

A RUN FOR LIFE!

NOVEMBER 2023

Zimbabwe Peace Project Monthly Monitoring Report



**ZIMBABWE PEACE
PROJECT**

Source: Takudzwa Ngadziore- Facebook page

www.zimpeaceproject.com

The Round Up

Zimbabwe Peace Project recorded 145 cases of human rights violations in the month of November. 77.8% of the victims were general citizens while members of the opposition party Citizens Coalition for Change (CCC) were the second largest target group with a record of 20.9%. 1.3% of the victims were ZANU PF members. ZPP identified that 52% of the victims were male and 0.45% male persons with disability (PWDs) while 47% were females and 0.67% women PWDs. In the same month, the Zimbabwe Human Rights Commission (ZHRC), a Chapter 12 Commission released a statement on the political and human rights situation in Zimbabwe in the context of the post-election period. While the statement decried reports of political violence and human rights violations, particularly in some wards and constituencies where there are upcoming by-elections, the commission's statement lacked the urgency of 'enforcing fundamental human rights' in Zimbabwe.

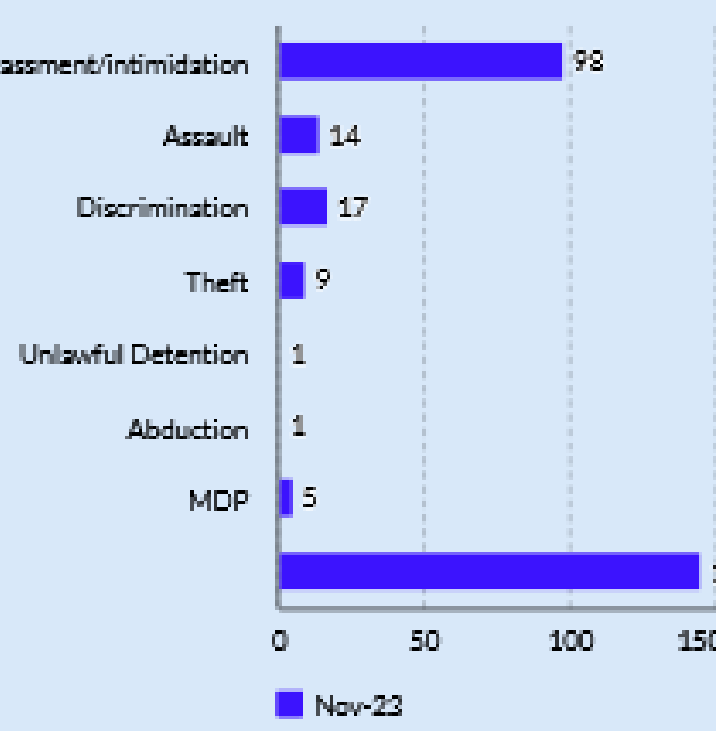
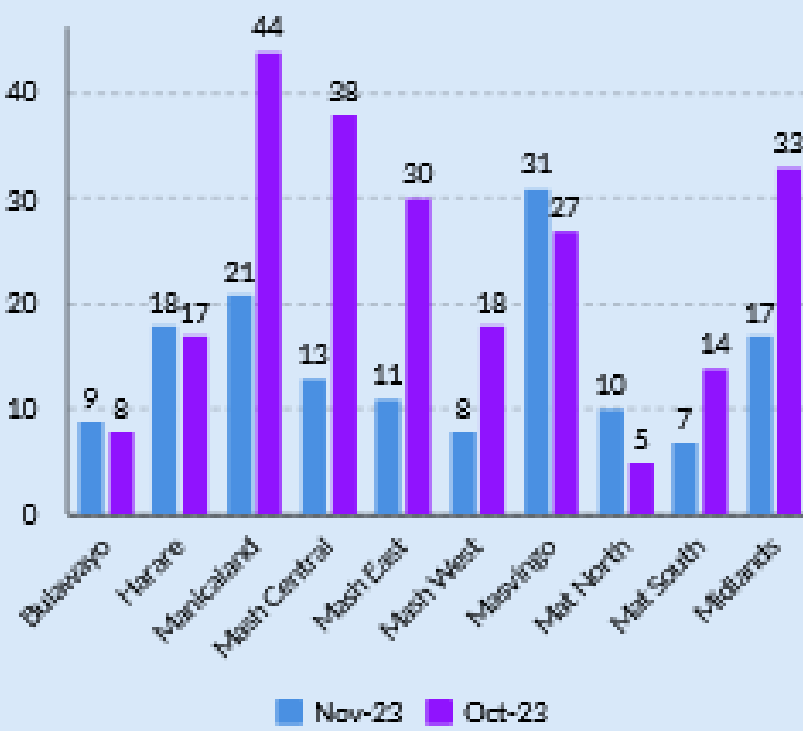
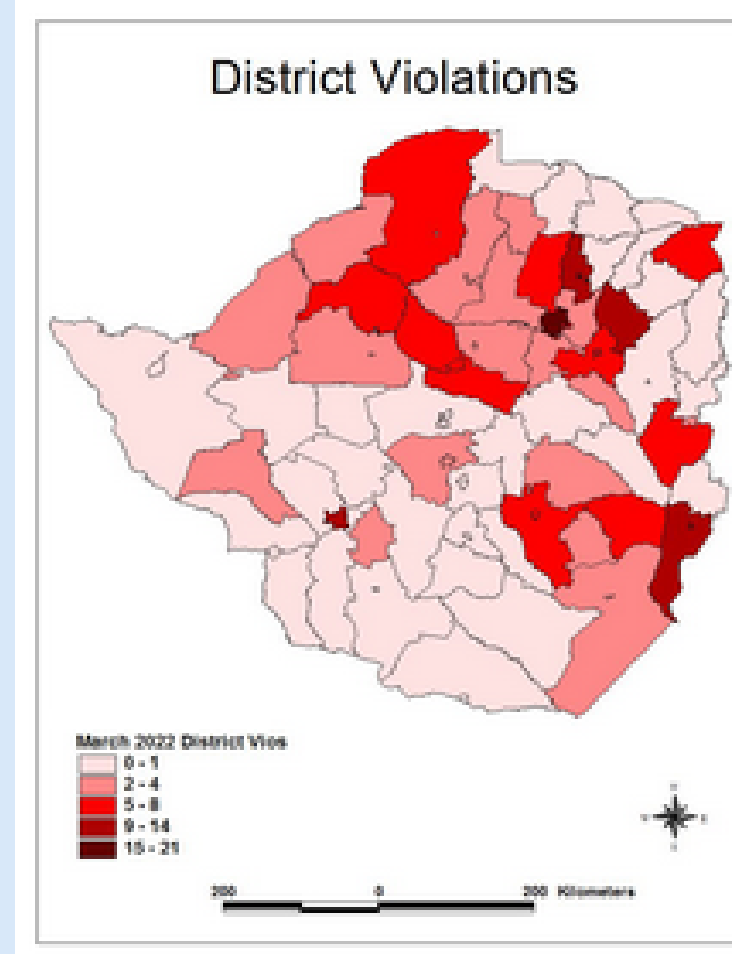
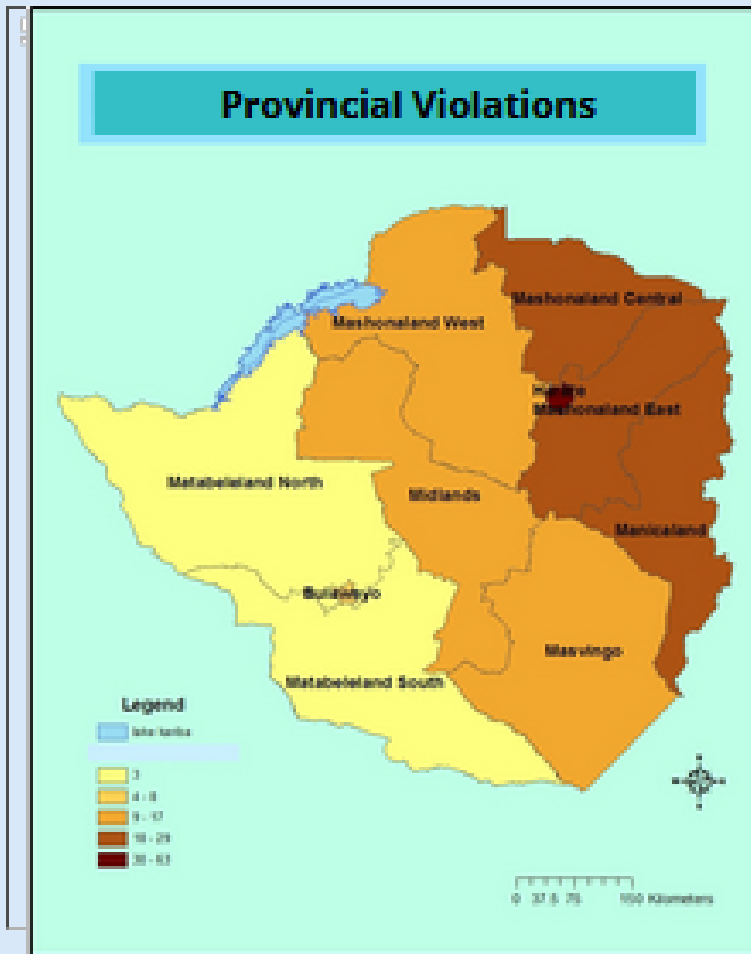
The ruling party, ZANU PF, accounted for 60% of the perpetrators of violations, illustrating its deep-rooted tradition of institutional violence in the country's history. The Zimbabwe Republic Police (ZRP) which is supposed to enforce the protection of victims and enforce respect of human rights made up 13% of the reported perpetrators. Opposition parties such as the CCC and Mthwakazi also contributed to the perpetrators making up 6.3% and 0.4% respectively. ZPP recorded, accurately verified and documented violations in all the country's provinces.

