
CANADIAN – AFRICAN

Human Rights Engagements:

A Literature Review and an Agenda for Future Research



POLICY BRIEF



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Canadian-African Human Rights Engagements: A Literature Review and an Agenda for Research

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Canadian-African Human Rights Engagements: A Literature Review and an Agenda for Research

The International Conference

Background:

Canada and Canadians have for several decades been significantly involved in supporting pro-human rights struggles and efforts on the Anglophone Africa.¹ For their own part, African countries and peoples have also engaged to a significant extent with Canada and Canadians in this regard. While these engagements (as anecdotal evidence suggests), have played an important role in Anglophone Africa, the nature, attainments, problems, and prospects of such Canadian/Anglophone African human rights engagements have not been as rigorously studied and widely understood in the scholarly literature as might be expected.² Despite the growing and abiding Canadian interest in Anglophone African affairs, the state of systematic knowledge in this area is thus relatively inadequate. It is against this background that an international conference around the theme “*Canadian-African Human Rights Engagements: A Literature Review and an Agenda for Research*” was convened at the Osgoode Hall Law School of York University, Toronto, Canada from the 8th to the 10th of December 2016.



¹ For example, Canada and Canadians have funded or supported many constitution-reform, electoral reform, human rights, judicial strengthening, institution building, democratization, developmental and poverty alleviation efforts and struggles in that region.

² As opposed to merely the NGO and government literature.

Objective

The overall goal of this scholarly conference was: to connect Canadian and Anglophone African scholars/students/practitioners who are interested in understanding the nature, attainments, problems, and prospects of Canadian/Anglophone African human rights engagements; to review the existing literature in the area; and to outline a future research agenda, so as to enable, heighten and/or deepen a series of preliminary interdisciplinary and trans-occupational conversations on this theme.



The theme of the conference called on its participants to offer a short literature review and sketch out an agenda for research that engages the following overarching questions/issues:

- What has been the nature/character of Canadian-Anglophone African human rights engagements in specific areas, such as development, human rights, corporate social responsibility, foreign investment, refugee protection, trade agreements, international criminal justice, social work, and intellectual property, constitution-reform, electoral reform? How has such cooperation proceeded? In this regard, how has Canada behaved? How have the relevant Anglophone African countries behaved? How has the behavior of the two sides been similar or dissimilar? With what implications for policy, practice, and theory?
- What have the attainments of such human rights engagements been? Has either side significantly impacted the other's praxis? And to what extent? With what implications?
- What have the problems of such engagements been? For e.g. have significant charges of imperialism or of unequal bargaining or of a one-way street been made and sustained? Have there been problems of ineffectiveness on either side?
- What are the prospects of such engagements? Under what conditions can its benefits be optimized, and its problems reduced to the possible minimum?

Outcome:

This conference provided a mutually beneficial forum for both Canadian and Anglophone African scholars/practitioners who are interested in this understudied yet important theme to begin, heighten and/or deepen multi-directional conversations, and forge enduring links, across the North-South divide. The conference also promoted greater reflection on, and understanding of, issues engaged by the theme of the conference by seeking to bridge the disconnect between the policymakers/practitioners on the front lines of these Canadian/Anglophone African human rights engagements and the scholars studying and theorizing them.

The aim of the conference to disseminate innovative and forward-thinking research to the broader scholarly and practitioner communities in both Canada and Anglophone Africa (and beyond), as well as to the general public, has indeed begun through the deliberations made at the conference and the special journal published on the **Transnational Human Rights Review**.³



³ The Transnational Human Rights Review, "Canadian-African Human Rights Engagements: A Literature Review and an Agenda for Future Research" (2017) 4:1 THR <<http://digitalcommons.osgoode.yorku.ca/thr/vol4/iss1/>>

The Transnational Human Rights Review (THR) is published collaboratively by the Nigerian Institute of Advanced Legal Studies (Abuja, Nigeria) and the Nathanson Centre for Transnational Human Rights, Crime and Security at Osgoode Hall Law School (York University, Canada).



