



Anyone should be respected

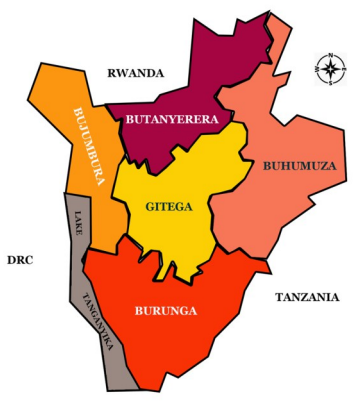
BURUNDIAN LEAGUE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS "ITEKA"

WEEKLY BULLETIN

"Iteka n'Ijambo"

N°498 from 27 to 02 November 2025

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



In memory of Madame Marie Claudette Kwizera, treasurer of the Iteka League, who has been missing since December 10, 2015. From December 2015 to November 2, 2025, at least 845 victims of enforced disappearance have been documented by the Iteka League, at least 86 victims have reappeared, and 760 victims are still missing. The United Nations Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances (WGEID) has already communicated to the government of Burundi regarding at least 252 victims¹.

¹<https://docs.un.org/fr/A/HRC/57/54>

The ITEKA League: “

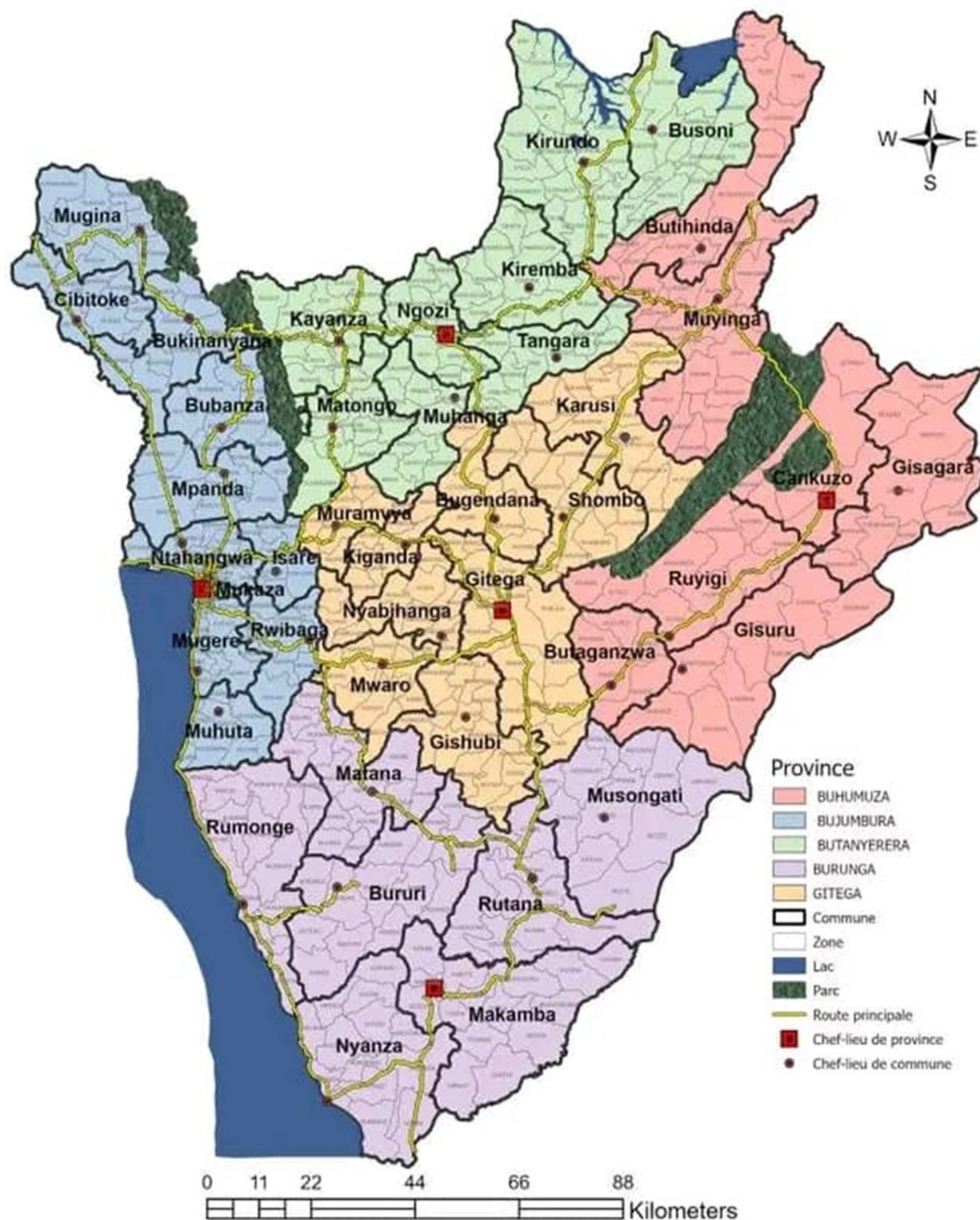
- ♦ Is a member of the Inter-African Union for Human and Peoples' Rights (UIDH), is an affiliated member of the International Federation for Human Rights (FIDH),
- ♦ Has observer status with the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights under reference number OBS.236 and is a member of ECOSOC”.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

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ADMINISTRATIVE MAP OF BURUNDI

