



Anyone should be respected

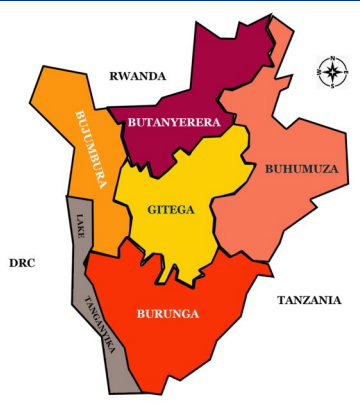
BURUNDIAN LEAGUE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS "ITEKA"

WEEKLY BULLETIN

"Iteka n'ijambo"

N°496 from 13 to 19 October 2025

Approved by Ministerial Order No. 530/0273 of November 10, 1994, revising
Order No. 550/029 of February 6, 1991



In memory of Marie Claudette Kwizera, treasurer of the Iteka League, missing since December 10, 2015. From December 2015 to October 19, 2025, at least 840 victims of enforced disappearance have been documented by the Iteka League, at least 86 victims have reappeared, and 755 victims are still missing. The UN Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances (WGIDE) has already communicated at least 252 victims¹ to the government of Burundi.

¹<https://docs.un.org/fr/A/HRC/57/54>

The ITEKA League:

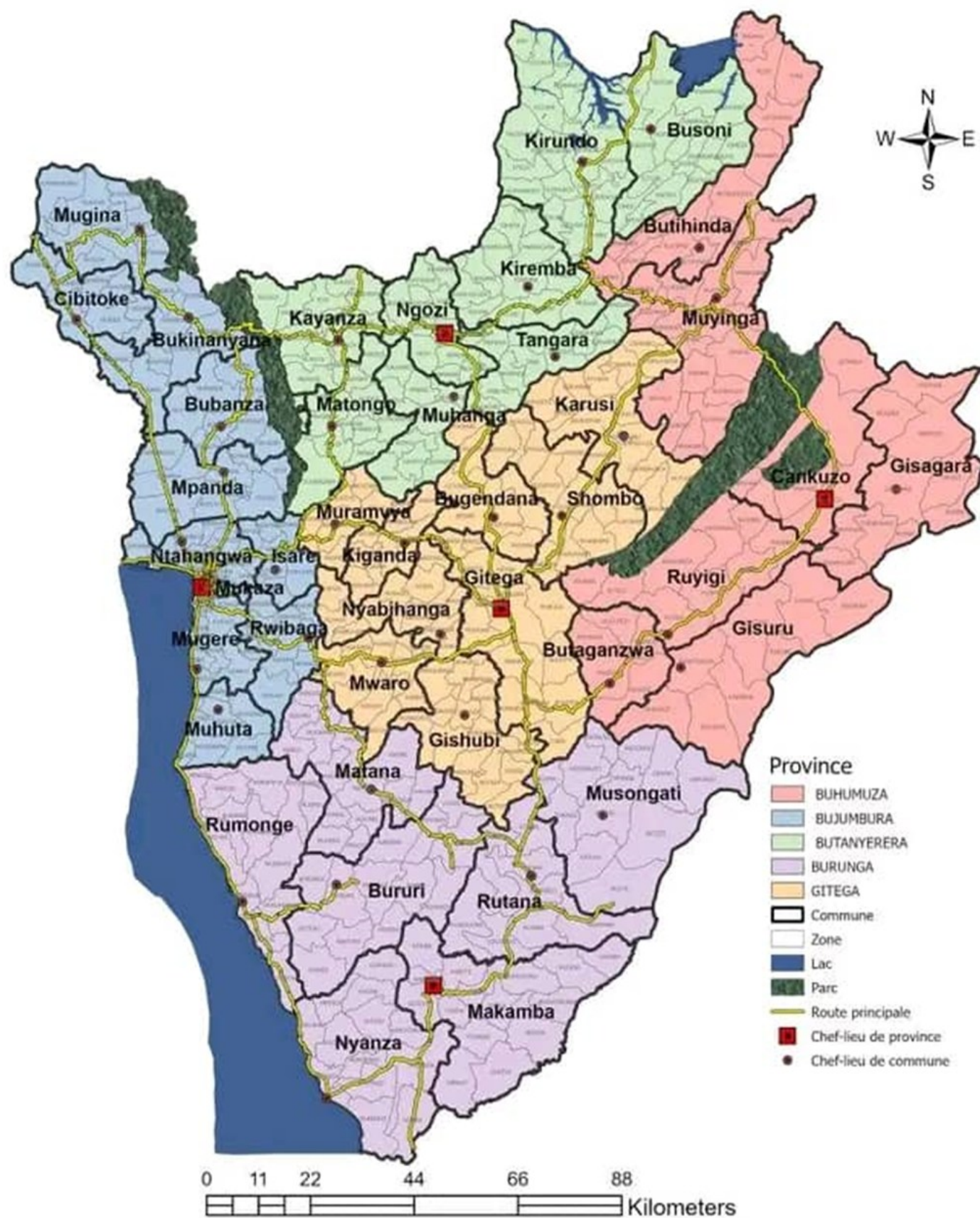
- ♦ "Is a member of the Inter-African Union for Human and Peoples' Rights (UIDH), is an affiliate member of the International Federation for Human Rights (FIDH),
- ♦ has observer status with the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights under reference number OBS.236, and is a member of ECOSOC."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

