



# Youth Engagement in Legal Processes across Ethiopia: A Policy Analysis

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**Published:** 14 February 2010 | **Received:** 09 December 2009 | **Accepted:** 09 January 2010

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**DOI:** [10.5281/zenodo.18916349](https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.18916349)

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## Abstract

Youth engagement in legal processes is a critical aspect of legal reform across Africa, with Ethiopia serving as an important case study due to its diverse legal landscape and socio-economic challenges. This study employs a qualitative approach, analysing existing policies, interviews with stakeholders, and case studies from different regions of Ethiopia. Data triangulation was used to ensure robust analysis. Youth involvement in legal processes is significant but unevenly distributed across Ethiopian jurisdictions, particularly in urban areas where participation rates are higher (25% compared to rural areas at 10%). The findings suggest a need for targeted policies that address the specific challenges faced by youth participants and promote equitable engagement. Policy recommendations include increasing funding for youth legal education programmes, developing culturally relevant legal materials, and establishing mentorship initiatives to enhance their role in legal processes.

**Keywords:** *African contexts, Youth participation, Legal empowerment, Socio-legal studies, Participatory governance, Customary law integration, Jurisprudence reform*

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