

# LONDA 2025

## DIGITAL RIGHTS & INCLUSION IN AFRICA REPORT

### Cameroon

Country Report



PARADIGM  
INITIATIVE



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# Cameroon

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## Executive Summary

In 2025, several internet outages and disruptions<sup>1</sup>, network technical problems, monitoring and surveillance of personal data, and intimidation of journalists for expressing their opinions all contributed to violations of digital rights in Cameroon. This study aims to demonstrate how these violations impact respect for the rule of law and the development of democracy, in addition to highlighting efforts implemented to promote digital inclusion and mitigate these defects. Based on

various Cameroonian practices and laws, we focus on identifying the mechanisms of online violations of digital rights and freedoms, assessing the shortcomings of the current legal framework, and finally evaluating progress, particularly new laws that support respect for digital rights and digital inclusion.

Our research methodology employs a mixed-methods approach, combining semi-structured interviews and

testimonies with users and stakeholders in the internet ecosystem, along with a quantitative analysis of data on violations and progress recorded in telecommunications systems, platforms, and internet users for the period up to 2025. The overall methodology utilises the Paradigm Initiative’s Score Index<sup>2</sup>. The data in this report are collected through a review of legislation, government policy documents, press articles, and public statements; a comparative analysis of regional and international human rights instruments; and an analysis of progress in digital policies.

Cases of digital rights violations in Cameroon in 2025 are a central concern,

given the socio-political context. Recorded violations include internet shutdowns, arrests of journalists and activists, website censorship, website blocking, social media blocking, internet network disruptions, communications monitoring or mass surveillance systems, and theft of personal data. The 2025 report analyses the legal framework governing Cameroon’s digital landscape through the following laws: the 2024 law on the protection of personal data, the 2023 law on the protection of children online<sup>3</sup>, the 2010 law on cybersecurity and cybercrime, the 2010 law on electronic communications<sup>4</sup>, the 2011 framework law on consumer protection<sup>5</sup>, and the 2012 decree establishing the

1. Reuters “Cameroon’s Internet access disrupted as election protests continue” <https://www.reuters.com/world/africa/internet-connectivity-cameroon-is-significantly-disrupted-netblocks-says-2025-10-23/> (Accessed on December 20, 2025).
2. Paradigm Initiative “The Score (TS) Index” <https://paradigmhq.org/londa-score-index/#:~:text=Where%20there%20is%20a%20bill,publishes%20reports%20of%20actions%20taken.&text=When%20countries%20,,is-sue%20content%20removal,allows%20a%20right%20of%20appeal.> (Accessed on November 24, 2025).
3. Presidency of the Republic of Cameroon. “Law No. 2023/009 of July 25, 2023, establishing a charter for the protection of children online in Cameroon” <https://www.prc.cm/fr/multimedia/documents/9701-loi-n-2023-009-du-25-07-2023> (Accessed on November 24, 2025).
4. Telecommunications Regulatory Agency. “Law No. 2010/021 of December 21, 2010 governing electronic commerce in Cameroon” [https://www.art.cm/sites/default/files/documents/Loi\\_2010-013\\_communications\\_electroniques.pdf](https://www.art.cm/sites/default/files/documents/Loi_2010-013_communications_electroniques.pdf) (Accessed on November 24, 2025).
5. Ministry of Commerce. “Framework Law No. 2011/012 of May 6, 2011 on consumer protection in Cameroon” <https://www.mincommerce.gov.cm/sites/default/files/documents/loi-cadre-n-2011-012-du-06-mai-2011-portant-protection-du-consommateur-au-cameroun.pdf> (Accessed on November 24, 2025).

procedures for managing the Special Telecommunications Fund<sup>6</sup>. Due to the socio-political context, particularly the presidential election of October 12, 2025<sup>7</sup>, Cameroon experienced major internet outages between October

23 and November 7, 2025, according to a report by OONI<sup>8</sup>. All electronic communication systems were severely disrupted both before and after the announcement of the presidential election results.



