

BURUNDIAN LIGUE OF HUMAN RIGHTS "ITEKA"

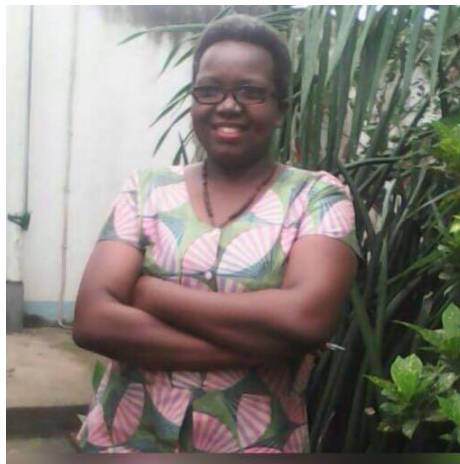
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Weekly bulletin « ITEKA N'IJAMBO » n°215 of the Burundian Ligue of Human Rights "ITEKA"

Week from 18 - 24 May 2020



In memory of Madam Marie Claudette Kwizera, Treasurer of Iteka, reported missing since December 10 2015. From December 2015 to 24 May 2020, Iteka has documented at least 556 cases of enforced disappearances.

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ACRONYMS

ARCT	: <i>Telecommunications Regulation and Controlling Agency</i>
BV	: <i>Polling station</i>
CBV	: <i>Voluntary Wounds and Injuries</i>
CECI	: <i>Communal Independent Electoral Commission</i>
CENI	: <i>National Independent Electoral Commission</i>
CEPI	: <i>Provincial Independent Electoral Commission</i>
CNDD-FDD	: <i>National Council for the Defense of Democracy</i>
CNL	: <i>National Congress for Liberty</i>
COOPEC	: <i>Savings and Credit Cooperative</i>
ECOFO	: <i>Fundamental School</i>
FNL	: <i>National Liberation Front</i>
FRODEBU	: <i>Front for Democracy in Burundi</i>
PJ	: <i>Judicial Police</i>
PV	: <i>Minutes</i>
SNR	: <i>National Intelligence Service</i>
TGI	: <i>High Court</i>
UPRONA	: <i>Union for National Progress</i>

0. INTRODUCTION

Over the reporting period of this bulletin, allegations of violations and human rights violations were recorded as follows: at least 2 persons killed all found corpses, 2 tortured and 75 arbitrarily arrested.

Among these victims are 2 women tortured and 2 minors arbitrary arrested.

Imbonerakure affiliated to CNDD-FDD party, administration officials, police and SNR agents and soldiers are singled out as alleged perpetrators of most of these human rights violations.

Also, among the victims recorded are largely members of CNL party with 2 cases of torture and 71 cases of arrests.

This bulletin also notes cases of killings, torture and arbitrary arrest in the country.

Over this period, Ligue Iteka noted cases of irregularities linked to the elections of May 20, 2020 such as political representatives prohibited to access the polling stations, voter cards withdrawn from members of CNL party, the non-use of voting booths, spent and not replaced pointing ink, cheating, illegal campaign, hunting down of CNL party members at the trading center, threats against CNL party members and blocking access to social media platforms.

I. ALLEGATIONS OF VIOLATIONS, VIOLATIONS AND VIOLATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS

I.1. VIOLATION OF THE RIGHT TO LIFE

I.1.1. PERSONS KILLED BY UNIDENTIFIED PEOPLE

A body of a member of CNDD-FDD party found in Mugina commune, Cibitoke province

In the morning of May 22, 2020, on Rugendo hill, Mugina commune, Cibitoke province, a body of Paul Nsengiyumva, 42 years old, member of CNDD-FDD party, was found in a field. According to sources on site, this victim had spent the afternoon of May 21, 2020, with his friends celebrating CNDD-FDD party victory. According to the same sources, Paul separated with his friends overnight but did not arrive home. His body was rushed to Cibitoke hospital by the communal authorities so that the doctors could find out the causes of this death. Pierre Nzozantevye alias Nzoza, Abel Ndikumana alias Joachim and Edouard Vyamungu alias Malaria, all CNL party members, were arrested in the morning on May 22, 2020 and jailed in police station cell in Mugina commune on the charges of Dative, Rugendo hill head who had drawn up a list of CNL party members to be accused.

