



Anyone should be respected

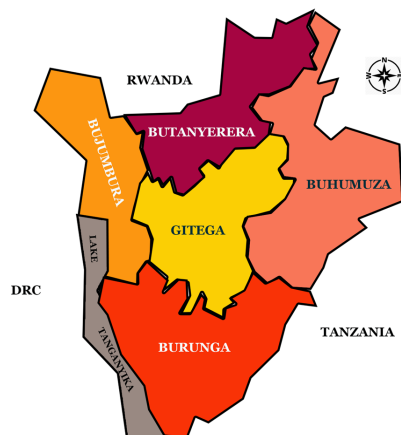
BURUNDIAN LEAGUE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS "ITEKA"

WEEKLY BULLETIN

"Iteka n'ijambo"

N°504 from 08 to 15 December 2025

*Approved by Ministerial Ordinance No. 530/0273 of November 10, 1994,
amending Ordinance No. 550/029 of February 6, 1991*



In memory of Madame Marie Claudette Kwizera, treasurer of the Iteka League, missing since December 10, 2015. From December 2015 to December 15, 2025, at least 848 victims of enforced disappearance have been documented by the Iteka League, at least 86 victims have reappeared, and 764 victims are still missing. The UN Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances (WGEID) has already communicated information about at least 252 victims¹ to the government of Burundi.

¹<https://docs.un.org/fr/A/HRC/57/54>

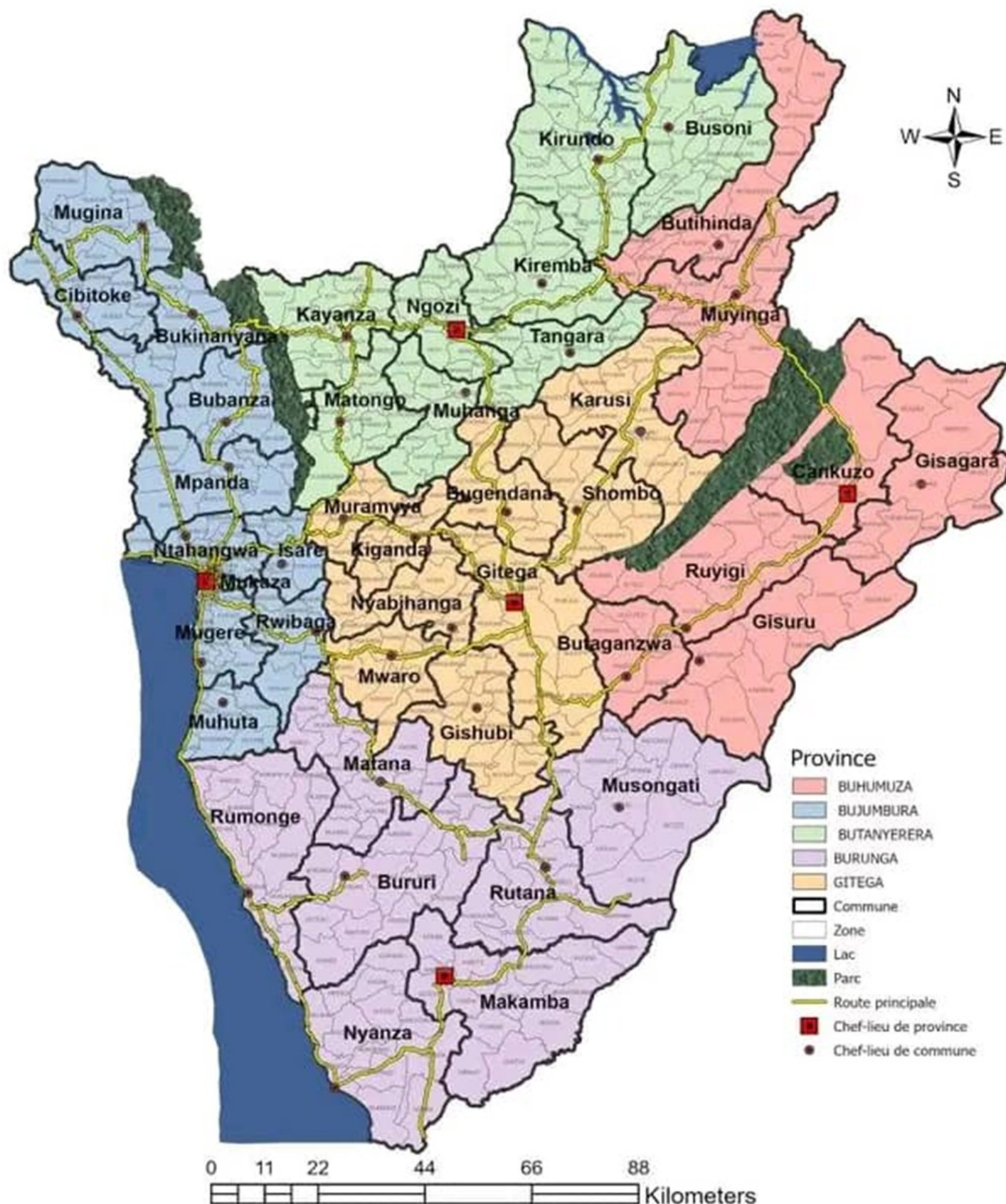
- ♦ The ITEKA League :
- ♦ "Is a member of the Inter-African Union for Human and Peoples' Rights (UIDH), is an affiliated member of the International Federation for Human Rights (FIDH),
- ♦ Has observer status with the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights under reference number OBS.236 and 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

