



# PRESS FREEDOM VIOLATIONS IN AFRICA

**JANUARY 2023**

Country	Number of incidents		
	<i>Total</i>	<i>Involving male journalists</i>	<i>Involving female journalists</i>
Zimbabwe	20	N/A	N/A
Ethiopia	15	0	0
DRC	10	9	0
Somalia	6	6	0
South Sudan	6	6	0
Uganda	5	5	0
Nigeria	3	1	0
Somaliland	2	2	0
Burundi	1	-	1
Cameroon	1	1	0
Mozambique	1	1	0
Rwanda	1	1	0
South Africa	1	N/A	N/A
Zambia	1	1	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>1</b>

73

incidents of  
press freedom  
violations identified in

14

countries.

Most press freedom  
violations were  
identified in  
**Zimbabwe.**

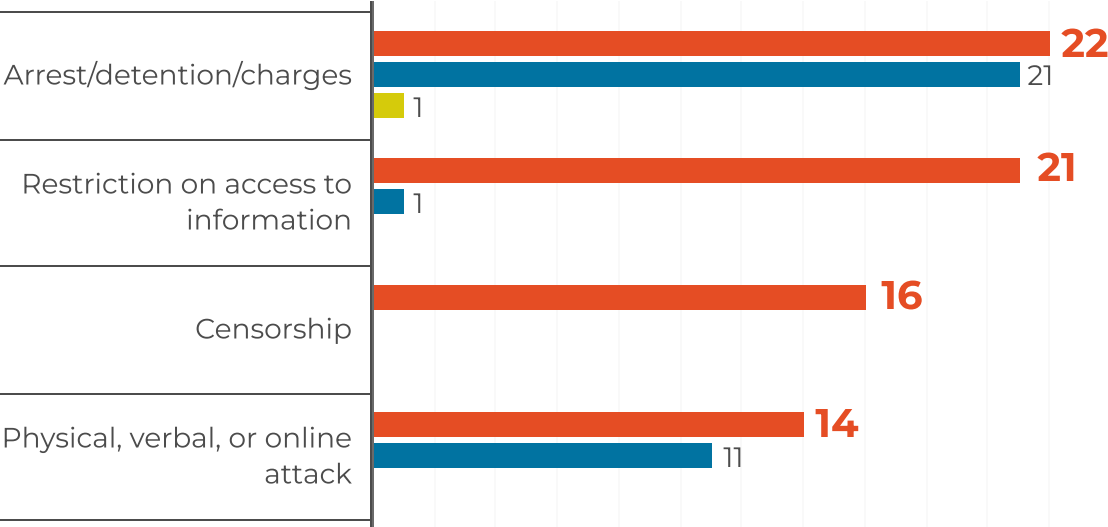
Involving

**33** MALE

**1** FEMALE

journalists.

Most violations identified were arrests/detentions of journalists:



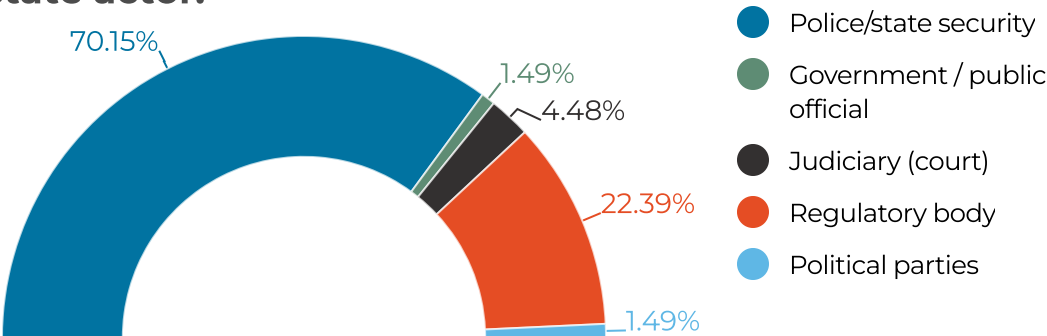
● Total incidents ● Male journalists ● Female journalists

Source of the attack:

State actors were involved in the vast majority of reported press freedom violations.



If state actor:

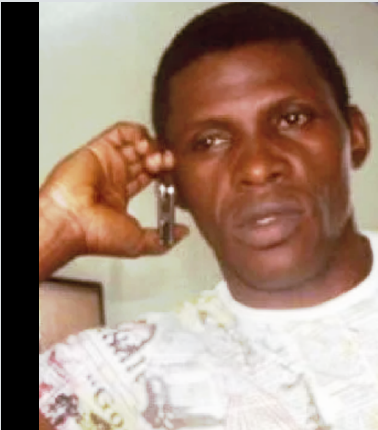


# Two journalists killed in January 2023

It was an alarming start to the year for press freedom in Africa, as two journalists were killed in the month of January — in Cameroon and Rwanda, respectively. These killings put a spotlight on the deteriorating conditions for journalists across the continent, as shown by IPI data on press freedom threats and violations.

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## Martinez Zogo



Cameroonian journalist Martinez Zogo, the director of Radio Amplitude, was kidnapped on January 17 and was found brutally murdered several days later. He reported on government malpractice, the embezzlement of public funds, and corruption. A trade union of independent journalists in Cameroon had condemned Zogo's kidnapping and called on authorities to act quickly to investigate and ensure his safety. Four days later, Zogo was found murdered with signs of torture. His killing puts a spotlight on the already troubled press freedom environment in Cameroon, where journalists face growing pressure and attacks and operate in a climate of fear and self-censorship.

## John Williams Ntwali



Also in January, Rwandan journalist John Williams Ntwali, an editor of the privately-owned newspaper The Chronicles, was killed in what authorities have claimed was a traffic accident. Williams reported on issues of human rights abuses in Rwanda, including arrests of opposition figures, deaths of critics, and forced evictions and advocacy. The official version of Williams Ntwali's death has been met with huge skepticism by human rights defenders in Rwanda, which has been accused of targeting critics and political dissidents as well as journalists.



IPI monitors and collects data on press freedom violations in Africa using a standardized methodology that categorizes violations across the following main categories: physical, verbal or online attacks; arrests and charges against journalists; surveillance of journalists; cases of censorship; laws and regulations that restrict the press freedom; and restriction on access to information. Data are further disaggregated by gender. Our monitoring and data collection activities are part of IPI's wider Africa programme, which aims to defend press freedom and the safety of journalists in sub-Saharan Africa.