

CALL FOR PAPERS

AFRICA DATA PROTECTION AWARDS

Submission deadline : January 13th, 2025

awards@africadataprotection.org



AWARDS

Context :

Personal data protection has become a crucial global issue in the digital age. In Africa, this issue takes on a particular dimension, as the continent is in the midst of a digital transformation, with rapid growth in the use of new technologies. This makes it imperative to take account of the issues surrounding the protection of personal data. It is against this backdrop that the ***Africa Data Protection Awards*** were created. The aim of the competition is to reward and showcase outstanding and innovative contributions arising from research, analysis or professional projects. It is open to students, researchers, professionals, academics, entrepreneurs, etc. who stand out for their innovative work on personal data protection issues in Africa.

Prize objectives:

1. To encourage high quality research on personal data protection in Africa.
2. To promote academic excellence and innovation in the fields of law, digital technologies and personal data protection.
3. To build the capacity of specialists in the field of personal data protection and digital rights.
4. Raise awareness of the challenges and opportunities related to the protection of personal data in the African context.

Target audience:

The ***Africa Data Protection Awards*** is open to all disciplines (law, political science, IT, sociology, etc.).

Types of entries:

We encourage all topics related to personal data the protection, provided that they are contextualised within the African framework. For example (non-exhaustive list):

- Influence of cultural practices on the protection of personal data in Africa;
- Artificial intelligence and data protection in Africa;
- Cybersecurity and protection of privacy in Africa;
- Surveillance and citizens' rights in Africa;
- Ethnic data protection in judicial systems in Africa;
- Data protection in rural and urban ethnic communities in Africa;
- Community initiatives and data protection education in Africa;
- Etc.

Eligibility criteria :

Candidates must meet the following criteria:

1. The competition is open to all, regardless of nationality;
2. The research must have a direct link with the protection of personal data in Africa (legislation, legal framework, social impact, technologies, etc.);
3. Applicants must submit their work in French or English.

How to apply:

Applications must include:

- A summary of the research paper (maximum 1 page), font 12, single-spaced, PDF format ;
- A Resume of the applicant.

Applications must be submitted by e-mail to the following address:

awards@africadataprotection.org

The subject of the e-mail should read as follows: 'Candidate's name - Africa Data Protection Awards'.

Selection procedure:

A committee, composed of experts in data protection, law and digital technologies, will be responsible for evaluating the applications on the basis of the following criteria:

1. **Originality and relevance** of the research topic.
2. **Potential impact of the work** on the protection of personal data in Africa.
3. **Quality of analysis** and methodological rigour.
4. **Multiplicity of perspectives** and variety of issues addressed.
5. **Innovative contributions** to understanding the challenges and opportunities of personal data protection in Africa.

Prize:

The winner of the ***Africa Data Protection Awards 2025*** will receive:

1. A double-page spread in the May 2025 Africa Data Protection Report
2. Promotion on Africa Data Protection communication tools (LinkedIn, X, etc.)
3. Publication of your work in a forthcoming special collection.

Timetable:

- **Deadline for submission:** January 13th, 2025 at 23:59 (Paris time)
- **Notification to selected candidates:** March 7th, 2025
- **Defence:** April 7th, 2025
- **Announcement of results:** April 30th, 2025

Contact:

For any questions: awards@africadataprotection.org