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ADMINISTRATIVE MAP OF BURUNDI

NEW ADMINISTRATIVE REDISTRICTING OF MARCH 16, 2023



ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

BSR	: <i>Special Investigation Unit</i>
CDS	: <i>Health Center</i>
CNDD-FDD	: <i>National Council for the Defense of Democracy-Forces for the Defense of Democracy</i>
CNIDH	: <i>Independent National Human Rights Commission</i>
CNL	: <i>National Congress for Liberty</i>
DNB	: <i>National Defense Force of Burundi</i>
DRC	: <i>Democratic Republic of Congo</i>
FAB	: <i>Burundian Armed Forces</i>
FARDC	: <i>Armed Forces of the Democratic Republic of Congo</i>
FDLR	: <i>Democratic Front for the Liberation of Rwanda</i>
FLN	: <i>National Liberation Forces</i>
M23	: <i>March 23 Movement</i>
OPJ	: <i>Judicial Police Officer</i>
PNB	: <i>Burundi National Police</i>
RN	: <i>National Road</i>
SNR	: <i>National Enquiry Service</i>
TGI	: <i>High Court</i>
UPRONA	: <i>Union for National Progress</i>
VSBG	: <i>Sexual and Gender-Based Violence</i>

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0. INTRODUCTION

This bulletin presents the human rights situation in Burundi during the week of October 13 to 19, 2025. In this report, the Iteka League also examines the political and judicial context and governance. It also analyzes illustrative cases of violations of civil and political rights, economic, social, and cultural rights.

The human rights violations observed and documented by Ligue Iteka are as follows: at least 15 people killed, 5 people found dead, 1 person kidnapped, 1 person tortured, 6 victims of gender-based violence (GBV), including 4 victims of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV), among whom are 3 minors, and 4 victims of arbitrary arrests.

Among the victims is a CDP party activist who was abducted and others who were apprehended for questioning and then held in custody for long hours. Imbonerakure members of the ruling CNDD-FDD party, SNR agents, police officers, and administrators are accused of being the main alleged perpetrators of these human rights violations.

I. CONTEXT

1.1. POLITICAL CONTEXT

Commemorative ceremonies for the assassination of Prince Louis RWAGASORE in Cankuzo Commune, Buhumuza Province

As usual, the ceremonies began with a mass at the Catholic church in Cankuzo, celebrated at 9 a.m. by Father Ndikuryayo Antoine. The homily was enriched by quotations from Prince Louis Rwagasore's speech, highlighting the idea that political independence and economic independence are inseparable as long as the country depends on the outside world. The priest also encouraged young people to engage in productive activities rather than succumbing to idleness, an opinion shared by the governor.

The festivities on October 13, 2025, celebrating the 64th anniversary of Prince Louis Rwagasore's death, were distinguished by an innovative approach and special features. In Buhumuza province, ceremonies were held in all the new municipalities. In Cankuzo, bouquets of flowers were laid at the independence monument, located in the old market. Interestingly, the Governor and the

administrator jointly laid a wreath, unlike in previous years when each had their own wreath. The defense and security forces also participated by offering a collective wreath, as illustrated by the presence of the Provincial Police Commissioner and the Commander of the 220th Brigade of Mutukura. Only two political parties, the CNDD-FDD and the UPRONA, laid flowers. The main speech focused on Prince Louis Rwagasore, with other speakers, including the administrator of the Commune of Cankuzo, Mrs. Nahimana Marie Rose, and the Governor of Buhumuza Province, Mrs. Ndaruhekere Denise, addressing similar themes.

The Governor stated that Rwagasore's aspirations had been realized by the current government, referring to peace.

1.1. POLITICAL CONTEXT (the following of page 5)

security, saying: “umwuka urakwiye hose, ntawukirara rubunda, ntawugiturubikwa, haba mu ntara ya Buhumuza mbere no mu gihugu cose,” which can be translated as “peace and security reign throughout Buhumuza Province and throughout the entire country.”

This statement drew criticism from some observers, due to the murders, kidnappings,

extrajudicial executions, torture, and injustices related to obtaining jobs. It should be noted that the majority of participants were students from nearby schools, complying with the authorities' instructions, while others were supporters of Prince Louis Rwagasore and the UPRONA party.

Visit by the President of the Republic to Kirundo Commune in Butanyerera Province

On October 17, 2025, the President of the Republic visited Kirundo with two main objectives: to inspect the mining sites and to introduce the new administrator of the municipality. During his speech, he expressed his gratitude to the inhabitants and spoke of a promising future, where economic prosperity would be within reach. During the reception hosted by Governor G. Segasago Victor, concerns were raised about late payments to coffee producers, an issue that remains unresolved to this day. That same day, a tragic event took place in the vicinity, with a man killing his wife, Mukarutesi Sandri, and fleeing as the prosecutor issued an arrest warrant for him.