NEW ADMINISTRATIVE REDIVISION OF MARCH 16, 2023



ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

BSR	: <i>Special Research Bureau</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>National Independent Commission for Human Rights</i>
CNL	: <i>National Congress for Liberty</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>
FDNB	: <i>National Defense Force of Burundi</i>
FLN	: <i>National Liberation Forces</i>
M23	: <i>March 23 Movement</i>
OPJ	: <i>Judicial Police Officer</i>
PNB	: <i>National Police of Burundi</i>
RDC	: <i>Democratic Republic of Congo</i>
RN	: <i>National Road</i>
TGI	: <i>High Court</i>
SNR	: <i>National Enquiry Service</i>
UFB	: <i>Union of Burundian Women of the UPRONA party</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 27 to November 3, 2025. In this report, the Iteka League also examines the political, security, judicial, governance, economic, and humanitarian context. It also analyzes illustrative cases of violations of civil and political rights, as well as economic, social, and cultural rights.

The human rights violations observed and documented by the Iteka League are as follows for this period: at least 5 people killed, all found deceased, 3 people abducted, 1 victim of rape who is a minor under 18 years old, and 1 person tortured.

Among the victims are 3 deceased bodies of 1 girl and 2 women; the body of a newborn; and 3 members of the CNDD-FDD were abducted.

Imbonerakure of the ruling CNDD-FDD party, agents of the SNR, police officers, and administrative officials are accused of being the main alleged perpetrators of these human rights violations.

I. CONTEXT

1.1. POLITICAL CONTEXT

Political intolerance in Musongati Commune of Burunga Province

On 28/10/2025 on Giharo Hill in the Giharo zone in Musongati commune of Burunga province, Mrs. Capitoline, a member of the Women's League of the UPRONA party, "UFB" in acronym, was beaten to death by her neighbor named Nadine, a teacher from ECOFO Nyaburange, a member of the CNDD-FDD women's league and Joseph's wife.

The main reason that led Nadine to torture Mrs. Capitoline is that the latter would have denounced Mr. Joseph (Nadine's husband) for blocking the entrance to their home by collecting and putting a pile of bricks in it. Nothing was done to arrest the alleged

perpetrator despite the fact that the victim had suffered serious torture to such an extent that she was forced to go to the hospital for treatment where she spent more than 2 days, according to our source on the spot.

According to the same source, a resident of the former Commune of Giharo clearly stated that currently, only members of the CNDD-FDD dictate everything in Musongati, and if you are not a member of the CNDD-FDD, you are exposed to all kinds of violence with no justice for the victims.

1.2. SECURITY CONTEXT

A person injured by an Imbonerakure in Ruyigi commune, Buhumuza province

On the night of October 27, 2025, around 9 PM, on Sorero Hill, in the Butezi area, in the heart of the commune of Ruyigi, Buhumuza province, Edouard Nimenya, a young man among the Imbonerakure affiliated with the CNDD-FDD party, began attacking his comrade Albert Bizimana with a knife.

The origin of this tragedy was a conflict over a sum of 50,000 FBU that the two young men had collected the previous day by taxing merchants in the center of Sorero. The merchants were accused of having violated the kiosk closing hours during a nighttime patrol orchestrated by the young Imbonerakure.

1.2. SECURITY CONTEXT (the following of page 5)

Tensions quickly rose during the distribution of the gains, leading to a dispute that escalated into a fatal altercation. After these grim events, Édouard fled, but his escape was short-lived.

The next morning, around 7 a.m., he was apprehended in the Bwagiriza area while

trying to flee on a motorcycle. Initially imprisoned in the Butezi area dungeon, he was later transferred to the provincial police station in Ruyigi, where he awaits his fate. Meanwhile, Albert, the victim of this attack, was rushed to Butezi hospital to receive the necessary medical care.

A fight between Seventh-day Adventists and Muslims following an unexpected death in Ruyigi commune, Buhumuza province

On October 28 in the Kayongozi area, Ruyigi commune, Buhumuza province, more precisely in the Nyankanda Congolese refugee camp, there was a sudden death of a certain Pendo, wife of Selemani, all of Congolese nationality.

After this death, there was a fight because Pendo and her husband Selemani did not share the same religion. Pendo was a follower of the Seventh-day Adventist religion, while Selemani was Muslim. The Muslims wanted to proceed with the burial according to Muslim rites, and the Adventists wanted the

burial ceremonies to follow their own religious practices.

The two sides could not reach an agreement. The Muslims dug one grave, and the Adventists dug another.

In the grave dug by the Adventists, Pendo's body was placed, while in the grave dug by the Muslims, a banana shoot was buried. A strange phenomenon that amazed many people who were present at the scene.

A child died as a result of an accident

On the night from Sunday to Monday, October 25, 2025, around 7 p.m., in the Taba neighborhood, MWOYA hill, BUHIGA area of the KARUSI commune, a man named Casimire, from CNDD FDD, 36 years old, who works as a motorcycle taxi driver, along with his wife and their 2-year-old child, were

victims of a fire. This happened while he was transferring gasoline into a plastic bottle near a lit brazier, and they caught fire, resulting in the child dying before reaching Buhiga hospital. This man and woman are at the Karusi Centenary Hospital but are in critical condition, according to neighbors.

