

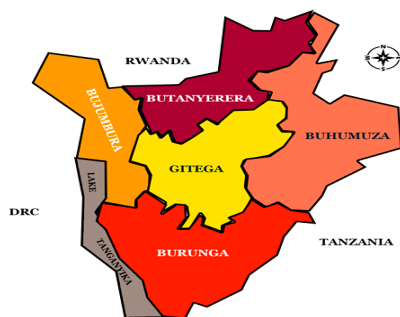


BURUNDIAN LEAGUE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS 'ITEKA'

Anyone should be respected

*Approved by Ministerial Ordinance Nr. 530/0273 of November 10th, 1994, amending
Ordinance Nr. 550/029 of February 6th, 1991*

REPORT OF THE BURUNDIAN LEAGUE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS "ITEKA" ON THE SITUATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN BURUNDI DURING THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2025.



In memory of Madame Marie Claudette Kwizera, treasurer of the Iteka League, missing since December 10, 2015. From December 2015 to November 30, 2025, at least 847 victims of enforced disappearance have been documented by the Iteka League, at least 87 victims have reappeared, and 760 victims are still missing. The UN Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances (WGEID) has already communicated at least 252 victims¹ to the government of Burundi.

¹ <https://docs.un.org/en/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 the reference number OBS.236 and is a member of ECOSOC.
- ♦ is decentralized into 17 federations and 32 sections."

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ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

AGNU	: United Nations General Assembly
BRARUDI	: Brewery and Soft Drinks of Burundi
CEEAC	: Economic Community of Central African States
CNDD-FDD	: National Council for the Defense of Democracy–Defense Forces
CNIDH	: National Independent Human Rights Commission
CNL	: National Congress for Liberty
DESC	: Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights
ECOF	: Primary School
FDLR	: Democratic Liberation Front of Rwanda
FRODEBU	: Front for Democracy in Burundi
ISABU	: Institute of Agronomic Science of Burundi
OBPE	: Burundian Observatory for Environmental Protection
ONU	: United Nations Organization
OPJ	: Judicial Police Officer
PNB	: National Police of Burundi
RDC	: Democratic Republic of the Congo
SNR	: National Enquiry Service
TGI	: Court of First Instance
UPRONA	: Union for National Progress
VSBGs	: Sexual and Gender-Based Violence

0. BRIEF PRESENTATION OF THE REPORT

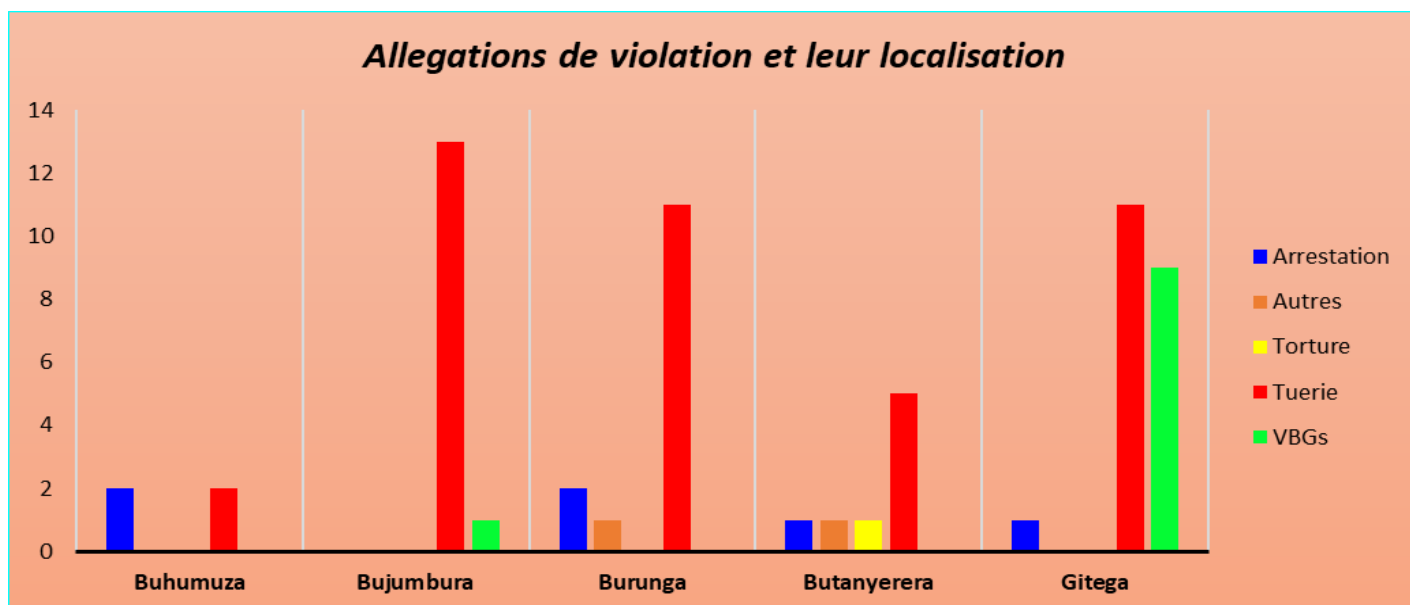
This monthly report for November 2025 is a summary of the weekly Iteka n'Ijambo bulletins from issues 499 to 502. It covers the political, security, judicial, governance, economic, and environmental context that marked this period. It also reviews civil and political rights and economic, social, and cultural rights. Finally, this report concludes with a summary and recommendations.

The situation of civil and political rights during the period covered by this report can be summarized as follows: 42 people were killed, including 37 bodies; 2 people were tortured; 2 people were abducted; 10 people were victims of gender-based violence, including 5 girls who were raped, 4 of whom were minors; and 6 people were arbitrarily arrested and detained.

Imbonerakure, police officers, administrative agents, SNR agents, and soldiers are identified as the alleged perpetrators of most of these human rights violations and murders.