A body of a member of CNL party found in Gatara commune, Kayanza province

On May 19, 2020, on Ruhengeri hill, Gatara zone and commune, Kayanza province, a body of Prosper Minani, married, 45 years old, zone leader of CNL party and living on this same hill, was found on the bank of Ruvubu River. According to sources on site, this body had wounds on the head and was buried the same day on the order of Devote, Gatara commune administrator accompanied by the communal police commissioner. According to the same sources, the perpetrators and the reason for the murder were not known.

I.2. PERSONS TORTURED BY IMBONERAKURE AND ADMINISTRATION OFFICIALS

A member of CNL party tortured in Bugabira commune, Kirundo province

On May 22, 2020, on Nyamabuye hill, Kigoma zone, Bugabira commune, Kirundo province, Nzoyihera, member of CNL party, was beaten up by Jean Bosco Mayeri, Kigoma zone head. According to local sources, the victim was accused of having voted for CNL party. According to the same sources, the alleged perpetrator met him in a group of neighbors belonging to different political parties including members of CNDD-FDD, UPRONA and FROBEBU and he demanded that he leave this group since he is member of CNL party.

A member of CNL party tortured in Nyanza-lac commune, Makamba province

On the morning of May 20, 2020, at polling station in Kabondo quarter, Nyanza-lac commune, Makamba province, Jean Paul Nibizi, representative of CNL party at the aforesaid polling station, was beaten up by Imbonerakure led by a certain Bihangwa, a supervisor at Nyanza-lac communal Lycée. According to sources on site, the victim was bedridden at Nyanza-lac hospital.

I.3. PERSONS ARRESTED BY POLICE, SNR AGENTS, ADMINISTRATION OFFICIALS AND IMBONERAKURE

Seventeen members of CNL party and two minors arrested in Mpanda commune, Bubanza province

Information received by Ligue Iteka on May 18, 2020 indicates that on May 15, 2020, around 4:00 p.m., on Rubira hill, Mpanda commune, Bubanza province, Favorable Nihimbarwe, Sylvestre Bivugire, Vincent Cimpaye, Emmanuel Nzopfabarushe, Félix Ndayishimiye, Sylvestre Ndiwenumuryango, Léonidas Baragasika, Vincent Nicidegetse, Elvis Haragakiza, Steve Ndayishimiye, Aimable Ciza, Pascal Misuguru, Therence Barakamfitye, Steve Nduwimana, Ernest Nzoyisaba, Samuel Ndayikengurukiye, Ezéchiel Irankunda, all members of CNL party as well as Chadrack Manirambona aged 17 and Claude Nkeshimana of the same age, were arrested by police accompanied by Imbonerakure and jailed in Bubanza provincial police station cell. According to sources on site, members of Imbonerakure militia and members of CNL party clashed when the latter returned from the electoral campaign, organized in this locality and causing, on both sides, 5 seriously injured people including Séverin Bukuru, Ramazani Nkurunziza and Léonard Nsabimana, Rubira hill head, member of CNDD-FDD party. According to the same sources, on the evening of May 16, 2020, these detainees were transferred to Bubanza prison. On May 18, 2020, in a judgment that took place from 1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., Favorable Nihimbarwe, Sylvestre Bivugire, Vincent Cimpaye, Emmanuel Nzopfabarushe and Félix Ndayishimiye, all members of CNL party, were accused of CBV and theft by the TGI Bubanza who sentenced them to 6 months of penal servitude and to pay 50,000 Bif fine each and 970,000 Bif reparation including 770,000 Bif to Léonard Nsabimana, Rubira hill head and 100,000 Bif to Séverin Bukuru as well to Ramazani Nkurunziza, each. Twelve other members of the aforesaid party and 2 minors were acquitted.

A member of CNL party arrested in Rugombo commune, Cibitoke province

On May 20, 2020, around 6:00 p.m., on Mparambo II hill, Rugombo commune, Cibitoke province, Edouard Ntawuzahihera alias Posoro, teacher, resident and native of Munyika II hill and provincial leader of CNL party youth, was arrested by SNR agents. According to sources on site, Edouard was making sure that ballot boxes containing ballot papers were transported to CECI in order to prevent fraud by CNDD-FDD party members. According to the same sources, Edouard was taken to Cibitoke brigade police cell and was released on May 21, 2020.

