



LIGUE BURUNDAISE DES DROITS DE L'HOMME

"ITEKA" association sans but lucratif

Agréée par l'ordonnance ministérielle n°530/0273 du 10 novembre 1994 revoyant l'ordonnance 550/029 du 6 février 1991

Membre affilié de la Fédération Internationale des Ligues des Droits de l'Homme (F.I.D.H)

LBDH/014 /2026

Kampala, 7th /6/ 2026

STATEMENT

In the face of threats against Faustin Ndikumana, the national director of the NGO PARCEM in Burundi

The ITEKA League expresses its deepest concern regarding the increasing threats faced against Faustin Ndikumana, the national director of the NGO PARCEM in Burundi, an NGO that consistently draws the attention of the highest political authorities to poor governance and the resulting impoverishment that continues to affect the population.

The ITEKA League is all the more worried since, not long ago, in November 2025, the President of the Republic, Évariste Ndayishimiye, personally carried out personal and violent attacks against this activist for good governance and economic, social, and cultural rights, thus demonstrating his intolerance towards freedom of expression, which should characterize any civil society organization.

In this context, and considering the numerous previous schemes orchestrated by the police, intelligence services, and the Imbonerakure militia, which have resulted in arbitrary arrests, forced disappearances, and summary executions, the ITEKA League denounces the plot to introduce weapons on May 17, 2026, into a bar owned by Faustin Ndikumana, a bar located in Kinyami Quarter, Ngozi Commune, Butanyerera province.

The ITEKA League applaud the civic behavior of the bar staff, who, as soon as they noticed the presence of the suspicious bag containing military items, including a rifle, immediately called the police to come and record the incident.

The ITEKA League, on the other hand, firmly condemns the arbitrary arrest and detention of the six employees of this establishment who demonstrated this civic behavior. The extension of their detention, now for almost three weeks, raises concerns for their safety.

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In this context, the ITEKA League calls on the government of Burundi to:

1. Conduct an impartial investigation to identify the person or persons who placed the bag with military items in the bar owned by Faustin Ndikumana, as well as the instigators of this malicious action;
2. Release the employees who acted responsibly by reporting the presence of weapons in a place where they should not have been, their release not preventing them from being heard as witnesses in the investigation and trial related to this case;
3. Take all appropriate measures to stop harassment against civil society activists throughout the national territory.

For the Iteka League

Anschaire Nikoyagize



President