

Quarterly Nigeria Human Rights Report

(January - March 2022)



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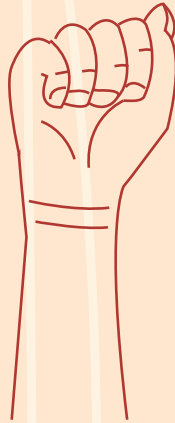


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INTRODUCTION

Nigeria continues to witness several challenges regarding the human rights situation in the country. The return to constitutional rule and democracy in 1999 has not necessarily translated to wider respect for human rights in the country. Incidents of human rights abuse, including Police and security agents' violations of the rights of citizens, remain rampant. Other constitutionally guaranteed rights continue to face threat. Civil liberties, including the right to free speech, freedom of movement, etc are hindered by the actions of government and its agencies. While the courts are an important avenue to seek redress for human rights violations, its use is hampered by cost constraints, time constraints and generally, bureaucratic bottlenecks.

The Nigerian National Assembly has constitutional powers to make laws, carry out oversight and represent citizens.

In February 2022, Policy and Legal Advocacy Centre (PLAC) initiated a project supported by the National Endowment for Democracy (NED) to strengthen remedial actions towards human rights violations in Nigeria. The project aims to encourage the National Assembly Committees on Human Rights in the Senate and House of Representatives to use their oversight power and provide remedy to victims of human rights abuse.

The Committees are also expected to monitor respect of constitutionally and legally guaranteed rights by agencies of government.

In addition to resolving these issues, PLAC will be documenting and publishing reports of incidents of rights violations every calendar quarter, to highlight the human rights trend in that period.

This report documents the state of human rights in Nigeria between January and March 2022. It includes details of specific human rights violations suffered by citizens in different parts of the country as identified through research carried out by PLAC in the period under review. This report is the first in a series of PLAC's quarterly reports on human rights for the year 2022.

The extent of human rights protection and adherence to the rule of law are indicative of the depth of democracy in each country. The rights and freedom of every Nigerian is guaranteed by the 1999 Nigerian Constitution, which is the basis on which the National Assembly and State Houses of Assembly have enacted several laws which specifically provide for the protection of a variety of rights. In addition, the rights of individuals are also protected by international treaties to which Nigeria is signatory, although some of these treaties are yet to be domesticated.

The state of human rights in Nigeria has been deteriorating, especially in recent times. An assessment carried out by Freedom House, an American organisation working to promote rights and freedom around the world, rates Nigeria as partly free with a score of 43 out of 100 in its 2022 global assessment of political rights and civil liberties.¹

In many instances, violations of rights are perpetrated by State authorities charged with the responsibility of service delivery to citizens and protection of their rights. Some personnel of these government agencies

1 "Nigeria: Freedom in the World 2022 Country Report" (*Freedom House*) <<https://freedomhouse.org/country/nigeria/freedom-world/2022#PR>> accessed March 16, 2022

use force arbitrarily to intimidate individuals or organisations who speak up against the government or its officials or criticise its policies.

When these violations occur, some victims are able to pursue channels of remedy, while many others are unable to do so due to lack of resources and access to the courts. This leaves persons whose rights have been trampled upon without recourse to justice. The import of the principle of separation of powers is that legislative oversight powers can be deployed to check the excesses of the executive arm of government and its agencies, to tackle human rights violations, among other issues.

In documenting identified cases of rights abuse, PLAC hopes to call attention to the state of human rights in Nigeria and monitor the trend to check for improvement or deterioration over time. In addition, the reports will be presented to the National Assembly Human Rights Committees in a bid to support victims to receive redress.



Photo Credit: change.org

CIVIL LIBERTIES: RIGHTS TO FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION AND THE PRESS, PEACEFUL ASSEMBLY, MOVEMENT, ETC

Civil liberties are basic rights and freedoms which define the bounds within which a government can treat those who are governed, to ensure order and prevent tyranny. They include the fundamental rights to life, personal liberty, dignity of the human person, freedom of expression and the press, freedom of association, freedom of movement among others enshrined in Chapter 4 of the Nigerian Constitution. Commonly referred to as ‘first generation’ rights, they are considered fundamental. The government is the primary actor in ensuring the protection of these rights.

The Federal Government of Nigeria had banned a micro-blogging social media platform, Twitter on 4th June 2021. This ban was sustained for seven months and was eventually lifted on midnight on 13th January 2022. This negatively impacted on the rights of Nigerians to freedom of expression and (online) assembly.

The sit-at-home order introduced and enforced by the separatist movement, Indigenous People of Biafra (IPOB) every Monday in the South East, to protest the Federal Government's continued detention of its leader, Nnamdi Kanu has persisted into 2022 since it began in August 2021. This has continued without any concrete intervention by the governments of the States in the South East region. This has forcefully restricted the movement and gathering of persons within the region on Mondays for fear of being attacked. Some of the other effects of this sit-at-home order will be discussed in the latter part of this report.

While the government at all levels is responsible for protection of its territorial integrity and citizens from forces that threaten the peace and order of everyday life, State institutions and actors are expected to have regard for the rights of individuals in the course of carrying out these responsibilities. The use of excessive and unnecessary force, torture, arbitrary arrests and detentions by security agents violate the rights of the persons they are supposed to protect.

There have been several reports of the Ebonyi State Government arresting and detaining journalists on the basis of the controversial Ebonyi State Cybercrimes (Prohibition) Law 2021, which was enacted in September 2021. A social media influencer, Paschal Etu was arrested on allegations of contravening provisions of this law. Mr. Etu was reported to have been in detention since 30th November 2021.

The State Government has been accused of using this law as a tool to stifle free speech. The law has been criticised on the basis that some of the subject matters it addresses are on the Exclusive Legislative list and not on the Concurrent Legislative list which States are empowered to legislate on. In addition, the law is not readily accessible to the public. It also contains some provisions that are perceived as unconstitutional, such as section 8 which provides that no person shall be prosecuted under the law without the consent of the Attorney General. This may

give room for prolonged detention without trial which contravenes section 36(4) of the Nigerian Constitution, which provides that a person charged with a criminal offence is entitled to fair hearing by a court or tribunal within a reasonable time. The provision is also perceived as a recreation of Decree No. 4 (Public Officers Protection Against False Publications) of 1984 and the infamous Hate Speech Bill, that failed at the National Assembly.²

On 3rd March 2022, the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) in a statement³ by its Deputy Director, Public Affairs, Fatimah Agwai Mohammed, complained of the constant absence of the legal team of the Nigeria Police from the sitting of the Independent Investigative Panel on Alleged Human Rights Violations by the Special Anti-Robbery Squad (IIP-SARS), which resumed on 1st March 2022. According to the statement, the panel has only one police counsel, Kenneth Egbuchua who represents the institution and policemen who are respondents in the cases before the panel. When contacted by NHRC, the lead counsel to the Police at the panel, James Idachaba, who was also absent at the resumed sitting of the panel, told the Commission that he had assigned members of the police legal team to participate in the proceedings of the panel.

