



*Anyone should be respected*

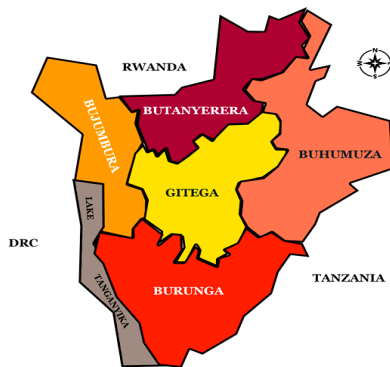
# BURUNDIAN LEAGUE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS "ITEKA"

Approved by Ministerial Statutory Instrument N°. 530/0273 of November 10<sup>th</sup>, 1994  
revising Order N°. 550/029 of February 6<sup>th</sup>, 1991

*KU GICANIRO nr 1/2025*

*Ku Gicaniro is a program of Iteka League that focusses on all areas of life in the country*

## JUNE-JULY 2025 REPORT



In memory of Mrs. Marie Claudette Kwizera, treasurer of the Iteka League, missing since December 10<sup>th</sup>, 2015. From December 2015 to July 31<sup>ST</sup>, 2025, at least 748 cases of enforced disappearances have been reported to the Iteka League.

- ♦ **The Iteka League:**
- ♦ "Is a member of the Inter-African Union for Human and Peoples' Rights (UIDH), is an affiliate member of the International Federation for Human Rights (FIDH),
- ♦ Has observer status with the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights under reference number OBS.236, and is a member of ECOSOC.
- ♦ It is decentralized into 17 federations and 32 sections."

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## ACCRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

AGNU	: <i>United Nations General Assembly</i>
BRARUDI	: <i>Brewery and Soft Drink Companies of Burundi</i>
CENI	: <i>Independent National Electoral Commission</i>
CEPI	: <i>Independent Provincial Electoral Commission</i>
CECI	: <i>Independent Communal Electoral Commission</i>
CNDD-FDD	: <i>National Council for the Defense of Democracy-Defense Forces</i>
CNL	: <i>National Congress for Freedom</i>
DESC	: <i>Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights</i>
ECOFO	: <i>Fundamental School</i>
FDLR	: <i>Democratic Liberation Front of Rwanda</i>
FRODEBU	: <i>Front for Democracy in Burundi</i>
ITABU	: <i>Agricultural Technical Institute of Burundi</i>
M23/AFC	: <i>March 23 Movement/Congo River Alliance</i>
PNB	: <i>National Police of Burundi</i>
OPJ	: <i>Judicial Police Officer</i>
DRC	: <i>Democratic Republic of Congo</i>
SNR	: <i>National Inquiry Service</i>
TGI	: <i>High Court</i>
UPRONA	: <i>Union for National Progress</i>
VB	: <i>Polling Station</i>
VBGs	: <i>Gender-Based Violence</i>

## **0. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The human rights situation in Burundi in June and July 2025 reveals serious concerns that compromise the country's socio-political stability. Inequalities in the field of civil and political rights are marked by persistent violations. Fundamental freedoms, notably freedom of expression and the right to peaceful assembly, are constantly hampered by restrictive measures and repressive practices.

The electoral climate during this period, particularly for the June and July 2025 elections, was marked by a worrying political atmosphere, punctuated by significant incidents. Allegations of electoral fraud and threats against voters underlined a tendency to favor the ruling CNDD-FDD party. Practices such as the early opening of polling stations and cases of multiple voting were reported. The entire election observation process was compromised by intimidation of observers, including those affiliated to the Catholic Church. In addition, opposition members were apprehended for refusing to sign official documents, and key figures in Buruhukiro and Buhumuza came under intense pressure. The preliminary results, showing 96.51% of the vote for the CNDD-FDD, sparked outrage among opposition parties, mainly UPRONA and CNL, who challenged the legitimacy of the ballot and denounced the repression suffered by their members. Between June 16 and 22, despite a façade of calm, the opposition described the elections as a sham.

In July, the confirmation of Daniel Gélase Ndabirabe as President of the National Assembly came as no surprise to public opinion. At the same time, in Muyinga as in other parts of the country, a loss of motivation was observed among the population, attributed to the prolonged absence of communal administrators leading to a lack of important services needed by the population, while a CNDD-FDD campaign to combat bush fires was developing in Buhumuza.