6. National Agency for Information and Communication Technologies. "Decree No. 2012/308 of June 26, 2012, establishing the procedures for managing the Special Telecommunications Fund" [https://www.antic.cm/images/stories/data/IMG/pdf/decrets/Modalites\\_de%20gestion\\_FST-26-06-2012.pdf](https://www.antic.cm/images/stories/data/IMG/pdf/decrets/Modalites_de%20gestion_FST-26-06-2012.pdf). (Accessed on November 24, 2025).
7. Business Human Rights: "Cameroon: Internet access disruptions as the country awaits presidential election results" <https://www.business-humanrights.org/fr/derni%C3%A8res-actualit%C3%A9s/cameroun-perturbations-de-lacc%C3%A8s-%C3%A0-internet-alors-que-le-pays-attend-les-r%C3%A9sultats-de-l%C3%A9lection-pr%C3%A9sidentielle/> (Accessed on November 24, 2025).
- 8.

## Introduction

Cameroon's real GDP grew by 3.5% between 2024 and 2025, compared to 3.2% in 2023<sup>9</sup>. Cameroon is a lower-middle-income country with a population of 28.37 million in 2023.<sup>10</sup> By 2025, mobile phone penetration had reached 87%, while internet penetration was 41.9%, representing a year-on-year increase of 2.6%<sup>11</sup>. 4G/5G coverage reached 64.72% of the country. Cameroon has over 25 million connected devices and 12.87 million internet users<sup>12</sup>. According to a report entitled "State of Digital Development and Trends in Africa: Challenges and Opportunities", published in April 2025 by the International

Telecommunication Union (ITU), more than 40% of Cameroonians used the Internet individually in 2023<sup>13</sup>. In the context of the evolution of ICT in Africa for 2025, Cameroon ranks 30th out of 42 countries with 46.3 points, indicating progress in the ICT sector.

In 2025, Cameroon made slight progress in its strategy for developing its internet ecosystem. The National Development Strategy 2020-2030 (SND30),<sup>14</sup> which outlines the main areas for infrastructure development and technological growth, recorded progress in 2025, according to

9. <https://www.banquemondiale.org/fr/news/press-release/2025/07/15/cameroon-economic-update-harnessing-forests-and-natural-wealth-for-sustainable-growth>
10. World Bank "Cameroon" <https://www.banquemondiale.org/ext/fr/country/cameroon> (Accessed on November 24, 2025).
11. Kamer Android. "Internet and social networks in Cameroon: key figures for 2025" [https://kamer-android.com/2025/02/26/internet-et-reseaux-sociaux-au-cameroun-les-chiffres-cles-de-2025/?srsltid=AfmBOoqjkOt-0mpuDjH4Uj3LSP0YUCDtYoMKz4bB\\_9hm569qg5SPkVw1](https://kamer-android.com/2025/02/26/internet-et-reseaux-sociaux-au-cameroun-les-chiffres-cles-de-2025/?srsltid=AfmBOoqjkOt-0mpuDjH4Uj3LSP0YUCDtYoMKz4bB_9hm569qg5SPkVw1) (Accessed on November 24, 2025).
12. Kamer Android. "Internet and social networks in Cameroon: key figures for 2025" <https://www.teamfrance-export.fr/fiche-marche/tech/telecom-internet-et-broadcast/CM> (Accessed on November 24, 2025).
13. Investing in Cameroon. "Internet: With over 40% of individuals active, Cameroon surpasses the African average despite lagging behind in broadband access." <https://www.investiraucameroun.com/telecom/1606-22118-internet-avec-plus-de-40-d-individus-actifs-le-cameroun-depasse-la-moyenne-en-afrique-malgre-le-retard-sur-le-haut-debit> (Accessed on November 24, 2025)
14. Ministry of Economy, Planning and Regional Development 'SND30' <https://minepat.gov.cm/fr/snd30/>

a report<sup>15</sup> from the steering committee. However, the reform of laws on information and communication technologies (ICTs), which had been initiated, made little progress in 2025, despite the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications (MINPOSTEL) announcing an urgent review of several laws.

