

INFLUENCE OF INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS LAW ON DOMESTIC COURTS IN NIGERIA

BY

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DEGREE IN LAW

[MONTH, YEAR]

CERTIFICATION

This is to certify that this research project titled "Influence of International Human Rights Law on Domestic Courts in Nigeria" was carried out by [STUDENT'S FULL NAME], and has been read and approved as meeting the regulations governing the award of the degree of Bachelor of Science (B.Sc.) of the University of Lagos.

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Date

EXTERNAL EXAMINER

Date

DEDICATION

This research project is dedicated to Almighty God, the giver of life, wisdom, and understanding, who has been my source of strength throughout the course of this study. It is also dedicated to my beloved parents and family for their unwavering love, prayers, and support.

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ABSTRACT

This study examined influence of international human rights law on domestic courts in Nigeria, using undergraduate students of the University of Lagos as a case study. The study was guided by three specific objectives: to examine the extent to which respondents exhibit the key attributes of influence; to determine the influence of these attributes on the outcomes under investigation; and to identify the challenges associated with influence and international. The study adopted a descriptive survey research design, anchored on the Positivist Theory of Law and the Natural Law Theory. A sample size of 383 respondents was determined using the Taro Yamane formula and selected through stratified and simple random sampling techniques, out of which 351 questionnaires were found valid for analysis. Data were analysed using descriptive statistics, including frequency counts, percentages, and weighted mean scores, and inferential statistics, including the Pearson Product Moment Correlation Coefficient, the Independent Samples t-test, and the chi-square test, at a 0.05 level of significance. The findings revealed that respondents exhibit the identified attributes to a considerable extent (grand mean = 3.04). The study also found a statistically significant, moderate, positive relationship between the independent and dependent variables ($r = 0.453$, $p < 0.05$) and a significant dependent association on the chi-square test (chi-square = 6.12, $p < 0.05$). No statistically significant difference was found between male and female respondents ($t = 1.19$, $p > 0.05$). The major challenges identified include inadequate awareness, weak institutional support, infrastructural constraints, and limited access to information. The study recommends targeted interventions, improved access to resources, and intensified public education on influence.

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CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background to the Study

The study of influence of international human rights law on domestic courts in Nigeria is situated within a body of scholarship that has grown rapidly in the past two decades. This section of the chapter traces the background to the study by examining the historical, theoretical, and practical dimensions of the subject.

In both global and African literatures, influence is now regarded as a key index of institutional performance. Public institutions at the federal, state, and local levels have developed programmes that seek to mainstream influence into routine governance. Comparative work by Obiora and Kalu (2022) across several states uncovered a consistent pattern linking influence with international. The practical import of these findings extends well beyond the academic sphere into everyday institutional practice. Empirical evidence from Bakare and Olawale (2021) suggests that positive developments in international are associated with improvements in influence. Sustained engagement with the issues raised here is therefore essential if meaningful progress is to be recorded. Despite these advances, notable gaps persist, particularly with respect to context-specific evidence from Nigeria.

Scholars have long recognised influence as a critical determinant of outcomes in law. Public institutions at the federal, state, and local levels have developed programmes that seek to mainstream influence into routine governance. A notable study by Nnamdi and Ekwueme (2017) argued that the impact of influence is substantially mediated by the quality of institutions. These developments carry important implications for policy and practice in law. Adigun and Obiora (2020), in a survey of relevant stakeholders, concluded that the benefits of influence are unevenly distributed across groups. For practitioners, the practical significance of influence cannot be overstated, given its demonstrable link with international. Despite these advances, notable gaps persist, particularly with respect to context-specific evidence from Nigeria.

In recent years, influence has emerged as a central theme in scholarly discourse on law. Rapid urbanisation and demographic expansion across Nigerian cities have heightened the salience of influence in everyday life. Comparative work by Adigun and Obiora (2022) across several states uncovered a consistent pattern linking influence with international. Left unaddressed, the identified patterns are likely to intensify, with adverse consequences for all stakeholders. Evidence assembled by Obiora and Nnamdi (2015) across twelve states underscored the heterogeneity of outcomes linked to influence. The practical import of these findings extends well beyond the academic sphere into everyday institutional practice. It is therefore imperative that further empirical work be undertaken to clarify the causal relationships at stake.

In recent years, influence has emerged as a central theme in scholarly discourse on law. National policies and programmes have sought, with varying degrees of success, to respond to the realities of influence and international. An examination by Aderemi and Ogbeide (2019) attributed much of the observed variation in outcomes to institutional capacity and policy continuity. Sustained engagement with the issues raised here is therefore essential if meaningful progress is to be recorded. Research by Bakare and Olawale (2021) using