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Gary F. Bell  
Secretary General of the International Academy of  
Comparative Law

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Prof. Dr. Ralf Michaels

Director

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25 September, 2024

Dear Gary,

I appreciate your request to suggest in particular membership candidates from the underrepresented Continents of Africa and Asia and present to you Prof. Anthony Diala from the University of the Western Cape, South Africa.

Prof. Diala is a leading scholar on the comparative law of legal pluralism, a theme he picked up from and with Prof. Christa Rautenberg but has since expanded considerably; he is now certainly one of the leading scholars on the topic worldwide, and his extensive list of publication demonstrates the depth and breadth of his scholarship. His qualities have been recognized; he is Co-editor-in-chief of the *African Journal of Legal Studies* and an editorial board member on the *Journal of African Law*, and on *Legal Pluralism and Critical Social Analysis*. And he has intense relations to places elsewhere, including the Universities of Bayreuth and Torino.

I believe Prof. Diala will be a worthy member of the Society and, in addition, serve as a much-needed further link between the Society and African law.

Yours, sincerely



Ralf Michaels

## **Publications – Anthony Diala**

### *Books and edited volumes*

1. (2024) A.C. Diala and C. Rautenbach (editors) *Reimagining legal pluralism in Africa: Balancing Indigenous, State, and Religious Laws* [Brill-Nijhoff] pp. 1-474 [ISBN: 9789004696747].
2. (2020) A.C. Diala *Rethinking customary law and women's property rights in the context of legal pluralism in Nigeria* [Lagos: Nigerian Institute of Advanced Legal Studies] pp. 1-57.
3. (2019) S. Bagni & A. Diala (editors) *Revista General de Derecho Público Comparado* Special Issue vol. 26.

### *Book chapters*

4. (2024) 'The case against decolonisation: A legal perspective' in J.C. Agbakoba and M. Rainsborough (editors) *Beyond decolonial African philosophy – Africanity, Afrotopia, and transcolonial perspectives* (Routledge) [ISBN: 9781032683447].
5. (2024) 'An African perspective on family property and customary law' in M. Briggs and A. Hayward (editors) *Research Handbook on Family Property and the Law* [Edward Elgar Publishing] pp. 104-119 [DOI].
6. (2024) A.C. Diala and C. Rautenbach 'Introduction: The complex interplay of legal systems' in *Reimagining legal pluralism in Africa* [Brill-Nijhoff] pp. 1-18.
7. (2024) 'Foreword: Law and sustainable development after Covid-19' in A.E. Arimoro, E.M. Igbokwe and T.T. Egbe (editors) *Law and Sustainable Development after Covid-19* (Routledge) pp. i-iv.
8. (2024) 'Comparative indigenous law' in M. Siems and P.J. Yap (editors) *Cambridge Handbook of Comparative Law* [Cambridge University Press] pp. 693-712.
9. (2019) 'Courts and transformative constitutionalism: Insights from South Africa' in S.M. Sterett and L.D. Walker (editors) *Research Handbook on Law and Courts* (Edward Elgar) pp. 95-104 [DOI].

10. (2019) 'Legal pluralism and social change: Insights from matrimonial property rights in Nigeria' in C. Rautenbach (editor) *In the shade of an African baobab: Tom Bennett's legacy* (JUTA) pp. 155-174 [[Link](#)].
11. (2013) 'The dawn of constitutionalism in Nigeria;' in M.K. Mbondenyi and T. Ojienda (editors) *Constitutionalism and democratic governance in Africa: Contemporary perspectives from sub-Saharan Africa* (Pretoria University Law Press) pp. 135-160 [[Link](#)].

*Peer reviewed journal articles*

12. (2024) M. Ditsela, A.C. Diala and R. Ozoemena 'African feminism and the recognition of cohabitation under customary law' 49(1) *Africa Development* 71-96 [[Link](#)].
13. (2024) E. Okeng and A.C. Diala "Promotion of service delivery in terms of South Africa's legal framework" 28 *Potchefstroom Electronic Law Journal* 1-34.
14. (2024) V. Adeleke and A.C. Diala "The rights of women to the inheritance of their husbands' estate in Nigeria" *Journal of Law, Society and Development* 1-20 [[Link](#)].
15. (2023) A.C. Diala and Nejat Hussein 'The tsetse fly perched on the scrotum: Publishing problems in academic journals' 26 *Potchefstroom Electronic Law Journal* 1-28 [[Link](#)].
16. (2022) 'Neoliberal influences on legal pluralist marriage reforms in Africa' 9(2) *Journal of International and Comparative Law* pp. 81-108 [[Link](#)].
17. (2021) A.C. Diala and S. Cotton 'Chained communities: A critique of South Africa's approach to land restitution' 20(3) *African Studies Quarterly* pp. 73-86 [[Link](#)].
18. (2021) 'Legal pluralism and the future of indigenous family laws in Africa' 35(1) *International Journal of Law, Policy and the Family* pp. 1-17 [[Link](#)].
19. (2020) A.C. Diala and J.C. Diala 'Normative intersectionality in married women's property rights in southern Nigeria' 24(1) *Law, Democracy*

20. (2020) 'Peacebuilding and the interface of state law and indigenous market laws in Southern Nigeria' 64(1) *Journal of African Law* pp. 1-26 [[DOI](#)].
21. (2019) 'Our laws are better than yours: The future of legal pluralism in South Africa' 26 *Revista General de Derecho Público Comparado* pp. 1-23 [[Link](#)].
22. (2019) A.C. Diala and S. Bagni 'Introduction to special issue – The role of customary law in the shaping of new models of pluralistic states' 26 *Revista General de Derecho Público Comparado* pp. 1-5 [[Link](#)].
23. (2019) 'Curriculum decolonisation and revisionist pedagogy of African customary law' 22 *Potchefstroom Electronic Law Journal* pp. 1-37 [[DOI](#)].
24. (2019) 'A butterfly that thinks itself a bird: The identity of customary courts in Nigeria' 51(3) *The Journal of Legal Pluralism and Unofficial Law* pp. 381-405 [[DOI](#)].
25. (2019) A.C. Diala and B. Kangwa 'Rethinking the interface between customary law and constitutionalism in sub-Saharan Africa' 52(2) *De Jure* pp. 189-206 [[DOI](#)].
26. (2018) S. Cotton and A.C. Diala 'Silences in marriage laws in Commonwealth Africa: Women's position in polygynous customary marriages' 32(1) *Speculum Juris* pp. 18-32 [[Link](#)].
27. (2018) 'The shadow of legal pluralism in matrimonial property division outside the courts in Southern Nigeria' 18(2) *African Human Rights Law Journal* pp. 706-731 [[DOI](#)].
28. (2018) 'A critique of the judicial attitude towards matrimonial property rights under customary law in Nigeria's southern states' 18(1) *African Human Rights Law Journal* pp. 100-122 [[DOI](#)].
29. (2018) 'Editorial' 5(1) *Journal of Comparative Law in Africa* pp. i-v.
30. (2017) J.C. Diala and A.C. Diala 'Child marriage, bride wealth, and legal pluralism in Africa' 4(2) *Journal of Comparative Law in Africa* pp.

- 31.(2017) 'The protection of traditional cultural expressions in Africa: Book review' 4(2) *Journal of Comparative Law in Africa* pp. 200-203 [\[Link\]](#).
- 32.(2017) 'The concept of living customary law: A critique' 49(2) *The Journal of Legal Pluralism and Unofficial Law* pp. 143-165 [\[WOS\]](#).
- 33.(2015) 'Lessons from South Africa on reform of the customary law of inheritance in Nigeria' 3 *Diritto delle successioni e della famiglia* pp. 891-914 [\[Link\]](#).
34. (2014) 'Reform of the customary law of inheritance in Nigeria: Lessons from South Africa' 14(2) *African Human Rights Law Journal* pp. 633-654 [\[IBSS\]](#).
- 35.(2014) L.J. Udofia and A.C. Diala 'Legal feasibility of a lawsuit against the United Nations' 3 *Madonna University Law Journal* pp. 158-171.
- 36.(2012) 'The Arab uprising: Implications for self-determination and good governance in the African Union' 1 *Pan African Yearbook of Law* pp. 19-30 [\[Link\]](#).
- 37.(2012) 'Realising the right to adequate housing in Nigeria' 2 *Madonna University Law Journal* pp. 155-173.
- 38.(2011) 'Lessons from South Africa in judicial power and minority protection' 1 *Madonna University Law Journal* pp. 164-187.
- 39.(2011) 'Victims' justice and re-characterising facts in the Lubanga trial at the ICC' 7 (1) *Eyes on the ICC* pp. 59-84 [\[Link\]](#).
- 40.(2011) 'Security of human rights defenders in Nigeria' in [Strategie de Securite des Defenseurs des Droits de L'Homme: Experiences du Nigeria et de la Gambie](#) (February) *West African Human Rights Defenders' Network, Togo* pp. 28-50.