0.1. Mapping of recorded violations and their alleged perpetrators

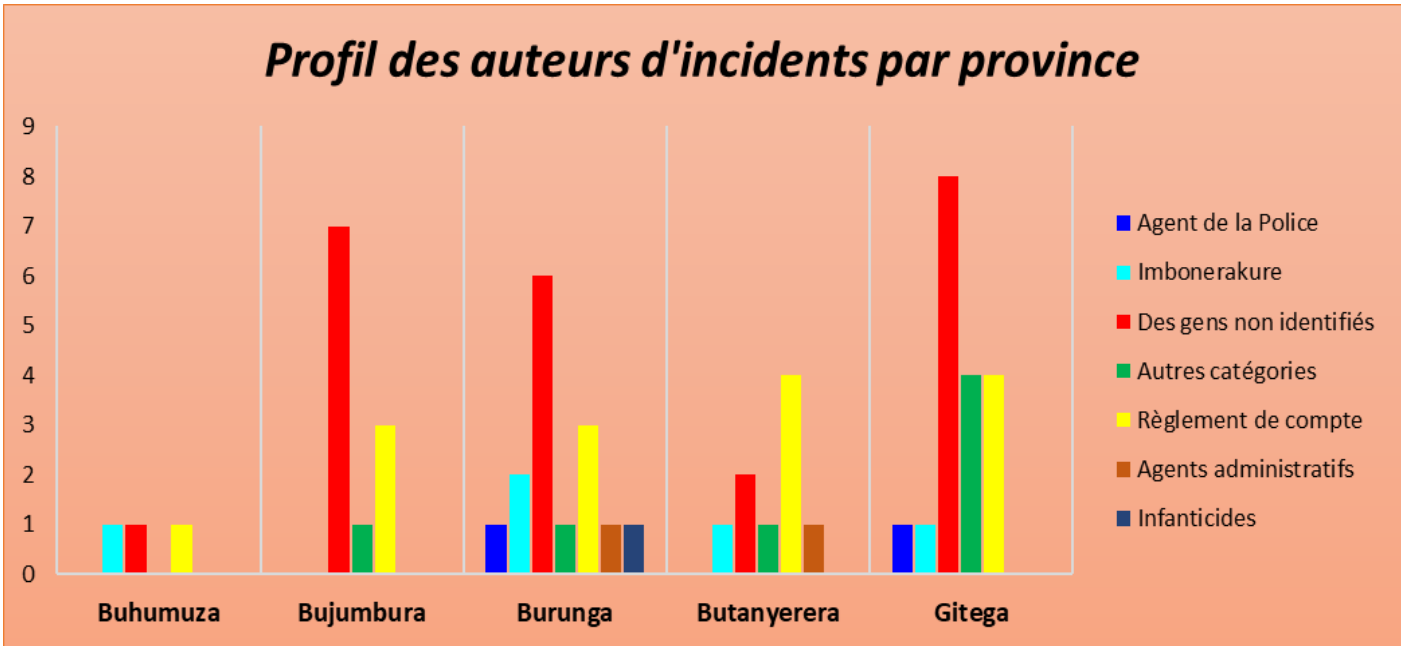
Figure 1: Chart illustrating the main cases of human rights situations observed in Burundi during the month of November 2025



The chart above illustrates the 5 categories of violations across the 5 different provinces of the country, with Gitega having experienced the most human rights violation allegations with 21 victims, followed by Bujumbura and Burunga with 14 each, and Butanyereza in third place with 8 victims. Buhumuza comes last with 4 victims.

Thus, during this month of November 2025 covered by this report, the Iteka League recorded 61 victims of allegations of civil and political rights violations across the national territory. These allegations of human rights violations are mainly distributed as follows: 42 victims killed, 6 people arrested, 10 victims of GBV (including 5 victims of rape, of whom 4 are minor girls abducted), 11 people victims of GBV (including 8 minor girls victims of rape), and 1 person tortured.

Figure 2: Chart illustrating the main alleged perpetrators of civil and political rights violations observed in Burundi during November 2025



According to the chart, of all the recorded violations during this period in November 2025, cases committed by unidentified individuals were the highest with 24 cases, followed by cases related to settling scores with 15 cases. Police officers committed 2 cases, Imbonerakure 5 cases, and other categories account for 7 cases attributed to individuals including traders, domestic violence, including GBV. One case of infanticide was reported.

I. CONTEXT

I.1. POLITICAL CONTEXT

November 2025 proved to be a particularly turbulent month politically in Burundi. President Evariste Ndayishimiye's defamatory statements against Faustin Ndikumana, human rights defender and director of PARCEM, caused great concern among the Burundian population. On November 4, 2025, during a speech in the commune of Matongo, the president not only criticized Ndikumana's actions, he discredited him by insinuating that he had done nothing for the country and by referring to his previous position at Interbank Burundi, where he was allegedly dismissed for laziness. He bluntly called Ndikumana a “bandit” and accused him of working for colonial interests, while detailing his personal life, such as the ten night watchmen hired for his protection and his luxurious apartment. The president's harsh words, comparing the defender to reviled biblical characters, were seen as incitement to lynching, alarming the Iteka League. Barely a month earlier, the president had already had a heated exchange with another defender, Pacifique Nininahazwe, in Burunga province.

This was followed by the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (CVR), which, despite its efforts to promote national reconciliation, faced disagreements between the various stakeholders after a crucial meeting on November 7 in Gitega.

The TRC, chaired by Pierre Claver Ndayicariye, brought together various stakeholders to discuss the restitution of land seized during the crises that shook the country. However, the expectations of the inhabitants were not met, especially since the work of the TRC was criticized for its lack of transparency and the lack of consensus on the results.

Furthermore, teachers in Nyabihanga, faced with new directives, were forced to attend a ceremony to introduce the new municipal administrator, an obligation they could not avoid without facing repercussions. They complained about the high cost of traveling to the ceremony, a situation that only exacerbated the precariousness of their daily lives.

Concerns were also mounting for the gold miners of Mugina, who, after the presidential visit on November 14, 2025, feared for their safety and livelihoods. While Ndayishimiye was officially appointing a new administrator, allegations were circulating about his intentions to appropriate land that the villagers had hoped to obtain the rights to, but without success. Strong criticism of the president was amplified by fears of repression among gold miners, who played a central role in the local economy.

Finally, on November 25, 2025, the Burundian Senate officially approved Rose Nkorerimana as Attorney General, while at the same time, community development work in Muramvya took an alarming turn. Residents were forced to participate in compulsory labor, with the threat of punishment looming, creating an atmosphere of fear among a normally resilient population. Schools were closed, businesses were inactive, leaving a nagging question of what the outcome of this spiral of imposed obligations would be.

1.2. SECURITY CONTEXT

In November 2025, Burundi was the scene of significant events that revealed an alarming security situation. In the commune of Mugere, in the province of Bujumbura, Magnus Nkinahamira found himself in grave danger. Since October 27, 2025, rumors had been spreading about him on Kabezi Hill, accusing him of witchcraft after the tragic death of Faustin, whose funeral took place on November 3, 2025. The inhabitants, distraught by Faustin's illness and unexplained death, quickly made the connection with Magnus' attempt to buy fish, which they believed had caused the fatality. Fearing for his life, Magnus fled, revealing an atmosphere of growing suspicion.

