

LONDA 2025

DIGITAL RIGHTS & INCLUSION IN AFRICA REPORT

Mozambique

Country Report



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Mozambique

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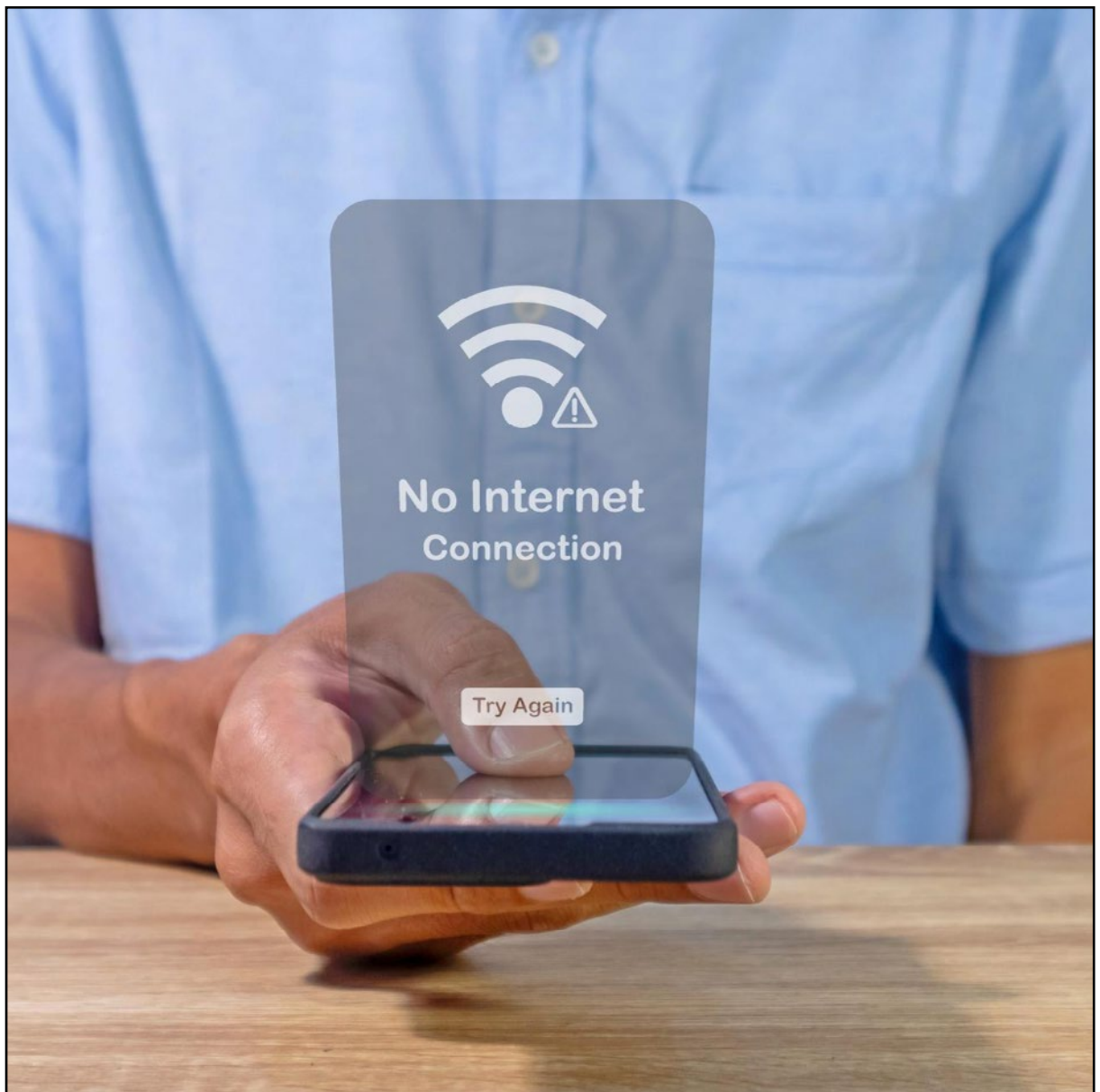
Executive Summary