The cases recorded in November included abductions and reports of torture of political activist, partisan distributions which violated the people's rightful access to food and other aid and the violation of the right to administrative justice. In respect to food and other aid violation cases recorded, Manicaland, Midlands and Masvingo provinces topped the list at 27% of violations, followed by Mashonaland Central which recorded 18%.

Human Rights Violations Monthly Dashboard

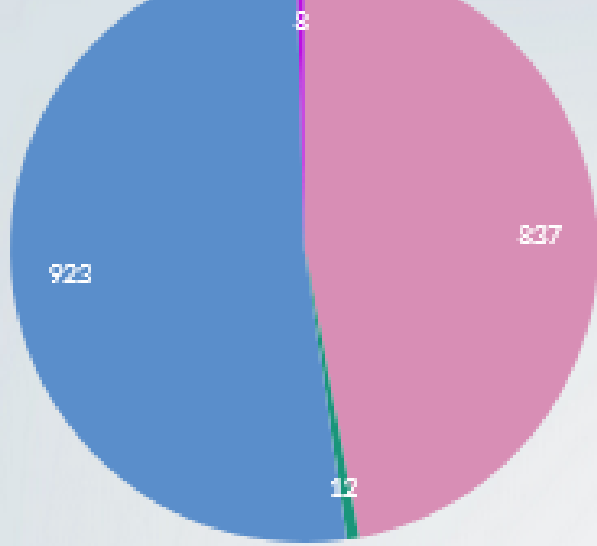
Zimbabwe Peace Project

Report time frame: November, 2023



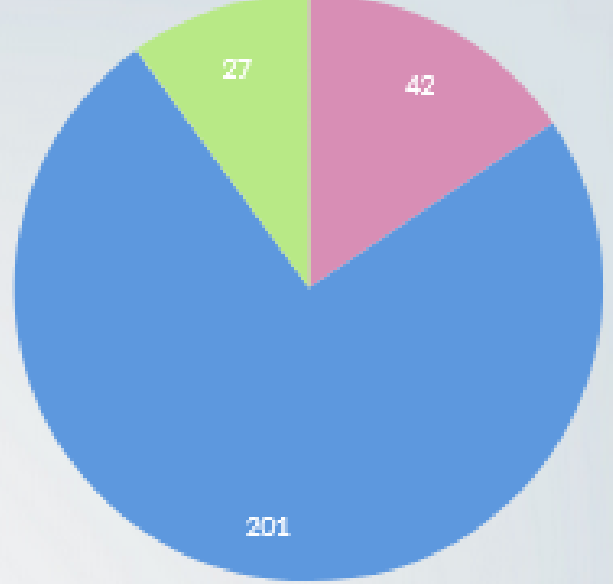
Provincial Violations

Types of Violations



Female (47.02%) Female PWD (0.67%) Male (51.85%)
Male PWD (0.45%)

Gender of Victims



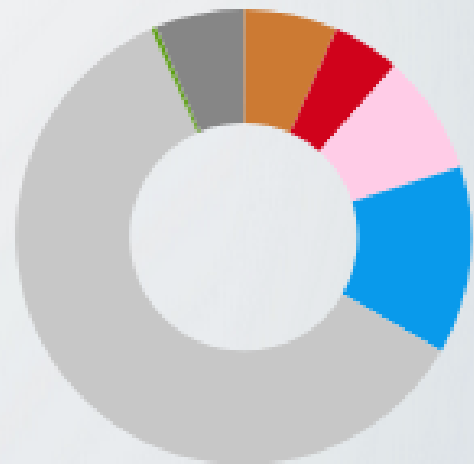
Female (15.56%) Male (74.44%) Unknown (10%)

