

Q1 2026

January to March 2026

Complete quarter. Generated 16 Sept 2026.

PUBLISHED RECORDS	CHANGE ON Q4 2025	STATES NAMED	REPORTING ORGANISATIONS
4	-1	3	2

4 civic space records were published for January to March 2026, against 5 in October to December 2025. Arrests and Detention was the most frequently recorded category. 1 of these came from reports written at national level that name no state.

Records by category

Arrests & Detention	2
Citizen Engagement	1
Government Discourse	1
Resource Access	0
Legal & Regulatory	0
Harassment	0

Where records were located

Anambra	1
Federal Capital Territory	1
Niger	1
Plus 1 national-level record naming no state.	

Who reported these incidents

Rights monitors	1	AllAfrica	3	Human Rights Watch	1
News outlets	3				
Official and court records	0				

The records

17 FEB 2026 · NIGER · CPN-0029

Nigeria: police detain journalist over story about Niger governor aide

Ahmed Isah Sakpe of Prestige FM was detained by police over alleged cyberbullying and defamation concerning an aide to the Niger State government.

AllAfrica: <https://allafrica.com/stories/202602170509.html>

5 FEB 2026 · FEDERAL CAPITAL TERRITORY · CPN-0030

Nigeria: court rejects Sowore documents in cyberstalking trial, warns against live streaming hearing

The court rejected documents tendered by Omoyele Sowore in the cyberstalking trial and warned against live streaming the hearing. Sowore pleaded not guilty on 2 December 2025 to charges under the Cybercrimes (Amendment) Act 2024 over posts made on 25 August 2025.

AllAfrica: <https://allafrica.com/stories/202602050089.html>

16 JAN 2026 · ANAMBRA · CPN-0031

Nigeria: police caution Awka residents against street protests

The Anambra State Police Command cautioned residents of Awka against organising or joining street protests, advising individuals and groups to desist from marches within the state capital on public-order grounds.

AllAfrica: <https://allafrica.com/stories/202601160501.html>

1 JAN 2026 · NATIONAL · CPN-0032

World Report 2026: Nigeria

HRW's annual country chapter covering civic freedoms, treatment of journalists and civil society, and the legal environment for expression and assembly in Nigeria.

Human Rights Watch: <https://www.hrw.org/world-report/2026/country-chapters/nigeria>

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.