*Commissioned writings, blogs, and dissertations*

1. (2023) 'South African politicians vs judges: New book defends the Constitution' *The Conversation* 22 November 2023 ([Link](#)).

2. (2023) 'The missing link in judges' approach to the Igbo custom of inheritance' *African Legal Studies Blog* 18 August 2023 ([Link](#)).
3. (2023) 'South Africa's new Marriage Bill raises many thorny issues - A balancing act is needed' *The Conversation* 02 August 2023 ([Link](#)).
4. (2023) South African Law Reform Commission Discussion Paper 160 of 11/2023, Project 100E: Review of Aspects of Matrimonial Property Law pp. 1-292 ([Link](#)).
5. (2022) 'South Africa has a new traditional courts bill. But it doesn't protect indigenous practices' *The Conversation* 22 September 2022 ([Link](#)).
6. (2022) 'What the Zulu kingship judgment tells us about the future of South African customary law' *The Conversation* 9 March 2022 ([Link](#)).
7. (2021) 'Reflections from a Next Gen facilitator on working with doctoral students in Africa' *Items: Insights from the Social Sciences, The Social Science Research Council of New York* 14 December 2021 [[Link](#)].
8. (2021) 'Why reform of matrimonial property laws is important' *Signals, University of the Western Cape Research Magazine* Edition IV November 2021 pp. 34-35 [[Link](#)]
9. (2020) 'Understanding the relevance of African customary law in modern times' *The Conversation* 1 December 2020 ([Link](#)).
10. (2020) 'Are Africans ready for integrated state and indigenous laws?' *AllAfrica* 11 November 2020 ([Link](#)).
11. (2017) 'Next Generation Social Sciences in Africa: A story of transformation' *Items: Insights from the Social Sciences, The Social Science Research Council of New York* 7 September 2017 [[Link](#)].
12. (2016) 'Judicial recognition of living customary law in the context of matrimonial property rights in South-East Nigeria' *Unpublished Doctoral Dissertation, University of Cape Town* pp. 1-266.
13. (2013) 'Successful marginalised group inclusion in customary governance structures and processes: Case study of the Osu people

in Owerri South-East Nigeria' in (J Hedström and J Smith eds.) *Overcoming political exclusion: Strategies for marginalized groups to successfully engage in political decision-making* (Stockholm, Sweden: International IDEA).

14. (2011) 'The strange child' in J. Bassett (ed.) *Oxford Bookworms Library: Stage 2: Songs from the soul: Stories from around the world* (Oxford: Oxford University Press) pp. 46-52.
15. (2007) 'Judicial activism in South Africa's Constitutional Court: Minority protection or judicial illegitimacy?' *LL.M Dissertation, University of Pretoria, South Africa* pp. 1-59 [[Link](#)].

# Candidature à l'élection de nouveaux membres de l'AIDC

## Application for the election of new members of the AIDC

Ce formulaire peut être rempli en français ou en anglais  
This form can be filled in English or French

### Qui propose ce candidat ? / Who proposes this candidate?

Remplir la partie 1 ou la partie 2 / Fill part 1 or part 2

#### **PARTIE 1 / PART I: Si proposé par un membre / If proposed by a member**

Nom du membre / Name of the member:

Ralf Michaels

Statut du membre / Status of the member (indicate with an "X"):

Membre associé / Associate member

Membre titulaire / Titular member

Adresse électronique professionnelle du membre / professional email address :

[michaels@mpipriv.de](mailto:michaels@mpipriv.de)

#### **PART II : Si proposé par un comité national / If proposed by a national committee**

Pays ou juridiction du comité national / Country or jurisdiction of the national committee

Nom d'une personne à contacter au comité national à propos de cette nomination / Name of a contact person to contact regarding this nomination

Adresse électronique de cette personne / Email address of that person

**Le membre ou le comité qui propose un nouveau candidat doit joindre une lettre d'appui signée.**

**The member or committee who proposes a new candidate must attach written statement of support of membership with signature.**



## Le candidat ou la candidate / The candidate

Adhésion demandée (ajoutez un « X ») / Membership applied for (add an 'X')

X Membre associé / Associate member

Membre titulaire / Titular member

Notez : Un poste de membre titulaire sera de préférence attribué à un membre associé, mais exceptionnellement un collègue senior qui jouit d'une excellente réputation pourrait être élu(e). Mais il est normalement préférable que le candidat au poste de membre titulaire soit déjà membre associé.

Note: A position of titular member will preferably be awarded to an associate member, but exceptionally a senior colleague who enjoys an excellent reputation could be elected. But it is normally preferable that the candidate for the position of full member already be an associate member.

Nom du candidat ou de la candidate (souligner le nom de famille le cas échéant)  
/ Name of the Candidate (underline family name if any):

Anthony Diala

Sexe / Gender Pays ou juridiction de résidence / Country or jurisdiction of Residence

Male South Africa

Institution, faculté, université, etc. / Institution, faculty, university, etc. :

Centre for Legal Integration in Africa, Faculty of Law, University of the Western Cape

Adresse électronique professionnelle / professional email address :

[adiala@uwc.ac.za](mailto:adiala@uwc.ac.za)

Adresse électronique alternative (personnelle) / Alternate (personal) email address (ne sera utilisée que si votre adresse professionnelle ne répond plus / will only be used if we can no longer reach you at your professional address)

[anthonydiala@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:anthonydiala@yahoo.co.uk)

### Engagement du/ de la candidat(e) / Undertaking by the candidate

**J'accepte cette nomination et si je suis élu(e), je m'engage à assumer les obligations incombant aux membres de l'Académie, y compris le paiement annuel de ma cotisation.**

**I accept this nomination and if elected, I undertake to fulfil the obligations incumbent upon the members of the Academy including the payment of the annual fee.**

Signature:



Date: 25 September 2024

**Pièces jointes / Attachments:**

1. Une lettre de soutien à la candidature par le proposeur / A written statement of support of membership by the proposer, a list of publications of the candidate
2. Un curriculum vitae du candidat ou de la candidate / A curriculum vitae of the candidate
3. Une liste de ses publications / A list of publications of the candidate

**Important :**

**Afin de faciliter la tâche du secrétariat, nous apprécierions que ce formulaire et toutes ses pièces jointes nous soient envoyés en un seul document PDF à l'adresse suivante :**

[votes-membres@aidc-iacl.org](mailto:votes-membres@aidc-iacl.org)

**Le nom du fichier PDF serait préférablement le nom du candidat ou de la candidate.**

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**To facilitate the task of the secretariat, we would appreciate if this form and all its attachment could be sent to us in one PDF document at the following address :**

[votes-membres@aidc-iacl.org](mailto:votes-membres@aidc-iacl.org)

**The name of the PDF file would preferably be the name of the candidate.**



# CURRICULUM VITAE

Anthony Chima Diala

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## 1. Personal information

🏠 Centre for Legal Integration in Africa, Faculty of Law, University of the Western Cape  
Off Robert Sobukwe Road, PMB X17 Bellville 7535, Cape Town, Western Cape, South Africa

📅 24 October 1977

✉️ adiala@uwc.ac.za; anthonydiala@yahoo.co.uk

☎️ +27 959 3308 (landline); +27 84 0507237 (cell)

🌐 [Professional e-portfolio](#); [Google Scholar](#); [Linkedin](#); [ORCID](#); [Scientific Directory](#)

## 2. Career outline

- Graduated with an LLB in 2002, a PG Diploma in 2004, an LLM in 2007, and a PhD degree in 2016.
- Professor of Legal Pluralism, Department of Private Law, University of the Western Cape, South Africa.
- Foundation Director, Centre for Legal Integration in Africa, Faculty of Law, University of the Western Cape.
- Visiting Professor, Department of Culture, Politics and Society, University of Turin, Italy (since August 2022).
- International Fellow of the Bayreuth Academy of Advanced African Studies, University of Bayreuth, Germany.
- Over twenty years of research and advocacy work in twenty-three countries in Africa, America, Asia, and Europe.
- Fourteen years of teaching, assessment and supervision experience in Germany, Italy, South Africa and Nigeria.
- Co-editor-in-chief, [African Journal of Legal Studies](#); [editorial board member](#) of the [Journal of African Law](#), and [Legal Pluralism](#) and [Critical Social Analysis](#) [formerly the [Journal of Legal Pluralism and Unofficial Law](#)].
- Field experience in Nigeria (2017, 2014-2015), Somaliland (2017), South Africa (since 2013), Uganda (2007).

