

Curriculum Vitae/Résumé



Balingene Kahombo

I. Personal Information

- 1.1 Name : Balingene Kahombo
1.2 Birth Year : 1982
1.3 Gender : Male
1.4 Nationality : Congolese (Democratic Republic of Congo –DRC)
1.5 Place and Country of Birth: Goma, Democratic Republic of Congo
1.6 Permanent Address in DRC: a) Irebu 153, Matonge, C/Kalamu, Kinshasa (DRC)
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II. Areas of expertise

- Public International Law, with a special focus on International Criminal Law
- African Union and Regional Integration
- African International Relations (with a particular focus on peace and security studies)
- Constitutional Law and African Comparative Public Law
- Democratic Governance, Security and Justice Sector Reform

III. Education

- April 2014 –July 2018: Doctorate in law, Freie Universität Berlin (FUB). Focus: Public International Law and International Criminal Justice
- February 2008- February 2012: Degree in Advanced Studies (DEA) in Public Law, Public International Law and International Relations (equivalent to 7 years of university studies, University of Kinshasa (Democratic Republic of Congo). Focus: Common African Defence and Security Policy.
- October 2004-August 2006: *Licence en Droit* (equivalent to 5 years of university studies), University of Goma ((Democratic Republic of Congo).
- October 2000 – October 2004: *Graduat en Droit* (equivalent to 3 years of university studies), University of Goma (Democratic Republic of Congo).
- Session of 2000: State Diploma in Humanities, Mwanga Secondary School (Democratic Republic of Congo).

IV. Professional Experience

- From 2020 to now: Professor of Public Law and African International Relations at the University of Goma. Balingene Kahombo has also been taught at several other universities and higher education institutions in the DRC, including the University of Kinshasa, the New Horizons University of Lubumbashi, the War School of Kinshasa (for the training of senior officers of the Congolese army), the Catholic University of Bukavu and the Free University of the Great Lakes Countries.
- From October 2024 to January 2025: Consultant with IES (Innovations ∞ Entrepreneuriat Social) and Team Leader for carrying out a study on barriers to access to justice in the DRC: perspectives on a people-centered justice, in partnership with SoCha LLC and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID).
- From September 2024 to March 2025: Consultant with the Center for Strategic and International Studies (Washington DC, United States of America). Project: EAC's Economic Integration and Kenya's Investments in the DRC.
- From March 2023 to February 2025: Expert member of the Task Force *Justice Internationale* (TFJI) with the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo.
- From August 2023 to now: Council of the Democratic Republic of the Congo before the African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights in the case DRC v. Republic of Rwanda, Application no. 007/2023.
- December 6-8, 2023: Main trainer concerning the popularization of legal texts relating to the process and modalities of registration and registration of cooperative societies in the Democratic Republic of Congo, intended for peasant organizations, associations and cooperative societies as well as public authorities, VNG International in collaboration with AGRITERA and the National Service of Cooperatives and Peasant Organizations – SNCOOP (Ministry of Agriculture), Goma, DRC.
- April – June 2024: Consultant on the research project “Realising Inclusive, Non-Linear Peace Processes in the Democratic Republic of the Congo”, Just Future Alliance, Stichting Cordaid, The Hague, Netherlands.
- From July 2022 to February 2024: Legal advisor to the DRC Constitutional Court, and Judge at the High Court of Kinshasa/Gombe.
- From July to September 2023: Expert – coordinator of the technical team of the Director-General for the establishment of the National Fund for the reparations of victims of sexual violence related to conflicts and victims of crimes against peace and security of humanity (FONAREV/RDC).
- From May to June 2023: Consultant for Amnesty International to train trainers from civil society organizations on monitoring, documenting and reporting of human rights abuses and violations in connection with the elections, Kinshasa-Goma.
- From November to December 2021: Consultant for the development of new training programmes for the evaluation of local implementation of the policy frameworks adopted by the African Union (AU) and the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS) in the area of Security Sector Reform and Governance in the DRC, African Security and Sector Network (ASSN), Just Future Alliance (JFA) and Network for Security and Justice Sector Reform (RRSSJ).
- From January to July 2021: In-Country Researcher, Southern Africa Regional Study on Political Parties and Party Systems, Democracy Works Foundation (DWF), Johannesburg, South Africa.
- From August 2020 to September 2021: Senior Expert – Coordinator of the Technical Secretariat, PANEL assisting the President of the Democratic Republic of the Congo as the Chairperson of the African Union for the year 2021. In this capacity, Balingene Kahombo assisted the

Congolese diplomats in preparing the African Union-led negotiations between Ethiopia, Egypt and Sudan on the dispute over the Ethiopian Rebirth Dam (GERD), February-April 2021.

