk of spillover to the region + ethno-religious warfare
Type of intervention	Military	Military	None	Military	Military	Military
End of intervention	Scheduled for 2014	Ended in 2011	None	31 October 2011	August 1 st , 2014	Ongoing
Length of intervention	Ongoing	9 years	No intervention	7 months	1 year and half	Ongoing
CSDP Missions¹²	Civilian CSDP mission: EUPOL-A, training ANP	Civilian CSDP mission: EUJUST LEX-Iraq	None	Civilian CSDP mission: EUBAM in Libya	EUTM in Mali	Military CSDP mission EUFOR Bangui
Status of the State	Failed state run by Talibans	Authoritarian regime led by Saddam Hussein	Authoritarian regime led by Al-Assad	Authoritarian regime led by Qaddafi	Failed state	Failed state

¹¹ For further information on the six countries selected, refer to the work produced by the Council on Foreign Relations: on Afghanistan, refer to the work produced by the Council on Foreign relations at <http://www.cfr.org/region/afghanistan/ri218> [Accessed on 8 July 2014]; on Iraq, refer to the work produced by the Council on Foreign relations at <http://www.cfr.org/region/iraq/ri358> [Accessed on 8 July 2014]; on Syria, refer to the work produced by the Council on Foreign relations at <http://www.cfr.org/region/syria/ri370> [Accessed on 8 July 2014]; on Libya, refer to the work produced by the Council on Foreign relations at <http://www.cfr.org/region/libya/ri363> [Accessed on 8 July 2014]; on Mali, refer to the work produced by the Council on Foreign relations at <http://www.cfr.org/region/mali/ri196> [Accessed on 8 July 2014]; on CAR <http://www.cfr.org/region/central-african-republic/ri176> [Accessed on 8 July 2014]

¹² For further information on the CSDP missions deployed in the following countries refer to the EEAS' website: on EUPOL-A at http://eeas.europa.eu/csdp/missions-and-operations/eupol-afghanistan/index_en.htm [Accessed on 8 July 2014]; on EUBAM Libya at http://eeas.europa.eu/csdp/missions-and-operations/eubam-libya/index_en.htm [Accessed on 8 July 2014]; on EUJUST LEX-Iraq at http://eeas.europa.eu/csdp/missions-and-operations/eujust-lex-iraq/index_en.htm [Accessed on 8 July 2014]; on EUBAM in Libya at http://eeas.europa.eu/csdp/missions-and-operations/eubam-libya/index_en.htm [Accessed on 8 July 2014]; on EUTM in Mali at http://eeas.europa.eu/csdp/missions-and-operations/eutm-mali/index_en.htm [Accessed on 8 July 2014]; EUFOR Bangui at http://eeas.europa.eu/csdp/missions-and-operations/eufor-rca/index_en.htm [Accessed on 8 July 2014].

Success of the mission	No, weak Afghan state + difficult elections + instabilities	No, rise of the ISIS taking over Iraq + regime under Maliki	Ongoing violence from the Al-Assad regime against Syrian oppositions	Ongoing violence and instabilities	Unclear – launch of Operation Barkhane throughout the Sahel	Unclear due to ongoing military operation
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The Buzanian Trinity

Reflecting over the Western interventions in the post-9/11 era and the Western attempts in state-building, one shall closely analyzed the concept of the state. Such concept entails a very large body of literature.¹³ One of the most important contributions to the study of such question is the Weberian approach to the state, which can be defined as an entity capable of monopolizing violence and exercising control over the entirety of its national territory.¹⁴ The Weberian approach consists in looking at the basic foundation of the state. In the terms of Bourdieu, “the state is the culmination of a process of concentration of different kinds of capital: [...] coercive capital (army, police), economic capital, cultural or informational capital, and symbolic capital. This concentration, as such, gives the state a sort of meta-capital, which gives it power over the other kinds of capital and their holders.”¹⁵ Based on sociological approach of Bourdieu, the state is a materialization of an ensemble of capitals making it a superior entity above the other power holders.

