



2021 ACTIVITY REPORT



ASSOCIATION FOR HUMAN RIGHTS RESPECT
Geneva, Switzerland



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MESSAGE FROM THE COMITEE

Our ability to persevere and keep our activities going in the midst of Covid 19 pandemic was possible primarily for the reason that our different stakeholders agreed to participate in our various events by videoconference, sometimes in difficult technical contexts.

We particularly thank our guests for their grace and commitment to the fight for human rights despite the hardships and headwinds across the globe.. They took upon themselves to prepare and anticipate potentials technical problems in order to allow the debates to occur with fluidity.

Minou Chry-Tal, *feminist activist*

Me Tchakounté Chantal, *lawyer at the bar of Cameroon*

Amougou Talia, *autor*

Mefo Takambou Mimi, *journalist of the year 2018 in Cameroon, freedom of expression prize 2019, one of the 40 influential African women (AWP 2018)*

Kemmegne Cyrille, *journalist (25 years of experience), writer and philosopher*

Dietrich Thomas, *romancier, novelist, journalist and fervent activist against France-Africa*

Muhozi Innocent, *journalist and director, ex-president of the Observatory of the press in Burundi.*

Fosso Ursule, *founder of the association Trait d'union*

Tchamadeu Jospin, *Cameroon referent and community manager of the Trait d'union association*

Bianda Jean-Pierre, *father of an albino child*

Dr Fomunyoh Christopher, *CEO and ounder of NDI / C. &W. Africa*

Forson Baaba Opokua, *CEO and founder of Absolute Script consultancy*

Kouame Parfait, *chief department at Wilmar*

We thank you for your contribution to the fight for the respect of human rights in 2021!



2021 Events

Violence against women: a systemic wrongdoing

Femicide is one of the major scourges of the century. In 2017, UN Women France estimated that 50,000 women were killed by an intimate partner or a member of their family¹.

In October 2021, the results of a survey by the newspaper le temps, show that 42% of women questioned are affected by violence suffered within a couple².

To understand the phenomenon in African society, we received, as part of a conference debate held on March 6, 2021, an author on the issue of incest, a former victim of domestic violence who became a feminist activist for Women's Rights as well as a lawyer at the Cameroon Bar, who voluntarily defends many women who are victims of domestic violence.

What emerges from the debates is the great tolerance of African society in the face of domestic violence suffered by many women, regardless of their social level. This violence is perceived by families as the vagaries of marriage that a "good" wife should have the patience to bear without flaunting it so as not to dishonor her husband.

There was also a lack of training on the part of the social services as well as the judicial services whose role is to welcome and support the victims in the steps they wish to take to preserve their lives.

Medical personnel are not left out, as cases where victims are attacked by medical personnel while seeking help have been noted.

Even today, in Cameroon, the field of analysis of the conference, the call for help screamed by the victims is covered by the traditions which lead to the refusal to accept this violence as a social scourge whose public authorities should worry about it.

However, all hope is not in vain. Feminist activist Minou Chrys-Tayl and lawyer Me Tchakounté Chantal, through their work in the field, have been able to build a network of trusted people in the justice system who work diligently to rescue victims and support them in the process. obtaining justice and ensuring their protection.

¹ <https://www.onufemmes.fr/nos-actualites/2019/11/25/femicides-etat-des-lieux-de-la-situation-dans-le-monde>

² <https://www.letemps.ch/suisse/plus-40-femmes-declarent-souffert-violence-domestique>



Freedom of the press, what efforts still to be made

The press freedom situation is increasingly deteriorating. In 2021, in 52 countries out of 180, it is classified by Reports Without Borders as a difficult or very worrying situation³.

In order to examine the correlation between autocratic regimes and the decline of freedom of expression, on May 2, 2021, we invited:

- Mefo Takambou Mimi, journalist of the year 2018 in Cameroon, freedom of expression prize 2019, one of the 40 influential African women (AWP 2018)
- Kemmegne Cyrille, journalist (25 years of experience), writer and philosopher
- Dietrich Thomas, romancier, novelist, journalist and fervent activist against France-Africa
- Muhozi Innocent, journalist and director, ex-president of the Observatory of the press in Burundi.

Our 4 panelists, despite years of professional experience and the recognition of their peers, suffered serious repression by the autocratic governments of the countries in which they practiced their profession.

Thomas Dietrich was expelled from 5 African countries while practicing his profession as a journalist, Mimi Mefo, Cyrille Kemmegne and Innocent Muhozi have been living in exile for several years for having dealt with information, in particular on human rights violations, impartially.

The control of the autocratic regimes on the national media is such that the only way to access information that does not serve the autocratic regimes is through private media whose operation does not depend on subsidies and other public support as well as the use of social networks.

Unfortunately, African populations do not fully grasp the importance of media independence and the need to contribute to the proper functioning of the media.

³ <https://rsf.org/fr/donnees-classement?sort=asc&order=Score%20global>



Demystifying the albino person

“Deficit in melanin production”: this is the genetic and hereditary anomaly that characterizes the albino person.

