In the ongoing conflict situation in Mali since 2012, social media serves as a means of expression and participation for Malians. The use of social and digital media such as online TV and radio has seen the emergence of new players such as bloggers and vloggers. The latter have seriously dominated the Malian space of democratic expression and constitute a means of participation in the political process. This research project between Malian and Swedish researchers concerns marginalized groups (women and youth) and how they use social media. What are the impacts of these mobile tools on the democratic participation of young bloggers and vloggers in Mali? How does the use of social media contribute to freedom of expression in the context of crises in Mali? What are bloggers’ and vloggers’ perceptions of freedom of expression? The research is funded by the Citizen Perspectives on Societal Challenges in Mali programme.

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