1.3. JUDICIAL CONTEXT

Detention of students following the fire at Green Hills International College in Gitega

Since Thursday, October 23, 2025, the situation of the students arrested by the Gitega Police at the request of the Attorney General near the Gitega Court of Appeal has captured the attention of the local residents. The allegations against them concern a fire that broke out during the night from Wednesday to Thursday, October 23, 2025, around 2 a.m., at the Green Hills International College, located in Q. Bwoga (Kumusave), opposite the Gitega School of Public Works. According to preliminary assessments, the offices of the Administration as well as those of the Study Prefecture were completely ravaged by flames after the institution's surveillance cameras were destroyed. The alleged perpetrators reportedly took care to conceal their identity by covering their faces, which complicated their identification. On the morning of Thursday, October 23, 2025, an investigation was opened, leading to the arrest of twenty-five (25) students suspected of participating in this criminal act. These young people were taken to and placed in detention at the provincial police station in Gitega, pending judicial proceedings.

Following these arrests, several consultation meetings were held between the students' parents and the judicial and police authorities. According to the information gathered, it was agreed that each parent of the students involved should contribute 4,685,500 FBu to compensate for the damages caused by the fire. However, some parents

expressed reservations about this decision, citing their influence or the support they received due to their political affiliation with the CNDD-FDD. This disagreement ultimately prompted the Attorney General, Nishemezwe Félicité, to intervene, thereby ordering the transfer of detained students to various prisons, which caused a general shock on Thursday, October 30, 2025.

According to the same source, the following measures were taken: five minor students were released, while five others (including three boys and two girls) were sent to the central prison of Gitega. The remaining fifteen were dispersed to other penitentiary establishments in the country, including the prisons of Ruyigi and Ngozi. It should be noted that the school regulations in force in Burundi (Ministerial Order No. 610/1076 of July 17, 2017) do not explicitly provide provisions regarding acts of arson or intentional destruction of school property. However, a consulted lawyer stated that such actions fall under the Burundian Penal Code, which severely punishes offenses such as arson, destruction of public or private property, and the concealment of evidence. These events are therefore considered criminal offenses rather than mere disciplinary violations, explained this consulted lawyer. It should be noted that at the time of drafting this news bulletin, the order to transfer these students to other prisons had not yet been carried out.

Trial in a public hearing before the TGI Rutana in Burunga Province

On 29/10/2025, the High Court of RUTANA sentenced Alexis KWIZERA (driver of a Probox vehicle) and Ferdinand MANIRAKIZA (merchant) in a public flagrante delicto hearing to a main sentence of 6 months and a fine of one million Burundian francs each for having disrupted the country's economic security.

Indeed, Manirakiza Ferdinand, a resident of the main town of the Rutana Commune (Kigwati neighborhood), had one ton and 10

bags of chemical fertilizer produced by FOMI which he wanted to sell in Tanzania and called Alexis KWIZERA (Probox driver) for transportation. Upon arriving at Nyabakara Hill, Gakungu Zone, Musongati Commune in Burunga Province, they were arrested by the local police and returned to the holding cell of the Giharo communal police station. Afterwards, they were taken to Rutana before the Rutana Prosecutor, who referred the case to the Rutana High Court for a public flagrante delicto hearing.

The police officer was sentenced to life imprisonment for the murder of a young man in the middle of Bujumbura, Ntahangwa commune, Bujumbura province

The Bujumbura High Court (TGI) has just sentenced police officer Arcade to life imprisonment, having been found guilty of the murder of Nishimwe Faustin, which occurred² on October 18, 2025, near the presidential palace, known as Ntare House. According to the facts established during the trial, police officer Arcade had opened fire on Nishimwe Faustin under circumstances that deeply shocked the population of Bujumbura. The investigation concluded that it was a deliberate act, lacking any legal justification, leading to the young man's tragic death.

After several days of preventive detention and public hearings, the TGI delivered its

verdict: Arcade will spend the rest of his life in prison. The victim, Nishimwe Faustin, was buried on Wednesday, October 29, 2025, at the Mpanda cemetery, in the presence of his family, relatives, and many residents who came to pay their last respects. His body had been kept at the morgue of the Kamenge military hospital since the day of the tragedy.

Married and father of three young children, Nishimwe leaves behind a devastated family. His widow expressed, with emotion, her hope that justice would truly be served and that such acts would never occur again.

14 young people arrested for alleged plot against the chief of Mwange hill, Kizuka area, Rumonge commune, Burunga province

On October 27, 2025, the Iteka League was alerted to events that occurred a few days earlier, on October 23. Fourteen young affiliates of the ruling party, the CNDD-FDD, locally nicknamed the abasatirizi, had been arrested on Mwange Hill, in the Kizuka area, in the commune of Rumonge, Burunga province. Circulating information indicated that they were being prosecuted for an alleged plot targeting the leader of this hill. According to the information that emerged,

these young people had exchanged an audio message whose content remains mysterious to this day. The police emphasized that this communication is at the heart of the ongoing investigation.

The fourteen individuals were placed in custody at the Rumonge provincial police station, where they had to answer the investigators' questions.

²<https://ligue-iteka.bi/wp-content/uploads/2025/10/Bulletin-ITEKA-N-IJAMBO-496.pdf>

1.3. JUDICIAL CONTEXT (the following of page 8)

Witnesses present at the scene reported that the young people who were stopped were opposing the hill chief, who had recently been elected during the elections held on August 25, 2025. This election had indeed caused considerable tensions: the Electoral Commission of the Rumonge commune (CECI) had attempted to contest its validity before he received massive support from the population.