Countries covered:

The countries reviewed for research and covered by the discussion at the international conference include:

- | | |
|------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. Canada | 7. Sierra Leone ⁶ |
| 2. Botswana | 8. South Africa |
| 3. Ghana | 9. Tanzania |
| 4. Kenya ⁴ | 10. Uganda ⁷ |
| 5. Nigeria | 11. Zambia |
| 6. Rwanda ⁵ | |

Key thematic areas of the Literature Review:

The key areas of the Literature Review and Agenda for Research (as published in the special journal on the Transnational Human Rights Review) include the following areas listed below. It is important to note that in all of the papers – as fully intended – only raise these issues for further research and do not discuss them in any kind of full or conclusive way. Most of the preliminary insights that were offered at the conference and published in the journal still need to be bolstered by further research.

- *Canadian/Anglophone African human rights engagements and bilateral relations with African States*
- *Collaborative human rights initiatives*
- *Development assistance*
- *Economic, social and cultural rights*
- *Gender perspectives to human rights and development*
- *Health rights of women*
- *State immunities and accountability*
- *Workers' rights in the mining sector*



⁴ Although there was no representation from this country at the conference, and therefore no publication of a literature review of Canada's relations with this State, but the reach of the scholarly project from this research agenda-setting is likely to encompass this country.

⁵ Ibid.

⁶ Ibid.

⁷ Ibid.



Key participants:

COUNTRY	INSTITUTION	NAME	DESIGNATION
CANADA	York University	Professor Obiora Okafor	Conference Convenor, Professor & York Research Chair in International and Transnational Legal Studies, Osgoode Hall Law School
CANADA	York University	Professor Francois Tanguay-Renaud	Director of the Jack and Mae Nathanson Centre on Transnational Human Rights, Crime and Security, Osgoode Hall Law School
CANADA	York University	Professor Faisal Bhabha	Associate Professor, Osgoode Hall Law School
CANADA	York University	Professor Sylvia Bawa	Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies
CANADA	York University	Professor Uwafiokun Idemudia	Associate Professor, Department of Social Science, Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies
CANADA	York University	Dr. Nadege Compaore	SSHRC Postdoctoral Fellow, Department of Social Science
CANADA	York University	Dr. Opeoluwa Badaru	Critical Research Laboratory in Law & Society
CANADA	York University	Mr. Okey Kalu	Conference Coordinator, PhD Candidate in Law, Osgoode Hall Law School
CANADA	York University	Ms. Rahina Zarma	PhD Candidate in Law, Osgoode Hall Law School
CANADA	York University	Mr. Maxwell Miyawa	PhD Candidate in Law, Osgoode Hall Law School
CANADA	York University	Mr. Jake Okechukwu Effoduh	LLM Candidate, Osgoode Hall Law School
CANADA	York University	Ms. Cynthia Kwakweyah	MA Candidate, Interdisciplinary Program, Osgoode Hall Law School
CANADA	York University	Ms. Cristina Candeia	JD/MA Philosophy, Law and Philosophy Candidate, Osgoode Hall Law School
CANADA	University of Windsor	Professor Paul Ocheje	Associate Professor
CANADA	University of New Brunswick	Professor Olabisi Akinkugbe	Assistant Professor
CANADA	University of Saskatchewan	Professor Ibironke Odumosu-Ayanu	Associate Professor, College of Law
CANADA	University of Alberta	Professor Irehobhude Iyioha	Visiting Assistant Professor and Assistant Adjunct Professor, Faculties of Law and Medicine & Dentistry
CANADA	Centre for International Governance Innovation	Dr. Basil Ugochukwu	Post-Doctoral Fellow
NIGERIA	Baze University	Dr. Udoka Nwosu-Owie	Senior Lecturer
NIGERIA	University of Benin	Dr. Solomon Ukhuegbe	Senior Lecturer
NIGERIA	Nigerian Institute of Advanced Legal Studies	Ms. Saratu Bissallah-Alao	Research Fellow
NIGERIA	Nasarawa State University	Ms. Halima Doma Kutigi	Lecturer
NIGERIA	Ministry of Justice	Ms. Nkechi Eneh	
BOTSWANA	University of Botswana	Dr. Ramadi Dinokopila	Senior Lecturer
SOUTH AFRICA	University of South Africa	Dr. Moses Phooko	Senior Lecturer, College of Law
TANZANIA	Open University of Tanzania	Ms. Julena Jumbe Gabagambi	PhD Candidate
UGANDA	Makerere University	Dr. Zahara Nampewo	Senior Lecturer, School of Law
ZAMBIA	University of Zambia	Ms. Misozi Lwatula	Lecturer, School of Law
USA	University of Washington	Professor Sylvia Kanga'ra	Professor of Law
USA	University of Pittsburgh	Professor Sirleaf Matiangai	Assistant Professor of Law
AUSTRALIA	Macquarie University	Mr. Uche Ngwaba	PhD Candidate in Health Law