Gender of Perpetrators



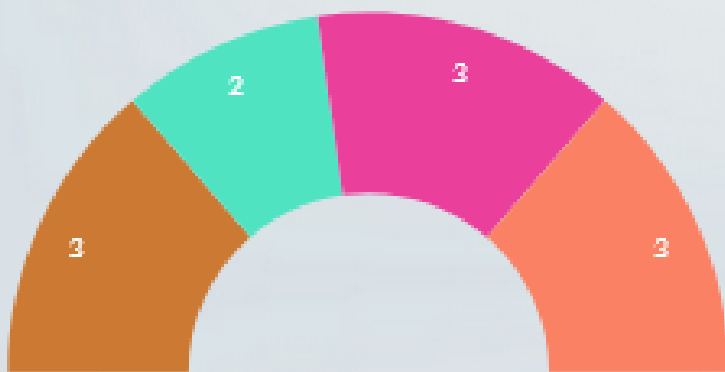
Zanu PF (1.29%) CCC (20.9%) General Citizens (77.81%)

Victims Affiliation



State officials (6.67%) Traditional Leaders (4.81%)
Unknown (8.52%) ZRP (13.33%) Zanu PF (60%)
Mthwakazi (0.37%) CCC (6.3%)

Perpetrators Affiliation



Manicaland (27.27%) Mash Central (18.18%)
Masvingo (27.27%) Midlands (27.27%)



Major Highlights

Abduction of political activists



The month of November started with the abduction of a Member of Parliament and youngest parliamentarian, Honourable Takudzwa Ngadziore on Wednesday 1 November 2023. In a live video published on his Facebook account, Honourable

Ngadziore desperately shouted that he was being chased. The visuals from the video show a man with an AK47 assault rifle following him. The Citizens Coalition for Change (CCC) later reported that Honourable Ngadziore was “found naked, left for dead, and dumped in Mazowe”, about 50km away from Harare City Centre. Barely two weeks after the abduction of Takudzwa Ngadziore, another opposition CCC member Bishop Tapfumaneyi Masaya was allegedly abducted in Mabvuku-Tafara, while campaigning for Phibion Munyaradzi Kufahakutizwi, who was seeking re-election into parliament after being recalled. Bishop Masaya was later found dead on the 14th of November. The targeted abductions are calculated to create “engineered apathy” among CCC supporters from participating in the upcoming by-elections, thereby creating an unfair advantage for ZANU PF candidates. The fear amongst the citizenry that has been generated by the abductions and other human rights violations has curtailed citizens’ enjoyment of their political rights as enshrined in Section 67 of the Constitution of Zimbabwe, and the rights to freedom of assembly and association provided for in Section 58 of the Constitution

Job Sikhala remanded in prison

In November the High Court of Zimbabwe overturned the conviction and sentencing of former Zengeza West legislator Job Sikhala and found him not guilty on the charge of obstructing justice. Job Sikhala has been in prison for over 500 days. He is also facing charges of inciting public violence during the funeral of the murdered opposition Citizens Coalition for Change (CCC) activist Moreblessing Ali. Job Sikhala's case has been prolonged for over a year.



Opposition Recalls

Following the harmonised elections in October 2023, 14 members of parliament were recalled from parliament following the letter by Mr Sengezo Tshabangu, the self-claimed interim Secretary General of the Citizens Coalition for Change (CCC). Mr Tshabangu wrote a letter to the Speaker of Parliament informing him of the recalls of the members of parliament. These recalls triggered a by-election which was to be held on the 9th of December 2023. While contesting candidates were filing their nomination papers on the 7th of November, Mr Tshabangu wrote to the Ministry of Local Government, announcing a recall of the Mayor of Harare Ian Makoni, his deputy (Kudzai Kadzombe) and 7 other elected councillors on the grounds that they had ceased to be members of CCC. On the 10th and the 14th of November, Mr Tshabangu further recalled 52 councillors, 13 more members of Parliament and 9 Senators respectively. The prolonging of election periods in Zimbabwe traditionally exposes ordinary citizens to a series of political violence and human rights violations.