According to NHRC, the proceedings of the panel had suffered setbacks and adjournments severally due to lack of cooperation on the part of the Police, whose counsel either did not appear before the panel or refused to send a representative. In the statement, the Human Rights Commission stated its commitment to fight for the rights and dignity of every person living in Nigeria and called

2 Eze M, "Ebonyi State Cybercrimes (Prohibition) Law 2021: An Affront on the 1999 CFRN." (*Nigerian Voice* January 13, 2022) <<https://www.thenigerianvoice.com/news/305076/ebonyi-state-cybercrimes-prohibition-law-2021-an-affront.html>> accessed March 16, 2022

3 Nhrc, "NHRC" (March 2, 2022) <<https://www.nigeriarights.gov.ng/nhrc-media/news-and-events/283-police-team-abandons-iip-sars-despite-the-quantum-of-allegations-against-the-institution.html>> accessed March 18, 2022

on the hierarchy of the Police to take the panel sittings seriously by responding to human rights abuse allegations levelled against the Police.

The panel which was set up in November 2020 had already experienced delays owing to paucity of funds, with the first delay lasting for seven months and another lasting for 10 weeks before it resumed sitting in March 2022.

Police brutality has been a major concern, especially the highhandedness and recklessness of the now disbanded Special Anti-Robbery Squad (SARS) unit of the Police. This issue formed the crux of the #EndSARS protest in October 2020, which was forcefully shut down. The government had among other things, committed to setting up panels to deal with allegations of rights violations by SARS, in response to the demands of the protesters; hence the constitution of the IIP-SARS panel. The intention is to deliver justice to the victims of these violations. The Police refusing to play its part in this regard only compounds the woes of the complainants, who in addition to suffering some form of violation, may eventually be left without remedy.

On 19th March 2022, a Nigerian citizen and medical doctor, Owen Edo-Ojo was going to visit a spa when he parked his car on Gbamgbala street, Elegushi in the Lekki area of Lagos State. He was approached by a man in mufti, who knocked on his vehicle. On enquiring what the problem was, the man, a Naval Rating asked him to move his car or 'be moved' by him. His car was parked in front of a building reportedly owned by a senior military personnel. Dr. Edo-Ojo expressed dissatisfaction at the Naval Rating's manner of approach, upon which the latter threatened to inflict harm on him. Three other military personnel guiding the building joined the Naval Rating to drag Dr. Edo-Ojo out of his car and beat him thoroughly. In the process, they inflicted him with stab wounds to his neck and hand and shot at him when he was struggling to make his way to a near-by police station.

Following the incident, the Director of Naval Information, Commodore Adedotu Ayo-Vaughan disclosed that the Naval Rating in question has since been arrested and detained, with investigation on-going. He also expressed the Nigerian Navy's commitment to respecting and protecting law-abiding citizens.

On 21st March 2022, a Federal High Court in Calabar dismissed charges of terrorism, treasonable felony, and cybercrime against Agba Jalingo, publisher of an online newspaper, CrossRiverWatch, after the Cross River State Government withdrew the charges against him. Mr. Jalingo was arrested in August 2019 for alleging that the Cross River State Government diverted N500 million appropriated for the establishment of a State microfinance bank. He was charged with terrorism, treasonable felony, and cybercrime, and incarcerated for about 179 days, despite global outrage against the government's action.

In an interview following his release, Mr. Jalingo stated that while in detention, he was pressured to write an apology letter to the Cross River State government, which he refused to do. Jalingo's case is a clear instance of how government actors who are intolerant of divergent opinions or calls for accountability, resort to using instruments of State to suppress freedom of expression and the press, including sham court trials. This is despite the fact that civil remedies may be used to address some of these issues, where necessary.

Shina Oludare, a Nigerian journalist narrated his ordeal with security agents at the Moshood Abiola Stadium in Abuja during the World Cup Qualifiers match between Nigeria and Ghana on Tuesday, 29th March 2022. Detailing his experience via his Twitter handle, he stated that in an attempt to make a video recording of the stampede that ensued after the match, he was attacked by three Nigerian Army personnel and several Policemen who flogged him and broke his phone despite identifying himself as a journalist with his accreditation tag.



Photo Credit: The Africa Report.com

SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC RIGHTS: EMPLOYMENT RIGHTS, EDUCATION RIGHTS, ETC

Every person is entitled to basic human needs such as food, shelter, healthcare and social security. Other rights closely related to these are education and employment, for which individuals are entitled to good working conditions. These are all essential to realising a decent standard of living.

The rights to basic needs and means of livelihood are provided in Chapter 2 of the Nigerian Constitution. Specifically, section 16 requires the State to control the economy and direct its policy in a manner that ensures equitable access to and distribution of wealth and the means of economic production. It also requires the State to ensure that citizens have access to suitable and adequate shelter, food, national minimum wage, old age care and pensions, unemployment and sick benefits, as well as welfare for persons with disabilities. Section 17 goes on to stipulate that the State social order should be built on the principles of freedom, equality and justice, in furtherance of which citizens shall have equality of rights and opportunities.

Employment and Education Rights

For the quarter under review, certain employment rights issues were identified. On 14th February 2022, the Academic Staff Union of Universities (ASUU) commenced a one-month warning strike, which was extended by two months at the end of the initial period on 14th March 2022. The reason for embarking on the industrial action was the non-implementation of a Memorandum of Understanding the Union signed with the Federal Government in 2020, to address the release of revitalisation funds for public universities, review of its salary payment system, non-payment of academic allowances, deployment of the University Transparency and Accountability Solution (UTAS) system and proliferation of State universities.

The current series of industrial action by ASUU which began since 2009 has gradually been enmeshed into the public tertiary education system and has affected both the employment rights of university lecturers and the rights of students to quality education. The Federal Government had in 2009, signed an agreement with the Union for the autonomy of universities and better welfare for academic staff. Since then, there has been a back and forth and a series of negotiations, with none leading to a lasting solution on the matter. In turn, this has resulted in students having their academic programmes disrupted constantly, with the quality of education diminishing.

In March 2022, sketchy reports emerged of plans by some personnel of the Nigeria Police to embark on a protest over non-implementation of the new salary structure approved for the institution by the Federal Government, failure of the government to provide sophisticated weapons to combat crime and the poor welfare of Policemen. In response to this, the leadership of the Police initially denied that there was a plan by its personnel to embark on a strike. It however, switched and began to warn its personnel against a strike action, saying that doing so would be equivalent to mutiny. Following these developments, reports emerged that the Inspector General of Police, IGP Usman Baba

ordered the dismissal of nine Police personnel – two Inspectors, five Sergeants and two Constables, following their orderly room trial for planning and coordinating a strike action within the Police Force.