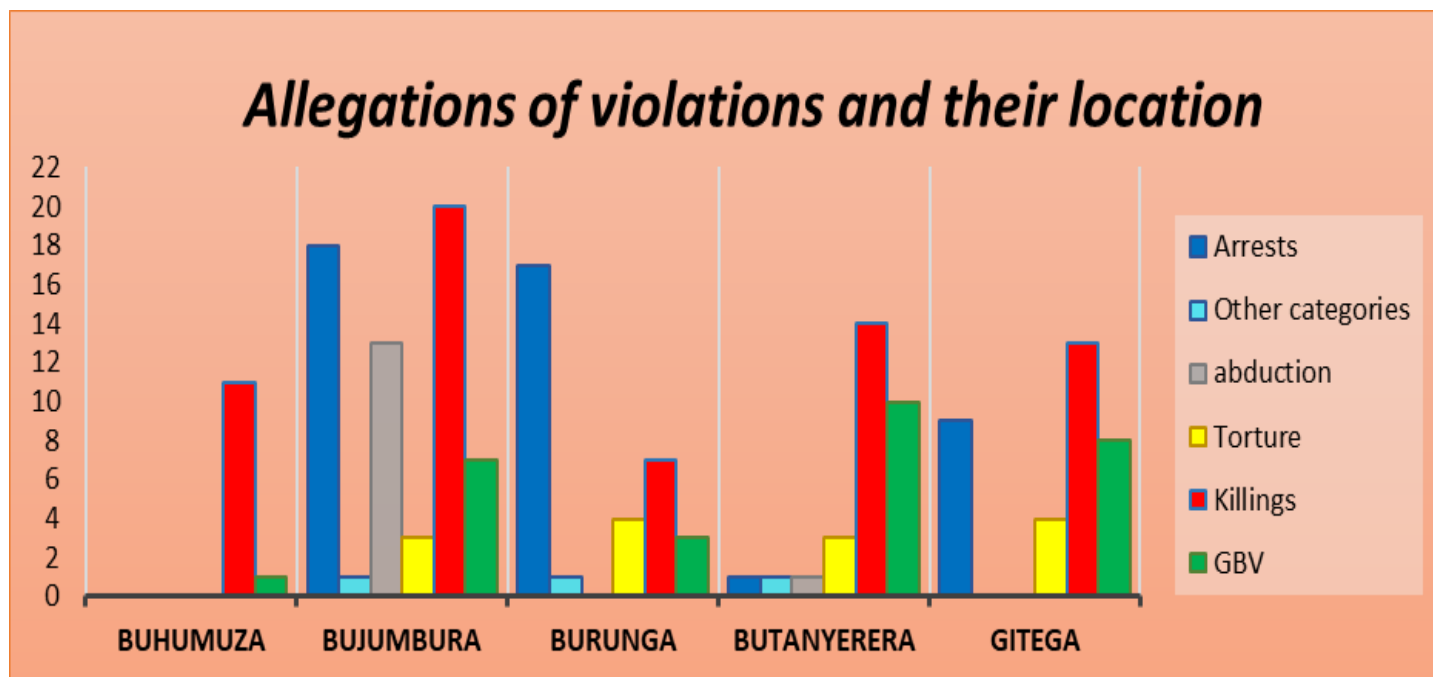
Nevertheless, statements by a Shabani deputy on the incentive to eliminate fraudsters raised concerns among the population and human rights defenders. In Gitega, tensions rose following the emergence of protest leaflets, creating an atmosphere of fear and mistrust. Concerns about the lack of administrators in many of Bujumbura's communes reinforce this tension, with citizens facing the impossibility of accessing vital administrative services, and calling for a swift resolution to the appointments.

Overall, the situation goes beyond mere administrative disputes; it reflects a democracy in pain, where equal treatment and the right to vote seem to be gradually dissolving. The installation of the new governor of Burunga and the ousting of the governor of the former province of Rutana, who was implicated in human rights violations, briefly revived hopes for the population of this locality, but unfulfilled electoral promises and administrative shortcomings persist, indicating a pressing need for structural reforms and citizen mobilization to protect fundamental rights.

As for the human rights violations reported during this period, Ligue Iteka recorded alarming acts testifying to ongoing repression and high political tensions: 65 people were killed, 45 individuals were arrested, 14 were abducted, 14 were subjected to torture, and 29 were victims of gender-based violence, of which 21 cases were sexual violence perpetrated against girls under 18.

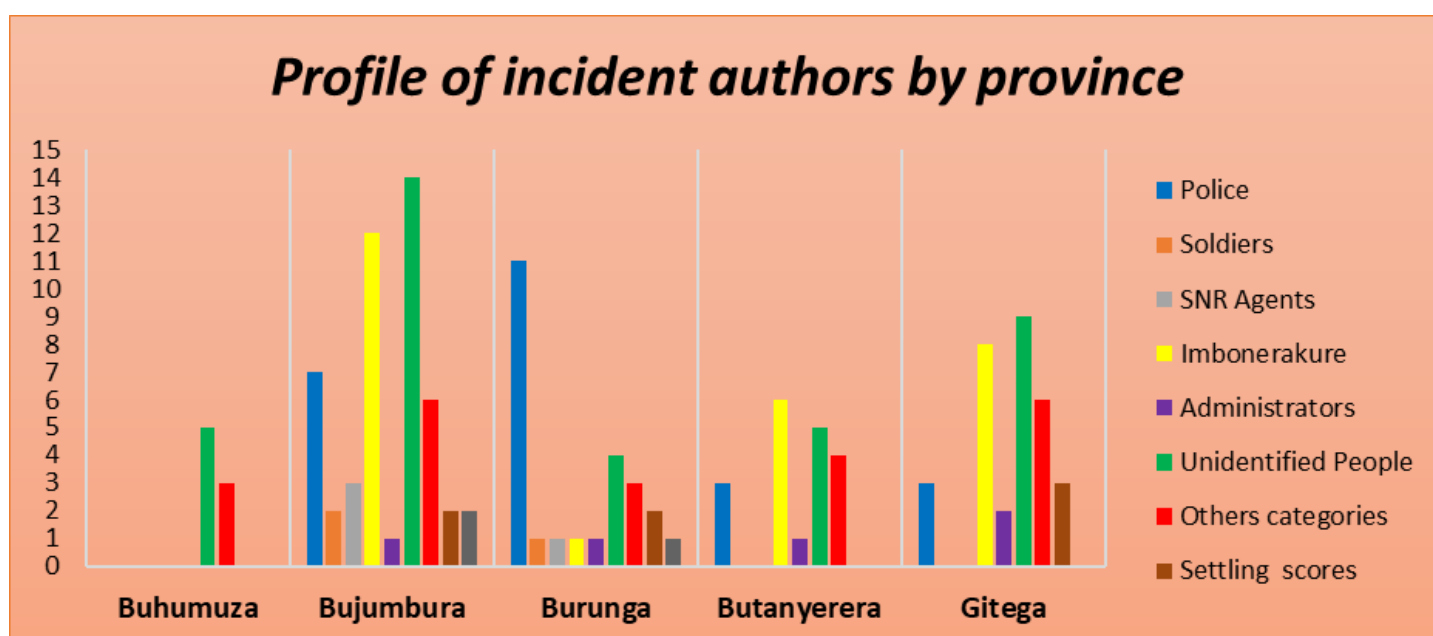
The province of Bujumbura recorded the highest number of cases, with 62 allegations (18 arrests, 13 abductions, 3 cases of torture, 20 murders and 7 cases of gender-based violence, all involving rapes of under-age girls), followed by the province of Gitega, with 34 cases.

