



## Desmond Onyemechi Okocha

PhD

PROFESSOR OF JOURNALISM & EMERGING MEDIA

Bingham University, Nigeria — Scholar-Practitioner of the Third Wave

### CURRICULUM VITAE

Full Professor of Journalism & Emerging Media | Bingham University, Nasarawa State, Nigeria | [binghamuni.edu.ng](http://binghamuni.edu.ng)

## Profile

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Desmond Onyemechi Okocha, PhD, is a Full Professor of Journalism and Emerging Media and pioneer Dean of the Faculty of Communication and Media Studies at Bingham University, Nigeria. A social scientist specialising in digital media, development communication, and journalism, his research agenda spans automated/robot journalism, disinformation, digital authoritarianism, and Africa's technological sovereignty. He combines a 15+ year academic career with hands-on strategic communication practice at the highest levels of state government, and is internationally engaged through the Swiss-based International Panel on the Information Environment (IPIE) and the International Communication Association. He describes himself as a “Scholar-Practitioner of the Third Wave.”

## Education

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**PhD, Journalism and Mass Communication** — *Nims University, Rajasthan, India*

**MA, Journalism and Mass Communication** — *Sikkim Manipal University, India*

**BA, Management** — *United Kingdom*

**Diploma, Media Studies** — *Ireland*

In addition, he holds over 150 professional certifications across media, communication, and digital-space subject areas.

## Academic Appointments

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**Full Professor of Journalism and Emerging Media** — *Bingham University, Nigeria* (effective Oct 2025)

*Promotion approved by the Governing Council at its 72nd regular meeting, 12 March 2026.*

**Dean, Faculty of Communication and Media Studies** — *Bingham University, Nigeria* (2022 – present)

*Pioneer Dean of the Faculty.*

**Associate Professor, Department of Mass Communication** — *Bingham University, Nigeria* (Oct 2022 – Oct 2025)

**Senior Lecturer, Department of Mass Communication** — *Bingham University, Nigeria* (Aug 2019 – Oct 2022)

**Senior Lecturer, Mass Communication** — *Stratford College of Management, Serekunda, The Gambia* (Jan 2008 – Dec 2015)

**Research Fellow** — *University of Religions and Denominations, Qom, Iran* (current)

## Public Service & Advisory Roles

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**Special Adviser on Digital Media and Strategic Communication** — *Office of the Governor, Abia State, Nigeria* (2020 – 2023)

**Pioneer National Knowledge Management & Communication Coordinator** — *IFAD-funded Livelihood Improvement Family Enterprises Project, Niger Delta*

Consultant on World Bank, Global Fund for Women, and Open Society Initiative for West Africa (OSIWA)-funded projects.

## Leadership & Professional Memberships

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**Chair** — *International Communication Association (ICA), Nigeria Chapter* (Mar 2026 – present)

*Elected at the chapter's maiden national conference, Abuja; previously served as Vice-Chair. One-year renewable term.*

**Pioneer Chair** — *United Nations Association of Nigeria (UNAN), Abuja Branch*

## Research Interests

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- Automated / robot journalism and algorithmic accountability
- Disinformation, fake news, and media literacy
- Digital authoritarianism, internet censorship, and press freedom
- Artificial intelligence and Africa's digital/technological sovereignty
- Development and rural communication
- Indigenous and cultural communication systems in Africa
- Public relations, corporate and crisis communication
- Political communication and digital activism

## Selected Keynote & Invited Addresses

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- Keynote Speaker, UNESCO Media and Information Literacy Week, United Nations House, Abuja (2023)
- Keynote Speaker, Federal Ministry of Health National Health Promotion Conference
- Speaker, American Society of Safety Professionals PDC/EXPO (2024)
- Speaker, UNESCO International Day to End Impunity for Crimes Against Journalists (2023)

## Research Metrics

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As of August 2026: 173 publications and 338 citations listed on ResearchGate (135,000+ reads); Google Scholar citation counts vary across cached profile mirrors (reported between 171 and 423) — recommend confirming the live figure via his Google Scholar profile before publishing, as these numbers update continuously.

