

Trade Unions and Democratic Option in Nigeria

F. O. Alalade

*Department of Political Science, Faculty of Social Sciences, Obafemi Awolowo University,
Ile-Ife, Nigeria*

E-mail: Alalade2000@yahoo.com

KEYWORDS Grassroot; teamwork; gender; empowerment; parastatals; socio-economic

ABSTRACT An attempt to find out through interviews the contribution of major Trade Unions on the new democratic dispensation in Nigeria. The major Trade Unions, the Academic Staff Union of Universities (ASUU) and the Nigerian Labour Congress (NLC) demonstrate their own interpretation of the concept of Democracy. Through their members who also belong to various political parties in the country, the Trade Unions have participated in debates as to how Nigeria could make progress by defending democracy. The gender issue that advocates full participation of women in Trade Unionism as well as in governance and also the patriotic style of Trade Union demands are points discussed in the article. Governments also have come to realize that Trade Unions have demonstrated their willingness to work with political leaders in order to meet with complex requirement and fulfillment for better life for Nigerians.