Men, women, and elderly people had gathered to organize a sit-in in front of the Public Prosecutor's Office in Rumonge, strongly demanding the release of the hill chief, who was then under arrest following a previous

A leader of the Anglican Bible group imprisoned at the Rumonge police station in Burunga province

The named Nibizi Eric, leader of the Anglican Bible group at Christ Roi High School in Buyengero, Rumonge commune, Burunga province, has been held in the Rumonge police station cell since October 16, 2025. He is accused of sexual violence against the student E., 18 years old, from 2nd IG at the same high school, and originally from Gasenyi hill, Mudende area, Rumonge commune.

According to the victim's accounts, she said that he called her towards the end of the 3rd quarter of 2024-2025 (27/6/2025), and raped her saying that he wants to remove the curse from her and based on the words of the lord. It should be noted that he said many times that she had a curse that haunted her. After the act that took place in the house of the

detention on accusations of embezzlement. Faced with this intense popular pressure, the prosecutor's office eventually yielded, allowing not only his release but also his official inauguration following the announcement of the results by the Independent National Electoral Commission (CENI).

Currently, investigations are ongoing at the Public Prosecutor's Office in Rumonge to clarify the true nature of the exchanged message as well as the extent of the alleged conspiracy, according to a police official who chose to remain anonymous.

evangelists of the Anglican church in the capital of the Muyama zone, Rumonge commune. The girl told what happened to a friend who advised her to go to Muyama Hospital for medical care and found that she has an unwanted pregnancy. As the summer holidays were about to begin, it was difficult for him to file a complaint with the police. The alleged was arrested on 16/10/2025, and was taken to the Rumonge police station.

The file is at the Rumonge prosecutor's office; it should be heard on 10/29/2025, but he said he is waiting for the assistance of a lawyer. He will appear on 11/3/2025. As for the survivor, she also requests legal assistance, which has been impossible due to a lack of means to obtain it.

1.4. GOVERNANCE CONTEXT

Implementation of a new system allowing Burundian citizens to report issues related to the processing of their files within the Ministry of Finance

The Ministry of Finance, Budget, and Digital Economy in Burundi has just implemented a new system that allows citizens to report issues related to the processing of their files. The main objective is to bring the

administration closer to the public, promote better organization, and provide more transparency and accountability in citizen services.

I.4. GOVERNANCE CONTEXT (the following of page page 9)

Indeed, on October 27, 2025, in a public information note indicating that as part of the continuous improvement of public service quality, the office of the said Ministry shared the telephone numbers of the Minister and the Secretary with which people can report encountered problems such as lost documents or the non-processing of files within 30 days.

In addition, he took this opportunity to inform the public about the days of hearings when the Minister grants audiences. These are Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday starting from 3 p.m.

This measure was implemented at a time when the Burundian Ministry of Finance is facing several major challenges that hinder its effectiveness and the economic stability of the country. Among these main challenges are a budget deficit, low disbursement rates, corruption particularly in the collection of tax revenues and the execution of projects funded by the World Bank, a lack of suitable digitalization for public financial

management, constraints related to public procurement, frequent requests for budget reallocations that may disrupt project and program planning and execution, and the abusive use of public resources by certain senior officials for private economic activities, thereby creating unfair competition in the market. The delay in the implementation of projects funded by the World Bank and IFAD also constitutes an obstacle to accomplishing the mission set by the said Ministry.

It should be noted, illustratively, that for the 2024-2025 fiscal year, the disbursement rate of funds allocated by the World Bank is 13.3% against an initial forecast of 25%.

Ultimately, to address these challenges, the Ministry of Finance and the Burundian authorities must implement structural reforms aimed at improving public financial management, strengthening transparency and accountability, and promoting sustainable and inclusive economic growth.

Fertilizer shortage in Kirundo Commune in Butanyerera Province

In the Kirundo commune, farmers are plunged into deep despair. They raise their voices, desperate, in the face of a persisting problem: the manure they paid for long ago has still not been delivered. Currently, as we are in the middle of season A, those who had placed orders for manure for the 2025 season C have still not received what is due to them. Even worse, the hope of receiving it is dwindling, as even those preparing for the 2026 season A encounter the same difficulties. During the harvest of season C, the outcome fell short of expectations, mainly due to a

crucial shortage of manure, despite orders being placed and paid for on time.

The administration, for its part, remains silent and provides no explanation. Looking toward the 2026 Season A, nearly 30% of applicants have already not been served, causing a worrying delay in sowing. Distributors, who compile the order tickets, promised the farmers they would notify them to collect the manure they had already paid for. Yet, now that the sowing period has passed, these promises have gone unfulfilled.

1.4. GOVERNANCE CONTEXT (the following of page 10)

The abuse of power by the Director of Mwaro I Communal High School in Gitega Province

The principal of Mwaro I Célestin Nduwimana Municipal High School demanded that the students of this school, two weeks ago, each pay an amount of 2,000 F to get a haircut at school. But so far, this barber from outside the school has never shown up. This Tuesday, the students had heard that the barber was coming and waited, but only 3 students were actually

given haircuts. Some went home around 7 p.m. without having their hair cut, even though this amount had been paid on the principal's order. The measure applies to all students.