## Publications — Journal Articles (Selected)

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The list below reflects the majority of his indexed output on ResearchGate as of August 2026, presented in reverse chronological order. For the complete and continuously updated list of 173+ publications, refer to his ResearchGate and Google Scholar profiles.

- Idialu, A. M., Olugbamiye, O., & Okocha, D. O. (2026). Exploring News Consumption Patterns of Female Digital Natives in Abuja.
- Agozie, E. P., Okocha, D. O., Okujeni, R., & Soho, A. V. (2026). Utilizing Multimedia Storytelling to Promote Agroecology Practices in Curbing Climate Change in Rural Nigeria.
- Vendaga, J., Bassey, E. E., Okocha, D. O., & Soho, A. V. (2026). Disaster Communication and Institutional Responsibility in Nigeria: A Systematic Review of Preparedness and Response Strategies in Flood and Conflict Contexts.
- Okocha, D. O., & Zoho, J. T. (2026). Is Africa Being Recolonized in the Era of Technological Advancements? Critiquing Africa's Sovereignty in the Era of Artificial Intelligence. *Journal of World Affairs — Voice of the Global South*.
- Okocha, D. O., Atu-Obinabo, U. O., Abioye, A., & Dogo, J. S. (2026). Assessment of Skit Making as an Advocacy Tool Against the Lawlessness of Nigerian Policemen.
- Okocha, D. O., Karofi, H. A., Vendaga, J., & Faloseyi, M. (2025). Social Media and Political Accountability: Spotlighting the Roles of X (Twitter) and Instagram in Anti-Corruption Activism in Nigeria. *Journal of Contemporary Local Politics*.
- Okocha, D. O., & Ebi, A. O. (2025). Social Media, Public Sphere and Reshaping Feminism in Nigeria. *NAWA Journal of Language and Communication*.
- Okocha, D. O., Obiorah, C. A. R., Zainab, O. O., & Faloseyi, M. (2025). Social Media Detoxification: Towards a Healthy Youth Population in Nigeria. *NAWA Journal of Language and Communication*.
- Okocha, D. O., & James, A. F. (2025). Challenges Nigerian Journalists Face in Spotting Fake News. *The Journal of Society & Media*.
- Adeola, F. S., Okocha, D. O., & Terhile, A. (2025). Exploring the Societal Implication of Deepfake and Fake News in Nigeria's Fragile Society.
- Asicus, S., Tartsea-Anshase, M., & Okocha, D. O. (2025). Utilizing Advocacy Journalism for Rural Development in Taraba State. *Journal of Religion, Local Politics and Law*.
- Okocha, D. O., Obiorah, C. A. R., & Ngantem, L. M. (2025). Taraba State Based Journalists' Perception of Investigative Journalism as an Antidote to Institutional Corruption in Nigeria.
- Fagbayimu, S., & Okocha, D. O. (2025). Appraisal of Social and Behaviour Change Communication in the Fight Against Indiscriminate Waste Disposals in the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja, Nigeria.
- Okocha, D. O., & Dogo, J. S. (2025). An Examination of the Portrayal and Objectification of Women in Selected Nigerian Music Videos.
- Okocha, D. O., & Terhile, A. (2025). Newspaper Journalism in Nigeria in the Digital Age: Challenges and Prospects.
- Waziri, J. M., & Okocha, D. O. (2025). Influence of Instagram Celebrities' Fashion Lifestyle on Nile University Female Mass Communication Students.
- Okocha, D. O., Obiorah, C. A. R., Chialuka, I. M., & Ebi, A. O. (2025). Deployment of Solutions Journalism to Promote Rural Development in North-Central Nigeria.
- Odeba, B. I., Ibrahim, A. U., & Okocha, D. O. (2025). Mitigating Fake News through Media Literacy Education: Perception and Experience of Masaka Market Traders in Karu.
- Okocha, D. O., & Terhile, A. (2025). The Upsides and Downsides of Adopting Algorithmic Journalism in Nigeria.
- Okocha, D. O. (2025). Digital Media, Youth Activism and Political Participation in Modern Nigeria: A Study of Bingham University, Karu, Nasarawa State.
- Okocha, D. O., & James, A. F. (2025). Exploring Public Relations in a Networked Society: Dynamics of the Nigerian Experience. *Lwati: A Journal of Contemporary Research*.
- Ateko, J. P., Okujeni, R., Okocha, D. O., et al. (2025). Strategies for Information Dissemination in Virtual Public Relations in Nigeria.
- Okocha, D. O., & Wyorkson, H. (2025). Awareness and Perception of Digital Broadcasting among Broadcast Journalists in Kaduna State. *International Journal of Global Sustainable Research*.
- Okocha, D. O., Ishaku, J., Barnabas, R., & Vendaga, J. (2025). Traditional Music as Integral Communication Instrument of the Jukun People of Taraba State, Nigeria.
- Okocha, D. O., & Okujeni, R. (2025). Praise-Singing and Music as Vehicles of Public Relations in Traditional Marriage Rites of the Berom People.