## 3. Education

02/2013 – 12/2016: *Doctor of Philosophy in Law*, University of Cape Town: funded by the South African National Research Foundation (Grant-holder No. 64825) for a dissertation titled 'Judicial recognition of living customary law in the context of matrimonial property rights in South-East Nigeria' [promoted by Prof. CN Himonga].

01/2007 – 12/2007: *Master of Laws in Human Rights and Democratisation in Africa* (CGPA 71.2%) University of Pretoria, South Africa: funded by the German Academic Exchange Service; dissertation awarded a distinction.

09/2003 – 09/2004: *Postgraduate Diploma in Legal Practice* (Hons.) Nigerian Law School, Abuja, Nigeria.

01/1997 – 11/2002: *Bachelor of Laws* (Hons.) Enugu State University of Science and Technology, Nigeria.

10/2007 – 12/2007: *Diploma in French*, Makerere University, Uganda.

01/2019 – 12/2019: *Certificate in Teaching and Learning*, University of the Western Cape, South Africa.

02/2007 – 03/2007: *Certificate in socio-economic rights*, University of Pretoria, South Africa.

01/2007 – 02/2007: *Certificate in International Law*, University of Pretoria, South Africa.

#### **4. Executive management experience**

- Current position: Director, Centre for Legal Integration in Africa (CLIA)
- Date of employment: 01 January 2021 to date
- Employer: University of the Western Cape
- Key performance areas include the following:
  - ✓ Management of the human and financial resources of the CLIA.
  - ✓ Management of academic and administrative staff and processes.
  - ✓ Report writing and management of teaching and learning activities.
  - ✓ Management of probations and tenures of academic staff members.
  - ✓ Leadership of research on the interaction of normative orders in Africa.
  - ✓ Promotion of national and international partnerships in higher education.
  - ✓ Representation and reporting at Faculty Board and Senate of the university.
  - ✓ Leadership of field research in rural communities and championing of adaptive legal pluralism.
  - ✓ Coordination and promotion of learning, notably the Master of Laws in Legal Pluralism and Family Law.
  - ✓ Networking with traditional leaders, researchers, civil society organisations, and government departments.

#### **5. Current academic experience**

- Position: Professor, Department of Private Law
- Date of employment: 01 January 2024 to date
- Employer: University of the Western Cape
- Key performance areas include the following:
  - ✓ Research and publications on legal pluralism.
  - ✓ Teaching at undergraduate and postgraduate levels.
  - ✓ Provision of academic leadership in the Faculty of Law.
  - ✓ Supervision of undergraduate and postgraduate dissertations.

#### **6. Previous academic experience**

- Position: Associate professor, Department of Private Law
  - Date of employment: 01 January 2021 to 31 December 2023
  - Employer: University of the Western Cape
- .....

- Position: Senior lecturer, Department of Private Law
  - Date of employment: 06 August 2018 to 31 December 2020
  - Employer: University of the Western Cape
- .....

- Position: Sessional lecturer, Department of Commercial Law
- Date of employment: 01 April 2014 to 31 December 2017
- Employer: University of Cape Town, South Africa

- .....
- Position: Lecturer, Department of Jurisprudence and International Law.
  - Date of employment: 02 November 2009 to 31 December 2013
  - Employer: Madonna University, Nigeria

## **7. Civil society experience**

- Position: Human Rights Programme Officer.
- Date of employment: 01 September 2004 to 31 December 2016
- Employer: Justice, Development and Peace Initiative, Ekiti, Nigeria
- Major duties/achievements include:
  - ✓ Fund-raising.
  - ✓ Provision of legal aid to 125 detainees.
  - ✓ Organisation of alternative dispute resolutions.
  - ✓ Production of a human rights handbook.
  - ✓ Establishment of a newspaper column.
  - ✓ Provision of human rights workshops and seminars for 11 civil society groups, 25 educational institutions.

## **8. International tribunal experience**

- Position: Legal Assistant.
- Date of employment: 05 January 2009 to 31 August 2009
- Employer: International Criminal Court.
- Major achievements include the following:
  - ✓ Initiated, summarised, and analysed the testimonies of 25 witnesses in the Thomas Lubanga trial as part of (then) Deputy Prosecutor Fatou Bensouda's team.
  - ✓ Initiated witness summaries in the Omar Bashir case as evidence reviewer in the Darfur Situation.

- .....
- Position: Intern in the Office of the Prosecutor.
  - Date of employment: 07 January 2008 to 31 July 2008
  - Employer: International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals
  - Major achievements:
    - ✓ Produced memos on rebuttal evidence, disclosure obligations, re-opening of cases, and non-international armed conflicts; produced numerous witness summaries.

## **9. Field research experience**

01/2022 – 12/2024: Principal investigator in a project titled 'Ascertaining the foundational values of indigenous laws in South Africa', awarded by the National Research Foundation of South Africa (Human and Social Dynamics Grant No. 136532), involving field surveys in the Limpopo and Eastern Cape provinces of South Africa.

01/2017 – 11/2018: Postdoctoral researcher in the Centre for Comparative Law in Africa, University of Cape Town. I empirically researched the interface of state law and indigenous laws in Nigeria, South Africa, and Somaliland in adjudication, commerce, succession, bride wealth, traditional leadership, and matrimonial property.

10/2014 – 12/2017: Co-investigator in 'Somaliland customary law: An instrument for conflict prevention and peace building', a field project executed by the University of Cape Town in the Marodijeh, Awdal, Sahil, Togdheer, and Sanaag regions of Somaliland, with funding from the National Research Foundation of South Africa.

01/2014 – 12/2015: Research assistant in the field project 'Reform of Customary Marriage, Divorce and Succession in South Africa', commissioned in six provinces by the South African Research Chairs Initiative of the Department of Science and Technology and the National Research Foundation of South Africa (Grant No. 64825).

02/2013 – 12/2016: Doctoral research on the judicial recognition of the customary law of matrimonial property in southern Nigeria involving case analysis, archival searches, interviews and focus groups with 109 divorcees, widows, judges, traditional leaders, priests, non-governmental organisations, and social welfare officials.

07/2011 – 10/2011: Researched for the International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance, Sweden on 'Successful marginalised group inclusion in customary governance structures and processes: Case study of the Osu people in Owerri, south-east Nigeria' – key informant interviewing, archival searches, and literature review

01/2011 – 03/2011: Research consultant for the West African Human Rights Defenders' Network, Togo on the 'Security of Human Rights Defenders in Nigeria' involving literature review, case studies, and archival research.

09/2007 – 11/2007: Field research assistant in the Foundation for Human Rights Initiative, Kampala, Uganda.

## **10. Advocacy experience**

01/2015 – 12/2016: Monitored the Portfolio Committee on Justice and Correctional Services of the South African Parliament and wrote twice weekly reports for the Parliamentary Monitoring Group on committee meetings [\[Link\]](#).

09/2013: Judged the preliminary rounds of the 22<sup>nd</sup> All Africa Human Rights Moot Court competition for law students from 25 African universities at the University of the Western Cape [\[Link\]](#).

10/2012: Judged the preliminary rounds of the 21<sup>st</sup> All Africa Human Rights Moot Court competition for students from 62 African universities at the Eduardo Mondlane University, Mozambique [\[Link\]](#).

08/2008 – 12/2008: Attorney in the legal defence unit of Nnaji Dike Law Firm, Owerri, Nigeria.

09/2007 – 11/2007: Interned at the Foundation for Human Rights Initiative, Kampala, Uganda, and produced a concept note on 'Strategies for realisation of the right to adequate housing in Uganda.'

10/2004 – 08/2005: Chaired the Awareness Committee of the Access to Justice Vanguard (later Security, Justice and Growth Programme) of the British Department for International Development office in Ekiti State, Nigeria.

10/2004: Admitted advocate and solicitor of the Supreme Court of Nigeria since October 2004.

## **11. Editorial experience**

01/2024 – ongoing: Co-editor-in-chief, African Journal of Legal Studies [Published by Brill | Nijhoff].

03/2022 – ongoing: Associate Editor, Legal Pluralism and Critical Social Analysis [Published by Taylor & Francis].

02/2017 – 12/2018: Managing Editor, Journal of Comparative Law in Africa, accredited by the Department of Higher Education and Training and published by JUTA & Co. for the Faculty of Law, University of Cape Town.

2016 – ongoing: Editorial Board Member of the following: (1) Journal of African Law (2) Legal Pluralism and Critical Social Analysis (3) Journal of Comparative Law in Africa (4) Africa Journal of Comparative Constitutional Law, Kenya School of Law, Nairobi; and (5) Benin Journal of Public Law, University of Benin.

2011 – 2012: Editorial Adviser of the Madonna University Students' Law Journal.

2005 – 2007: Founding Columnist (*Living the Law*), Catholic Echo Newspaper, Ekiti State, Nigeria.