Fifteen CNL party members arrested in Mutimbuzi commune, rural Bujumbura province

In the morning of May 20, 2020, at the voting centers of ECOFO Mushasha I and Emmanuel Church of Gatumba, on Mushasha I and Kinyinya I hills, Gatumba zone, Mutimbuzi commune, Bujumbura rural province, François Bigirimana, Alliance Manirakiza, Issa Rukundo, Ferdinand Nikobiri, Aboubacar Bizimungu, Jean Berchmans Ndayisenga, Jean Berchmans Niyongabo, Richard Hakizimana, Festus Mugisha, Usuel Harerimana, Jean Claude Minani, Mireille Irankunda, Hassan Minani, Paul Havyarimana and Yussuf Mateso, all CNL agents were arrested by Imbonerakure. According to sources on site, political reasons were the basis of their arrest because they were at the polling stations where they were assigned. According to the same sources, they were taken to Gatumba brigade cell the same day by Marcel Niyonkuru, communal police commissioner in Mutimbuzi.

A member of CNL party arrested in Mutimbuzi commune, rural Bujumbura province

On May 20, 2020, at polling station no.5, ECOFO Rukaramu I polling center, on Kigwati II hill, Rukaramu zone, Mutimbuzi commune, Bujumbura rural province, Obède Niyongabo, representative of CNL party was arrested by Marcel Niyonkuru, communal police commissioner in Mutimbuzi. According to sources on site, Obède had just surprised Ripo Kibezi, member of CNDD-FDD party, in possession of 7 ballots he wanted to put in the ballot box. According to the same sources, Kibezi was not worried while Obède was taken to Gatumba brigade cell by this commissioner.

Two CNL party members arrested in Mutimbuzi commune, Bujumbura rural province

On the morning of May 20, 2020, on Rubirizi hill and zone, Mutimbuzi commune, Bujumbura rural province, Benjamin Niyonzima and Raphael, all representatives of CNL party, were arrested by Imbonerakure from this locality. According to sources on site, they were arrested when they went to the polling stations where they were assigned. According to the same sources, they were taken to Gatumba brigade cell by Marcel Niyonkuru, communal police commissioner in Mutimbuzi.

Four CNL party members arrested in Musigati commune, Bubanza province

On May 20, 2020, on Muyebe hill, Musigati commune, Bubanza province, Philippe Nsanzerugeze, leader of CNL party in Muyebe zone, Gervais Ntiharirizwa, Simon Nahimana and Museveni Nzomukunda, all representatives of CNL party, were arrested by Imbonerakure when they went to the polling stations where they were assigned. According to sources on site, they were taken by police to the provincial police station cell in Bubanza. According to the same sources, they were accused of campaigning on the election day. After missing witnesses in a flagrant judgment dated May 21, 2020, which started around 1:00 p.m. and ended around 4:00 p.m., these four members of CNL party were acquitted by the TGI Bubanza.

A member of CNL party arrested in Mpanda commune, Bubanza province

On May 20, 2020, on Rugenge hill, Mpanda commune, Bubanza province, Augustin Hatungimana, member of CNL party, was arrested by police and jailed in the provincial police station cell in Bubanza. According to sources on site, Augustin was accused of disturbing the elections. After 2 hours in the police station, he was transferred to Bubanza prison. According to the same sources, on May 21, 2020, in a flagrant judgment that took place from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Augustin Hatungimana was sentenced to 6 months in penal servitude for having disturbed the elections.

A member of CNL party arrested in Vyanda commune, Bururi province

On May 21, 2020, on Mubuga hill, Vyanda commune, Bururi province, Arakaza Thierry, trader, representative of CNL party, was arrested by Frédéric Niyonzima, Governor of Bururi province. According to local sources, he was accused of participating in CNL party campaign when members of CNDD FDD party believed he was a member of their party. According to the same sources, he was taken to the police cell in Bururi province city.