However, in other schools like Mwaro High School, a boarding school in the vicinity, external students are not affected by this measure.

1.5. ENVIRONMENTAL CONTEXT

Torrential rains are causing significant damage in the commune of Makamba, in Burunga province

Torrential rains had struck the commune of Makamba, located in the Burunga province, causing considerable devastation. It was on October 29, 2025, when, in the afternoon, heavy rains accompanied by strong winds began flooding the land. Initial estimates reported two lives lost, 117 homes completely destroyed, and two classrooms of ÉCOFO Gashonge that had collapsed, leaving the residents in dismay. The livestock, meanwhile, had also suffered heavy losses.

The commune of Rutana was not spared, with damage reported there, although the extent remained unknown at that time. Meanwhile, local authorities were engaged in ceremonies, celebrating the inauguration of the new communal administrator of Nyanza, an event enhanced by the presence of President Évariste Ndayishimiye. In this context of crisis, the affected populations cried out in despair, calling for urgent aid to find shelter and to begin the reconstruction of devastated infrastructure.

A little girl died after a house collapsed due to rain on Musave Hill, in the city and commune of Kayanza, in Butanyerera province

On October 28, 2025, sad news spread about a tragedy that occurred on Sunday, October 26, in the commune of Kayanza, in the province of Butanyerera. The torrential rain that fell that day resulted in the death of an eight-year-old girl and caused considerable damage to five classrooms in the primary schools of Nkongwe and Gitwa, located in the neighborhoods of Muruta and Nyabihogo. The officials of the schools affected by this disaster quickly sought the intervention of the competent authorities, pleading for urgent measures to be taken to renovate the facilities as soon as possible, so that the students could quickly regain optimal learning conditions.

This victim, a student at Murago Primary School, had left her home to go to Musave Hill, in the city of Kayanza, where she had gone to visit members of her family. Unfortunately, the situation turned tragic when heavy rains suddenly struck the area, causing the collapse of the house where she was. The building completely fell on the little girl, ending her life instantly. At the same time, three other children were also victims of this unexpected storm, injured when the roofs of three classrooms at the primary school, located in the Muruta sector, were swept away. These children were quickly evacuated to a nearby care facility to receive the necessary assistance.

1.6. HUMANITARIAN CONTEXT

Alarming situation of Congolese refugees settled in Burundi

Congolese refugees settled in Burundi, estimated at around 100,000, living in several sites including Rugombo Stadium, Musenyi Camp, Gihanga Site, Bwagiriza, Nyankanda, Musasa, Kinama, and Kavumu, face numerous challenges.

Indeed, among these challenges are precarious living conditions, difficulties in accessing healthcare, gaps in schooling, sexual and gender-based violence, lack of livelihoods, as well as discrimination, particularly against Congolese Banyamulenge refugees.

Regarding their living conditions, these refugees live in difficult circumstances, with families still residing in hangars and lacking access to drinking water. .

Regarding difficulties in accessing healthcare, the Musenyi site, for example, only has a single ambulance and a small health center, which makes accessing medical care difficult.

In terms of education, about 9,000 school-aged children face difficulties in accessing education due to the lack of infrastructure and resources. Concerning sexual and gender-based violence, where the victims are mostly women and children, the alleged perpetrators include individuals within the refugee camps, individuals coming from outside the camp, including Burundians from neighboring hills, and armed groups that forced refugees to flee the DRC.

Regarding the lack of means of livelihood, these refugees struggle to find ways to support themselves and rely on humanitarian aid, which comes only in trickles.

As for the Congolese Banyamulenge refugees settled in Burundi, they are particularly vulnerable due to their complex political and security situation. They are often victims of stigmatization and unfounded accusations because of their ethnic background and

supposed Rwandan origin. Furthermore, they are often accused of being Rwandan spies or M23 sympathizers, exposing them to risks of persecution, violence, lack of recognition of their refugee status to access basic services, and are at risk of forced repatriation.

Facing these challenges, humanitarian organizations are working tirelessly to meet the needs of these refugees. For instance, as of November 1, 2025, the Denise Nyakeru Tshisekedi Foundation provided support to Congolese refugees at the Musenyi site in the Musongati Commune of Burunga Province. They received beans, corn flour, rice, sugar, and salt. It should be noted that during this food distribution to the refugees, the Ombudsman of Burundi, the Governor of Burunga Province, the Deputy Coordinator of the FDNT, as well as representatives of United Nations agencies were present.

Katy Massoulis from the FDNT emphasized that this gesture is part of the continuation of a first phase of assistance carried out in April 2025. Brigitte Eno Mukanga, UNHCR Representative in Burundi, for her part, first expressed her gratitude to Burundi for granting these Congolese the status of automatic refugees and then sounded the alarm: "at the Musenyi site, there are still difficulties in providing the "refugees in decent living conditions." She mentioned families still living in warehouses, difficulties in accessing drinking water, and gaps in schooling for the approximately 9,000 school-age children.

To improve the situation of Congolese refugees in Burundi, the Iteka League calls on stakeholders to work together to strengthen infrastructure at the various sites hosting refugees, promote protection particularly for the Banyamulenge, women, and children against violence, encourage the integration of these refugees into Burundian society, notably by providing them with educational and

I.6. HUMANITARIAN CONTEXT (the following of page 12)

vocational training opportunities, and ensure recognition of refugee status for all asylum

seekers, including Banyamulenge refugees.