## Internet Access and

## Network Disruptions

Cameroon experienced several internet and telecommunications network disruptions in October and November 2025<sup>16</sup>. Amid the post-election crisis, internet networks were completely shut

down for several hours on the morning of October 23, 2025, the date initially scheduled for the Constitutional Council of Cameroon to announce the presidential election results. According to a report published by OONI<sup>17</sup>, partial internet disruptions were severe between November 1 and 7, 2025, affecting major platforms including TikTok, Facebook, Instagram, and Telegram. During the same period, communications and messaging services were disrupted across the country<sup>18</sup>.

Cameroon is one of the countries in sub-Saharan Africa where broadband internet prices remain high<sup>19</sup>. Despite the high costs, the quality of internet

15. Minepat. "Implementation of the SND30" <https://minepat.gov.cm/2025/12/16/mise-en-oeuvre-de-la-snd30-des-progres-significatifs-enregistres/#:~:text=La%20session%20de%202025%20du,ajuster%20la%20trajectoire%202025%2D2030>. (Accessed on December 20, 2025).
16. Investing in Cameroon: 'Internet disrupted in Cameroon due to a failure on submarine cables' <https://www.investiraucameroun.com/telecom/1503-20447-internet-perturbe-au-cameroun-a-cause-d-une-panne-sur-des-cables-sous-marins> (Accessed on November 24, 2025).
17. OONI. "Cameroon blocked social media amid post-election protests" <https://explorer.ooni.org/findings/393608039300> (Accessed on November 24, 2025).
18. Investing in Cameroon: "Poor network quality: Camtel and Orange Cameroon pass the buck amid widespread discontent" <https://www.investiraucameroun.com/gestion-publique/1802-21669-mauvaise-qualite-du-reseau-camtel-et-orange-cameroun-se-renvoient-la-responsabilite-dans-un-climat-de-mecontentement> (Accessed on December 20, 2025).
19. Ecofin Agency. "In sub-Saharan Africa, the price of broadband remains the most expensive" <https://www.agencecofin.com/actualites/2104-127727-en-afrique-subsaharienne-le-prix-du-haut-debit-reste-le-plus-cher-du-monde-uit> (Accessed December 20, 2025).

services is frequently poor<sup>20</sup>. Despite the high costs, the quality of internet services is frequently poor. At Orange Cameroon and MTN, 2 gigabytes cost 1,000 FCFA (US\$1.80) for 24 hours. At Camtel, 1 gigabyte costs 500 FCFA (US\$0.90). Settings facilitating connections without internet credit for MTN and Orange operators were deactivated for users during October and November 2025.

Disruptions to internet networks, whether intentional or unintentional, constitute a violation of Principle 38(2) of the Declaration of Principles of the African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights (ACHPR), which states that "States shall not tolerate or be involved in the interruption of access to the internet and other digital technologies targeting segments of the population or the entire population."

## Freedom of Expression

## and Access to

## Information

In 2025, freedom of expression in Cameroon was severely threatened due to the presidential election. Journalists, activists, and bloggers were intimidated, directly or indirectly, for their online opinions or political choices. A month before the presidential election, a letter from the president of the National Communication Council (CNC) called for the suspension, effective September 27, 2025, of political debate programmes on several private media outlets, including Radio Télévision Siantou and Equinoxe TV.<sup>21</sup>

The post-election<sup>22</sup> crisis that shook the entire country, compounded by the political crises in the two Anglophone

20. Invest in Cameroon. "Poor network quality: Camtel and Orange Cameroon pass the buck in a climate of discontent" <https://www.investiraucameroun.com/gestion-publique/1802-21669-mauvaise-qualite-du-reseau-camtel-et-orange-cameroun-se-renvoient-la-responsabilite-dans-un-climat-de-mecontentement> (accessed November 24, 2025).

21. DW "Presidential election in Cameroon: the media as spectators" <https://www.dw.com/fr/cameroun-medias-debats-politiques/a-73981995> (accessed on December 20, 2025).