Canadian-African Human Rights Engagements: A Literature Review and an Agenda for Future Research⁸

The Literature Agenda:



“The intention of the papers that constitute this specially-themed journal issue is, in the main, not to report innovations or research findings, but to point out the important gaps that currently exist in knowledge about the theme of the conference at which they were first presented, and raise of the questions that flowed from the various literature reviews that were conducted during their preparation, and reflect on some of those questions. While some of these questions are of course newer than others, the goal is to set an agenda for further research into all of them. The hope is that in so doing, these papers would help inspire further research into the important, and thus far understudied, thematic of this volume, i.e. the nature, problems, attainments and prospects of Canadian/Anglophone African human rights engagements.”⁹

Professor Obiora Chinedu Okafor, Conference Convenor (Professor & York Research Chair in International and Transnational Legal Studies, Osgoode Hall Law School)

⁸ Published by the Transnational Human Rights Review. The Transnational Human Rights Review (THR) is published collaboratively by the Nigerian Institute of Advanced Legal Studies (Abuja, Nigeria) and the Nathanson Centre for Transnational Human Rights, Crime and Security at Osgoode Hall Law School: <<http://digitalcommons.osgoode.yorku.ca/thr/>>

⁹ Okafor, Obiora Chinedu, “Introduction” The Transnational Human Rights Review 4. (2017): <<http://digitalcommons.osgoode.yorku.ca/thr/vol4/iss1/1>> at p 8.



Published Journal Articles:

AUTHOR	TITLE	LINK TO JOURNAL ARTICLE
OBIORA CHINEDU OKAFOR	<i>Introduction</i>	http://digitalcommons.osgoode.yorku.ca/thr/vol4/iss1/1/
OLABISI AKINKUGBE	<i>Background: Towards a Critical Assessment of Canadian-Nigerian Bilateral Relations</i>	http://digitalcommons.osgoode.yorku.ca/thr/vol4/iss1/2/
SYLVIA BAWA	<i>Assessing Universalism and The Rhetoric of Development Assistance in Human Rights Research: Canadian-Ghanaian Human Rights Engagements</i>	http://digitalcommons.osgoode.yorku.ca/thr/vol4/iss1/3/
BONOLO RAMADI DINOKOPIA	<i>Canada-Botswana Human Rights Engagements: A Critical Assessment of the Literature and a Research Agenda</i>	http://digitalcommons.osgoode.yorku.ca/thr/vol4/iss1/4/
JULENA JUMBE GABAGAMBI	<i>Canadian-Tanzanian Human Rights Engagements: A Critical Assessment of the Literature and a Research Agenda</i>	http://digitalcommons.osgoode.yorku.ca/thr/vol4/iss1/5/
IREHOBUDE IYIOHA	<i>Women's Health Rights in Canadian-Anglophone African Human Rights Engagements: Normativity, Indigeneity and the Spaces Beyond the Norm Life Cycle</i>	http://digitalcommons.osgoode.yorku.ca/thr/vol4/iss1/6/
HALIMA DOMA KUTIGI	<i>Towards Justiciability of Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights in Nigeria: A Role for Canadian-Nigerian Cooperation?</i>	http://digitalcommons.osgoode.yorku.ca/thr/vol4/iss1/7/
CYNTHIA KWAKYEWAH AND UWAFIOKUN IDEMUDIA	<i>Canada-Ghana Engagements in the Mining Sector: Protecting Human Rights or Business as Usual?</i>	http://digitalcommons.osgoode.yorku.ca/thr/vol4/iss1/8/
MISOZI LWATULA	<i>Canadian-Zambian Human Rights Engagements: A Critical Assessment of the Literature and Research Agenda</i>	http://digitalcommons.osgoode.yorku.ca/thr/vol4/iss1/9/
UCHECHUKWU NGWABA	<i>Canadian-Anglophone African Human Rights Engagement: A Critical Assessment of the Literature on Health Rights</i>	http://digitalcommons.osgoode.yorku.ca/thr/vol4/iss1/10/
UDOKA NDIDIAMAKA OWIE	<i>In Search of Accountability: A Critical (If Preliminary) Assessment of the Literature on Canadian-Nigerian Engagements on the Immunities of State Officials for Human Rights Violations</i>	http://digitalcommons.osgoode.yorku.ca/thr/vol4/iss1/11/
MOSES RETSELISITSOE PHOOKO	<i>Evaluating Canadian and South African Collaborative Human Rights Initiatives: A Preliminary Analysis and Research Agenda</i>	http://digitalcommons.osgoode.yorku.ca/thr/vol4/iss1/12/
SOLOMON UKHUEGBE	<i>Human Rights Discourses in Nigeria Across Time: Trajectory, Successes and Potentials for Canadian-Nigerian Engagement</i>	http://digitalcommons.osgoode.yorku.ca/thr/vol4/iss1/13/

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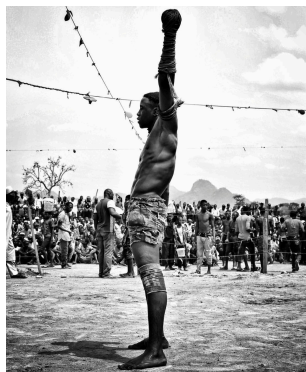
Canadian-Botswanan Human Rights Engagements



*Canada-Botswana Human Rights Engagements: A Critical Assessment of the Literature and a Research Agenda.*¹⁰

This literature discusses the past and present of Canada-Botswana human rights engagements, offering an insight into their nature and significance. The article highlights that despite the absence of strong diplomatic ties between the two countries, there nonetheless have been significant human rights engagements. The engagements, though not entirely systematic or clearly defined in their focus, have certainly improved the human rights situation in Botswana. It is also noted that the sustainability of these engagements is questionable considering that the weak ties between the two countries have resulted in reduced Canadian funding to Botswana. In the end, the article emphasizes that there is a need to undertake extensive research on Canada-Botswana human rights engagements. This is so as to understand the nature and extent of the engagements, to measure their impact, and to use such research findings to inform future human rights engagements.