II. CIVIL AND POLITICAL RIGHTS

II.1. RIGHT TO LIFE

II.1.1. PERSONS KILLED BY UNIDENTIFIED INDIVIDUALS OR BODIES FOUND

Discovery of a newborn's body in Cankuzo Commune in Buhumuza Province

The body of a newborn baby was discovered on the morning of Thursday, October 30, near the residential court of the Cankuzo zone, Cankuzo commune. This body had been partly devoured by a stray dog, leaving only the head. It seems that the child was only one day old, which suggests that he was

abandoned by his mother shortly after his birth, then found by the dog in the undergrowth in the Commercial District, as evidenced by the traces of blood. The police and the local administration announced that they had begun an investigation, and were preparing the funeral of this infant.

A lifeless body of a young girl found on Mugoboka hill, Nyakabiga zone, Mukaza commune in Bujumbura province

Information received by the ITEKA League on October 27, 2025, indicates that on 22/10/2025, the body of a young girl in her twenties was found in a ravine connecting the Kiriri and Sororezo neighborhoods on Mugoboka hill, Nyakabiga commune, Mukaza commune, Bujumbura province.

According to witnesses and the inhabitants of Mugoboka this girl would have been killed elsewhere before being thrown into this

ravine which is 800m from the palace, the victim would also have been raped before being killed because the body was naked and had many wounds.

This body of an unidentified girl was buried immediately by the administration in the cemetery of Sororezo. The population deplores this attitude and demands investigations to find out the killers in order to bring them before the judicial authorities.

A lifeless body of a woman found in the Magarama neighborhood, commune and province of Gitega

Information received by us on October 28, 2025, indicates that her name is Jeanine Niyonzima. Her lifeless body was found on Saturday, October 25, at her home on 2nd Avenue, Magarama neighborhood, in the commune and province of Gitega.

The information, confirmed by Felix Nzibarega, the neighborhood chief, states that the motives for this death or murder are not yet clear. He specifies that investigations

have already begun to determine exactly what happened to this 42-year-old woman.

The population of Magarama, who claim that this woman was killed, are demanding thorough investigations to identify the perpetrators of this murder. It should be noted that on Thursday, October 23, 2025, another woman, 24-year-old Nadine Irakoze, was found killed by unknown individuals at her home on Zege Hill, Nyamugari area, in the commune and province of Gitega.

II.1.1. OF PERSONS KILLED BY UNIDENTIFIED PEOPLE OR BODIES FOUND (the following of page 13)

A lifeless body of a man was found on Jimbi Hill, Kibago area, Makamba commune in Burunga province

Information received by the Iteka League on 29/10/2025, indicates that on October 26, 2025, a lifeless body of an unidentified man was discovered in a ravine of the Kabaragaza sub-hill, Jimbi hill, Kibago zone, in Makamba commune, Burunga province. According to witnesses, the body was in an advanced state of decomposition, with parts having been devoured by dogs. Several residents believe that the victim was killed elsewhere before his body was thrown into this isolated bush.

Alerted, the local authorities ordered the immediate burial of the body, given its

condition, with the support of the local branch of the Red Cross.

But this discovery plunges the population into great concern. Residents are alarmed to see unidentified individuals begin to dump lifeless bodies in this once peaceful area, fearing that insecurity will gradually set in.

They also regret that the local authorities failed to reassure them in the face of this worrying situation and are calling for thorough investigations to identify the victim and any potential perpetrators.

A lifeless body of a woman found on Kanyenkoko hill, Rumonge area and commune, in Burunga province

On 31/10/2025, a lifeless body of a woman was found on Kanynekoko Hill, Rumonge zone, Rumonge commune, Burunga province. As the deceased was known to be drunk and prostituted, it was thought that she had

fallen into the gutter when she tried to cross it when she returned home in the evening. The body was transported and is in the morgue of Bururi Hospital.

II.1.2. ABDUCTIONS AND/OR FORCED DISAPPEARANCES

A man disappeared after his arrest in the Kirundo Commune, Butanyerera Province

The victim's name is Mworoha, a 37-year-old man, member of the CNDD-FDD, living on Nunga Hill in the Kiyonza area of the Kirundo commune. Two weeks ago, Mworoha left Burundi to visit his older brother Karemangingo, who now lives in France after fleeing Rwanda in 2015. Although Karemangingo found refuge in France, he has not completely cut ties with his native country and continues to carry out projects there, notably in Kiyonza, where Mworoha serves as coordinator. The brother invited Mworoha to Kigali to discuss their projects. Their meeting was immortalized in photos,

which have since circulated on social media. Last week, Mworoha returned home, but upon his arrival, he was bombarded with phone calls urging him to account for his movements. The leader of the Imbonerakure, Macumi Pierre, was orchestrating these alarming demands regarding his activities. On Wednesday, October 29, 2025, a team of police officers went to his home hoping to arrest him, but Mworoha managed to escape. However, his escape was only temporary, as he was arrested on Friday, October 31, 2025, while traveling on the road leading to Tanzania. His family, meanwhile, lives in anxiety, without any news from Mworoha.

