

2024 IMPACT REPORT

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LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Friend of Liberty,

As we close the chapter on 2024, I find myself reflecting on the incredible journey we've shared over the past 12 months. This has been a year of breakthroughs for us at the Liberalist Centre—a year defined by meaningful action and impactful partnerships. Together, we've built momentum in the fight for liberty.



This year, we dared to expand our reach and deepen our impact. Our Journalism for Liberty Fellowship continued to empower journalists and media professionals with tools to become pro-freedom advocates. And with support from our partners, we extended the training from Nigeria to Tanzania. Our John Galt School Nigeria graduated a new generation of intellectuals committed to the principles of liberty and the philosophy of Objectivism.

Through these and other initiatives, like our monthly workshops and Twitter Spaces, we've seen firsthand how the ideas we champion individual liberty, free market, and limited government—can influence opinions and inspire actions.



LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR (CONTD)

At the heart of our mission is a belief in the boundless potential of free individuals. When people are free to pursue their dreams, their innovation and creativity fuel progress. But too often, this potential is stifled by oppressive systems and restrictive policies. That's why the Liberalist Centre exists: not to imagine a freer society, but to intentionally inspire it.

As we look toward 2025, our commitment to a society of free and flourishing individuals is stronger than ever. We will expand our programs, establish new partnerships, continue to challenge the barriers that limit individual freedom and ultimately move closer to making our vision a reality. With your support, we are poised to achieve even greater impact.

I want to thank you: our partners, supporters and advocates for believing in our mission. Your support has turned ideas into actions. You are an integral part of this movement, and your contributions make everything we do possible.

Our team at the Liberalist Centre is ready to take the momentum of 2024 and carry it boldly into 2025. We will continue to champion liberty, support human flourishing, and build a society of freer and more prosperous individuals through media, research and advocacy.

With gratitude and hope.

Abdullah Tijani Executive Director



INTRODUCTION

This report reflects on a year defined by growth, impact, and collaboration. It was a monumental year for the Liberalist Centre, as we expanded our initiatives, deepened partnerships, and empowered individuals to champion liberty across Africa. Our efforts have extended into diverse sectors, leaving lasting impressions through programmes, workshops, and advocacy.

This report captures our major achievements, with special attention to the 2024 Journalism for Liberty Fellowship, and highlights from our fellows whose work has shaped public discourse and policy. We take pride in celebrating the journey that has defined 2024 as a year of significant impact in spreading the ideas of liberty in Africa.

OUR ORGANISATION

Liberalist Centre is a Nigerian-based think tank advocating for individual freedom, free markets, and limited government. We envision a society where liberty thrives, fostering human flourishing and economic growth. We cultivate a deeper understanding of pro-freedom values through educational programmes, media advocacy, public engagement, and capacity-building.

VISION

A society of free and flourishing individuals

MISSION

To enhance life quality in Africa by spreading liberty and prosperity through media, research, and advocacy.



OUR PROGRAMMES

1. Journalism for Liberty Fellowship: Equipping journalists with tools to promote free markets and individual liberty.

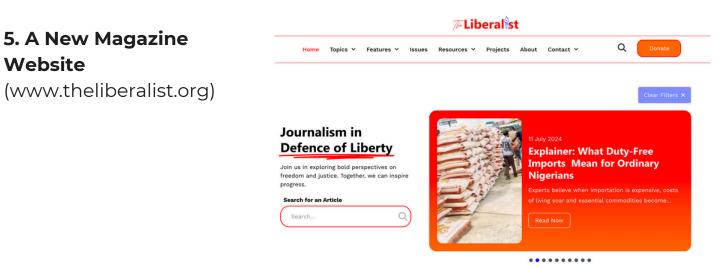


3. Letters of Reasoning Newsletter: Weekly insights into pressing social, economic, and political issues.

4. Capacity-Building
Trainings: Monthly workshops
designed to enhance
leadership and advocacy skills.









PARTNERSHIP

In 2025, we strengthened alliances with the following pro-freedom organisations:

- 1. Atlas Network
- 2. African Students For Liberty
- 3. Ayn Rand Centre, Europe
- 4. Face of Liberty International
- 5. Liberty Sparks, Tanzania
- 6. Media for Literacy Project (LEAP Africa, NYFF)
- 7. Ominira Initiative
- 8. We Are Innovation

These partnerships allowed us to expand our reach, collaborating with other organisations to host the following projects: **Journalism for Liberty Fellowship Training in Abuja and Dar es Salaam, Freedom in Nigeria Conference (FiNCON), Abuja, and the Cheetah Generation Amplifier Project, Abuja.**



JOURNALISM FOR LIBERTY TRAINING TANZANIA

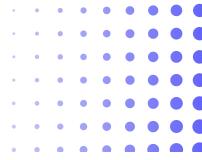
In July, we partnered with Liberty Sparks, a Tanzanian-based advocacy think tank, to extend the Journalism for Liberty Fellowship to East Africa. The training reinforced our mission to promote pro-freedom principles and hosted 20 participants, 8 of whom were inducted as fellows of the 2024 cohort. Thanks to our partners, we hosted two workshops for the Journalism for Liberty Fellowship this year; one in Nigeria and the other in Tanzania.



MEDIA FOR INFORMATION LITERACY IBADAN, OYO STATE

In August, we partnered with the Media for Information Literacy project led by Temilolua Oyeniyi and supported by the Nigerian Youth Futures Fund and LEAP Africa. The project featured a threeday bootcamp where our Programmes Director, Eric Mobu did a presentation on The Role of Media and Journalism in Curbing Misinformation in Nigeria; and an inaugural magazine where our reporter, Favour Adeboye, contributed an article on Information Disorder in Nigeria. The three-day boot camp hosted forty journalists in Ibadan, Oyo State.





JOHN GALT SCHOOL NIGERIA

This year, we proudly graduated 22 students from the John Galt School Nigeria, an institution dedicated to advancing the Objectivist school of thought. The program focuses on teaching the principles of individualism and liberty, with the generous support of the Ayn Rand Center Europe. Through this initiative, we have successfully nurtured and trained the next generation of objective thinkers, equipping them to champion the cause of liberty and free markets in Nigeria.





CHEETAHS GENERATION AMPLIFIER PROJECT

In October, we collaborated with **African Students for Liberty** to host the Cheetahs Generation Amplifier, a Students For Liberty AfCFTA project designed to train youth in advocating for economic freedom. After the colloquium, the 15 trained young Nigerians were required to craft an essay on *Free Trade and AfCFTA: Unlocking*.



FREEDOM IN NIGERIA CONFERENCE (FINCON 2024)

In October, we also teamed with Ominira Initiative to organise the 2024 Freedom in Nigeria Conference, (FINCON), an event aimed at promoting the principles of economic freedom. FINCON's objective aligns with and helps us achieve our mission of promoting free enterprise and addressing the bottlenecks hindering business growth in Nigeria.





JOURNALISM FOR LIBERTY FELLOWSHIP CLASS OF 2024

A core highlight of 2024 was the Journalism for Liberty Fellowship, empowering investigative journalists to advocate for freedom and accountability. This year's cohort produced impactful stories spotlighting pressing socio-economic issues.





Abdullah Tijani is the Executive Director of the Liberalist Centre and the Managing Editor at The Liberalist. He was a Prometheus Fellow at Students For Liberty and an alumnus of African Liberty Writing Fellowship. He's a law graduate from Usmanu Danfodiyo University.

Sanni Johnson is the Chief Operating Officer of the Liberalist Centre and the HRM at The Liberalist. He was a Prometheus Fellow at Students For Liberty and is currently a Senior Coordinator with the organization, where he serves as a mentor to local coordinators in Africa.





Eric Mobu is the Director of Programmes & Development at the Liberalist Centre. He is a fellow of the Freedom Frontiers Program with New Intellectual Network. He was a Regional Coordinator at Students For Liberty, with over five years experience in Innovative leadership and pro-freedom advocacy.