**Illustrative Graph:**



The Imbonerakure, along with elements of the police force, the military, administrative staff and SNR agents, are often cited as the alleged perpetrators of the majority of these violations and murders.

**Illustrative Chart :**



Out of a total of 132 allegations involving 170 victims (graph above), 24 cases were attributable to police officers, 3 to the military, 4 to SNR agents, 27 to the Imbonerakure, 5 to administrative agents, 37 to unidentified people; 7 to settling of scores, 3 to infanticide and 22 to other categories involving private individuals.

On the socio-economic front, the country continues to face structural challenges, in particular heavy dependence on subsistence farming, the mainstay of its economy. Although political stability can theoretically be maintained, it remains fragile due to social tensions and the need to improve governance. In addition, the security situation remains tense in some areas, hampering the mobility of populations and the implementation of development projects. Inflation is beginning to impact on household purchasing power, particularly in rural areas where access to consumer goods is compromised. The devaluation of the Burundian franc against foreign currencies is part of a context of international fluctuations and dependence on foreign aid.

On the social front, access to health services and education raises concerns; health coverage is inadequate, especially in rural areas, while educational resources are limited by infrastructure and teaching staff constraints.

## **II. RECOMMENDATIONS**

During the period analyzed in this report, the human rights situation deteriorated steadily in various parts of the country. The report highlights violations of the right to life, physical integrity and freedom, as well as breaches of economic, social and cultural rights. It also identifies problems linked to the electoral and socio-economic context in which these violations occurred.

Iteka League expresses its concern at the persistent impunity of the crimes observed, and makes the following recommendations in this regard:

### **To the Government of Gitega:**

1. Guarantee respect for human rights, in particular the right to life, physical integrity and freedom;
2. Set aside any differences of opinion or partisan interests, and organize a frank dialogue with all social actors and representations on all issues related to the crisis, with a view to a rapid, consensual and lasting solution.
3. Adopt measures to eradicate impunity for human rights violations, so that perpetrators are held accountable;
4. Ensure the protection of children's rights and severely punish those responsible for their trafficking and exploitation, particularly those who send them to Tanzania to work in the fields;



5. Encourage economic development to improve living conditions and take measures to eradicate social inequalities;

6. Guarantee equitable access to primary needs, such as water, health, education and justice, for every citizen.

**To political parties:**

1. Strictly refrain from any act or comment that could lead to the crystallization of positions and to politico-security violence

**To the international community, in particular Burundi's partners including the EU, AU, EAC and States accredited to Burundi, it is recommended to:**

1. Use their influence to urge the Burundian government to organize a frank dialogue with all players and social representations on all issues linked to the crisis, with a view to a rapid, consensual and lasting solution;

2. Compel the Burundian authorities to respect human rights and put an end to impunity.

3. Support the efforts of Ligue Iteka and other human rights organizations to monitor violations in Burundi;

**Human rights organizations to:**

1. Continue to monitor the human rights situation in Burundi while advocating for their protection;

2. Provide tangible support to victims of human rights violations and ensure their access to justice.

### **III. REPORT AIMS**

The Iteka League produces this condensed two-month report on the socio-politico-economic context and human rights in Burundi with the following objectives:

- ⇒ Enable other actors to follow the evolution of the context and human rights in Burundi over a specific period, identifying trends, challenges and progress made;
- ⇒ Inform political decision-makers, human rights organizations and international actors in their decision-making and actions concerning Burundi;
- ⇒ Raise national and international public awareness of critical human rights and security issues in Burundi, and advocate for specific reforms or actions.

## **IV. METHODOLOGY**

Ligue Iteka regularly publishes weekly reports entitled Iteka n'Ijambo, as well as monthly, quarterly, annual, thematic and summary reports on the human rights and security situation. These documents are shared with various partners, in particular with the government of Burundi and its various institutions.

This report is the result of constant observation by the volunteers and observers of the Iteka League, who work on behalf of human rights through 17 provincial federations and 32 sections. The members of this organization are guided by ethical and humanitarian principles, committed to preventing human rights violations while continuing to monitor and document the abuses and violence exercised by the ruling power against its population.

The research methodology adopted to analyze the human rights situation in Burundi under Ndayishimiye Evariste's regime is based on several complementary and rigorous approaches. A qualitative approach was favored, including information gathering and interviews with key players, such as human rights defenders, members of civil society and government representatives. This method enabled a variety of viewpoints to be gathered on the human rights situation in Burundi, providing a nuanced vision of the challenges faced and progress made since Ndayishimiye's accession to power in 2020. In addition, interviews were conducted with victims of human rights violations to gather first-hand testimonies, enriching the analysis by grounding the data in lived experience.

However, through its weekly newsletter Iteka n'ijambo, this report compiles data covering both June and July 2025. The organization's database, in which all data is encoded, was used for the graphs and illustrative examples.

## **V. HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION IN BURUNDI: June and July 2025**

### **V.1. POLITICAL AND CIVIL RIGHTS**

Burundi is a party to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (1965) and its optional protocol (1976) without reservation on May 9, 1990. As part of its implementation, Burundi has taken measures in domestic legislation, mainly in its constitution of June 7, 2018 (main law), article 19 of which guarantees that all rights proclaimed and guaranteed by regularly ratified international texts form an integral part of this constitution, implementing texts have been put in place, mainly the penal code of December 29, 2017 and the penal procedure code of May 11, 2018, and other institutions for the protection of human rights in Burundi have been created.

