

## Abstract

This research, entitled “Popular Uprisings Leading to Change in Government: A Comparative Analysis of the African Union’s Response Post-Arab Spring,” explores the positioning of the AU since 2011 to unconstitutional changes in government (UCG) in the context of popular uprisings in Africa. The study links up to the literature on norm diffusion and presents a comparative analysis of seven case studies. One of the main findings is that the AU has only partly internalized norms on UCG as it is occasionally ambivalent in its response to UCG caused by popular uprisings. The study provides a comprehensive and detailed discussion of the normative groundings of UCG while on the empirical side it covers all significant case studies.