- Okocha, D. O., & Akpe, S. (2025). Environmental Dynamo: A Multi-Layered Approach to Mass Communication Theory Development in a Multi-Faceted Society.
- Ojochenemi, A. F., Kossi, O. G., Okujeni, R., & Vendaga, J. (2025). Assessing the Integration of Public Relations Managers into the Management Team of Corporate Organisations in Nigeria.
- Monday, S. H., Kossi, O. G., Okocha, D. O., & Akurega, M. (2025). Measuring the Effectiveness of Bingham University's Community Relations through the Lens of Kodape Residents, Karu, Nasarawa State, Nigeria.
- Beatrice, Y. B., Okocha, D. O., Akurega, M., & Elele, F. (2025). Transformation of Traditions in the Digital Era: Evaluation of Marriage Rites among the Anaguta Ethnic Group of Plateau State, Nigeria.
- Agbam, W. E., Okocha, D. O., & Tartsea-Anshase, M. (2025). Perception of University of Abuja Academics on the Use of Dialogue in Managing the ASUU–Federal Government Impasse.
- Ola-Akuma, R. O., Okocha, D. O., Onobe, M., & Okujeni, R. (2025). Robot Journalism Revolution and Adoption: Dynamics and Dilemmas Related to Artificial Intelligence in the Press Field.
- Ifeanyi, O. P., Okocha, D. O., & Jime, J. T. (2025). Assessing Media and Information Literacy among Undergraduate Students of Bingham University, Nasarawa State, Nigeria.
- Okocha, D. O., Faloseyi, M., & Obiorah, C. A. R. (2024). Risk Communication for Disaster Prevention and Management in the Rural Communities of Mangu Local Government, Plateau State, Nigeria. *Otoritas: Jurnal Ilmu Pemerintahan*.
- Dogo, J. S., & Okocha, D. O. (2024). Spotlighting the Cankers of Democracy: Politicians' Dissemination of Fake News and Propaganda in Nigeria. *Media and Communication Review*.
- Okocha, D. O., & Ishaku, J. (2024). Structured Deliberative Gossip and Nigerian Government in the Digital Era. *Ethiopian Journal of the Social Sciences and Humanities*.
- Elele, F., Okocha, D. O., Saidu, A. S., & Ebi, A. O. (2024). Using Digital Media for CSR Communication and Stakeholder Engagement: Evidence from Faith-Based Organizations in Abuja.
- Okocha, D. O., Ramadan, A. J., & Okujeni, R. (2024). Structured-Deliberative Gossip and Political Communication: A Reflection on President Tinubu's Government.
- Akurega, M., Saidu, A. S., Sanni, O. A., & Okocha, D. O. (2024). Textual Analysis of Twitter Comments on Bolanle Raheem's Killing by a Nigerian Policeman.
- Akpe, S., Ochulor, P. G., & Okocha, D. O. (2024). Textual Analysis of Netizens' Reaction to the All Progressives Congress' Same-Faith Presidential Ticket and Its Implications on Nigeria's Pluralistic Society.
- Ogbeta, K. O., & Okocha, D. O. (2024). Investigating the Nexus of E-governance, Democracy, and Sustainable Development: A Case Study of The Gambia. *International Journal of Advanced Multidisciplinary Research and Studies*.
- Udoh, W. B., Echoi, M. P., & Okocha, D. O. (2024). Critical Analysis of Digitalisation and Social Criticism as a New Frontier for Participatory Democracy in Nigeria.
- Okocha, D. O., Faloseyi, M., Elele, F., & Onobe, M. (2024). Festival Communication: A Critical Analysis of the Ukwuani People of Delta State. *The Indonesian Journal of Communication Studies*.
- Okocha, D. O., Ekanem, A. E., & Okujeni, R. (2024). Transforming Governance: Assessing the Effects of Social Media on Citizen Engagement in Nigeria.
- Okocha, D. O., & Elele, F. (2024). Traditional Communication Media: A Critique of the Indigenous Communication Media of the Ngwa People of Abia State.
- Okocha, D. O., & Agbele, D. J. (2024). Nollywood Films in the Global Media Space as Representative Imagery for Nigeria's Identity.
- Tartsea-Anshase, M., Okocha, D. O., & Enumah, A. O. (2024). Digitalization of Broadcasting in Nigeria.
- Saidu, A. S., Odeba, B. I., & Okocha, D. O. (2024). Attitude of Undergraduate Mass Communication Students of Bingham University Towards Journalism as a Career. *Caleb International Journal of Development Studies*.
- Okocha, D. O., & Ramadan, A. J. (2024). War against the 4th Estate: Use of Spyware against Journalists in Nigeria.
- Okocha, D. O., Ramadan, A. J., & Okujeni, R. (2024). Qualitative Analysis of the Status of Celebrity Public Relations in Nigeria.
- Okocha, D. O., Wang, S. S., & Onobe, M. (2024). Inquiry into the Role of Science Journalism in Nigeria's Sustainable Development.
- Akurega, M., Saidu, A. S., Okujeni, R., & Okocha, D. O. (2024). Bingham University Students' Perception of the Unbundling of Communication Studies in Nigerian Universities.
- Okujeni, R., Zamani, Y., Akpe, S., & Okocha, D. O. (2024). Reclaiming Music as a Communicative Instrument of Social Change in Nigeria.