The welfare of the Police is critical, as it is the security agency with the responsibility to provide internal, civil security and is the first point of call for the general public on security issues. It will be recalled that during the #EndSARS protest in October 2020, improved Police welfare was one of the demands of the protesters, which the government promised to address. Consequently, in December 2021, the Federal Executive Council approved a 20% upward review of the salary of the Police Force with effect from January 2022. However, the threatened strike action implies that the increase was yet to be implemented.

The sustained Monday sit-at-home order in South East Nigeria discussed in the previous part of this report as a hindrance to civil liberties, has also crippled economic activities in the region. It adversely impacts on people's rights to engage in economic transactions to earn a living, as well as students' access to education on Mondays.

Basic Necessities

The prices of food items increased rapidly in the first quarter of 2022, a trend that persisted since 2021. This can be attributed to insecurity that has affected farming, food production and distribution, as well as growing inflation rate, which stood at 15.7% in February 2022.⁴

Nigeria's long standing power supply challenge appears to have worsened in the first quarter of 2022, with incessant bouts of collapse of the national power grid, which serves as a conduit for the distribution of electricity from generating plants to distribution companies, who then supply electricity to consumers.

⁴ "Nigeria Inflation Rate April 2022 Data - 1996-2021 Historical - May Forecast" (*Nigeria Inflation Rate - April 2022 Data - 1996-2021 Historical - May Forecast*) <<https://tradingeconomics.com/nigeria/inflation-cpi>> accessed March 21, 2022

Power is a key element in economic operations. To respond to this long-standing challenge in power supply, individuals and organisations have opted for alternative sources of power, for which they incur more cost in some cases. This includes the use of generators, which have to be operated using petrol or diesel. The prices of both commodities (petrol and diesel) rose within the first quarter of 2022, owing to scarcity. This started in February 2022 when the Federal Government reported that a huge amount of Premium Motor Spirit (PMS) imported into the country was contaminated and had to be recalled. Fuel stations began to operate at reduced capacity due to scarcity of the product. This led people to seek other alternatives such as buying petrol at increased prices in the black market. The scarcity lasted for several weeks in various locations across the country but seemed to have lasted even longer in the Federal Capital Territory (FCT), Abuja.

The scarcity and high cost of petroleum products within the period increased the cost of transportation, with airlines placing the minimum fare for a one-way trip to destinations within Nigeria at N50,000. An alternative to travelling by air, is ground transportation. However, in addition to the increased fares, insecurity and poor road infrastructure remain huge concerns for undertaking land travel.

The cost of living for the average Nigerian has risen astronomically, without a matching increase in income. With citizens struggling to make ends meet, the standard of living, especially for low income households has been adversely affected.



Photo Credit: Financial Times

INSECURITY: INSURGENCY, ATTACKS ON SECURITY AGENTS

The importance of security of lives and property cannot be overemphasised. The very existence and co-habitation of people is based on this. The presence of chaos makes it difficult or even impossible for individuals to lead peaceful lives in a stable environment. Security is the foremost responsibility of any government. Section 14(2)(b) of the Nigerian Constitution provides that the security and welfare of the people shall be the primary purpose of government.

Insecurity across Nigeria has intensified within the past few years, with regions of the country plagued by varying forms of violence, from communal conflicts, banditry, kidnapping and terrorist attacks in the North, to separatist agitations in the South East and South West.

The activities of the separatist group, IPOB in the South East region was described as acts of terrorism by a Federal High Court in Abuja in September 2017, following an application filed by the Federal Government. Several attacks on police formations, other public infrastructure, kidnappings and killings have been witnessed in the region

and attributed to unknown gunmen. IPOB has however repeatedly denied any involvement in such incidents, insisting on being a non-violent group. Following these developments, heavy military presence pervaded the area, particularly Imo State, which has been a hotbed of face-offs between security forces and the security arm of IPOB, Eastern Security Network (ESN) and has led to the death of citizens and residents of the area. Pockets of violence have also been reported in other States in the region, also resulting in fatalities and casualties. The sustained sit-at-home orders further exacerbates the issue. IPOB has repeatedly stated that it has called off observation of the sit-at-home directive and reserved it for the days that its leader, Nnamdi Kanu appears in court for his trial. However, residents in the region are still forced to stay at home for fear of attacks by criminal elements for non-compliance, as has been witnessed on several occasions.

On the other hand, there have been repeated calls for the so-called bandits in the North to also be declared as terrorists and dealt with as such. The Federal Government only recently gave in to these calls and made an application in Court to that effect, which resulted in the declaration of specific bandit groups as terrorists in November 2021. Bandits have been operating particularly in the North West and North East regions of the country, ransacking villages, attacking travellers, kidnapping individuals for ransom and leaving several people dead and injured, with properties and livelihoods destroyed.

Insurgency

In the first week of January 2022, at least 200 people were killed, about 10,000 others displaced and scores missing following attacks by more than 300 armed bandits on several villages in Anka and Bukkuyum Local Government Areas of Zamfara State. The gunmen opened fire on residents, looted and burnt homes. The attack was a show of retaliation for military air raids on the bandits' hideouts in the previous week. The military had conducted air attacks on these hideouts in the Gusami forest and West Tsamre village in Zamfara State, killing more

than 100 bandits including two of their leaders.

On 31st January 2022, gunmen numbering over 100 killed 11 Joint Security Taskforce members and several villagers after attacking three remote villages in Shiroro Local Government Area of Niger State in North Central Nigeria. These gunmen invaded the villages on motorcycles, attacked and set houses on fire, leaving many people injured and others fleeing to Minna, the State capital for safety. Prior to the incident, scores of gunmen in the area had been killed in a gunfight with security forces.

At least eight persons were killed and several others wounded in attacks by insurgents belonging to the Islamic State in West Africa Province (ISWAP), in Mandaragirau and Ghuma villages in Biu Local Government Area of Borno State on 26th February 2022. The insurgents invaded the villages, burnt shops, looted foodstuff and livestock of the residents. The military reported that its troops had thwarted an attack by ISWAP insurgents along Mandaragarau road in the early hours of that day. The troops, under 'Operation Desert Sanity', on patrol in the area were said to have intercepted communication of the terrorists, who were on a mission to plant improvised-explosive devices (IEDs) on the route and attack a military base. The troops then stormed the scene and tackled the insurgents. However, following the interception by the military, nine insurgents on three motorcycles were reported to have stormed Mandaragirau and Ghuma and attacked the locals, whom they accused of disclosing information of their plans to the military.

Some unidentified gunmen stormed the Kaduna international Airport on 26th March 2022, killing a security guard working for the Nigerian Airspace Management Agency (NAMA), identified as Shehu Na'Allah. However, operatives of the Nigerian Airforce and other military personnel at the airport responded immediately and repelled the attack, taking over the inner and outer areas of the airport. The attack delayed the takeoff of a Lagos-bound aircraft.

