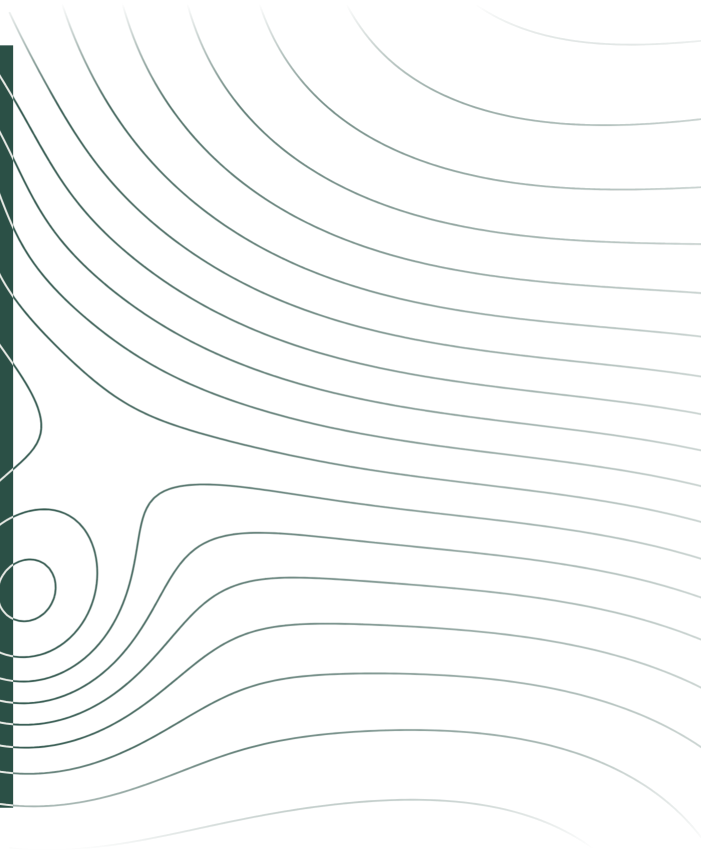




— LE KIOSQUE

# Le Kiosque

*A sovereign document-intelligence platform for the Gabonese press*

AUTHOR

Hodologic Research

VERSION

Version 1.0 · July 2026

LANGUAGE

English

# A sovereign document-intelligence platform for the Gabonese press

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*In an informational morass, any unstructured information is only noise.*

The Gabonese press writes the country's memory every day. Thirteen online newsrooms, hundreds of articles a week, thousands of dated, sourced, signed facts. And yet this wealth remains scattered, hard to traverse, impossible to query. Le Kiosque was born from a simple conviction: quality information already exists; what is missing is the infrastructure to read it.

This manifesto states the principles that guide the project. The white paper describes how they are implemented; here, we say why.

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**1. Pluralism only counts if it can be read.** Gabon has dozens of online media outlets. That diversity is a democratic asset, but it remains theoretical as long as nobody can traverse it: everyone reads two or three outlets and ignores the rest. We want the diversity of the press to be a reading experience, not a statistic.

**2. Reading the press should not be a profession.** Following a story across several newsrooms and several months is today an archivist's job, reserved for those who can dedicate a team to it. A question in plain French should be enough. Access to information is not democratized by producing more information, but by lowering the cost of understanding it.

**3. An AI that speaks about news must cite its sources.** Any claim without a source is noise. We reject AI that answers from memory, invents figures, or dresses up its ignorance. Every answer from Le Kiosque is built from identified, dated, linked articles; when the corpus does not answer, the system says so. AI must make information more verifiable, not less.

**4. News is perishable matter.** A six-month-old public-debt figure is not an answer, it is an archive. Tools that handle news must know about time: date every fact, prefer the recent to the stale, present the old as history. Freshness is not an implementation detail, it is a requirement of truth.

**5. We lead readers back to the newsrooms, we do not replace them.** Le Kiosque produces no information: it makes findable what journalists produce. Every synthesis points to the original articles; every reference is a link to the outlet that published it. If Le Kiosque increases the number of readers who reach the newsrooms, it will have succeeded.

**6. Measurement beats impression.** Who publishes, at what pace, on which subjects? The media landscape is currently discussed through impressions. By continuously measuring the newsrooms' actual output, we want to give the sector, researchers, and public debate a factual base: volumes, cadences, themes, not opinions.

**7. The law deserves the same readability as the news.** The codes in force exist, but finding "what the law says" article by article remains out of reach for non-lawyers. The same foundation that makes the press queryable must make the law queryable, with the same discipline: citation of the exact article, admission of ignorance when the texts do not cover the question.

**8. What can run on an ordinary machine must run on an ordinary machine.** Le Kiosque runs entirely locally, on open-source models, with no subscription and no cost per question. This frugality is not an endured constraint: it guarantees that the tool remains viable in a context of limited means, and that readers' questions feed no third-party platform.

**9. The method is a common good.** A living corpus, temporal RAG, local execution: nothing we have built is specific to Gabon. The method is documented to be taken up elsewhere, for other countries, other corpora, other languages. What was done here by a very small team can be done again.

These last two principles have a particular status: they are choices of the current stage, not convictions. The local character will evolve with the infrastructure, from workstation to server, from private use to public service; the method will evolve with techniques and with the feedback of those who take it up. They are written to be revised. The first seven are not.

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Le Kiosque is not a media outlet. It is reading infrastructure, in the service of readers who want to understand, newsrooms that deserve to be read, and a public debate that gains from resting on dated, sourced facts.

Quality information exists; the Gabonese press produces it every day. We work to make it findable, verifiable, and remembered.

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*Document produced as part of the Le Kiosque project. Contact: [hodologic.fr/contact](https://hodologic.fr/contact).*