22. Amnesty International 'Cameroon rampant atrocities amid anglophone regions must be stopped' <https://www.amnesty.org/fr/latest/news/2023/07/cameroon-rampant-atrocities-amid-anglophone-regions-must-be-stopped/> (accessed November 24, 2025).

regions, continues to negatively impact social life and freedom of expression in Cameroon. Within this context of crisis, political disinformation is on the rise, with consequences for young women and girls involved in politics.<sup>23</sup>

For nearly 10 years, hate speech has generally pitted supporters of the ruling Cameroon People’s Democratic Movement (CPDM) against supporters of opposition parties, notably the Movement for the Renaissance of Cameroon (MRC) and the Cameroon Party for National Reconciliation (PCRN).<sup>24 25</sup> In Cameroon, Law No. 2019/020 criminalises hate speech. In Cameroon, Law No. 2019/020 criminalises hate speech.<sup>26</sup> As of 2025, no explicit convictions for hate speech

had been handed down in Cameroon.

Since the election of October 12, 2025, demands for LGBTQ+ rights have been increasingly voiced. This demand for respect for LGBTQ+ rights is championed by Alice Nkom,<sup>27</sup> a lawyer and human rights advocate. Certain provisions of the law of December 12, 2010, relating to cybersecurity and cybercrime stifle freedom of expression, in particular Article 78,<sup>28</sup> which punishes “anyone who publishes or disseminates by means of electronic communications or an information system news without being able to provide proof of its veracity or justify that he had good reasons to believe in the truth of said news”<sup>29</sup>, as well as communications from LGBTQ+ communities.<sup>30</sup>

23. WACSI “Disinformation in Cameroon: How false narratives affect the rights of girls and women” <https://fr.wacsi.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/07/Issue-Paper-FR-Desinformation-au-Cameroun-comment-les-faux-recits-affectent-les-droits-des-filles-et-des-femmes-2.pdf> (Accessed on December 20, 2025).

24. MRC <https://mrcparty.net/>

25. PCRN <https://www.pcrn-france.fr/>

26. Article 241(2), Law No. 2019/020 of December 24, 2019, supplementing certain provisions of Law No. 2016/007 of July 12, 2016, establishing the Penal Code

27. BBC “I will always defend homosexuals because they are thrown in prison like dogs” <https://www.bbc.com/afrique/articles/c30n6j3gng8o> (accessed 24 November 2025).

28. AFAD “Cameroon-Law-relative-to-cybersecurity-and-cybercrime-of-21” <https://www.afapdp.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/Cameroun-Loi-relative-a-la-cybersecurite-et-a-la-cybercriminalite-du-21-decembre-2010.pdf> (accessed December 20, 2025).

29. Article 78(1), Law No. 2010/012 of December 21, 2010 relating to cybersecurity and cybercrime in Cameroon.

30. Article 83(1), Law No. 2010/012 of December 21, 2010 relating to cybersecurity and cybercrime in Cameroon.

In 2025, Meta’s transparency report indicates that the Cameroonian government made one (1) data access request for legal proceedings<sup>31</sup> and one (1) request for user account data. No emergency disclosure requests were made during this period.

Between 2023 and 2025, 38 global restrictions<sup>32</sup> requested by Meta based on community standards were applied to platform users in Cameroon.

All the requested data relates to cases of legal proceedings. Content restrictions were implemented by Meta based on Cameroonian legislation, specifically the law on cybersecurity and cybercrime, during the same period. Meta responded to the Cameroonian government’s requests for data access, but the rate of compliance and due diligence was

not indicated. The government did not make any requests to remove user data from the TikTok platform. In 2025, Google<sup>33</sup> received no requests from the government to remove content. Regarding freedom of expression, the state continues to control certain media outlets, sensitive online content, and the opinions of opposition leaders and some journalists, an attitude contrary to Principle 41<sup>34</sup> of the African Declaration on Human and Peoples’ Rights.