On 28th March 2022, terrorists attacked a Kaduna-bound train, killing at least 8 persons, kidnapping many and injuring several others. The train was said to have left Abuja at about 6:00 p.m. and was heading to Kaduna when it was attacked between Katari and Rijana communities in Kaduna. The terrorists planted explosives on the railway tracks and immobilised the train before firing gunshots at it, killing and injuring some passengers in the train and others as they tried to escape. Military forces eventually arrived the scene after the attack and evacuated trapped passengers and took injured persons to the hospital.

There have been disparities in the number of people said to have boarded the train and the number of tickets accounted for, for this particular trip, as a result of ticket racketeering. This has given rise to questions of transparency and accountability in the operations of the government owned railway service.

According to the Council on Foreign Relations' Nigeria Security tracker, 2,975 people were killed as a result of insecurity in the first quarter of 2022,⁵ while TheCable Index puts the figure of persons killed at approximately 1,743, excluding killings by security operatives and death of suspected criminals.⁶

Attacks on Security Agents

It is a fact that some cases of human rights violation are attributable to State actors, particularly security agents. However, these actors equally have rights that need to be protected, especially while in the line of duty. In the course of Nigeria's insurgency, there have been complaints that military personnel are not provided with adequate armament to fight terrorists, who are said to possess advanced weapons.

5 "Nigeria Security Tracker" (*Council on Foreign Relations*) <<https://www.cfr.org/nigeria/nigeria-security-tracker/p29483>> accessed April 24, 2022

6 "Insecurity: 1,743 Nigerians Killed in Q1 2022 - Niger, Zamfara Top List of Victims" (*TheCable* April 20, 2022) <<https://www.thecable.ng/insecurity-1743-nigerians-killed-in-q1-2022-niger-zamfara-top-list-of-victims>> accessed April 24, 2022

On 22nd February 2022, ISWAP, a breakaway faction of the Boko Haram extremist group, in a statement, took responsibility for a series of attacks that killed dozens of Nigerian soldiers. The first attack was said to have been launched on a Nigerian army patrol team using four explosive devices. Then another attack was launched on a military camp in the town of Mallam Fatori in Borno State, a few kilometers away from neighboring Niger Republic, using mortar shells. The group also claimed that an explosive device detonated during another ambush resulted in the death of three Nigerian soldiers in Mallam Fatori, while all occupants of a military truck were either killed or injured in yet another ambush on a Nigerian army convoy in Jiri town in Borno State. At about the time this statement from ISWAP emerged, Nigeria's military reported that it had killed several terrorists and recovered a large cache of weapons and vehicles from them during clearance operations the previous day, 21st February in another location in Borno State.

On 10th March 2022, wives of slain soldiers alongside other women stormed the residence of 223 Tank Battalion Commanding Officer of the Nigerian Army to protest the killing of their husbands in a fierce gun battle with bandits in Kanya Village of Danko/Wassagu Local Government Area of Kebbi State on 8th March. A video footage that emerged online showed some soldiers dragging out the women who had earlier gained access to the officer's house, while those who were trying to gain access were prevented from doing so by a few other soldiers in the vicinity.

On 19th March 2022, gunmen armed with explosives attacked the Umuguma police station on the outskirts of Owerri, the Imo State capital, resulting in the death of two Police constables.

On 20th March 2022, gunmen attacked a police station in Oru, Imo State and destroyed part of the station using a dynamite before the attack was repelled, with four of the gunmen killed and explosive devices recovered from them.



Photo Credit: PLAC

GENDER RIGHTS: POLITICAL REPRESENTATION, CITIZENSHIP AND INDIGENESHIP RIGHTS, GENDER BASED VIOLENCE

Gender rights stem from the need to ensure that every individual regardless of their sex, is entitled to the basic necessities of life and the opportunity to participate in the governance of their society. Historically, women have suffered a level of disadvantage in the various spheres of life, from being severely affected by poverty, struggling for access to decent healthcare, to being vulnerable to various forms of violence and underrepresented in government. Therefore, promotion of women’s rights are geared towards creating equal opportunities and access for them alongside their male counterparts. This has been part of the subject of civil society advocacy for the longest time. This is important because women account for about half of the world’s population⁷ and need to be equipped and actively involved in all areas of life.

According to the United Nations Secretary-General, Mr. António Guterres, achieving gender equality and empowering women and girls

7 Ritchie H and Roser M, “Gender Ratio” (*Our World in Data* June 13, 2019) <<https://ourworldindata.org/gender-ratio>> accessed May 12, 2022

is the unfinished business of our time, and the greatest human rights challenge in the world.⁸

Political, Citizenship and Indigeneship Rights

On 1st March 2022, the National Assembly voted on 68 Constitution bills in the 5th Constitution Alteration exercise. Out of these, five bills to increase and improve the rights of women failed to pass. These include the bill to create specific seats for women in the National Assembly and State Houses of Assembly, a bill for affirmative action for women in appointive political positions, a bill for reserved quota for women in political party executive positions, a bill for women to confer Nigerian citizenship on their foreign husbands and a bill for women to become indigenes of their husbands' States.

Gender Based Violence

Oluwabamise Ayanwole, a 22-year old resident of Lagos State went missing on 26th February 2022, after she boarded a bus operated by the State-owned Bus Rapid Transit (BRT), heading to Oshodi. Her body was later discovered along Carter bridge in Lagos Island. The driver of the bus named as Andrew Omininikoron, who had been at large following the incident, was subsequently found and arrested by operatives of the Department of State Services (DSS). He is facing charges for the rape and murder of Oluwabamise. Following this incident, two female passengers also came out to narrate their encounters of sexual harassment involving the driver in separate incidents that occurred in November and December 2021, respectively.

A 15-year-old student at Government Technical College, Ikorodu reported how she was raped by one of her teachers in a hotel within the Ikorodu area. The teacher also threatened to kill her if she disclosed the incident to anyone. The student who lives in Lowa community in Ikorodu was on her way to school on 28th March 2022, when her

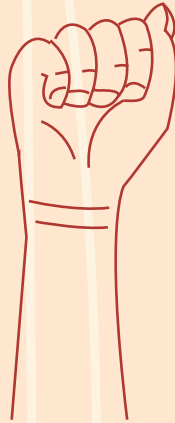
⁸ "Gender Equality" (United Nations) <<https://www.un.org/en/global-issues/gender-equality>> accessed April 1, 2022

teacher who was driving in his car offered to give her a ride to school. However, instead of taking her to school, he made a detour to a hotel in the area, where he raped her.

