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Any opinion expressed in this book is solely that of the authors and not necessarily that of the institutions they represent or are associated with.

Michael Addaney and Michael Gyan Nyarko
Centre for Human Rights, University of Pretoria
December 2017
FOREWORD

The history of Africa is a marvelous case study of the multitude of difficulties that most post-colonial states have faced and continue to face in the process of self-discovery. Arguably, the protracted internal armed conflicts in most African states have been fueled by the quest to create governance and legal regimes that can guarantee everyone equal participation in the economic, social and political activities of their respective nations. The emerging independent African states of the 1960s declared their unflinching dedication to democracy, good governance and respect for human rights. This would have been effortlessly plausible, because most of the independence constitutions of many African countries came with a flowery package of rights for their citizens. This however did not become a lived reality. Shortly after independence, the constitutions of most of the emerging African states were amended in ways that watered down the essence of human rights and democratic governance.

Ghana was the first country in sub-Saharan Africa to gain independence and played a critical role in the political transformation and regional integration in Africa. Over the years, Ghana has transformed from one-party state through military rule to multiparty democracy. Since independence, despite internal challenges, Ghana continues to play critical transformational role on the African continent. On 6 March 2017, Ghana celebrated her 60th anniversary of independence from colonial rule. Current circumstances in Ghana and across Africa reinforce the argument that democracy and the rule of law are maintained by vigilance and involvement of the people. Succeeding in this endeavour requires commitment and active participation at all levels of society and in all its institutions – from the grassroots to political process that is responsive to the needs of all members of society, to the organs of government that protect human rights and prods the political process to live up to its obligations. This must be followed by periodic audits to take stock of the progress made, the challenges that lie ahead and the most effective means of tackling the challenges.

In this regard, this edited volume audits some of the issues relating to the state of human rights standards and compliance, democratic consolidation and development in Ghana, as well as to bring forward how Ghana has contributed to the political, economic, cultural and ideological development in Africa. Through a human rights-based approach to governance and socio-economic development, the book examines the experiences of Ghana, selected experiences of other African countries and the African Union in advancing good governance and human rights over the years, on the journey to attain shared prosperity for all. The book takes stock of major developments in the areas of civil and political as well as economic, social and cultural rights in Africa, the changing nature of democratisation, regional integration and Pan-Africanism, and the ways in which the African Union policies may impact on governance and human rights on the continent.
This book is both apt and a timely addition to the discussion on good governance, democratic consolidation and respect for human rights in Africa. Practitioners, students and scholars of political science, law, human rights, gender studies, and African studies will find this book an important guide to the evolving governance and human rights issues in twenty-first century Africa.

