



Cyberlaw and Data Protection in Zimbabwe: A Southern African Perspective

Rufus Mutsvangwa^{1,2}, Edzai Hunter^{2,3}, Nkomo Ncube^{4,5}, Chido Mushape^{5,6}

¹ Department of Interdisciplinary Studies, Midlands State University

² Africa University

³ National University of Science and Technology (NUST), Bulawayo

⁴ Department of Advanced Studies, Great Zimbabwe University

⁵ Department of Advanced Studies, National University of Science and Technology (NUST), Bulawayo

⁶ Department of Research, Midlands State University

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Correspondence: rmutsvangwa@aol.com

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Author notes

Rufus Mutsvangwa is affiliated with Department of Interdisciplinary Studies, Midlands State University and focuses on Law research in Africa.

Edzai Hunter is affiliated with Africa University and focuses on Law research in Africa.

Nkomo Ncube is affiliated with Department of Advanced Studies, Great Zimbabwe University and focuses on Law research in Africa.

Chido Mushape is affiliated with Department of Advanced Studies, National University of Science and Technology (NUST), Bulawayo and focuses on Law research in Africa.

Abstract

Cyberlaw encompasses legal frameworks governing digital interactions, while data protection focuses on safeguarding personal information in cyberspace. In Southern Africa, Zimbabwe has established specific laws and regulations to address these issues. The analysis is based on an examination of existing legislation, court decisions, academic literature, and consultations with stakeholders. A thematic approach was employed to synthesize the information into coherent policy insights. Zimbabwe's cyberlaw framework includes specific provisions addressing data protection, but there are notable gaps in enforcement mechanisms and public awareness programmes. Despite initial progress, Zimbabwe faces challenges in effectively implementing its cyberlaw and data protection policies. Recommendations include enhancing regulatory oversight and increasing public education efforts to ensure compliance and user rights protection. To strengthen the existing framework, it is recommended that Zimbabwe implement stricter enforcement measures, improve transparency in legal processes, and expand educational initiatives aimed at both citizens and businesses.

Keywords: *Zimbabwe, Cyberlaw, Data Protection, Jurisprudence, Legal Frameworks, Digital Rights, Comparative Analysis*

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