The student disclosed the incident to her mother, who subsequently reported the case at the Ikorodu division of the Nigeria Police, following which the Divisional Police Officer ordered the arrest of the teacher. The Spokesman for the Lagos State Police Command, SP Benjamin Hundeyin stated that investigation was still ongoing, adding that the case had been transferred to the Gender Officer of the Police at the State Command headquarters for further investigation.

On 31st March 2022, Happiness John, a resident of the Ikorodu area of Lagos State lodged a complaint against her husband at the Ikorodu Police division, for allegedly raping her 14-year-old sister in their home, on several occasions between November 2021 and February 2022. The teenager was said to have opened up to her sister, who reported the case to the Police. Policemen at the Ikorodu station arrested the suspect and the case transferred to the Gender Officer at the State Command headquarters for further investigation.

Incidents of gender based violence appear to be on the increase and require additional protective measures to be adopted.



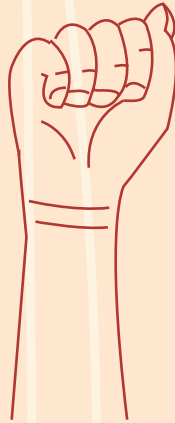
CONCLUSION

In this report, PLAC identifies the pattern of human rights abuses in the country. Reports of human rights abuses identified by PLAC in the period under review show that the freedom of expression in Nigeria is under threat, as evidenced by attempts by the Federal and State governments to stifle opposing views and suppress calls for accountability. Journalists, social media influencers and activists who express any divergent views or question government policies appear most at risk. Although the ban on the Twitter platform has been lifted, it should rouse the minds of citizens on the lengths that an intolerant government can go to suppress free speech. This should also be one of the considerations for citizens in selecting their leaders as the 2023 general elections approach.

The effects of violation of various rights are often intertwined. Limited access to basic necessities is making it increasingly difficult for people to afford a decent quality of life. Then there is also the issue of brutality by security agents and other specific forms of abuse suffered by individuals. This situation is further compounded by insecurity. There appears to be a systemic failure in the ability of the government to protect its citizens from violence by non-state actors and forces that threaten its territorial integrity. The effect of insecurity has translated to threatened food

security, high cost of transportation and even restricted movement of persons for fear of being attacked. People live in trepidation with no tangible commitment from the government that an end is in sight for the deteriorating security situation.

Human rights protection in Nigeria is abysmal and efforts to seek redress can be met with obstacles, breeding frustration for the complainants who may sometimes be left without any remedy in the end. Human rights protection needs to be addressed by government at all levels, with intentionality and sincerity of purpose, to achieve a society where freedom and equality exist and the human life is sacrosanct.



RECOMMENDATIONS

Under the 1999 Nigerian Constitution, the legislature, particularly the National Assembly is given powers of law making, oversight and representation. Deriving from these, is the inherent and clear powers given to the National Assembly to hold government institutions, particularly government agencies to account for respect of the human rights of citizens. PLAC is calling on the National Assembly to exercise these powers. The National Assembly Committees on Human Rights in the Senate and House of Representatives should hold public hearings and invite responsible agencies of government to respond to complaints of human rights abuse and indicate how they intend to remedy ongoing violations of human rights.

PLAC will additionally like to make the following recommendations:

Federal and State Governments

- Government should refrain from using instruments of State against its critics. Instead, channels for engagement with citizens should be established to promote open, responsive and accountable governance.
- Government should ensure that security agents are sufficiently equipped to combat crime and protect its citizens. The welfare of

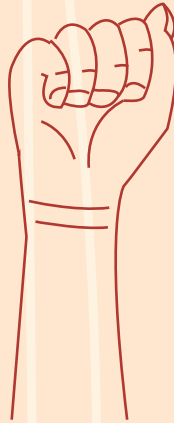
the Police is crucial to this and should be addressed expeditiously. The increase in Police salary announced by the Federal Government in December 2021 should be effected as soon as possible, in order to avoid a situation where disgruntled persons are serving as internal security operatives. This may also serve to address issues of extortion of individuals by Police personnel.

- The Federal Government should as a matter of urgency, address the outstanding issues with ASUU, in order to put an end to the ongoing strike and have students return to school and continue with their studies.
- Promotion of gender rights should be brought to the front burner and treated with utmost urgency, particularly the improvement of political representation of women.

The Police and Other Security Agencies

- For security personnel to operate optimally in a manner that makes those who are served to feel protected and their rights respected, human rights training for civil engagement is important. This should be introduced for both new recruits and already serving security personnel, particularly in the Nigeria Police, which is the lead agency for providing internal security.

In a Capacity Development Retreat of the House of Representatives Committee of Human Rights organised in collaboration with PLAC in Abuja on 21st March 2022, and supported by the National Endowment for Democracy (NED), the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) stated that it was mainstreaming human rights protection into the operations of security agents on the frontline in the fight against insurgency. This is a welcome development, which should be complemented by internal human rights training within the various security agencies for all aspects of their operations, especially those involving interactions with civilians.



APPENDIX: JANUARY - MARCH 2022 HUMAN RIGHTS TREND

JANUARY 2022

Date of Report	Victim(s)	Summary of Report	Perpetrator	Source
9th January 2022	Nigerian citizens	An estimated 200 people were killed and 10,000 displaced in attacks by armed bandits in the northwestern Nigerian state of Zamfara following military air raids on their hideouts last week. A spokesperson for Sadiya Umar Farouq, minister of humanitarian affairs, said more than 200 bodies were buried. “We are very saddened by this incessant invasion ... and we also worried about the displaced persons who are fleeing in	Bandits	https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2022/1/9/about-200-dead-in-bandit-attacks-in-northwest-nigeria-residents

Date of Report	Victim(s)	Summary of Report	Perpetrator	Source
		<p>their hundreds from their communities,” Nneka Ikem Anibeze said on Sunday. Farouq called the past week’s attacks in Zamfara State “horrific and tragic,” giving the first official toll after details began filtering out early Saturday. The minister said more 10,000 people were displaced when “their homes were razed by the bandits while scores are still missing”. The state government had previously said 58 people were killed in the attacks. Locals returned to their villages on Saturday to organise mass burials. The military conducted air attacks on Monday on targets in the Gusami forest and west Tsamre village in Zamfara, killing more than 100 bandits including two of their leaders. More than 300 gunmen on motorcycles stormed eight villages in the Anka local area in Zamfara on Tuesday and started shooting sporadically, killing at least 30 people. Attackers also rampaged through 10 villages in Anka and Bukkuyum districts on Wednesday through Thursday, firing at residents and looting and burning</p>		

