



UNITED NATIONS
HUMAN RIGHTS
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Republic of Botswana

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Religious Laws



Internet Freedom

Botswana is one of the richest countries in sub-saharan Africa (3rd highest in GDP per capita, and the 4th highest income per capita on the continent). The country is also one of the most peaceful and least corrupt, and it is often ranked high in indices that measure democracy and freedom. Nevertheless it is still categorized as a flawed democracy, ruled by the Botswana Democratic Party (BDP) since the first democratic election in 1966.

In 2024 lawmakers passed the Data Protection Act, which expands privacy protections for citizens, and obligations for data handlers. Despite this, concerns over privacy and media freedom remain. The government has used laws aimed at curbing free speech to prosecute and silence criticism and dissenting opinions online. Checks and oversight on the ability of the security service to access citizens' private communications is also lacking.

Read more

[Data protection laws in Botswana](#)

[State of Internet Freedom in Botswana 2019 | CIPESA](#)