A member of CNL party arrested in Kayokwe commune, Mwaro province

On May 20, 2020, at Kigutu polling center, on Gihinga hill, Kayokwe commune, Mwaro province, Gordien Nduwimana, member of CNL party and candidate for communal councilors, was arrested by police. According to sources on site, he was accused of gathering in front of the polling stations and was taken to Mwaro prosecution to be interrogated.

A mobilizer of Kira Burundi coalition arrested in Kayokwe commune, Mwaro province

At around 10:00 a.m. on 20 May 2020, André Sindayihebura, mobilizer of Kira Burundi coalition, was arrested by police at ECOFO Kigutu and taken to the PJ for interrogation. Local sources said he was accused of making many phone calls and messages. After interrogation, he was released. He was checking whether the representatives of Kira Burundi coalition were present at the polling stations.

Six CNL party members arrested in commune and Bururi province

On May 20, 2020, at the polling center of Lycée communal de Kiremba, Bururi commune and province, six representatives of CNL party, including Jean Marie, teacher; Jean Marie, unemployed; Bosco; Émile and Nephtali were arrested. The members of the polling center finished showing empty boxes to the voters who were in the class where the elections should take place and ordered all the voters to leave for a while so that these polling center members could vote while alone in the class. The agents refused this and there was a dispute that these agents could vote without kicking the voters outside because they intended to put the fraud ballots in the ballot boxes. The police arrested these CNL party agents and took them to Bururi commune cell where they were released an hour later.

A person arrested in Kayanza commune and province

On May 20, 2020, on Musave hill, Kayanza commune and province, Donatien, COOPEC agent in the credit department was arrested by the PJ commissioner accompanied by the SNR head in Kayanza. According to sources on site, he was accused of holding a meeting with two people who were with him.

Four CNL party members arrested in Kiganda commune, Muramvya province

During the night of May 20, 2020, on Burenza hill, Kiganda commune, Muramvya province, Léonard Sindayigaya, Pierre Ndayiragije, Fiacre Gateretse and Jean Paul Sabiyumva, all members of CNL party, were arrested by Imbonerakure accompanied by the communal commissioner. According to sources on site, they were taken by the provincial police commissioner, Abdoul Ndimurukundo to Muramvya Brigade. According to the same sources, the following day, they were transferred to Muramvya prison and charged with having ambushed the people who were transporting ballots from Burenza center.

A member of CNL party arrested in Muramvya commune and province

On May 20, 2020, on Muramvya the, commune and province, Juvenal, teacher at ECOFO Busimba, member of CNL party, was arrested at ECOFO Muramvya III by the police who took him directly to Muramvya brigade for interrogation before transferring him the same day to

Muramvya prison. According to sources on site, he was accused by a member of the polling station of sensitizing people in the lines to vote for CNL party.

Three CNL party members arrested in Makamba commune and province

As of May 20, 2020, Réverien Nduwimana, Sylvestre Mpayimana, both from Rabihi hill, Makamba commune and province and Alexis Nyandwi from Ruvuga hill, Mabanda commune, in the same province, all members of CNL party, were arrested by the police. According to sources on site, the first two were accused by Makamba prosecution of having used fraudulent electoral documents while the third was accused by the prosecution of having worn on polling day a jacket bearing the number 23 considered by the prosecution as a CNL party symbol. According to the same sources, on May 22, 2020, in a flagrant judgment, Réverien Nduwimana and Sylvestre Mpayimana were sentenced to 6 months in prison and a fine of 30,000 Bif while Alexis Nyandwi was sentenced to a fine of 100,000 Bif.

Seven CNL party members arrested in Gatara commune, Kayanza province

As of May 21, 2020, in Gatara commune, Kayanza province, seven members of CNL party were arrested on their way back from the church service. According to sources on site, it is Sabin Nsabimana, Vianey, Gordien from Mbirizi zone who were detained at the provincial police station of Kayanza and Alexis Kwizera, Sylvestre as well as Diomède from Hill Kabungo who were detained in Gatara police station cell. According to the same sources, all of these members were accused of spreading false results.

A member of CNL party arrested in Ngozi commune and province

On May 23, 2020, in Ngozi downtown, Issa Bizimana, member and political representative of CNL party in Butihinda commune of Musinga province, was arrested by police accompanied by Imbonerakure of Ngozi town and detained in the PJ Ngozi cell. According to sources on site, the victim was transporting copies of the election reports from the polling stations in his commune to the national office.

