Technology Donation Program for Nonprofits

Based on a constant analysis of multiple streams of data on civic space, each country is assigned a rating ranging between 0 and 100. The rating system allows for a comprehensive assessment of the state of civic space in a given country. Low ratings indicate a shrinking civic space where freedom of expression, association, and assembly are severely restricted. High ratings suggest an open environment where civic actors can engage in activities without fear of repression.

One of the main pillars of democracy, elections, is a constant cause for tension in the region. In West Africa, recent elections have shown a trend of closing civic space. In countries like Guinea, Niger, Togo, and Benin, pre-election detention, protest disruption, censorship, intimidation, and political violence have become a common occurrence. This has led to a decrease in voter turnout and public participation in the electoral process.

The issue of sustainability of civil society in West Africa is becoming increasingly important. With the gradual but significant decline of funding from donors, civil society organizations are struggling to maintain their activities. Women and Youth Leadership initiatives continue to play a pivotal role in promoting civil society activities in the region. However, the lack of financial support is a major challenge for their development and sustainability.

The state both enables and safeguards the enjoyment of civic space for all people. Without an open environment that gives them the space to act freely, civic actors cannot effectively engage in advocacy, governance, and the promotion of human rights.

The Republic of Côte d’Ivoire, before, during, and after elections, has moved its focus from tackling demands of EndSARS protesters by hunting promoters and activists. The statement further indicated that the government is against Daesh. This forms a part of the country’s bold step to fight against Islamic extremism. According to the initiators of this petition campaign, political opposition parties, civil society associations, and the media are being targeted by the government of oppression, abuse of human rights, and intimidation of EndSARS promoters and activists.

The Kofi Annan International Peace Institute organised on 18 November 2020 an Election Keeping Training Centre (KAIPTC) in collaboration with the Kofi Annan International Peace Institute and the Star Ghana foundation. The objective of this event was to sensitise participants on the need to avoid violence in the upcoming elections. The training focused on the role of civil society organisations in营造文化 of peace and social dialogue with the objective of “zero violence on Election 2020, and Beyond.”

A network of Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) is mandated to take necessary actions to prevent violence in the region. The establishment of the CSOs WASH network in Montserrado County in five populated urban areas was highlighted. The state will allow for the smooth operation of civil society in the country. It is for this reason that we call on all parties to refrain from actions that could escalate tensions and lead to violence.

CIVICUS Monitor continues to track the situation in the region. The latest update on the Openness trend shows that there has been a significant decline in civic space over the last two years. The region continues to face challenges such as repression, lack of organisational sustainability, and systemic reforms. The situation remains serious where state and powerful non-state actors repress those who criticize power holders.

Repressed of legal and practical constraints on the full enjoyment of fundamental rights, the number of people living in REPRESSED conditions was at their peak. It came to draw international and regional attention to the situation. It is a matter of concern that the region continues to be affected by violence and abuse of human rights.

Women and Youth Leadership initiatives continue to play a pivotal role in promoting civil society activities in the region. However, the lack of financial support is a major challenge for their development and sustainability. The region needs to be committed to creating an environment that gives them the space to act freely.