During an inauguration ceremony in Rutana on October 16, Évariste Ndayishimiye openly criticized Pacifique Nininahazwe, promising to “carefully protect” the power of the CNDD-FDD. His speech, marked by religious references and a sense of self-satisfaction, thanked God for the revelation of the “true Burundians” in 2005, alluding to the rise of the CNDD-FDD. Ndayishimiye claimed that the country's clarity and progress since then were due to divine intervention, illustrating his claims with examples of personal success.

Engaging in a revealing metaphor, he cited his own physical transformation as a symbol of success. However, he quickly changed tack to attack his opponents, accusing “others” of seeking to divide the country. Using a biblical analogy, he compared these opponents to Israelis demanding meat in the desert, labeling them as profiteers of the crisis. Ndayishimiye specifically mentioned Nininahazwe Pacifique as an example of this opposition, accusing him of thriving during periods of collective suffering. The president then denounced those who profited from past crises, saying they are now trying to set the country back as it moves toward a better quality of life. Concerns were raised among participants that the speech was intended to stifle criticism by equating opposition with treason. This sentiment was reinforced by statements from the new municipal administrator, who implied that the Gihofi region was previously dominated by the opposition, suggesting that those who vote against their party are making poor decisions.

1.1. POLITICAL CONTEXT (the following of page 7)

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administrator, who implied that the Gihofi region was previously dominated by the opposition, suggesting that those who vote against their party are making bad decisions.

In short, Ndayishimiye's speech in Rutana not only glorified the “true Burundians” of 2005, but also served as a warning that no dissenting voices would be tolerated.

1.2. SECURITY CONTEXT

Awareness-raising meeting in Cankuzo Commune in Buhumuza Province

The Governor of Buhumuza Province, Denise NDARUHEKERE, firmly stated at an important meeting held on October 14, 2025, in Cankuzo, that individuals who wish to reclaim plots of land for which compensation has already been paid by the State, through various claims, will not succeed in their illegitimate endeavor. This statement strikingly highlights the worrying phenomenon of people who have already received financial compensation but who, despite this and in full knowledge of the facts, are seeking to claim ownership of these lands.

The Governor was explicit in stating that such actions will clearly not be tolerated, as they undermine public order and legal certainty in the province. She also took advantage of this meeting to urge local elected officials, particularly colline chiefs, to ensure that no one can claim these public assets without legal rights, while encouraging

them to raise awareness among the population on this crucial issue. She stressed the fundamental importance for those wishing to build in the bustling town center of Cankuzo to submit an appropriate request for guidelines to the Burundian Housing Office (OBUHA) in order to ensure the legality and compliance of development projects.

In addition, towards the end of the meeting, a representative of the active traders in the Cankuzo market made an urgent request for the market to be lit by establishing an adequate electrical connection. This representative also suggested extending the market's opening hours, judiciously proposing to close it at 9 p.m. rather than 6 p.m., in order to allow night workers to benefit from well-lit and secure access to food and other necessary supplies.

1.3. SECURITY CONTEXT (the following of page 8)

Intimidation of ISIM staff in Muyinga, Buhumuza Province

The Director of the Higher Islamic Institute of Muyinga (ISIM), Ndayikengurukiye Omar, and the head of the academic department, Arakaza Doriane, have vehemently expressed their concern about the threat to their safety in recent days. This institution, located in the commune of Muyinga, in Buhumuza Province, is at the center of a worrying escalation of tensions. What initially appeared to be a simple conflict over academic sanctions has quickly evolved into a serious threat to the physical integrity of its leaders. The unrest is attributed to individuals identified as Imbonerakure, members of the youth league of the ruling party, the CNDD-FDD, who appear to be involved in reprisals.

The situation is deteriorating in the Nursing Department, as third-year Bachelor's students were preparing to begin their practical training in September 2025. This moment was marked by the discovery of various irregularities. Two student representatives, Duhindukiririmana Lahay Loy, the general representative, and Ndayizeye Claude, class representative, were accused of illegally demanding fees of up to 500,000 FBu from certain students to guarantee them a privileged placement at the Muyinga hospital. Students unable to pay this amount were assigned to more distant health facilities, notably in Karusi. Alerted by these dishonest activities, the ISIM management acted swiftly: an investigation

was launched, the amounts collected were claimed back, and disciplinary sanctions were imposed on the two representatives. However, only Ndayizeye Claude was actually expelled, while Lahay Loy, who enjoyed a certain degree of protection thanks to his links with the Imbonerakure, initially seemed to escape any concrete sanctions.

