

Newsletter

Featuring

- ASF France holds digital rights training for judges and lawyers in Lagos and Imo State
- Raising Awareness of Young People on Digital Rights
- ASF France hosts the second e-RIGHTS steering committee meeting
- e-RIGHTS partners pay Courtesy Visits to NCC, NDPC
- ASF France Convenes the First Digital Rights Policy Drafting Workshop for Digital Rights Experts
- ASF France and Human Rights Journalists Network (HRJN) Hold Panel Discussion to Improve State of Press Freedom in Nigeria
- e-RIGHTS upcoming activities - innovative ways to enhance digital rights in Nigeria.

#eRIGHTS
#Digital Rights
#SaferOnlineSpaces

About the e-RIGHTS Project

Enhancing Digital Rights in Nigeria (e-RIGHTS) project is a European Union and Avocats Lille Solidarité funded project, implemented in Nigeria by Avocats sans Frontières France in partnership with the Centre for Information Technology and Development (CITAD) and Spaces for Change (S4C).

The project is aimed at promoting the rights of Nigerians in the digital sphere, harnessing opportunities and addressing challenges provided by new technologies.

The project will respond directly to the needs of Nigerian youths, activists, journalists, online news platforms, bloggers, social media influencers, human rights defenders, and active citizens to have access to a free and open internet. [Click here to learn more](#)



ASF France Holds Digital Rights Training for Judges and Lawyers from Lagos & Imo States

The strategic importance of Judges and Lawyers in ensuring the enjoyment of digital rights of Nigerian citizens cannot be overstated, thus, ASF France along with its e-RIGHTS partners, CITAD and Spaces for Change trained 14 Judges and 20 Lawyers from Lagos and Imo States on the 29th - 30th of January 2024 and 1st - 2nd of February 2024 respectively.

The trainings which was implemented under the European Union and Avocats Lille Solidarité funded e-RIGHTS project was aimed at ensuring that the judicial and legal actors are equipped to handle digital rights cases with greater understanding and sensitivity.

These trainings are in tandem with similar trainings implemented under the e-RIGHTS project for judges and lawyers from FCT and Kano State in 2023.

The French Expert Trainer for ASF France, Mr. Ivan Paneff in his remarks at the training said "it is imperative that judges and lawyers are updated on European and international standards for a safer internet and freedom of speech in the digital space. They play a critical role in every rights-based issue in Nigeria". The Chief Judge of Lagos State Hon. Justice A. J. Coker said "the significance of a training on digital rights for judges and lawyers cannot be overemphasised, judges and lawyers must really be up to date with European and international standards to properly protect the digital rights of Nigerians".

This training delivered by experts from France continues to pave the way for the provision of free legal aid to victims of digital rights violations and the development of the legal jurisprudence on digital rights thematic in Nigeria. Mr. Akeem Adetunde esq, a lawyer from lagos and beneficiary of the training expressed his gratitude to the e-RIGHTS project saying "As lawyers and judges, we are key actors that can drive any positive change with regards to digital rights. A training like this is highly welcome and commendable. A big thank you to the e-RIGHTS project team for this".

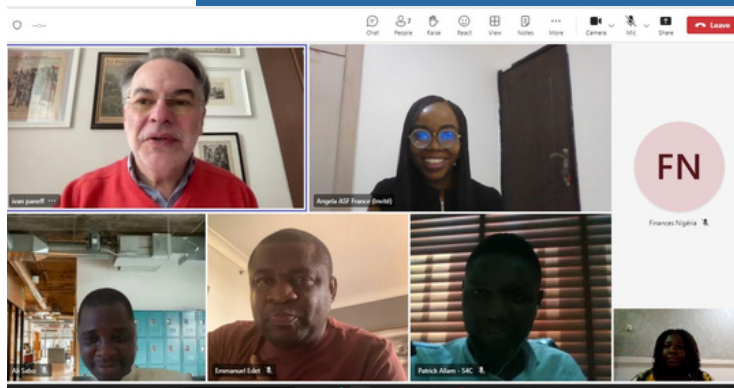




Raising Awareness of Young People and Children with Special Needs on Digital Rights

In March 2024, CITAD in partnership with Avocats Sans Frontières France and Spaces for Change (S4C) held a sensitization on internet safety and security for students of Government Girls Secondary Schools Hausawa & Dorayi Karama in Kano State.

Students were empowered with tools and techniques to help them stay protected during engagements in the digital space. A female student, Aisha Hannatu said "I feel empowered, now I can take steps to protect myself online".