The scientific explanation is known to all. However, in many African countries, magical virtues are attributed to different parts of the body of the albino person, especially in Benin, according to the Amnesty International report of November 29, 2019⁴.

They are often victims of kidnapping and murdered during ritual sacrifices.

Beyond these tragic endings still too often enumerated, the albino person is sometimes the victim of ridicule and prejudice from those around him.

Because we believe it is important to free speech to put an end to the mystical perception of the albino person, on June 13, 2021, we invited people affected by this hereditary anomaly to discuss it.

It appears that the albino person requires more precaution in his care in order to prevent skin diseases or improve his vision. The more she is surrounded and accompanied by her first circle of life (mainly family), the less she will suffer from her genetic particularity. This is decisive in her relationship with others and the way she sees herself.

World children's day

The rights of the child are prescribed by 54 articles of the international convention on the rights of the child, ratified by many countries.

The family, social, school environment, governments, have the responsibility to watch over these rights.

But what is it really?

For an inventory of children's rights, we organized a conference on the subject on November 20, 2021.

From the outset, Baaba Forson, CEO and founder of Absolute Script consultancy, which advises companies in the fight against child labor in the agro-industrial sector, asked us the question of whether we ourselves, in our family circle, respect children's rights. If the answer seemed obvious for the right to be protected, cared for, educated, the answers were mixed with regard to the right to leisure, freedom of information and expression and many others.

The first important element would therefore be to learn about the rights of children before tackling the question of their preservation.

⁴ <https://www.amnesty.fr/actualites/pour-gagner-de-largent-ou-une-election-pour-guerir>



As cultural heritage has a significant impact on the understanding of children's rights, it is important to be aware of this bias in order to guard against it when discussing the issue of children's rights.

Moreover, contexts of social crisis are conducive to violations of children's rights. In his presentation on monitoring children in the context of the Anglophone crisis in Cameroon (several visits to refugee camps in Nigeria), Dr. Cristopher Fomunyoh, CEO and founder of NDI / C. & W. Africa denounced the inability of young children to be able to continue to go to school, to eat properly, to have a refuge and to benefit from the protection of adults.

For Parfait Kouame, head of department at Wilmar, children's rights will evolve when violations or non-respect of these rights are accompanied by sanctions.

ALRDH and the United Nations

Denunciation of human rights violations

In order to watch over human rights throughout the world, the United Nations relies, among other things, on the work of civil society, which is the first contact on the ground. This privileged position makes it possible to quickly report violations of rights and make recommendations to remedy them.

It is in this context that in 2021, we continued the work of denouncing human rights violations in Cameroon, to the Special Procedures of the Human Rights Council.

ALRDH at the United Nations

With a view to strengthening collaboration with the United Nations, we have applied for accreditation as a special adviser to the United Nations. The procedure is underway.

Human Rights Prize

The experience on the ground made us understand how difficult it is to commit to the respect of human rights. In order to strengthen the determination of people active in the field, we have created a prize to reward individual or collective people active in the fight for the respect of Human Rights.

The 2021 edition was unfortunately canceled because, of the twenty applications received, only 3 seemed serious and after examinations, the statements of the candidates were not proven.

We have made the choice to cancel the award and based on the experiences gained, we are working on a new concept to improve the application submission process in 2022.



Members

In 2022, we registered 1 more active member as well as two supporting members.

Financial statement

Balance sheet

BALANCE SHEET AS AT DECEMBER 31, 2021

	31.12.21	31.12.20
ASSETS	CHF	CHF
Net cash	1 796,07	1 296,17
Receivables	0,00	240,00
TOTAL ASSETS	1 796,07	1 536,17
LIABILITIES		
Membership paid in advance	180,00	0,00
Reported benefit	1 536,17	231,97
Exercice's benefit	79,90	1 304,20
TOTAL LIABILITIES	1 796,07	1 304,20

Geneva, February 2nd, 2022



Income statement

INCOME STATEMENT FOR THE PERIOD FROM JANUARY 1st TO DECEMBER 31st 2021

	FROM 01.01.2021 TO 31.12.2021	FROM 01.01.2020 TO 31.12.2020
INCOMES		CHF
Membership contributions	1092,73	1585,00
Membership donations	0,00	516,00
Donations from non-members	200,00	10,00
Donations organisations	502,27	0,00
TOTAL INCOMES	1795,00	2111,00
EXPENSES		
Rent of conference rooms	0,00	125,00
Various fees for speakers	808,85	470,00
Document printing costs	0,00	75,00
Members representation expenses	844,15	0,00
Bank fees	62,10	61,80
General Assembly fees	0,00	75,00
TOTAL EXPENSES	1 715,10	806,80
Exercice's benefit	79,90	1 304,20

Geneva, February 2nd, 2022

2022 Outlook

The call for applications for the ALRDH prize will be made in June 2022.

Objective to increase the number of members to 20.



Association for human rights respect
Chemin des Fraisiers 9, 1212 Grand-Lancy
IBAN CH78 0900 0000 1524 8410 0
Numéro de compte 15-248410-0
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<https://alrdh.org>