Outbreak of Cholera across the country

There was an increase in Cholera cases in Zimbabwe, particularly in Harare suburbs. The City of Harare and the Government of Zimbabwe declared a state of emergency in November. As of 7 November 2023, Zimbabwe recorded 6685 suspected cholera cases and 136 suspected deaths. In Glenview 2, Harare, ZPP recorded a case of houses flooded in sewer after a burst sewer pipe had not been attended to for more than a week. This situation exposes residents to cholera and other waterborne diseases affecting their right to healthcare. Deaths were reported on 22 November with people allegedly admitted at Beatrice Infection Hospital for suspected cholera cases while more residents of 56 Crescent were being treated for diarrhoea at Glenview Polyclinic. According to Section 73 of the Zimbabwe Constitution, 'Everyone has a right to an environment that is not harmful to their health and well-being and to have their environment protected for the benefit of present and future generations through reasonable legislative and other measures. The outbreak of cholera in Harare and other parts of Zimbabwe displays violations of Section 73. The delays by City Council authorities to resolve the problems also affect the residents' access to clean water (Section 77, Constitution of Zimbabwe).



Key Findings and Mitigation Measures

Continued use of Abductions to silence opposition

ZPP recorded two major cases of abductions in November where both victims were members of the opposition party, CCC. One of the Victims Takudzwa Ngadzioere, a member of parliament was severely assaulted and tortured and was reportedly injected with unknown substances before being dumped about 50km from Harare. In another case, a member of the opposition (CCC), Bishop Tapfumaneyi Masaya in Mabvuku-Tafara Constituency lost his life after an abduction while he was campaigning for a CCC candidate who was contesting to be a Member of Parliament in his constituency in the upcoming by-elections. Bishop Masaya was found dead on the 11th of November. In both cases no arrests have been made. The continued abductions are largely carried out by alleged state security agents and political actors Section 53 of the Constitution of Zimbabwe which states that no person may be subjected to physical or psychological torture. The act in itself deters citizens to freely enjoy their civil and political rights for fear of victimization.

Recommendations

1. ZPP urges the Zimbabwean government and the Zimbabwe Republic Police to thoroughly investigate cases of abductions and bring perpetrators to book. the government of Zimbabwe should also work closely with law enforcers to create a safer and peaceful environment where citizens and public officials can both enjoy their rights and freedoms without fear or favour.
2. Zimbabwe should ratify the United Nations Convention Against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment.

Discrimination and violation of political rights

ZPP recorded 17 cases of discrimination based on political affiliation and other cases of neglect and violation of political rights including forced attendance of political meetings, forced affiliation and intimidation for political support. On 9 November at Kadzunge Ward 6 of Zhombe in Midlands, headman Charles Kadzunge reportedly threatened to evict all supporters of Citizen Coalition for Change activists from the village. Headman Kadzunge intimidated the villagers during a meeting that sought to register citizens from the Pfumvudza farming scheme denying them access to government-sponsored farming inputs. Kadzunge remarked that CCC members are retrogressive and tarnish his village and hence they need to be punished and evicted. The headman's acts denies the victims their rights to enjoy their civil and political rights without any fear. In another case recorded on 3 November at Masvingo West ward 33, Headman Bere forced teachers to participate in ZANU PF's 'Thank You Rally.' It is reported that Bere warned teachers that those that fail to attend shall be removed from the beneficiary list or transferred out of the school. He further told teachers that they had the duty to vote for and support ZANU PF.

Recommendations

ZPP recommends that the Zimbabwe Human Rights Commission should investigate the allegations of partisan allocation of farming inputs where government-sponsored programmes are aimed at benefiting all citizens and supporting disadvantaged households regardless of their political affiliations. ZPP further recommends that traditional leaders should desist from fronting political parties and discriminating against villagers based on their partisan affiliations.

Towards A Zimbabwe wherethere is Peace, Justice, Dignity and Development for All

Zimbabwe Human Rights Commission Statement on Political and Human Rights Violations

On the 16th of November, the Zimbabwe Human Rights Commission released a statement on the political and human rights situation in Zimbabwe.

The statement by the ZHRC reads as follows:

The Zimbabwe Human Rights Commission (ZHRC) is the National Human Rights Institution in Zimbabwe with a constitutional mandate of protecting, promoting and enforcing fundamental human rights, freedoms and administrative justice. It is an Independent Commission established in terms of Sections 232(b) and 242 of the Constitution of Zimbabwe of 2013. One of the functions of the Zimbabwe Human Rights Commission is to protect citizens from violations of human rights and administrative justice.