Three CNL party members arrested in Giharo and Musongati communes, Rutana province

On May 20, 2020, at the polling station on Ngomante hill, Gakungu zone, Giharo commune, Rutana province, Sadock Bigirimana and Eric Nshimirimana, members of CNL party on that hill were arrested by the police and detained in Giharo police station cell. According to local sources, they were accused of teaching how to vote in the lines. According to the same sources, Samuel Nahimana, a member of CNL party, was also arrested by the police at the polling station in Rugunga hill, Musongati zone and commune, and was taken to Musongati police station cell. He was also accused of teaching how to vote in the lines. On the same day, all these three members of CNL party were transferred to Rutana public prosecutor's office cell. As of May 22, 2020, these three members of the aforesaid party were tried in flagrant at the prosecution by the TGI of Rutana which condemned them to pay a fine of 100,000 Bif each or a prison sentence of 6 months.

Three CNL party members arrested in Ruyigi commune and province

On May 20, 2020, around 8:00 p.m., in Rusengo center, Ruyigi commune and province, Dieudonné Irambona, representative of CNL party in this commune, Françoise and Elie Nibizi alias Gisoro, all members of CNL party, were arrested by the police logistics officer accompanied by the prosecutor of Ruyigi. According to sources on site, they were immediately taken to Ruyigi police cell where they were released by the prosecutor at around 11:00 p.m. after interrogating them.

I.4. VIOLATION OF THE RIGHT TO EDUCATION

A student member of CNL party expelled from his school in Gasorwe commune, Muyinga province

Information received by Ligue Iteka on May 18, 2020 indicates that since May 8, 2020, on Migunga hill, Gasorwe commune, Muyinga province, Jérémie Niyonkuru, student of the 4th form Pedagogical at Gasorwe communal Lycée has been expelled from this school by Réverien Ndinzurwanje, director of the said school and member of CNDD-FDD party, accusing him of participating in CNL party electoral campaign. According to sources on site, the principal informed this pupil that the date of return will be communicated to him but the pupil went twice to this school but the principal chased him saying that he should wait for his message.

II. IRREGULARITIES LINKED TO THE ELECTIONS OF MAY 20, 2020

Political representatives prohibited from accessing polling stations

On May 20, 2020, on Kigwati II hill, at polling station no5 of ECOFO Rukaramu I polling center, Rukaramu zone, Mutimbuzi commune, Bujumbura rural province, representatives of CNL, FNL and UPRONA party were banned to access to the polling station by the president of this polling station, Moïse Ndayisenga, member of CNDD-FDD party. At this center, voting started at 4:00 a.m., before the CENI's scheduled time of 6:00 a.m.

At the polling station no 1 in the same center, Emmanuel Bizimana, a representative of CNL party was denied access to the polling station by Prosper Kwizera, president of that polling station. According to the same sources, Emmanuel Bizimana escaped the arrest by Léonidas Nibigira, head of Rukaramu zone who was traveling in this zone with arrest warrants against CNL party agents.

On Kigwati I hill, at ECOFO Kigwati polling center, the representatives of CNL and UPRONA political parties, namely François Bigirimana, Pascasie Nahimana, Rénovat Butoyi, Shukulani Nshimirimana, Evelyne Tuyisenge, Léonidas Vyizigiro, Augustin Hatungimana, Saïdiv Alexis Nimbona, Adrien Nkurunziza, Eric Niyonkuru and Mathias Ndayiragije were banned from voting and carrying out their mission on this polling center by Eric Nijenahagera, president of the polling station no 6, Director of Gatumba Lycée and member of CNDD-FDD party, Hilaire Irabaganje, president of the polling station no. 2, Director of ECOFO Rukaramu II and member of CNDD-FDD party, Isaïe Manirakiza, Director of ECOFO Rukaramu I and member of CNDD-FDD party, Fils Hakizimana, president of the polling station no1 and responsible for Imbonerakure on the said hill, Shabani Tubirabiraho, Director of ECOFO Kigwati as well as Innocent Tuyishimire, member of the joint security committee in Mutimbuzi commune at the same time member of

CNDD-FDD party. According to local sources, they were accused of not being registered with this polling center and of having left CNDD-FDD party.

