

THE IMPACT

OF THE INTERNET

ON HUMAN RIGHTS IN AFRICA

ARTICLE 19

FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION

THE INTERNET ALLOWS FOR INCREASED

😊 SELF-PUBLICATION & ANONYMITY

😞 CULTURAL & POLITICAL CENSORSHIP

2016

ZIMBABWE

An internet shutdown was imposed on 6 July 2016 after people used social media, including Twitter and WhatsApp, to ventilate their frustrations about corruption and misuse of state funds in the country, as well as to organise demonstrations under the #ZimbabweShutdown banner.



TODAY

Governments have promulgated cybercrime legislation which has been used to prosecute & intimidate citizens for making any critical expression against governing regimes. Crimes include defamation, harassment & treason.

ARTICLE 20

FREEDOM OF ASSOCIATION

THE INTERNET ALLOWS FOR INCREASED

😊 ABILITY TO ORGANISE POLITICAL ACTIVITY

😞 STATE SURVEILLANCE OF & THROUGH NEW MEDIA

2016

ETHIOPIA

The government blocked access to social media and news websites in its efforts to crush dissent and prevent reporting of attacks on protesters by security forces during protests.



TODAY

Governments are introducing special legislation that suspends or limits online mobilisation. E.g. widespread internet shutdowns in Uganda and Cameroon on the basis of national security legislation.

ARTICLE 3

RIGHT TO LIFE, LIBERTY & SECURITY

THE INTERNET ALLOWS FOR INCREASED

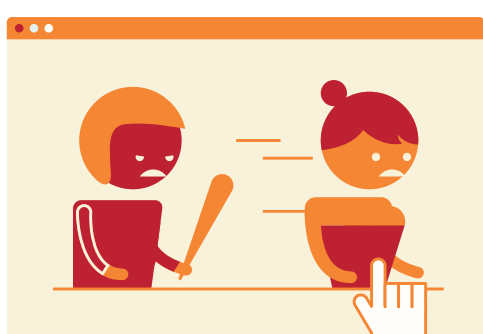
😞 THREATS THROUGH MALICIOUS HACKING

😞 ABUSE OF STATE POWER, SURVEILLANCE, ETC.

2012

UGANDA

In the city of Gulu, the police raided a legal sex worker drop-in centre, compelled employees to give them access to their e-mails, and seized digital records.



ARTICLE 12

RIGHT TO PRIVACY

THE INTERNET ALLOWS FOR INCREASED

😞 MONITORING OF ONLINE BEHAVIOUR & NETWORKS

😞 VIOLATION OF DATA PROTECTION

2017

SOUTH AFRICA

The amaBhungane Centre for Investigative Journalism launched a constitutional challenge against the Regulation of Interception of Communications Act for failing to protect citizens against disproportionate state surveillance of electronic communications.



ARTICLE 21

EQUAL RIGHT TO PUBLIC SERVICES

THE INTERNET ALLOWS FOR INCREASED

😊 TRANSPARENCY IN SERVICES

😊 AFFORDABILITY & ACCESS, WHICH HELPS CLOSE THE DIGITAL DIVIDE

2014

SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA

Local government and community-driven public access initiatives provide free Wi-Fi to residents in towns and cities including Kigali, Johannesburg, Nakuru County and Lagos.



ARTICLE 12

PROTECTION AGAINST DEFAMATION



ARTICLE 18

FREEDOM OF CONSCIENCE & RELIGION



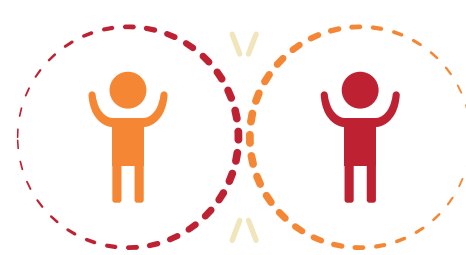
ARTICLE 27

PROTECTION OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY



ARTICLE 29

PROTECTION OF RIGHTS OF OTHERS



ARTICLE 21

RIGHT TO PARTICIPATE IN GOVERNMENT



ARTICLE 30

PRIMACY OF RIGHTS OUTCOMES



UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS

CONNECT YOUR RIGHTS!

INTERNET RIGHTS ARE HUMAN RIGHTS

WWW.APC.ORG