Under pressure, direction decided to transfer him to Karusi Hospital, but Lahay Loy refused to comply with this decision and chose to remain in Muyinga to organize a response. Consistent information reveals that a secret meeting took place at the CIZANYE Hotel on October 13, 2025, where several Imbonerakure, close to Shabani Nimubona, a well-established figure in the region, planned reprisals against ISIM officials accused of defying or ignoring the Imbonerakure. Among the participants at this meeting were Antoine Basabose, known for his role in other acts of intimidation and kidnapping, and Ntibandekura Pascal, President of the Electoral Commission (CECI) of the commune of Muyinga. A cleverly orchestrated plan aims to have them eliminated for having sanctioned activists of the ruling party. In short, Ndayikengurukiye Omar and Arakaza Doriane implore the administrative and judicial authorities to ensure their safety, calling for measures against the instigators of this dangerous plot.

1.3. SECURITY CONTEXT (the following of page 9)

A measure to identify so-called “irregular” residents, launched on Mutambara Hill, located in the Gatete area, Rumonge commune, Burunga province.

On October 13, 2025, a measure to identify so-called “irregular” residents was launched on Mutambara Hill, located in the Gatete area, Rumonge commune, Burunga province. This decision was taken following a security meeting held by the communal administrator, Augustin Minani.

According to the administrator, the main objective is to better control the resident population in order to combat growing insecurity in the region. He instructed local administrators to record all residents in household registers in order to identify those

who live on the hill without officially residing there.

Some members of the population accuse some non-residents, particularly prisoners recently released from Murembwe Central Prison, of being responsible for the insecurity on the hill. These individuals are perceived as suspicious and responsible for several acts of violence.

Over the past three months, three people have been killed on the hill: two women and one man. Despite investigations by the judicial authorities, no suspects have been arrested so far.

1.3. JUDICIAL CONTEXT

Despite numerous irregularities in the case against journalist Sandra Muhoza, the Ngozi High Court decided to keep her in detention. This painful decision, taken on October 14, 2025, was handed down by the court, confirming the journalist's situation. During the public hearing held on October 7, 2025, the defense lawyers highlighted the anomalies in the case, including the fact that Sandra Muhoza appeared in court without first being heard by the public prosecutor's

office in Ngozi, among other questionable elements. As a result, the court decided to take the case under advisement in order to rule on the question of her detention or release. The journalist, who works for the newspaper La Nova, faces charges of undermining territorial integrity and ethnic hatred. In addition, the Bujumbura City Court of Appeals has declared that it lacks jurisdiction to hear the case. Sandra Muhoza has been behind bars for more than a year and a half.

1.4. GOVERNANCE CONTEXT

Arbitrary decisions and abuse of power in Kirundo Commune, Butanyerera Province

On October 10, 2025, in the Murungurira Zone, Zone Chief Niyongere Dieudonné decided to impose a financial penalty on citizens who had not attended the preparatory meeting for the handover ceremonies between the new and former hill

chiefs, fining them 5,000 FBU each. This measure led to significant costs for some households, sometimes exceeding 20,000 FMB. For example, for a household of four, the amount owed by each member was 5,000 FMB, resulting in a total of 20,000 FMB.

1.4. GOVERNANCE CONTEXT (the following of page 10)

In response to this decision, the population is expressing strong anger, but local authorities remain silent. At the same time, the Imbonerakure are going door to door to register individuals over the age of 18, putting

pressure on them to pay the fine. The inhabitants of the area, considering this fine to be unfair, illegal, and excessive, are demanding justice.

Increase in seed prices and seed leakage in Kirundo Commune in Butanyerera Province

As every year, at the start of season A, the government was responsible for managing the sale and distribution of corn seeds, always with the sincere hope of effectively meeting the pressing needs of farmers in the country. Distribution operations had even been carefully launched towards the end of September, in anticipation of the demands of the coming season. However, the quantity of seeds that was actually distributed proved to be largely insufficient to meet the growing demand. Demand, for its part, was becoming increasingly urgent and difficult to ignore. What was once offered at a reasonable price of 9,000 francs for 2 kg quickly turned into an exorbitant bill of 60,000 francs on the black market.

One cannot help but wonder deeply about the origin of these seeds, especially when official distribution has unequivocally failed to meet the urgent needs of local producers. Although no official investigation has yet been opened into this particularly worrying situation, persistent rumors point to the possible involvement of certain BPEAE officials in this shady seed trafficking, which was originally intended to support the population as a whole and guarantee its food security.

Misappropriation of nearly ten million Burundian francs after manipulation of the billing system disrupts the economy of the Makamba hospital center in Burunga province.

Three employees of the Makamba hospital center, all affiliated with the CNDD-FDD party, were arrested by the police on Thursday, October 16, 2025. These employees are accused of embezzling nearly ten million Burundian francs by manipulating the billing system, revealing flaws in internal controls and growing discontent among staff since the 2024 salary reform. According to corroborating information from internal sources, the three agents arrested are Nizeyimana Yvonne, Mugisha Christophe,

and Josué, a computer scientist working in the payment collection department. They allegedly set up a sophisticated scheme allowing them to cancel or modify invoices already paid by patients, then enter false amounts into the billing machine. Initial investigations indicate that up to ten million Burundian francs may have disappeared without a trace. However, it is difficult to determine when these misappropriations began, according to information reported by staff.