On November 5, 2025, another incident shook the tranquility of Buhumuza province: a grenade was discovered on Gitanga Hill in Cankuzo. Children, innocently playing near some bushes, found it and alerted the ITEKA League. A member of the administration, Toyi Gabriel, recovered the explosive device to prevent a catastrophe. On November 10, 2025, in Karusi, an 18-year-old man, Oscar Nibizi, a member of the Imbonerakure, attempted to steal clothes from a high school. His desperate attempt, which took place while the students were studying, was stopped in its tracks by a vigilant classmate.

The latter alerted his colleagues, who rushed to catch up with him and severely beat him, leaving him unconscious. After being rescued by school security guards, he was taken to hospital, fighting for his life while his loved ones remained worried.

On November 16, Toiyi Thérèse, a 27-year-old woman, was arrested after attempting to murder a police officer, Adjudant Cinyeretse, by shooting him while he was asleep. He was quickly evacuated to medical facilities, causing shockwaves throughout the community.

Tensions escalated on the night of November 10-11, 2025, when Jérôme Bashingwanubusa, an Imbonerakure activist, was targeted in a grenade attack outside his home. The attack, which caused no material damage or human casualties, reinforced the neighbors' suspicions about him, with accusations of intimidation and extortion circulating. On November 14, 2025, President Ndayishimiye's visit to a gold cooperative was disrupted by an unexpected explosion, seriously injuring three members of the presidential guard and causing panic among the crowd.

On November 13, 2025, tragedy struck near the Kanyosha River, where four people died after being swept away by the current during a nighttime prayer at a site known for its spiritual rituals. Authorities have since called for caution to avoid such tragedies. On November 10, 2025, a marital dispute led 60-year-old Cimpaye Jean to commit suicide on Nyakeru Hill, leaving behind a legacy of tragedies that drove him to desperate acts. In the same tragic vein, just a few days earlier, on October 30, a 9-year-old girl, Arfana, took her own life after being mocked by her classmates. These incidents have plunged the community into deep reflection on the emotional well-being and safety of the most vulnerable. No visible action has been taken by the administration, but the investigation into these tragedies continues as Burundian society attempts to address these complex challenges.

1.3. JUDICIAL CONTEXT

In November 2025, Burundi's judicial landscape was marked by disturbing interference from the government. On November 5, 2025, the hearing at Gitega Central Prison for 19 students from Green Hills International College, accused of arson, was disrupted by the presence of prominent political figures. The Minister of Justice requested a suspension of the hearing to discuss the matter with college officials, forcing journalists to wait. Following this meeting, it was decided that the students should return to school on November 6. The minister also announced the creation of an independent commission of inquiry to guide future judicial decisions.

The authorities' tendency to favor the students was perceived as a lack of interest in the rights of the school. In response, the Ministry of Education requested an emergency meeting of a disciplinary council, emphasizing the importance of punishing such behavior in schools. The Iteka League denounced this interference, arguing for the fair treatment of minors and respect for judicial procedures.

On November 13, 2025, during a trial at the Rumonge High Court, two police officers were tried for the murder of Eric Irakoze during a checkpoint.

After damning testimonies, sentences considered light were handed down, sparking public anger. On November 18, 2025, nine suspects linked to the murder of a mother and her baby were transferred, their community demanding justice.

The next day, November 19, 2025, journalist Sandra Muhoza saw her plea for temporary release denied by the Ngozi Court of Appeal, with her detention upheld. On November 28, a man was sentenced to life imprisonment for killing a rival in the context of an affair, although arguments of self-defense had been presented. Finally, on November 26, the Rutana High Court sanctioned two individuals for illegal fuel sales. The court decisions, considered unfair by the public, sparked mixed feelings among citizens, ranging from satisfaction to outrage.

1.4. GOVERNANCE CONTEXT

Last November, Burundi's political landscape was marked by significant events that brought back painful memories. In Burunga province, tensions surrounding land disputes were reignited by the work of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, which is digging up ancestral conflicts linked to past political crises. Returnees, back after a long absence, hope to recover their lost lands, while residents report slow expropriation through various commissions. The statements of Pierre Claver Ndayicariye, president of the TRC, echo past atrocities, affirming that the events of 1972 constitute genocide and evoking the gravity of the acts of spoliation and confiscation that marked this period. He does not hesitate to point out that the perpetrators of these crimes, and those who supported them, remain subject to prosecution, placing a moral burden on the shoulders of their descendants.

At the same time, the commission is committed to reopening all disputes, even those already resolved, due to irregularities in past decisions. Returnees see this as an opportunity to right injustices, while residents feel more isolated, losing all their land with each new decision. In Gitega province, challenges are compounded by educational institutions, notably ECO FO Kabonobono, grappling with leadership and management concerns.

The vacuum left by the absence of a director for two months is exacerbated by internal struggles within the CNDD-FDD, making the situation even more tense for students and staff. In Muyinga, cases of embezzlement in school canteens are casting a shadow over schools. Accusations of theft and quarrels between school leaders highlight a system plagued by corruption and inefficiency. Teachers, meanwhile, are preparing to go on strike, frustrated by economic mismanagement and their fight for better working conditions, illustrating growing discontent with an unresponsive administration.

Amid this tumultuous backdrop, disruptions in Rumonge's transportation sector reveal abusive practices by some drivers embroiled in conflicts with local authorities. All of this combines to form a complex web of social tensions, with the quest for justice and fairness permeating every aspect of Burundian life, illustrating the crucial challenges the country must address in order to move toward genuine reconciliation.

1.5. ECONOMIC CONTEXT

During the month of November, Burundi's economic landscape was profoundly affected by several significant incidents. On November 2, 2025, a notable turning point occurred in the administration of the Mwaro Commune, where the zone chief, Ntakarutimana Viola, made the decision to transfer BRARUDI beverages from the Mega SSD in Mwaro, formerly owned by the late Muzaneza Euphrasie, to Bukuru Audrick, a local trader. At the same time, Uwayezu Jean Claude, the health advisor, transferred beverages from another wholesaler to a market retailer. These decisions, influenced by personal relationships, had repercussions on retailers who depended on these supplies.

President Évariste Ndayishimiye's visit to the Tura mining site on November 4 also marked this period. This site, managed by SECOMIB, showcases more modern wolframite extraction techniques, promising a bright future for mining in Burundi. The government has introduced reforms to improve transparency and efficiency, while addressing economic disparities in the sector.