ASF France hosts the third e-RIGHTS project steering committee meeting

On the 28th of February 2024, ASF France convened the third project steering committee meeting in Abuja, Nigeria. The hybrid meeting was attended by project implementing organisations, partners and critical stakeholders.

The project steering committee meeting provided a platform to review the project outcomes so far in line with pre-set targets and mitigate implementation challenges while developing and adopting strategies aimed at ensuring efficient project delivery.



e-RIGHTS partners pay Courtesy Visits to NCC, NDPC

On the 14th of May, 2024 ASF France and its e-RIGHTS partners, CITAD and Spaces for Change paid courtesy visits to two key stakeholders in the digital rights space in Nigeria; the National Communications Commission (NCC) and the Nigeria Data Protection Commission (NDPC). The visits were aimed at strengthening ties with the commissions in line with the e-RIGHTS project mandate of enhancing digital rights in Nigeria.



FIRST WORKSHOP NIGERIAN DIGITAL RIGHTS EXPERT GROUP

DATE
25 April, 2024

TIME
10:00AM WAT

LOCATION
Virtual



Funded by
the European Union



ASF France Convenes the First Digital Rights Policy Drafting Workshop for Digital Rights Experts

On the 25th of April, 2024, ASF France in collaboration with its e-RIGHTS project partners hosted the first digital rights policy drafting workshop for digital rights experts. The virtual activity was in line with the mandates of the e-RIGHTS project to enhance digital rights enjoyment in Nigeria. The policy drafting workshop was aimed at;

- 1) Drafting a digital policy reform guide that can be adopted to strengthen digital rights policies and legislation in Nigeria.
- 2) Improving the understanding of the group of digital rights experts on international standards and best practices on digital rights.
- 3) Strengthening the capacity of the group of experts to protect and promote digital rights in Nigeria
- 4) Facilitating the reinforcement of the existing policies and development of the new ones to promote digital rights in Nigeria.

ASF France and Human Rights Journalists Network (HRJN) Hold Panel Discussion to Improve State of Press Freedom in Nigeria

To commemorate the 2024 World Press Freedom Day, Avocats Sans Frontières France (Lawyers without Borders France) in partnership with the Human Rights Journalists Network (HRJN) convened a panel discussion on the 6th of May, 2024 to improve the state of press freedom in Nigeria. The virtual event was themed 'Shaping a Future of Rights: Improving the State of Press Freedom in Nigeria' and was attended by private and public sector. The panel discussion was aimed at spotlighting key issues affecting press freedom in Nigeria and improving the capacity of attendees on global standards for press freedom and engagement.

AVOCATS SANS FRONTIERES France

HUMAN RIGHTS JOURNALISTS NETWORK NIGERIA

WEBINAR

WORLD PRESS FREEDOM DAY

Shaping a Future of Rights: Improving the State of Press Freedom in Nigeria

KEHINDE ADEGBOYEGBE
Founder & E.D,
Human Rights Journalists Network - Nigeria

KEMI FOLA-ADEYEMO
Senior Newscaster &
Judiciary correspondent,
TVC News

CHIHEZIE IBEH
Broadcast Journalist,
Voice of Nigeria (VON)

MOJEED ALABI
Development Editor,
Premium Times

06 MAY, 2024
11:00AM WAT

[HTTPS://T.LY/6-XKD](https://t.ly/6-xkd)

Upcoming Activities – Innovative Ways to Enhance Digital Rights in Nigeria.

In the next quarter, the e-RIGHTS project will;

- Launch the upgraded Closing Civic Spaces e-platform to enable reporting and tracking of digital rights violations in West Africa under the e-RIGHTS project.
- Launch advocacy videos by e-RIGHTS digital rights advocates which would shape online behaviour of Nigerian social media users.
- Hold a digital rights content creation contest for Nigerian women.
- Hold a digital rights content creation contest for secondary school students in FCT Abuja, Imo, Kano and Lagos States.
- Launch a situation room for government authorities, digital rights experts and digital activists to engage and strengthen digital rights in Nigeria.



Funded by
the European Union



The e-RIGHTS is funded by the European Union and Avocats Lille Solidarité, and implemented by Avocats Sans Frontières France in Nigeria, in partnership with Spaces for Change (S4C), and the Centre for Information Technology and Development (CITAD).

The contents of this publication are the sole responsibility of ASF France and do not necessarily reflect the position of the donor.



office.nigeria@avocatssansfrontieres-france.org



+234 701 061 9353