1.4. GOVERNANCE CONTEXT (the following of page 11)

This scandal has erupted amid widespread frustration over salaries at the hospital, where the new remuneration policy has caused serious concern. Many contract workers report significant reductions in their salaries, with losses ranging from 130,000 to 160,000 Burundian francs per month, due to a recalculation deemed arbitrary by employees, both in terms of the employment portion and the index portion. The administrative and financial director, Barashingwa Herbert, accused by several employees of orchestrating these adjustments, is criticized for what they

consider to be “unfair and opaque” management.

When contacted for comment on the situation, the hospital's management did not provide any official explanation regarding the matter. Attempts to reach administrative officials have been unsuccessful, leaving questions unanswered. As the police investigation continues, this case highlights the internal tensions and economic unease weighing on this public health institution, where many employees are expressing fears for their professional future.

II. CIVIL AND POLITICAL RIGHTS

Burundi is one of the countries that acceded 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 its domestic legislation, notably in its Constitution of June 7, 2018 (Main Law) in its Article 19, which guarantees that all rights proclaimed and

guaranteed by duly ratified international texts are an integral part of this constitution. Implementing texts have been put in place, notably the Criminal Code of December 29, 2017, and the Code of Criminal Procedure of May 11, 2018, and other institutions for the protection of human rights in Burundi have been created.

II.1. RIGHT TO LIFE

II.1.1. UNINTENTIONAL HOMICIDE

II.1.1.1. PERSONS KILLED BY STATE AGENTS, THE IMBONERAKURE MILITIA, AND UNIDENTIFIED PERSONS

A man was killed in Rushubi Commune in Bujumbura Province.

Yesterday, October 18, 2025, a man named Faustin NISHIMWE, a resident of Colline Gasozo, Mageyo Zone in Mubimbi Commune in Bujumbura Province, was killed by a Burundian police officer.

That day, Faustin Nishimwe had decided to go to downtown Bujumbura to sell his goat. He was with his brother, and when they arrived near the presidential palace, they were stopped by a drunk police officer. The

officer demanded that they give him a receipt (for the goat). Faustin tried to explain that the goat belonged to him and had been raised at their home.

The police officer refused to listen. Instead, he decided to confiscate the goat and take it to a small bush near the palace. As they followed the police officer, asking him where he was taking their goat, he shot Faustin four times in the head.

II.1.1.1. PEOPLE KILLED BY STATE AGENTS, THE IMBONERAKURE MILITIA, AND UNIDENTIFIED PERSONS (the following of page 12)

fell to the ground after being beaten with sticks by the same police officer before committing the crime. He died instantly.

His brother was saved by a group of soldiers who were nearby, according to our source.

II.1.1.2. PEOPLE KILLED AS A RESULT OF SETTLING SCORES

A grenade attack leaves two dead and several injured in a land dispute in Gasenyi, Buganda area, Bukinanyana commune, Bujumbura province

On October 13, 2025, on Buringa Hill in the Buganda area of Bukinanyana commune in Bujumbura province, a grenade was thrown at the Havyarimana family. Ismaël Havyarimana, aged 72, died in the attack, while his wife Éméliane, aged 60, and two grandchildren were seriously injured, one of whom did not survive and died in hospital. This incident occurred in a context of tensions linked to land disputes. The peaceful evening was interrupted by a thunderous explosion, plunging the community into panic.

According to Evariste Ntahiraja, the area chief, the attack may be linked to an old land dispute, as the deceased had already escaped three assassination attempts. Rumors of witchcraft are also fueling the current rivalries.

Witnesses report seeing armed men around

Havyarimana's house, reinforcing the idea of a planned attack. The authorities in Bukinanyana have launched an investigation to clarify the circumstances. The community is on high alert, fearing reprisals, while emergency meetings are being held to ease tensions. The Havyarimana family accuses Ismael's brothers of being involved in the tragedy.

Ismael leaves a widow, eight children, and several grandchildren, and is well respected in the community. His tragic death highlights the recurring land conflicts in Burundi, often fueled by rumors and the inefficiency of the local justice system. A village leader lamented, "These land disputes always end in tragedy." Grenade attacks, common in neighborhood conflicts, continue to sow fear in Gasenyi, with the hope that justice will be done and the truth will emerge.

A 4-year-old girl killed by her stepmother in Karinzi, Gahombo area, Muhanga commune, Butanyerera province

Information received by the Iteka League on October 16, 2025, indicates that on October 10, 2025, at the Nkomero hill in the Karinzi area of the Gahombo zone in the Muhanga commune of Butanyerera province, a girl named Akimana Aimée Orinthia, aged 4 years and 8 months, daughter of Ndagijimana Chadrack and Sonerimana Dorine, died after being beaten with sticks by her stepmother, Anicelatte.

Information gathered at the scene, which has been confirmed by the chief of the Gahombo Nshimirimana Samuel area, indicates that the little girl was abused by her stepmother, Annonciate, who often beat her with sticks. The victim subsequently fell ill but was not treated by her family, at least not by her father or stepmother, as her biological mother had left the

II.1.1.2. PEOPLE KILLED AS A RESULT OF SETTLING SCORES

(the following of page 13)

household to Annonciate, Chadrack's second wife. According to the same information, on October 11, Anicelatte was arrested and taken to the Gahombo prison for judicial

investigations, while Ndagijimana Chadrack, the little girl's father, fled and remains wanted to be brought to justice.