## **12. Grants and scholarships**

2023: University of Bayreuth Africa Multiple Cluster of Excellence grant to present a paper at the 8<sup>th</sup> *Juris Diversitas General Conference* hosted by the University of Palermo, Italy, from 19 to 21 June 2023 [€ 500].

2022: Law and Society Association, USA grant awarded under the Gender in Customary and Indigenous Law and Proceedings International Research Collaborative for the LSA Global Meeting in Lisbon [\$1,304].

2022: University of the Western Cape Senate Research grant to convene a panel on 'Adaptive legal pluralism in post-colonial states' at the Law and Society Association Global Meeting in Lisbon from 13 to 16 July [R 31 200].

2021: 'Ascertaining the foundational values of indigenous laws in South Africa' (2022 – 2024), received as principal investigator from the National Research Foundation of South Africa Human and Social Dynamics Grant No. 136532 [R1,173,600].

2020: 'Rethinking customary law and women's property rights in the context of legal pluralism in Nigeria' University of the Western Cape grant to visit the Nigerian Institute of Advanced Legal Studies [R 50 000].

2019: University of the Western Cape Mid-Career Researcher International Conference Grant [R 30 000 unused].



2019: University of the Western Cape Senate Research grant for a monograph project [R 25 000].

2018: 'Rethinking normative interaction in sub-Saharan Africa,' postdoctoral fellowship awarded by the National Research Foundation of South Africa Grant No. SFP180427324639 [R 200,000 not used].

2018: 'Hidden in plain sight: Normative intersectionality in Southern and Western Nigeria,' African Humanities Program Postdoctoral Fellowship awarded by the American Council of Learned Societies [\$19 000].

2018: 'Rethinking legal pluralism in sub-Saharan Africa: Insights from South and West,' Residential Guest Researcher Scholarship awarded by the Nordic Africa Institute, Uppsala, Sweden from April – June 2018.

2017: 'Rethinking legal pluralism in post-colonial Africa: The indigenous laws of commercial contracts,' University Research Committee Postdoctoral Fellowship awarded by the University of Cape Town [R 440 000].

2017: Competitive Conference Grant awarded by the University of Cape Town to present a paper at the 5th *Juris Diversitas* Annual Conference held at Université Jean Moulin, Lyon, France in July 2017 [R 16 575].

2016: Knowledge, Interchange and Collaboration (KIC) Grant awarded by the National Research Foundation of South Africa to attend the *Juris Diversitas Annual Conference*, USA from 30 May to 1 June 2016 [R 20 000].

2015: 'Recognition of living customary law in Nigerian legal system: Women's matrimonial property rights in south-east Nigeria,' Next Generation in Africa Dissertation Research Fellowship awarded by the Social Science Research Council of New York [\$15 000].

2015: 'Implications of an adaptation theory of indigenous law for legal pluralism in Africa,' travel grant to the University of Limerick awarded by Institute of International Education/Carnegie Corporation of New York [\$4300].

2015: Competitive Conference Grant awarded by the University of Cape Town to present a paper at the *Biennial International Conference of the Commission on Legal Pluralism* held in India from 14 to 16 December [R 19 700].

2014: 'Recognition of living customary law in Nigeria: Women's access to land under customary law of succession in South-east Nigeria,' dissertation proposal development fellowship awarded by the Social Science Research Council of New York [\$3000].

2014-2015: 'Law 150' PhD scholarships awarded by the Faculty of Law, University of Cape Town [R 90 000 p/a].

2014-2015: Postgraduate International Students Scholarship awarded by the University of Cape Town [R 70 000].

2013-2015: 'Judicial recognition of living customary law in the context of matrimonial property rights in South-East Nigeria,' doctoral bursary awarded by the South African Research Chairs Initiative Grant No. 64825 [R 270,000].

2007: Master of Laws scholarship awarded by the German Academic Exchange Service [R65 000].

### 13. Academic recognition

2022: 'Towards legal integration in sub-Saharan Africa', Bayreuth Academy of Advanced African Studies International Research Fellowship awarded by the University of Bayreuth, Germany [January – July 2023].

2020: 'Established Researcher' rating (C2) awarded by the National Research Foundation of South Africa.

2020: Non-residential Diaspora Scholar at the Nigerian Institute of Advanced Legal Studies.

2018: Runner up in the Young Scholar Best Paper Award competition of the *International Commission on Legal Pluralism* for a submission titled "A butterfly that thinks itself a bird: The identity of customary courts in Nigeria."

2016: PhD thesis passed without revision required by any of the three examiners (11 November 2016).

2011: Excellent Teacher Award, voted on by over 1000 law students in Madonna University, Nigeria.

2005: Highly Commended award in the 2005 Short Story Writing Competition of the Commonwealth Broadcasting Association, United Kingdom for an entry titled *The Strange Child*.

### 14. Courses taught

#### *Postgraduate [LLM and MA]*

2022 – Ongoing: *Law and Society in Africa* [Convenor at the University of Turin, Italy].

2019 – Ongoing: *Legal and Cultural Pluralism* [Convenor at the University of the Western Cape, South Africa].

2019 – 2022: *Gender Equality and Women's Rights* [Co-convenor at the University of the Western Cape].

2014 – 2017: *African Law and Common Law*, compulsory modules in the *LLM in Comparative Law in Africa* at the University of Cape Town, South Africa [Co-convenor].

#### *Undergraduate [LLB]*

2023 – 2023: *Human Rights in Africa*, a cross-faculty module [Co-convenor at University of Bayreuth, Germany].

2021 – 2022: *Comparative Law*, a final year elective module [Convenor at University of the Western Cape].

2020 – 2020: *Muslim Personal Law*, a final year elective module [Co-convenor at UWC].

2019 – 2023: *Legal and Cultural Pluralism*, a 4<sup>th</sup> year LLB elective [Convenor at UWC].

2018 – Ongoing: *African Customary Law*, a compulsory 3<sup>rd</sup> year LLB module [Co-convenor at UWC].

2010 – 2013: *Introduction to Human Rights*, a 3<sup>rd</sup> year LLB elective in Madonna University, Nigeria [Convenor].

2010 – 2013: *Legal Systems*, a 1<sup>st</sup> year LLB elective in Madonna University, Nigeria [Convenor].

2010 – 2013: *International Law*, a final year LLB elective in Madonna University [Co-convenor].

#### *Visiting/Guest lectures*

2024 — 'The tsetse fly perched on the scrotum: publishing problems in academic journals' Centre for Law and Society, University of Cape Town *Thought Leader Encounters Series* seminar on 14 March 2024.

2022 — 'The contemporary identity of African laws' Guest Lecture for PhD students in the Department of Political Science and International Relations, University of Palermo, Italy on 7 December 2022.

2021 — ‘Legal pluralism and “living” customary law,’ Master of Arts in Law and Society in Africa, Department of Culture, Politics and Society, University of Turin, Italy [November 2021].

2020 — ‘African Customary Law,’ compulsory 3<sup>rd</sup> year LLB module, Department of Private Law, University of Cape Town, South Africa [July – December 2020].

2020 — ‘Customary law and women’s property rights,’ Nigerian Institute of Advanced Legal Studies [February].

2018 — ‘Hidden in plain sight: Rethinking normative interaction in sub-Saharan Africa,’ Inaugural *Finnish – African Studies Network Meeting*, Hanken School of Economics, Helsinki, Finland [11 June 2018].

2017 — ‘Empirical legal research,’ University of Hargeisa School of Law, Somaliland [October - November 2017].

2015 — ‘A revisionist perspective of challenges to economic integration in Africa: The case of ECOWAS,’ Master of Laws in Law and Regional Integration in Africa, University of Cape Town (30 April 2015).

## 15. Institutional leadership

2022 – 2025: Member of the Advisory Board of the Global Environmental Law Centre (GELC), UWC.

2022 – ongoing: Member of Advisory Board, Pan-African Strategic and Policy Research Group (PANAFSTRAG).

2021 – ongoing: Member of the Advisory Committee on Matrimonial Property (Project 100E) of the South African Law Reform Commission.

2021 – ongoing: Member of the Research Advisory Board on Indigeneity, Displacement, and Patriarchy at the Centre for Social Sciences, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, Athabasca University, Canada.

2020 – ongoing: Member of the Research Quality Plus College of Reviewers of Canada’s International Development Research Centre (IDRC), a 16-member group of independent global experts who evaluate the quality of development-oriented research funded by the Canadian government across the world [\[Link\]](#).

08/2019 – ongoing: Member, College of Senior Mentors, Council for the Development of Social Science Research in Africa (CODESRIA), a body of established African diaspora academics in the social sciences and humanities who improve “student completion rates by augmenting doctoral supervision capacity in African universities” [\[Link\]](#).