Ruqayyah Ali-Aruwa is the Liberalist Centre's programmes Associate. She graduated from the John Galt School of Objectivism and completed several training courses offered by Atlas Network.





Abdussamad Ishola is a Finance Manager at the Liberalist Centre and a Community Organizer at YIAGA Africa. With over half a decade of experience in innovative leadership and pro-freedom advocacy, he is a Senior Clinician in the Administration of Justice In Nigeria.

Precious Akintulubo is a Communications Associate at the Liberalist Centre. She serves as a Graphics and Video Content Specialist for Pro-Freedom related activities in and outside the organization.







Hammed J. Sulaiman serves as Senior Staff Writer at The Liberalist, and assist the managing editor in his editorial activities. He is a media, law, and policy professional with a strong background in pro-liberty advocacy. He was an editorial assistant at African Liberty.

Favour Adeboye is a Staff Writer at The Liberalist and a programs intern at the Liberalist Centre. She is an alumnus of the Journalism for Liberty Fellowship, African Liberty Writing Fellowship, and the John Galt School. Favour is a graduate of mass communication from Kwara State University.





Usman Yakubu Usman is a passionate Journalist and a Staff Writer with the Liberalist Center. He has a keen interest in social justice, good governance and egalitarian society. His articles focus on economy, education, health and environment. He is among the 2023 fellows with the Liberalist Centre.





Shereefdeen Ahmad is a Staff Writer at The Liberalist. He is an award-winning journalist based in Nigeria with a keen interest in sports, pro-freedom, education, fact-checking and investigations.

Shekinat Kareem is a Staff Writer at the Liberalist. She's a Nigerian-based writer with a keen interest in impactful journalism, crafting stories that amplify voices of untold narratives.





Ibrahim Adeyemi is an editorial consultant at the Liberalist Centre. He works as a Investigations Editor at HumAngle. His works tackle the routine of criminality and injustice and they have also earned him journalism accolades, including the One World Media Award and the Kurt Schork Awards in International Journalism.





ADVISORS

OLUFEMI OGUNJOBI

Olufemi has over eight years of experience in communications, stakeholder strategic relationships, program leadership. and mentorship. He currently leads the Fellowship Prometheus Program, the global leadership initiative flagship of Students For Liberty, which carefully selects top-tier leaders from over 45 countries.

In addition to leading the Fellowship, Olufemi manages stakeholder relationships and external affairs with mentors and institutions across the United States, Canada, the United Kingdom, and Europe. He has successfully established and nurtured partnerships with more than 20 prominent think tanks and institutions worldwide, including the Institute for Justice, the American Institute for Economic Research, the CATO Institute, the Atlas Network, the Leadership Institute, the Institute of Economic Affairs (London), the Vice Chancellor of the University of Buckingham, the Institute for Liberal Studies (Canada), the Canadian Taxpayers Federation, the Macdonald-Laurier Institute, and the Parliament of Canada, among others.

Beyond his global responsibilities, Olufemi has made significant contributions in Africa, where he has trained over 2,000 student leaders in classical liberal ideas and free-market principles across 32 countries in just five years.

Olufemi has completed Executive Programs in Nonprofit Leadership & Think Tank Management at Lagos Business School, Nigeria, and in Communications & Public Policy at King's College, London. He is an alumnus commentator with Young Voices, a Britannia Fellow with Common Sense Society, and a member of the George Ayittey Society.





ADVISORS

ANNA SUBERU

Anna Suberu is the Alumni Engagement Associate at Students for Liberty (SFL). Her professional interests lie at the intersection of freedom, peace, and economic development.

In her role at SFL, Anna dedicates her efforts to building connections and maintaining relationships within SFL's alumni network.

Her work includes communication, event planning, and resource and opportunity development to facilitate connections among alumni and Students for Liberty on freedom-related projects.

Anna is a recipient of the 2020 25 Under 25 iKapture Awards for young African leaders championing change in their communities, in relation to the UN SDGs. She is a 2020 scholarship holder and 2022/2023 Forum Alpbach Network ambassador of the European Forum Alpbach, an interdisciplinary platform for innovative minds from politics, business, civil society, and science.

