

# AFRICAN JOURNAL

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## OF LEGAL STUDIES

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### *Editorial*

Dear Readers:

The Africa Law Institute is pleased to announce the publication of its second issue of the *African Journal of Legal Studies* (“AJLS”). While delayed, we hope that the improvements made since launching our first issue last year will have made the wait worthwhile.

Before you go on to peruse the contents of this issue, we would like to draw your attention to a number of important changes.

First, AJLS is proud to launch a new website. Our remodelled home on the Internet coincides with the release of our second issue courtesy of the design firm Yellow Pencil ([yellowpencil.com](http://yellowpencil.com)). We hope you find, as we have, that these changes greatly improve the presentation and user-friendliness of our articles. We would like to express our sincere gratitude to Yellow Pencil and Plumbheavy Design Inc. ([plumbheavy.ca](http://plumbheavy.ca)) for generously donating their talents to design a professional website, word mark and logo for AJLS.

Second, AJLS will now publish on a bi-annual basis. We still intend to maintain the flexible publication schedule that our electronic format allows and look forward to periodically publishing a supplementary issue when the number of articles accepted for publication warrants it.

Third, the journal’s citation format has also changed. For the sake of consistency, we no longer accept the use of different citation styles for articles from the various social science disciplines. Rather, all authors must now conform to the approved Oxford Standard Citation of Legal Authorities (“OSCOLA”). We selected OSCOLA, among other reasons, because it is readily available online for free and is easy to use, regardless of an author’s field of study.

Fourth, the length of manuscripts that will now be considered for publication has also changed from 7,500 words to between 8,000 and 11,000 words. While concise writing is always preferred, we believe this change will give authors greater flexibility to address important topics with the right amount of depth.

Fifth, we are proud to be publishing our first article in French. We encourage and look forward to receiving similar high quality submissions in the future.

Finally, we are also proud that since we published the first issue, AJLS has concluded agreements with most of the leading legal databases. This means that the journal’s contents will now be available to millions of social science researchers throughout the world via CIAO Net, HeinOnline, Lexis-Nexis, ProQuest, Quicklaw, and Westlaw.

As The Africa Law Institute works to improve this journal, we welcome comments from you, our readers. Please let us know what works and what does not and, as always, should you have any suggestions, please feel free to drop us a line at [ajls@africalawinstitute.org](mailto:ajls@africalawinstitute.org).

AJLS Editorial Board