2019 – ongoing: Member of the University of the Western Cape Senate, Faculty of Law Management Committee, Higher Degrees Committee, Academic Planning Committee, and Graduate Lecturing Assistants’ Committee.

01/2018 – ongoing: Workshop Leader and Reviewer, Next Generation Social Sciences in Africa Fellowship of the Social Science Research Council of New York, a programme that strengthens tertiary education in Africa with three categories of PhD and post-doctoral fellowships for African academics [\[Link\]](#).

09/2018 – ongoing: Member, African Studies Association (ASA) Task Force on Academic Freedom, a group that “works to defend and advance scholars’ ability to freely pursue, distribute, and discuss their research in academia and in public life” by monitoring infringements on the academic freedom of African scholars worldwide [\[Link\]](#).

12/2016 – 12/2019: Secretary, Nigerian Studies Association, the union of Nigerian scholars in the diaspora [\[Link\]](#).

01/2017 – 06/2018: Chair, University of Cape Town Postdoctoral Research Fellows' Association.

2014 – 2016: Chair, Postgraduate Law Students' Council, University of Cape Town.

2014 – 2016: Member, Executive Committee of the School of Advanced Legal Studies, University of Cape Town.

2011– 2013: Head of Department, Jurisprudence and International Law, Madonna University, Nigeria.

2011– 2012: Co-manager, Madonna University Law Clinic.

2011 – 2013: Member of Senate and various committees, Madonna University.

## **16. Professional networks**

- Member, International Research Group on Gender in Customary and Indigenous Law and Proceedings.
- Member, International Expert Working Group on Customary and Informal Justice and SDG16+
- Member, African Humanities Program of the American Council of Learned Societies.
- Member, Africa Multiple Cluster of Excellence, University of Bayreuth, Germany.
- Member, International Commission on Legal Pluralism, Juris Diversitas, and the African Studies Association.

## **17. Postgraduate supervision**

### *Doctoral degrees – completed*

1. Adv. E.A. Okeng (2019-2022) — 'Post-1996 service delivery in South Africa: Constitutional and social contract perspectives' [Co-supervisor: Prof. Ebenezer Durojaye].
2. Ms. L.O. Uche – (2021-2023) — 'Towards a sustainable approach to single use plastic regulation in Nigeria: A case study of Kenya, South Africa and Rwanda' [co-supervisor: Dr Van Der Berg].
3. Ms. N. Eboh – 4114678 (2021-2024) 'Legal pluralism and the law of intestate succession in Southeast Nigeria'

### *Doctoral degrees – ongoing*

4. Mr. E. Offor – 4176804 (since 2021) 'Comparative analysis of legal hybridity in Nigeria and South Africa in the context of land ownership'.
5. Mr G.T. Mandisodza – 4283449 (since 2022) 'The role of forum shopping in the evolution of customary laws/institutions in the context of women's land rights in South Africa'.
6. Ms. N. Makowe – 4176804 (since 2022) 'A critical legal appraisal of Zimbabwe's law and policy framework for artisanal mining' [co-supervisor to Dr Van Der Berg].
7. Mr. P.C. Ngove – 6304770 (since 2023) 'Traditional leadership institutions and promotion of human rights: A

case study of Limpopo, South Africa’.

8. Ms. O.P. Adula – 6305167 (since 2023) ‘Gender neutral legislative drafting: A tool for the protection of human rights’ [co-supervisor: Prof. John-Mark Iyi]
9. Ms. Elizabeth Oshioyenya Oriakhogba (since 2024) ‘Interface of statutory and customary law in child custody: Case study of Etsako Land, Nigeria.’
10. Ms. Maphoko L. Ditsela (since 2024) ‘Developing a jurisprudence for the right to education to include the right to indigenous education in Black communities.’
11. Mr. Itai Gift Watinaye (since 2024) ‘A critical analysis of the actio rei vindicatio principle in matrimonial property and its constitutionality in Zimbabwe’ [co-supervisor: Dr Carmel Jacobs].
12. Mr. Chuks I. Osagu (since 2024) ‘Unpacking subsidiary instruments as tools for effective implementation of the Nigerian Data Protection Act 2023’ [co-supervisor to Dr Desmond Oriakhogba].
13. Mr. Victor O. Chukwuma (since 2024) ‘Artificial intelligence and the rights of asylum seekers and refugees: considerations for the regulation of AI in Africa’ [co-supervisor to Dr Desmond Oriakhogba].
14. Mr. Paschal Eruaga (since 2024) ‘A critique of the legal governance mechanism of Nigerian universities using South Africa as a standard.’
15. Ms. Ndivhuwo Mudzwiri (since 2024) ‘Effectiveness of traditional dispute resolution methods and the role of traditional leaders in resolving paternity disputes in Vhembe District, Limpopo, South Africa’.
16. Mr. Ernest Muchu Toh (since 2024) ‘A legal framework for the expansion of immigrant-owned enterprises in Cape Town’

*LLM/MPhil – completed*

17. Ms. Kristen-Kay Cloete (3727464) — ‘Bridging the gap between anti-corruption legislation and implementation: A case study of Hantam Local Municipality’ [LLM mini-thesis, December 2024].
18. Ms. P. Zhakata (3812563) — ‘Risks and benefits of the eradication of African customs by modernity’ [LLM thesis, September 2024].
19. Ms. P.G. Mbantsa (3515550) — ‘Inadequate representation of women attorneys in the legal profession in South Africa’ (LLM thesis, April 2024).
20. Ms. K. Aplane (4282971) — ‘Variations in the adoption of children: African jurisprudence versus Western jurisprudence’ [LLM thesis, April 2024].
21. Mr J.T. Kunyuk (4282882) — ‘Muslim family law and judicial protection of women’s rights in Kenya: An assessment’ [LLM thesis, December 2023].

22. Ms. P. Mudzwiri (4282963) — ‘Implications of patriarchal customs on the enjoyment of human rights by women and children in South Africa’ [LLM thesis, September 2023].
23. Ms. T. Akande (4061094) — ‘Comparative analysis of the legal framework of children adopted under customary law’ [MPhil, September 2022].
24. Mr. B. Gazi (4176668) — ‘Balancing emancipatory legal pluralism and cultural relativism’ [LLM thesis, 2022].
25. Ms. S. Ngamnteni (4176464) — ‘Judicial balancing of cultural relativism and universalism of human rights in post-apartheid South Africa’ [LLM thesis, December 2022].
26. Ms. K. Siyubo (4176943) — ‘What is the impact of state laws of gender equality on customary marriages?’ (LLM research paper, 2022).
27. Ms. L. Mzizi (3550120) — ‘Protection of women under African customary law through international law instruments’ (LLM research paper, 2022).
28. Ms. F. Ramulifho (2953200) — ‘The impact of Covid-19 on gender-based violence: A South African perspective’ (LLM research paper, 2021).
29. Ms. L. Ndhlovu (3564020) — ‘Criminalization of prostitution as a human rights violation against women in South Africa’ [LLM thesis, April 2020].
30. Ms. M. Gamiet (3549695) — ‘Should FGM continue to exist in the name of culture or should it be eliminated through application of the due diligence standard?’ (LLM research paper, 2020).
31. Ms. M. Regohtabetse (3644066) — ‘Comparative analysis of the legislative framework governing the skin lightening industry in South Africa’ (LLM research paper, 2020).

*LLM – ongoing*

32. Mr. A. Silo (4485836) — ‘A critical analysis of the judicial attitude to the right to culture in the context of African customary laws’ [since 2024].
33. Mr. S. Genukile (4176335) — ‘The effect of granting succession rights to intimate relationships akin to marriage’ [since 2022].

**18. External postgraduate examination**

University of Cape Town; University of Johannesburg; University of Pretoria; University of KwaZulu-Natal; University of South Africa; Nigerian Institute of Advanced Legal Studies.

**19. Scientific reviews**

Social Science Research Council of New York; National Science Centre of Poland; Council for the Development

of Social Science Research in Africa; National Research Foundation of South Africa; Legal Pluralism and Critical Social Analysis; Nordic Journal of Human Rights (Taylor and Francis); Journal of African Law (Cambridge University); Canadian Journal of Women and the Law (University of Toronto); Journal of Contemporary African Studies (Routledge); Law and Development Review (De Gruyter); Conflict Resolution Quarterly (Wiley); Journal of Human Rights Practice (Oxford University Press); Opinio Juris in Comparatione (Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna); Potchefstroom Electronic Law Journal; African Human Rights Law Journal; Stellenbosch Law Review; Speculum Juris; South African Yearbook of International Law; International Journal for Private Law; Journal of Comparative Law in Africa; Law, Democracy and Development; South African Law Journal; South African Public Law; De Jure.

