



Gender Dynamics in Political Transition: A Comparative Analysis of Burundi's Experience,

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Abstract

This study examines gender dynamics within Burundi's political transition from to , focusing on how power and influence are distributed among different gender groups. A mixed-methods approach was employed, combining quantitative data from official election results with qualitative insights from interviews with political actors and civil society organizations. Women's representation in parliament increased by 25% compared to the previous term, reflecting broader societal shifts towards gender equality. However, their influence within party structures remains limited, highlighting persistent barriers to full participation. The findings suggest that while Burundi has seen progress in women's political inclusion, deeper structural reforms are needed to ensure equitable representation and decision-making processes. Recommendations include strengthening gender quotas for political parties and promoting inclusive leadership training programmes aimed at reducing traditional patriarchal norms.

Keywords: *African Geography, Political Transition Theory, Gender Studies, Power Dynamics, Empirical Research, Methodology, Feminist Critiques*

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