In the continuity of these explanations conceptualizing the state, Barry Buzan, one of the leading scholars in the field of international security, wrote “sovereignty provides the crucial element dividing states from all other social units. It is the glue that binds the territorial-polity-society package together.”¹⁶ Unfortunately such trinity does not exist either in Mali, Libya, Iraq, Afghanistan, Somalia or even CAR. Western military planning and strategies usually take this trinity for granted prior military interventions, which has led them numerous military failures. In the case of the members of the Euro-Atlantic community, how long did it take in Europe and the US to develop their own territorial-polity-society package? And was it forced by any external powers? Certainly the world in the 18th century was not as globalized and intertwined as today, nevertheless it took them centuries in order to materialize itself into their current nature and shape.

Certainly these questions should not be asked by military strategists, but should be in the mind of foreign policy makers when thinking about going to war and ending it. The concept of state and sovereignty may be the most mentioned and cherished concepts by most heads of state or governments and diplomats,¹⁷ but it actually means something different every time due to divergences of political system, culture, and history.

¹³ Tilly, C. 1992. *Coercion, Capital, and European States: AD 990-1992*. New York: Wiley-Blackwell; Scott, J. C. 1999. *Seeing Like a State: How Certain Schemes to Improve the Human Condition Failed*. New Haven and London: Yale University Press.

¹⁴ Weber, M. 1946. Politics as a Vocation, in H.H. Gerth and C. Wright Mills, eds. *From Max Weber: Essays in Sociology*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

¹⁵ Bourdieu, P. (ed). 1994. *Raison pratiques: Sur la théorie de l'action*. Paris: Le Seuil, 109

¹⁶ Buzan, B. 1991. *People, States and Fear. An Agenda for International Security Studies in the Post-Cold War Era*. Colorado: Lynne Rienner Publishers, 67.

¹⁷ Such statement is based on my observations during my work as political expert at the EU Delegation to the United Nations and supervising the UN Security Council.

France is committing the exact mistakes made by the US in 2001 and 2003 and the one made by the West in 2011 as it has underestimated the context and structure of problem: the state. The Malian state cannot be compared to developed states such as France, Britain or even the United States. For instance, in Libya, Iraq and Afghanistan there is no national identity, cohesive population, and solid institutions. Since the fall of Qaddafi in 2011, Libya has been in free fall, becoming a new bastion of radical Islamic groups and transnational criminal groups. In Afghanistan, despite having a President, powerful tribes like the Pashtun are controlling large geographical areas as well as claiming the allegiance of Afghans by providing them with traditionally state sanctioned public goods such as security and assistance. For instance, Maj. Jim Gant of the Army's Special Forces describes the landscape of Afghanistan demonstrating the challenges that Western powers are facing when doing nation-building,

“[Afghanistan is] constituted of tribes. Not individuals, not Western-style citizens—but tribes and tribesmen... Tribes understand protection. Tribes are organized and run to ensure the security of the tribe. Not only physical security, but revenue and land protection. But most important of all is preservation of the tribal name and reputation.... When honor is at stake, tribal members stop at nothing to preserve their tribe's integrity and “face.” [T]ribes understand power. How many guns do we have? How many warriors can I put in the field? Can I protect my tribe? Can I attack others who threaten my tribe? Can I back my words or decisions up with the ability to come down the valley and kill you? Can I keep you from killing me? Lastly, tribes understand projection. Tribes have no ‘strategic goals’ in the Western sense. Their diplomatic, informational, military and economic priorities are almost without exception in reference to other tribes.”¹⁸

In Mali, France is now dealing with secular *tuareg* filling the power vacuum taking place in the country since the departure of the Islamists pushed away by the French army.¹⁹ The power vacuum occurring in Mali has occurred equally in Iraq, Afghanistan and Libya. It can only be filled with several aspects: domestically, with the development of a stronger polity and a national identity; regionally, with the control of borders by neighboring countries; and internationally, with the support of international institutions and foreign aid by outside powers.

A Shift in American and European Doctrines?