However, despite progress, challenges such as corruption and informal management persist. The Iteka League has even intervened to demand greater transparency and efforts to mitigate these problems. The President has expressed concern about the sector's low contribution to national revenues.

On November 20, 2025, concerns intensified over a directive from the governor of Butanyerera regarding dress requirements for students. As families struggle to make ends meet, such edicts seem to ignore the dire economic reality they face. On the same day, the Kayanza municipal administrator banned the sale of roasted corn, severely disrupting the livelihoods of many families.

The statements made by the authorities are thus being questioned by citizens who are bearing the brunt of rising inflation. In a context where the use of sustainable building materials has been promoted, many are wondering whether it will be possible to meet these expectations in the face of rising material costs.

Finally, the situation in the municipality of Muyinga has deteriorated with a reported sugar shortage, generating frustration and accusations against local officials for their management of the product. Residents are mobilizing for a solution, while prices continue to rise, leaving the community in uncertainty.

1.5. ENVIRONMENTAL CONTEXT

In November 2025, Burundi experienced significant environmental events. In the province of Bujumbura, a tornado wreaked havoc, affecting more than 350 families who found themselves homeless. This violent storm, which struck on the night of November 4, 2025, swept through the towns of Cibitoke and Mugina, leaving behind massive destruction: more than 350 houses, three schools, and three churches were destroyed, as were numerous banana, corn, and cassava fields. The consequences of this disaster were devastating, forcing many households to lose everything, including their school supplies, which prevented many children from attending school.

Local authorities immediately set to work compiling lists of victims in order to provide assistance, while calling for community solidarity. However, victims expressed concerns about the transparency and fairness of aid distribution. They demanded that aid be pragmatically directed to the real victims.

On November 3, 2025, at around 1 p.m., torrential rain, accompanied by hail and strong winds, hit Kayogoro Hill in the commune of Ngozi, Butanyerera province. Witnesses described alarming scenes: the wind tore the roof off the school's barza, as well as that of thirteen classrooms, scattering the metal sheets around the area, some of which remain untraceable. Approximately 150 mattresses, as well as school supplies such as bags, notebooks, books, and clothing, suffered considerable damage. Unfortunately, this tragedy also caused loss of life, with the tragic death of Dusabe Marie Tabita, a 13-year-old student from Gitega, as well as 24 other students who were injured and transferred to the Ngozi Autonomous Hospital for medical care. The body of the young victim was taken to the hospital morgue to await her family. Fortunately, on November 4, 2025, 21 of the 24 injured students left the hospital in good health, thanks to the efforts of the commune's executive secretary, who also brought blankets and some clothes for the young victims.

On the same day, November 3, 2025, a storm also raged at the Alliance Kayogoro School, causing panic in the community. A witness reported that the storm, with its strong winds, torrential rain, and hail, claimed the life of Dusabe Marie Tabita, who was struck by debris. The furious winds blew away the roofs of thirteen classrooms and the rest hall, leaving the buildings unusable and destroying valuable equipment. Heavy rains also devastated surrounding crops, plunging farmers into despair. Thus, November 2025 was marked by tragic events that highlight the vulnerability of communities to the whims of nature.

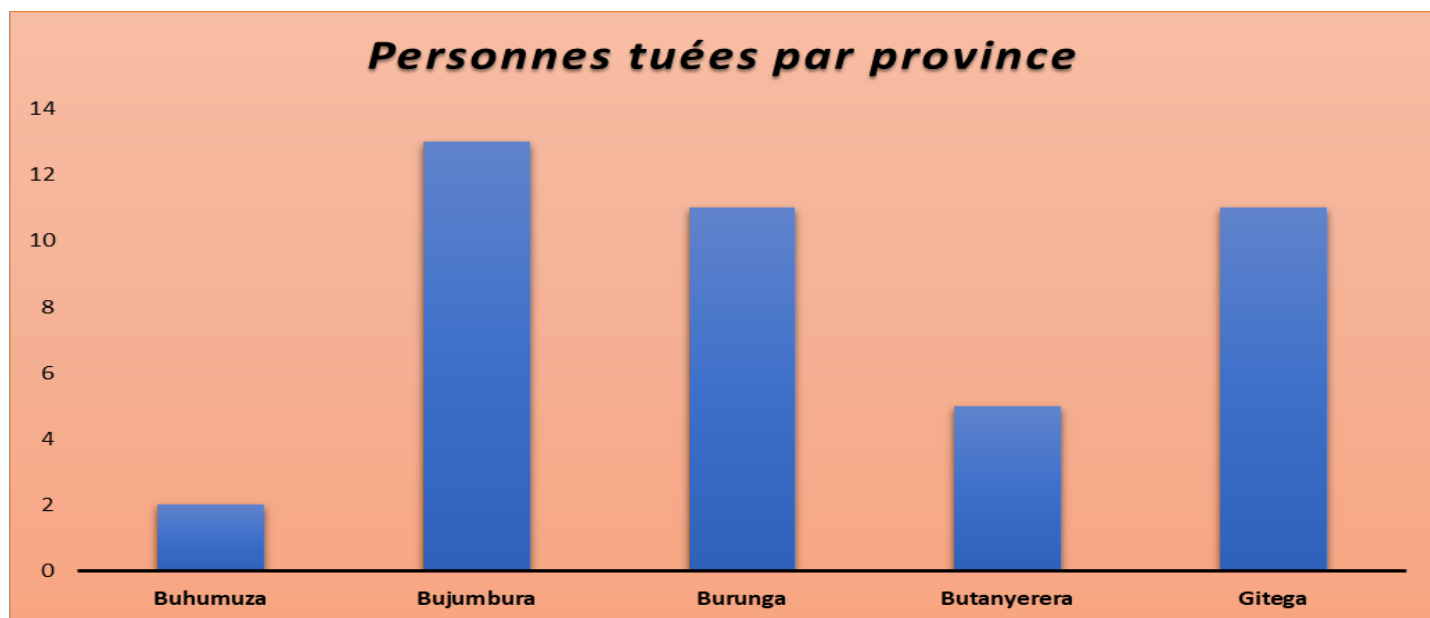
II. CIVIL AND POLITICAL RIGHTS

Burundi is among the countries adhering to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (1965) and its Optional Protocol (1976) without any reservations, on May 9, 1990. In the context of its implementation, Burundi has taken measures in its domestic legislation, notably in its constitution of June 7, 2018 (Main Law), in 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 established, including the Penal 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. MURDER

During the period covered by this report, a total of 42 intentional homicides were recorded by the Iteka League across the entire territory, among which 34 victims were men and 8 were women. The most affected provinces are Bujumbura with 13 victims, Gitega and Burunga with 11 victims each, respectively. Butanyerera comes in third place with 5 victims, and finally Buhumuza with 2 victims.