AACB	: Burundi Civil Aviation Authority
AFC	: Congo River Alliance (coalition of rebel movements)
ARGEBU	: Association of Survivors of the 1993 and 1996 Massacres
BRB	: Bank of the Republic of Burundi
C.I	: Supplementary Education (military training)
CNDD-FDD	: National Council for the Defense of Democrac-Forces for the Defense of Democracy
CNL	: National Congress for Liberty
DCE	: Municipal Education Department
DGRRR	: Probably the General Directorate in charge of Refugee Repatriation/Resettlement
DRC	: Democratic Republic of Congo
EAC	: East African Community
ECOFO	: Elementary School
FARDC	: Armed Forces of the Democratic Republic of Congo
FDLR	: Democratic Forces for the Liberation of Rwanda
FDNB	: National Defense Force of Burundi
M23	: March 23 Movement
OPJ	: Judicial Police Officer
OTB	: Burundi Tea Office
PRODEFI	: Sector Development Program
PRODER	: Rural Entrepreneurship Development Program
PSR	: Special Traffic Police
RN	: National Road
SNR	: National Intelligence Service
UNHCR	: United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UPRONA	: Union for National Progress
GBV	: Gender-Based Violence
HIV AIDS	: Human Immunodeficiency Virus Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome

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0. INTRODUCTION

This bulletin presents the human rights situation in Burundi during the week of December 8 to 15, 2025. In this report, the Iteka League also examines the political, humanitarian, security, and judicial 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: at least 8 people killed, including 7 whose bodies were found; 10 victims of GBV; 1 victim of arbitrary arrest; and 1 victim of abduction.

Among the victims, there are 2 women killed and 1 member of the CNL party abducted.

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

I. CONTEXT

I.1. POLITICAL CONTEXT

Forced contributions demanded by local authorities in Muyinga commune, Buhumuza province

The Governor of Buhumuza Province, Denise Ndaruhekere, has ordered a fundraising campaign for the construction of the new provincial building in Cankuzo. This campaign is taking place in particular in the municipality of Muyinga, in Buhumuza Province.

To enforce this order, local department heads are intimidating citizens by threatening them with severe penalties if they do not comply, even going so far as to summon them to the office by text message.

Contributions are required according to a strict scale:

- Every non-civil servant aged 18 and over must pay 2,000 F per month.
- Civil servants are categorized according to their level. For example, D6 and D7

teachers pay 6,000 CFA francs, graduates (Bac + 3) are taxed at 10,000 CFA francs, directors at 12,000 CFA francs,

boarding school directors at 20,000 CFA francs, and heads of education departments at 30,000 CFA francs.

These payments are required every quarter until the building is completed.

The population of the municipality of Muyinga is demanding an immediate end to these intimidations. The inhabitants want contributions to be voluntary and to take into account individual means, especially since money is not always available. This demand is reinforced by the fact that the cost of basic commodities on the market has risen exponentially recently, making life increasingly expensive.

1.1. POLITICAL CONTEXT (the following of page 5)

Resignation of the Secretary General of the CNDD-FDD party from his position as senator

The ITEKA League was informed on December 10, 2025, of the resignation of Réverien Ndikuriyo, Secretary General of the ruling party, the CNDD-FDD, from his mandate as senator. This information is supported by a decision of the Constitutional Court signed on December 4, 2025. Réverien Ndikuriyo had

been elected senator during the senatorial elections on July 23, 2025, to represent the Makamba Commune in Burunga Province. According to sources close to the party, this sudden resignation would be related to strategic considerations for the 2027 presidential elections.

Fears and threats at the displaced persons site in the Bugendana commune, Gitega province

People displaced by the 1993 war, who have settled in Bugendana (Bugendana Commune, Gitega Province), live in constant fear of being evicted from the place where they have been gathered.

The threat stems from a project to build an airport on the site. This project first emerged under the regime of President Pierre Nkurunziza. It had been suspended several times thanks to the interventions and advocacy of civil society organizations working to defend human rights.

Currently, the climate of concern is intensifying, with teams of construction experts making frequent visits to the site. These experts are marking out the areas designated for the future airport.

The Bugendana site is of crucial historical and memorial importance, as it is home to a cemetery where more than 648 victims of the massacres perpetrated on this site on the night of July 20, 1996, are buried. Responsibility for the massacre was claimed by the FDD, which in 2004 became the political party CNDD-FDD, currently in power.

Survivors' organizations, such as AC Génocide Cirimoso and ARGEBU (which brings together survivors of the 1993 and 1996 massacres), consider this airport project to be an attempt to destroy evidence of the mass crimes committed by FDD rebels against these

displaced persons.

On Wednesday, December 10, 2025, a meeting was held in Bugendana to discuss this project, which proceeded as follows: the meeting was chaired by the Director General of the AACB and the Technical Director of Airports, accompanied by the Advisor to the Governor of Gitega and the Municipal Administrator.

These two authorities explained that there is currently no modern, compliant airport capable of accommodating large-capacity aircraft, and that it is therefore necessary to build a new airport.

They asked the participants not to waste time asking questions, stating that they had come solely to announce the project and that concerns would be addressed later by other bodies. Despite this, the microphone was finally handed over to allow for comments.

The municipal administrator spoke first. In his speech, he praised the project and raised the issue of the displaced persons' site, without however mentioning the existence of the cemetery.

He asked the following question: "Where will the inhabitants of the displaced persons' site be housed?"

1.1. POLITICAL CONTEXT (the following of page 6)

The DG of the AACB demanded that the answer be either “yes” or “no.” The question asked was: “Are the inhabitants of the displacement site Burundians like everyone else?”

After the collective answer of “Yes,” the Lieutenant Colonel DG of the AACB gave an illustration:

He recounted that when he was a child, they used to go mushroom hunting in the bush, but there was one mushroom that was forbidden to pick, called Nsubizahunkuye.

He then asked if there was such a “sacred” plant in this displacement site.

He concluded that the displaced persons would be relocated like all other citizens, and that if necessary, another site could be allocated to them if they did not wish to live with the rest of the population, and ended on a lighthearted note.

For his part, a speaker on behalf of the inhabitants of the displaced persons' site insisted that this site should not be compared to the other sites mentioned.

He clarified that the displaced persons were not opposed to the principle of relocation, but that the people buried on this site had been victims of massacres of exceptional violence. In his view, exhuming these bodies without prior justice would be tantamount to reopening old wounds, especially since to date no compensation or legal recognition had been granted to the victims.

He therefore called for a frank dialogue to take place before the airport project is actually launched.

In response, the CEO of the AACB said that this issue was a matter for senior officials, the justice system, and psychologists, and that he should rather limit himself to the technical aspects related to aviation, as this was his mission.