The ZHRC is concerned by media reports of political violence and human rights violations, particularly in some wards and constituencies where there are upcoming by-elections. The Commission is investigating these allegations of political violence and human rights violations. Meanwhile the Commission is reminding the perpetrators of political violence that in terms of section 67 of the Constitution of Zimbabwe citizens have the right to political choices and participation. This includes the right to vote freely and without fear and encompasses the principles of freedom of expression, assembly, and association. By upholding these rights, a society can foster an environment that encourages political participation, inclusivity, and the fair representation of diverse voices. The Commission therefore encourages the citizens to be tolerant and observe human rights and the sanctity of life.

The Commission would like to take this opportunity to remind the various duty bearers and stakeholders including political parties contesting candidates law enforcement agents, media practitioners and traditional leaders, among others, of their constitutional obligations and responsibilities in protecting and fulfilling fundamental human rights and freedoms.

Issued by the Zimbabwe Human Rights Commission (16 November 2023)

Special Focus



In November, the special focus area centred on the right to equality and non-discrimination, political rights, personal security and the right to administrative justice.

Right to Personal Security Discrimination

ZPP recorded a total number of 17 cases related to the violation of equality and non-discrimination rights. In Hurungwe West at Mupandagera village in ward 17, ZANU PF district leaders allegedly called for a meeting where they advised village heads and local Chiefs to only work with ZANU PF members in School Development Committees (SDC). It was reported that the traditional leaders' statement was an instruction from the ruling party's hierarchy. The traditional leaders were also advised that this was a mechanism to deter opposition influence in their communities. It is alleged that after the meeting, perceived members of the opposition parties were expelled from village committees, dip tank committees and SDC committees. Section 56 of the Constitution states that every Zimbabwean has the right not to be treated in an unfair and discriminatory manner on such grounds as their nationality, race, colour, tribe, language, class or political affiliation among others. All persons have the right to equal treatment before the law, without discrimination. (Article 2 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights: and Article 2 and 3 of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights).

PEACE IS POSSIBLE IN OUR LIFETIME



Political Rights

ZPP recorded a total number of 19 cases in which the political rights of citizens were violated. Midlands recorded 7 cases, which was the highest number of political rights violations during the month. Mashonaland West and Masvingo recorded 3 cases each. In one case in Midlands, on the 10th of November at Gokwe Central constituency, Ward 15, it was reported that community members summoned their Member of Parliament, David Masvisvi for him to respond to allegations of partisan p distribution of Pfumvudza inputs . Masvisvi allegedly remarked that the scheme only targeted ZANU PF members and hence members from Citizen Coalition for Change should either join the ruling party or will continue to be excluded from receiving inputs under the Pfumvudza program. Several cases were reported in other provinces where opposition members were intimidated or assaulted for their political affiliation. At Chiriga Township in Gutu West, Ward 6, ten ZANU PF members severely assaulted five members of the Citizen Coalition for Change on 9 November. It is said that ZANU PF assailants were led by Benson Gadzikwa after they found CCC members campaigning. CCC members were beaten with baton sticks, stones, and logs. Some of the victims included women.

While the majority of cases recorded targeted members of the opposition party, a case of intimidation was reported against a ZANU PF member. On 15 November in ward 8 of Zhombe, a ZANU PF member was reportedly threatened and intimidated by three members of Citizen Coalition for Change. It was reported that John Huni, Norman Ncube and Takawira Moyo threatened to beat the victim because he belongs to ZANU PF. The three further threatened to set his homestead on fire should he continue his support of the ruling party.

The constitution of Zimbabwe (Sec 67) provides for 'every Zimbabwean citizen' to enjoy the right to 'make political choices freely, form, join and participate in the activities of a political party or organisation of their choice and campaign freely and peacefully for a political party or cause.' The violations recorded in November by ZPP clearly demonstrate an onslaught of this right by members of ZANU PF and other public officials.

