

Victor Sokari, Doctoral Student, Comparative Politics

Universidade de Lisboa (ULisboa), Instituto de Ciências Sociais (ICS)

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Education & Certification

- **M. Sc. Political Science**, Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile Ife, Nigeria. 2017-2019
Thesis: Niger Delta Development Commission and Socio-Economic Development of Selected States in South-South Geo-political Zone of Nigeria (2000-2018)
Dean's list as **best-graduating student** in M.Sc. Political Science
- **B.Sc (Ed) Political Science**, Ignatius Ajuru University of Education, Port Harcourt, Nigeria. 2010-2015
Research Project: Strengthening the Socio-Economic Lives of the Ogbia People through Multinational Oil Firms' Operations in Bayelsa State, Nigeria (1998-2014)
Best-graduating student in B.Sc. Ed Political Science (**First Class: 4.56/5.0 Scale**)
- **Nigeria Certificate in Education (NCE) Political Science/Social Studies**, River State College of Education, Port Harcourt, Nigeria. 2005-2008
Research Project: Cultural Dislocations, Community Development and Neo-colonial Footprints in Wetlands, Bayelsa State, Nigeria (1998-2004)

Experience

1. **Lecturer II**
Department of Political Science, Niger Delta University, Wilberforce Island, Nigeria Oct 2019 to date
 - Taught basic political science courses (Introduction to Political Science, Political Behavior/Public Opinion, and Public Policy Analysis).
 - Organize and plan students' research projects
 - Provide learning support to students.
 - Provide a virile, functional and accessible record.
 - Collate and compute student's examination scores
2. **Constituency Office Program (Internship)** Feb-May 2022
Yiaga Africa | Office of the House of Representative, Ife Federal Constituency, National Assembly, Nigeria
 - Understudied the design and implementation of constituency outreach programs.
 - Took records of constituency outreach activities, with emphasis on program impact.
 - Organized fieldwork to collect qualitative data on improving constituency outreach programs.
3. **Project/Research Officer** Jan - Jun 2022
IFRA Nigeria | Lagos
 - Supported in conducting research activities, including the discovery and utilization of pertinent theoretical, methodological, and empirical literature
 - Prepared and distributed project updates and reports to relevant parties
 - Participated in project/policy debriefs and reviews to improve the ongoing project.
 - Prepared and coordinated interviews, focus group discussions and distribution of surveys for the project
 - Analyzed both qualitative and quantitative data for the project
4. **Research Assistant** May 2017 – Sep 2019
Obafemi Awolowo University| Ile Ife, NG
 - Administer interviews to evaluate the candidate/participant's knowledge, abilities, experience, and competencies.

- Oversaw data input for a variety of research, prioritizing accuracy and details in maintaining up-to-date information
- Assisted with the development of data management best practices and recommended improvements
- Collaborated cross-functionally to ensure data practices aligned with research standards.

Publication/Research Experiences

Publications

- **Sokari, V.** and Idowu, H. A. (2023). COVID-19 and the state of conflict-induced internally displaced persons in North-Eastern Borno State of Nigeria. *Wilberforce Journal of the Social Sciences*, 8(2), 22 – 49. <https://nduwjss.org.ng/volume-8-issue-2/3337-2/>
- **Sokari, V** and Ojo, O. (2022). Environmental Non-Governmental Organizations, Response Actions and Soot Pollution Conundrum in Port Harcourt, Rivers State. *IFRA-NIGERIA Working Papers Series*, No. 89. <https://hal.archives-ouvertes.fr/hal-03762071/document>
- **Sokari, V.** and Ojo, O. (2022). Assessment of Government's Responses to 2020 Flood Victims in Bayelsa State amidst the COVID-19 Pandemic. *GVU Journal of Management and Social Sciences*, Vol. 7, No. 3, 177-193 <https://journals.sau.edu.ng/index.php/sjmas>
- **Sokari, V.** (2022). What has changed with Development in Nigeria's Niger Delta Region? The Challenging Trajectories of a Current Day Interventionist Institution. *Wilberforce Journal of Social Sciences*, Vol. 7, No.1, 67-94. doi: 10.36108/wjss/2202.70.0150 <http://nduwjss.org.ng/volume-7-issue-1/2899-2/>
- **Sokari, V.** (2021). Strengthening Institutional Collaboration for Sustainable Development in Nigeria: The Ministry of Niger Delta Affairs and Niger Delta Development Commission in Perspective. *African Political Science Review* Vol 13, No. 2, 16-37