All other questions raised by citizens did not receive clear answers.

The CEO of the AACB and the Technical Director of Airports reiterated that they had come to officially announce the project and that this meeting marked the start of the airport construction process.

They said they had taken note of all the concerns and forwarded them to the relevant authorities.

Regarding the compensation law, in particular the amount provided for and its updating, it was replied that the question would be forwarded to the competent authorities, with the speaker specifying that his mission was limited to aeronautical technology and that he could not respond to other concerns.

The main point, according to him, is that anyone who has to be relocated will be offered another place to live.

These responses were given in a tone that was considered ironic.

It should be noted that the meeting was widely covered by numerous journalists.

I.2. HUMANITARIAN AND SECULAR CONTEXT FOLLOWING THE WAR IN EASTERN DRC, THE TAKEOVER OF UVIRA, AND THE REPULSION OF BURUNDIANS BY THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA

A. Humanitarian and security situation following the war in eastern DRC and the capture of UVIRA

Massive arrival of Congolese refugees in Rumonge commune, Burunga province

Since Thursday, December 11, and Friday, December 12, 2025, the province of Burunga has been facing a massive influx of more than 2,900 Congolese nationals who have crossed Lake Tanganyika. These refugees arrived on fishing boats from several areas along the shores of Lake Tanganyika in South Kivu (DRC), including Mboko, Mbaraka, Fizi, and Mwenzi.

The refugees say they are fleeing the growing insecurity in the eastern Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), specifically in South Kivu. Fighting between the M23 rebel movement and the Congolese army is causing serious concern among the civilian population. Although clashes have not yet broken out in all their localities of origin, the fall of the town of Uvira has caused widespread panic, with people believing that it is only a matter of days before the M23 takes over the region.

The displaced persons have arrived in several localities in Burunga Province, notably in Magara (Rumonge Commune), downtown Rumonge (Rumonge Commune), and Muhuta Commune.

They have settled in makeshift reception sites, notably in Magara and the commercial port of Rumonge. Humanitarian conditions are considered alarming: there are no latrines, no drinking water, and no medicine. The refugees lack tents, mosquito nets, bedding, food, and cooking utensils. Women and children sleep on the ground on the sand, while others have built makeshift shelters with torn tarpaulins and branches.

Security is provided by the police, who are responsible for preventing any intrusion by refugees into the local population.

The local administrative authorities recognize that the reception capacity has been greatly exceeded and are launching an urgent appeal for humanitarian aid from specialized organizations and benefactors.

In a message, the municipal authorities of Muhuta instructed Burundian citizens not to shelter Congolese refugees, under penalty of sanctions. They also called for strict compliance with hygiene measures to prevent the risk of epidemics, particularly cholera.

Reception of thousands of Congolese refugees in the Ruyigi commune, Buhumuza province

Since December 9, 2025, the Ruyigi Commune in Buhumuza Province has been facing the massive arrival of Congolese refugees fleeing the fighting in the eastern Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). In just three days, more than 3,000 refugees arrived in the commune.

In response to this influx, UNHCR opened a new camp on the Bikinga sub-hill, Nyakayi hill.

On December 12, 2025, thousands of refugees were transported to this new site aboard 38 trucks. The total number of people already present at the Bikinga site is estimated to be between 7,000 and 8,000.

A. Humanitarian and security situation following the war in Eastern DRC and the capture of UVIRA (the following of page 8)

refugees. According to statistics, around 17,000 refugees are expected to arrive at this camp before the end of December. The majority of those being taken in are women and children, with very few men.

The commune of Ruyigi now has three refugee camps: the Bwagiriza camp (specifically occupied by Banyamulenge refugees), the Nyankanda camp, and the new Bikinga camp, both of which are hosting Congolese refugees. The Bikinga site is not yet fully developed, and living conditions there are extremely precarious. The refugees sleep under the open sky, without shelter or adequate bedding. They showed signs of hunger and some were shirtless upon arrival.

They face a critical shortage of shelter, food (considered insufficient given the number of people), bedding, latrines, water, and medicine.

Only CARITAS Burundi has provided emergency assistance: since the afternoon of December 12, 2025, the organization has been distributing food. On the same day, SOPRAD CARITAS Ruyigi distributed clothes to children and pregnant women.

Given the insufficient resources to cope with the growing number of people, an appeal is being made to benefactors and humanitarian organizations to provide emergency aid, mainly in the form of shelters, bedding, latrines, water, and medicine.

The atmosphere of fear and security mobilization in Kirundo commune, Butanyerera province

On December 8, 2025, the Iteka League was informed of a clandestine meeting in Kirundo Commune, the capital of Butanyerera Province.

This meeting was led by Nzambimana Jean-Claude, head of the Imbonerakure Youth League, and involved other municipal administrative authorities, including the municipal head of the SNR and the head of the police in Kirundo.

Discussions focused on the conflict between Burundi and Rwanda. The municipal authorities present stated that Rwanda poses a serious and direct threat to Burundi. For this reason, all Imbonerakure members were ordered to mobilize to reinforce and increase the number of positions on the border

with Rwanda.

According to the source, all Imbonerakure members in the commune were informed of the order to be ready to intervene at any time if necessary.

Concrete preparations are underway: Some young Imbonerakure members are currently receiving training in the use of firearms. Others are already positioned at various border points with Rwanda.

This mobilization is creating a climate of insecurity and fear among the population. Many observers are warning of the seriousness of the situation, saying that the conflict could escalate if no measures are taken to defuse tensions.

A. Humanitarian and security situation following the war in Eastern DRC and the capture of UVIRA (the following of page 9)

Massive influx of Congolese fighters into Burundi worries the population in Bukinanyana commune, Bujumbura province

Between December 7 and 10, 2025, unusual armed movement was observed in the hills along Burundi's western border, particularly in Kaburantwa/Buganda, Bukinanyana Commune, in Bujumbura Province.

More than 2,000 Congolese combatants crossed the border, fleeing the M23 advance on several fronts in South Kivu. This contingent is composed of elements from the FARDC, Wazalendo self-defense groups, and elements of the FDLR.