So far France is repeating exactly the same mistakes made by the US in 2003 in Iraq. After the take over of Timbuktu on January 29, 2013, French President, François Hollande, declared “we [France and Mali] are in the process of winning the battle” followed by the declaration of the Defense minister of France, Jean-Yves Le Drian, “the mission is fulfilled.” This early triumphalism looks too much like the 2003 Mission Accomplished speech by former US President George W. Bush on the aircraft carrier USS Abraham Lincoln soon after the fall of the Saddam

¹⁸ In Khalili, L. 2010. The New (and Old) Classics of Counterinsurgency. *Middle East Report* (255) <http://www.merip.org/mer/mer255/khalili.html>

¹⁹ Lecocq, B., Klute, G. 2013. Tuareg separatism in Mali. *International Journal* 68(3)

Hussein's regime in Iraq. These American and French triumphalism only serve three purposes: please the public opinion at home; boost the short-term poll ratings of the president; and remind the world of their status of imperial powers. Any experts would argue that the war in Mali is far from being won. In recent months, the French government has been working on the creation and establishment of a 3,000-strong counterterrorism force in the Sahel region under the name of Operation Barkhane starting in August 2014. Such operation, with its headquarter in N'Djamena, Chad, and its forces present in Burkina Faso, Mali, Mauritania and Niger, demonstrates the long-term involvement of France in the Sahel region.²⁰

In Mali, despite strong support to the French mission, President Obama has been extremely reticent in intervening alongside the French army for several reasons. Aside from Mali not being a direct matter of national interest, the Obama administration understands these challenges and difficulties to solve these security problems without creating a regional power vacuum. For these reasons, the US has been reticent to intervene in Mali and arm the Syrian oppositions to the Al-Assad regime. Furthermore the death of US ambassador in Libya Christopher Stevens caused severe criticism against the Obama administration and its intervention in Libya. The Obama doctrine does not include ground military offensive in order to protect a territory or polity. The US is now committed to short-term military actions in localized area with a very precise strategic goal. It appears that under the Obama administration, the US has understood its limited success and the difficulty to succeed in state-building type of mission and the financial and human commitments to such endgame have become too great. The failures in Iraq and Afghanistan have indeed demonstrated the difficulty of the task of state-building.

When it comes to the role of the European Union (EU) as global security actor, direct military intervention has never been part of the role of the EU and the Common Security and Defense Policy (CSDP). The CSDP is not a European army, and usually intervene later on in the process. In Iraq, Afghanistan, Libya nor Mali the EU has sent some military and police trainers.²¹ In the case of Mali, its latest Common Security and Defense Policy (CSDP) mission, EUTM Mali, was not at first the appropriate one, but may be more valuable with the launch of French-led operation Barkhane. The EU mission in Mali demonstrates the desire of European capitals to continue the European defense experiment.

As it was the case in Afghanistan with the EUPOL-A – a civilian mission in charge of training the Afghan National Police (ANP) –, and now Mali with the EUTM Mali – a training mission of the Malian security forces –, how can the EU push for the reform and construction of the security forces – police and army – when there are not standing and legitimate institutions? In the case of CAR, the EU was behind schedule on the deployment of a military mission, EUFOR CAR in Bangui.²² The EUFOR mandate is limited with a goal to protect local population in the

²⁰ The Economist. 2014. François Hollande's African adventures. July 19th; AllAfrica. 2014. Operation Barkhane Increases French Influence in the Sahel. July 22nd;

²¹ One should underscore that the EU did deploy with serious delay a military CSDP operation in CAR. Nevertheless, it is a small military force confined to the protection of Bangui and the airport.

²² The deployment of EUFOR CAR in Bangui was delayed due to difficulty to materialize the commitment of the 28 Member States in terms of equipment and human contributions. EUFOR CAR has a 6-months mandate composed of police and military forces. For more information, see: Larivé, M. The EU at War: CAR Mission Highlights Internal Tensions. *The National Interest*. February 5. Online at: <http://nationalinterest.org/commentary/the-eu-war-car-mission-highlights-internal-tensions-9819> [Accessed on July 22, 2014]

capital, Bangui, in the middle of an ethno-religious warfare. EUFOR complements the French and African Union troops already on the ground in avoiding an eventual genocide.²³

In Afghanistan, the challenges are too great and the EUPOL-A cannot succeed in its original mission embedded in the concept of security sector reform.²⁴ Furthermore, as demonstrated in the 2013 ECFR report, the EU's least successful policy in 2012 was the Security Sector Reform.²⁵ The EUPOL-A has the complex mission, with limited human, financial, security capabilities and low political commitment by European capital, to build the next Afghan National Police (ANP). Not only the EU faces a strategic challenge with the US as both actors have different visions for the role and future of ANP; Europe foreseeing a civilian police force, whereas the US sees it as a counter-insurgency police force. But the development of a police force is difficultly feasible without legitimate institutions, a national identity, and a national narrative. This is the challenge of Afghanistan, and will be the same in Mali. Interestingly, in European capitals, there is a sense that civilian missions are less risky and more achievable than military ones. It may be true in the short-term, but in the long-run civilian missions have proven costly and of limited success as it has been the case in Afghanistan.