Conferences/Workshops/Roundtables

- **Sokari, V. (2024).** *When symbols count in governance: Perceived or real citizen (dis)engagement at a subnational legislature in Nigeria.* A paper presented at the 1st Graduate Conference of the Portuguese Political Science Association held on the 23rd of October, 2024 at the Institute of Social Sciences, University of Lisbon
- **Sokari, V. (2023).** *Eclecticism as Alternative Rhythm and Balance in Fragile African Democratic Spaces.* A paper presented at the 7th Annual Lagos Studies Association Conference themed "Rethinking Decoloniality: African Decolonization and Epistemologies in the 21st Century" hosted by the Lagos Studies Association at the University of Lagos from 20th to 24th June 2023.
- **Sokari, V. (2023).** *Non-state actors and wicked problems of artisanal gold mining spaces: Mitigation-adaptation actions, scope and (un)motivations in Osun State, Nigeria,* organized by the Development Studies Association held at the University of Reading from 28th to 30th June 2023
- **Participant** at the Citizen Dialogue on the 2023 Elections in Nigeria themed "What makes for Good Election" organized by Yiaga Africa and United Nations Development Agency, held at NAF Conference Centre and Suites, Abuja on 4th October 2022.
- **Participant (online)** at the World Conference on Education and Restitution themed "Afrofuturism and Africa's Development," organized by the Pan African Heritage Museum, Accra Ghana, from 30th August to 1st September 2022.
- **Participant** at the Ife Summer Institute 2022 themed "The Future of the Academy: Skills for Transformative Pedagogy, Theory and Practice," hosted by Ife Institute of Advanced Studies (IIAS), Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile -Ife, Nigeria, from July 24th to 6th August 2022.
- **Participant** at the African Studies Association United Kingdom ASUK Biennial Conference 2022 themed "Diaspora Remittance Flows: Restitution, Culture and Capital," hosted by IFRA Nigeria, University of Ibadan on 31st August 2022.
- **Laureate** to the **2022** IAS-CAS Scholarly Institute workshop for early career researchers jointly organized by the Institute of African Studies (IAS), University of Ibadan, and the Centre for African Studies (CAS),

University of Edinburgh, held from 15th -20th July 2022, at the Conference Centre, University of Ibadan, Ibadan Nigeria.

- **Participant** at the 60th Anniversary Conference themed “Decolonial Remains: Scrutinizing African Studies in Africa and the Unfinished Business of Decolonisation,” hosted by the Institute of African Studies (IAS), University of Ibadan, Ibadan, Nigeria from 16th to 20th July 2022.
- **Sokari, V. and Ojo, O. (2022).** *Non-Governmental Organization, Response Actions and Soot Pollution Conundrum in Port Harcourt, Rivers State, Nigeria.* A paper presented at a One-Day Roundtable by and for Early-Career Researchers tagged “Urban Lives and Environmental Changes” organized by Institut Français de Recherche en Afrique Nigeria and the University of Lagos Centre for Housing and Sustainable Development, on 10th of May, 2022, held at Arthur Mbanefo Digital Research Centre, University of Lagos
- **Sokari, V. (2022).** Governance of Informal Economy in Bayelsa State Nigeria: Economic Empowerment or Political Disengagement. A paper presented online at the Development Studies Association (DSA) conference themed “Just Sustainable Futures in an Urbanising and Mobile World” hosted by the University College London from 6th to 8th July 2022.
- **Participant (online)** at the Australian Study of Parliament Group conference themed “Parliamentary Transparency, Checks and Balances” hosted by the Victorian Chapter, Australia from 26th to 29th April 2022.
- **Sokari, V. and Ojo, O. (2021).** From COVID-19 Pandemic to Flooding: Governmental Responses to Flood Victims in Bayelsa State, Nigeria. A paper presented online at the Development Studies Association (DSA) conference themed “Unsettling Development” hosted by the University of East Anglia (United Kingdom) from 21st to June to 2nd July 2021.
- **Sokari, V. (2021).** Voting Intentions, Ethnic Constellation and Political Choice during the 2019 Governorship Election in Bayelsa State, Nigeria. A paper presented at the Third National Conference themed “Ethnicity, Democracy and Political Instability in Nigeria” organized by the National Political Science Association (NPSA) South-South Zone, Delta State University, Abraka, Delta State, from 14th to 17th March 2021.
- **Sokari, V. and Agunyai, S. (2016).** Ethnic Militancy and the Restoration of Just Social Structures in the Niger Delta Region. A paper presented at the conference themed Environment and Sustainable Development in Nigeria in the 21st Century” organized by the Faculty of Social Sciences, Obafemi Awolowo University Ile-Ife. 28th – 29th March 2016.