This report examines the evolving state of freedoms and access to information in Mozambique. It is based on a qualitative methodology, primarily involving a desk review and similar reports related to the topic under research. An index is used in this research to evaluate Mozambique's digital rights situation. It is a qualitative assessment intended to highlight the various difficulties the nation faces, both offline and online. This report highlights the precarious state of digital rights, with

an index score of 24 points that reflects both the severe gaps in the protection of basic freedoms online and the progress in expanding connectivity. The score emphasises areas such as freedom of expression, media independence, transparency, and legal protections against arbitrary digital restrictions, even though initiatives such as public access points, digital inclusion in schools, and rural connectivity projects have improved access to information and

communications. The index also highlights the asymmetric nature of Mozambique's digital ecosystem, where technological and infrastructural advancements are not yet matched by institutional capacity, regulatory clarity, or civic oversight. In this context, the score serves as a benchmark

for targeted interventions, signalling the urgent need for coordinated action by government, civil society, academia, and the private sector to strengthen digital rights, ensure accountability, and build a resilient, inclusive, and rights-respecting digital environment.



Introduction

Mozambique had a relatively stable political and digital landscape in 2025 following a turbulent era punctuated by internet outages, albeit this peace was nonetheless brittle and uneven. Gradually, connectivity was restored in February 2025, and online public discourse slowly reappeared, with digital platforms once more becoming forums for political commentary, information exchange, and civic engagement. Nonetheless, the recollection of recent disruptions continued to influence user behaviour, with journalists, activists, and other citizens engaging in online activities while increasing self-censorship and risk-avoidance.

State-run media outlets dominate the Mozambican media industry, often producing favourable coverage of the government. However, some smaller independent publications provide valuable coverage. Journalists routinely face government pressure, harassment, and intimidation, which often leads to

self-censorship. The government has been known to retaliate against critical journalists, including cancelling public advertising contracts.¹ In recent years, journalists and political pundits who appear on television programs have been attacked and kidnapped. Police regularly harass, assault, and detain journalists.²

According to Reporters Without Borders, the election of Daniel Chapo in October 2024, followed by violent clashes that resulted in over 300 deaths, has further exacerbated the alarming decline of press freedom in Mozambique. Media ownership and advertising are two other ways that the State exercises control over the press. Large state-owned businesses that inherited the hyper-centralised economy of the communist era place the majority of the advertisements. This makes it easier for both State and privately held media outlets to heavily influence editorial choices, giving them little freedom to criticise the president.

1. Reporters Without Borders – Mozambique <https://rsf.org/en/country/mozambique>, accessed on 22 November 2025.
2. Freedom House – Freedom in Mozambique <https://freedomhouse.org/country/mozambique/freedom-world/2025>, accessed on 22 November 2025.

Internet Access

In early 2025, a total of 17.7 million cellular mobile connections were active in Mozambique, equivalent to 50.4% of the total population. However, note that some of these connections may include only services such as voice and SMS, and some may not include internet access. There were 6.96 million internet users in Mozambique at the start of 2025, with online penetration at 19.8%. Mozambique had 3.70 million social media user identities in January 2025, equating to 10.5% of the total population.

According to the same source³, data shows that Mozambique's population increased by 1.0 million (+2.9 per cent) between early 2024 and the start of 2025. Meanwhile, in early 2025, 39.6% of Mozambique's population lived in urban centres, whereas 60.4% lived in rural areas. At that time, 51.5% of Mozambique's population was female, while 48.5% of the population was

male. Data from GSMA Intelligence shows that there were 17.7 million cellular mobile connections in Mozambique at the beginning of 2025. For perspective, many people use more than one mobile connection, so it's not unusual for mobile connection figures to significantly exceed those for the total population. However, this practice hasn't yet pushed mobile connectivity rates in Mozambique beyond 100%, and GSMA Intelligence's figures indicate that mobile connections in Mozambique accounted for 50.4% of the total population in January 2025.