Date of Report	Victim(s)	Summary of Report	Perpetrator	Source
		homes. Babandi Hamidu, a resident of Kurfa Danya village, said the assailants were shooting “anyone on sight”. “The search for more bodies is ongoing because many people are unaccounted for,” Hamidu told AFP news agency.		
13th January 2022	Nigerian Citizens	The Federal Government sustained a ban on micro-blogging social media platform, Twitter for seven months, since 4th June 2021. The ban was eventually lifted from midnight on 13th January 2022.	Federal Government of Nigeria	https://guardian.ng/news/fg-lifts-twitter-ban-after-222-days-n546-5b-economic-losses/ https://channelstvcom/2022/01/12/breaking-fg-lifts-twitter-ban-after-seven-months/
13th January 2022	Social Media Influencer, Paschal Etu	The Ebonyi State Government arrested and detained a Social Media Influencer, Paschal Etu on allegation of offences contained in the Ebonyi State Cybercrimes (Prohibition) Law 2021. Mr. Etu has been in detention since 30th November 2021.	Ebonyi State Government	https://www.thenigerianvoice.com/news/305076/ebonyi-state-cybercrimes-prohibition-law-2021-an-affront.html

Date of Report	Victim(s)	Summary of Report	Perpetrator	Source
		<p>The State Government, which has been accused of stifling free speech, has arrested several persons since the enactment of this law (in September 2021), which has been described as faulty. The law (both soft and hard copy) is not readily accessible to the public. Also, it contains certain positions that are not in tandem with the Constitution, such as section 8 which provides that no person shall be prosecuted under the law without the cinsent of the Attorney General. This is perceived as a reinvention of Decree No. 4 (Public Officers Protection Against false Publications) of 1984 and the infamous Hate Speech Bill.</p>		

FEBRUARY 2022

Date of Report	Victim(s)	Summary of Report	Perpetrator	Source
1st February 2022	11 Nigerian Security agents and some villagers	<p>Gunmen in Nigeria have killed 11 security agents and several villagers after attacking remote villages in the north-central state of Niger, its governor Alhaji Bello said on Monday. Gangs have been terrorising areas of northern Nigeria in recent years, forcing thousands to flee and perpetrating mass kidnappings for ransom. Bello said the latest incident, which he blamed on “terrorists”, had happened on Sunday (31st January) afternoon in the Shiroro local government area. Local officials said last year that suspected Boko Haram militants were now present in Shiroro. The Islamist group has been engaged in an insurgency in Nigeria’s northeast for more than a decade. “Terrorists, numbering over 100 are said to have invaded the community in broad daylight, killing about 11 Joint Security Taskforce members, several villagers and leaving many injured,” Bello said, adding that</p>	Gunmen	https://www.reuters.com/world/africa/gunmen-kill-11-nigerian-security-agents-some-villagers-state-governor-2022-01-31/

Date of Report	Victim(s)	Summary of Report	Perpetrator	Source
		<p>scores of gunmen were killed during a gunfight with security forces. Dahiur Muhammed, a resident of Galadiman Kogo village in Shiroro, told Reuters via phone that at least 30 villagers were killed and dozens more abducted after gunmen on motorbikes attacked three villages and set houses on fire. Several people were fleeing to Niger state capital Minna where there is better security, he said. Niger shares a boundary with the capital Abuja.</p>		
14th February 2022	Students in Tertiary Institutions	<p>Lecturers in Nigerian universities are to commence a four-week strike starting today, their union has said. The Academic Staff Union of Universities (ASUU) announced this as part of its resolutions at the end of its National Executive Council (NEC) meeting in Lagos Monday morning. "... NEC resolved to embark on a four-week roll-over total and comprehensive strike action beginning from Monday 14th February 2022," the communique stated. The union gave various reasons for embarking on the strike.</p>	Federal Government	<p>https://www.premiumtimesng.com/news/headlines/511488-its-official-asuu-declares-one-month-warning-strike.html</p>

Date of Report	Victim(s)	Summary of Report	Perpetrator	Source
		<p>PREMIUM TIMES had exclusively reported that the union had agreed on a one-month strike at the end of its meeting early Monday.</p>		<p>https://www.premiumtimesng.com/news/headlines/517102-updated-strike-asuu-extends-rollover-strike-by-two-months.html</p>
<p>23rd February 2022</p>	<p>Nigerian Soldiers</p>	<p>Dozens of Nigerian soldiers were killed and wounded in recent attacks in Nigeria's insecure northeast region, according to a statement from the Islamic State group, which said its West Africa members carried out the assaults. The attacks using explosives targeted soldiers on patrol at various checkpoints in Borno state, killing and wounding more than 30 soldiers, said the statement on the latest of the attacks released late Tuesday. The Islamic State in West Africa Province (ISWAP) is a breakaway faction of the Boko Haram extremist group which launched a rebel insurgency against the Nigerian government more than a decade ago. Nigeria's military did not immediately</p>	<p>ISWAP</p>	<p>https://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/islamic-state-group-claims-attacks-nigeria-soldiers-83061285</p>

Date of Report	Victim(s)	Summary of Report	Perpetrator	Source
		<p>respond to an inquiry for comment to confirm the attacks, but also reported killing “several” extremists and recovering a “large cache of weapons” and vehicles from the militants during “clearance operations” on Monday in Borno state in a location different from where IS said its fighters attacked.</p> <p>On 22nd February, IS militants targeted a Nigerian army patrol team with four explosive devices followed by mortar shells launched at a military camp in the town of Mallam Fatori, a few miles (kilometers) away from Nigeria’s northern neighbor Niger, the group said in one statement. An explosive device detonated during another ambush resulted in the death of three Nigerian soldiers in Mallam Fatori, it said, while “all those onboard” a military truck were either killed or wounded in yet another ambush on a Nigerian army convoy in Jiri town on the outskirts of Borno. Three attacks on Sunday and Monday killed and wounded “several”</p>		

Date of Report	Victim(s)	Summary of Report	Perpetrator	Source
		<p>Nigerian soldiers, IS also said in separate statements, as the security forces continue to fall prey to the militants' adoption of ambushes in areas where they seek to dominate and control especially along the Lake Chad axis.</p>		
<p>27th February 2022</p>	<p>8 Residents of Biu LGA in Borno State</p>	<p>At least eight persons were killed in attacks by Islamic State in West Africa Province (ISWAP) insurgents in Biu LGA of Borno State. TheCable learnt the insurgents invaded Mandaragirau and Ghuma villages in the LGA on Saturday night, killed eight residents and wounded a number of persons. Military sources said troops had thwarted an attack by ISWAP terrorists along Mandaragarau road in the early hours of Saturday. Nigerian troops, under Operation Desert Sanity, on a long range patrol in the general area were said to have intercepted communication of the terrorists on a mission to plant improvised-explosive devices (IEDs) on the routes and attack a military base. But the troops stormed the scene</p>	<p>ISWAP</p>	<p>https://www.thecable.ng/boko-haram-kills-eight-razes-village-in-borno</p>