Illustrative examples:

Ex1: On Sunday, November 9, 2025, a man named *Hakizimana Pascal*, 30 years old and running a store in Mutaho, was violently attacked by three young Imbonerakure: *Harerimana Janvier*, 21 years old, *Nsabimana Élie*, 18 years old, and *Ininahazwe Thierry*, 20 years old.

According to a witness in Mutaho, these young men set a trap for Pascal on the road to steal his money. They then beat him severely and strangled him before fleeing when passersby arrived, alerted by what was happening. *Hakizimana Pascal* was quickly taken to Mutaho Hospital, where he passed away.

Local authorities, particularly Judicial Police Officer *Nduwayo Juliette*, along with police officers, arrested the three young men, who are now in detention in Mutaho awaiting the outcome of judicial investigations.

Ex2: On November 29, 2025, the lifeless body of *Innocent Nimpagaritse*, an agent of the Burundian National Enquiry Services and a native of Gihanga, was found in the Soquartier neighborhood, Kamenge area, Ntahangwa commune in Bujumbura province. According to sources on site, this SNR agent would have been brought there already dead and dumped in this location. Known for his involvement in the killings and harassment of protesters in 2015, this enquiry agent was killed by unknown assailants, according to the police and local authorities who made the report.

II.1.2. PERSONS ABDUCTED AND/OR MISSING

The Constitution of Burundi guarantees all individuals a fair trial, as well as a hearing and judgment within a reasonable time, as stated in Article 38. The Iteka League recorded 2 people abducted in Mugina commune of Bujumbura province. These victims were arrested by SNR agents in collaboration with the Imbonerakures, and the victims are former activists of the CNL party who converted to CNDD-FDD. This case was reported in November 2025, but the incident occurred in October 2025.

Illustrative examples:

Example 1: Information received by the Iteka League on November 5, 2025 indicates that on October 30, 2025, two former CNL party activists, Nishimwe Egide, leader of the Nyarusebeye hill, and his neighbor Ndikumana, both of whom had converted to members of the CNDD-FDD party, were kidnapped. The victims are from the same area, Buhoro.

The victims were initially arrested by unknown SNR agents in Mugina, accompanied by imbonerakure, including their communal leader, Théogène Bivahagumye. They were on their way to see someone in Mayuki hill when they were arrested at around 2 p.m. and taken to the main town of Mugina commune, where they were detained in the Mabayi Brigade cells. The next day, the victims' families went to see them, but to their surprise, their loved ones were not there. According to local witnesses, a police officer guarding the cell informed them that the victims had been transferred at 9 p.m. on the same day of their arrest, which caused great concern among the victims' relatives.

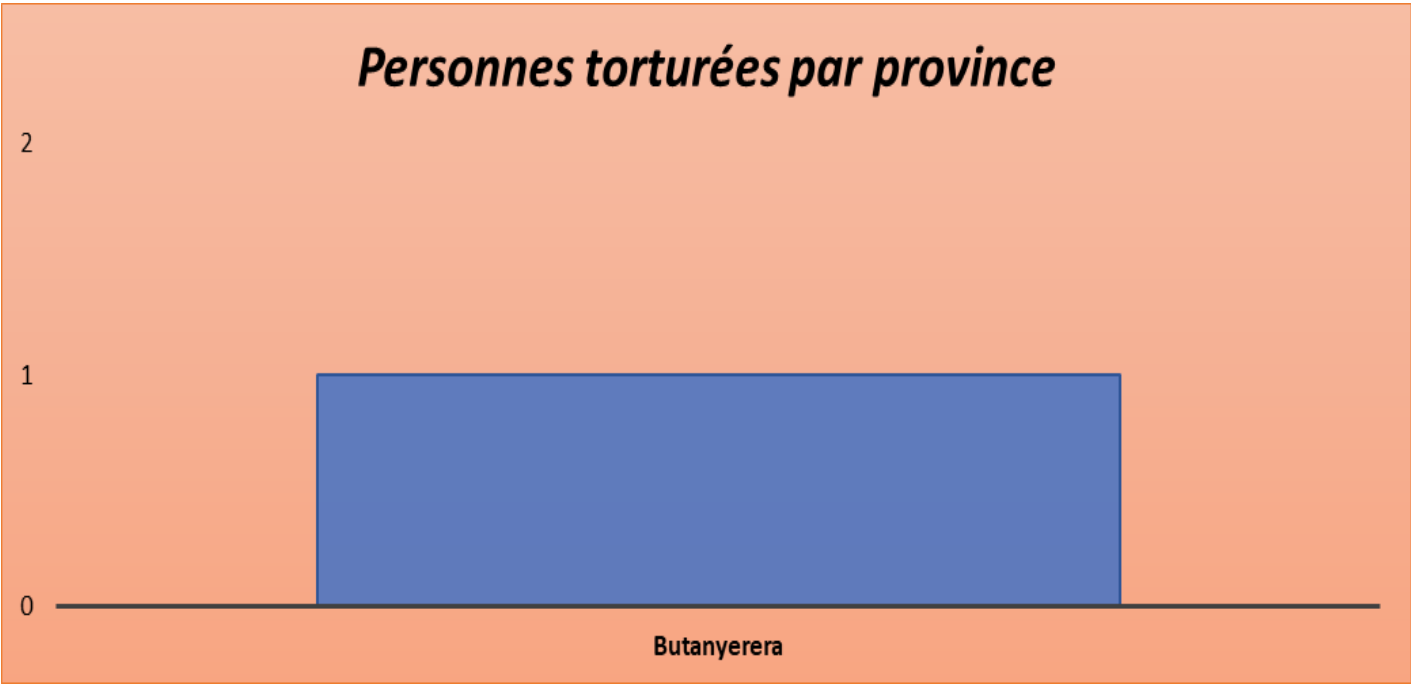
The Buhoro area appears to be a prime target for the SNR and the CNDD-FDD's Imbonerakure because of its strong opposition and because it is home to two former opposition parliamentarians, Phénias Niyigaba of the FRODEBU and Simon Bizimungu of the CNL. It is home to several members of the opposition who have converted to the CNDD-FDD for their own safety, but this conversion does not guarantee their safety as they are still victims of harassment and threats. The two recent victims are accused of collaborating with RED TABARA on the grounds that they did not separate themselves from CNL members.