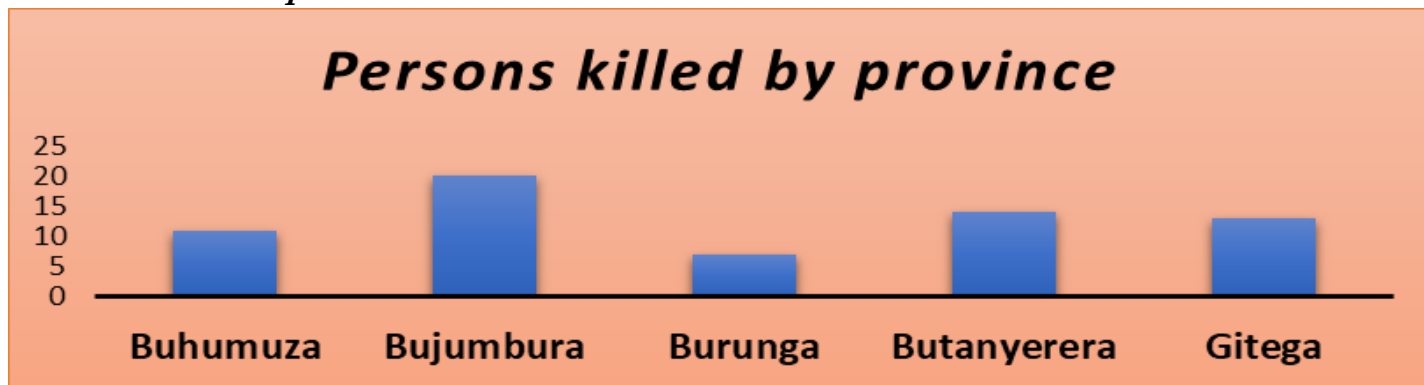
#### **V.1.1. RIGHT TO LIFE**

##### **V.1.1.1. INTENTIONAL HOMICIDES**

Over the period June and July 2025, Ligue Iteka recorded 65 people killed nationwide, including 53 men and 12 women. As the graph below shows, Bujumbura province is the most affected with 20 cases, followed by Butanyerera province with 14 cases, Gitega in third place with 13 cases, and finally Buhumuza and Burunga with 11 and 7 cases respectively.



### ***Illustrative Graph :***



### ***Emblematic cases of illustration :***

#### ***Case of persons killed by Imbonerakure :***

*Ex1: A lifeless body found in Cibitoke commune near the Rusizi river on the DRC border. Information received on 3/6/2025 indicates that on June 1, 2025, the lifeless body of Joseph Kariyo, a 38-year-old farmer who had been missing for over a week, was discovered near the Rusizi river, which forms the natural border between Burundi and the Democratic Republic of Congo. According to initial reports, notably from local fishermen, the advanced state of decomposition of the body left little room for doubt as to the identity of the victim.*

*A resident of the Mparambo I hill, who wished to remain anonymous, expressed his anger by saying: "It's Joseph, a discreet man who cultivated his fields near the Rusizi river. A local security source confirmed that he was indeed a resident of Mparambo I, known for its farming activities near the border. Shortly after the body was discovered, suspicions began to fall on young members of the Imbonerakure league, often suspected of trafficking goods between Burundi and the DRC.*

#### **Cases of people killed by police officers:**

Ex2: On July 31, 2025, at 9 a.m., in the Kanyaru marshes, on Nyakarama hill, Kiyonza zone and Kirundo commune, Butanyerera province, four Rwandans were killed by police officers. According to witnesses, Rwandans liked to cross the border via Kagera to look for herbs for their livestock, and police officers went there without uniforms but carrying rifles. The policemen fired at the Rwandans who were cutting grass for their cattle, killing three of them instantly. The other was captured alive and had his legs amputated. The bodies of these victims were thrown into the Kagera river and recovered by the Rwandans at a place called Kw'ibuye, a hundred meters from where they had been thrown. The bodies were moved by the Rwandan ambulance.

#### **Cases of people killed by administrators :**

Ex3: On the night of July 26, 2025, at Gitega Regional Hospital, commune and province of Gitega, Igiraneza Moses, aged 7, hospitalized in this hospital, gave up the ghost after serious negligence on the part of the doctor, Dr. Kabura Diomède.

*According to witnesses at the hospital, despite the worsening state of the child's health and the insistent appeals of the nurses and the child's father, the doctor refused to intervene, repeatedly replying that the situation was not serious. The father's pleas to the local administrator Jacques Nduwimana for emergency assistance failed to save the child, who died just as another doctor arrived. On July 27, 2025, the doctor was arrested by the police and taken to the dungeon of the Gitega provincial police station. On July 30, the doctor appeared before the Gitega High Court, which ordered his incarceration at Gitega Central Prison. According to our source, all the nursing staff say that the child was the victim of Dr. Diomède's negligence.*

### ***Cases of people killed by unidentified assailants***

*Ex4: Two Imbonerakures killed in a case of coffee smuggling in Nyamakarabo, Mugina commune , Bujumbura province .*

*On June 19, 2025, on the Nyamakarabo hill and zone, Mugina commune , Bujumbura province, the lifeless bodies of Claude BUTOYI and KARENZO, all Imbonerakures, were found. According to initial reports, they had been lynched by their accomplices after attempting to smuggle coffee into Rwanda.*

*This tragedy rekindles concerns about security in border areas and the persistence of smuggling networks.*

*Two lifeless bodies, beaten to a pulp, were discovered in the early hours of June 19 on the banks of the Ruhwa River, separating the border between Burundi and Rwanda. The victims, identified as Karenzo Nsanzamahoro and Claude Butoyi, both members of the ruling party's youth league (Imbonerakure), were allegedly attempting to smuggle around 80 kilograms of coffee into Rwanda, according to local security sources.*

*According to initial investigations, the two young men were intercepted by unidentified individuals after crossing the border. They were violently beaten to death with sticks, then taken back to the Burundian side, where their bodies were found a few hours later. The news of this double murder sent shockwaves through the commune of Mugina, particularly on the Nyamakarabo hill. The visibly traumatized population is demanding justice. "They certainly attempted an illegal crossing, but did they deserve to die like that?" asks a local resident, speaking on condition of anonymity.*