- Okocha, D. O., & Dogo, J. S. (2024). Digital Inclusion in Rural Areas: A Qualitative Exploration of Challenges Faced by People from Isolated Communities in Southern Kaduna.
- Okocha, D. O., & Faloseyi, M. (2024). Spyware and Surveillance of Journalists in Africa.
- Iguodala-Cole, H., Okocha, D. O., & Wang, S. S. (2024). Climate Journalism in Nigeria: Implications and Contributions to the Sustainability of the Climate Debate.
- Okocha, D. O., & Faloseyi, M. (2024). Use of Digital Space to Amplify the Voice of Minority Groups in Nigeria.
- Okocha, D. O., Faloseyi, M., & Onobe, M. (2024). Utilising Risk Communication for Social Mobilisation of Nigerian Citizens Against Environmental Degradation.
- Chigbo, M., & Okocha, D. O. (2024). Self-Discourse Narrative on Survival of the Media in Africa.
- Okocha, D. O., & Ngantem, L. M. (2024). Ethical Challenges of the Pack Journalism Phenomenon and Its Implication for Journalism Practice in Nigeria.
- Iguodala-Cole, H., & Okocha, D. O. (2024). The Importance of Cognitive Stimulation in the Workplace: A Sociological View.
- Okocha, D. O., Dapoet, B. A., & Akpe, S. (2024). Deployment of New Media Technologies in Nigeria's Electioneering Campaigns: Critical Perspectives on Political Communication.
- Dapoet, B. A., Iguodala-Cole, H., & Okocha, D. O. (2024). Emergence of Media Entrepreneurship in Nigeria: Prospects, Problems and Future.
- Wyorkson, H., & Okocha, D. O. (2024). Prevention of the Spread of Fake News and Hoaxes in Nigeria: From Penalisation to the Promotion of Information Literacy.
- Okujeni, R., Zamani, Y., Akpe, S., & Okocha, D. O. (2024). Attitude of Abuja-Based Parents on the Risks of Internet Use Among Adolescents.
- Okocha, D. O., & Wang, S. S. (2023). Perception of Movie Audience on the Portrayal of Northerners in Nollywood Movies.
- Udoh, W. B., Osazuwa, J., & Okocha, D. O. (2023). Brand Management in Private Tertiary Educational Institutions in Nigeria: A Case of Bingham University.
- Ola-Akuma, R. O., & Okocha, D. O. (2024). Evaluating the Gender-Inclusive Uptake of New Media Platforms by Nano and Micro Enterprises in Kano State, Nigeria. *The Journal of Development Communication*.