Canadian-Ghanaian Human Rights Engagements



*Assessing Universalism and The Rhetoric of Development Assistance in Human Rights Research: Canadian-Ghanaian Human Rights Engagements.*¹¹

This literature contributes to the question of how Canada engages human rights in Ghana and Anglophone sub-Saharan Africa in general. In order to critically assess human rights engagement between Ghana and Canada, this literature situates the discussion within the broader global human rights milieu to deconstruct the myriad ways in which power dynamics in the global arena shape human rights practice and discourse. Using the rights concerns of women and minorities in Ghana as an entry point, this work discusses the interconnected nature of first- and second-generation rights and cultural relativism in universal rights discourses. This discussion proposes a research agenda that will approach human rights in a more progressively transformative fashion.¹²

¹⁰ Dinokopila, Bonolo Ramadi. "Canada-Botswana Human Rights Engagements: A Critical Assessment of the Literature and a Research Agenda." *The Transnational Human Rights Review* 4. (2017): <<http://digitalcommons.osgoode.yorku.ca/thr/vol4/iss1/4>>

¹¹ Bawa, Sylvia. "Assessing Universalism and The Rhetoric of Development Assistance in Human Rights Research: Canadian-Ghanaian Human Rights Engagements." *The Transnational Human Rights Review* 4. (2017): <<http://digitalcommons.osgoode.yorku.ca/thr/vol4/iss1/3>>

¹² To address these questions in research, this work proposes a detailed ethnographic work to assess, firsthand, the myriad of human rights problems corporations, governments and the holders of social power leave in their wake. In addition, it recognizes the importance of employing critical discourse analyses on texts to understand how governments on both ends address these issues.



Canada-Ghana Engagements in the Mining Sector: Protecting Human Rights or Business as Usual?¹³

The article considers the theoretical and practical implications for Canada-Ghana engagements in the mining sector. While states have traditionally had the responsibility to protect human rights, multinational corporations (MNCs) are now increasingly expected to also respect human rights in their pursuit of profitability. However, the increased incidence of human rights violations associated with the activities of MNCs in developing countries has



led to various efforts to promote the corporate duty to respect human rights. This article examined the extent to which Canada's national Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) strategy can contribute to the prevention or amelioration of incidences of human rights violation associated with the activities of Canadian mining companies operating in Ghana. This literature suggests that while Canada's national CSR strategy does present some opportunities, its ability to ameliorate incidence of human rights violations remains limited and can be explored further.

Canadian-Nigerian Human Rights Engagements

Background: Towards a Critical Assessment of Canadian-Nigerian Bilateral Relations.¹⁴

Although the diplomatic relations between Canada and Nigeria is almost six decades old, the nature of this bilateral relationship has not been the subject of rigorous academic research. While a recent body of research by international relations scholars has taken up the broad critical study of Canadian-African relations, a significant gap exists with respect to studies that focus on the context of Canada's engagement with individual African countries. Against this background, this paper examines the bilateral trade and investment engagements between Nigeria and Canada. This literature modestly highlights the existing framework that guides the relations of both countries, highlighting some projects, and documents some preliminary observations while posing



further questions that will deepen the understanding of the socio-legal implications of Canadian- Nigerian bilateral engagements. This work has raised more questions than it answers. Although a general historical, thematic, and theoretical analysis of key aspects of Canada's engagement with Nigeria has been undertaken, more empirical research is required in the future produce a more conclusive interpretive and legal analysis of Canadian-Nigerian engagements on the broad level.

¹³ Kwakyewah, Cynthia and Idemudia, Uwafiokun. "Canada-Ghana Engagements in the Mining Sector: Protecting Human Rights or Business as Usual?" *The Transnational Human Rights Review* 4. (2017): <<http://digitalcommons.osgoode.yorku.ca/thr/vol4/iss1/8>>

¹⁴ Akinkugbe, Olabisi. "Background: Towards a Critical Assessment of Canadian-Nigerian Bilateral Relations." *The Transnational Human Rights Review* 4. (2017): <<http://digitalcommons.osgoode.yorku.ca/thr/vol4/iss1/2>>

*Towards Justiciability of Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights in Nigeria: A Role for Canadian-Nigerian Cooperation?*¹⁵

This article discusses Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights in the context of how bilateral relationships (as well as other international agreements) maintain a vital role in fostering transnational cooperation in the field of human rights. It is within this framework that Canadian-Nigerian engagement in the fulfilment of economic, social, and cultural rights is considered. The article also considers the theoretical aspects of these rights juxtaposed against civil and political rights, thereby expounding interdependence of these categories of rights. Judicial interpretation of the constitution and other provisions relating to economic, social, and cultural rights in Nigeria are examined, with the objective of making a case for the justiciability of economic, social, and cultural rights in Nigeria. The article concludes that Canadian-Nigerian human rights cooperation has a role to play in enhancing the legal and judicial implementation of these rights in Nigeria.