Right to administrative justice

In the month of November, ZPP recorded 20 cases on violation of the right to administrative justice. 8 cases of violations of the right to administrative justice were recorded in Manicaland Province. In Ward 9 of Nyanga South, there was a partisan distribution of inputs sponsored under the Presidential Pfumvudza input scheme. On 23 November in Nyanga South at Sedze Business Centre, the District Development Coordination Chairperson Mr Mhaka, unjustly denied potential recipients. The DDC allegedly allocated rations to those in Zanu PF structures only. The cases of political intolerance continue to surge in Manicaland. A case of partisan distribution of Presidential Pfumvudza inputs was also reported and recorded on the 8th November at Ngangu Hall in Mutare North. It is alleged that maize seed and fertilisers were distributed under partisan political lines with CCC members being excluded on account of their support for the opposition. The distribution was reportedly led by ZANU PF ward 15 secretary Mr Joseph Tuto. An active female member of the CCC was one of the citizens denied access to available inputs. Section 56 (3) stipulates that “Every person has the right not to be treated in an unfairly discriminatory manner on such grounds as their nationality, race...political affiliation,” among others. On 1 November, in Mwenenzi East, ZANU PF councillor David Masvina reportedly made a politically intolerant statement during the registration for the Pfumvudza farming inputs. It is said that Masvina told the community that only ZANU PF activists should register as they are guaranteed that they will benefit from the scheme. Masvina further told opposition members particularly those from the Citizen Coalition for Change (CCC) that they were wasting their time registering because they will not benefit due to their political affiliation. One of the members excluded from the registration process was a known CCC activist. Officials, including public officials collaborating with the ruling party, continue to unfairly exclude, and unlawfully deny citizens, especially opposition members, accessibility to resources such as farming inputs and food aid due to their political affiliation.

Provincial Outlook

Manicaland

There was an increase in partisan distribution of government aid and inputs sponsored under the Pfumvudza input scheme meant to boost Zimbabwe's food security. The programme was manipulated by Zanu PF activists to further its agenda. In Nyanga South, there were reports of partisan distribution of Pfumvudza at Sedze Business Centre in Ward 19. According to reports, the District Development Coordination Chairperson Mr Mhaka, deprived all the 'potential recipients' preferring to allocate rations to those in ZANU PF structures only. In Mutare North, there were also reports of partisan distribution of Presidential Pfumvudza inputs on 8 November at Ngangu Hall. It is alleged that maize seed and fertilisers were distributed under partisan political lines with CCC members being excluded for supporting the opposition party. The distribution was reportedly led by Zanu PF ward 15 secretary Mr Joseph Tuto. A staunch female CCC member is among the people who were denied inputs and told to get their share from Advocate Nelson Chamisa and the Americans. Also, persons with disabilities were left out of the exercise. Partisan distribution of food aid was also reported in Buhera North, Ward 10 at Munyanyi village. It was alleged that during a community distribution of maize from the government held at St Joseph primary school, some beneficiaries found their names missing from the list of beneficiaries. Reports indicate that the Legislator for Buhera North, Philip Guyo, engaged the Grain Marketing Board (GMB) manager who told beneficiaries that they were given names by village heads through their secretaries. Some beneficiaries reportedly went away with 50kgs Compound D fertiliser, 2 kgs cowpeas, 2kgs sunflower and 5kgs maize seed. The incident was reported on 22 November 2023.

Mashonaland West

A case of discrimination was reported in Mashonaland West Hurungwe West at Mashuma village ward 17 under Chief Nyamhunga's jurisdiction. It is alleged that Zanu PF Central Committee member, Member Mutinha told ward 17 villagers that registration of Presidential inputs will benefit Zanu PF members only. Addressing a ward 17 budget consultation meeting at Sengwe Primary School, Mutinha was quoted saying, "masabhuku endai munonyora vana



vemusangano pamberi vatange kuwana, tichange takamira pamota ye fertilizer tichitorera ma triple C” meaning “village heads must compile lists of ZANU PF supporters only and we will be deployed at distribution centres and prevent CCC members from benefiting”. The meeting reportedly ended with people being made to sing and chant ruling party slogans attacking the opposition CCC. A case on the right to administrative justice was also reported in Hurungwe West at Mupandagera village in ward 17. It is alleged that ZANU PF district leaders called for a meeting where they advised village heads and local Chiefs to only work with ZANU PF members in School Development Committees (SDC). It is said that the traditional leaders were only told that this was an instruction from the top referring to the party’s national structures. The traditional leaders were also advised that this was a mechanism to deter opposition influence in their communities. It is alleged that after the meeting, perceived members of the opposition parties were expelled from village committees, dip tank committees and SDC committees.

Mashonaland East

In Mashonaland East cases of intimidation of citizens and opposition supporters by Zanu PF members were on the rise. In Seke constituency (30 November), it is said that following the recall of CCC Seke Member of Parliament Willard Madzimbamuto people were being harassed and intimidated for voting for the opposition on 23 August. This was reportedly happening on a daily basis in all wards in Seke. All suspected CCC supporters were reportedly forced to surrender their party regalia and join ZANU PF before denouncing their party in full view of the people to receive Presidential Inputs. On 25 November, Wedza North MP Advocate Itayi Ndudzo reportedly called for an Inter-district meeting convened at Wedza Zimbabwe Republic Police (ZRP) grounds. The main agenda of the engagement was to encourage only ruling party youths to approach local government offices and apply for small scale farms leaving those affiliated to the opposition parties after the elections. Ndudzo allegedly said that he was targeting the ruling party youths only to ensure that youths in the opposition would defect to the ruling party ZANU PF to weaken the opposition and bury it forever.

