

**APPLICABLE NORMS TO FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION IN SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA :
AN ASSESSMENT OF ANGLOPHONE WESTERN AND SOUTHERN AFRICA**

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ABSTRACT

Our work focuses on the concept of freedom of expression and analyzes how this freedom is legally protected in two of the African continent's vastest regions: Western and Southern Africa.

We will demonstrate the importance of freedom of expression in many aspects of daily life and for many categories of individuals, including refugees. The paper subsequently analyzes the limits of this freedom as prescribed not only by the 1966 International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) but also by African regional legal instruments, above all referring to the 1981 Banjul Charter (considered a pillar of the human rights' protection in the continent). Moreover, domestic law will be taken into account, showing the negative consequences caused by some regional and national jurisprudence. Ultimately these consequences reveal a gloomy panorama in which the path to reversing the abuses to freedom of expression in Africa remains a long and arduous one.

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