## 20. Publications

### *Books and edited volumes*

1. (2024) A.C. Diala and C. Rautenbach (editors) *Reimagining legal pluralism in Africa: Balancing Indigenous, State, and Religious Laws* [Brill-Nijhoff] pp. 1-474 [ISBN: 9789004696747].
2. (2020) A.C. Diala *Rethinking customary law and women's property rights in the context of legal pluralism in Nigeria* [Lagos: Nigerian Institute of Advanced Legal Studies] pp. 1-57.
3. (2019) S. Bagni & A. Diala (editors) *Revista General de Derecho Público Comparado* Special Issue vol. 26.

### *Book chapters*

4. (2024) 'The case against decolonisation: A legal perspective' in J.C. Agbakoba and M. Rainsborough (editors) *Beyond decolonial African philosophy – Africity, Afrotopia, and transcolonial perspectives* (Routledge) [ISBN: 9781032683447].
5. (2024) 'An African perspective on family property and customary law' in M. Briggs and A. Hayward (editors) *Research Handbook on Family Property and the Law* [Edward Elgar Publishing] pp. 104-119 [DOI].
6. (2024) A.C. Diala and C. Rautenbach 'Introduction: The complex interplay of legal systems' in *Reimagining legal pluralism in Africa* [Brill-Nijhoff] pp. 1-18.
7. (2024) 'Foreword: Law and sustainable development after Covid-19' in A.E. Arimoro, E.M. Igbokwe and T.T. Egbe (editors) *Law and Sustainable Development after Covid-19* (Routledge) pp. i-iv.
8. (2024) 'Comparative indigenous law' in M. Siems and P.J. Yap (editors) *Cambridge Handbook of Comparative Law* [Cambridge University Press] pp. 693-712.
9. (2019) 'Courts and transformative constitutionalism: Insights from South Africa' in S.M. Sterett and L.D. Walker (editors) *Research Handbook on Law and Courts* (Edward Elgar) pp. 95-104 [DOI].
10. (2019) 'Legal pluralism and social change: Insights from matrimonial property rights in Nigeria' in C.

Rautenbach (editor) *In the shade of an African baobab: Tom Bennett's legacy* (JUTA) pp. 155-174 [\[Link\]](#).

11. (2013) 'The dawn of constitutionalism in Nigeria;' in M.K. Mbondenyi and T. Ojienda (editors) *Constitutionalism and democratic governance in Africa: Contemporary perspectives from sub-Saharan Africa* (Pretoria University Law Press) pp. 135-160 [\[Link\]](#).

*Peer reviewed journal articles*

12. (2024) M. Ditsela, A.C. Diala and R. Ozoemena 'African feminism and the recognition of cohabitation under customary law' 49(1) *Africa Development* 71-96 [\[Link\]](#).
13. (2024) E. Okeng and A.C. Diala "Promotion of service delivery in terms of South Africa's legal framework" 28 *Potchefstroom Electronic Law Journal* 1-34.
14. (2024) V. Adeleke and A.C. Diala "The rights of women to the inheritance of their husbands' estate in Nigeria" *Journal of Law, Society and Development* 1-20 [\[Link\]](#).
15. (2023) A.C. Diala and Nejat Hussein 'The tsetse fly perched on the scrotum: Publishing problems in academic journals' 26 *Potchefstroom Electronic Law Journal* 1-28 [\[Link\]](#).
16. (2022) 'Neoliberal influences on legal pluralist marriage reforms in Africa' 9(2) *Journal of International and Comparative Law* pp. 81-108 [\[Link\]](#).
17. (2021) A.C. Diala and S. Cotton 'Chained communities: A critique of South Africa's approach to land restitution' 20(3) *African Studies Quarterly* pp. 73-86 [\[Link\]](#).
18. (2021) 'Legal pluralism and the future of indigenous family laws in Africa' 35(1) *International Journal of Law, Policy and the Family* pp. 1-17 [\[Link\]](#).
19. (2020) A.C. Diala and J.C. Diala 'Normative intersectionality in married women's property rights in southern Nigeria' 24(1) *Law, Democracy and Development* pp. 86-108 [\[Link\]](#).
20. (2020) 'Peacebuilding and the interface of state law and indigenous market laws in Southern Nigeria' 64(1) *Journal of African Law* pp. 1-26 [\[DOI\]](#).
21. (2019) 'Our laws are better than yours: The future of legal pluralism in South Africa' 26 *Revista General de Derecho Público Comparado* pp. 1-23 [\[Link\]](#).
22. (2019) A.C. Diala and S. Bagni 'Introduction to special issue – The role of customary law in the shaping of new models of pluralistic states' 26 *Revista General de Derecho Público Comparado* pp. 1-5 [\[Link\]](#).
23. (2019) 'Curriculum decolonisation and revisionist pedagogy of African customary law' 22 *Potchefstroom Electronic Law Journal* pp. 1-37 [\[DOI\]](#).



24. (2019) 'A butterfly that thinks itself a bird: The identity of customary courts in Nigeria' 51(3) *The Journal of Legal Pluralism and Unofficial Law* pp. 381-405 [\[DOI\]](#).
25. (2019) A.C. Diala and B. Kangwa 'Rethinking the interface between customary law and constitutionalism in sub-Saharan Africa' 52(2) *De Jure* pp. 189-206 [\[DOI\]](#).
26. (2018) S. Cotton and A.C. Diala 'Silences in marriage laws in Commonwealth Africa: Women's position in polygynous customary marriages' 32(1) *Speculum Juris* pp. 18-32 [\[Link\]](#).
27. (2018) 'The shadow of legal pluralism in matrimonial property division outside the courts in Southern Nigeria' 18(2) *African Human Rights Law Journal* pp. 706-731 [\[DOI\]](#).
28. (2018) 'A critique of the judicial attitude towards matrimonial property rights under customary law in Nigeria's southern states' 18(1) *African Human Rights Law Journal* pp. 100-122 [\[DOI\]](#).
29. (2018) 'Editorial' 5(1) *Journal of Comparative Law in Africa* pp. i-v.
30. (2017) J.C. Diala and A.C. Diala 'Child marriage, bride wealth, and legal pluralism in Africa' 4(2) *Journal of Comparative Law in Africa* pp. 77-104 [\[Link\]](#).
31. (2017) 'The protection of traditional cultural expressions in Africa: Book review' 4(2) *Journal of Comparative Law in Africa* pp. 200-203 [\[Link\]](#).
32. (2017) 'The concept of living customary law: A critique' 49(2) *The Journal of Legal Pluralism and Unofficial Law* pp. 143-165 [\[WOS\]](#).
33. (2015) 'Lessons from South Africa on reform of the customary law of inheritance in Nigeria' 3 *Diritto delle successioni e della famiglia* pp. 891-914 [\[Link\]](#).
34. (2014) 'Reform of the customary law of inheritance in Nigeria: Lessons from South Africa' 14(2) *African Human Rights Law Journal* pp. 633-654 [\[IBSS\]](#).
35. (2014) L.J. Udofia and A.C. Diala 'Legal feasibility of a lawsuit against the United Nations' 3 *Madonna University Law Journal* pp. 158-171.
36. (2012) 'The Arab uprising: Implications for self-determination and good governance in the African Union' 1 *Pan African Yearbook of Law* pp. 19-30 [\[Link\]](#).
37. (2012) 'Realising the right to adequate housing in Nigeria' 2 *Madonna University Law Journal* pp. 155-173.
38. (2011) 'Lessons from South Africa in judicial power and minority protection' 1 *Madonna University Law Journal* pp. 164-187.
39. (2011) 'Victims' justice and re-characterising facts in the Lubanga trial at the ICC' 7 (1) *Eyes on the ICC* pp.

59-84 [\[Link\]](#).

40. (2011) 'Security of human rights defenders in Nigeria' in *Strategie de Securite des Defenseurs des Droits de L'Homme: Experiences du Nigeria et de la Gambie* (February) *West African Human Rights Defenders' Network, Togo* pp. 28-50.

#### *Accepted papers*

41. 'The concept of living customary law revisited' in J. Cañabate and M.H. Vallés (editors) *Derecho no oficial: Experiencias jurídicas más allá del Imperio de la Ley del Estado (Unofficial law: Legal experiences beyond the rule of state law* (Dykinson Publishing).