The crossing point used, Transversal 6 at Kaburantwa hill (near a Chinese bridge under construction), is usually a corridor of asylum for families. This time, it was used by armed groups, exhausted, disorganized, and equipped with combat ammunition, to cross the Ruzizi River.

According to security sources, some of these fighters had previously carried out joint operations with Burundian soldiers in several Congolese areas (Kamanyola, Gatogota, Lubarika, Bwegera, Luvungi, Mutarule, Sange, and Kiliba). Driven back by the intensification of M23 offensives, they sought refuge in Burundi.

Several hundred of these fighters have been redeployed to military positions in Cibitoke, Mudubugu, Mpanda, and other secret

locations.

A large contingent is stationed at the Buganda municipal stadium. Access is strictly prohibited to civilians, and the army and police maintain constant surveillance there.

The military sector commander has made no statement regarding this massive influx.

The atmosphere on the ground is very tense, and the presence of these combatants (although unarmed on site) is causing great concern among the Burundian population in the province of Bujumbura. Residents are protesting against the use of the municipal stadium to house armed groups.

The humanitarian situation is described as fragile:

- Wazalendo (who arrived without provisions): They depend largely on spontaneous donations from border residents to survive.
- Other combatants: Those stationed in military positions receive minimal logistical support from the Burundian army.

A local official points out that the sudden arrival of thousands of hungry and disoriented men is putting a strain on already limited local abilities.

Security concerns in Mwaro commune, Gitega province

The population of Mwaro Commune and its surroundings, in Gitega Province, is expressing deep concern about their safety following the arrival of armed individuals at the Mwaro Camp on the night of Saturday, December 13 to Sunday, December 14, 2025.

According to some sources, these individuals (whose number is unknown) are said to be members of the FARDC, the Wazalendo, and the FDLR. They reportedly arrived accompanied by Burundian soldiers,

returning from a mission on Congolese soil after the recent capture of the city of Uvira by M23 rebels.

These men, identified as Swahili speakers, were seen on Sunday, December 14, moving in small groups through the streets of the Mwaro commune headquarters, particularly near the market. The presence of these non-Burundian elements from conflicting groups has created a strong sense of fear among the residents, who worry about the possibility of thefts, rapes, or other public order disturbances.

A. Humanitarian and security situation following the war in Eastern DRC and the capture of UVIRA (the following of page 10)

The impact of the war in South Kivu on the state of human rights in Burundi

The week of December 8 to 14, 2025 saw the human rights situation in Burundi deteriorate, mainly due to the war in South Kivu and the advance of the AFC-M23, which particularly affected the province of Bujumbura in two major areas.

Security and humanitarian aspects:

The occupation of villages in the Rusizi plain by rebels caused an influx of several thousand Congolese refugees, who crossed the Rusizi River to settle in various Burundian municipalities. This unexpected movement had an immediate negative impact on health, exacerbating the cholera epidemic that was already raging, especially as the UNHCR is sorely lacking in resources to deal with it.

In terms of security, this influx, combined with local poverty, has led to a dramatic increase in thefts from fields and households. More seriously, a new form of extortion has emerged: members of the police, the SNR, and the Imbonerakure are targeting people considered “newcomers,” particularly Tutsis and residents of urban border areas, accusing them of complicity with the M23 in order to demand large ransoms. A recent case in Rugombo illustrated this tactic: Jérémie Mbarushimana, Cédric Sibomana, Jimmy, and Norbert were arrested on December 8 by SNR agents and police officers, accused of being M23 collaborators, and were only

released on December 9 after paying a bribe of 500,000 Burundian francs.

In addition, sources within the SNR report that a wave of arrests and abductions targeting other groups (Banyamulenge, retired military personnel, men with relatives in Rwanda) is imminent, on the same charges of conspiracy. An alert that is all the more worrying given that FDLR and Wazalendo elements are reported to be among the Burundian soldiers returning from the DRC and settling near the border.

Economic situation: Intense fighting in South Kivu and the closure of the borders have exacerbated the economic crisis in Burundi. The closure of black market channels (which supplied 60% of the provinces with fuel, involving military officers and President Evariste NDAYISHIMIYE) has caused a severe fuel shortage.

The price per liter has soared from 10,000 FBU to 20,000-25,000 FBU. At the same time, the influx of refugees using stronger currencies (Congolese Franc, Dollar) has contributed to a significant increase in the prices of essential goods. Faced with this situation, the residents of Bujumbura are demanding that negotiations be conducted between Evariste Ndayishimiye’s regime and the AFC-M23 to prevent an escalation of violence and human rights abuses.

A. *Humanitarian and security situation following the war in Eastern DRC and the capture of UVIRA (the following of page 11)*

Massive influx of Congolese refugees in Kaburantwa in the Buganda area, Bujumbura province

On the night of December 7-8, 2025, thousands of Congolese crossed the Burundian border at Kaburantwa, in the Buganda area (Bujumbura Province). This massive influx was the result of violent fighting between the M23 and allied forces composed of the FARDC, Wazalendo self-defense groups, and Burundian troops in several localities in South Kivu (DRC). The crossing point, the bridge under construction at Kaburantwa, was the scene of panic as fleeing combatants and terrified civilians mingled.

In response to this situation, the Burundian army conducted search operations from December 8 at the Kansega transit site, seizing weapons and uniforms. Several suspects were discreetly arrested and transferred to military positions in Cibitoke and Mudubugu.

Despite these measures, a climate of anxiety

prevails in the villages of the region (Kaburantwa, Gasenyi, Rusiga, Mparambo, and Gatoki). Residents, who claim to have seen armed groups passing through, are calling for increased control by the authorities in view of the risk of infiltration. On the humanitarian front, the situation is critical, with thousands of refugees sleeping on the ground, crammed into schools and churches that are now saturated. The sites lack drinking water and food. The first deaths, including several children, have been reported.

The Minister of the Interior, who visited the area, has pledged to set up new appropriate reception sites and issue temporary documents to refugees.