Additionally, she is a member of the Bosch Alumni Network (iaCBerlin) and the Africa Alpbach Network. Anna was among the top three winners of the Internet4Good Contest in 2020. She is a 2022 On Think Tanks Fellow and a winner of the Atlas Network Academy Leader Lab Strategic Plan Competition in 2023 and the Atlas Network Fundraising 360 training Elevator Pitch Competition in 2024.





ADVISORS

KEMI BUSARI

Kemi Busari is a Nigerian investigative journalist with years of experience covering issues of information disorder, social justice, politics, public procurement, and human rights abuses, among others, in Africa. Currently, as the editor of DUBAWA, he leads a team of fact-checkers and researchers working to combat the menace of information disorder in the West Africa sub-region.

In the past, he has served as a consultant Course Director for the United Nations African Institute for Development and Planning (IDEP). At different times in his career, Kemi has worked as an editorial consultant on different projects in Africa, including the Ford Foundation-sponsored West Africa Climate Change Fellowship, the ICFJ's Health Innovation Reporting Project, The Witness' Video for Justice Project, and the Institute for War and Peace Crisis Reporting Project, among others.

Kemi's exceptional contributions to journalism have garnered global recognition, earning him prestigious accolades such as the Free Press Unlimited's Han Verploeg Award, the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) Kavli Science Journalism Award, the International Centre for Journalists' Michael Elliot Award for Africa Storytelling, The international Fact-Checking Network's Most Impactful Fact-check Award, the Africa Check Award, and the Wole Soyinka Award for Investigative Reporting.

Kemi holds a Bachelor's degree in Political Science from Obafemi Awolowo University and a Master's degree in Communication Studies from Vrije Universiteit Brussels. Through his "journalism for impact" mantra, Kemi continues to strive for a better Africa through his editorial efforts and inspire journalists across the continent and beyond.







1. Manasseh Mbachi

Manasseh Mbachii is a fact-checker, data and accountability journalist, and investigative reporter. He has worked with Ripples Nigeria and Premium Times.

<u>Article:</u> "Paying for Nothing: Benue Traders Decry Tax Exploitation" Read here: <u>Ripples Nigeria</u>



2. Usman Yakubu Usman

Usman Aliyu is an investigative reporter and has worked with various media outlets including Solutions Journalism Africa Initiative, and World Forestry Congress.

Article:

"Greedy Merchants Hoard Grains for Sky-High Prices" Read here: <u>Foundation for Investigative Journalism</u>



3. Isiaq Ibrahim

Isiaq Ibrahim is a passionate writer and journalists interested human rights and humanitarian issues.

<u>Article:</u>

CBN's PoS Withdrawal Limits Could Be a Nightmare for Rural Businesses. Read here: <u>The Liberalist</u>



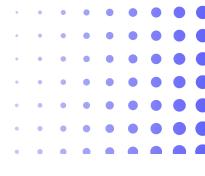
4. Fawaz Adebisi

Fawaz Adebisi is an all-round investigative reporter with a liking for environmental journalism.

<u>Article:</u>

"Hijacked Funds Leave Rural Areas Without Basic Amenities" Read here: <u>Platform Times</u>







5. Joshua Fagbemi:

Fagbemi Joshua Olusegun is a freelance journalist and researcher who has worked with Campus journalism organizations and the mainstream media.

<u>Article:</u>

How insufficient teachers and learning materials worsen education access in Kwara communities," Read here: <u>Polity Reporters</u>



6. Oluwabukola Kuteyi -

Oluwabukolq Kuteyi s a reporter with Harbinger media. She has worked with several media outlets including Dubawa and ICIR.

<u>Article:</u>

The Promise of Ghana's Visa-Free Policy Read here: <u>The Liberalist</u>



7. Esther Kalu –

Esther Kalu is a freelance reporter covering metro, lifestyle, art and culture. She has worked with media outlets like Premium Times, Guild Press Limited, and Naija News.

