



**THE ROLE OF THE INTERNATIONAL MEDIATORS IN THE YEMENI
CONFLICT: BRIDGING OR REINFORCING THE DIVISION**

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STATEMENT OF AUTHENTICITY

The author intends to acknowledge that, and to his knowledge and belief, all the information provided within this thesis is original and it does not contain material previously published or written by another person except where due reference is made by correct citation. This includes any thoughts taken over directly or indirectly from printed books and articles as well as all kinds of online material.

Semarang, 16/06/2024



Abdulkhaleq Ali Ahmed Al-Rawafi

MOTTO

(وَإِذْ تَأَذَّنَ رَبُّكُمْ لَئِن شَكَرْتُمْ لَأَزِيدَنَّكُمْ وَلَئِن كَفَرْتُمْ إِنَّ عَذَابِي لَشَدِيدٌ)

And 'remember' when your Lord proclaimed, 'If you are grateful, I will certainly give you more. But if you are ungrateful, surely My punishment is severe.'"

ABSTRACT

Interactable conflict requires a comprehensive resolution facilitated by professional mediators. The focus of this study is of two-fold, namely (1) the role of the international mediators in the Yemeni conflict, and (2) the reasons behind the persistence failure of the mediators' strategies. The study utilizes the descriptive qualitative approach and a purposive sampling to collect and analyze data concerning the Yemeni conflict. The data are official documents; agreements, reports, resolutions, statements, and online sources chosen to be in line with the purpose of the study. The findings showed that the International Mediators; the United Nations and the Sultanate of Oman, play a significant role in mediating the Yemeni conflict in different ways. The United Nations, through its envoys, did not fully utilized the 'ripen' strategy to understand the conflict culture, that are the roots and causes of the conflict. On the contrary, the United Nations' mediators utilized more bureaucratic strategies. Another factor that made the Yemeni conflict more interactable and a hard task for the United Nations, is the international intervention of Saudi Arabia and Iran as two proxy wars (practicing ideological and power hegemony) who they might determine the beginning and ending of the conflict. In addition, the UN's Special Envoys lack of dealing with pre-conditions – the demands of the warring parties, and the unwillingness to implement the outcomes of the agreements as a whole were among the reasons behind the failure of the Envoys efforts to reconcile the Yemeni conflict. The sultanate of Oman plays a crucial role by utilizing different roles (bridge-communicator, facilitator, and consultant) and strategies (being a neutral and (im)partial) in mediating the Yemeni conflict. The study concludes that utilizing these roles and strategies without an international support (e.g., the US, UK, and EU) does not yield a conflict reconciliation due to the proxy and ideological war between the Saudi Sunni and the Iran Shi'a and this enhanced the division between the warring parties and paving the way for some parties leverage their interests.

Keywords: international actors, mediation, negotiation, Yemen-interactable conflict

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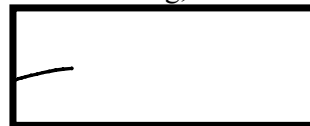
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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

CM	Conflict Management
HIC	High Intensity Conflict
LIC	Low Intensity Conflict
CR	Conflict Resolution
RYG	Republic of Yemen Government
STC	Southern Transitional Council
UN	United Nations
EU	European Union
US	United States
GCC	Gulf Cooperation Council
NDC	National Dialogue Conference
YSP	Yemeni Socialist Party
PDRY	People's Democratic Republic of Yemen
GPC	General People Congress
JMP	Joint Meeting Parties
MBS	Muhammed Bin Salaman
IRGC	Iranian Islamic Revolution Guards Corps
PNPA	Peace and National Partnership Agreement
OAU	Organization of African Union