On December 16 2025, the Mozambican Council of Ministers enacted Decree No. 48/2025, which establishes new, strict regulations for telecommunications traffic control and authorizes the suspension or blocking of internet services during "imminent risks" to public security⁴. This decree aims to combat cyberattacks and fraudulent traffic but has raised concerns about state-sanctioned digital censorship. In January 2025, CDD warned that legalising

3. DataReportal, Digital in Mozambique <https://datareportal.com/reports/digital-2025-angola>, accessed on 4 January 2026.
4. Club of Mozambique, Mozambique introduces new regulation to tighten telecom traffic control and security <https://clubofmozambique.com/news/mozambique-introduces-new-regulation-to-tighten-telecom-traffic-control-and-security/>, accessed on 4 January 2026.

the blocking of communications constitutes a social control strategy incompatible with the Democratic Rule of Law.⁵ In the petition submitted to the Ombudsman, CDD argues that these provisions constitute serious and unconstitutional restrictions.

Freedom of expression

The Constitution of the Republic⁶ and access to information legislation guarantees freedom of expression, especially for the media. The Press Act 1991 governs the mass media, which covers print, broadcasting, and cinema. According to this law, before starting activities, the mass media must register with the Information Office, or GABINFO. Registration is not optional, as it can only be denied when an applicant fails to comply with the legal requirements and conditions established by law. With regard to print media, the Press Act

further requires periodicals to disclose, in each printed edition, essential information such as the publication's circulation and the identities of its owners, editors, directors, and printer.

Article 48 of the Constitution of the Republic guarantees freedom of expression only to citizens, not to all persons, which is unique amongst SADC states.⁷ A more positive attribute of the provision is that it discusses explicitly freedom of the press, with an unusual degree of detail about what freedom of the press entails, including “freedom of journalistic expression and creativity, access to sources of information, protection of independence and professional secrecy, and the right to establish newspapers, publications and other means of dissemination”.

According to Article 43, the Constitutional principles in respect of fundamental rights – which include the right to freedom of expression – “shall be interpreted and integrated in

5. CDD <https://cddmoz.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/01/Legalizing-the-blocking-of-telecommunications-networks-is-a-democratic-setback-and-an-affront-to-human-rights-.pdf>, accessed on 4 January 2026.

6. Constitution of the Republic of Mozambique (English) https://cdn.accf-francophonie.org/2019/03/mozambique_const-en.pdf, accessed on 17 December 2025

7. Internews 'Chapter 12 – Mozambique' <https://internews.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/ARISA-IEA-CHAP-TER-12-Mozambique.pdf>, accessed on 17 December 2025

harmony with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and with the African Charter of Human and Peoples Rights”.⁸ However, despite all these innovations, International Press Institute (IPI) recently concluded that independent journalism in Mozambique was facing considerable legal, political, and economic pressures as the country’s hard-fought democratic gains of the past three decades come under increasing strain.⁹

In June 2025, MISA Mozambique reported that the Judicial Court of Niassa Province convicted a Nigerian citizen following an assault on TV Sucesso journalists Herculano Ernesto and Mixaque Lucas.¹⁰ The incident occurred in January 2025 during journalists’ coverage of a fire at the Central Market in Lichinga. At the time of the incident, the journalists were filming a commercial establishment that was on fire when the owner of the affected premises, Edwin Onyemeka Nwachuka, a Nigerian national, prevented them from carrying out their professional duties. The

assailant demanded that the journalists stop their work and, after they refused, physically attacked reporter Mixaque Lucas, causing injuries and damaging the reporting equipment used during the coverage.

The accused was convicted and sentenced to six months’ imprisonment, commuted to a fine, for the crime of simple voluntary bodily harm. He was also ordered to pay compensation to the victims. MISA Mozambique, which provided legal assistance to the case from its initial stages, welcomed the court’s decision, considering it an important milestone in the fight against impunity in cases of violence against journalists. The organisation views the ruling as a positive step towards safeguarding press freedom and freedom of expression, as well as a sign of the strengthening of the rule of law in Mozambique. However, MISA Mozambique notes¹¹ that the penalties imposed remain lenient given the nature of the crime and argues that firmer

8. Mozambique’s 2004 Constitution (revised 2007), Article 43.

9. IPI – Press Freedom in Mozambique <https://ipi.media/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/IPI-PRESS-FREEDOM-MISSION-MOZAMBIQUE-1.pdf>, accessed on 15 November 2025.