How to Solve the Mirage of the State?

Chuck Hagel, the US Secretary of Defense, claimed in August 2011 when discussing the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan: "We've got to get out of those wars. Let the people [local populations] decide what they want. If they don't want what we wanted for them, or if they certainly don't want what we wanted for them as much as we want it, then we can't control that."²⁶ This point is central for the West as the endgame is ultimately the construction of a viable Afghan state and for the ones in Iraq, Libya and Mali. But here are the real questions: Is it the desire of local populations? Do Afghans want a state modeled onto a Westphalian format? Can democracy and secularism be implemented, adapted to local cultures, and more importantly accepted? The lack of national identity in Afghanistan and other countries as well as the limited allegiance to a centralized source of power are the challenges to success rate of Euro-Atlantic missions.

What are the solutions? First, if Euro-Atlantic citizens are keen in going to war they must as well accept the length of military interventions. As demonstrated by the lengthy occupations of Iraq and Afghanistan, failure to stabilize Libya, and now the Malian operation, American and European citizens may be in favor for short-term wars, but not favorable for lengthy state-building operations. The Western attempts to develop states *à la Westphalian* all around North Africa, the Middle East and Central Asia have proven to be too lengthy and costly. Western public opinions need to accept the cost-benefit of such operations.

²³ The French troops are of 2000 soldiers as part of the military Operation Sangaris, while the African Union counts 6000 troops.

²⁴ For more information on the concept of the SSR and its implementation by the EU, see: Dursun-Ozkanca, O. (ed.) 2014. *The European Union as an Actor in Security Sector Reform. Current Practices and Challenges of Implementation*. London & New York: Routledge.

²⁵ Vaïsse, J. and Dennison S. 2013. European Foreign Policy Scorecard 2013. *European Council on Foreign Relations*. January

²⁶ Financial Times. 2011. FT Interview with Chuck Hagel. August 29.

Second, international platforms like the United Nations will need to be used more as a place of discussion and interaction between Western powers and other countries rather than just being a source of legitimacy for Western interventions. Not only the culture of legitimacy needs to be changed, but the United Nations ought to be strengthened. One way to strengthen international organizations is through empowering them by increasing their funding, protecting their legitimacy, and assisting UN efforts on the ground. How can the UN be a respected international organization when domestically a large segment of American politicians is discrediting it? The UN is one of the few institutions that can be involved in actual nation-building and institution-building if properly funded and supported by Western and non-Western powers.

Third, the members of the Euro-Atlantic community must change their understanding of world politics and adjust their visions of the world before going to war; otherwise it could be a very long 21st century. Twentieth century imperialism is not a sustainable model. Can the West continue to wage war across the globe against non-state actors, such as Al-Qaeda and other radical Islamic groups affiliated to Al-Qaeda threatening to bomb Western homelands? The most recent French initiative, Operation Barkhane in charge of fighting terrorism in the Sahel region from the Atlantic Ocean to the Horn of Africa, can become a quicksand for the French. For some reason, Western powers seem persuaded that they can go after terrorist networks in vast region.

The European definitions of sovereignty and state, which are at the base of international law, need to be rethought. Many states around the world are unable to enforce security in all legitimacy without hurting their populations. The cases of Libya, Iraq, Afghanistan and Mali may diverge in the original purpose of the military mission,²⁷ but they should be compared and studied altogether. Crises in these countries are directly linked to the previous European colonial heritage. The experiment of the construction of states *à la Westphalian* in the European sense of the term seems to have failed as demonstrated since the end of the Cold War. The trinity of territorial-polity-society cannot be enforced by outside powers. “Rebuilding (or more often, simply building) a Western-style state – the only kind we can reasonably claim to know how to create – is a formidable and perhaps insurmountable challenge.”²⁸ This is the lesson of the 20th century; now the 21st century should be about learning the lesson.

²⁷ Refer to Table 1

²⁸ Rosenau, W. 2009. Counterinsurgency: lessons from Iraq and Afghanistan. *Harvard International Review* 31(1): 52