However, the minister also issued a stern warning to residents, citing penalties for those who harbor unregistered refugees and insisting on compliance with security procedures.

B. *Expulsion of Burundians by the United Republic of Tanzania*

Forced repatriation of Burundian refugees from Tanzania to the Nyabitare site in Gisuru commune, Buhumuza province

The repatriation of Burundians exiled in Tanzania continues, with the particularity of being carried out not voluntarily, but by force. During the week of December 8 to 14, 2025, a total of 1,314 returnees was registered at the Nyabitare Transit Site, located in Gisuru Commune, Buhumuza Province. According to the testimonies of the returnees themselves, the expulsion process is systematized: lists

are methodically drawn up, house by house, in the Burundian refugee camps in Tanzania. The refugees are then loaded onto trucks. At the same time, their homes are demolished.

This forced repatriation program is part of the policy of the government of the United Republic of Tanzania, whose stated goal is to have no Burundian refugees on Tanzanian soil by May 2026.

***B. Expulsion of Burundians by the United Republic of Tanzania
(the following of page 12)***

Pushback of people from Tanzania to the Muyinga commune, Buhumuza province

On November 8 and 9, 2025, an influx of people from Tanzania was recorded at the Burundi-Tanzania border. This influx involved a crowd of 210 households, representing approximately 310 people.

These individuals were turned back by the Tanzanian authorities, mainly on grounds of irregularities related to their residence documents or illegal stay.

The arrival took place in Muyinga Commune, Buhumuza Province. Some of the people were initially received by the UNHCR. However, many of the arrivals are wandering around the urban center of Muyinga Commune. Others are grouped together without shelter in the center of Murama, specifically at

ECOFO Ruseno.

The situation at this site is considered precarious, characterized by a total lack of shelter, no food assistance, and children and women exposed to the elements.

A department head from the Territorial Administration, dispatched by the municipal administration, visited the site to assess the situation. The displaced persons are asking the administration to help them return to their families with dignity.

The DGRRR and UNHCR have been asked to obtain approval for the transfer of these persons to the Kinazi Transit Center, which has more appropriate reception facilities.

Return of Burundian refugees turned away from Tanzania to Muyinga commune, Buhumuza province

On December 8, 2025, the ITEKA League was informed of the return of a large number of Burundian refugees who had been expelled from Tanzania. This phenomenon occurred during the week in question, with numerous arrivals reported at the Kinazi Transit Site, Rugari area, Muyinga commune, as well as in the capital of the Muyinga commune, in Buhumuza province. Those affected claim to have been sent back by the Tanzanian authorities because of their illegal stay in that country.

The refugees are using the Kinazi Transit Site for temporary accommodation. This site was set up by the UNHCR a long time ago and has already been used as a reception

center for other waves of refugees and, previously, as a facility for COVID-19 cases. According to the ITEKA League source, the individuals have access to basic necessities, including water and toilets.

Despite these basic amenities, the most urgent need reported is food. The refugees say they lack sustenance because the UNHCR has reportedly stated that it does not have sufficient resources to provide them with food.

It is important to note that the next step is to identify these refugees. Once this administrative procedure is complete, they will be sent back to their respective places of birth in Burundi without delay.

1.3. JUDICIAL CONTEXT

Arrest for rape of a minor in the commune of Rutana, Burunga province

On Tuesday, December 9, 2025, a 57-year-old man named Nahayo Vital was arrested in the Rutana neighborhood, Rutana commune, Burunga province. He is accused of raping a 12-year-old girl.

Nahayo Vital was immediately detained and taken to the jail of the Rutana Communal Police Station.

The victim, the 12-year-old girl, was quickly transferred to Rutana Hospital in order to receive the necessary care and to be protected against the risks of HIV AIDS infection and unwanted pregnancy.

II. CIVIL AND POLITICAL RIGHTS

II.1. RIGHT TO LIFE

II.1.1. INTENTIONAL HOMICIDES

II.1.1.1. PERSONS KILLED AS A RESULT OF SETTLING SCORES

A woman killed in Matongo commune, Butanyerera province

On December 12, 2025, the Iteka League received information concerning the murder of a 67-year-old widow, which occurred on the night of December 7, 2025, at around 8 p.m. The victim, identified as Ngendakumana Joséphine, lived on Musema Hill, in Matongo Commune, Butanyerera Province.

The alleged perpetrator of this killing is Niyibitanga Salatiel, aged 38, who is the son of the victim's husband.

According to information provided by Bivugire Sophie, the hill chief of Musema, land disputes were at the root of this tragedy. The hill chief explains that there were land

disputes between the victim and the alleged perpetrator.

The motive is linked to the fact that Ngendakumana Joséphine had no children in this family. Her husband's son often threatened to harm her if she continued to claim land ownership, arguing that she had no direct heirs to these properties.

Salatiel, the alleged perpetrator of the killing, was quickly apprehended by police operating in the commune of Matongo on the night of December 7, 2025. He is currently being held in the Nyabibuye area jail pending judicial investigations.

II.1.1.2. BODIES FOUND DEAD

A dead body found in a commune in Gitega province

On December 3, 2025, around 6 a.m., the body of Ndayikeza Jules, aged 28, was reported on Higiro Hill, Gitega commune and province. He is the son of Ndayishimiye Samson and Ngendakumana Febtonie. His body was found hanging from a rope inside a house. Although family conflicts were mentioned as a possible context, several elements call into question

the suicide hypothesis. Visible marks on the victim's neck were reported by the source. The source suggests that NDAYIKEZA Jules may have been killed elsewhere and then hanged to try to mislead the investigation. The report was made by investigating officer Manirakiza Sylvestre.

II.1.1.2. OF DEAD BODIES FOUND (the following of page 14)

The funeral was arranged immediately with the local administration and the family. Despite the burial, neighbors who are not family members are calling for thorough

investigations to determine the exact circumstances of this death.

A lifeless body found in Rwibaga commune, Bujumbura province

On December 8, 2025, at around 7:30 a.m., the naked body of an unidentified young man was discovered. The body was found in the Kinanira Valley, on Buhoro Hill, in the Jenda area of Rwibaga Commune, Bujumbura Province.

