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On **June 4, 2021**, Nigerians woke up to the reality that Twitter had been banned owing to the deletion of **President Muhammadu Buhari's tweet of June 2, 2021**, in which he evoked memories of the civil war and vowed to punish people in the southeastern region after attacks on public infrastructure.

This action violates the freedom of speech of Nigerians. However, some civil society organisations (CSOs) and active citizens have refused to remain silent. They have led lawsuits against the federal government and telecommunication companies to challenge the #TwitterBan in Nigerian and ECOWAS courts.

1	SERAP and 176 concerned Nigerians	VS	Federal Republic of Nigeria	ECW/CCJ/APP/23/21	ECOWAS Community Court of Justice Abuja	June 8, 2021
PRAYER				JUDGEMENT		
	A declaration that the suspension of Twitter or any other social media application without an order from a competent court is unlawful.			June 22, 2021 The Court restrained the government of President Muhammadu Buhari and its agents from unlawfully imposing sanctions or doing anything whatsoever to harass, intimidate, arrest or prosecute Twitter and/or any other social media service provider(s), media houses, radio and television broadcast stations, the Plaintiffs and other Nigerians who are Twitter users, pending the hearing and determination of this suit which was fixed for July 6, 2021 . July 6, 2021 The court agreed to consolidate all four suits – ECW/CCJ/APP/29/21,ECW/CCJ/APP/23/21, ECW/CCJ/APP/24/21 and ECW/CCJ/APP/26/21 related to the issue. This will afford the court the opportunity to give one judgment in the matters that were similar in nature and character. Media Rights Agenda (MRA) did not oppose, and the two other parties were absent. Sitting adjourned to July 9, 2021. July 9, 2021 The ECOWAS adjourned to September 29, 2021 , for a hearing to enable all parties to organise themselves for trial. September 29, 2021 The case is fixed for judgement on January 20, 2022 .		
	A declaration that the act of the Defendant in mandating its agent to commence and continue to regulate social media amounts to restriction and censorship.					
	A declaration that the directive ‘advising’ broadcast stations to deactivate their Twitter accounts and discontinue its use is a breach of the citizens’ right to freedom of expression, and access to information.					
	A declaration that the threat on Nigerians and other people who use Twitter and/or other social microblogging applications in Nigeria with criminal prosecution violates the principle that there is no punishment without law, and the right to fair hearing, and is therefore, null and void.					
	An order setting aside the suspension, ban, sanction or other punishments whatsoever imposed on Twitter, Nigerians, media houses, and broadcast stations.					
	An order directing the Defendant and its agents to immediately revoke, withdraw and/or rescind their suspension or ban of Twitter and/or any other social media service provider(s) in Nigeria.					
	An order of perpetual injunction restraining the Defendant and its agents from unlawfully imposing sanctions and other punishment on Twitter users.					
2	One Love Foundation	VS	Federal Republic of Nigeria	ECW/CCJ/APP/24/21	ECOWAS Community Court of Justice Abuja	June 8, 2021
PRAYER				JUDGEMENT		
	A request for the immediate unbanning of Twitter That the ECOWAS court grant the sum of 100million dollars being all damages and inconvenience suffered by the organisation’s members and Nigerians in general, as a result of the ban.			July 6, 2021 The court consolidated this case with 3 other similar suits (SERAP). Sitting adjourned to July 9, 2021 . July 9, 2021 The ECOWAS adjourned to September 29, 2021 , for a hearing to enable all parties to organise themselves for trial. September 29, 2021 The case is fixed for judgement on January 20, 2022 .		
3	SERAP	VS	National Broadcasting Commission [NBC], Director-General, NBC & Minister of Information	FHC/ABJ/CS/496/2021	Federal High Court Abuja	June 18, 2021
PRAYER				JUDGEMENT		
	An order of perpetual injunction restraining the government of President Buhari, the NBC, Mr Lai Mohammed and any other persons from censoring, regulating, licensing and controlling the social media operations and contents by broadcast stations, and activities of social media service providers in Nigeria.			No date has been fixed for the hearing of the suit.		
	Also an order setting aside the directive by NBC and Mr Lai Mohammed asking broadcast stations to stop using Twitter, as it is unconstitutional and unlawful.					
4	PIN	VS	AGF, NBC, FGN	FHC/ABJ/CS/493/2021	Federal High Court Abuja	June 18, 2021
PRAYER				JUDGEMENT		
	A declaration that the Twitter ban is a violation of freedom of expression. An order that the ban be lifted. An injunction from arresting, prosecuting or taking any action on those using Twitter.			October 25, 2021 is the hearing date for the suit.		
5	NGOs – MRA, PIN, PTCIJ, IPC, TICD & journalists – David Hundeyin, Samuel Ogundipe, Blessing Oladunjoye, and Nwamkari Apollo.	VS	Federal Republic of Nigeria	ECW/CCJ/APP/29/21	ECOWAS Community Court of Justice Abuja	June 21, 2021
PRAYER				JUDGEMENT		
	The court to declare the indefinite suspension of Twitter in Nigeria a violation of their human rights under international law.			July 6, 2021 The court consolidated this case with 3 other similar suits (SERAP). Sitting was adjourned to July 9, 2021 . July 9, 2021 The ECOWAS adjourned to September 29, 2021 , for a hearing to enable all parties to organise themselves for trial. September 29, 2021 The case is fixed for judgement on January 20, 2022 .		
	The court to order the government to immediately rescind the suspension order and compensate them for the violation of their rights.					
6	Malcolm Omirhobo	VS	Federal Republic of Nigeria	ECW/CCJ/APP/26/21	ECOWAS Community Court of Justice, Abuja	June 22, 2021
PRAYER				JUDGEMENT		
	A declaration that the act of the defendant, through its agent, the Attorney of the Federation of Nigeria, Abubakar Malami (SAN), in ordering the arrest and prosecution of Nigerians using Virtual Private Network (VPN) to access their Twitter account, violates section 36(8) of the defendant’s Constitution; Article 11 (2) of ICCPR and similar provisions of other international laws, which the defendant is a signatory.			July 6, 2021 The court consolidated this case with 3 other similar suits (SERAP). Sitting adjourned to July 9, 2021. July 9, 2021 The ECOWAS adjourned to September 29, 2021, for a hearing to enable all parties to organise themselves for trial. September 29, 2021 The case is fixed for judgement on January 20, 2022 .		
	A declaration that the applicant has the right to use VPN to access his Twitter account and cannot be arrested or criminally prosecuted by the defendant, its agents, servants or privies.					
	An order voiding the directive to arrest and prosecute Nigerians who use VPN to access their Twitter account.					
	An order of the court, directing the defendant to pay the applicant damages in the sum of N500 million on the footing of exemplary and aggravated damages for unlawful violation of the applicant’s rights.					
	That the court direct the defendant to pay him the cost of filing the action in the sum of N10, 000,000.					
7	MRA	VS	NBC	FHC/ABJ/CS/716/2021	Federal High Court Abuja	July 19, 2021
PRAYER				JUDGEMENT		
	A declaration that NBC’s move to regulate and license social media platforms constitutes a violation of its right to freedom of expression.			No date has been fixed for the hearing of the suit.		
8	EiE, PIN & MRA	VS	MTN, Airtel, Globacom & 9Mobile	FHC/L/CS/954/2021	Federal High Court Abuja	August 3, 2021
PRAYER				JUDGEMENT		
	A declaration that the respondents blockage of Twitter access was unlawful, unconstitutional and against the rights to freedom of expression and an injunction restraining all respondents from blocking or interfering with Twitter and any other social media platform.			No date has been fixed for the hearing of the suit.		