*In Search of Accountability: A Critical (If Preliminary) Assessment of the Literature on Canadian-Nigerian Engagements on the Immunities of State Officials for Human Rights Violations.*¹⁶

This article is a preliminary part of a much wider study examining Canadian human rights engagements in Anglophone Africa. This article focuses on Nigeria for strategic reasons, including the fact that Nigeria constitutes Africa's most populous state and the fact that Nigeria plays a prominent role in driving and shaping human rights discourse and praxis in Africa, particularly on the issue of the accountability of state officials for human rights violations. This literature does not support any evidence of engagement between both countries in this area. Contemporary developments in the area of study, however, show that some opportunities for such engagement do exist. To this end, the article assesses the nature of Canada's engagements with Nigeria as they relate to the question of the immunity of state officials for violations of human rights. This assessment is conducted with a specific view to ascertaining the problems, prospects, and goals of these engagements. A possible research agenda for the near future could include the identification of ways in which Canada and Nigeria



can partner in the area of immunities of state officials for human rights violations including a consideration of what the nature, process, problems and prospects of such partnership might constitute. This would help inform policy and practice in this and other relevant areas across the global North-South divide. Importantly, the ways in which such partnership would impact on the criminal justice systems of both countries, as well as internationally, would be a key component in the research.

¹⁵ Kutigi, Halima Doma. "Towards Justiciability of Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights in Nigeria: A Role for Canadian-Nigerian Cooperation?." *The Transnational Human Rights Review* 4. (2017): <<http://digitalcommons.osgoode.yorku.ca/thr/vol4/iss1/7>>

¹⁶ Owie, Udoka Ndidiamaka. "In Search of Accountability: A Critical (If Preliminary) Assessment of the Literature on Canadian-Nigerian Engagements on the Immunities of State Officials for Human Rights Violations." *The Transnational Human Rights Review* 4. (2017): <<http://digitalcommons.osgoode.yorku.ca/thr/vol4/iss1/11>>



*Human Rights Discourses in Nigeria Across Time: Trajectory, Successes and Potentials for Canadian-Nigerian Engagement.*¹⁷

Canada has, for decades, been actively involved in funding and providing support for the development of legal and political institutions and rights advocacy activities in Nigeria. A careful documentation and assessment of this support will likely show that its impact has been significant and perhaps critical in some areas. This article, however, considers a different form of engagement, or rather, a possible engagement. Although Canada's human rights jurisprudence, especially the Charter of Rights case law, is highly regarded the world over, its influence on Nigerian courts has been limited. Yet, there is a great opportunity for meaningful engagement here, especially as Canadian universities are increasingly a preferred destination for graduate training by Nigerian lawyers and legal scholars, and knowledge of Canadian legal resources is disseminated through other engagement projects between the two countries. This article therefore considers the potentials for judicial engagement between Nigerian and Canadian courts on human rights. It maps the deferential and activist phases of the trajectory of human rights discourses in Nigeria and considers some possible sites of judicial engagement as between Nigerian and Canadian courts.

