
Human Rights under Siege: Analysis of Gross Violations of Human Rights in Geographical and Existential Peripheries



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This paper addresses the betrayal of the original intuition behind the Universal Declaration of Human Rights on December 10, 1948. The belief of every human being's inherent dignity and inalienable human rights encapsulates this intuition. Today, however, human dignity and inalienable human rights are grossly violated in geographical and existential peripheries by the same institution that has been assigned the noble mission of protecting and promoting them. My analysis will proceed in three steps. First, I will describe the context of the siege of human rights. Second, I will identify some causal factors that encourage this siege. Third and lastly, I will envisage perspectives that can halt the siege of human rights in geographical and existential peripheries.

Biography:

Raphael Okitafumba Lokola is a priest of the Diocese of Tshumbe in the central Democratic Republic of the Congo (since 2010). He is an associate professor of ethics and social theory at Université de Lodja. He also teaches moral and spiritual theology at Grand Séminaire Saint Jean-Paul II in Lodja. He earned a PhD degree in ethics and social theory in 2018 in Berkeley (California, USA). He is a co-author of a book (*Analyse et critique des fondamentaux des pensées économiques et sociales*, 2023) and author of a few articles published in English and French.