In Maramvya zone, on the 13th street, Jean de Dieu, hill leader on said street and member of CNDD-FDD party, Maregeya hill elected, Samson Nguvu, hill leader of CNDD-FDD party on the 13th street, Darius Ntamavukiro, responsible for the Imbonerakure on this same hill, banned some political agents from voting. According to local sources, these hill officials and those of CNDD-FDD party also distributed voter cards to young children to vote for CNDD-FDD party.

In Kirundo commune and province, these cases of banning CNL representatives from voting have been observed.

Definitely, on May 20, 2020, at ECOFO Rugero polling center, on Rugero hill, Kirundo commune and province, Mukerabirori Marie Rose, representative of CNL bet, was refused to enter the polling station by Viateur, Imbonerakure, responsible for securing this center and the police who were on site did not intervene.

On May 20, 2020, in Nyanza-lac commune, Makamba province, at Rimbo polling station, a soldier from Nyanza-lac camp known as Jean tore up accreditations from CNL party agents and these the latter were denied access to this polling station.

In Makamba commune and province, Philemon Nahabandi, president of CEPI Makamba tore up accreditations from the representatives of the independent candidate to the presidential elections, Dieudonné Nahimana and he refused them access to different polling stations. At Kayoba polling station, ECOFO Makamba II, Nyabigina II communal Lycée and Makamba Lycée polling centers, the representatives of this independent candidate who even lined up an independent MP did not have access to the polling stations.

At around 7:00 p.m. on May 20, 2020, agents of the opposition political parties and independent candidates of CECI Makamba and Vugizo offices were ordered to leave these offices by Philémon Nahabandi, president of CEPI Makamba and a member of CEPI who supervises Vugizo commune.

On the morning of May 20, 2020, Augustin, CECI agent in Ntakangwa, replaced the members of the polling stations from CNL party with those of CNDD-FDD party in this commune. He was arrested by the police.

Voters' cards withdrawn from CNL party members by Imbonerakure in Mutumba commune, Karuzi province

On May 19, 2020, around 8:00 p.m., on Nkubara and Bibara hills, Mutumba commune, Karuzi province, Imbonerakure from these two hills, including Coyitungiye, Nowa, Gahetanu, Hankanimana, Semapfa and Twagirayesu went to CNL party members' households and took 56 voter cards.

The non-use of the voting booths in Busoni commune, Kirundo province

As of May 20, 2020, at the polling stations of ECOFO Kididiri and ECOFO Gatemere, members of the polling stations refused to use the voting booths, arguing that voting is a right to enjoy freely.

Pointing ink used up but not replaced in Kirundo commune and province

As of May 20, 2020, at the polling center of the Etoile de l'Espoir private school, polling station no. 3, the pointing ink on the ballots has been used up. According to sources on site, the voters asked to add it but the president of this polling station did not react.

Cheating during the elections of May 20, 2020

In Cibitoke urban zone, in Ntahangwa commune, Bujumbura Mairie, at the polling center of the Lycée technique Don de Dieu located at the 14th avenue, members of CNDD-FDD party voted more than once and one of them was caught on his second vote and then handed over to the police. The latter released him outside the polling center premises.

On May 20, 2020, on Kigwati II hill, at the polling station no5 of ECOFO Rukaramu I polling center, Rukaramu zone, Mutimbuzi commune, Bujumbura rural province, Ripo Kibezi, member of CNDD-FDD party was caught in the act with 7 ballots he wanted to put in the ballot box. The agent of CNL party who denounced him was kicked out by the president of the said polling station and was arrested by Marcel Niyonkuru, communal police commissioner in Mutimbuzi.

On Muyange hill, Bugenyuzi zone and commune, at ECOFO Muyange polling center, Bugenyuzi zone head, Cyprien Hategekimana, gave proxies to CNDD-FDD party members on behalf of young people who left for Tanzania or in other provinces looking for work and he signed in their place to imply that they were the ones who gave these proxies.

On Ruhata hill, Gitaramuka zone and commune, at ECOFO Ruhata polling center, during the ballot, some members of CNL party were harassed by the presidents of the polling stations including Eloi Nkurikiye, president of polling station no. 1 and Director of ECOFO Ruhata. They forcibly removed the voters' cards from them and voted in their place, then put their finger in indelible ink.