10. MZ News, Repórteres da TV Sucesso agredidos por cidadão Nigeriano em Niassa <https://mznews.co.mz/en/reporteres-da-tv-sucesso-agredidos-por-cidadao-nigeriano-em-niassa/>, accessed on 5 February 2026.

11. MZ News, Repórteres da TV Sucesso agredidos por cidadão Nigeriano em Niassa <https://mznews.co.mz/en/reporteres-da-tv-sucesso-agredidos-por-cidadao-nigeriano-em-niassa/>, accessed on 5 February 2026

judicial decisions are necessary to deter future attacks against journalists in the exercise of their professional duties.

Data Protection and Privacy

In Mozambique, there is no specific legislation on data protection or privacy.¹² However, other sources of law impose some privacy obligations, including:

- The Civil Code (Decree-Law no. 47344, of November 25 1966, in force in Mozambique through Edict no. 22869, dated September 4, 1967)
- The Penal Code (Law no. 24/2019, of December 24, as amended by Law no. 17/2020 of 23 December)
- The Labour Law (Law no. 23/2007, of August 1) and the new Labour

Law (Law no. 13/2023, of August 25)

- The Electronic Transactions Law (Law no. 3/2017, of January 9)
- The Regulations on Registration and Licensing of Intermediary Electronic Service Providers and Operators of Digital Platforms (Decree no. 59/2023, of 27 October), and Resolution no. 5/2019, of June 20, ratified the African Union Convention on Cybersecurity and Personal Data Protection (Malabo Convention).

In addition, the Constitution of the Republic of Mozambique provides that all citizens are entitled to the protection of their private life and have the right to honour, a good name, reputation, protection of their public image and privacy.¹³ Further, Article 71 of the Constitution identifies the need to legislate on the access, generation, security, and use of computerised personal data (by public or private entities); however, implementing legislation has not yet been approved.

12. DLA Piper – Data protection laws of the world Mozambique <https://www.dlapiperdataprotection.com/index.html?t=law&c=MZ>, accessed on 10 December 2025

13. ALT Advisory – Factsheet Mozambique <https://dataprotection.africa/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/Mozambique-Factsheet.pdf>, accessed on 11 December 2025

The Electronic Transactions Law¹⁴ defines personal data as any information in relation to a natural person which can be directly or indirectly identified by reference to an identification number or one or more factors. The Malabo Convention identifies these factors: physical, physiological, mental, economic, cultural, or social identity. Decree 59/2023 requires the registration of Intermediate Electronic Services Providers and Operators of Digital Platforms. The Electronic Transactions Law defines the intermediate service provider as any person who, in representation of another, sends, receives, and stores data messages, and who provides network access services or provides services through a network.¹⁵

Any entity that performs such acts will qualify as an intermediate service provider and must be registered and licensed with National Institute of Information and Communications Technology (INTIC). The registration

requirement applies to Intermediate Electronic Services Providers and Operators of Digital Platforms that offer services to receivers based in or located in Mozambique, regardless of where the providers are based. The Electronic Transactions Law requires the data processor to appoint a person responsible for compliance with the provisions on electronic personal data protection. The law does not generally restrict cross-border transfers of personal information. The Constitution of the Republic of Mozambique imposes restrictions on the disclosure of personal information to third parties, requiring prior consent from the data subject.

