



CIVIC FREEDOMS MONITOR

PRESS FREEDOM: KENYA DROPS FORTY-SEVEN POSITIONS GLOBALLY WITHIN A TWELVE MONTHS



Civil society and media stakeholders in consultative forums in Nairobi (April 2024) to develop joint strategies for protection of press freedoms in Kenya.

Although guaranteed by the 2010 constitution, respect for press freedom in Kenya is highly dependent on the political and economic context. Since August 2022 elections, journalists have become one of the prime targets of the police, especially during protests, and have been subjected to frequent attacks by politicians on all sides. The Media Council of Kenya’s documentation of over 100 such incidents in the past year alone is a testament to troubles journalists face in fulfilling their duty.

INDEX 2023	INDEX 2022
116 / 180 Score : 51.15	69 / 180 Score : 64.59
POLITICAL INDICATOR 115 49.17	POLITICAL INDICATOR 63 62.42
ECONOMIC INDICATOR 121 40.52	ECONOMIC INDICATOR 75 46.33
LEGISLATIVE INDICATOR 71 66.82	LEGISLATIVE INDICATOR 62 72.28
SOCIAL INDICATOR 120 56.25	SOCIAL INDICATOR 55 78.00
SECURITY INDICATOR 136 42.99	SECURITY INDICATOR 96 63.92

According to Reporters without Borders, Kenya has dropped forty-seven positions globally since 2022 and entered the “**Difficult Situation**” by end of 2023. **Ranked at 116**, Kenya is now 2 positions lower than Burundi and 2 above South Sudan. Kenya shares the general ranking of “Difficult Situation” with all her East African partners.

During the Civil Society and media Conference held in Nairobi, the stakeholders reiterated calls for the strengthening of safety and protection mechanisms, supporting community media and upcoming journalist, creation of safety funds and SACCO, mental health support system, safety, and digital security capacity building (including artificial intelligence), and continued partnership between media and civil society organizations to ensure resilience of the media actors.

Source: <https://rsf.org/en/map-2023-world-press-freedom-index>

WE CALL UPON ALL STAKEHOLDERS TO CHAMPION FOR PRESS FREEDOM AND SAFETY OF JOURNALISTS