This kidnapping is all the more worrying as it is not the first. In 2024, between February and June, five victims were kidnapped and never returned to their families.

II.2. RIGHT TO PHYSICAL AND/OR MENTAL INTEGRITY

The Burundian Constitution in its Article 21 stipulates that "No one shall be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman, or degrading punishment or treatment." In addition, Law No. 1/04 of June 27, 2016, on the protection of victims defines the rights of victims and provides measures to protect their physical and mental integrity. This clearly demonstrates the country's commitment to protecting the physical integrity of its citizens.

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



In total, one case of torture was recorded by the Iteka League throughout the country during the period covered by this report. This case was attributed to the Imbonerakure youth militia in Butanyerera province.

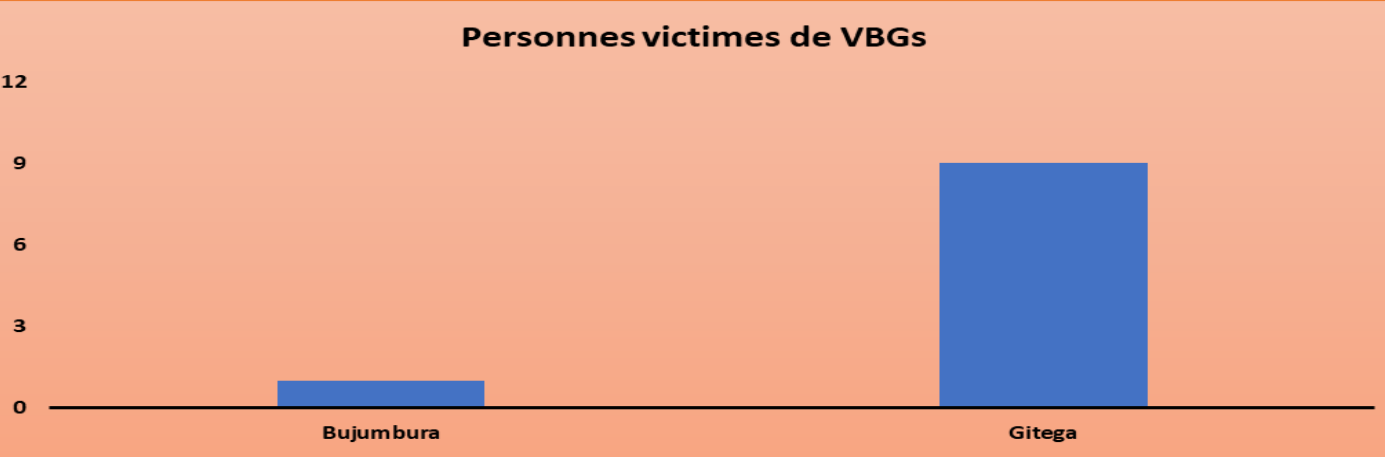
The case: On the night of November 19, 2025, on Mutobo hill, Ruhororo area, Tangara commune, Butanyerera province, Joseph Bishajuko, aged over 60, was attacked by Imbonerakure on patrol, who then beat him up, accusing him of coming home late. According to local witnesses, this happened when the old man was returning from his native hill of Mukoni, in the same Ruhororo area, to his home in the Ruhororo site on the same hill in Tangara.

The man was found by passersby on November 20, 2025, in a savanna located in the area known as KW'Ijiti, where the Imbonerakure had left him in a precarious state of health.

The same witnesses added that the victim was taken to a nearby health facility to receive treatment.

II.2.2. GBV/VIOL

During the period covered by this report, the Iteka League recorded 10 victims of GBV, including 5 girls who were raped, of whom 4 are minors. Among the victims, there are 2 men and 8 women, including 5 girls who were raped. Gitega Province is the most affected with 9 victims, and Bujumbura has 1 victim.



Illustrative examples :

Ex1: *On November 21, 2025, at around 4 p.m., in the village of Bugendana, on Mukoro Hill, in the Bugendana area and commune of Gitega Province, a 23-year-old woman named N. V., daughter of S. M. and H.C., was raped.*

According to information gathered at the scene, Evariste Ndayisenga, the alleged perpetrator, found the young woman alone at her guardian's home. He forced her into the house, where he committed the sexual assault.

The victim tried to defend herself but was unsuccessful and screamed, alerting the neighbors and causing the attacker to flee.

The neighbors immediately took the victim to the Bugendana Health Center. However, the nurse on duty made humiliating and discriminatory remarks, stating that “nothing could be done because she was already infected with HIV/AIDS.” These remarks deeply shocked the victim, given that she had contracted the virus as a result of being raped at the age of 6, a fact confirmed by witnesses.

Worse still, instead of helping the victim, the same nurse hastened to offer to call the attacker's wife to tell her to stop having sex with her husband, as if the priority was to protect the perpetrator rather than treat the victim.

As a result, the victim received neither the necessary medical care nor the psychological support to which she was entitled. Deeply affected by these comments, the young girl fled in a state of extreme distress and attempted suicide. She was narrowly saved by another woman from Mugitega Hill, 3 km from the health center.

On Saturday morning, around 9 a.m., the alleged perpetrator, Evariste Ndayisenga, was arrested. He is currently being held in the Bugendana commune jail, awaiting questioning by an investigating police officer scheduled for Monday, November 24.

Ex2: On Wednesday, November 26, 2025, at around 3 p.m., in the Nyamugari neighborhood, in the commune and province of Gitega, 7-year-old I. A., daughter of N. F. and N. V., was the victim of sexual violence.

According to witness statements, the child's mother, a member of the Child Protection Committee (CPE), had gone to the market that day. When she returned around 4 p.m., the girl immediately told her what had happened.

Three young boys are accused of committing the assault: Nihezagire Fabrice, 20, Niyitunga Setance, 23, and Nihorimbere Revis, 21.

