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Media and Human Rights in Lusophonic Africa. A General Overview

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Abstract: my presentation aims to give a general overview to the issue of media coverage on Human rights in Lusophonic Africa, as an outcome of a research in this field that a team of Lusophonic investigators is carrying out, thanks to the financing of Codesria. As a scientific coordinator of this project, I will seek to illustrate the goals, the methodology and the first outcomes of our investigation, that will end in 2012. This research deals only with the press, trying to analyze if and how this kind of journalists are able to fulfil with their task of informing correctly their readers about a very important question, that is Human Rights. In order to delimitate the concept of "Human Rights" and our field of research too, we decided to tackle this complex concept in the sense of the violations of Human Rights perpetrated by formal institution against lay people and the lack of respect of the Privacy Right from the side of the press. So, I will be able to resume, from a general point of view, the first scientific outcomes of this research in a comparative perspective, considering that it is the first research of this kind carried out for the context of Lusophonic Africa. My colleagues will elucidate the specific situation for each of the countries we have studied.

* If possible, my (our) communication will be made in Portuguese language, since we are dealing with issues intrinsic to Lusophonic Africa.