



# Protocol on Amendments to the Protocol on the Statute of the African Court of Justice and Human Rights.


## Call for Chapter Abstracts for Special Supplementary Issue.





27<sup>th</sup> July – 25<sup>th</sup> August 2024.



**10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

The Protocol on Amendments to the Protocol on the Statute of the African Court of Justice and Human Rights

 Call for Chapter Abstracts for Special Supplementary Issue

au.int    

In celebration of the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the adoption of the [Protocol on Amendments to the Protocol on the Statute of the African Court of Justice and Human Rights](#) (Malabo Protocol), the African Union invites scholars, practitioners, and policymakers to contribute to a special supplementary issue reflecting on this significant milestone. The Malabo Protocol, adopted on 27 June 2014, extends the jurisdiction of the pending African Court of Justice and Human Rights to a wide array of international and transnational crimes, reinforcing the continent's commitment to combating impunity.

The Protocol on Amendments to the Protocol on the Statute of the African Court of Justice and Human Rights represents a pivotal step in the pursuit of accountability for international and transnational crimes in Africa. Despite its potential, the Protocol has faced challenges, including low rate of ratification and critiques over its immunity provisions. Currently, only one of the required 15 ratifications necessary for its entry into

force, has been achieved. This anniversary presents an opportune moment to reinvigorate discussions and advocacy efforts towards the Protocol's ratification and implementation.

The Malabo Protocol was adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government, held in Malabo, Equatorial Guinea, on 27th June 2014, to play a key role in combating impunity in Africa. The Protocol extends the jurisdiction of the pending African Court of Justice and Human Rights (Merged Court) to a wide variety of crimes under international law and transnational crimes, including, but not limited to, the core crimes such as genocide, war crimes, crimes against humanity and crimes of aggression and new categories of "international crimes" such as corruption and the illicit exploitation of natural resources.

The adoption of the Malabo Protocol represents a significant step in the broader initiative to enhance accountability for international and transnational crimes. While the establishment of the International Criminal Court (ICC) and the refinement of national judicial frameworks have, to date, advanced these efforts, effective accountability, especially within the continent, often remains elusive. By granting jurisdiction to the Merged Court over a broad spectrum of international crimes, the Malabo Protocol establishes a regional mechanism that will complement and enhance global efforts while asserting African ownership within the international justice landscape.

### **The Call for Chapter Abstracts for Special Supplementary Issue**

The African Union, through the office of the Legal Counsel is extending a call for interested persons to submit chapter abstracts that address, but are not limited to, the following themes:

#### **1) Context, Theoretical, and Legal Frameworks**

- Theoretical frameworks for understanding international justice and accountability in Africa.
- Analysis of the Malabo Protocol's contributions to international law.
- Comparative analysis of the Malabo Protocol with other regional and international instruments.

#### **2) Challenges and Opportunities**

- Examination of the challenges hindering the Protocol's ratification.
- Strategies for overcoming these challenges and promoting wider acceptance.
- Case studies of successful ratification and implementation efforts.

#### **3) Impact on International Justice**

- The role of the Malabo Protocol in advancing accountability for international and transnational crimes.
- Analysis of specific crimes under the Protocol's jurisdiction, such as corruption, terrorism, and unconstitutional changes of government.

- Impact on the African justice landscape and global efforts against impunity.

#### 4) **Interdisciplinary Perspectives**

- Integration of perspectives from law, political science, sociology, and other relevant disciplines.
- The interplay between the Malabo Protocol and other regional initiatives.
- Contributions of civil society and non-governmental organizations in advocating for the Protocol.

#### 5) **Future Directions**

- Prospects for the Malabo Protocol in the next decade.
- Recommendations for policymakers, legal practitioners, and scholars.
- Innovative approaches to enhancing the Protocol's effectiveness and relevance.

### **Submission Guidelines and process.**

Interested contributors are invited to submit an abstract of no more than 500 words, including 5 keywords, the research problem, research methods/approach, and preliminary findings/arguments. Additionally, please include a short bio, affiliation, and contact details. The full chapter submission will be subjected to a double-blind peer review process before they are eligible for publication.

Submissions may be made in either English or French.

- **Abstract Submission Deadline:** 25 August 2024
- **Notification of Abstract Acceptance:** 25 September 2024
- **Full Chapter Submission Deadline:** 25 January 2025
- **Publication:** June 2025

Please send your abstracts to Prof. Hajer Gueldich at [gueldichh@africa-union.org](mailto:gueldichh@africa-union.org) and Ms. Mtendere Gondwe at [gondwem@africa-union.org](mailto:gondwem@africa-union.org) , copying Mr. Stephen Buabeng-Baidoo at [BaidooS@africa-union.org](mailto:BaidooS@africa-union.org) ; Ms. Meseret Fassil Assefa at [meseretf@africa-union.org](mailto:meseretf@africa-union.org) and Mr. Benjamin Senga Kagina at [kaginab@africa-union.org](mailto:kaginab@africa-union.org).

We look forward to your valuable contributions to this significant scholarly and policy dialogue reflecting on the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the adoption of the Malabo Protocol.

### **For further information or inquiries, please contact:**

- Ms. Mtendere Gondwe (Email: [gondwem@africa-union.org](mailto:gondwem@africa-union.org))
- Mr. Stephen Buabeng-Baidoo (Email: [baidoos@africa-union.org](mailto:baidoos@africa-union.org))
- Ms. Meseret Fassil Assefa (Email: [meseretf@africa-union.org](mailto:meseretf@africa-union.org))
- Mr. Benjamin Senga Kagina ([kaginab@africa-union.org](mailto:kaginab@africa-union.org))
- Dr. Papa Mamadou Diop (Email: [diopp@africa-union.org](mailto:diopp@africa-union.org))