- From April 2012 to December 2019 : Chef de travaux (Lecturer), University of Goma.
- From July 2010 to now : Public Prosecutor, career judge of first instance, and then of the high court.
- From January 2007 to April 2012 : Teaching Assistant, University of Goma.

II. Scientific Affiliations

- From 2023 to date: Founder of the REPERD project (Network of Partnerships for Education, Research and Development), Goma (DRC).
- From 2022 to date: Co-founder and member of the Congolese Society of International Law (SCDI).
- From 2014 to date: Member of the *Centre de Recherches et d'Etudes sur l'Etat de Droit en Afrique* (CREEDA) –Kinshasa (Democratic Republic of Congo).
- From September 2017 to February 2020: Research Fellow, Berlin Potsdam Research Group – KFG –International Rule of Law: Rise or Decline? -Humboldt University, Free University of Berlin, Potsdam University (Germany).
- From 2016 to 2020: Member of the African Group of Experts on International Criminal Justice, Konrad Adenauer Foundation (Germany).
- From 2011 to 2013: Collaborate Researcher at the Institute for Democracy, Governance, Peace and Development in Africa (IDGPA) – Kinshasa (Democratic Republic of Congo), 2011-2013. Program: Peace and Security.

III. Personal Awards and Grants

- From June 2025 to now: Einstein Guest Researcher Fellowship, Institute for International Law, European Law, and Comparative Public Law of the Free University of Berlin.
- From June 2020 to June 2022: African Peacebuilding Network (APN) 2020 Collaborative Working Group Fellowship (Social Science Research Council, New York, United States of America); Lead Investigator (2020-2022). Topic: *The African Union and the Resolution of Constitutional Crises in Africa*.
- 11 April 2013: Scholarship award for doctoral studies, German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD). Section 412. Code Number : A/12/97276.
- 05 March 2013: Small Grant for the Drafting of a Doctoral Thesis, Council for the Development of Social Science Research in Africa (CODESRIA), Reference: SGRT.08/T12.
- 18 August 2006: National Excellence Prize, best student (Rawji Foundation/University of Goma). Reference: Certificate No.CUG FR/002/2006.

IV. Selected Publications, Monographs, Research Papers, Reports and Blogs

- 'Finalités et exigences méthodologiques de l'usage du droit comparé', in Ivon Mingashang et Fidèle Zegbe Zegs (eds.), *Méthodologie de la recherche et de la rédaction en droit. Tome II. Eléments d'initiation des chercheurs en République démocratique du Congo*, Bruxelles, Bruylant, forthcoming, 2025, 40 pages.
- 'Kenya's Economic Initiatives in the Democratic Republic of the Congo : Analyzing the Rise of a Regional Power Within the East African Community', Report, Center for Strategic and International Studies, February 2025, <https://csis-website-prod.s3.amazonaws.com/s3fs-public/2025->