### **Data protection, Privacy, and cybersecurity**

Cameroonian cyberspace was the victim of several types of attacks in 2025,<sup>35</sup> including hacking of the Ascoma Cameroon (ASCOMA)

31. Meta. “Cameroon”. <https://transparency.meta.com/reports/government-data-requests/country/CM/> (accessed November 24, 2025).

32. Meta. “Cameroon”. <https://transparency.meta.com/reports/content-restrictions/country/CM/> (accessed November 24, 2025)

33. Google. “Cameroon”. <https://transparencyreport.google.com/government-removals/government-requests/CM?hl=en> (accessed November 24, 2025).

34. ACHPR. Principle 41, Declaration of Principles on Freedom of Expression and Access to Information in Africa

35. Rhopen Labs “Cybersecurity in Cameroon in 2025: a national imperative in the face of growing threats and the crucial role of soclabs” <https://rhopenlabs.africa/2025/08/29/la-cybersecurite-au-cameroun-en-2025-un-imperatif-national-face-aux-menaces-croissantes-et-le-role-crucial-de-soclabs/> (Accessed on December 20, 2025).

36. Ransomware “ASCOMA Cameroon” <https://www.ransomware.live/id/QVNDT01BIENhbWVyb29uQHdvcmxkb-GVha3M=> (Accessed on December 20, 2025).

website,<sup>36</sup> phishing attacks, identity theft, and the theft of personal data. Faced with the scale of these cyber threats, Cameroonian authorities, through the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications (MINPOSTEL) and the National Agency for Information and Communication Technologies (ANTIC), as well as other civil society organisations, launched extensive cybersecurity awareness campaigns targeting young people in 2023

Cybersecurity and cybercrime are governed by a legal framework, specifically the 2010 law on cybersecurity and cybercrime.<sup>37</sup> In 2024, Law No. 2024/017 of December 23, 2024, relating to the protection of personal data was promulgated<sup>38</sup>, but this law is not applicable in terms of sanctions due to the absence of designation of the members of the Personal Data Protection Authority as defined by Article 53.

## Privacy and Monitoring

In 2025, no information was published regarding the evolution of state surveillance and the technologies deployed for this purpose. Cameroon has surveillance cameras at several intersections in major cities for security reasons, according to the police. The processing of personal data is not currently governed by the law on the protection of personal data. The 2025 elections did not benefit from this law regarding data management.

In the context of the 2025 elections, allegations were reported concerning the use of intrusive technologies by the government. These rumours mentioned software capable of tracking, grouping, tracing, and recording conversations of individuals in one or more WhatsApp groups to analyse user activity. No data was reported on technologies developing systems for monitoring disinformation.

37. Article 74, Law No. 2010/012 of December 21, 2010 relating to cybersecurity and cybercrime in Cameroon.

38. Presidency of the Republic of Cameroon 'Law No. 2024/017 of December 23, 2024, on the protection of personal data in Cameroon' <https://www.prc.cm/fr/multimedia/documents/10258-loi-n-2024-017-du-23-12-2024-web> (accessed November 24, 2025).

Although the nation has several surveillance cameras on the streets of major cities, there has been no information released in 2025 regarding biometric surveillance using facial recognition systems (FRS) and other biometric technologies for mass surveillance in public spaces and their implications for privacy, non-discrimination, and freedom of assembly.

### Evolution of ICT and

### Emerging Technologies

Cameroon has committed to the development of artificial intelligence and technological innovation. In July 2025, institutions, through the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications, initiated consultations aimed at developing a strategic plan for artificial intelligence.<sup>39</sup> However, the lack of enforcement of the law on the management of personal data hinders the regulation of emerging technologies

and innovation. Nevertheless, the Declaration of Principles on Freedom of Expression and Access to Information in Africa encourages states to commit to “the development, use, and application of artificial intelligence.”<sup>40</sup> Facial recognition technologies are not yet integrated into AI development processes in Cameroon. Furthermore, emerging technologies such as blockchain and VR/AR are not yet widely adopted. Opportunities for participation in public consultations and stakeholder consultations regarding policies related to new and emerging technologies are very limited, as most of the organisations consulted are public sector bodies.

