



AFROFEMINIST CALL FOR ARTICLES · APPEL AFROFÉMINISTE À
CONTRIBUTIONS
RFLD AFRICA REGIONAL OFFICE · BUREAU RÉGIONAL AFRIQUE · ACCRA,
GHANA

Contributors Guidelines / Guide pour les contributeuses et contributeurs

Afrofeminist Civil Society and Human Rights Implementation in Africa

Société civile afroféministe et mise en œuvre des droits humains en Afrique

Submission deadline: 25 June 2026 — Selected articles announced 25 July 2026

**Each selected submission receives a 500 USD honorarium · Chaque contribution
sélectionnée reçoit 500 USD**

1. Editorial Purpose / Finalité éditoriale

Through this afrofeminist Call for Articles, RFLD engages a wider community of feminist activists, academics, practitioners, journalists, and policy actors working across Africa. The thematic issue will be circulated to RFLD's 670 member organisations, to AU mechanisms with which RFLD engages, to RFLD's institutional partners, and to the broader African civil society network. Contributions are expected to combine analytical rigour with accessibility, and to centre the perspectives of women, girls, gender-diverse persons, and marginalised groups in line with RFLD's afrofeminist editorial line.

2. Honorarium / Rétribution

Each selected submission receives a flat honorarium of **500 USD**, paid upon publication. RFLD covers any bank-transfer fees and uses the channel most convenient for the contributor (bank transfer, mobile money, or international payment platform).

*Chaque contribution sélectionnée reçoit une rétribution forfaitaire de **500 USD**, versée à la publication. RFLD prend en charge les frais de transfert.*

This honorarium reflects RFLD's editorial commitment to compensating intellectual and organising labour, especially that produced by African feminists who are too often expected to write, speak and travel without financial recognition.

3. Calendar / Calendrier



Submission deadline / Date limite de soumission : 25 June 2026 · 25 juin 2026.

Announcement of selected articles / Annonce des contributions retenues : 25 July 2026 · 25 juillet 2026.

Authors will receive an acknowledgement of receipt within five working days of submission. Selected authors will be contacted on 25 July 2026 to enter the copy-editing phase, with publication scheduled in the weeks following the announcement.

4. Article Length and Format / Longueur et format

Articles must be a maximum of 2,000 words. Word count includes the body text but excludes the title, author bio, references, abstracts and image captions. Articles are accepted in English, French and Portuguese. Bilingual or trilingual abstracts (including one African-language abstract) are particularly welcome.

Required elements / Éléments requis :

- Title — clear, specific, and accessible to a non-specialist reader;
- Author bio (50–80 words) — affiliation, country of work, contact email, and a sentence on your afrofeminist lineage if you wish;
- Abstract (100–150 words) — summarising the article’s argument and main conclusions;
- Optional second abstract in an African language of your choice (100–150 words);
- Body of the article (up to 2,000 words);
- References list (APA, Chicago Author-Date, or footnote style);
- One full-width cover image with attribution and licensing, plus optional inline images.

5. Types of Contribution / Types de contribution

Contributions may take any of the following forms, provided the overall length stays within the 2,000-word ceiling:

Analyses (Afrofeminist analyses)

Focused thematic pieces examining a human rights question from an afrofeminist analytical standpoint — theoretical, comparative, or country-specific. Recommended length: 800–1,500 words.

Essays (Afrofeminist essays)

Longer reflective or argumentative pieces of up to 2,000 words, with a clear abstract. Essays must contain proper academic referencing and draw on African feminist scholarship, including francophone and lusophone afrofeminist theory.



Stories and Testimonies / Récits et témoignages

Personal narratives related to feminist organising, human rights defence, survival, or movement-building in Africa. You may focus on your own experience, or collect and narrate another person's story with their explicit consent. Recommended length: 600–1,200 words.

Interviews / Entretiens

Conversations with feminist organisers, WHRDs, queer and trans African leaders, traditional and religious authorities engaged in feminist work, elected officials, advocates, NGO leaders, journalists, artists and youth organisers. Include a brief introduction, at least five substantive questions, and verbatim answers.

News and Field Notes / Actualités et notes de terrain

Reports of events, decisions, ACHPR sessions, court rulings, community-led initiatives, or developments affecting feminist civil society in Africa. Recommended length: 300–500 words.

Visual Essays / Essais visuels

Photo essays or illustrated reflections accompanied by 600–1,000 words of caption text. Photographs must be original or properly licensed and must foreground the dignity and agency of subjects, never their suffering as spectacle.

6. Audience and Writing Style / Lectorat et style

RFLD's audience includes feminist activists, legal experts, advocates, journalists, students, researchers, teachers, university professors, policy makers, AU institutions, sub-regional bodies, national human rights institutions, faith-based feminist actors, and the general public. When writing your contribution, hold a specific reader segment in mind — a young queer organiser in Lagos, a sahelian WHRD, a francophone academic preparing a CEDAW shadow report, a marketplace organiser in Cotonou — and structure your article accordingly.

Articles should be highly shareable on social networks and quotable by media outlets, organisations and policy actors. Prefer short paragraphs, clear topic sentences, and concrete examples drawn from African contexts.

