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Liberia and Côte d'Ivoire/Ivory Coast are two cases of targeted sanctions at different stages. One began already in 1992, the other only in 2004. In Liberia, sanctions now have a role in building a new society after years of war. In Ivory Coast the aim is to prevent an immediate return to war.

This report argues that sanctions have had an impact in the expected direction. They led to difficulties for armed actors in having access to weapons; and they may have had a sobering effect on individuals that were targeted.

The report also makes concrete proposals on the criteria for the removal of sanctions on Liberia, and on possible ways of strengthening them on Côte d'Ivoire in a worst-case scenario. It also draws implications for UN policy on listing and delisting of individuals and the need for guidelines how to interact with targeted actors.

In all, the report contains some thirty recommendations. It is a further contribution to the continuous debate on the use of this instrument from the sanctions research project at Uppsala University (SPITS).

Department of Peace and Conflict Research
Uppsala University
P.O. Box 514, SE 751 20 Uppsala, Sweden
Phone +46-18-471 00 00
Telefax +46-18-69 51 02
Webste <www.peace.uu.se>
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Sanctions for Conflict Prevention and Peace Building

Lessons Learned from Côte d'Ivoire and Liberia

Peter Wallensteen
Mikael Eriksson
Daniel Strandow