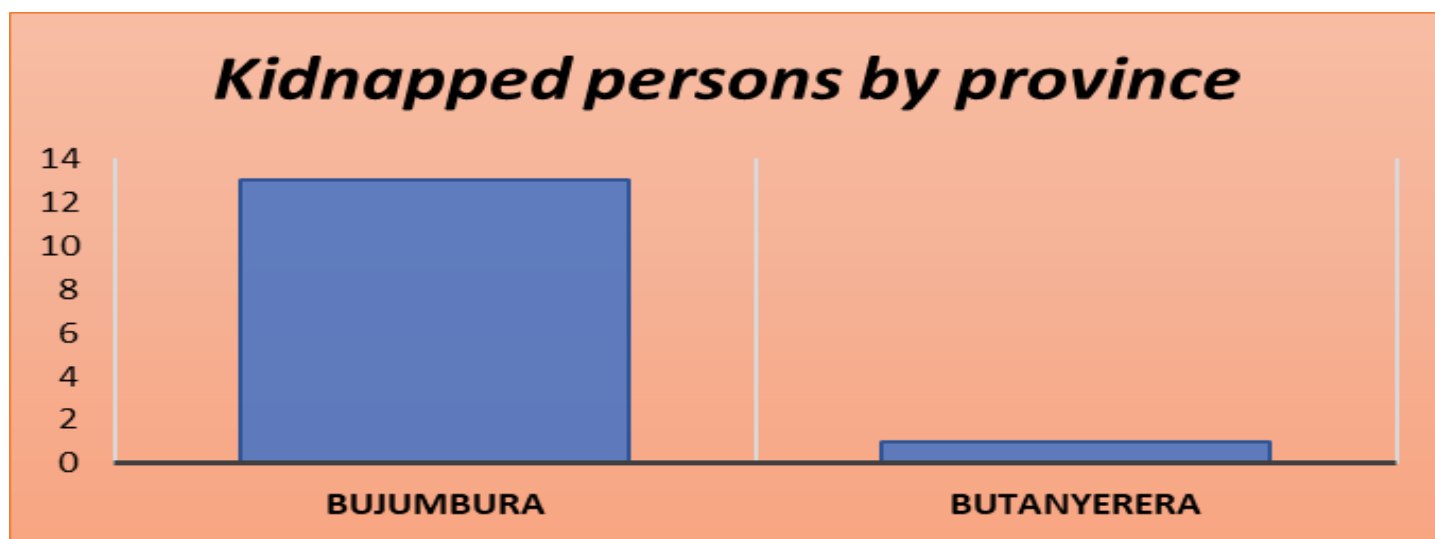
*Questioned on this subject, the local administrator, Julienne Ndayihaya, denounced a "barbaric act" and assured that investigations would be launched rapidly. She pointed out, however, that coffee smuggling is on the increase in this border region. "Over 800 kilos of coffee have been seized in the last two months. It's time for the inhabitants to understand that these practices expose them to serious dangers", she warned, while calling on young people not to allow themselves to be drawn into these illicit circuits.*

### V. 1.1.2. KIDNAPPING AND/OR ENFORCED DISAPPEARANCE

During the period covered by this report, cases of abduction and enforced disappearance in Burundi revealed a major problem in the country's security and political practices. Several documented cases illustrate situations where individuals, perceived as opponents or simply suspects, were abducted by agents of the security forces or their allies, the “youth of the ruling party”. These victims have often disappeared to unknown locations, leaving their families in total uncertainty as to their fate or whereabouts.

During the two months of this report, Ligue Iteka recorded 14 abductees throughout the country, particularly in the provinces of Bujumbura, which recorded a high number of 13 victims, and Butanyerera with 1 case.

#### *Illustrative Graph*



#### *Illustrative cases:*

*People abducted by police / SNR agents "*

*Ex1: On June 3, 2025, Théophile Niyimbona, former principal of the Ruseseka communal high school, activist and former deputy of the CNL party, Agathon Rwasa's side, was abducted from the school premises.*

*According to witnesses, an unmarked "Jeep" vehicle arrived, and men got out to forcefully seize him and take him away. His family and members of the CNL party still do not know where he was taken. Although Théophile Niyimbona recently joined the CNDD-FDD party, the reasons for his arrest remain unknown. Two days before the recent elections, imbonerakure together with the police tracked him down after he was spotted with a FRODEBU militant. He was suspected of campaigning for the Burundi Bwa Bose Coalition. What is particularly worrying is that former CNL members seem to be targeted, especially those who apply for voters' cards without being CNDD-FDD members.*

*The former secretary general of the CNL, loyal to Agathon Rwasa, strongly denounced these arbitrary arrests and intimidation. He called for respect for the right of every citizen to vote freely, without fear or pressure, and for an end to these intimidatory practices against Burundians.*

## ***People abducted by unidentified persons***

*Ex2: Ligue Iteka was alerted to the disappearance of a man by the name of Désiré NDAYISENGA on July 27, 2025, a retired former soldier who was living peacefully on Colline Kirema. In the evening, Mr. NDAYISENGA was chatting with friends at a place called Kwi Barrière. According to witnesses, he received a phone call, which led him to take his motorcycle, his usual means of transport. Before leaving, according to our source, he informed one of his friends that he was on his way to another friend's house. Since that fateful moment, there has been no news of him, and his family and friends are in the anguish of not knowing. No clues to his whereabouts have been found, and even his motorcycle is nowhere to be found. The family has therefore made an emergency request to the relevant authorities for a thorough investigation to find out what happened to their loved one. There is also a disturbing theory that Désiré may have been the victim of a plot orchestrated by the National Inquiry Service (SNR).*