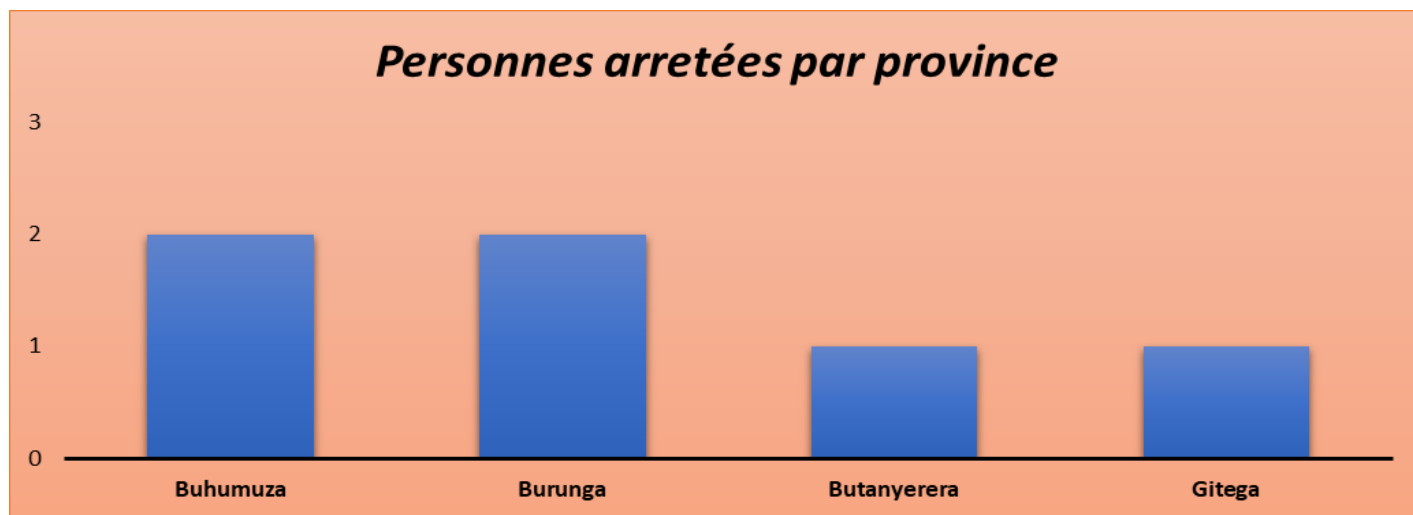
The child stated that the three suspects had given her doughnuts to convince her to follow them into a house under construction, where one of them assaulted her while the others stood guard at the door. That same evening, the three alleged perpetrators were apprehended. The victim was rushed to Gitega Hospital and then referred to the HUMURA Center, which specializes in caring for victims of sexual violence.

The victim's mother informed us that the investigating officer at the Humura Center has already compiled the legal file. The three suspects are currently being held in the cells of the Gitega Provincial Police Station, awaiting further proceedings.

II.3. RIGHT TO FREEDOM

Article 21 of the Burundian Constitution guarantees the right to freedom and personal security. It states that "No one may be arbitrarily arrested or detained." The Burundian Penal Code regulates the conditions of preventive detention and provides safeguards to prevent arbitrary arrests and detentions.

II.3.1. ARBITRARY ARRESTS AND DETENTIONS



In total, 6 victims of arrest were recorded by the Iteka League across the territory during the period covered by this report. The provinces of Buhumuza and Burunga are the most affected, with 2 victims each, followed by Butanyerera and Gitega with 1 victim each.

Illustrative examples :

Ex1 : *On the night of November 5, 2025, around 10 p.m., in the Gasanda neighborhood, Ruyigi commune, Buhumuza province, Ildéphonse Haragakiza and Jean de Dieu Nduwayezu, both from the Cibitoke commune, Bujumbura province, were arrested by Imbonerakure members named Jean Paul, nicknamed Mwamba, Innocent, alias Kibaya, and Isaïe.*

According to an eyewitness, the victims were part of a team of miners working at the Rusobanya site in the commune of Ruyigi and were accused of not carrying their identity documents because they were unknown in the neighborhood. The victims spent a night in the provincial police station jail in Ruyigi before being released the next day after verification and investigation.

Ex2 : *On the night of November 9-10, 2025, around midnight, on Kanyenkoko hill, Rumonge commune, Burunga province, two people, including Kabura Bonaventure, a retired former soldier, and a civilian, were arrested.*

According to local sources, the arrest was carried out by the hill administration, the hill chief, and the Imbonerakure chief, in collaboration with the municipal commissioner and his police officers. The two men were imprisoned in the Rumonge police station.

The former soldier was the subject of contradictory accusations made by several officials: the sector chief accused him of possessing the seal of the head of state, the zone chief added that he belonged to the M23 armed movement, and a police officer from the municipal police station claimed to recognize him for having exchanged fire in Musaga in 2015.

III. ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL RIGHTS

Economic, social, and cultural rights, referred to as second-generation rights, are set out in the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. Burundi ratified this covenant on March 14, 1990, and incorporated it into its 2018 Constitution, notably in Article 19. A particular feature of these rights is that they are often realized progressively, unlike civil and political rights. Signatory states, including Burundi, commit to ensuring the exercise of these rights according to their available resources.

III.1. DISRUPTION OF ECONOMIC LIFE

Economic rights in Burundi in November 2025 were marked by significant economic and land tensions. President Évariste Ndayishimiye was accused of illegally controlling national resources, thereby contributing to the impoverishment of cooperatives. On November 9, 2025, the Iteka League highlighted allegations that the president was involved in fraudulent mineral trafficking, using the mining code for his own interests and those of his family. Since 2013, the mining sector, already plagued by human rights violations, had been dominated by the presidential family, CNDD-FDD dignitaries, and the army. The situation reached a turning point on October 31, 2025, when the Minister of Mines, Dr. Hassan Kibeya, announced the closure of all mining cooperatives except two, SOTREVO Mining Company and SONALEK, accused of a lack of transparency and failure to contribute to public finances. In the communes surrounding Bujumbura, such as Mugina and Cibitoke, opaque transactions involving the purchase of gold by the Bank of the Republic of Burundi raised questions about the use of funds.

The closure of cooperatives has plunged many small-scale workers into uncertainty, fueling public discontent over what they perceive as unfair competition from the authorities.

In the province of Bujumbura, another conflict has clouded the picture: that linked to the land of the former Rugofarm agricultural estate, now known as Nyakagunda, in Rugombo. The misappropriation of public land by political figures has led to the expropriation of farmers, exacerbating their already precarious situation. The dispute highlights the rivalry between two influential members of the ruling party, increasing the misery of farmers who have been deprived of their livelihoods. The judicial authorities have been called upon to try to resolve this conflict, which has been going on for several months.