Although the AU Convention prohibits the transfer of personal data to a non-member state, this prohibition does not apply if the state ensures an adequate level of protection for the privacy freedoms and fundamental rights of the data subject. The AU Convention also requires that consent be sought from the national protection authority before the data controller may transfer the data

14. Electronic Transactions Law <https://www.cga.co.mz/en/moz/publication/electronic-transactions-in-the-mozambican-legal-system>, accessed on 11 December 2025

15. CIPESA – Digital Rights in Mozambique <https://cipesa.org/wp-content/files/Submission-to-the-38th-session-of-the-Universal-Periodic-Review-Mozambique.pdf>, accessed on 9 December 2025

to a third country. Currently, INTIC does not have such powers, so the principle of consent of the data subject and the transfer of data to a country with an adequate data protection framework would apply. Notwithstanding, parties may approach INTIC for further guidance on this matter.

Censorship and content moderation

There were no publicly reported requests for content takedowns during the period under review, nor is there evidence of transparency reports systematically documenting or disclosing such practices in Mozambique, according to publicly available Meta sources. However, records indicate that content removal requests were made in 2022 and again in 2025.¹⁶ Following the internet shutdowns of 2024, 2025 did not register any officially acknowledged

large-scale content blocking or nationwide restrictions. However, the absence of reported takedown requests or transparency mechanisms does not necessarily indicate censorship, but rather points to a continued lack of institutional openness and clear reporting frameworks for content moderation and State–platform interactions.

Access to information

Mozambique introduced the Right to Information Law (LEDI) in 2014 (Act No. 34/2014)¹⁷ – a sign of government commitment to the opening of organisations holding information of public interest. It goes without saying that making information available is an important indicator of the consolidation of democracy and good governance. The commitment of public authorities to implementing LEDI therefore requires strengthening democratic principles.

16. Meta - Government Requests <https://transparency.meta.com/reports/government-data-requests/country/MZ/>, accessed on 15 January 2026.

17. Article 19 – Mozambique: Draft Right to Information Law <https://www.article19.org/resources/mozambique-draft-right-information-law/>, accessed on 5 December 2025

The law is intended to make it easier for citizens to access information held by public bodies. However, the law has some limitations, including exemptions for state secrets and the private affairs of citizens. The right to freedom of information is part of the right to freedom of expression in the Mozambican Constitution. The right to information includes the right to access public-interest information from a variety of sources, the right to information grants whistleblowers the right to disclose information critical to the public interest. The Constitution restricts the recording and handling of information that is individually identifiable, such as political, philosophical, or religious beliefs.

Public entities have been repeatedly accused by civil society organisations of denying or restricting access to information. For instance, CDD Mozambique, a civil society organization based in Maputo, has consistently reported¹⁸ cases in which State institutions fail to respond to information requests, delay disclosure beyond legally established deadlines,

or provide incomplete information, despite the existence of a legal framework guaranteeing the public's right to access information.

AI and Emerging Tech- nologies

Mozambique is currently drafting its National Artificial Intelligence Strategy as part of a broader effort to establish a comprehensive digital governance framework for the country. The process has involved coordination between the National Institute of Information and Communication Technologies (INTIC) and UNESCO, with technical workshops and stakeholder consultations held to ensure the strategy aligns with international best practices and is adapted to national priorities. These efforts build on the successful completion of Mozambique's UNESCO Readiness Assessment Methodology (RAM) on AI in 2024, which provided key insights into the country's preparedness for AI

18. SAVANA, CDD preocupado com o silêncio do MP no concurso polémico entre IAOM e FTM <https://savana.co.mz/?p=9044>, accessed on 5 February 2026.

adoption and governance.

In multiple public statements, Américo Muchanga, Minister of Communications and Digital Transformation, has reiterated¹⁹ the government's commitment to digital innovation and the responsible deployment of AI technologies. He has emphasised that the strategy aims not only to harness the potential of AI for economic growth and public service delivery, but also to ensure that ethical, legal, and human rights considerations are integrated into national policy frameworks. In his view, the digital transformation of Mozambique is irreversible, and principles of inclusion, transparency, and security must guide the adoption of advanced technologies such as AI.