- ‘Le juge pénal d’un ancien Premier ministre en droit positif congolais : réflexion sur l’arrêt de la Cour constitutionnelle dans l’affaire Bukanga’, in Dieudonné Kaluba Dibwa, Christian Kabange Kongolo et Félicien Kalala Mupingani (eds), *Etat, administration et entreprises publiques dans la dynamique de développement. Mélanges en l’honneur du professeur émérite Clément Kabange Ntabala*, Barnes and Noble Press, New York, 2025, pp.159-181.
- ‘Les juridictions de l’ordre judiciaire, pilier de l’Etat de droit en République Démocratique du Congo’, in Dieudonné Kaluba Dibwa, Christian Kabange Kongolo et Félicien Kalala Mupingani (eds), *Etat, administration et entreprises publiques dans la dynamique de développement. Mélanges en l’honneur du professeur émérite Clément Kabange Ntabala*, Barnes and Noble Press, New York, 2025, pp.371-417.
- ‘La deuxième guerre du M23: diagnostic, escalade militaire et perspectives de paix en République Démocratique du Congo’, *African Security Sector Network*, Avril 2025, <https://bit.ly/ASSN71>.
- ‘Planned withdrawal of MONUSCO from the Democratic Republic of Congo : Challenges and Prospects’, *African Security Sector Network*, Report, July 2024, <https://bit.ly/ASSN63>
- ‘Pratiques africaines en matière de réforme constitutionnelle: aspects contentieux’, *Revue de droit africain*, n°109, 2024, pp.15-41.
- ‘The African Contribution to the Development of African International Criminal Law’, in Appolin Koagne Zouapet (ed.), *Africa and International Law: Views from a Generation*, Pretoria, Pretoria University Law Press, 2023, pp.111-148.
- ‘Legal Obligations within SADC to Strengthen Security on the Territory of its Member States’, *KAS African Law Study Library*, vol.10, 2023, pp.113-126.
- ‘Democratic Republic of the Congo’, in Luis Roberto Barroso and Richard Albert (eds.), *The 2022 International Review of Constitutional Reform*, Program on Constitutional Studies at the University of Texas, in collaboration with the International Forum on the Future of Constitutionalism, Austin, 2023, pp.101-104.
- ‘Détermination, collecte et traitement des données d’un travail scientifique en droit’, in Ivon Mingashang et Fidèle Zegbe Zegs (eds.), *Méthodologie de la recherche et de la rédaction en droit. Tome I. Introduction générale. Eléments d’initiation des chercheurs en République démocratique du Congo*, Bruxelles, Bruylant, 2022, pp.173-206.
- ‘Taking Stock of African Union’s Sanctions against Unconstitutional Change of Government’, *Law in Africa*, vol.1, 2022, pp.135-178.
- ‘Sovereign Equality and Law-Making: How Do States from the Global South Shape International Humanitarian Law’, in Heike Krieger et Jonas Püschmann (eds.), *Law-Making and Legitimacy in International Humanitarian Law*, Cheltenham/ Massachusetts, Edward Elgar Publishing Limited, 2021, pp.300-323.
- ‘Forces et faiblesses de la coopération judiciaire pénale fondée sur les traités de l’Union africaine’, in Yvon Mingashang et Jean-Paul Segihobe (eds.), *Le droit pénal entre douleur et enchantement dans le contexte contemporain –Liber amicorum Raphaël Nyabirungu mwene Songa*, Bruxelles, Bruylant, 2021, pp.1185-1213.
- ‘Constitutionalism, Regional Economic Integration and the Harmonisation of Business Law in Francophone Africa through the Lenses of State Sovereignty and Statehood’, *Revue congolaise des sciences humaines et sociales*, n°1, January-June 2021, pp.143-171.
- ‘Natural Resource Governance and Peace in the African Great Lakes Region: A Legal Perspective to the Case of the Democratic Republic of the Congo’ (13 October 2021)

<https://kujenga-amani.ssrc.org/2021/10/13/natural-resource-governance-and-peace-in-the-african-great-lakes-region-a-legal-perspective-to-the-case-of-the-democratic-republic-of-the-congo/>

- 'Théorie et pratique de la déclaration d'acceptation de la compétence obligatoire de la Cour africaine des droits de l'homme et des peuples', in Eugène Bakama et Mutoy Mubiala (eds.), *La République démocratique du Congo et le système africain de protection des droits de l'homme*, Kinshasa, CAD, 2021, pp.65-81.
- 'La pérennité de l'identité de l'ordre constitutionnel congolais : réflexions sur les dispositions intangibles de la Constitution du 18 février 2006', *Revue de la Faculté de Droit de l'Université de Goma*, n°5, 2021, pp.3-35.
- 'Etudes de trois propositions des lois sur la réforme du pouvoir judiciaire initiées au cours de la session de mars 2020 : mise en évidence du caractère inconstitutionnel de la réforme envisagée', rapport, Centre de Recherches et d'Etudes sur l'Etat de Droit en Afrique (CREEDA), Kinshasa, 2021.
- 'Dialogue avec les représentants des États sur le renforcement de la coopération et la mise en œuvre des décisions de la Cour africaine', Coalition pour la Cour africaine, Zanzibar : 7 – 8 Octobre 2021. Report : *Perspective académique et interventions proposées pour répondre aux préoccupations des États*.
- « An Overview on the Democratic Republic of Congo in Times of COVID-19 » (14 April 2021) <https://www.accord.org.za/analysis/an-overview-on-the-democratic-republic-of-congo-in-times-of-covid-19/>
- 'La Cour constitutionnelle de la République Démocratique du Congo six ans après', *Annuaire congolais de justice constitutionnelle*, vol.5, 2020-2021, pp.41-62.
- 'Corruption and its Impact on Constitutionalism and Respect for the Rule of Law in the Democratic Republic of the Congo', in Charles M Fombad and Nico Steytler (eds.), *Corruption and Constitutionalism in Africa: Revisiting Control Measures and Strategies*, Oxford University Press, 2020, pp.287-315.
- 'The Promises and Realization of the Right to Development in the Democratic Republic of the Congo', *KAS African Law Study Library*, vol.7, 2020, pp.391-412.
- 'Qualité des procès nationaux contre les crimes internationaux : réflexions sur la preuve des crimes de viol devant les juridictions militaires congolaises', in Bernard Ntahiraja and Gerhard Kemp (eds.), *International Criminal Justice in Africa, 2019*, Nairobi, Strathmore University Press, 2020, pp.97-119.
- « The Gambia and the Rohingya's Nightmare: Which Opportunity for Individual Criminal Accountability after the ICJ's Decision against Myanmar for Genocide? » (28 novembre 2019) <https://voelkerrechtsblog.org/the-gambia-and-the-rohingyas-nightmare/>.
- 'The Democratic Republic of Congo's National Human Rights Commission', in Charles M. Fombad (ed.), *Compendium of documents on National Human Rights Institutions in eastern and southern Africa*, Pretoria University Law Press, 2019, pp.101-212.
- 'La Cour constitutionnelle et la rectification d'erreurs matérielles contenues dans ses arrêts relatifs au contentieux des résultats des élections législatives du 30 décembre 2018', *Annuaire congolais de justice constitutionnelle*, vol.4, 2019, pp.182-207.
- 'Western Sahara Cases before the Court of Justice of the European Union and International Law', *Chinese Journal of International Law*, vol.8 (2), 2019, pp.327-352.
- 'Les activités minières et le respect des droits de l'homme au Kivu', *Droit en Afrique*, vol.22, 2019, pp.204-234.