Date of Report	Victim(s)	Summary of Report	Perpetrator	Source
		<p>and tackled the insurgents. Following the interception, nine insurgents on three motorcycles were said to have stormed Mandaragirau and Ghuma, accusing the locals of disclosing information of their plans to the military.</p> <p>The insurgents also burnt some shops, looted foodstuff and livestock of the residents. The troops had successfully repelled an attack by another ISWAP group in Konduga LGA. Sources said the insurgents attempted to attack a military formation along Bama Road, when they met a stiff resilience by the troops in the location.</p>		

MARCH 2022

Date of Report	Victim(s)	Summary of Report	Perpetrator	Source
Tuesday, 1st March 2022	Nigerian Women	The Nigerian National Assembly voted on 68 Constitution bills for the 5th Constitution Alteration exercise. Five (5) bills to improve the rights of women failed to pass. These include the bills to create specific seats for women in the National Assembly and State Houses of Assembly.	National Assembly	https://placng.org/i/national-assembly-votes-on-sixty-eight-constitution-alteration-bills/
Thursday, 3rd March 2022	Nigerians who lodged reports of human rights violations by the defunct Special Anti-Robbery Squad (SARS).	The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) in a statement by its Deputy Director, Public Affairs, Fatimah Agwai Mohammed, stated that the legal team of the Nigeria Police has been almost absent from the sitting of the Independent Investigative Panel on Alleged Human Rights Violations by SARS, which resumed on 1st March 2022. According to the statement, the panel had only one police counsel, Mr. Kenneth Egbuchua who represents the institution, and policemen that are listed as respondents in all the cases before the panel.	Nigeria Police	http://saharareporters.com/2022/03/03/endsars-nigeria-police-shun-probe-panel-abuja-despite-allegations-abuses-human-rights https://punchng.com/endsars-nhrc-vows-to-invoke-powers-as-police-abandon-panel/

Date of Report	Victim(s)	Summary of Report	Perpetrator	Source
		<p>When contacted by the Commission, lead counsel for the police at the panel, Mr. James Idachaba, who was also not present at the panel, told the Commission that he had detailed members of the police legal team to be at the panel unfailingly as he had an assignment outside his jurisdiction. The Commission stated that the proceedings of the Investigative panel had several times suffered setback and adjournments due to lack of cooperation on the part of the police, whose counsel has either refused to appear before the panel or refused to send representation. The statement, therefore, called on the hierarchy of the police institution to do the needful and take the IIP-SARS panel seriously adding that it is determined to fight for the rights and dignity of every person living in Nigeria. It also stated that, “During last year’s proceedings at the panel, the police paraded a reasonable number of counsel who barely struggled with the</p>		<p>https://www.premiumtimesng.com/news/top-news/514971-endsars-nhrc-panel-lament-over-polices-neglect-of-abuja-hearing.html</p>

Date of Report	Victim(s)	Summary of Report	Perpetrator	Source
		<p>enormous cases brought against them. Now that the police have only one counsel, it logically raises doubt as to the seriousness of the institution concerning the serious human rights allegations against them.”</p>		
8th March 2022	A Nigerian Citizen, Oluwabamise Ayanwole	<p>Police authorities in Lagos State have taken into custody the driver of the BRT Bus involved in the murder of 22-year-old fashion designer, Oluwabamise Ayanwole.</p> <p>The driver, Andrew Nice Omininikoron, and another accomplice were arrested by DSS operatives in Ososa, Odogbolu area of Ogun State on Monday night. They were eventually handed over to the police. The Commissioner of Police, Abiodun Alabi while parading the suspect on Monday explained that following the arrest, the investigation will be expanded to bring everyone who is part of the crime to justice. Alabi told Channels Television that the preliminary response from the suspect has not been satisfactory, but it</p>	BRT bus driver, Andrew Nice Omininikoron	<p>https://www.channelstv.com/2022/03/08/bamise-police-parade-brt-driver-expand-investigation/</p> <p>https://www.thecable.ng/bamise-lagos-arraigns-brt-driver-over-alleged-rape-murder</p> <p>https://www.thecable.ng/lady-alleges-she-was-raped-by-brt-driver-arrested-over-bamises-murder</p>

Date of Report	Victim(s)	Summary of Report	Perpetrator	Source
		<p>has been established that he is a prime suspect in the incident that led to the death of the victim.</p> <p>Speaking on the allegations of sexual assault and missing body parts, the CP said police officers and family members of the victim were all at the mortuary, and there was no part of the victim's body that was mutilated.</p> <p>He added that the post-mortem process has been initiated and the result will clarify if there was any form of sexual abuse on the victim.</p>		https://zebranewsonline.com/brt-bus-driver-reveals-how-bamishe-was-murdered-details-of-how-he-was-arrested-watch-video/
11th March 2022	Nigerian Soldiers	<p>The wives of slain soldiers alongside other women on Thursday stormed the residence of 223 Tank Battalion Commanding Officer to protest the killing of their husbands by suspected bandits in Kanya Village of Danko/Wassagu Local Government Area in Kebbi State. Some of the protesting women dressed in black attires were holding sticks to protest the killing of the operatives while others took to burning tyres in front of the residence of the commanding officer.</p>	Suspected Bandits	https://www.channelstv.com/2022/03/11/banditry-wives-of-slain-soldiers-protest-in-kebbi/

Date of Report	Victim(s)	Summary of Report	Perpetrator	Source
		<p>In a video obtained by Channels Television, some soldiers were seen dragging out the women who had earlier gained access to the house, while those who wanted to gain access were prevented by the few soldiers around. The commanding officer was in the company of the Kebbi state Deputy Governor, Colonel Samaila Yombe (rtd), who was in the area on an assessment visit. Most of the protesting women lost their husbands when armed bandits stormed Kanya village on Tuesday and engaged the soldiers in a fierce gun battle that led to the death of some soldiers. A military source told Channels Television that the General Officer Commanding of 8 Division, Major General Uwem Bassey is scheduled to visit the area to assess the situation.</p>		
Saturday, 19th March 2022	A Nigerian Citizen, Dr. Owen Edo-Ojo	<p>On Saturday, 19th March 2022, a medical doctor, Owen Edo-Ojo was going to visit a spa when he parked his car on Gbamgbala street, Elegushi in the Lekki area of Lagos State. He was approached</p>		<p>https://punchng.com/naval-ratings-allegedly-stab-shoot-lagos-doctor-mother-demands-justice/</p>

