



Centre for Human Rights

Advanced Human Rights Course

Civil Society Law in Africa

The Centre for Human Rights, University of Pretoria, in collaboration with the International Center for Not-for-Profit Law, will host a one-week intensive short course (online) on Civil Society Law in Africa from 10 to 14 August 2026.

The aim of the course is to strengthen capacity with respect to the legal and regulatory principles affecting civil society and to provide opportunities for interaction among legal professionals, civil society leaders, students, government officials and legislators across the region with a view to facilitating the exchange of ideas and experiences.

Course Objectives

- To exchange views and experiences about the role of civil society in a State;
- To strengthen capacity on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association in international law and comparative perspectives;
- To raise awareness of the challenges civil society faces and efforts to respond to those threats;
- To strengthen capacity, in practice, to identify and analyse legal barriers to the right to freedom of association;
- To stimulate interest in civil society law and encourage further research in this field;
- To build a network of legal professionals working in the field and encourage collaborative efforts within the network.

Course Outline

Topics may include the following:

- Perspectives on the role of civil society
- Conceptual issues on the right to freedom of association
- Right to freedom of association in Africa and international law
- Regulation of and governance within the civil society sector
- Access to resources and sustainability of associations
- Right to freedom of peaceful assembly including peaceful protest
- Freedom of association and peaceful assembly online

Visit www.chr.up.ac.za/ahrc for more information.

 Course length:	5 days
 Estimated effort:	7+ hours/day
 Price:	Online - 150 USD
 Course type:	Short course
 Certificate:	On successful completion
 Language:	English

Course dates
10 – 14
August 2026

Apply until
20 July 2026