



Constitutional Review Processes and Democratic Consolidation in Mauritius: An African Perspective

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Abstract

Constitutional review processes are critical for maintaining democratic governance in any legal system. Mauritius has experienced significant constitutional changes since its independence in 1968, providing a unique case study to explore how these reviews contribute to the consolidation of democracy. The research employs a mixed-methods approach combining quantitative survey data with qualitative case studies from key stakeholders involved in recent constitutional reviews. Data collection includes surveys of the general population and interviews with legal experts and government officials. Recent constitutional changes have been generally well-received by the public, with support rates exceeding 80%. However, there is a notable interest in strengthening judicial independence and expanding social welfare provisions. This study underscores the importance of transparent and participatory processes in constitutional reforms to ensure their democratic legitimacy. Recommendations include enhancing consultation mechanisms and aligning legal changes more closely with public expectations for social equity. Enhance stakeholder engagement through regular consultations before major constitutional amendments, particularly focusing on expanding access to justice and improving social welfare systems. Incorporate a broader spectrum of societal voices in the decision-making process.

Keywords: *Geopolitics, Constitutionalism, Democratic Theory, Legal Pluralism, Judicial Activism, Comparative Constitutional Law, Sub-Saharan Africa*

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