



PRESS FREEDOM VIOLATIONS IN AFRICA

FEBRUARY 2023

Country	Number of incidents		
	Total	Involving male journalists	Involving female journalists
Nigeria	28	14	5
DRC	10	2	0
Somalia	8	8	0
South Africa	4	3	2
Togo	2	0	0
Cameroon	1	1	0
Ethiopia	4	4	0
Guinea	1	1	0
Malawi	1	0	1
Senegal	1	0	0
Sudan	1	1	0
TOTAL	61	34	8

61

incidents of
press freedom
violations identified in

11

countries.

Most press freedom
violations were
identified in

NIGERIA.

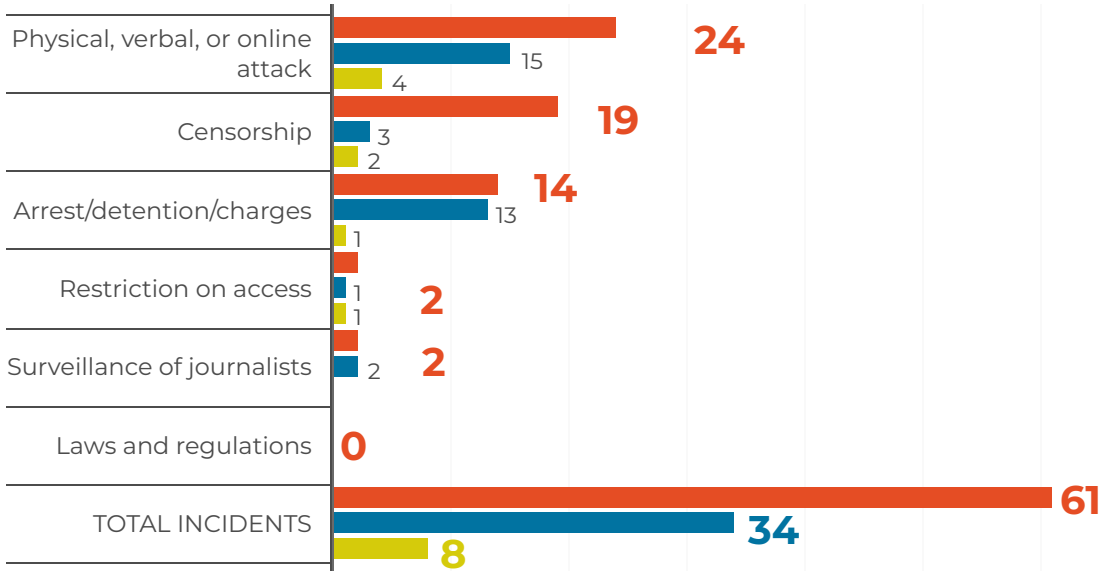
Involving

34 MALE

8 FEMALE

journalists.

Most violations identified were physical, verbal, or online attacks:



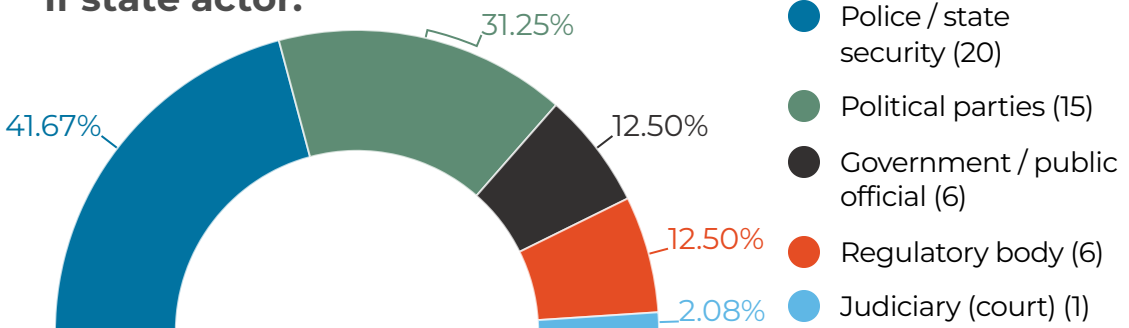
● Total incidents ● Male journalists ● Female journalists

Source of the attack:

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



If state actor:




One journalist killed in February 2023

Ola Bebe, Cameroon



On February 3, 2023, the body of Ola Bebe was found close to his home in Mimboman, a suburb of Yaoundé, the capital city of Cameroon. Ola Bebe was a priest and journalist who worked with several media houses in Yaounde. As of when this report was published, there has been no official communication about an investigation into his murder. Ola, believed close to the slain journalist Martinez Zogo, was also abducted and murdered in January this year, in Cameroon.

 [Read more here](#)

“ Authorities in Cameroon must act efficiently to guarantee a safe and secure environment for journalists to do their work without fear of reprisals”, IPI Director of Advocacy Amy Brouillette said. “As in the case of Martinez Zogo, Cameroon must carry out a swift, transparent, and credible investigation into the murder of Jean Jacques Ola Bebe and hold the perpetrators to account.”



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.