The local police immediately went to the scene to investigate.

The police discovered that the body showed visible signs indicating that the deceased had been shot elsewhere in an inhumane manner by criminals who have not yet been identified. The identity of the victim could not be

established. The police stated that even the local residents confirmed that they did not know this person.

As it was impossible to identify the body immediately, the authorities transferred it to the morgue at Jenda Hospital. Information will be widely disseminated so that relatives can come forward for the burial process. The people of Buhoro are asking the police to conduct thorough investigations to establish the truth and ensure that the perpetrators of this crime are apprehended and brought to justice.

A lifeless body found in the Mugere commune, Bujumbura province

An unidentified lifeless body was found on December 3, 2025 on Ramba Hill, Mugere commune, Bujumbura province.

The victim is a man aged between 40 and 45, weighing more than 90 kg. The body was found lying on the banks of the river named Nyagonga. He had marks on his throat suggesting strangulation.

On that date, the body has not been identified. According to the first local findings, the victim was killed elsewhere, then transported to be abandoned in this remote place.

A lifeless body found on the shores of Lake Tanganyika in Rumonge commune, Burunga province

On December 14, 2025, the lifeless body of a 21-year-old young man was found floating on the waters of Lake Tanganyika, near the Kanyenkoko neighborhood, city and commune of Rumonge, Burunga Province.

Thanks to the residents and his employer, the victim was identified: he was a mason's assistant from Cirisha hill, Rushubi zone, Isare commune, Bujumbura province.

The victim's body showed injuries to the ribs

and head, according to information collected on site. Local administrative authorities, the civil protection police, and Red Cross volunteers in Rumonge joined forces to carry out the removal of the lifeless body.

The body was transferred to Rumonge hospital. At the same time, the police opened an investigation to determine the exact causes and circumstances of the death, as well as the origin of the observed injuries.

II.1.1.2. LIFELESS BODIES FOUND (the following of page 14)

A lifeless body found in Muramvya commune, Gitega province

On December 10, 2025, a lifeless body of an as-yet-unidentified man was found. The discovery took place on Biganda Hill, Muramvya area and Commune, Gitega Province, in the Mubarazi River. There are two opposing versions as to the

cause of death.

According to local witnesses, the administration at the base is talking about the drowning theory and the inhabitants of the locality question this hypothesis and claim that this man was killed elsewhere before being thrown into the waters of

A lifeless body found in the commune of Ngozi, Butanyerera province

On December 9, 2025, in the morning, a lifeless body in a state of decomposition was discovered. The body, that of an elderly and unidentified man, was found near the Nkaka River, in the Rusuguti district, Ngozi zone and commune, Butanyerera Province. According to local witnesses who saw the body, he showed no apparent signs of injury. This lack of visible traces leads neighbors to

suspect that the victim was killed by strangulation.

The information was confirmed by Dominique NDIKURYAYO, the administrator of the Commune of Ngozi. He said a police investigation is already underway to establish the exact cause of death and identify the victim.

A lifeless body found in the commune of Bu-

On December 13, 2025, at around 6 a.m., in the center of Bugendana, on Bitare Hill, Gitega Province, the lifeless body of Appolinaire Nahimana, aged 35 and originally from the same hill, was found near the Soma Proust Hotel.

According to an eyewitness, the body had been mutilated, with the genitals and one foot cut off. Traces of blood covered the ground for about 15 meters up to the Bugendana-Kibimba road. The presence of tire tracks suggests that the body was transported and abandoned at the scene by an unidentified vehicle.

According to information gathered at the scene, Nahimana had just been released after spending about five years in Gitega Central

Prison, where he was suspected of involvement in a previous murder that occurred in the same facility. Neighbors also reported that he had sold all his property the previous week with the intention of moving to Kumoso.

Following the discovery, the police and the municipal administrator went to the scene. The body was taken to the morgue at Mutaho Hospital. A member of the deceased's family was arrested after authorities learned that he had been seen with the victim in a bar between 6 p.m. and 8 p.m. that night.

An investigation is underway to determine the exact circumstances of the death.

II.1.2. ABDUCTIONS AND/OR ENFORCED DISAPPEARANCES

A member of the CNL party kidnapped in Mwaro commune, Gitega province

On December 14, 2025, in the morning, on Kariba Hill, Kanka area, Mwaro commune, Gitega province, Tharcisse Ndirekuramba, a teacher in his forties, known to be an active member of the CNL party and close to Agathon Rwasa, was forcibly taken from his home by individuals who, according to local information, are from the SNR.

The perpetrators of the abduction were traveling in a double-cabin van with tinted

windows. They were accompanied by two young Imbonerakure from the area, Augustin, Director of ECOFO Rubamvyi, and Ndayizeye Sostène, a "very zealous" Imbonerakure who is an advisor to the communal administrator in charge of legal affairs.

The destination to which Tharcisse Ndirekuramba was taken is unknown, and his relatives are currently fearful for his safety.

II.2. PHYSICAL AND/OR MENTAL INTEGRITY

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

II.2.1.1. RAPE

A girl raped in Kayanza commune, Butanyerera province

On November 9, 2025, a 10-year-old girl, named I. L, was a victim of rape in the evening. She is originally from Kabanga sub-hill, Kinyami hill, Mparamirundi zone, Kayanza commune, Butanyerera Province. The alleged perpetrator of the rape is a police officer named Niyongabo Egide, who operates in Kabarore.

The alleged perpetrator was arrested and initially taken to the Mparamirundi Zone Dungeon.

He was then transferred to the jail of the

Kayanza Police Station for the constitution of his criminal file.

The victim's parents, N.M and M. C, expressed their concerns. They explain that police officer Niyongabo Egide threatens to harm them if they do not agree to settle the case amicably, before the file is sent to the judicial authorities.

The victim's parents are therefore asking for protection in the face of these threats.

A girl raped in Rumonge commune in Burunga province

Information that reached us at the Iteka League on December 13, 2025 indicates that on November 4, 2025. N. J, 13 years old, was raped by Bizimana Joachim, Imbonerakure, shopkeeper, 28 years old on Kanyenkoko hill, Rumonge zone and commune, Burunga province.

