

# Q2 2022

April to June 2022

Complete quarter. Generated 16 Sept 2026.

| PUBLISHED RECORDS | CHANGE ON Q1 2022 | STATES NAMED | REPORTING ORGANISATIONS |
|-------------------|-------------------|--------------|-------------------------|
| 3                 | +3                | 2            | 3                       |

3 civic space records were published for April to June 2022. Citizen Engagement and Policy Influence was the most frequently recorded category.

## Records by category

|                      |   |
|----------------------|---|
| Citizen Engagement   | 1 |
| Arrests & Detention  | 1 |
| Harassment           | 1 |
| Government Discourse | 0 |
| Resource Access      | 0 |
| Legal & Regulatory   | 0 |

## Where records were located

|        |   |
|--------|---|
| Sokoto | 2 |
| Kano   | 1 |

## Who reported these incidents

|                            |   |                    |   |                  |   |
|----------------------------|---|--------------------|---|------------------|---|
| Rights monitors            | 1 | Al Jazeera         | 1 | Sahara Reporters | 1 |
| News outlets               | 2 | Human Rights Watch | 1 |                  |   |
| Official and court records | 0 |                    |   |                  |   |

## The records

16 MAY 2022 · SOKOTO · CPN-0088

### Student in Nigeria murdered over blasphemy allegation

On 12 May 2022 students at Shehu Shagari College of Education, Sokoto killed fellow student Deborah Samuel, also known as Deborah Yakubu, over a WhatsApp message they considered blasphemous. They took her from a campus security post, beat her and set her body on fire. Police reported arresting two suspects.

Human Rights Watch: <https://www.hrw.org/news/2022/05/16/student-nigeria-murdered-over-blasphemy-allegation>

Scholars at Risk: <https://www.scholarsatrisk.org/report/2022-05-12-shehu-shagari-college-of-education-sokoto/>

14 MAY 2022 · SOKOTO · CPN-0089

### Nigeria: curfew declared in Sokoto after student killing protests

Authorities declared a curfew in Sokoto after protests that followed the killing of student Deborah Samuel.

Al Jazeera: <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2022/5/14/nigeria-curfew-declared-in-sokoto-after-student-killing-protests>

5 APR 2022 · KANO · CPN-0090

### Court sentences Kano atheist Mubarak Bala to 24 years in jail over blasphemy

The Kano State High Court sentenced Mubarak Bala, president of the Nigerian Humanist Association, to 24 years in prison on 18 counts under the Kano State Penal Code over Facebook posts deemed blasphemous. He had been arrested at his home in Kaduna State on 28 April 2020 and was held for 462 days before being charged. In May 2024 the Court of Appeal reduced the sentence to five years.

Sahara Reporters: <https://saharareporters.com/2022/04/05/court-sentences-kano-atheist-mubarak-bala-24-years-jail-over-blasphemy>

Humanists UK: <https://humanists.uk/2022/04/05/nigerian-humanist-association-president-mubarak-bala-sentenced-to-24-years-in-prison-for-blasphemy/>

Humanists International: <https://humanists.international/2024/05/nigeria-court-of-appeal-reduces-sentence-of-mubarak-bala/>

## How this report was compiled

Every record in this report is compiled by hand from reports published by named rights monitors, news outlets and official bodies, and links to the source it draws on. Each record is dated to the incident where its source gives that date, and otherwise to the date the source was published. The figures show what has been recorded, not the full extent of what has happened: incidents that were never reported do not appear, and a state with few records is not necessarily a state where little took place.