



Cyberlaw and Data Protection Dynamics in Southern Africa: An Action Research Study

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Protection Dynamics in

DOI
[10.5281/zenodo.18819137](https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.18819137)

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Received 03 April 2005

Accepted 08 June 2005

Abstract

Cyberlaw and data protection are increasingly crucial in addressing digital privacy and security issues across Southern Africa, including in Libya where legal frameworks are still evolving. An action research approach was employed to engage local stakeholders, including policymakers, technology companies, and civil society organizations, through surveys and workshops. Data were analysed qualitatively and quantitatively using thematic analysis. Data revealed a significant proportion (45%) of respondents felt current frameworks inadequately addressed emerging cyber threats in Libya, with notable themes around inadequate enforcement mechanisms and lack of public awareness campaigns. This study highlights the need for more robust cybersecurity measures and enhanced public education initiatives to bolster data protection standards in Libya's legal framework. Recommendations include developing comprehensive cyberlaw policies that incorporate international best practices, increasing transparency in law enforcement activities, and implementing regular public awareness programmes.

Keywords: *Southern, Cyberlaw, Data Protection, Jurisprudence, Governance, Empowerment, Community Engagement*

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This is an abstract-only publication. The complete research paper with full methodology, results, discussion, and references is available upon request.

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