On Kibenga hill, Gitaramuka zone and commune, at ECOFO Kibenga polling center, some presidents of the polling stations, members of CNDD-FDD party including Jean Bosco Bazirutwabo, Imbonerakure and director of this ECOFO have removed voter cards from CNL party members to vote in their place. Those who refused it returned home without voting.

In Muyinga province, similar cheating was observed especially on Kiremba hill and zone, Gasorwe commune, at Kiremba I polling center, on the 6 polling stations, Gasuru hill head named Saleh and Karira hill head named Mélancie organized and supervised members of CNDD-FDD party to vote without proxy for absent voters. According to the same sources, Jean Népomuscène Nimubona, polling station agent and member of CNDD-FDD party accompanied some voters in the voting booth, while Védaste Miburo who was responsible for distributing the cards, showed the voters the CNDD-FDD box by telling them that it is the choice they must vote for.

Illegal campaign

On May 20, 2020, on Buhiga hill, zone and commune, at Buhiga polling center, Imbonerakure Jean-Marie alias Fayida, Nestor Bashishikare alias Irambire, Marirahenda, the nicknamed Bob Marley and Xavière Mihimpundu, former CNDD-FDD party MP and candidate for communal councilors, circulated in the lines and taught voters to vote for CNDD-FDD party.

On May 20, 2020, on Rweya hill, Buhiga zone and commune, on the road to ECOFO Magamba polling center, the Imbonerakure erected three roadblocks and asked anyone passing by to vote for CNDD-FDD party.

On this same hill, Evariste Kayobera, candidate for the legislative elections, asked those who had just voted if they had voted the No. 1 and gave 1000 Bif to those who answered positively to thank them.

On the same date, around 11:00 a.m., on Magamba hill, Buhiga zone and commune, at ECOFO Magamba polling center, the polling station members, all members of CNDD-FDD, noted that no voter remained there while the figures show that there were still 100 voters absent. So the head of this hill ordered the Imbonerakure to go into the households to search those who did not vote and roadblocks were erected to check the ink on the finger of all passers-by.

Hunting down of CNL party members at Gitaramuka commune trading center, Karuzi province

On May 23, 2020, around 5:00 p.m., on Nyaruhinda hill and zone, Gitaramuka commune, Karuzi province, at Kabarimyi trading center, Imbonerakure from this hill accompanied by Manasse Bazishaka, head of this zone, chased all CNL party members in bars and forced shop owners to close, telling them they had run out of space there.

Threats against CNL party members

During the night of May 22, 2020, on Nyentakara hill, Kayogoro commune and in Kigwati I quarter of Makamba province city, CNDD-FDD party members patrolled all night around the households and of CNL party members' shops. According to sources on site, they threatened them by chanting slogans: " we are tie up your genitals, we will beat you, stick you on your buttocks and on your feet, run away as your boss Rwasa did because he is used to".

As of May 21, 2020, towards the evening, in the streets of Rumonge city and province, CNDD-FDD party mobilized its membes from the party's office to Nkayamba quarter. The latter danced, sang victory and threatened political opponents saying: "hongora izo njavyi, twari twababwiye ntibunva", which means "kill these opponents, we told them they don't hear".

Blocking access to social media platforms in Burundi

As of May 20, 2020, throughout Burundi, social networks users such as WhatsApp and twitter have not had access to communication. According to local sources, the blockage was initiated by ARCT, which issued orders to the telecommunications companies. According to the same sources, these connections were reconnected the next day after the elections of May 20, 2020.

III. CONCLUSION

Allegations of violations, human rights abuses and violations resulting from the deterioration of the political environment since the start of the protests against President Pierre Nkurunziza's third term continue to be recorded across the country.

The bulletin reports of killings, torture and arbitrary arrests in the country.

Ligue Iteka has observed cases of irregularities linked to the elections of May 20, 2020 and blocking of access to social media platforms.

Ligue Iteka protests against the impunity of crimes which is attributed to those close to CNDD-FDD party. Members of this party involved in various crimes enjoy impunity with a complicity of public authorities.