Date of Report	Victim(s)	Summary of Report	Perpetrator	Source
		<p>by a man in mufti, who knocked on his vehicle. On enquiring what the problem was, the man, a Naval Rating asked him to move his car or be moved by him. Apparently, his car was parked in front of a building reportedly owned by a senior military personnel. Dr. Edo-Ojo expressed dissatisfaction at the Naval Rating's manner of approach, upon which the latter threatened to inflict harm on Dr. Edo-Ojo and boasted that there will be no repercussion. Three other military personnel guiding the building joined the Naval Rating and dragged Dr. Edo-Ojo out of his car and beat him thoroughly. In the process, they inflicted him with stab wounds to his neck and hand and shot at him when he was struggling to make his way to a nearby police station.</p> <p>Following the incident, the Director of Naval Information, Commodore Adedotu Ayo-Vaughan disclosed that the Naval Rating in question has since been arrested and detained, with investigation on-going.</p>		<p>https://www.premiumtimesng.com/news/more-news/519699-navy-apprehends-rating-who-allegedly-shot-doctor.html</p> <p>https://www.vanguardngr.com/2022/03/drunkenaval-rating-who-stabbed-shot-medical-doctor-arrested/</p>

Date of Report	Victim(s)	Summary of Report	Perpetrator	Source
		He also expressed the Navy's commitment to the respect and protection of law-abiding citizens.		
Monday, 21st March 2022	Agba Jalingo (Journalist)	A Federal High Court, Calabar, has dismissed the terrorism, treasonable felony, and cybercrime charges against Agba Jalingo. The judge, Ijeoma Ojukwu, on Monday, dismissed the charges against Mr Jalingo, the publisher of an online newspaper, CrossRiverWatch, after the Cross River State Government withdrew the charges against him, according to a report published by CrossRiverWatch. Mr. Jalingo was arrested in August 2019 for accusing the Cross River State Governor, Ben Ayade, of diverting N500 million belonging to the state. He was charged for terrorism, treasonable felony, and cybercrime, and incarcerated for about 179 days, despite global outrage against the government's action. Mr Jalingo's lawyer, Adeyinka Olumide-Fusika, SAN, commended Cross River State attorney-general	Cross Rivers State Governor, Ben Ayade Cross Rivers State Government	https://www.premiumtimesng.com/news/headlines/518632-court-dismisses-terrorism-charges-against-nigerian-journalist-agba-jalingo.html

Date of Report	Victim(s)	Summary of Report	Perpetrator	Source
		<p>for withdrawing the charges against his client. Mr Jalingo told PREMIUM TIMES, Monday, he always knew that the court would rule in his favour in the case. “I knew from day one that I did not commit the offence, I knew it was just a matter of time for the court to throw the matter away,” he said. “It’s just painful that our system is skewed in this manner where three years of my time has been wasted coming from Lagos to Calabar because of a sham trial,” he said. The journalist said he was waiting for advice from his lawyers, whether to sue the government or not, even though he had told his wife he was leaving vengeance to God. He said he was arrested in Lagos and taken to Calabar like a cow, and that the intention of those who locked him up was to break him. He also said there was pressure on him, while under incarceration, to write an apology letter to the Cross River government, which he refused. “Their intention was to scare me, push me until I break. So the lesson</p>		

Date of Report	Victim(s)	Summary of Report	Perpetrator	Source
		<p>I have learnt is that it is better to hold on. Even when at the breaking point, take a deep breath, pray to God, believe in God and ask him to give you strength. “I think today, the person that will really feel bad is the governor of Cross River State and those who locked me up. Wherever they are now, I think their conscience is talking to them,” he said.</p>		
<p>Monday, 21st March 2022</p>	<p>Nigeria Police</p>	<p>Gunmen using dynamite have attacked a police station in southeastern Nigeria, a day after two police officers were killed in another attack in the area, police said.</p> <p>Sunday’s attacks in the state of Imo were the latest violence in the region where separatist violence is on the rise. “The gunmen came with dynamite in the early hours of today and bombed part of the station at Oru but the assault was repelled,” state police spokesman Michael Abattam told AFP. He said four of the attackers were killed. “Four of the gunmen were neutralised and five IED (improvised</p>	<p>Gunmen</p>	<p>https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2022/3/21/two-police-stations-attacked-in-nigerias-restive-southeast</p>

Date of Report	Victim(s)	Summary of Report	Perpetrator	Source
		<p>explosive devices) were recovered.”</p> <p>Abattam had said on Saturday that a number of gunmen armed with explosives attacked Umuguma police station outside Owerri, the state capital, leaving two police constables dead.</p> <p>He said some gunmen also invaded the residence of professor George Obiozor, leader of Igbo cultural union Ohanaeze, and destroyed part of the building with explosives.</p> <p>Obiozor was not at home at the time of the attack, he said.</p>		
Thursday, 17th March 2022	Nigeria Police Personnel	<p>In the aftermath of a visible threat by personnel of the Nigeria Police Force to embark on strike over non-implementation of new salary structure approved for them by the Federal Government and denial by Force Headquarters of such a plan, the Inspector General of Police, Usman Alkali Baba, has ordered the immediate commencement</p>	Nigeria Police Leadership, Federal Government	https://www.vanguardngr.com/2022/03/strike-igp-orders-adjustment-of-police-pay-totally-with-new-salary-structure/

Date of Report	Victim(s)	Summary of Report	Perpetrator	Source
		<p>of financial computation and adjustments of Police emoluments in line with the new salary structure.</p> <p>A wireless message, dated March 15, 2022, with reference number, CB:4001/DOPS/FHQ/ABJ/Vol, said heads of departments and state commissioners of police were told to sensitise their officers on why they should not try to go on strike as steps had been taken to address the issue.</p> <p>The signal read: “Intelligence reports available to the Inspector General of Police indicate that some members of the rank and file are intending to embark on strike over non-payment of the new Police salary structure, and failure in providing sophisticated weapons to fight crime and poor general welfare of policemen. “Note that Inspector General of Police has directed the immediate computation of salary, under the new salary structure, tax relief/exemption for</p>		<p>https://guardian.ng/news/proposed-strike-tantamount-to-mutiny-igp-warns-police-officers-in-kano/</p> <p>https://www.premiumtime-timesng.com/news/headlines/517528-contrary-to-authorities-claim-junior-police-officers-planning-strike.html</p>

Date of Report	Victim(s)	Summary of Report	Perpetrator	Source
		<p>officers and men for immediate implementation. “Distribution of kits and other accoutrements have been initiated with Force Headquarters already concluded.” It would be recalled that the Force Headquarters, while earlier denying insinuations that personnel of the Nigeria Police Force were planning to embark on strike over non-implementation of the new salary package, warned that any strike or disruption of law enforcement services would be treated as mutiny.</p>		

ABOUT PLAC

Policy and Legal Advocacy Centre (PLAC) is a non-governmental organization committed to strengthening democratic governance and citizens' participation in Nigeria. PLAC works to enhance citizens' engagement with state institutions, and to promote transparency and accountability in policy and decision-making processes.

The main focus of PLAC's intervention in the democratic governance process is on building the capacity of the legislature and reforming the electoral process. Since its establishment, PLAC has grown into a leading institution with capacity to deliver cutting-edge research, policy analysis and advocacy. PLAC receives funding support from donors and other philanthropic sources.