Newborn killed by mother in Muramba, Bubanza commune in Bujumbura province

On October 16, 2025, on Ciya Hill in the Bubanza area and commune, police discovered the body of a newborn baby. Caline Cishahayo, 18, had reportedly given birth alone, then strangled her baby and buried the body near her home. Alerted by her behavior, the police arrested her. The zone chief confirmed the incident and said that the body had been exhumed for a proper burial.

The case sparked a strong reaction in the commune, with associations emphasizing the need for rigorous justice and questioning the conditions that led to such acts. The alleged perpetrator, Caline, cites fear and despair as motives for her actions, claiming that the alleged father refused to take responsibility. Currently in custody, she is being prosecuted

for infanticide, a crime severely punished under Burundian law. This tragedy highlights a disturbing phenomenon. It should be noted that such cases have been reported in Bubanza since the beginning of the year, often involving young mothers who have been abandoned and left without resources. Women's and human rights organizations are calling for greater awareness of reproductive health and support mechanisms. Until these teenagers have access to psychological and social support, such tragedies are likely to recur. This latest tragedy raises the debate on collective responsibility for early pregnancies and the lack of support for young mothers, reflecting the challenges associated with poverty and education.

II.1.1.3. LIFELESS BODIES FOUND

A lifeless body found in Kiganda commune, Gitega Province

On the morning of October 15, around 6 a.m., a lifeless body was found on the banks of the Mucece River, Kivyeyi Hill, Kiganda Commune, Gitega Province. The body was spotted by students on their way to Ecofo Kivyeyi.

His arms were tied with a rope, he had wounds on his neck and back, and he was

wearing only faded blue jeans. He could not be identified, and the chief of Kivyeyi hill demanded that he be buried the same day. Sources on the ground indicate that this man was killed elsewhere and thrown into the river, as there was no blood at the scene.

II.1.1.3. LIFELESS BODIES FOUND (the following of page 14)

A lifeless body found on Karambi Hill, Gatara area, Matongo commune in Butanyerera commune

On October 17, 2025, emotions remain high in Karambi, where Joseph Ndinzemenshi, a 70-year-old man, was found dead, hanged in his home. A neighbor who discovered him alerted the authorities, who confirmed his death. Joseph, who lived alone, had recently been experiencing marital tensions, often complaining about conflicts with his wife. “He seemed to be in great distress,” said one resident, who is still shaken by the incident. The local chief, Satany Niyongabo, expressed his sadness at the suicide, noting that Joseph was a respected and calm man, but one who was facing personal difficulties. This tragic

event is part of a worrying increase in suicides in Butanyerera province, where hanging is the preferred method, affecting both young and old. The causes include family conflicts, economic distress, and mental health issues.

Authorities are stepping up awareness campaigns on peaceful conflict resolution and the importance of community dialogue. Joseph's tragedy highlights the need for better psychological support for elderly people, who are often isolated. “Many elderly people are alone, when they need help,” said a neighbor, saddened by the loss.

II.1.1.4. ENLISTMENTS AND/OR FORCED DISAPPEARANCES

CDP party activists kidnapped and another missing in Makamba, Burunga province

Since early October 2025, there has been a series of worrying incidents involving members of the CDP (Congress for the Development of the People) party in Burunga province, particularly in the commune of Makamba. These events are causing deep concern among the population and party members. On October 6, 2025, Ntakirutimana Bosco, known as Rubabwa and responsible for CDP political mobilization in Kibago, was abducted by individuals identified as belonging to the Imbonerakure. He is suspected of having made comments deemed “suspicious” during a telephone conversation. After questioning, he was finally released on October 7.

On October 10, 2025, Bosco was arrested again, this time while at the Jimbi market, by police officers. Despite efforts by the population to prevent his transfer, he was taken to the Kibago communal police station.

On October 11, 2025, his family reported that he had been taken from his cell in the early morning without knowing his destination and had been unreachable for four days, causing great anxiety among his relatives.

On October 13, 2025, Alain Michel Minani, the CDP's municipal leader in Kibago, was summoned and held for several hours at the municipal police station, where the authorities questioned him about the population's reactions to Bosco's arrest.

It should be noted that all the CDP activists involved were released without any official legal proceedings being initiated. Nevertheless, the exact circumstances of Bosco's disappearance remain unclear, and no official statement has been issued by the local authorities.

II.1.1.4. ENLISTMENTS AND/OR FORCED DISAPPEARANCES (the following of page 15)

These incidents illustrate a climate of intimidation and political tension within Burunga. The CDP, along with local civil society, is calling for transparency and

security guarantees for political actors in order to prevent potential abuses in the future.