Minister Muchanga has also highlighted complementary initiatives underway, including the drafting of a Data Protection Law and a Cybersecurity Law, as well as broader digital infrastructure investments, which together will provide a supportive environment for AI adoption

and governance. These strategic policy instruments are being developed in consultation with international partners, including the European Union and UN agencies, to ensure that Mozambique's AI ecosystem grows in a regulated, ethical, and socially beneficial manner. When speaking at the UN General Assembly in September 2025, President Daniel Chapo emphasised²⁰ that justice, peace, and legality are crucial for development and also called for the responsible use of artificial intelligence, linking it to the need for critical, creative, and ethical citizens.

Digital Inclusion

In April 2025, the pilot project for rural connectivity was officially launched, marking a joint initiative between the Government of Mozambique, through the National Communications Regulatory Authority (INCM), and the private sector, involving BDQ Mobile, Movitel, VANU, and Spacecom. The initiative forms part

19. INTIC, Ministro Américo Muchanga Defende Inclusão Digital e Inteligência Artificial como Motores do Desenvolvimento Nacional <https://intic.gov.mz/ministro-americo-muchanga-defende-inclusao-digital-e-inteligencia-artificial-como-motores-do-desenvolvimento-nacional/>, accessed on 5 February 2026

20. Integrity, Presidente Chapo apela à unidade global <https://integritymagazine.co.mz/arquivos/49372>, accessed on 5 February 2026

of the Internet for All by 2030 Project and was formally launched on April 28 2025 in Xinavane, Maputo Province.²¹ The project aims to facilitate the expansion of mobile telecommunications network infrastructure at relatively low cost, to promote digital inclusion and ensure access to communications for communities in rural areas where market conditions are traditionally unfavourable to private investment. By addressing structural and economic barriers to connectivity, the initiative seeks to extend basic communication services to underserved and remote populations. The new antenna model, based on a satellite-enabled solution, can benefit approximately 15,000 people and cover a radius of up to 50 kilometres. Speaking at the launch ceremony, the Minister of Communications and Digital Transformation, Américo Muchanga, commended the private sector's active involvement and commitment in establishing partnerships that enabled the development and deployment of telecommunications base stations and innovative technologies. He emphasised that these solutions significantly reduce

investment costs associated with network expansion while simultaneously strengthening digital inclusion and guaranteeing the right to communicate for rural communities across the country. In December 2025, data presented during the 19th Review and Planning Meeting (2025–2026) of the National Communications Regulatory Authority (INCM), held in Inhambane Province from 3 to 5 December 2025 under the theme “Promoting Communications for an Inclusive and Sustainable Digital Ecosystem”, highlight significant progress achieved throughout 2025 in key strategic areas for the development of Mozambique's communications sector. In the areas of network expansion and digital inclusion, INCM implemented several high-impact initiatives to reduce connectivity gaps and strengthen access to digital services. Notably, the Internet in Schools Project was expanded, resulting in the connection of more than 200 additional schools to the internet.²² At the same time, 12 Digital Squares were reconnected using upgraded technologies to improve service quality and user experience.

21. MCTD, *Xinavane Torna-se Pioneira no Projecto de Internet Rural em Moçambique* <https://digital.gov.mz/?p=1249>, accessed on 5 February 2026.

22. INCM, *INCM reúne-se para balanço e planificação* <https://www.incm.gov.mz/index.php/sala-de-imprensa/noticias/698-incm-balanco-e-planificacao-2025>, accessed on 5 February 2026.

Further progress was recorded through the award of a public tender for the installation of 60 telecommunications antennas in previously unserved localities, representing a critical step towards extending communications infrastructure to remote and underserved areas. In parallel, INCM launched a public tender for a new Digital Squares model, including its operational management framework, to ensure sustainability and greater local impact. The year was also marked by the inauguration of the ThinkLab Technology Incubator, designed to stimulate innovation and support the digital entrepreneurship ecosystem, as well as the inauguration and handover of a cybersecurity laboratory in Nampula Province, strengthening national capacity in cybersecurity skills development and digital resilience. Overall, these developments demonstrate tangible advances towards building a more inclusive, resilient, and sustainable digital ecosystem in Mozambique.²³

