

## **Chapter 2**

### **The media in regime change politics in Zimbabwe**

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#### **Introduction**

The year 2000 marked the genesis of reinvigorated attempts by the MDC and its Western allies to remove President Mugabe from power. This request to remove President Mugabe from power came to be dubbed the regime change agenda. The MDC and the ruling ZANU PF used the media as a tool to further their ideologies to acquire and maintain power. The private media became the mouthpiece of regime change agents while the state media assumed the role of defender of the ZANU PF regime. Regime change politics also precipitated the decomposition of media ethics in Zimbabwe. There arose the blatant and unapologetic picking of sides by media houses, thereby severely compromising the people's confidence in the media and politics in Zimbabwe