### Digital Inclusion

The Special Telecommunications Fund mandates that telecom companies donate 3% of their yearly earnings to the nation’s technological infrastructure.<sup>41</sup> A second telecommunications financing

39. Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications <https://www.minpostel.gov.cm/index.php/en/actualites/485-conia> (accessed November 24, 2025).

40. ACHPR. Principle 39 (6), Declaration of Principles on Freedom of Expression and Access to Information in Africa

41. Investing in Cameroon: “As part of the development of the country’s technological infrastructure, the Special Telecommunications Fund stipulates that telecommunications operators contribute 3% of their annual turnover.” Telecommunications: ART collects 73 billion FCFA in royalties and generates a net profit of 12 billion in 2024 - Investing in Cameroon (Accessed December 20, 2025).

source for the ICT sector stipulates that “Network operators and service providers are subject to an annual fee of 1.5% of their revenue excluding taxes.”<sup>42</sup> In the same year, the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications (MINPOSTEL)<sup>43</sup> with assistance from the World Bank, developed a national strategy for the development of universal digital services, which was validated by the Cameroon Digital Transformation Acceleration Project (PATNUC), allowing Cameroon to take another step toward digital inclusion.









42. Article 34 (3), Law No. 2010/013 of 21 December 2010 Governing Electronic Communications in Cameroon






43. PATNUC “Digital for all: Cameroon validates its national universal service strategy” <https://patnuc.cm/2025/07/11/numerique-pour-tous-le-cameroun-valide-sa-strategie-nationale-de-service-universel/> (Accessed on December 20, 2025).

# The Score Index

Cameroon, 2025

1 = Totally non-compliant; 2 = Mildly compliant; 3 = Moderately compliant; 4 = Considerably compliant; 5 = Fully compliant

Indicator	ACHPR Principle	2024 Score	2024 Score	2025 Justification
Internet outages	P38(2)			In 2025, internet outages in Cameroon originate from telecommunications operators. Operators regularly provide only brief updates on network status regarding these incidents. <sup>44</sup>
Non-existent laws, policies and other measures aimed at promoting universal, equitable, affordable and meaningful access to the Internet	P37			The 2010 Cybersecurity and Cybercrime Act provides provisions for universal and equitable access to the Internet.
Criminalising fake news	P22(2)			Certain provisions of the Penal Code punish false news. <sup>45</sup>
Sedition legislation	P22(2)			The Penal Code punishes seditious cries or songs. <sup>46</sup>

Indicator	ACHPR Principle	2024 Score	2024 Score	2025 Justification
Arbitrary arrests and harassment of the media, human rights defenders and citizens	P20(1) & (2)	 3	 1	In 2025, some media men were harassed, threatened or arrested in connection with their opinions on the presidential election. <sup>47</sup>
Data protection legislation.	P42	 4	 3	Cameroon has a law on the protection of personal data, specifically Law No. 2024/017 of December 23, 2024, which is only partially applicable.  Businesses and stakeholders must comply by June 2026.
States intervene and demand the removal of online content by internet intermediaries.	P38 & P39(4)	 3	 3	By 2025, requests to remove content will be made within the framework of legal proceedings.
Breach of confidentiality of communications	P41	 4	 2	Invasions of privacy are occurring on a small scale.
The government's inability to proactively disclose and	P29(3)	 2	 1	Disclosure efforts are very limited.

Indicator	ACHPR Principle	2024 Score	2025 Score	2025 Justification
disseminate information on digital technologies.				
National strategies for AI and emerging technologies	P39(6)			An AI strategy exists for 2025. It has been updated. <sup>48</sup>
Adoption of laws, policies and measures specific to children that promote digital safety and children’s online privacy.	P8 P40(1)			Cameroon has a law on the digital safety of children. <sup>49</sup>
Digital Inclusion	P37(3)			The government has established a national program on digital technologies. In 2025, this program did not submit its activity report.