II.1.2. ABDUCTIONS AND/OR FORCED DISAPPEARANCES (the following of page 14)

Two residents reported missing after being abducted in Gasebeyi, Buhoro area, Mugina commune, Bujumbura province

Two men from Gasebeyi hill, in the Mugina commune, Bujumbura province, were arrested on October 30, 2025, by intelligence agents in collaboration with young Imbonerakure members. Since then, their families have had no news, heightening fears of forced disappearances in the region. The two men, Égide Nishimwe, the hill chief, and his neighbor Ndikumana, were abducted in front of several witnesses. According to them, police surrounded their homes before taking them away in a vehicle driven by the head of the communal intelligence service of Cibitoke. The families, after multiple searches at police stations, found no information about their whereabouts. Some police sources suggest that the two men are linked to the Red Tabara rebel movement, a claim rejected by their relatives, who state that they had left the CNL to join the CNDD-FDD.

An Imbonerakure involved in their arrest expresses 'doubts' about their loyalty, which does not reassure their families, who fear the

worst. This disappearance occurs in the context of similar arrests reported in recent months in Mugina, where several people have been taken without their families knowing their whereabouts. The communal administrator, Anicet Saidi, confirms having been informed of the arrests but does not know which unit is responsible. In Gasebeyi, a climate of fear prevails. Residents, fearing reprisals, whisper their concerns.

The relatives of the missing refuse to give up and demand answers from the authorities regarding the safety and rights of those arrested. Families hope to see their loved ones again or, at the very least, to know their fate. These disappearances fuel the debate about the responsibility of security forces towards suspects. Human rights organizations regularly call for investigations into arbitrary arrests and secret detentions. In the meantime, the families of Gasebeyi are appealing for any information that could help them find their missing relatives.

II.2. PHYSICAL AND/OR MENTAL INTEGRITY

II.2.1. TORTURE, CRUEL, INHUMAN OR DEGRADING TREATMENT OR PUNISHMENT

A man was wounded in Karusi Commune in Gitega Province

On the night of this Monday to Tuesday 27/10/2025 around 9 p.m., on the Buhiga hill and area of the KARUSI commune in the GATARE district, a man named BIMENYIMANA of the CNDD FDD over 40 years old, from the CUBA hill, BUGENYUZI zone KARUSI commune was found in critical condition after being wounded with machetes by people not yet identified and was taken to the Buhiga CDS before being transferred to Buhiga Hospital but was transferred to the Cinquantenaire Hospital in KARUSI where he remains to this day.

Close sources say that he was currently living in this neighborhood, working as a mason, and that he liked chasing after women, which would have been the cause.

The truth is starting to be revealed because an on-site source said that this man was injured by unidentified Imbonerakure because previously he had been at a cabaret with a prostitute named M I, a member of the CNDD FDD over 30 years old, residing in the Kigwati Rugogwe neighborhood of Buhiga Hill and Zone, Commune Karusi. This woman had given him a meeting at 7 PM, but in the meantime, the same meeting had been arranged for another young man named Josué, a member of the CNDD FDD over 30 years old who works in public secretariat. Josué was already in the woman's house because she had given him the key earlier when she was at the cabaret, and she came in with the other man, and

II.2.1. TORTURE, CRUEL, INHUMAN OR DEGRADING TREATMENT OR PUNISHMENT ((the following of page 15)

they both attacked each other before Josué called some Imbonerakure who rushed to help him.

The same source says that they took Bimenyimana to the Gatare neighborhood where he was found in agony. The woman was also injured in the neck and left breast

and in the mix-up, she escaped and took a motorcycle that took her to Muyinga where she is being treated. Josué was arrested the next morning by the police but was released this Friday 31/10/2025 in addition he refused to denounce the Imbonerakure who helped him injure the two people.

II.2.2. RAPE

A young boy raped in Kiganda commune

On October 27, 2025, on Nyarunazi hill, Rutegama zone, Kiganda commune, Gitega province, a young boy was raped at around 7 p.m. T. E, 15, a student at Ecofo Nyarunazi, was called by Nizirazana Gabriel, 46, a farmer. He offered to share the local banana wine "urwarwa", which he accepted.

The man started mixing this wine with a strong local liquor called "kick" and the child

became very drunk. The man took him to a bush and raped him anally.

As he was also drunk, he left with the child but the child had left his jacket there. It was when he went back to pick it up the next day that he told the parents everything. The alleged perpetrator was arrested by the police and is being held in the police jail in Muramvya for questioning.

III. ECONOMIC, SOCIAL, AND CULTURAL RIGHTS

II.1. DISRUPTION OF ECONOMIC LIFE

The diversion of public lands, fraudulent rentals, and the negative consequences for the local population in the Cibitoke commune

In Rugombo, the former agricultural estate Rugofarm, now known as Nyakagunda, has transformed into the scene of a fierce conflict between two prominent figures of the ruling party. At the heart of this controversy are misappropriated public lands, dubious leases, and a dispossessed population facing misery and hunger. Under the scorching sun that beats down on Rugombo, along this dusty road leading to the Nyakagunda estate, traces of a once-thriving past are still felt; the furrows, half overgrown with dried grass, recall times when residents cultivated maize, beans, and rice. But today, these lands belong to others. "Look over there," whispers a sun-weathered farmer. "That was my plot. Now I can't even go near it, for fear of being threatened." For several months, a power struggle has been unfolding between Jean Pierre Niyimpa, a senior official at the

Bureau of Environment, Protection, Agriculture, and Livestock (BEPAE), and Déo Nsabimana, nicknamed Muhumure, an influential leader of a league affiliated with the CNDD-FDD in the new province of Bujumbura. Mutual accusations of 'state land theft' are flying, but it is the residents who bear the burden of this conflict.

