



Cyberlaw and Data Protection Norms in Senegal's Southern African Context

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Abstract

Cyberlaw and data protection norms in Senegal are increasingly recognised as crucial for safeguarding digital rights and interests within Southern Africa's diverse legal landscape. The research employed participant observation, semi-structured interviews, and document analysis to gather insights from key stakeholders including legislators, policymakers, and civil society organizations involved in cybersecurity and data privacy initiatives. A notable theme emerged regarding the harmonization of cyberlaw frameworks across Southern Africa, with Senegal serving as a leading example for implementing robust data protection standards. This study highlights the potential for regional collaboration to strengthen cyberlaw and data protection norms, particularly in addressing cross-border data flows and ensuring digital rights are upheld. Policymakers should prioritise stakeholder engagement in developing comprehensive cyberlaw frameworks that balance innovation with safeguarding individual privacy rights.

Keywords: *African geopolitics, legal pluralism, ethnography, informality, digital rights, jurisprudence, indigenous knowledge systems*

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