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This response was prepared after researching publicly accessible information currently available to the Refugee Documentation Centre within time constraints. All COI Query Responses are compiled in line with the Common EU Guidelines (2008) and the EUAA Methodology (2023). This response is not and does not purport to be conclusive as to the merit of any particular claim to international protection. Please refer to all documents cited.

COI QUERY RESPONSE

NIGERIA - JUDICIARY

A report released in October 2024 by *Chatham House* comments on a: "...weak and compromised judicial system that allows elites to insulate themselves from accountability."¹

In August 2024 the *Centre for Democracy and Development* includes commentary on: "...weak institutions that appear to lack the capacity to enforce accountability and transparency. Corruption, inadequate training, and poor oversight mean that abuses are not only possible but often go unchecked."²

The *Associated Press* in August 2024 states that: "...Nigeria's...politicians ...[are] often accused of Corruption..."³

In August 2024 the *Economist Intelligence Unit* states that: "Endemic corruption is a...highly pernicious, feature of politics."⁴

A report issued by *Reuters* in April 2024 states that: "Nigeria has struggled for decades with endemic corruption among senior public officials."⁵

¹ Chatham House (8 October 2024) Tackling judicial bribery and procurement fraud in Nigeria, p.2

² Centre for Democracy and Development (9 August 2024) The insecurity within: Are Nigerian Security Agencies failing on their mandates?, p.3

³ Associated Press (8 August 2024) As Nigerians marched against hunger, security forces responded with gunshots and force, killing 22, p.2

⁴ Economist Intelligence Unit (1 August 2024) Generic risks

⁵ Reuters (15 April 2024) Nigeria's anti-graft agency recovers nearly \$30 mln in corruption probe

A report released in March 2024 by *Bertelsmann Stiftung* states that: “Corruption is common in the judicial system. This can work in favor of an incumbent with access to public revenues, but there have also been concerns that corruption charges are used by the executive to interfere with other powers.”⁶

A report issued in April 2024 by the *United States Department of State* commenting on events of 2023 notes that: “...Massive and widespread corruption affected all sectors of government, including the judiciary and security services.”⁷

In 2024 *Freedom House* released a report commenting on events of the preceding year which included noting that: “High-profile politicians, as well as senior law enforcement and anticorruption officials have faced corruption allegations in recent years.”⁸

A compilation of COI sources issued by the United Kingdom Home Office in August 2024 is additionally referenced and can be accessed by using the link below (United Kingdom Home Office (August 2024) *Country Policy and Information Note, Nigeria: Actors of protection*).

References

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⁶Bertelsmann Stiftung (19 March 2024) *BTI 2024 Country Report, Nigeria*, p.10

⁷United States Department of State (22 April 2024) *2023 Country Reports on Human Rights Practices: Nigeria*, p.12

⁸Freedom House (2024) *Freedom in the World 2024 Nigeria*, p.5

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New Humanitarian

Online Newspapers

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Reliefweb

United Kingdom Home Office

UNDP

UNHCR Refworld

UN Treaty Body Database

United States Department of State

World Bank

Contact Information

Refugee Documentation Centre
Legal Aid Board
48/49 North Brunswick Street
Dublin 7
Ireland

Email: research@legalaidboard.ie