Difficulties in the Peace Talks of the Congo War with Special Reference to Foreign Influences on the Consensus-Building: The Conclusion of the Sun City Agreement and Its Collapse

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The Congo War that involved 9 African countries officially ended with the Global and Inclusive Accord signed in December 2002 after numerous peace talks. Among such conferences and their agreements, this paper describes the conclusion and collapse of the Sun City agreement that was signed in April 2002. The ‘Inter-Congolese dialogue’ started in February 2002 at Sun City of South Africa. One of the grave issues during this dialogue was how much power of then president should be transferred to opposition parties. The Sun City agreement that most of the participants signed excluded some parties from its negotiation and power sharing. Although Belgium, France and other European countries positively accepted this agreement, it was severely criticized by the excluded parties. Belgian government was accused by them of lobbying for the conclusion of this agreement. The Sun City agreement finally failed to be implemented because of the internal power struggle among the signatory parties. It is suggested that to a certain extent the ‘Inter-Congolese dialogue’ was under the influence of foreign countries including Belgium.