According to the information gathered, Bizimana Joachim called the girl into his shop, closed the door, and committed the rape. Following the act, the victim was threatened

with death if she revealed what had happened. Out of fear, the girl remained silent for several days.

A few days after the tragedy, the victim, no longer feeling comfortable, decided to tell her mother everything.

The mother immediately filed a complaint with the police. The alleged perpetrator was arrested and taken to the dungeon of the Rumonge police station.

II.2.1.1. RAPES (the following of page 17)

He was then transferred to Rumonge Central Prison. The victim was taken to the Humura Center for comprehensive care. However,

the necessary medical care was provided after the 72-hour period, which complicates immediate preventive measures.

A girl raped in Rumonge commune, Burunga province

Information received by the Iteka League on December 8, 2025 indicates that on November 21, 2025, on Gitaramuka hill, Burambi zone, Rumonge commune, Burunga province, 3-year-old D. K was raped.

The crime was committed by 28-year-old Iradukunda Egide, and according to information on the spot, he led her to a sweet potato field and then raped her and put the

crying victim back on a public path. It was the passers-by who picked him up and took him to his parents' house and they immediately took him to the hospital in Murago. As for the alleged perpetrator, the local administration and the joint security committee arrested him. He was taken to the Burambi zonal cell and then transferred to the Rumonge police station.

A girl raped in Rumonge commune, Burunga province

Information that reached us at the Iteka League on December 11, 2025 indicates that on December 3, 2025, N.M., 12 years old, a student at ECOFO Gatete, was raped by Bizimana Jean Achel, on the hill of Busebwa, Gatete zone, Commune of Rumonge, Province of Burunga.

According to information gathered from witnesses, the domestic took advantage of the parents' absence to intimidate and force the

victim to have sex. Following his act, he threatened her with death if she dared to reveal the secret.

Despite the threats, the victim finally revealed the assault to her mother. The mother then appealed to the local administration. The alleged perpetrator was arrested and taken to the Rumonge police station. The victim was taken to the Humura Center for holistic care.

A mentally ill woman raped in Rumonge commune, Burunga province

Information received by the Iteka League on December 13, 2025, indicates that on December 4, 2025, S. K., a 43-year-old woman suffering from mental disorders, was assaulted and raped by two young men on Rukinga Hill, in the Rumonge zone and commune, Burunga Province. The incident occurred when neighbors, alerted by screams, approached the victim's house. The neighbors

contacted local officials and the joint committee. One of the perpetrators, 23-year-old Amani Jean, was arrested and detained at the Rumonge police station. The second, Nduwayo Steve, however, managed to flee. The victim was taken to the Humura Center for comprehensive care.

II.2.1.1. RAPES (the following of page 18)

A girl raped in Muhuta commune, Burunga province

Information that arrived on December 13, 2025 indicates that a girl named I. L, a 13-year-old student at ECOFO Gahuni, was a victim of rape on December 5, 2025 on Rubingo hill, Muhuta commune, Burunga province.

The alleged perpetrator, Ernest Niyongere, 25, from the same hill, is said to have abused the victim's trust by promising to take her as

his wife.

Following these facts, the police of the Gitaza zone arrested Niyongere Ernest. For the moment, the alleged perpetrator is being held in the dungeon of the Rumonge police station for legal action. As for the victim, he was brought to the hospital in Kabezi for medical care.

A girl raped in Musongati commune, Burunga province

On November 29, 2025, at around 9 a.m., a case of rape was perpetrated on Gahogoro sub-hill, Mwango hill, Gakungu zone, Musongati commune, Burunga province.

The victim, named D. I., was sexually assaulted by a man named Ndiyumiriza on her way to his field. According to local sources, this man is in the habit of positioning himself on the street in the morning and evening

hours with the aim of raping women and girls who pass by.

The victim was rescued by other farmers who, passing by, heard his screams. Although the attacker tried to flee, he was caught by the responders and detained in the dungeon of the Giharo municipal police station.

A girl raped in Isare commune, Bujumbura province

On November 29, 2025, on Mubimbi Hill, Mubimbi area, Isare commune, Bujumbura province, a young girl named I. D., 15 years old and an 8th-grade student at ECOFO Mubimbi, was the victim of a sexual assault. According to sources on the ground, the alleged perpetrator is a married teacher named Bayaguburundi Jean Pierre. The assault took place on the same hill, at the

place where the teacher raises chickens. He called the victim and then reportedly found himself alone with her before assaulting her, taking advantage of his physical strength after a struggle. The young girl received treatment at Rushubi Hospital, while the alleged perpetrator reportedly fled.

A girl raped in Mpanda commune, Bujumbura province

On November 11, 2025, on Mugenge hill, Mpanda commune, in the current province of Bujumbura, a 12-year-old girl named A.N. was raped. His parents are H. R and M. C. The alleged perpetrator is Ngerageze Pie, a 34-year-old married man, who is their neighbour.

The victim had come to visit the home of the alleged perpetrator. That day, no one else was

home except for the attacker. The latter would have taken advantage of this absence to commit rape.

The perpetrator was caught red-handed by the neighbours. He was immediately arrested and imprisoned.

As for the victim, she received all the necessary care.

II.2.1.1. RAPES (the following of page 16)

A girl raped in Muhuta commune, Burunga province

Information received by the Iteka League on December 10, 2025, indicates that on December 1, 2025, I.O., a 12-year-old student at ECOFO Rutunga, was a victim of rape on Rutunga hill, Gitaza area, Muhuta commune, Burunga province. The alleged perpetrator of this act is Nibitanga Janvier, a 35-year-old married man. He committed the crime after encountering the young girl as she was going

to do farm work. The victim screamed for help, and passersby quickly intervened. The intervention of witnesses led to the immediate arrest of the alleged perpetrator. Nibitanga Janvier was initially held in the Gitaza zonal detention center before being transferred to the Rumonge police station, and then to the Rumonge central prison. The victim, meanwhile, was taken to Kabezi hospital to receive the necessary medical care.