Canadian-South-African Human Rights Engagements

*Evaluating Canadian and South African Collaborative Human Rights Initiatives: A Preliminary Analysis and Research Agenda.*¹⁸



This paper uncovers the human rights engagements between the Canadian government and Canadian NGOs with both government and civil society in South Africa from the early 1990s to date. It is a preliminary desk study that reveals that despite Canada's non-intervention in South Africa to help oust its then ruling apartheid regime which massively violated the fundamental human rights and freedoms of almost all black people in South Africa, Canada's position has moved in a more positive discretion since the collapse

of apartheid in 1994. This is evident from various human rights initiatives that are funded by the CFLI in South Africa to, among other things, advance the rights of women, LGBTI persons, and refugees. This preliminary desk study has also revealed that whilst the two countries at issue have worked together since the early 1990s toward the advancement of human rights in South Africa, these engagements have been under-documented and under-studied. They have also lacked sufficient visibility.¹⁹ Importantly, the 1993 Constitution contained an enforceable Bill of Rights and proclaimed the supremacy of the Constitution. These provisions found their way in the 1996

¹⁷ Ukhuegbe, Solomon. "Human Rights Discourses in Nigeria Across Time: Trajectory, Successes and Potentials for Canadian-Nigerian Engagement." *The Transnational Human Rights Review* 4. (2017): <<http://digitalcommons.osgoode.yorku.ca/thr/vol4/iss1/13>>

¹⁸ Phooko, Moses Retselisitsoe. "Evaluating Canadian and South African Collaborative Human Rights Initiatives: A Preliminary Analysis and Research Agenda." *The Transnational Human Rights Review* 4. (2017): <<http://digitalcommons.osgoode.yorku.ca/thr/vol4/iss1/12>>

¹⁹ South Africa's now defunct, autocratic apartheid government was based on minority rule, racially discriminatory laws, and disregard for the fundamental human rights of almost all black people. At that time, Parliament was supreme and could do anything that it wished, including enacting laws that denied the vast majority of the population from the right to vote. This regime lasted until the 1990s when parliamentary supremacy was replaced by constitutional supremacy. The adoption of the Interim Constitution of South Africa in 1993 eventually paved way for, among other things, respect for the fundamental human rights of all peoples without any distinctions as to race.



Constitution. This Constitution was “developed using the Canadian Charter of Human Rights and Freedoms as a template” inspiration from its provisions. It is therefore imperative to conduct further studies aimed at documenting and analyzing engagements and evaluating their actual impact on the ground.

Canadian-Tanzanian Human Rights Engagements

*Canadian-Tanzanian Human Rights Engagements: A Critical Assessment of the Literature and a Research Agenda.*²⁰



This article examines the ways in which Canada has been engaging with Tanzania on the improvement of human rights. In the past, Tanzania was ruled by colonial powers, for which respect for human rights was never a priority. Having attained independence in 1961, however, the country did not adequately respect human rights. This is in part due to the argument that, if the British themselves did not practice it, then independent Tanzania should not be forced to. Furthermore, the introduction of human rights at the time held the potential to paralyze the struggle for nationalization. It was not until 1984 that the country

included a bill of rights into its Constitution as a result of mounting pressure from the Tanganyika Law Society. Despite the fact that the country has a bill of rights and works towards the achievement of human rights, the attainment of these rights necessitates financial support from donors, such as the aid that Canada has provided thus far. Canada has given attention and support to areas such as education and women and children’s rights. Nevertheless, the article suggests that more attention should be given to other human rights areas to ensure that citizens can fully enjoy their rights.

Canadian-Zambian Human Rights Engagements

*Canadian-Zambian Human Rights Engagements: A Critical Assessment of the Literature and Research Agenda.*²¹



Canada’s engagements with Zambia has mainly centered along human rights issues. Recently, Canada has heavily invested in Zambia’s mining sector. This literature however looks at Canadian engagements with Zambia in boarder terms of health, women’s rights, refugees’ rights and mining. It acknowledges that while Canada is actively involved in the advancement of human rights in Zambia, its engagements have not been as visible as those engagements undertaken by its sister Global North states/entities, such as the United

Kingdom, Sweden, Norway, and the European Union. This work acknowledges that the existence of this apparent gap may be due to the fact that there is not much visible literature detailing Canada’s aid relationship

