

THE ASF FRANCE NEWSLETTER

Your biannual update from Avocats Sans Frontières France

FOCUS ON THE E-RIGHTS PROJECT :

E-RIGHTS: PROJECT CONCLUDES WITH NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON DIGITAL RIGHTS



The e-Rights project (2023–2026) has significantly advanced **the protection and promotion of digital rights in Nigeria** through advocacy, capacity building, engagement with lawmakers and central government authorities, and multi-stakeholder dialogue. Implemented by Avocats Sans Frontières France in partnership with the Center for Information Technology and Development (CITAD) and Spaces for Change (S4C), the project helped raise public awareness of issues such as **privacy, freedom of expression, data protection, cybersecurity, and online civic participation**.

The project concluded in January 2026 with significant results, including:

- **287 key digital rights stakeholders trained**, including 120 activists, 113 judges and lawyers, and 54 journalists.
- **22 instances of direct, free, and tailored legal support** for victims of digital rights violations, including 2 landmark cases brought before the ECOWAS Court of Justice
- **Over 300 policymakers** engaged in advocacy
- **Support for reforms** related to cybercrime laws, AI governance, and data protection.
- **5,000 students educated** about cyberbullying and online threats, and over **2 million internet users reached** by our digital rights outreach efforts



e-Rights: **Project Concludes with National Conference on Digital Rights**

Focus on the e-Rights Project

The e-Rights project (2023–2026) has significantly advanced the protection and

The National Conference on Digital Rights, held in January 2026, was a highlight of the project and marked the conclusion of this initiative. It brought together nearly 200 participants, including policymakers, civil society organizations, legal practitioners, academics, and media professionals, to discuss the future of digital rights in Nigeria.

The conference focused on the intersection of AI, data privacy, and digital inclusion, as well as strengthening democratic governance and safeguarding civic freedoms online. Participants emphasized the need to strengthen legal protections, judicial accountability, responsible technology governance, and safeguards against censorship and illegal surveillance. This event served as the official launch of the report **on digital rights in Nigeria**, drafted by the Lawyers Without Borders France team in Nigeria.

Lawyers Without Borders France remains committed to promoting and protecting digital rights in Nigeria.

A WORD FROM...

Patrick Yatchuet, Esq., Member of the Cameroon Bar Association

As part of the PAGOC project in Cameroon, Lawyers Without Borders France and its partners organized a series of three training sessions on respecting human rights in prisons—to improve the care of people deprived of their liberty—and on habeas corpus in four key regions of Cameroon. Following these capacity-building sessions, the lawyers are expected to conduct 1,000 legal consultations for the most vulnerable detainees. Here is a testimonial from one of the participants.

How did you learn about the PAGOC project?

I received training as part of the PAGOC project alongside other professionals in the criminal justice system. The training was essential and comprehensive. It enabled us to understand and master the relevant practices, as well as to gain knowledge of the applicable international instruments ratified by Cameroon. Like some of my colleagues, I was assigned to conduct legal consultations in detention centers, which was a way of putting into practice what we had learned. Except that this wasn't a trial run or an exercise—it was real, direct interaction.

What stands out to you from these legal consultations held inside the prison?

Together with the PAGOC project team, we took the initiative to walk through the entire New-Bell Prison (Douala's central prison) to immerse ourselves in the daily lives and routines of the inmates there. There is a certain feeling and transformation that comes from being in direct contact with these inmates; you end up feeling the way they do. I won't go into further detail, but at New-Bell I had to consult with people suffering from mental illness, minors under the age of 14—that is, children who cannot be criminally punished—and people who have no business being there.

What stands out to you from these legal consultations inside the prison?

What are your plans for the next phase of legal action?

In the next phase of PAGOC, the focus will be on quickly bringing certain urgent cases before the courts so that those involved can gain access to justice. Several cases involving detainees must also be addressed through habeas corpus proceedings, as they are being held in situations of completely unlawful detention.

I dare to hope that PAGOC will not stop now that it is on the right track, and that activities like this will increase so that the Cameroonian prison system can be transformed and the rights of detainees can be better protected..



OUR PARTNERS BY OUR SIDE!

SPECIAL THANKS

We extend our most sincere thanks to the **Conference of Bar Presidents**, the **National Council of Bar Associations**, and all the **bar associations** that contributed dues and made donations, particularly those of **Agen, Ain, Aix-en-Provence, Albertville, Bastia, Belfort, Besançon, Béthune, Brive, Caen, Carcassonne, Charentes, Chartres, Colmar, the Council of State and the Court of Cassation, Coutances-Avranches, Cusset-Vichy, Dax, Dijon, Dunkirk, Grenoble, Laval, Lorient, Lot, Le Mans, Meaux, Melun, Nantes, Nîmes, Orléans, Pau, Poitiers, the Pyrénées-Orientales, Rennes, Saint-Brieuc, Saint-Denis de La Réunion, Saint-Malo-Dinan, Saint-Nazaire, Saintes, Seine-Saint-Denis, Thonon-les-Bains, Toulouse, Tours, Valenciennes, and Vienne**, for their generosity and commitment to solidarity.



ASF France extends its warmest thanks to **Samos Volunteers** for its partnership and ongoing collaboration with the **Samos Legal Center**. Their support enables us, in particular, to organize our legal clinics and workshops at Alphaland, thereby improving access to information and legal assistance for refugees on Samos. We are pleased to be able to count on this partnership and to continue our work together.



