

## FOREWORD

*This edition is a continuation of the research carried out within the framework of the seminars organised for doctoral students and other researchers at the Faculty of Law of the University of Lubumbashi with the collaboration of the Konrad Adenauer Foundation. But unlike previous editions, this one presents the proceedings of the seminar held on Thursday 23 and Friday 24 February 2023 in Lubumbashi under the theme ‘**The rule of law in the Democratic Republic of Congo and environmental protection**’. The seminar focused on two areas: firstly, investment and labour relations and secondly, environmental protection and human rights.*

In the first part of the paper, MUMBA KAKUDJI Martial, MWANZA WA KALOMBO Claude and TUMBA KAJA Rose examined the issue of non-compliance with legislation governing daily work in the DRC, while MFUNGI MUNGANGA Anatole Angelo explained the problem relating to the remuneration of employees by Chinese companies operating in the DRC. NKUMISONGO Robert has analysed the legal framework and the reality of Chinese mining investments. In the same vein, MFUAMBA MULUMBA Isidore, MADJALIWA SILIMU and ETAMBAKONGA OMANGA Gaston took an interest in the legal framework and the realities of the manufacturing industry for batteries in the DRC and its impact on the African mining economy.

In the second part, the discussions focused on environmental protection. KALALA ILUNGA MULUMBA Matthias and BULABULA Patrick explained the legal basis and proposed possible solutions for the management of the Lushois environment by the provincial government of Haut Katanga; MWENZE MINZA Martin and MUMBA KAKUDJI Martial, on their part, analysed the legal framework and the realities surrounding the intervention by the Congolese government with regard to the fight against the logging of redwood. In turn, SANGA MULOPWE Chris, MULUNDA KABUNDA Roger and Patrice TAKOSOLA LUKUKE analysed the implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 13 in the Democratic Republic of Congo within the context of climate change. Still on the subject of environmental protection, MWAPE NGOSA Valentin and SIMBI YUMBA Véronique addressed the issue of deforestation and its environmental impacts. A legal issue for nature conservation in the DRC, and secondly, a critical essay on the legal framework governing the DRC's Forestry Code. The case of the clear forests of Miombo in Haut Katanga.

Finally, KAPYA KABESA Jean Salem addressed the issue of the rights of indigenous peoples, legal pluralism and the recognition of ancestral rights in the DRC.

It is worth noting that these scientists, most of whom are not only researchers but also, and above all, practitioners, have a deep understanding of the issues addressed in this edition.

Finally, we would like to reiterate our gratitude to our supervisors, including Professor Dr KALALA ILUNGA Matthiesen, Professor NGOY NDJIBU Laurent, Professor

MUTONWA KALOMBE Jean-Marc Pacifique and Professor MUMBA KAKUDJI Martial from the University of Lubumbashi in the DRC, and Professor Dr Hartmut Hamann from the Freie Universität Berlin in Germany. We would like to thank them amply and generously, and indeed the entire Konrad Adenauer Foundation.

We would therefore like to reiterate that the analyses and opinions contained in this volume are solely the personal responsibility of individual authors, and in no way represent the views of those responsible for the programme, or of the Konrad Adenauer Foundation. Our wishes remain the same: continuity, success of the programme and improvement on the quality of proposed studies.

KALALA ILUNGA Matthiesen  
NGOY NDJIBU Laurent  
MUMBA KAKUDJI Martial  
Hartmut Hamann