The diploma thesis in question attempts to map the African regional system of human rights protection, its basic elements, central institutions and the results of their cooperation. The work aims to find out whether the current set-up is capable of ensuring an effective protection of human rights of the African citizens.

The first part of the thesis focuses at the definition of human rights in their historical and conceptual context. For the needs of the comparative analysis, a part dealing with the protection of human rights in the continental legal system follows, together with a suggestion of the "superstructural, options that the citizens of the member states of the European Union have disposal of.

The African legal system as the guiding line of the thesis is applied on the case of Zimbabwe. This is where practice shows that despite the existence of a formally existing system under the African union and its institutions, the African region is facing serious human rights violations for which there is no sufficient safeguard.

The thesis concludes with the provision of a generalizing comparison of the two regional mechanisms of human rights protection and the application of this area of study in the sphere of education and teaching practice.