In a pioneering data-driven investigation²⁴, the Mozambican Disabled Persons'

Organisation Forum (FAMOD) has teamed up with UK-based non-profit Data4Change to run automated accessibility testing on 90 of the most important and functional websites in Mozambique. The result is a publicly available dataset of 722,053 instances of accessibility 'violations'. Each violation represents a barrier preventing someone with a visual, hearing, physical or cognitive impairment from fully engaging with the web page. The investigation revealed that just five types of accessibility violations accounted for nearly 90% of all violations. These top five violations were low colour contrast (37%), lack of landmarks to identify regions of a page (33%), links that aren't made apparent (11%), no descriptive text for interactive elements (3%) and no 'alt text' for images (2%). The violations were defined in accordance with international standards for web accessibility, as described in the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines 2.0 and 2.1.

There is no explicit law in Mozambique that protects children in the online

23. INCM, INCM passa a contar com incubadora Tecnológica <https://www.incm.gov.mz/index.php/sala-de-imprensa/noticias/672-incubadora-thinklab>, accessed on 5 February 2026.

24. CIPESA – Investigation Finds More than 700,000 Barriers Limiting Website Accessibility in Mozambique <https://cipesa.org/2021/03/investigation-finds-more-than-700000-barriers-limiting-website-accessibility-in-mozambique/>, accessed on 5 December 2025

environment. However, the Penal Code²⁵ has a number of provisions that can be used for offenses involving minors, such as sexual exploitation, abuse, and the creation or broadcast of illegal information. These provisions establish a basic legal framework for dealing with specific types of harm that may occur in digital areas, particularly those relating to child pornography and online grooming.

Nonetheless, the lack of a complete legal framework explicitly designed for online child safety leaves considerable regulatory gaps, particularly in the face of rising hazards such as cyberbullying, online harassment, and the abuse of children's personal data on digital platforms. that a child's personal information shall only be subject to processing with parental consent

Conclusion

Overall, the developments observed throughout 2025 reflect an asymmetric trajectory in Mozambique's digital transformation, characterised by notable investments in connectivity, infrastructure expansion, and digital service delivery, alongside persistent vulnerabilities in the protection of digital rights. Initiatives led by INCM and its public-private partnerships helped narrow access gaps, particularly in rural and underserved areas, reinforcing the right to access information and

communications. However, these infrastructure gains unfolded in a context still shaped by the legacy of internet shutdowns, weak accountability for digital rights violations, and limited legal and institutional safeguards to protect freedom of expression, media freedom, and the right to privacy online.

The completion of the UNESCO Readiness Assessment Methodology and the creation of the National Artificial Intelligence Strategy are examples of

25. Mozambique Penal Code, <https://reformar.co.mz/documentos-diversos/lei-24-2019-lei-de-revisao-do-codigo-penal.pdf>, accessed on 10 March 2026.

policy procedures that demonstrate an increasing understanding of the necessity of responsible and rights-based digital governance. However, these procedures are still primarily normative and aspirational at this point, and their true significance will depend on future legislative clarity, enforcement

strategies, and impartial oversight. Therefore, 2025 should be viewed less as a year of digital rights consolidation and more as a contentious and transitional period in which the development of digital infrastructure continues to outpace the creation of robust user rights protections.

Recommendations

The Government should:

- Create and implement explicit legal protections against arbitrary internet shutdowns and digital restrictions, ensuring that any restrictions on connectivity comply with international human rights standards, constitutional guarantees, and the principles of necessity, proportionality, and legality.
- Adopt and implement data protection, cybersecurity, and AI governance frameworks more quickly. These frameworks should have robust oversight mechanisms, independent accountability or-
- organisations, and significant public input, especially engaging young people, journalists, and marginalised populations.
- Ensure that rights-based governance, openness in public-private partnerships, and channels for citizens to denounce and seek remedies for abuses of their digital rights accompany digital inclusion policies, such as those related to public access and rural connectivity.

