

4TH INTERNATIONAL COLLOQUIUM OF GENEALOGY, HERALDRY, AND VEXILLOLOGY (ICGHV4)

June 5 2025, Vilnius, Lithuania, www.icghv.com

Theme: "Heads of State: Ancestry, Coats of Arms, and Flags"



A TYPOLOGY OF THE FLAGS OF AFRICAN HEADS OF STATE FROM SOUTH OF THE EQUATOR

Dr Bruce Berry (South Africa)

Summary (in English)

With the exception of the Kingdoms of eSwatini and Lesotho, all the African countries south of the equator are now independent republics. This paper provides a typology of the flags used by the Heads of State in these countries post-independence.

CV: Dr Bruce Berry was born and bred in Zimbabwe and observed the changes in national symbols which occurred in that country up to and immediately after independence in 1980. This interest culminated in a Doctorate from the University of Pretoria for a dissertation on Rhodesian identity and its expression through national symbols. He was a member of the flag sub-committee of the Commission on National Symbols in 1993 which oversaw the process leading to the design of the new South African flag. He is a founder member of the Southern African Vexillological Association and is an editor for the Flags of the World website. He was elected to the Board of International Federation of Vexillological Associations (FIAV) in 2019. He was elected as Secretary-General to the Board of the International Federation of Vexillological Associations (FIAV) in 2019.