- ‘Regionalism under the Congolese Constitution of 18 February 2006: Progress and Challenges’, in Charles M Fombad and Nico Steytler (eds.), *Decentralization and Constitutionalism in Africa*, Oxford University Press, 2019, pp.183-211.
- « Bemba’s Acquittal by the Appeals Chamber of the International Criminal Court: Why Is It so Controversial? », African Group of Experts on International Criminal Justice (9 July 2018) <https://www.icjafrika.com/single-post/2018/07/09/Bemba%E2%80%99s-acquittal-by-the-Appeals-Chamber-of-the-International-Criminal-Court-Why-is-it-so-controversial>
- ‘The Peace and Security Council of the African Union: Rise or Decline of Collective Security in Africa? », KFG Working Paper Series, No.23, Berlin Potsdam Research Group “The International Law: Rise or Decline?” Berlin, December 2018, 27 pages.
- ‘The African Attitude Towards the International Criminal Court : From States’ Euphoria to Regional Justice Counter-Initiative’, in Yvon Mingashang (ed.), *La responsabilité du juriste face aux manifestations de la crise dans la société contemporaine –Hommage au Professeur Auguste Mampuya*, Bruxelles, Bruylant, 2018, pp.413-463.
- *The African Union and the Development of African International Criminal Law*, these de doctorat en droit (PhD), Université libre de Berlin (*Freie Universität Berlin*, Allemagne), 2018, 651 pages.
- ‘L’imbroglio électoral africain vu de la République Démocratique du Congo : Regards croisés sur l’observation internationale du double scrutin du 28 novembre 2011’, in Yves-Junior Manzanza Lumingu et Justin Munsenepwo Mwakwaye (eds.), *Droit, Bonne Gouvernance et Développement Durable. Mélanges en l’Honneur du Professeur Jean-Michel Kumbu Ki Ngimbi*, Paris, L’Harmattan, 2018, pp.241-295.
- ‘The Principle of Complementarity in Practice: A Survey of Congolese Legislation Implementing the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court’, in Beitel Van Der Merwe and Gerard Kemp (eds), *International Criminal Justice in Africa*, 2016, Nairobi, Strathmore University Press, 2017, pp.201-239.
- ‘Les violences liées aux élections en République démocratique du Congo : apprendre du passé pour prévenir l’avenir’, *Revue congolaise d’analyse des politiques et pratiques électorales*, 2017, pp.151-174.
- ‘Towards Coordination of the Global System of International Criminal Justice with the Criminal Court of the African Union’, in Beitel Van Der Merwe and Gerhard Kemp (eds.), *International Criminal Justice in Africa*, 2017, Nairobi, Strathmore University Press, 2018, pp.1-32.
- ‘Les modalités d’exercice du recours individuel en inconstitutionnalité en droit positif congolais entre ambiguïté et nécessité de réforme juridiques’, *Droit en Afrique*, vol.20, 2017, pp.118-146.
- ‘Le processus de création de la MONUC : regards croisés sur une histoire controversée du maintien de la paix en République Démocratique du Congo’, *Revue de la Faculté de Droit de l’Université de Goma*, n°2, 2017, pp.31-68.
- ‘Présentation du Traité de droit international public du professeur Auguste Mampuya : Regards croisés sur le régionalisme africain’, *Droit en Afrique*, vol.19 (2), 2016, pp.209-237.
- ‘The Theory of Implicit Waiver of Personal Immunity -Commentary on the Decision on the Obligation for South Africa to Arrest and Surrender President Omar al-Bashir of Sudan to the International Criminal Court’, *Law in Africa*, vol.18, 2015, pp.181-198.
- ‘Comment -The Congolese Legal System and the Fight against Impunity for the Most Serious International Crimes’, in Heike Krieger (ed.), *Inducing Compliance with International Humanitarian Law: Lessons from the African Great Lakes Region*, Cambridge University Press, 2015, pp.247-260.