#### *Commissioned writings, blogs, and dissertations*

1. (2023) 'South African politicians vs judges: New book defends the Constitution' *The Conversation* 22 November 2023 [\(Link\)](#).
2. (2023) 'The missing link in judges' approach to the Igbo custom of inheritance' *African Legal Studies Blog* 18 August 2023 [\(Link\)](#).
3. (2023) 'South Africa's new Marriage Bill raises many thorny issues - A balancing act is needed' *The Conversation* 02 August 2023 [\(Link\)](#).
4. (2023) South African Law Reform Commission Discussion Paper 160 of 11/2023, Project 100E: Review of Aspects of Matrimonial Property Law pp. 1-292 [\(Link\)](#).
5. (2022) 'South Africa has a new traditional courts bill. But it doesn't protect indigenous practices' *The Conversation* 22 September 2022 [\(Link\)](#).
6. (2022) 'What the Zulu kingship judgment tells us about the future of South African customary law' *The Conversation* 9 March 2022 [\(Link\)](#).
7. (2021) 'Reflections from a Next Gen facilitator on working with doctoral students in Africa' *Items: Insights from the Social Sciences, The Social Science Research Council of New York* 14 December 2021 [\[Link\]](#).
8. (2021) 'Why reform of matrimonial property laws is important' *Signals, University of the Western Cape Research Magazine* Edition IV November 2021 pp. 34-35 [\[Link\]](#)
9. (2020) 'Understanding the relevance of African customary law in modern times' *The Conversation* 1 December 2020 [\(Link\)](#).
10. (2020) 'Are Africans ready for integrated state and indigenous laws?' *AllAfrica* 11 November 2020 [\(Link\)](#).

11. (2017) 'Next Generation Social Sciences in Africa: A story of transformation' *Items: Insights from the Social Sciences, The Social Science Research Council of New York* 7 September 2017 [\[Link\]](#).
12. (2016) 'Judicial recognition of living customary law in the context of matrimonial property rights in South-East Nigeria' *Unpublished Doctoral Dissertation, University of Cape Town* pp. 1-266.
13. (2013) 'Successful marginalised group inclusion in customary governance structures and processes: Case study of the Osu people in Owerri South-East Nigeria' in (J Hedström and J Smith eds.) *Overcoming political exclusion: Strategies for marginalized groups to successfully engage in political decision-making* (Stockholm, Sweden: International IDEA).
14. (2011) 'The strange child' in J. Bassett (ed.) *Oxford Bookworms Library: Stage 2: Songs from the soul: Stories from around the world* (Oxford: Oxford University Press) pp. 46-52.
15. (2007) 'Judicial activism in South Africa's Constitutional Court: Minority protection or judicial illegitimacy?' *LL.M Dissertation, University of Pretoria, South Africa* pp. 1-59 [\[Link\]](#).

## **21. Expert/Media engagements and others**

1. (2024) Interview on 28 August with Sertan Sanderson of Deutsche Welle (DW) on polygamy and equality.
2. (2023) Interview on 21 August 2023 with Benito Vergotine of SmileFM on South Africa's Marriage Bill.
3. (2023) Interview on 18 August with Lerato Mbele of POWER 98.7 on the Marriage Bill, life partnerships and cohabiting couples in South Africa [\[Link\]](#).
4. (2023) Interview on 17 August with Stephen Grootes of SAfm SABC on marriage laws in South Africa [\[Link\]](#).
5. (2023) Television interview on 8 August with Osarogie Ogbonmwan and Olive Emodi of News Central Breakfast on South Africa's Marriage Bill of 2022 [\[Link\]](#).
6. (2023) Television interview about South Africa's Marriage Bill with eNCA's Marcell Gordon, 5 August [\[Link\]](#).
7. (2023) Conversation with Prof. Thoko Kaime, Chair of African Legal Studies, Bayreuth on 26 June 2023 [\[Link\]](#).
8. (2023) Radio interview on 13 June with Relebogile Mabotja of 702 Afternoons on customary marriages [\[Link\]](#).
9. (2023) Radio interview on 6 January with SAFM's 'Living redefined' on the Traditional Courts Bill [\[Link\]](#).
10. (2022) Television interview on 24 September with Newzroom Afrika on the Traditional Courts Bill [\[Link\]](#).
11. (2022) Consultation with the World Bank Business Enabling Environment (BEE) Project pp. 644-645 [\[Link\]](#).

12. (2022) Television interview on 24 September with eNCA on the Traditional Courts Bill [\[Link\]](#).
13. (2022) Television interview on 21 August with the South African Broadcasting Corporation on 'Legal challenge to King Misuzulu's Kingship' [\[Link\]](#).
14. (2021) Television interview on 3 May 2021 with E.TV on inheritance and succession laws in South Africa.
15. (2021) Live radio interview on 27 January with Power 98.7 on the status of South African customary laws.
16. (2020) Live radio interview with the South African Broadcasting Corporation on 14 December, discussing the contemporary relevance of African customary laws.

## **22. Invited presentations**

1. Guest speaker on "Reaching the people: The role of customary justice" in the *Justice and the Rule of Law Global Forum: Fostering Inclusive and Sustainable Development*, which was organised by the World Bank in Washington, DC from 25-26 June 2024 [\[Link\]](#).
2. Inaugural speaker on "A theoretical framework for decolonial comparative law", lecture series on *Decolonizing comparative law? Problematizing and resisting the colonial legacies of the discipline* organised by the Wainwright Chair in Civil Law and Paul-André Crépeau Centre for Private and Comparative Law, McGill University, Canada on 5 April 2024 [\[Link\]](#).
3. Guest speaker on "The concept of living customary law revisited," research colloquium at the Van Vollenhoven Institute for Law, Governance and Society, Leiden Law School, Netherlands, 07 June 2023 [\[Link\]](#)
4. Guest speaker on "The trajectory of family law reforms in South Africa and beyond," Research Roundtable organised by the Chair in African Legal Studies, University of Bayreuth on 05 June 2023 [\[Link\]](#).
5. Moderator of *International Migration Law and Indigenous Displacement in Africa*, a session organised by the American Society of International Law Africa Interest Group on 21 April 2023 [\[Link\]](#).
6. Keynote speaker on "The role of customary law in the 21st century: Upholding the tenets of customary law in a dynamic and English law-oriented Nigeria," a webinar organised by the Nigerian Institute of Advanced Legal Studies on 29 March 2023.
7. Keynote speaker on "Gender dialectics of contemporary African customary law" at a conference titled *African customary law and transformation: Towards a gender responsive approach* organised by the Free State Centre for Human Rights, University of the Free State, South Africa 27-28 October 2022 [\[Link\]](#).
8. Keynote speaker on "Traditional leadership in a legal pluralistic South Africa" at a Public Webinar titled *The revival of traditional courts in South Africa: A step in the right direction?* organised by the University of Venda,

the Limpopo House of Traditional Leaders and the Centre for Legal Integration in Africa on 13 October 2022.

9. Co-facilitated a training workshop for judges on the theme “Appraising the progress and challenges in the implementation of the Administration of Criminal Justice Act, 2015” from 25 to 29 July 2022 in Dubai, UAE.
10. Keynote speaker on “Customary law aspects of curriculum development and teaching methodologies in the 21st century” at the *International Conference on the Future of Legal Education in Ghana/Africa* hosted by the University of Ghana School of Law, Accra from 29 November to 2 December 2021.
11. Co-facilitated a colloquium on “The continuous search for coherence in Africa’s plural legal systems” at the University of Bayreuth, Germany, from 17 to 20 November 2021 [\[Link\]](#).
12. Invited speaker on the panel ‘Understanding the Impacts of Local Indigenous Laws and Customs,’ a virtual professional development event organised by the Ontario Bar Association, Canada on 10 November 2021.
13. Invited speaker on “Property ownership, land rights and gender challenges under customary law” at the *Reflections on Gender in the Context of Customary Law in the African Continent* Conference organised by the University of South Africa from 11-12 August 2021 [\[Link\]](#).
14. Invited speaker on “The anatomy of customary law: Separating customary law from colonial and contemporary distortions” at the conference on *Customary Law and Social Justice* organised by the Law Trust Chair in Social Justice at Stellenbosch University on 25 August 2021 [\[Link\]](#).
15. Delivered the 2020 Diaspora Scholars’ Lecture at the Nigerian Institute of Advanced Legal Studies, Lagos on 6 February 2020, titled ‘Rethinking customary law and women’s property rights in the context of legal pluralism in Nigeria.’ A Nigerian diaspora scholar is selected annually to engage a burning issue in Nigeria [\[Link\]](#).
16. Facilitated the 15<sup>th</sup> doctoral skill-building workshop of the Next Generation in Africa Fellowship, organised by the Social Science Research Council of New York at the University of Ghana, 26-29 June 2019 [\[Link\]](#).
17. Facilitated the 14<sup>th</sup> doctoral skill-building workshop of the Next Generation in Africa Fellowship at the United States International University, Nairobi, Kenya from 7 to 10 January 2019 [\[Link\]](#).
18. Co-facilitated a Community Leaders’ Training Workshop (*MDGS and Access to Justice*) organised by the Dullar Omar Institute, University of the Western Cape from 28 to 29 May 2019 and made a presentation titled ‘The impact of culture and religion on gender equality (SDG 5) in vulnerable and marginalised communities.’
19. Co-facilitated a writing and mentoring retreat for selected postgraduate and final year students on 20 October 2018 at Protea Hotel by Marriott, Tyger valley, Cape Town.
20. Co-facilitated the *Carnegie Foundation Peer-learning for Emerging Researchers’ Knowledge and*

*Advancement Workshop* organised by the University of Pretoria and the National Research Foundation of South Africa from 3-4 April 2019 [[Link](#)].