Funding/Awards

- Funded workshop by **Institut Français de Recherche en Afrique (IFRA) Africa** to facilitate paper presentation in Lagos, Nigeria, May 19, 2022.
- Conference funding awarded by the **Development Studies Association** to facilitate paper presentation at the DSA conference themed “Just Sustainable Futures in an Urbanizing and Mobile World” hosted by the University College London from 6th to 8th July 2022.
- Conference funding awarded by the **Development Studies Association** to facilitate paper presentation at the DSA conference themed “Unsettling Development” hosted by the University of East Anglia (United Kingdom) from 21st to June to 2nd July 2021.
- **Best Graduating Masters Student**, Department of Political Science, Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife, Nigeria. 2019.
- **Best Graduating Student**, Faculty of Social Sciences, Ignatius Ajuru University of Education, Port Harcourt, Nigeria. 2013.
- **Best Graduating Student**, Department of Political Science, Ignatius Ajuru University of Education, Port Harcourt, Nigeria. 2013.
- Award of Excellence as **President**, Legal Aid Community Development Service, National Youth Service Corps (NYSC) Ife Central Zone, Ile- Ife, Osun State, Nigeria, 2016.

Training/Workshop

- **Trainee** at the 5-Day Research Workshop on Qualitative Methods and Policy Brief Writing organized by the Consortium for Advance Research and Training in Africa (CARTA), held from 5th to 18th July, 2021 at the faculty of Environmental Design and Management, Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife, Osun State.
- **Trainee** at the 1-Day Master Class on Qualitative Methods in Academic Research, organized by ARUA CoE for Urbanization and Habitable Cities, University of Lagos in partnership with Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife Osun State, held on the 29th June, 2021, at the Centre of Excellence Hall, Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife, Nigeria.

Volunteering/Community Service

Yiaga Africa, Abuja Nigeria

February 2022

- Online campaign on voter registration and Personal Voters Card (PVC) collection

Assistant Director of Research

Peace to the Street and Creeks Movement, Yenagoa, Nigeria

December 2020 to date

- COVID-19 Sensitisation/Awareness Campaign
- Youth sensitization against environmental and political violence and conflict in Nigeria
- Youth campaign on voter education and voter participation
- Campaign against environmental degradation and cultural dislocation

Federal Government Volunteer

Social Investment and Empowerment Scheme, Ile-Ife, Nigeria

June 2017 to June 2019

- Teaching and research service
- Quarterly inspection of curriculum implementation in Ile-Ife.

Election Observer

Project Swift Count, 2012 Bayelsa State Gubernatorial Elections

February 2012

- Voter sensitization and Conduct.
- Monitored and evaluated election processes and procedures.

Language/Skills

English Language (Proficiency). Portuguese (Basic).

- Microsoft Office Suite Applications (Word, Excel, Access, Powerpoint, Outlook)
- SPSS, Google Docs and Microsoft Office

Membership

- **Fellow**, IFRA Nigeria
- **Member**, Inter-Parliament Engagement Network
- **Member**, Development Studies Association
- **Member**, Nigeria Political Science Association
- **Member**, European Consortium for Political Research
- **Member**, International Political Science Association