COMMERCIALIZING COSMOPOLITAN SECURITY

Safeguarding the Responsibility to Protect

ANDREAS KRIEG



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Commercializing Cosmopolitan Security

To my lovely wife Zohal

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PREFACE

I commenced the research for this book amid the Arab Spring, when states and societies just outside Europe were plunging into chaos and anarchy. The resulting humanitarian crises—most notably those in Libya and Syria—received different responses from the international community: while in Libya the international community was ready to protect civilians at the 1,000-mark, five years into the conflict in Syria little has been done to alleviate the human suffering with hundreds of thousands killed and millions displaced. In my previous research I addressed the question of what motivates states to conduct humanitarian interventions, suggesting that, albeit a mix of altruistic and self-interested considerations, ultimately the decision of intervening or abstaining is a sober cost-benefit analysis.¹ The resulting inconsistency with which the international community commits to the responsibility to protect (R2P) begs the question of how to increase the states' political will to provide for human security overseas effectively and ethically.

This is where this book begins—with the realization that although states widely acknowledge the norm of the R2P they often lack the political will to act to protect, as Wheeler once put it, strangers in need.² States either completely abstain from preventing, reacting and rebuilding or act half-heartedly, generating questionable outcomes. The main reason, particularly for the liberal state, relates to the social contractarian nature of civil—military relations: the liberal state is asked to potentially put its soldier into harm's way to provide security for individuals who are not part of the fiduciary association bringing the state into existence. Hence, the will of liberal states to act on their responsibility to protect is constrained

by the political costs of potentially having to expose the soldier to the operational risks of military intervention for the mere benefit of strangers overseas.

It was this realization that inspired the idea of finding an alternative cosmopolitan security provider to the soldier—an alternative with a similar skill set but without any social contractarian bond to any particular society and state. The private contractor as a commercial provider of security appeared to tick the boxes. As a volunteer employed by a private military company to provide security primarily in exchange for financial remuneration, the contractor might offer the liberal state a means to protect civilians in need overseas at relatively low political costs.

Combining two timely topics, namely the future of the responsibility to protect and the commercialization of security, I arrived at an interesting normative question, which was to lie at the heart of this research: should the contractor become the liberal state's cosmopolitan agent to provide human security as a global good to strangers in need?

Inherently then, the ambition of this book is theoretical and normative in nature. Nonetheless, the conceptual understanding of the contractor's potential role as a liberal state's force multiplier in humanitarian intervention, has been based on extensive novel empirical research aiming at understanding how private military companies and private security companies employ the contractor in various security functions.

Notes

- 1. Krieg, A. (2012). Motivations for Humanitarian Intervention-Theoretical and Empirical Considerations. New York: Springer.
- 2. Wheeler, N. (2002). Saving Strangers: Humanitarian Intervention in International Society. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

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I thank the various industry, military and government representatives who have provided me with invaluable empirical data that was essential in the writing of this book. In particular, I am grateful to Jim Hooper, Pine Pinaar, Juba Joubart, Cobus Claassens and Michael Grunberg, who have taken time out of their busy schedules to sit down with me for extensive periods to discuss Executive Outcomes' operations in both Angola and Sierra Leone. In addition, I would like to thank all the representatives of the private military and security industry based in London who have been available for advice throughout my research. Despite their own commitments, they responded to enquires quickly and provided me and the entire Private Military and Security Research Group at King's with invaluable access to their companies' operations and employees. Chris Sanderson, who from early on in my research was eager to ensure that my work had the required empirical input, deserves special mention.

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Further, it is important to highlight here the military and academic colleagues as well as students at the UK Defence Academy who, through their insights, have enriched my understanding of strategic and operational decision-making within conventional militaries. I also want to say thank you to my family and friends who helped to maintain my sanity throughout the sometimes tiring work of both writing a doctoral dissertation and later transforming this dissertation into a book manuscript. In particular I extend thanks to my colleague and friend Dr David Roberts, whose constructive inputs and comments have helped me through the process of restructuring and rewriting my original thesis. Last but not least, I thank my amazing wife Zohal for pushing me to get my dissertation published.

Doha, Qatar, January 2016

GLOSSARY

ADS AeroSpace, Defence and Security Group

AECA Arms Export Controls Act

AEGIS London-based Private Security Company

ALI Air Land Integration

ANSF Afghan National Security Forces
ANSI American National Standards Institute

APC Armoured Personnel Carrier

API Additional Protocol I 1977 to the Geneva Conventions

ASIS American Society for Industrial Security

ATAC US Alien Tort Claims Act

BAPSC British Association of Private Security Companies

BBC British Broadcasting Corporation

BMP Boyevaya Mashina Pekhoty (Russian-made APC)

CAS Close Air Support COIN Counterinsurgency

CMO Company Management Officer

DMPI Designated Mean Point of Impact for projectiles

DoD US Defence Department EO Executive Outcomes

FAA Forças Armadas Angolanas (Angolan Armed Forces)

GCC Gulf Cooperation Council

HLPR UN High-Level Panel on Threats, Challenges and Change

HN Host Nation

ICISS International Commission on Intervention and State

Sovereignty

ICoC International Code of Conduct for Private Security Providers

ICRC International Committee of the Red Cross

IGO International Governmental Organization

IHL International Humanitarian Law

INGO International Non-Governmental Organization

IPA Interpretive Phenomenological Analysis

ISAF International Security Assistance Force for Afghanistan

ISIS Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant

ISOA International Stability Operations Association
ISTAR Intelligence, Surveillance, Target Acquisition and

Reconnaissance

JDAM Joint Direct Attack Munitions

JSCSC UK Joint Services Command and Staff College

JTAC Joint Terminal Attack Controller

LN Local National

LOAC Laws of Armed Conflict
MCO Major Combat Operation
MiG Russian Aircraft Manufacturer

MPRI Military Professionals Inc. (PMC/PSC)

MoD UK Ministry of Defence

NATO North Atlantic Treaty Organization
NEO Non-Combatant Evacuation Operation
NGO Non-Governmental Organization
PGM Precision Guided Munitions

PMC Private Military Company

PMSRG King's College Private Military and Security Research Group

PSC Private Security Company
R2P Responsibility to Protect
RoE Rules of Engagement

RUF Revolutionary United Front (rebel movement in Sierra Leone)

SIGIR US Special Inspector General for Iraqi Reconstruction

SF Special Forces

SMOF State Monopoly on Force
TCN Third Country National
UAE United Arab Emirates
UAV Unmanned Air Vehicle
UK United Kingdom
UN United Nations

UNAMSIL United Nations Mission Sierra Leone UNOSOM United Nations Operation in Somalia

UNITA União Nacional para a Independência Total de Angola UNPROFOR United Nations Protection Force in Bosnia and Croatia

USA United States
USD US Dollar

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