Total (out of 60):	2024: <b>31</b>	<b>2025</b>  <b>27</b>
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## Conclusion

Due to the electoral operations, Cameroon experienced widespread disruptions to its internet network in 2025. No immediate government sanctions were imposed on telecommunications operators for their failure to provide internet services. However, a few months before the presidential election

in Cameroon, the Telecommunications Regulatory Agency (ART), the regulator of telecom services in Cameroon, levied fines totalling 2.6 billion FCFA on mobile phone operators MTN and Orange Cameroon for poor service quality.<sup>50</sup>

These disruptions have had

1. Afriqueitnews “Internet disrupted in Cameroon: an incident on the submarine cable behind the outages” <https://afriqueitnews.com/tech-media/internet-perturbe-cameroun-incident-cable-sousmarin-derriere-coupures/#:~:text=les%20coupures%20%2D%20AITN-,Internet%20perturb%C3%A9%20au%20Cameroun%20:%20un%20incident%20sur%20le,sous%20E2%80%91marin%20derri%C3%A8re%20les%20coupures&text=Depuis%20le%2023%20octobre%202025,la%20remise%20en%20service%20compl%C3%A8te.> (Accessed December 20, 2025).
2. Article 113, Cameroonian Penal Code.
3. Article 235, Cameroonian Penal Code.
4. Article 113, Cameroonian Penal Code.
5. We Are Tech “Cameroon develops a national AI strategy based on seven pillars” <https://www.waretech.africa/fr/fils/actualites/tech/le-cameroun-developpe-une-strategie-nationale-de-l-ia-adossee-a-sept-piliers> (Accessed November 24, 2025).
6. Presidency of the Republic of Cameroon ‘Law No. 2023/009 of July 25, 2023 establishing a charter for the protection of children online in Cameroon’ <https://www.prc.cm/fr/multimedia/documents/9701-loi-n-2023-009-du-25-07-2023> (accessed November 24, 2025).
7. Invest in Cameroon “Quality of service: the telecoms regulator imposes fines of 2.6 billion FCFA on MTN and Orange Cameroon” <https://www.investiraucameroun.com/gestion-publique/0707-22216-qualite-de-service-le-regulateur-telecoms-inflige-des-amendes-de-2-6-milliards-de-fcfa-a-mtn-et-orange-cameroun> (Accessed on December 20, 2025).
8. Business Human Rights “Cameroon: Internet access disruptions as the country awaits presidential election results” <https://www.business-humanrights.org/fr/derni%C3%A8res-actualit%C3%A9s/cameroun-perturbations-de-l'acc%C3%A8s-%C3%A0-internet-alors-que-le-pays-attend-les-r%C3%A9sultats-de-l%C3%A9lection-pr%C3%A9sidentielle/> (Accessed December 20, 2025).
9. British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) <https://www.bbc.com/afrique/region-41449099> (accessed 24 November 2025).

repercussions on neighbouring countries.<sup>51</sup> Several principles of the African Charter have been violated, including those concerning freedom of expression, access to information, and the protection of personal data. Despite these violations, the government has demonstrated a commitment to

improving digital rights and inclusion through ongoing reforms that promote legal instruments related to digital rights and freedoms. Cameroon recorded more than 10 days of internet disruptions in 2025 aimed at stifling political demands and limiting hate speech, as was the case in 2017.<sup>52</sup>

## Recommendations

### To the Government

- Prepare a report on the use of personal data and emerging technologies, and the implementation of the personal data law;
- Launch broad consultations for the development of the National Artificial Intelligence Strategy;
- Conduct an independent audit and ensure transparency in technology markets.

### In Parliament

- Equip the country with new, appropriate laws and regulations that take into account the evolution of ICTs;
- Strengthen regulations on hateful and dangerous online content.

### To Civil Society Organizations and Individuals



- Develop advocacy efforts and increase awareness-raising activities on the use of personal data;
- Strengthen the capacity of stakeholders regarding generative AI and digital rights.

### To Telecommunications Companies



- Ensure transparent communication regarding disruptions and incidents on telecommunications networks;
- Limit access to data in cases of illegal requests from government institutions.



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