<u>Article:</u>

"Online Loan Sharks Driving Nigerians into Debt Despair" Read here: <u>The Nation</u>



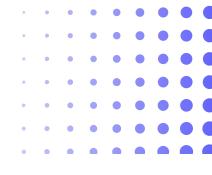
8. Emmanuel Agbo –

Emmanuel Agbo is a Judiciary, Ruman Rights, and Antcorruption Investigative Reporter with Premium Times, NG.

<u>Article:</u>

"Business Owners Struggle with CAC's Burdensome Registration Process" *Read here: <u>The Whistler</u>*







9. Toheeb Babalola

Toheeb Babalola is a reporter and fact checker. He has published on several media outlets including PremiumTimes, Solutions Journalism Network, and The Continent.

Article:

Five Years On, Nigeria's Disability Law Remains Ineffective Read here: <u>The Liberalist</u>



10. Oyelakin Gbenga

Gbenga Oyelakin is a freelance media journalist who has worked at different radio stations, including Orisun 89.5 FM. He is a fulbright alumnus, a cultural exchange ambassador and remote mentor at Teach for Nigeria.

<u>Article:</u>

How Work-Integrated Training Could Rescue Nigeria's Graduates From Unemployment Read here: The Liberalist



11. Bello Oluwaferanmi

Bello Oluwaferanmi is a media personality with related skills ranging from podcast

<u>Article:</u>

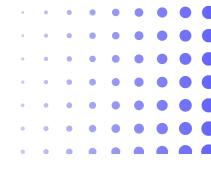
Nigeria's Age-Pegging Policy on Education Could Be Harmful Than We Think Read here: The Liberalist

12. Olalekan Mandela

Olalekan Mandela is a dynamic media personality (Broadcast and Journalism) with a fearless passion for Storytelling, Public Speaking, Podcast and Content Creation

<u>Article:</u> Why Africa Needs Its Own Digital Space Read here: <u>The Liberalist</u>







13. Erick Liyumba

Erick Liyumba is a Tanzanian essayist and Freelance write keen on Lifestyle, Culture, Youth, Children and Social-Climate issues. He is also a Human Resources Specialist with enough experience in Labour Laws and Industrial Relations.

Article:

The Teen Trafficking Business Booming in Dar es Salaam Read here: <u>The Liberalist</u>



IMPACT AND REACH

We had a massive engagement, virtually and physically, this year since our relaunch in August. Through our programs, we were able to garner traffic's with our:

- Online Engagement: 10,000+ across social media (Facebook, LinkedIn, X-space, Instagram and YouTube)
- Website Traffic: 5,000+ unique visitors.
- Offline Events: 100+ attendees at physical events.
- Total Events/Training: 18+ hosted, including workshops, roundtables, and retreats.

AWARD AND RECOGNITION

- Oluwaferanmi Bello's investigative piece influenced national education policy, overturning restrictive age policies for tertiary admissions. *Read here* <u>The Liberalist</u>
- Shereefdeen Ahmad received two prestigious Alfred Opubor Next-Gen Awards for investigative reports on healthcare and environmental issues. *Read here <u>The Liberalist</u>*

RELAUNCH AND EXPANSION

- Weekly Letters of Reasoning Newsletter reaching over 5000+ readers
- Eight (8) Monthly X Space Discussions reaching about 300+ discussants
- Six (6) Capacity-Building Training Series reaching over 350+ Participants
- Re-branding organisational <u>Website</u> and our magazine <u>Website</u>



ACKNOWLEDGMENT

We extend our deepest gratitude to our partners, donors, and dedicated staff who made 2024 remarkable. Your contributions continue to shape the future of liberty in Africa.

CONTACT US

Website: <u>liberalistcentre.org</u> Email us at <u>reach@liberalistcentre.org</u>

For social media, check us at <u>Instagram</u> | <u>Twitter</u> | <u>Facebook</u> | <u>Linkedin</u>

Here's to a freer, more prosperous 2025!



THANK YOU

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