



# Music as a Political Expression during Transitions in North Africa and Central African Republic,

Kanga Kouadio<sup>1,2</sup>, Magassa Yamba<sup>2,3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Department of Interdisciplinary Studies, University of Bangui

<sup>2</sup> University of Bangui

<sup>3</sup> Department of Research, University of Bangui

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**Correspondence:** [kkouadio@hotmail.com](mailto:kkouadio@hotmail.com)

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## Author notes

*Kanga Kouadio is affiliated with Department of Interdisciplinary Studies, University of Bangui and focuses on Arts & Humanities research in Africa.*

*Magassa Yamba is affiliated with University of Bangui and focuses on Arts & Humanities research in Africa.*

## Abstract

This study explores how music serves as a form of political expression during transitions in North Africa and Central African Republic (CAR). Data were collected through qualitative interviews with musicians, analysis of public music events, and documentary research. Comparative thematic analysis was employed to identify common themes across the regions. Music in both regions featured prominently at key transitional moments, such as elections and political rallies, where it served to unify or divide populations based on socio-political affiliations. The findings suggest that music acts as a powerful medium for articulating collective identities and mobilizing public support during times of transition. Policy makers should consider the role of music in political discourse when planning transitional processes, potentially integrating musical elements into official strategies to enhance social cohesion.

**Keywords:** *North African, Central African, Cultural Politics, Ethnomusicology, Transition Studies, Oral History, Soundscapes*

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