- ‘Les fondements de la révision de la Constitution congolaise du 18 février 2006’, *KAS African Law Study Library*, vol.1, 2014, pp.428-453.
- ‘L’Union africaine et le traitement des affaires Hissène Habré, Rose Kabuye et Omar Al Bashir : à la recherche des implications sur le droit international’, *Annales de la Faculté de Droit de l’Université de Kinshasa*, 2014, pp.100-119.
- ‘La doctrine Ndeshyo relative à l’intégration africaine pour une Afrique unie, intégrée, en paix et prospère’, in Grégoire Bakandeja wa Mpungu (éd.), *Quelle politique d’intégration pour quelle unité de l’Afrique du 21^{ème} siècle ? Débats théoriques et défis pour les Etats africains - Mélanges en hommage au doyen Oswald Ndeshyo*, Kinshasa, Presses de l’Université de Kinshasa, 2014, pp.79-107.
- *Le pari du respect de la vérité des urnes en Afrique. Analyse des élections présidentielles et législatives du 28 novembre 2011 en République démocratique du Congo*, Bruxelles, éditions 11.11.11. Combattons l’injustice, 2014, 302 pages.
- ‘Le projet de création de l’armée africaine unique de défense et de sécurité : état des lieux et perspectives’, *Annales de la Faculté de Droit de l’Université de Kinshasa*, 2013, pp.61-83.
- *La politique africaine commune de défense et de sécurité : fondement et cadre de mise en œuvre du pouvoir d’intervention de l’Union africaine dans les Etats Membres*, Mémoire d’Etudes Approfondies (DEA) en Droit, University of Kinshasa, 2011-2012, 215 pages.
- ‘La démocratisation dans l’ombre de crises et violences politiques en Afrique : rétrospective et prospective sur le rôle des opérations de maintien de la paix’, International Conference on ‘Two Decades of Democracy and Governance in Africa: Lessons Learned, Challenges and Prospects’, organised by the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA), Addis Ababa, The Council for the Development of Social Science Research in Africa (CODESRIA), Dakar, and John Hopkins University, Washington, D.C., Dakar, Senegal, 20-22 June 2011.
- ‘La coopération judiciaire pénale fondée sur les traités de la CEEAC, du COMESA et de la SADC’, *Librairie africaine d’études juridiques*, vol.5, août 2010, pp.1-23.
- ‘La protection des minorités ethniques en République démocratique du Congo. Entre rupture et continuité des ordres constitutionnels antérieurs’, *Librairie africaine d’études juridiques*, vol.2, avril 2010, pp.1-23.

V. External Examiner of Student Work and Scientific Publications Projects

- Jean-Paul Mwanza Kambongo, ‘La norme du traitement juste et équitable devant les tribunaux CIRDI: discours juridique, contenu normatif et validité’, Mémoire d’Etudes Approfondies (DEA), Faculty of Law, University of Kinshasa, 2023.
- Trésor Makunya Muhindo, “Legal Traditions and the Interpretation of Bills of Rights in Africa: Comparative Perspectives from the Constitutional Courts of Benin, the Democratic Republic of Congo and South Africa”, PhD thesis, Faculty of Law, University of Pretoria, 2021.
- Peer Reviewer for several publishers and journals : African Institute of South Africa, African Security Review, Oxford University Press, Bruylant, African Human Rights Handbook, Pretoria University Law Press, Journal of African Law, Conjonctures de l’Afrique centrale, Working Papers Series –Social Science Research Council (SSRC), Africa Development (CODESRIA –Council for the Development of Social Science Research in Africa), African Journal of Democracy and Governance et Annuaire congolais de justice constitutionnelle.

Done in Berlin, 4 July 2025