²⁰ Gabagambi, Julena Jumbe. "Canadian-Tanzanian Human Rights Engagements: A Critical Assessment of the Literature and a Research Agenda." *The Transnational Human Rights Review* 4. (2017): <<http://digitalcommons.osgoode.yorku.ca/thr/vol4/iss1/5>>

²¹ Lwatula, Misozi. "Canadian-Zambian Human Rights Engagements: A Critical Assessment of the Literature and Research Agenda." *The Transnational Human Rights Review* 4. (2017): <<http://digitalcommons.osgoode.yorku.ca/thr/vol4/iss1/9>>

with Zambia. There is a need for more expert research into how its engagements are benefiting the people of Zambia and how it can improve upon such engagements. There is also a need to make greater efforts towards making Canada's engagements with Zambia more transparent.

Specific/Broader Canadian-Anglophone Human Rights Engagements

*Women's Health Rights in Canadian-Anglophone African Human Rights Engagements: Normativity, Indigeneity and the Spaces Beyond the Norm Life Cycle.*²²



Canada has a demonstrated interest in sustaining a health rights agenda in Anglophone Africa. While this commitment is of common knowledge, its nature and achievements, as well as associated complications and possibilities have not been subjected to as much critical analysis as the issue deserves. This paper takes a preclusive step towards a rigorous assessment of human rights engagements between Canada and the Anglophone African region within the specific field of women's health. It conducts a summative appraisal of the nature of norms and a dialectic enquiry into the origin of norms within the context of Finnemore and Sikkink's theory of the norm life cycle. Arguing that the characteristic diversity of norms complicates Canada's human rights engagements, the article reaches a three-fold conclusion that (1) proposes a binary micro- versus macro-level analysis of

internalization of human rights norms; (2) identifies 'normative diversity' – a concept in formation – as a key constraint in the internalization of human rights norms as reflected in norm-based differences, indigeneity, and other metrics of diversity; and (3) highlights the importance of reciprocity as between Canada and Anglophone African states – one in which Canada also benefits from applying lessons learned from its ground operations in the region towards improving its questionable human rights record in the overall healthcare and reproductive health needs of its own Aboriginal women and peoples.

*Canadian-Anglophone African Human Rights Engagement: A Critical Assessment of the Literature on Health Rights.*²³

Contrary to common expectations, the engagement between Canada and Anglophone African countries on the issue of health rights has not been a "one-way-street" whereby Canada is the "giver" and Anglophone African countries are the "takers" of health benefits. This article, which undertakes a preliminary and critical assessment of the literature documenting this engagement, finds that both Canada and Anglophone African countries have mutually benefitted from their engagement in the area of health rights. These benefits have taken the form of

²² Iyioha, Irehobhude. "Women's Health Rights in Canadian-Anglophone African Human Rights Engagements: Normativity, Indigeneity and the Spaces Beyond the Norm Life Cycle." *The Transnational Human Rights Review* 4. (2017): <<http://digitalcommons.osgoode.yorku.ca/thr/vol4/iss1/6>>

²³ Ngwaba, Uchechukwu. "Canadian-Anglophone African Human Rights Engagement: A Critical Assessment of the Literature on Health Rights." *The Transnational Human Rights Review* 4. (2017): <<http://digitalcommons.osgoode.yorku.ca/thr/vol4/iss1/10>>



Canada's financial and technical contributions to various initiatives that seek to improve the availability and accessibility of health-related goods and services in some Anglophone African countries. Canada has benefitted from the significant influx of highly skilled health workers from Anglophone African countries. However, by framing an agenda for research in this area, this article identifies the attainments, problems, and prospects of this engagement. This article further argues, amongst other things, for a recalibration of this engagement to ensure its sustainability, and to ensure that it advances the objectives of universal health coverage

in the health systems amongst Canada and Anglophone African countries alike.

Fin.

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