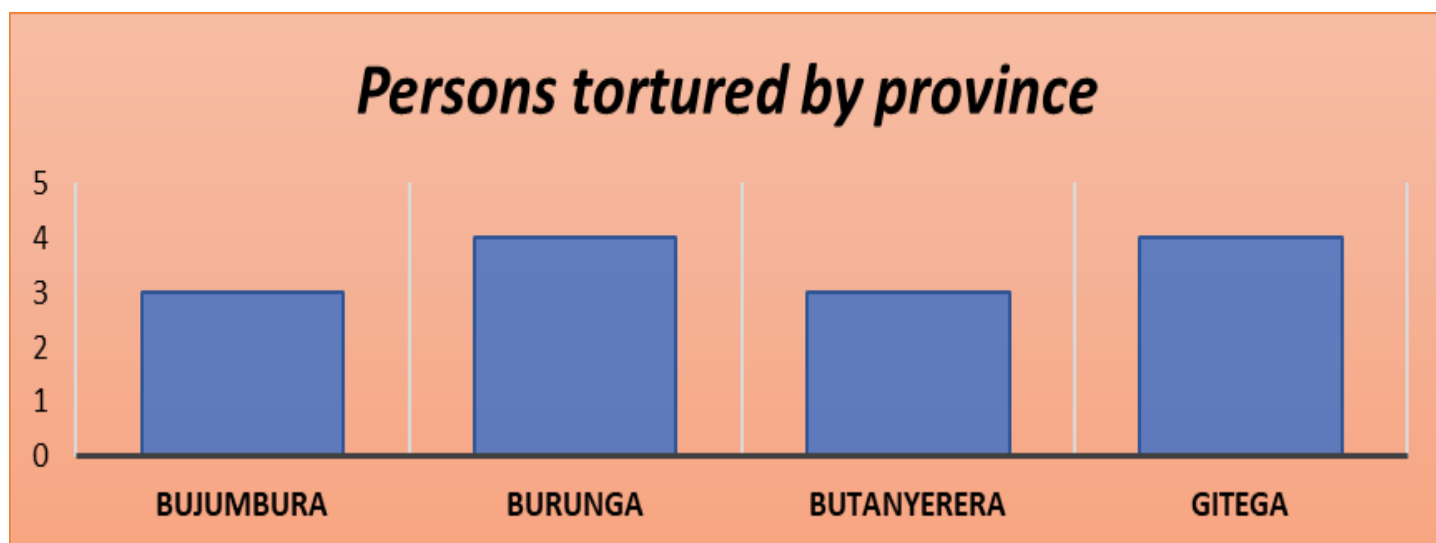
### **V.1.2. RIGHT TO PHYSICAL INTEGRITY**

#### **V.1.2.1. ALLEGATIONS OF TORTURE, CRUEL, INHUMAN OR DEGRADING TREATMENT OR PUNISHMENT**

Cases of torture in Burundi in June and July 2025 continue to be a major concern. Several incidents were reported by Ligue Iteka involving security agents and armed forces in cruel acts targeting detainees or suspects.

During the period covered by this report, Ligue Iteka recorded 14 cases of torture, including 13 men and 1 woman. The provinces of Gitega and Burunga tied as the most affected, with 4 cases each. They are followed by Bujumbura and Butanyerera with 3 cases each. As for the alleged perpetrators, the Imbonerakure lead the way with 9 cases, followed by police officers with 3. Then SNR agents with 1 case and another case attributed to unidentified people, but which occurred not far from a police station.

Illustrative Graph:



## **Case study:**

### ***Ex1: People tortured by Imbonerakure :***

*On June 07, 2025, on Kibuye hill, Rugazi zone, Mpanda commune, Bujumbura province, Elysée NKURUNZIZA, aged 18, was beaten up by imbonerakure including Samson Ndikumwami, Jérôme Ndikumasabo, Nyamirenda cell leader Jean Claude Nimbona and Evariste. According to local sources, the victim was accused of voting for the UPRONA party in the legislative and communal elections held on June 5, 2025. The same witnesses added that Elysée Nkurunziza was wounded and taken to the Rugazi health center for treatment. The people of Rugazi demand that the alleged perpetrators of this crime be brought to justice and punished in accordance with the law.*

***Ex2 :*** *Breeders bringing milk to Ngozi town are threatened by imbonerakure owners of the Gabiro milk collection center, who are members of the "Terimbere Mworozi" cooperative. According to the farmers, they are being stopped en route by these imbonerakure, headed by a certain Libani. Their milk and bicycles were seized by these young members of the ruling party, forcing them to sell the milk to the cooperative at a non-negotiated price.*

*The most recent case is that of Wednesday, July 16, 2025. A certain Barihinyuza Jean Marie from the mivo commune of Ngozi was roughed up by Libani and others. He had around twenty liters of milk in small 5-liter cans that he was taking to various households in Ngozi for the children. This milk was seized and his bike was taken away at 4pm. Very angry at this injustice, he cried out for help until the Libani was called by his colleagues, who told him there was disorder. Barihinyuza demanded money to pay for the milk, which was already in poor condition. According to those who stayed behind, he was made to enter the house housing the cooperative for quite some time. According to those who witnessed the scene, he was terrorized and told to go straight inside, without telling anyone what had happened in the house. Obviously very panicked, he left on his bike. But he had denounced the forcible entry into the cooperative. He also denounced the sum of thirty thousand Burundi francs demanded without receipt to have his bike seized.*

## **V.1. 2.2. GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE/RAPE**

During the reporting period, a total of 25 incidents involving 29 victims were recorded by the Ligue Iteka, including 27 women and 2 men. Of the 29 victims, 21 were minors who had been raped. The Gitega province is the most affected, with 8 cases, followed by Bujumbura with 7 cases, and in third place comes the Butanyerera province with 6 cases. The alleged perpetrators are particularly young imbonerakure with 5 cases of victims, police officers with 1 case and administrative staff with 1 case. Another category is attributed to private individuals, including shopkeepers, domestic violence, etc., with 18 cases.