Nana Addo Dankwa Akufo-Addo
President of the Republic of Ghana
December 2017
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<tr>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Full Form</th>
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<tr>
<td>ACDEG</td>
<td>African Charter on Democracy, Elections and Governance</td>
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<td>ACHPR</td>
<td>African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ADB</td>
<td>African Development Bank</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AEC</td>
<td>African Economic Community</td>
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<tr>
<td>AEDR</td>
<td>alternate electoral dispute resolution</td>
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<tr>
<td>AGA</td>
<td>African Governance Architecture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AHRLR</td>
<td>African Human Rights Law Report</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AIDA</td>
<td>accelerated industrial development for Africa</td>
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<td>APC</td>
<td>All People's Congress</td>
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<tr>
<td>APRM</td>
<td>African Peer Review Mechanism</td>
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<td>African Peace and Security Architecture</td>
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<td>All Share Index</td>
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<tr>
<td>AUC</td>
<td>African Union Commission</td>
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<tr>
<td>AUEC</td>
<td>African Union Executive Council</td>
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<tr>
<td>AU</td>
<td>African Union</td>
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<tr>
<td>BPfA</td>
<td>Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action</td>
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<tr>
<td>CAADP</td>
<td>Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CC</td>
<td>Constitutional Court (of South Africa)</td>
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<td>CDF</td>
<td>Constituency Development Fund</td>
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<tr>
<td>CEDAW</td>
<td>Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination against Women</td>
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<tr>
<td>CEEC</td>
<td>Citizens Economic Empowerment Commission</td>
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<tr>
<td>CESA</td>
<td>Continental Education Strategy for Africa</td>
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<td>CFTA</td>
<td>Continental Free Trade Area</td>
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<tr>
<td>CG</td>
<td>capitation grant</td>
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<td>CHRAJ</td>
<td>Commission on Human Rights and Administrative Justice</td>
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<td>CIBA</td>
<td>Council for Indigenous Business Associations</td>
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<td>COMESA</td>
<td>Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa</td>
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<tr>
<td>CPP</td>
<td>Convention People's Party</td>
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<tr>
<td>CRC</td>
<td>Constitutional Review Commission</td>
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<td>CRC</td>
<td>Convention on the Rights of the Child</td>
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<tr>
<td>CRIC</td>
<td>Constitution Review and Implementation Committee</td>
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<td>Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities</td>
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<td>CSPOG</td>
<td>Civil Society Platform on Oil and Gas</td>
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<td>CSSDCA</td>
<td>Conference on Security, Stability, Development and Cooperation in Africa</td>
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<tr>
<td>DFID</td>
<td>Department for International Development</td>
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<td>DFP</td>
<td>Democratic Freedom Party</td>
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<td>DOVVSU</td>
<td>Domestic Violence and Victims Support Unit</td>
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<tr>
<td>DPP</td>
<td>Democratic People's Party</td>
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<tr>
<td>DRC</td>
<td>Democratic Republic of the Congo</td>
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<tr>
<td>DRRC</td>
<td>District Registration Review Committee</td>
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<tr>
<td>ECHR</td>
<td>European Convention on Human Rights</td>
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<tr>
<td>ECK</td>
<td>Electoral Commission of Kenya</td>
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<tr>
<td>ECOWAS</td>
<td>Economic Community of West African States</td>
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<tr>
<td>EGLE</td>
<td>Every Ghanaian Living Everywhere</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EMBs</td>
<td>Electoral Management Bodies</td>
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EU EOM  EU Election Observation Mission
FAQs  foreign aid and grants
FDI  foreign direct investment
FNDP  Fifth National Development Plan
FRA  Food Reserve Agency (Zambia)
FSDP  Financial Sector Development Programme
FSP  Food Security Pack
GAS  Ghana National Accounting Standards
GBC  Ghana Broadcasting Corporation
GCPP  Great Consolidated Popular Party
GDP  gross domestic product
GDRP  Ghana Democratic Republican Party
GFC  Global Financial Crisis
GFP  Ghana Freedom Party
GIMPA  Ghana Institute of Management and Public Administration
GLR  Ghana Law Reports
GNI  gross national income
GNP  Ghana National Party
GPAS  Ghana’s Poverty Alleviation Strategy
GRP  Ghana Growth and Poverty Reduction Strategy
GSP  Ghana School Feeding Programme
GSFDA  Ghana Shared Growth and Development Agenda
HRS A  Human Rights Strategy for Africa
HRC  Human Rights Committee
HSIC  Heads of State and Government Implementation Committee
ICC  International Criminal Court
ICCP  International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights
ICESCR  International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
IDEA  International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance
IDPs  internally displaced persons
IEBC  Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission
IEEC  Interim Independent Electoral Commission
IFRS  International Financial Reporting Standards
IGP  Inspector General of Police
ILO  International Labour Organisation
IIAG  Ibrahim Index of African Governance
IMF  International Monetary Fund
IPAC  Inter-Party Advisory Committee
IPP  Independent People's Party
IP  internet protocol
IPU  Inter-Parliamentary Union
IREC  Independent Review Commission
KNDR  Kenya National Dialogue and Reconciliation
LEAP  Livelihood Empowerment Against Poverty
LP  Labour Party
LUSE  Lusaka Stock Exchange
MAP  Millennium African Recovery Programme
MDGs  Millennium Development Goals
MMDA  metropolitan, municipal and district assemblies
MMM  Mouvement Militant Mauricien
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<tr>
<td>RTI</td>
<td>right to information</td>
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<tr>
<td>SADC</td>
<td>Southern African Development Community</td>
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<td>SALR</td>
<td>South African Law Reports</td>
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<td>SAP</td>
<td>Structural Adjustment Programme</td>
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<td>SCGLR</td>
<td>Supreme Court of Ghana Law Reports</td>
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<td>SCTS</td>
<td>Social Cash Transfer Scheme</td>
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<td>sub-Saharan Africa</td>
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<tr>
<td>SSL</td>
<td>social security law</td>
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<tr>
<td>SSNIT</td>
<td>Social Security and National Insurance Trust</td>
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<tr>
<td>SSS</td>
<td>social security scheme</td>
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<tr>
<td>STC</td>
<td>Specialized Technical Committees</td>
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<tr>
<td>TJRC</td>
<td>Truth, Justice and Reconciliation Commission</td>
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<tr>
<td>UAS</td>
<td>Union of African States</td>
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<tr>
<td>UDHR</td>
<td>Universal Declaration of Human Rights</td>
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<tr>
<td>UDSP</td>
<td>United Development System Party</td>
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<td>UFP</td>
<td>United Front Party</td>
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<td>UGM</td>
<td>United Ghana Movement</td>
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<tr>
<td>UK</td>
<td>United Kingdom</td>
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<td>ULP</td>
<td>United Love Party</td>
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<tr>
<td>UN</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
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<td>UNHCR</td>
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<td>UNICEF</td>
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<td>UPP</td>
<td>United Progressive Party</td>
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<tr>
<td>URP</td>
<td>United Renaissance Party</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USA</td>
<td>United States of America</td>
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<td>USAID</td>
<td>United States Agency for International Development</td>
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<tr>
<td>WAJU</td>
<td>Women and Juvenile Units</td>
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<td>YPP</td>
<td>Yes People’s Party</td>
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<tr>
<td>ZANU PF</td>
<td>Zimbabwe African National Union Patriotic Front</td>
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