



The conduct of elections and election monitoring in Africa got a boost from a number of legal instruments developed within the continent most especially since the 1980s when the rest of the developing world was democratizing by shaking off the toga of military rule one after the other. The first step was the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights (1981)

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which built on the "African Convention on Human Rights" to give full effect to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the United Nations Charter

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