Meanwhile, in Burunga province, corn farmers are grappling with a major crisis. Their crops, which have remained unsold for over a year, are now stored in unsuitable conditions, with a severe lack of buyers. Despite the government's promises to support them, many find themselves in desperate situations, accumulating debts to banks to meet their needs. The ban on exports to Tanzania, where corn could be sold at a favorable price, further complicates their situation.

Tensions also continue in Kaburantwa in the commune of Bukinanyana, where local residents are protesting against what they consider to be derisory compensation for expropriations linked to the construction of a bridge by a Chinese company. Their frustration with inadequate compensation and suspicions of embezzlement reflect a crisis of confidence in the authorities responsible.

III.1. DISRUPTION OF ECONOMIC LIFE (the following of page 13)

The economic life of farmers in several communes is thus disrupted due to the mismanagement of agricultural inputs. Farmers in Bururi are concerned about delays in the distribution of fertilizer for their crops, threatening their ability to produce in the coming seasons. In Matongo, an act of revenge linked to local tensions led to the destruction of fields of essential crops, highlighting the devastating impact of community conflicts.

Finally, in Buhumuza, revelations of fraud in the distribution of agricultural inputs involving members of the Imbonerakure league have exacerbated the climate of instability and mistrust. The growing concern among the population over the confiscation of vital resources suggests that tensions will worsen and calls for urgent action to protect farmers' interests and restore economic justice.

III.2. RIGHT TO EDUCATION

Last November in Burundi, notable incidents disrupted education, particularly at the Mukungu High School. On November 7, 2025, eighteen students were expelled after being caught with exam copies and 130,000 Fbu intended to falsify their grades. This decision was made during a disciplinary council meeting, attended by parents and education representatives. The students admitted that the money had been requested by their teacher, who is now missing and suspected of being behind the fraud. The previous year, the school had already faced similar problems. Parents and teachers in Nyanza-Lac began to denounce fraudulent practices, calling for judicial investigations to ensure a better educational environment.

The province of Butanyerera also saw an influx of teacher resignations beginning in 2024-2025. The Kirundo DPE reported a mass exodus of teachers, with 61 teachers leaving their posts, some seeking jobs in the private sector or moving abroad. Between June and October 2025, an additional 334 departures were recorded, exacerbating the urgent need for recruitment. In addition, 108 teachers were reassigned to other duties, compounding the shortage of qualified teachers in classrooms.

On November 18, 2025, a fire destroyed the dormitories of the Musema municipal boarding school, leaving more than 100 students without belongings. The principal launched an appeal for solidarity to enable the continuity of studies in better conditions. Administrative reorganizations are impacting the education system in Tangara, with a general shortage of teachers, exacerbated by significant departures to destinations such as Dubai. The situation is becoming worrying, with several essential subjects lacking teachers and students concerned about their future.

In Burunga province, the phenomenon of school dropouts is worsening due to high registration fees for extracurricular activities and various contributions. These costs, reaching up to 2,000 Burundian francs per student, weigh heavily on families, making education inaccessible for some. It is essential that the government establish a truly free education system, allowing every student to continue their education without fear of dropping out due to economic hardship.

III.3. RIGHT TO HEALTH

November 2025 was marked by worrying health events. A nurse was suspended for refusing to treat victims of a road accident in Rutovu, in the commune of Bururi, Burunga province. On November 3, 2025, alarming news circulated about a tragic accident that had occurred the previous day, November 2, at 6 p.m. The collision, involving a dump truck and a Coaster bus, occurred on National Road No. 7 on Ruringanizo Hill and left six people injured, two of them in critical condition. Upon arrival at Rutovu Hospital, the victims were confronted with a shocking situation that sparked widespread outrage. Several witnesses reported that a nurse on duty refused to admit them, citing the lack of health insurance cards and financial guarantees for the necessary care. Outraged by this situation, Governor Parfait Mboninyibuka decided to transport the victims himself to Rutana Hospital after the ambulance was also refused.

On November 3, 2025, the Rutovu police confirmed the arrest of the nurse, charged with refusal to assist persons in danger, while the governor stressed the urgency of punishing such acts contrary to medical ethical principles. The director of Rutovu Hospital, Dr. Frédéric Niyonsaba, announced the immediate suspension of the nurse pending the results of the administrative investigation, stating, “We will not tolerate any practice that endangers the lives of patients.”

This incident raises broader questions about the state of public health facilities in the country, suggesting that this refusal of admission was not an individual initiative, but may have been linked to a hierarchical directive related to established practices.

The Iteka League has indicated that this requirement for a deposit is unfortunately common in many hospitals, calling for a thorough investigation and enforcement of the law to eliminate this requirement for victims of road accidents within 48 hours.

Information received by the Iteka League on November 16, 2025, revealed that the commune of Nyanza, in Burunga province, has been suffering from a shortage of medicines for over a month. Patients, including children under five, are not receiving any treatment after being prescribed medication. The 15 public health centers are unable to meet the needs of the sick. The main cause of this shortage is the non-reimbursement of funds intended to guarantee free healthcare for children under five and pregnant women. At the same time, private pharmacies remain well stocked, offering generic drugs and specialty medicines at prices twice those of the regular market. It is also reported that the owners of these private pharmacies are influential officials of the public CDS within the CNDD-FDD, accused of appropriating drugs from public stocks to supply their own pharmacies.

As a result, patients are forced to turn to these private pharmacies to obtain the necessary treatments. The root cause of the drug shortage in the CDSs of the Nyanza health district is therefore the non-reimbursement of funds allocated to free healthcare for children under five and pregnant women.

IV. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

During the period covered by this report, the deterioration of the human rights situation continues to be observed in different parts of the country.

This report highlights cases of violations of the right to life, physical integrity, and freedom, as well as economic, social, and cultural rights.

This report also lists issues related to security, as well as the political, security, judicial, economic, and environmental context prevailing in the country.

It also reviews civil and political rights and economic and socio-cultural rights in terms of their disruption and expresses concern. The Iteka League protests against the impunity of the crimes observed and recommends the following:

To the Government of Burundi:

1. Guarantee respect for human rights, including the right to life, physical integrity, and liberty.
2. Take measures to end impunity for crimes and ensure that those responsible for human rights violations are held accountable for their actions.
3. To stop interfering in commercial activities for private interests and to always defend the general interest of the Burundian population.
4. To promote international principles in the exploitation of Burundi's minerals for greater transparency in the management of public affairs.

To the EU and other technical and financial partners of Burundi :

1. Support the efforts of Iteka League and other human rights organizations in monitoring and denouncing human rights violations in Burundi.
2. Use their influence to compel the Burundian authorities to respect human rights and end impunity.