II.2. PHYSICAL AND/OR MENTAL INTEGRITY

II.2.1. RAPE

A 12-year-old girl raped on Rugembe hill, Mugere commune, Bujumbura province

Information received on October 15, 2025, indicates that on October 8, 2025, at around 10 a.m. on Rugembe Hill in the municipality of MUGERE in Bujumbura province, a 26-year-old man named BIZIMANA Alexis raped a 12-year-old girl named N.N.B. The alleged perpetrator took advantage of

the parents' absence from home and met the child behind the house, where he then raped her. The victim received all necessary care at Kabezi Hospital, while the perpetrator is being held in the Mugere municipal jail pending further legal proceedings.

A 12-year-old girl raped on Sororezo hill, Kanyosha area, Mugere commune, Bujumbura province

On October 16, 2025, the Iteka League received information indicating that on October 10, 2025, on Sororezo Hill in the municipality of Kanyosha in the province of Bujumbura, a 10-year-old girl named I. L. D., aged 10, a second-year pupil at ECOFO SOROREZO, whose parents are B. N. and N. C., had been raped by MINANI Philbert,

aged 42. The alleged perpetrator encountered the child while she was gathering firewood in a field, called her over to give her some firewood, and then raped her. The victim received medical assistance at the SOROREZO health center, while the perpetrator is being held in the KABEZI

An 18-year-old girl raped by a police officer in Matongo, Matongo commune, Butanyerera province

Information received by the Iteka League on October 16, 2025 indicates that on October 11, 2025, on Matongo Hill in the Matongo commune of Butanyerera province, an 18-year-old girl named N. N, daughter of Niyintungiye Théogone and Nsabimana Daphrose, aged 18, was raped by a police officer named Alfred.

According to information gathered at the scene, N. N. was spending a few days in the Matongo commune jail, held for judicial

investigation after being accused of stealing household goods in Bujumbura, where she worked as a maid. According to the same information, Alfred, the police officer guarding the cell, sneaked into the Matongo communal women's cell to rape her. When she cried out for help, the police officer fled, leaving behind his weapon, which was recovered the next day, October 12, 2025, by the Matongo communal commissioner.

II.2.1. RAPES (the following of page 16)

A minor raped in Isare, Bujumbura province

On October 15, 2025, at around 5 p.m., K.A., a 15-year-old eighth-grade student at ECOFO Caranka, was raped on Caranka Hill in the commune of Isare, Bujumbura province.

On that day, the alleged perpetrator, identified as Jean Michel Ndinzirindi, a 38-year-old single man and neighbor of the family, reportedly met the victim in a

eucalyptus plantation. The child was gathering fodder (feed for livestock) when he allegedly raped her. The victim did not hide the facts and immediately told her parents everything. Informed that he was wanted, the alleged perpetrator fled. The victim received the necessary care at Rushubi Hospital.

II.2.2. OTHER GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

An 11-year-old girl burned by her mother in Muyange, Gatumba area, Mutimbuzi commune in Bujumbura Province

Information received by the Iteka League on October 14, 2025, indicates that on October 8, 2025, at around 9 p.m. on the MUYANGE II hill in the GATUMBA area of the MUTIMBUZI commune in the province of Bujumbura, an 11-year-old girl named IRAMBONA Anny Tania, a third-year student at ÉCOFO GATUMBA, was burned by her mother, NTAHIMPERA Marie Claire. It all started when she was given 5,000 Fbu

to buy a 100-sheet notebook that she had been asked to bring to school. Unfortunately, she lost the money on her way to the store. When she returned home, her mother took her right hand and put it in the fire. The alleged perpetrator has been arrested and is being held in the police cell in Gatumba, while the victim is in need of medical assistance.

An attempted self-immolation by a civilian shocks residents in the Samariro neighborhood, Maramvya area, Mutimbuzi commune, Bujumbura province

A violent incident took place on October 14, 2025, in the Maramvya neighborhood of Mutimbuzi commune in Bujumbura province, where a young Imbonerakure member of the CNDD-FDD named Simon attempted to burn a citizen by pouring gasoline on him. The victim, who had a small amount of fuel for domestic use, was accused by Simon of illegal trade. Thanks to the rapid intervention of neighbors, the fire was extinguished, saving the victim's life. He was taken to a clinic for intensive care.

The residents, shocked by this brutal act, wanted to attack the assailant. The police had to fire into the air to disperse the crowd and evacuate Simon. The police said he would be prosecuted, but the population doubts that justice will be served, believing that Simon will enjoy impunity because of his affiliation with the Imbonerakure. Residents are demanding that justice be done and that Simon pay for the victim's medical care, while calling for an end to Imbonerakure violence in the area.

II. ECONOMIC, SOCIAL, AND CULTURAL RIGHTS

III.1. DISRUPTION TO ECONOMIC LIFE

Public discontent due to a lack of manure in Kirundo Commune, Butanyerera Province

The population of Kirundo Commune is complaining about not receiving “FOMI” fertilizer on time. Normally, distribution of this fertilizer begins in September. But so far, nothing has been given out. Payment of the balance is scheduled to begin on October

23, 2025. By that date, the sowing period will be coming to an end. One can only imagine if the leaders in charge are not thinking about the growing season. Even worse, there are those who hold unused Season C tickets and whose projects have gone bankrupt.