Academia should:



- Conduct independent, fact-based research on internet governance, digital rights, surveillance, and the use of AI in Mozambique, producing locally grounded information to guide public discourse and policy decisions.
- Develop national capacity on ethical and rights-based digital transformation by strengthening interdisciplinary teaching and training programs that connect technology, law, media studies, and human rights.
- Participate more actively in policy discussions and advisory processes, translating scholarly research into clear policy briefs and supporting national initiatives, such as frameworks for digital governance and artificial intelligence.

The Media should:



- Increase the time spent tracking, documenting, and publicly reporting digital rights violations, such as internet shutdowns, online harassment, surveillance tactics, and attacks on journalists in digital spaces.
- Promote training sessions to increase resilience against online aggression, misinformation, and digital repression, expand digital rights literacy and safety programs, especially for women, youth, activists, and journalists.
- Encourage accountability, smart litigation, and ongoing engagement with legislators on digital rights legislation, forge stronger national and regional coalitions and advocacy platforms.

Private Sector should:

















- Adhere to human rights-based strategies for technology deployment and connection, such as openness in collaboration with state authorities and opposition to illegal or unreasonable requests that violate users' rights.
- Incorporate ethical AI principles, data protection, and privacy-by-design into goods and services, especially for public and rural infrastructure projects.
- Participate actively in multi-stakeholder digital governance procedures, encouraging candid communication, impartial audits, and capacity-building programs that ensure an inclusive and reliable digital ecosystem.











The Score Index

Mozambique, 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 Shutdowns	P38(2)			The Internet was recently (2024) shut down in Mozambique. This was the first time the government officially acknowledged the act. In December 2025, the Mozambican government approved a revision of the Telecommunications Traffic Control Regulation to grant the national telecommunications regulator the authority to block or suspend telecommunications networks in situations deemed to pose an “imminent risk” to public security or social order.
Inexistent laws, policies and other measures to promote universal, equitable, affordable and meaningful access to the internet	P37			Mozambique has an access to information law that is primarily applied to offline access. The Constitution of the Republic also includes provisions, but with less emphasis on internet access.

Indicator	ACHPR Principle	2024 Score	2024 Score	2025 Justification
False News Criminalisation	P22(2)			In 2023, the Government passed an unclear law criminalising false information about terrorism. This law is generally applied to prevent the spread of fake news related to the conflict, but media outlets fear it could be used to restrict access to information about the conflict entirely.
Sedition Legislation	P22(2)			The Penal Code includes provisions that criminalize individuals who use traditional or digital means to insult authorities, including the President of the Republic. There are no recorded cases in 2025, but during COVID-19, the penal code was used to arrest internet users.
Arbitrary Arrests and Harassments of the Media, HRDs and Citizens	P20(1) & (2)			During the 2024 elections, there were several cases of citizens being detained for protesting or organising mobilisations virtually.
Data Protection Legislation	P42(1)			Mozambique does not have any data protection law. The first draft was ready in December 2025, but there is no clear timeline for its final approval.
States interfere and require the removal of online content by internet intermediaries	P38 and P39(4)			There are no reported cases related to such incidents.

Indicator	ACHPR Principle	2024 Score	2025 Score	2025 Justification
Invasion of Privacy of Communications	P41			The government of Mozambique delegated the regulatory authority to supervise all communications. During the 2024 elections, some journalists were asked by politicians to provide their materials or delete images related to the elections.
Failure by the government to proactively disclose and disseminate information through digital technologies	P29(3)			The government of Mozambique passed an Access to Information law in 2014. However, the law is not clearly applied to the digital space, failing to address how information can be easily accessed through digital technologies.
AI and Emerging Technologies national strategies	P39(6)			Mozambique is still at a very early stage in terms of discussions or initiatives in this area.
Adoption of specific child laws, policies and measures promoting children's digital safety and privacy online	P39(6)			The general law applies only to child pornography, but there are no specific provisions related to children's digital safety.
Digital Inclusion	P37(3)			Little has been done in this area, except for some civil society initiatives

Total (out of 60):

2024:
23

2025

24



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