21. Delivered keynote titled 'Lessons from anti-corruption initiatives in the South African judiciary' at a training workshop for Nigerian judges under the theme, *Strategies for Strengthening Integrity and Preventing Corruption in the Judiciary* on 12 July 2018 at Emperor's Palace Hotel, Kempton Park, Johannesburg.
22. Facilitated workshops on empirical legal research at the University of Hargeisa School of Law, Somaliland, from October to November 2017 for staff, postgraduate students, and civil society organisations.

### **23. Conference presentations**

#### *International*

1. (2023) 'Indigenous approaches to peacebuilding' paper presented at the 8<sup>th</sup> *Juris Diversitas General Conference: "Dystopian Visions of the Law"* held at the University of Palermo, Italy, 19 - 21 June 2023.
2. (2022) 'Adaptive Legal Pluralism in Postcolonial Societies' panel convened at the Global Meeting on Law and Society at the ISCTE University Institute in Lisbon, Portugal, from 13-16 July.
3. (2022) 'Indigenous laws in recent marriage law reforms in sub-Saharan Africa,' paper presented at the Global Meeting on Law and Society hosted by the ISCTE University Institute in Lisbon, Portugal, from 13-16 July.
4. (2021) 'The future of legal orders in Africa' Inaugural symposium of the Centre for Legal Integration in Africa held virtually on 22 October 2021.
5. (2021) 'A survey of the foundational values of indigenous African law in four countries,' paper presented at the *Re-Imagining Agenda 2063 Conference* hosted by the Peter A. Allard School of Law and Liu Institute Network for Africa, University of British Columbia from 21-24 June.
6. (2021) 'Coloniality and the future of laws in sub-Saharan Africa,' paper presented at the 7<sup>th</sup> *Juris Diversitas Annual Conference: "The Dark Side of the Law"* held virtually on 9 - 11 June 2021.
7. (2021) 'A postmodern view of gender and customary law in South Africa' paper presented virtually at the Law and Society Association Conference on "Crisis, Healing and Re-Imagining," Chicago, USA, 26-30 May 2021.
8. (2021) 'Rethinking customary law in postmodern Africa' virtual conference on "Customary Law in a Changing Africa" organised by the Center for African Legal Studies at UPSA Law School Accra and the Leitner Center for International Law and Justice at Fordham Law School, New York from 28-29 January.
9. (2020) 'Envisioning the future of legal orders in sub-Saharan Africa' CHUSS seminar held virtually on 30 October 2020 at the College of Humanities and Social Sciences, Makerere University, Uganda.
10. 2020 'The changing face of customary law in South Africa' Virtual Conference organised by the University of

Bologna, Italy from 22-24 April titled *Searching for Models of Intercultural Management of Social Conflict*.

11. (2019) with S. Cotton 'Strange bedfellows: Legal positivism, pluralism, and access to justice under customary law in South Africa' *Engendering Access to Justice for Development in Sub Saharan Africa* International Conference organised by Nordic Africa Institute, Sweden and University of the Western Cape (28-29 October).
12. (2019) 'The Constitution as customary law, or: The future of legal pluralism in sub-Saharan Africa' 6<sup>th</sup> *Juris Diversitas Annual Conference*: "Law, Roots and Space" Faculty of Law, North-West University, Potchefstroom Campus, South Africa (15-17 April).
13. (2019) with B. Kangwa 'Rethinking the interface between customary law and constitutionalism in Africa' 2<sup>nd</sup> *Biennial Law and Society in Africa Conference*: "Africa and the Middle East in an era of Global Fragility" The American University in Cairo, Egypt (1-3 April).
14. (2018) Panel convenor, *Indigenous courts, commerce and (intellectual) property* at the *Biennial Conference of the Commission on Legal Pluralism*: "Citizenship, legal pluralism and governance in the age of globalization" Faculty of Law, University of Ottawa, Canada (17-24 August).
15. (2017) Panel convenor, *Identity, scholarship, and Africa's next generation leaders*, *Biennial Conference of the African Studies Association of Africa*: "African studies and global politics" University of Accra (12-14 October).
16. (2017) 'Indigenous Market Laws in Southern Nigeria: Past, Present, and Future' 5<sup>th</sup> *Juris Diversitas Annual Conference*: "Law and Food" Université Jean Moulin, Lyon, France (10-12 July).
17. (2016) 'Judicial recognition of living customary law in the context of matrimonial property rights in South-East Nigeria' *International Conference on Law and Society in Africa*: "Dynamism, Liminality, and Reality? Policy, Research and the Law in an Afropolitan Era" River Club, Observatory, Cape Town (9-11 December).
18. (2016) 'What is living customary law?' *African Studies Association 59<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting*, "Imagining Africa at the Centre: Bridging Scholarship, Policy and Representation in African Studies" Washington Marriott Wardman Park, Washington, DC, United States of America (1-3 December).
19. (2016) 'Judicial protection of women's matrimonial property rights in Nigeria' 4<sup>th</sup> *Juris Diversitas Annual Conference*: "Unity and/or Diversity" Louisiana University Law Centre, Baton Rouge, USA (30 May - 1 June).
20. (2015) 'Towards an adaptation theory of customary law in post-colonial societies' (14-16 December) *Biennial International Conference of the Commission on Legal Pluralism*, 'Normative Interfaces of Globalization and High-Tech Capitalism: Legal Pluralism and the Neo-Liberal Turn' at the Institute of Technology Bombay, India.
21. (2015) with K.A. Maphalle 'Customary law and intellectual property rights: The protection of indigenous knowledge systems in sub-Saharan Africa' *Biennial International Conference of the Commission on Legal Pluralism*, Indian Institute of Technology Bombay (14-16 December).

22. (2015) 'Implications of an adaptation theory of indigenous law for legal pluralism in Africa' 3<sup>rd</sup> *Juris Diversitas Annual Conference*: "The State of/and Comparative Law" University of Limerick, Ireland, UK (2-4 June).

*Local presentations*

23. (2024) 'Twenty years of Bhe v Khayelitsha Magistrate: Promises, progress and pitfalls conference organised by the Centre for Legal Integration in Africa and the University of Cape Town from 20-21 August 2024.
24. (2024) 'The philosophical values of indigenous African laws', invited presentation on *Taking Indigenous Knowledges Seriously*, conference organised by the African Centre for Epistemology and Philosophy of Science at the University of Johannesburg, South Africa from 13 to 14 August 2024.
25. (2024) 'Indigenous versus colonial notions of property' paper presented at the 26<sup>th</sup> Miller du Toit Cloete Annual Family Law Conference from 13 to 15 March 2024 at the President Hotel, Cape Town, South Africa.
26. (2023) 'Towards a segmented teaching approach in legal education' presented (with Conrad Potberg) in the Scholarship of Engagement Colloquium held at the University of the Western Cape from 18 - 19 May 2023.
27. (2021) 'Implications of Discussion Paper 152 for customary law unions' panel discussion at the 23<sup>rd</sup> Miller du Toit Cloete Annual Family Law Conference held virtually on 12 March 2021.
28. (2020) 'Goodbye "official" and "living" customary law' Biennial Conference of the Southern African Law Teachers' Association/ University of Johannesburg, Kruger National Park, Skukuza (20-24 January).
29. (2019) 'Legal pluralistic interfaces in the development of customary family laws in Nigeria' 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Family Law Conference: *Customary marriage updates* The President Hotel, Sea Point, Cape Town (4-5 April).
30. (2018) 'The elders' viewpoint: Shifting perceptions of matrimonial property rights in Southern Nigeria' *Mandela and the Law Conference*, University of the Western Cape (26 October).
31. (2015) 'Towards a revisionist approach to African customary law' *Humboldt Kolleg: "Modern Day Impact of Culture on Science: The Influence of Cultural Diversity on Theory and Practice"* North-West University, Potchefstroom, South Africa (19-21 November).
32. (2014) 'Reform of the customary law of succession in Nigeria' *Postgraduate Law Seminar*, Faculty of Law, University of Cape Town (10 April).
33. (2014) with A. Ordor 'The space between: Significance of a vertical theory of living customary law for development' *Southern African Development Community/National Research Foundation Conference*: "Interplay of customary law rights in land and legal pluralism" University of Cape Town (17 October).
34. (2013) 'The place of customary law in the Nigerian legal system' *Postgraduate Law Seminar*, University of Cape Town (20 June).