III.2. RIGHT TO EDUCATION

Lack of human resources in the Municipal Education Department of Ruyigi, Buhumuza Province

Teachers who are assigned other duties and those who leave their jobs without being replaced are among the reasons for the poor progress in various schools in the Ruyigi DCE, Buhumuza Province. Some principals and parents of students at these schools are asking the government to replace these teachers and are also calling for an increase in teachers' salaries in order to put an end to this habit of abandoning work. Herménégilde Nibigira, director of education in the

commune of Ruyigi, says that the number of those who have left their jobs and those who have been assigned to other positions has been recorded so that they can be replaced.

It should be noted that this shortage has enormous consequences not only for the delivery of course content (the subjects to be covered) but also for the way in which students' understanding of the lesson is assessed.

III.3. RIGHT TO HEALTH

A cholera epidemic linked to a severe lack of hygiene and drinking water in Kizuka, Rumonge commune, Burunga province

In Rumonge, six cases of cholera were recorded during the week of October 13 to 19, 2025, according to information from medical sources. The patients, who have been placed in quarantine, come mainly from the Kizuka area, located in the commune of Rumonge. The town, along with its surroundings such as Rutumo and Kizuka, has been facing a serious problem of access to drinking water for several months. With no alternative resources available, residents are turning to streams or the waters of Lake Tanganyika,

which are known to be areas conducive to the proliferation of cholera vibrio. The epidemic was initially detected the previous week in the Magara area of Muhuta commune, which is part of the neighboring province of Bujumbura.

Four suspected cases from Rutumo, specifically from the Minago area of Rumonge commune, were transferred to the site to receive treatment.

III.3. RIGHT TO HEALTH (the following of page 18)

Despite initiatives by local authorities to prevent the spread of the disease through hygiene awareness campaigns, the lack of drinking water remains a significant obstacle to an effective response. The local Red Cross reports that it has storage tarpaulins available, but lacks the logistical resources to supply them, particularly tanker trucks. The organization is also involved in disinfecting patients' homes and latrines. In addition, civil protection police officials in Rumonge have no means of transport suitable for this crisis.

An administrative official, speaking on condition of anonymity, criticized the

Cholera outbreak in Gihanga commune, Bujumbura province

In the corridors of Saint-Augustin Hospital in Gihanga, tension has been palpable for the past month. A cholera epidemic is worrying residents in this area of western Burundi, with twenty confirmed cases and three deaths. Dr. Joëlle Bigirimana reports that the disease remains out of control, with new cases reported in Busongo, Murira, and Gihanga. Health workers are working in villages, disinfecting the homes of sick people and raising awareness about hygiene, with the help of the Red Crescent. A volunteer in Busongo points out that “without clean water, our efforts are fragile.” The lack of drinking water is the main cause of this outbreak: many residents use polluted water. Fatuma Kubwayo from Murira explains: “The water from the marsh is the only water we have. We know it's dirty, but we have no choice.” Health officials acknowledge that this structural problem complicates the fight against disease.

Dr. Bigirimana stresses the need to improve water infrastructure for effective prevention.

ineffectiveness of control measures due to the lack of a regular supply of drinking water. For local populations, access to this precious resource is becoming a real luxury. A 20-liter jerry can sells for between 1,000 and 2,000 Burundian francs, an exceptionally high price for most people, not to mention the physical challenges involved in obtaining it. Regional health authorities are sounding the alarm and urgently calling for intervention by national authorities and humanitarian partners to provide the city with a supply of drinking water and strengthen response capacities.

While waiting for sustainable solutions, awareness campaigns are being organized: residents are encouraged to boil water, wash their hands, and use clean latrines. A nurse from Gihanga emphasizes the importance of daily habits such as not consuming untreated water. However, the population wants concrete action. A young man from Murira says, “We want water fountains, not just advice,” illustrating the urgent need for equitable access to clean water. Local authorities say the situation is under control, with stocks of rehydration salts and antibiotics being distributed. Nevertheless, vigilance remains essential. Cholera, a reflection of water inequalities, highlights the fragility of sanitary conditions in certain rural areas. A resident of Busongo expresses a shared sentiment: “We no longer want to bury our loved ones to a disease that can be prevented.” Every day, Gihanga fights against cholera, hoping for a better future.

IV. CONCLUSION ET RECOMMENDATIONS

The Iteka League strongly condemns the continuing deterioration of human rights in Burundi and condemns the impunity of perpetrators of crimes. It calls on the Burundian authorities to take all possible measures and recommends the following:

The Government of Burundi should:

- ⇒ Conduct thorough investigations into human rights violations and prosecute those responsible, including administrative officials, police officers, soldiers, and young Imbonerakure members of the ruling party;
- ⇒ Guarantee the independence and impartiality of the judiciary so that it can deal with cases of human rights violations fairly;
- ⇒ Take concrete and effective measures, including prevention and sanitation, to fight against cholera.