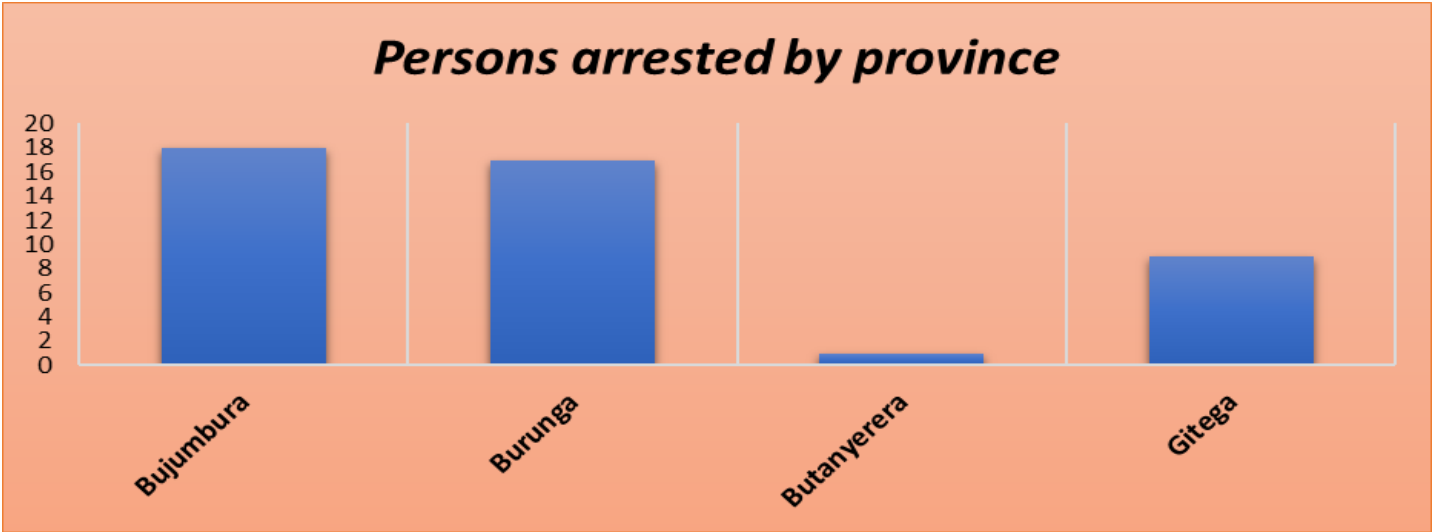


**V.1.3. RIGHT TO FREEDOM**  
**V.1.3.1. ARBITRARY ARREST AND DETENTION**

The cases of arbitrary detention in Burundi in June and July 2025 illustrate a worrying trend in the systematic violation of the right to personal freedom. Numerous citizens, often suspected of critical views or linked to opposition movements, were arrested without judicial warrant or tangible evidence, then detained for prolonged periods without access to legal assistance and/or their families. These arrests are part of a strategy aimed at eliminating any opposition perceived as a threat to the ruling power

During this period, Ligue Iteka recorded 25 cases of arbitrary arrest, resulting in 45 victims. The provinces of Bujumbura and Burunga were the most affected, with 10 cases each involving 18 and 17 victims respectively, followed by the province of Gitega with 4 cases involving 9 victims, and Butanyerera with 1 case.

**Illustrative graph:**



**Illustrative cases :**

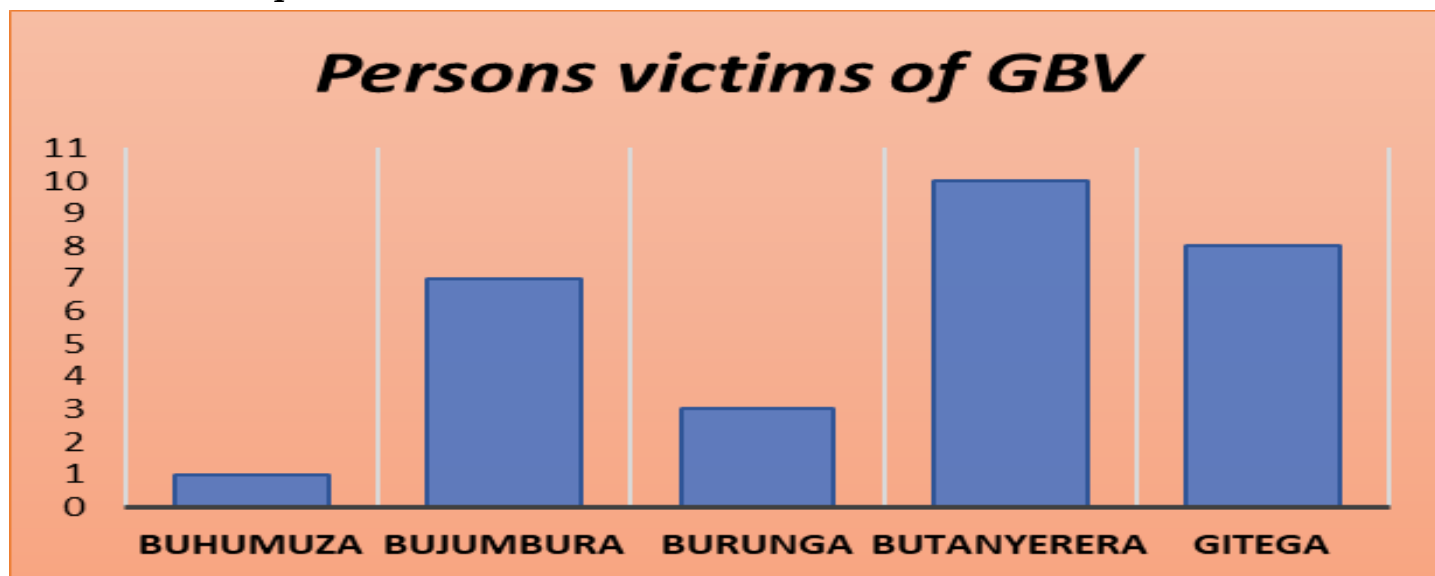
*Ex1: On July 29, 2025, the Ligue Burundaise des droits de l'homme Iteka received information indicating that on July 27, 2025, Laurent Ruboneka Musabwa, an employee of the DRC embassy, was arrested by agents of the Service national de renseignement, accompanied by police and military officers.*