7. Afrofeminist Citation Policy / Politique de citation afroféministe

RFLD applies an afrofeminist citation policy. Contributors are strongly encouraged to:

- Centre African feminist scholarship — Awa Thiam, Oyèwùmí, Sylvia Tamale, Patricia McFadden, Amina Mama, Rama Salla Dieng, Hawa Ba, Marie-Angélique Savané, Léonora Miano, Pumla Dineo Gqola, Charmaine Pereira, and emerging African feminist scholars and activists;



- Cite francophone, lusophone and arabophone African scholarship — not only anglophone or Northern sources;
- Acknowledge community-based knowledge holders — traditional birth attendants, market women, religious women’s leaders, healers, and elders — alongside formal academic sources;
- Avoid citation patterns that systematically erase African feminist voices in favour of Western theory alone;
- Attribute oral histories, interviews and ethnographic material with the explicit consent of the source.

8. Languages and Linguistic Justice / Langues et justice linguistique

Articles are accepted in English, French and Portuguese. RFLD’s editorial line foregrounds linguistic justice. Authors are invited to include a short abstract in at least one African language of their choice — Wolof, Fula, Bambara, Mandinka, Hausa, Joola, Ewe, Kabyè, Twi, Lingala, Swahili, Yoruba, Igbo, Kinyarwanda, Kirundi, Amharic, Tigrinya, Somali, isiZulu, isiXhosa, Shona, Chichewa, Setswana, Arabic, Portuguese-based creoles, and others. For accepted articles, RFLD can support translation costs where the author wishes to publish a bilingual or trilingual version.

9. Multimedia / Multimédia

Images

Every article should include at least one relevant full-width cover image, ideally over 1,200 pixels wide. Authors must hold the necessary permissions for every image submitted and properly attribute the licensor.

Useful sources include:

- <https://www.flickr.com/search/advanced/> (tick the Creative Commons box at the bottom of the page);
- <https://commons.wikimedia.org/>;
- Free stock-image sites that include African photography (Unsplash, Pexels, Pixabay, Nappy.co, Iwaria, AfriPics);
- Photographs commissioned from African photographers (preferred) — with payment, signed consent, and clear licensing.

Photographs that visually centre African women, gender-diverse persons, defenders, organisers and institutions are strongly preferred. Photographs that frame African people as objects of suffering, voyeurism or pity will be returned for replacement.



Other Media / Autres médias

Where relevant, additional media content may be embedded: YouTube videos, public posts from X or Bluesky, TEDx talks, public maps, infographics, podcast episodes from the RFLD Podcasts series, or interactive data visualisations from RFLD's open-data platforms.

10. Safeguarding and Editorial Ethics / Sauvegarde et éthique éditoriale

RFLD applies a strict afrofeminist editorial ethics framework grounded in Do-No-Harm and care principles. When writing about survivors of violence, displacement, or harm, authors must respect informed consent, anonymise identifying details where appropriate, and avoid re-traumatising narratives. When writing about identifiable individuals — especially WHRDs, queer and trans African organisers, sex workers, and persons in fragile legal situations — contributors must assess the security implications of publication and consult the RFLD Editorial team in case of doubt.

RFLD reserves the right to redact passages that could place individuals at risk, and to request additional consent documentation before publication. Concerns about safeguarding may be raised confidentially via integrity@rflgd.org.

11. Review and Publication Process / Processus de relecture et de publication

- Submissions are acknowledged within five working days of receipt.
- Initial editorial screening assesses relevance, originality and adherence to these afrofeminist guidelines.
- Articles that pass the initial screening enter feminist peer review with at least one internal RFLD reviewer and, where relevant, one external African feminist reviewer.
- Selected articles are announced on 25 July 2026.
- Accepted articles are copy-edited; authors review the edited version before publication.
- Final articles are published on RFLD's editorial platforms. Authors are credited prominently, retain authorship rights, and receive the 500 USD honorarium upon publication.

12. Submission Checklist / Liste de vérification

Before submitting, please ensure that you include:

- The article body (maximum 2,000 words), written following these afrofeminist guidelines;



- Title, author bio (50–80 words), abstract (100–150 words), and optional African-language abstract;
- A complete references list, foregrounding African feminist scholarship;
- At least one relevant cover image ($\geq 1,200$ px wide) with licensing and attribution information;
- A list of three to five suggested categories or tags;
- Any necessary safeguarding notes for the editorial team;
- Your preferred honorarium payment channel (bank transfer, mobile money or international platform).

13. Deadline and Submission Address / Date limite et adresses de soumission

Submission deadline / Date limite : 25 June 2026 · 25 juin 2026.

Selected articles announced / Annonce des contributions retenues : 25 July 2026 · 25 juillet 2026.

Submissions must be sent to / Les contributions doivent être adressées à :

- Mr Justice Yao Alor — justice.yaoalor@rflgd.org
- With copy to Mrs. Abigail Olaleye, Communications Officer, RFLD Africa Regional Office (Ghana) — oluwatoyin.olaleye@rflgd.org

Welcome to the RFLD afrofeminist editorial community.

Bienvenue dans la communauté éditoriale afroféministe du RFLD.

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