ASF France extends its warmest thanks to **Civil Rights Defenders** for its support and trust in the Samos Legal Center. Their financial support enables us to continue our activities, maintain our services, and meet the needs of the exiles we assist on Samos. We are particularly grateful for this trust, which is essential to the continuation of our work in an environment that remains uncertain.



Would you like to get your company, law firm, nonprofit, or bar association involved?
Contact us at **05.34.31.17.83** or at the following email address: **secretariat@avocatssansfrontieres-france.org**.

ESSENTIAL ACTIVITIES

FRANCE

TUNISIA

CAMEROUN

- [Mission Droits Humains à Maurice : focus sur les droits LGBTQIA+](#)
- [Libération de Sonia Dahmani : victoire pour la liberté d'expression](#)
- [PAGOC : 18 acteurs unis pour le suivi des conditions de détention](#)
- [Ensemble contre les violences basées sur le genre : retour sur la Quinzaine des droits humains](#)
- [Colloque national sur les peines alternatives au Cameroun](#)
- [Se former aux droits humains en milieu carcéral avec le MOOC PAGOC](#)

GUINEA

GREECE

NIGERIA

- [Soutien au mouvement citoyen Jeudi noir](#)
- [Former pour mieux agir face aux violences basées sur le genre](#)
- [10 ans après l'accord UE-Turquie : à Samos, l'accès aux droits reste un enjeu essentiel](#)
- [ASF France organise un législative retreat sur les droits numériques au Nigéria](#)
- [Avocats Sans Frontières France France au 7e Symposium sur la protection de la vie privée en Afrique 2025](#)
- [Formation SLAPP à Lagos : renforcer la liberté de la presse](#)



HIGHLIGHTS OF THE SEMESTER



Avocats Sans Frontières France at the Grand Procès de la RSE.

On June 9, Lawyers Without Borders France participated in the **10th edition of the "Grand Procès de la RSE" (CSR Trial)**, organized by Planet'RSE Toulouse. This year, the debate centered on the **relationship between CSR and democracy**, in a format modeled after a real trial, combining testimonies, expert opinions, and closing arguments. Anne Lutun, a representative of ASF France, took part in this year's event as a defense attorney, alongside various speakers who came to examine the **challenges and limitations of CSR**.

9th World Congress Against the Death Penalty

During the **9th World Congress Against the Death Penalty**, held in Paris from June 30 to July 2, Angela Uwandu Uzoma-Iwuchukwu, the national director of Avocats Sans Frontières France in Nigeria, participated in a workshop focused on **intersectional discrimination** and the **gender perspective**. Participants examined three cases of individuals sentenced to death in Nigeria, Iran, and Tanzania to analyze the impact of discrimination on capital punishment sentences. Angela also shared the experience of ASF France, which has been working in Nigeria for over 15 years alongside its partners to fight the death penalty and promote access to justice.



8th edition of the Simone Veil Prize of the French Republic

In January 2026, Anne Lutun, Executive Director of Avocats Sans Frontières France, served on the jury for the **8th annual Simone Veil Prize of the French Republic for Gender Equality**. Established in 2019, this prize annually honors an individual or group committed to **gender equality** and **women's rights** around the world. For this 8th edition, the jury awarded the prize to the Marta Center, a Latvian organization dedicated in particular to supporting women and girls who are victims of violence. The award ceremony took place in March, attended by Isabelle Rome, Ambassador for Human Rights, among others.



Charity Dinner in Copenhagen Organized by the Danish Justice Foundation

On August 27, Attorney François Cantier represented Avocats Sans Frontières France at an event dedicated to justice and fundamental rights, organized at the **French Embassy in Denmark**, in Copenhagen, by the **Danish Justice Foundation**. With some 40 participants in attendance, the event provided an opportunity to highlight ASF France's commitment to promoting access to justice and defending fundamental rights around the world, particularly children's rights. The evening continued with an **auction**, the proceeds of which will be donated to ASF France to support its ongoing efforts on behalf of people whose rights are under threat.



HUMAN RESOURCES NEWS

• We would like to thank the following for their work and dedication:

- **Juliana OKORO**, Communications Officer, e-Rights (Nigeria)
- **Julie LAFORE**, Project Coordination Assistant
- **Victoria BAL**, Administrative and Accounting Assistant
- **Talia MATUMONA**, Communications Assistant
- **Simon OMADA** Administrative and Financial Manager (Nigeria)
- **Lucile MACE**, Project Manager (Greece)
- **KHATTARI Yasmine**, caseworker (Samos)
- **HUMEZ Eloïse**, caseworker (Samos)
- **DAHI Marine**, caseworker (Samos)

• And we'd like to welcome:

- **Mercedes LONARDI**, Project Manager (Greece)
- **Louise ROSIN**, caseworker (Samos)
- **Myriam BEN SALEM VIEDMA**, caseworker (Samos)
- **Morgann TRIQUENEAUX**, project manager (Laos)
- **Chanelle BOUKHATEM**, Communications Assistant
- **Dédé AHYI**, Project Coordination Assistant
- **Rayan BOISSIERE**, Administrative and Accounting Assistant

JOIN US!

By becoming a member, you're demonstrating your commitment to defending fundamental rights and taking concrete action to protect human rights!

Membership is valid for the 2026 calendar year.

I'M JOINING ASF FRANCE