*This information indicates that on July 27, at around 5 a.m., Burundian military and police officers, some in civilian clothes, arrived at the residence of Laurent Ruboneka Musabwa, located in the Rohero zone, commune Mukaza, province of Bujumbura. At 7 a.m., they entered and carried out a search, but found nothing.*

*Laurent Ruboneka Musabwa then contacted his superiors at the embassy, who advised him not to comply until they arrived on the scene. Despite this, the intelligence agents took him away by force, in violation of the rules of international law concerning diplomatic representatives.*

*This arrest caused great concern in the Banyamulenge community and in international diplomatic circles.*

### Illustrative Graph :



### Illustration Cases :

**Ex1:** On July 16, 2025, a 15-year-old child was raped on Nyakibande hill, Isare commune, Bujumbura province, at around 3 p.m. The girl, N.I, aged 15, is the daughter of N. J.D and N.M G, a 9th grade student at Ecofo Mpinga. On that day, she was looking for cattle feed when the alleged perpetrator, known as Harerimana Egide, came and raped her. The child did not hide what had happened to her and told her parents everything. The victim received all the necessary treatment at Rushubi hospital. As for the alleged perpetrator, he was arrested by the police and is currently being held in the Isare communal dungeon.

**Ex2:** On July 10, 2025, at around 7pm, on the Nyarunazi hill in the Rutegama zone of the Kiganda commune, a policeman raped a young girl. After walking a school friend home, N. J, 17, a 9th grade student at Ecofo Munanira, met a policeman named Nkurunziza Franck, 38, from the commune of Kirundo in the province of Butanyerera. He was on duty at the Nyarunazi hill police station.

He then offered to have sex with her in a eucalyptus plantation near the police station, but she refused his request. According to the victim, he then coerced and raped her.

Alerted by his cries, his police colleagues intervened and took the suspect to the provincial police station the following day. He is currently being held at the Muramvya police lock-up.

On July 28, 2025, at around 4 a.m., in the Rohero district of the Mukaza commune, Bujumbura province, Félix Mweza, an employee of the Embassy of the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) in Bujumbura and member of the Bashi community, was arrested from his home in Rohero by Burundian inquiry services. Félix Mweza, was directly and discreetly handed over to the Congolese authorities on suspicion of collaborating with the M23 rebel movement and the Alliance Fleuve Congo (AFC). The two Embassy agents were arrested and transferred to Kinshasa aboard a special flight chartered by the Congolese government.

**Ex2:** Information received by Iteka League on July 06, 2025 indicates that on June 26, 2025 on remera hill, shombo zone ,muramvya commune , Gitega province , Fulgence Butoyi aged 37, from Namande hill, Yanza zone, Nyabihanga commune , Gitega province and a member of the UPRONA party, was arrested by Imbonerakure accused of tearing a CNDD-FDD party flag. According to eyewitnesses, a group of 6 Imbonerakure from Remera hill led by Venerand Ngezahayo , aged 31, came to his house with a torn CNDD-FDD flag and deposited it in his paddock. According to the same witnesses, he had repeatedly refused to join their party. They tied him up and took him and the flag to the Muramvya police station, where he has been held ever since.

**Ex3:** On Thursday, June 05, 2025, during the voting, on the Buhinyuza hill and zone of the Karusi commune, precisely in polling station number 1 of the KARUSI 3 voting center, a man by the name of Selemani Nsananiye, a 48-year-old CNDD FDD Hutu, was apprehended by members of the polling station when he came out of the polling booth, He had two pieces of dried election paper on which he had torn the CNDD-FDD party emblem from the deputies' and communal councillors' papers. The police, who were providing security at the polling station, arrested him and took him to the provincial police station, where he is currently being held.

## **V.2. ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL RIGHTS**

Recent events in Burundi, particularly between June and July 2025, raise significant concerns regarding the economic, social and cultural rights of the population. The closure of the borders with Rwanda has severely hampered the local economy, having a negative impact on the well-being of the inhabitants of localities such as Ruhororo, Butahana, Nyamakarabo and Rubona. This context has not only affected economic transactions but also infringed on cross-border family relationships, complicating interactions with relatives. Reduced access to the Rwandan market has led to a shortage of basic necessities, including fuel and essential goods such as cattle and SIM cards, making communication in these areas difficult.

Human rights abuses, particularly in the security domain, have worsened, illustrated by cases of kidnappings targeting those attempting to cross the border. A tragic incident occurred on June 19, 2025 with the murder of two young men from Nyamakarabo, suggesting the involvement of local authorities in a climate of state-sponsored violence against those who oppose the ongoing repression. This dynamic amplifies an already acute economic crisis caused by border restrictions.

## **VI. CONCLUSION**

The human rights situation in Burundi in June and July 2025 reveals persistent violations, despite international attention. The Iteka League and other independent organizations report arbitrary detentions of activists, often accompanied by torture and disappearances, illustrating the instability of respect for fundamental freedoms. The cases documented testify to a state of repressive practices aimed at stifling political opposition, and freedom of expression is severely restricted, with controlled media. Women's and children's rights are severely violated. International reaction, although varied, does not seem to be changing the repressive dynamic. The Iteka League, which has been following developments by documenting these abuses, is calling for reforms. This period illustrates the continuity of violations. The situation is worsening in several areas, requiring coordinated action, inclusive national dialogue and stronger protection of rights.