

THE CONSTITUTIONALISM OF INTRA-GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS IN NIGERIA'S FOURTH REPUBLIC

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ABSTRACT

Most seemingly intractable occasions of state failure are a product of unavailability of crises-free relations amongst governmental arms. The Nigerian case presents a plethora of clashes amongst governmental arms. Recent examples depicted in executive-legislative face-offs have given room to poor implementation of budgets and inability to steer the course of national development hence giving opportunity to constitutional crises and political instability. This paper argues that smooth and confrontation-free intra-governmental relations are the only necessary ingredients needed to drive durable economic and political development in Nigeria. The paper, relying on secondary sources, examines instances of conflicts amongst the key organs of government in Nigeria. The paper recommends that the three arms of government viz: the legislature, judiciary and executive should effectively ensure and act in accordance with the provisions of the rule of law, principles of checks and balances and the ethics of separation of power as these will aid them in eschewing whatever form of faceoff between or amongst them.