II.3. RIGHT TO FREEDOM

II.3.1. ARBITRARY ARRESTS AND DETENTIONS

A person kidnapped and then released in Mukaza commune, Bujumbura province

On December 13, 2025, at around 6 a.m., in the center of Bugendana, on Bitare Hill, Gitega Province, the lifeless body of Appolinaire Nahimana, aged 35 and originally from the same hill, was found near the Soma Proust Hotel.

According to an eyewitness, the body had been mutilated, with the genitals and one foot cut off. Traces of blood covered the ground for about 15 meters up to the Bugendana-Kibimba road. The presence of tire tracks suggests that the body was transported and abandoned at the scene by an unidentified vehicle.

According to information gathered at the scene, Nahimana had just been released after spending about five years in Gitega Central

Prison, where he was suspected of involvement in a previous murder that occurred in the same facility. Neighbors also reported that he had sold all his property the previous week with the intention of moving to Kumoso.

Following the discovery, the police and the municipal administrator went to the scene. The body was taken to the morgue at Mutaho Hospital. A member of the deceased's family was arrested after authorities learned that he had been seen with the victim in a bar between 6 p.m. and 8 p.m. that night. An investigation is underway to determine the exact circumstances of the death.

III.1. DISRUPTION OF ECONOMIC LIFE

Fraudulent management of agricultural inputs in Muramvya Commune, Gitega Province

The distribution of fertilizer and dolomite for the 2026A agricultural season, which began on November 26, 2025, in Muramvya Commune, Gitega Province, was marked by widespread fraud.

This fraud was orchestrated by Imbonerakure members, led by Muramvya zone chief Remy Habonimana. Although the distribution schedule and location had been officially posted (scheduled for November 28 at the Muramvya stadium), the zone chief knowingly changed this information.

The distribution took place the day before, on November 27, 2025, at the zone office, and

only members of the CNDD-FDD party were informed of the change through their internal channels. Uninformed farmers who showed up at the official location and date were then told that there was no more fertilizer, even though they had paid for it in advance.

Today, these farmers, who are destitute, do not know where to turn. They are forced to buy these agricultural inputs from those who received them fraudulently, but at an exorbitant price, thus perpetuating the harm caused by this political discrimination.

Non-delivery of paid chemical fertilizers in Karusi commune, Gitega province

A problem of non-delivery of chemical fertilizers persists in Karusi Commune, Gitega Province, causing concern among the population. Farmers had paid for inputs intended for the first growing season, known as Agatasi. However, these fertilizers have still not been received, while the season is now over, and the harvest period is approaching,

scheduled to take place in about a month. The population wonders about the government's intentions and what has happened to the money they spent, suffering significant agricultural damage by having to farm without the necessary fertilizers.

Cross impacts of the power outage and drought in Buhumuza province

Since December 7, 2025, the town of Ruyigi and its surrounding areas in Buhumuza Province have been plunged into darkness. This power outage is the direct result of a torrential rainstorm that struck the communes of Makebuko and Taba (Gitega Province) and Butaganzwa (Buhumuza Province).

The severe weather caused significant damage, including the collapse of more than 40 electricity poles. The entire line connecting Makebuko, Taba, Butaganzwa, and Ruyigi is

therefore out of service. This absence of electricity, which has lasted all week, has paralyzed the economic activities of small trades (welders, hairdressers, public secretariats, cafeterias) and has also affected public and private services.

At the same time, the eastern region of the country is facing a rainfall shortage. This climatic threat particularly affects the communes in the KUMOSO region, where crops have already begun to wither.

III.1. DISRUPTION OF ECONOMIC LIFE (the following of page 18)

Mass seizures and arrests of traders in the province Butanyerera

The police of Butanyerera Province carried out two consecutive search and raid operations on December 11 and 12, 2025, with the aim of enforcing the administrative measure banning the sale of alcoholic beverages in shops.

On December 11, the police from the Gashikanwa communal station targeted shops in the Musumba center, Gatobo area, Tangara Commune. At Ndayizeye Innocent's place (45 years old), five cartons of drinks (including Zana Wine, Sagamba, and Hozagara) were

seized. Mr. Ndayizeye Innocent was placed in the detention cell of the Gashikanwa communal station while awaiting payment of a fine for rebellion.

On December 12, from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., the police from the Gashikanwa communal station continued the searches on the Gashikanwa and Remera hills. Alcoholic beverages were seized in five additional shops. The owners of these shops were also apprehended while waiting to settle the payment of the fine imposed for rebellion.

III.2. RIGHT TO HEALTH

Staffing crisis and paralysis at Mukenke Hospital in Butanyerera Province

Mukenke Hospital in Butanyerera Province is suffering from a serious dysfunction reported to the ITEKA League on December 8, 2025, primarily due to a critical shortage of medical staff. According to sources on site, patients are no longer receiving emergency care. This situation began following a mass layoff, which notably affected Dr. Oswald Nshimirimana. At the same time, collection service agents were accused of embezzlement and arrested, creating a climate of mistrust and disorder among employees.

This chaos led to Dr. Oswald's dismissal and the resignation of other nursing and administrative staff. Patients are shocked by this lack of assistance, reporting that almost all work is now handled by the hospital's sole doctor-director. Faced with this service paralysis, patients are calling on the government to quickly come to their aid to restore the situation.

IV. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The Iteka League strongly condemns the persistent 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 :

1. Take measures to prevent intentional homicides, particularly gangland killings;
2. Investigate homicides and the phenomenon of bodies being found in different parts of the country and identify those responsible in order to punish them in accordance with the law;
3. Take measures to protect victims of rape and provide them with adequate support;
4. Take appropriate measures to address the humanitarian situation in the country following the crisis in eastern DRC and, above all, prevent armed groups fleeing the fighting from committing crimes on Burundian soil, which could fuel conflicts with neighboring countries.

To Burundi's technical and financial partners :

1. To assist the State of Burundi in this delicate humanitarian situation, especially given that its economic situation was already fragile;
2. To help prevent an escalation between neighboring countries following the verbal attacks that are still being made by one side or the other.