



## GHANA CENTER FOR DEMOCRATIC DEVELOPMENT

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# PRESS RELEASE

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### International Human Rights Day, 2022

Today, Saturday December 10, 2022 marks International Human Rights Day and the day is being commemorated under the broad theme: "Dignity, Freedom, and Justice for All". The Ghana Center for Democratic Development (CDD-Ghana) on this occasion, would like to celebrate and congratulate all human rights advocates and all those who have contributed to ensuring that the dignity and freedom of all persons, particularly vulnerable and marginalized groups are upheld.

This year's theme provides a unique opportunity for the leadership of Ghana, both the Executive, Legislature, and all key state institutions to reflect on conventions and practices, be it cultural, religious, and traditional that provide the impetus for the total disregard for the dignity and respect for the freedom and fundamental human rights of citizens are eschewed.

Further, the theme has come at a time when total disrespect to the dignity of a section of members of society has increased exponentially as policies and programs that will demonstrate respect for their human dignity and freedom have either been ignored or poorly implemented. Persons with Disabilities (PWDs) continue to suffer disrespect to their human dignity in accessing public infrastructure and other essential public services including information despite the passage of Act 715 close to two decades ago.

CDD-Ghana bemoans the growing neglect of state responsibilities and duties towards the protection of human rights of its citizens particularly vulnerable and the marginalized in our society after several years of adopting and ratifying so many human rights conventions and treaties

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including its own Constitution that mandates the state to respect and protect the fundamental human rights and dignity of all persons. The Center would like to call on government and other stakeholders to take the necessary measures to ensure that the rights of the vulnerable are respected by proactively ensuring full implementation and compliance to all the laws such as the Constitution, the Disability Act and the Mental Health Act among others.

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