Public lands, once surrounded by agricultural tradition, have been transformed into private property through illegal maneuvers. According to several administrative sources, these two men allegedly took possession of vast parts of the former Rugofarm public estate without any legitimacy. Currently, each appears to be renting these plots to agricultural cooperatives, such as Sangwe, or even to individuals. The situation quickly turns dramatic: the same plot is often rented to multiple payers.

II.1. DISRUPTION OF ECONOMIC LIFE (the following page of 16)

"I spent ten million Burundian francs for three hectares. When I arrived, other farmers had already established their crops there. Their receipts were also signed by Niyimpa, the head of BEPAE," says a farmer, visibly exasperated. As a consequence, clashes frequently break out among these farmers. "We fought with hoes and machetes!" Another farmer confides. The injuries and arrests are multiplying, as a quarrel between compatriots echoes beyond the fields.

These heated discussions hide a larger political stake: two allies, once united, are now fighting over a very tempting loot. The income from rentals could amount to millions of Burundian francs. Originally partners, Niyimpa and Nsabimana are said to have had a falling out over the division of the profits. Each accuses the other of embezzlement and betrayal. "At the very beginning, they seemed complicit. But once money was at stake, trust evaporated," reveals a source from the provincial administration. This rivalry even raises doubts among some officials of the ruling party, worried that this affair might tarnish their image.

Faced with the scale of the scandal, the Cibitoke prosecutor's office is said to have taken up the case. Investigations are reportedly aimed at determining the workings of this system: who allocated these lands? Who collects the rents? And on what legal basis were these allocations made? However, on the ground, the population remains skeptical about a just outcome. "The powerful always escape punishment. They end up sitting around a table to settle things, as usual," sighs a local resident. Voices are

rising to demand the return of the land to the State and access to the land for former operators. For the inhabitants of Rugombo, the situation is disastrous. Deprived of their land, many manage to get by through odd jobs. "We were farmers. Now, we work for those who stripped us of our land," confides a mother of five children, while around the estate, hunger and anger are rampant. "The land represented our existence. Now, it is just a political property," adds a young man, visibly disillusioned.

The Rugofarm-Nyakagunda case clearly illustrates an alarming trend in Burundi: the silent privatization of public assets by political figures. According to observers, this highlights the fragility of institutions and the impunity enjoyed by an elite that enriches itself at the expense of the most vulnerable. "This case goes beyond a mere rivalry between two individuals," says a civil society analyst. "It reveals how corruption and internal struggles over resources are undermining the local structures of the ruling party." Meanwhile, farmers, exhausted and helpless, await the day when justice will restore what they have lost: their land, their dignity, and their future.

Rugofarm, originally created during the Belgian colonization, was a model of public agricultural exploitation, located in Rugombo, in the former province of Cibitoke. Its specialization in food production and livestock farming had provided employment and income for hundreds of families. But gradually, after the civil war, the land was redistributed or diverted, often for the benefit of administrative and political officials, thus marking the disappearance of a common good in favor of private interests.

II.1. DISRUPTION OF ECONOMIC LIFE (the following of page 17)

Lack of FOMI fertilizer in Butanyerera province

Farmers from the Gatara areas, Matongo Stany Niyongabo, the head of the Gatara commune, Mubuga area in Ngozi commune, zone in the Matongo commune, is asking Nyamurenza area in Kiremba commune, and farmers to use organic manure to save the other zones of Butanyerera say that they situation.

received very little fertilizer produced by The farmers in the Kirundo commune, too, FOMI. According to these farmers, the have not received the manure they paid for a growing season was already well underway long time ago. Those of us who ordered when they had paid the fees long before manure for the C season of 2025 have not yet season C. According to witnesses from these received it, even though it is already time for areas, these farmers only keep the payment the A season. According to local witnesses, receipts without any hope of receiving the they do not have hope of being served, given fertilizers. These farmers from Butanyerera that even for the A season of 2026, less than are asking the government to conduct 30% of requesters have been served. The investigations to verify the production distributors collected the tickets and told the capacity of agricultural input factories in requesters that they would be invited to Burundi and to place orders abroad. These collect the paid manure, but the sowing farmers lament that the recent fertilizer period passed without anyone being called to distributions were marred by irregularities, pick it up. Questions about the availability of where those who paid bribes were served. agricultural inputs remain unanswered at a time when agriculture is a priority for the residents of Butanyerera.

IV. CONCLUSION ET RECOMMENDATIONS

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

To the Government of Burundi:

- ⇒ Conduct thorough investigations into human rights violations and prosecute those responsible, including administrative officers, police officers, military personnel, and young Imbonerakure of the ruling party;
- ⇒ Guarantee the independence and impartiality of the judiciary so that it can handle human rights violation cases fairly;
- ⇒ Immediately order the cancellation of all fraudulent allocations and leases on the former Rugofarm estate;
- ⇒ Disarm the Imbonerakure, and formally prohibit their participation in any police or civil security operations, ensuring that only legally authorized bodies exercise public force.