## Publications — Book Chapters (Selected)

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- Okocha, D. O., & Faloseyi, M. (2025). Recalibration and Decolonisation of Communication Research in Africa: An Imperative in Africanising Scholarship. In Book Chapter.
- Akpe, S., Okocha, D. O., & Akpe, S. M. (2024). Civic Engagement, Public Participation, and Trust in Digital Space: The Emerging New Face of Democracy in Africa. In Book Chapter.
- Okocha, D. O., James, A. F., & Onobe, M. (2024). Multi-Layered Dysfunctional State of Ethics in Corporate Nigeria: Exploring a Fix in Cultural Relations Ligament. In Book Chapter.
- Okocha, D. O., & Chigbo, M. (2024). Media and Contemporary African Society: Constructing an Environment-Sensitive Communication Theory of Media Effect. In Book Chapter.
- Dogo, J. S., & Okocha, D. O. (2024). Fake News in Nigerian Politics: Breakneck of Nigerian Democracy. In Book Chapter.
- Okocha, D. O., & Dapoet, B. A. (2024). Mass Media and Politics in Africa: A Qualitative Appraisal. In Book Chapter.
- Okocha, D. O., & Chigbo, M. (2024). Social Media Landscape in Africa: Mobilising and Engineering Youths for Socio-Political Change in Sub-Saharan Africa. In Book Chapter.
- Okocha, D. O., Akpe, S., Rukevwe, I. E., & Odeba, B. I. (2024). Combating Fake News: How Increased Media Competences Can Curb Disinformation Trends in Nigeria. In Book Chapter.
- Okocha, D. O., & James, A. F. (2024). Ethical Corporate Communication and Business Productivity in Nigeria: The Nexus. In Book Chapter.
- Okocha, D. O., & Odeba, B. I. (2024). Aerial Newsgathering and the Contemporary Era of News Reporting: The Nigerian Perspective. In Book Chapter.
- Okocha, D. O., & Odeba, B. I. (2024). Mitigating against Brown Envelope Journalism in Nigeria. In Book Chapter.
- Okocha, D. O., & Akpe, S. (2024). 360-Degree Journalism: Ethics and Challenges of Immersive Storytelling in Africa. In Book Chapter.
- Okocha, D. O., & Ishaku, J. (2023). Populism as a New Political Tactic of Postcolonial Deceit in the Nigerian Contemporary Digital Era. In Book Chapter.
- Okocha, D. O., Chigbo, M., & Onobe, M. (2023). Digital Authoritarianism in Postcolonial Nigeria: Internet Control Techniques and Censorship. In Book Chapter.
- Okocha, D. O., & Ola-Akuma, R. O. (2023). Investigating Robot Journalism, National Security and the Future of Military-Media Relations in Nigeria. In Book Chapter.
- Okocha, D. O., & Akpe, S. (2023). Reflections on the African Print Media: Critical Analysis of the Ideology Question. In Book Chapter.

## Note on Verification

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This CV was compiled from publicly available academic profiles (ResearchGate, Google Scholar, IPIE, university and press sources) as of August 2026. Employment dates, the full professorship effective date, and the complete publication list should be verified against his personal records before formal use — press sources showed minor discrepancies in the promotion's effective date (October 2025 vs. October 2026) which should be confirmed directly with Bingham University's Registry.