Harare

Harare recorded cases of the violation of the right to freedom of assembly and association. On 16 November, the First Lady Mrs Auxillia Mnangagwa visited Mbare to officially launch a Life Skill Support Program for street kids and campaign against drugs in Mbare at Stodart Hall netball complex. It is alleged that vendors at Mbare Musika vegetable market, Siyaso and Mupedzanhamo were told to close business by Zanu PF youths sent by their district leaders. Also children were seen boarding buses to the programme. One of the perpetrators Simbarashe Chanachimwe nicknamed (Dhama) reportedly coerced people to board Zupco buses to the venue where they were given a box of chicken inn and a little hamper comprising of 1 Colgate (toothpaste), 1 small Vaseline, 1 bath soap and a toothbrush. On 28 November at Pendennis shops in Mt Pleasant Constituency the Harare City Council raided vendors and confiscated their goods Chaotic scenes were reported at the shops with some vendors resisting arrest resulting in street battles. It is alleged that the municipal officers nearly took a power generator and other items from a vendor identified as Moses who operates a car wash. Reports say that Moses disclosed his permit but still the officers harassed him before leaving the area. A case on the right to life was reported in Mabvuku Tafara constituency on 14 November 2023. It is said that Citizen Coalition for Change (CCC) activist Pastor Tapfumaneyi Masaya was abducted and found killed in cold blood which raised citizens' concern and suspicion that the move was initiated by state security agents. According to reports, Pastor Tapfumaneyi Masaya suffered severe wounds throughout his body during his harrowing ordeal at the hands of suspected security agents in Harare, ultimately leading to his tragic death. His body was reportedly found in a decomposed state due to a suspicious injection of an alleged harmful substance. CCC aspiring legislator Munyarari Kufa shared distressing information after personally examining the body at Parirenyatwa citing that there were worms emerging from his body. Kufahakutizwi reportedly considered pulling out of the 09 December by-election asking himself if it is “worth it” running in the vote after a clergyman was abducted and murdered while campaigning for him. The police said they were still investigating the case to date.

Mashonaland Central

Mashonaland Central recorded cases of discrimination of citizens and opposition supporters during government aid distributions. On 12 November 2023 fertiliser Compound D and seed maize were distributed at Ruinga business centre in Gurve South ward 7. It is said that only ZANU PF supporters benefited from the exercise. The distribution was reportedly convened by village head Chriswel Chipuro, Zanu PF councillor Shelton Gombwe and an agricultural extension officer. Many people especially CCC members did not benefit. Discrimination was reported in Gurve North at Negomo Primary School in Kazunga village, ward 19. It is alleged that village headman Learnmore Muzava distributed Pfumvudza rations to his relatives and friends. Reports indicate that only his close associates received Compound D fertiliser and maize seed while the elderly groups were left out. A dispute was reported in Rushinga between agricultural extension officers and Rushinga legislator Tendai Nyabani on 25 November at Chimhanda Township in ward 15. Reports say that Nyabani emphasised that Agritex staff should adhere to regulations issued by politicians not to distribute inputs to opposition supporters. It is said that Nyabani warned Agritex officers that failure to comply with the ruling party's set standards and procedures may end up putting them in serious trouble. Furthermore, he warned the staff that if they resist following instructions when they get in trouble they should not also seek his assistance.

Matabeleland South Province

The province witnessed violations of political rights. At ward 6 of Gwanda North, it was reported that ZANU PF activists identified as Abednego Nyoni and Ndaba Nyoni threatened to beat up known opposition activists. It is said that the duo made these threats during the distribution of the farming inputs at Mtshazo Irrigation. In Beitbridge West ward 6, it was reported that 7 suspected ZANU PF youths destroyed a billboard for the Citizen Coalition for Change. The assailants were led by one youth identified as Rendo. The billboard was a media exhibit for the party which also expressed the campaign message for Morgen Ncube who is the candidate for Beitbridge West constituency under CCC.

Masvingo Province

The province recorded violations of political rights, equality and non-discrimination. At ward 5 in Mwenenzi East, it was reported that ZANU PF councillor David Masvina made an announcement during the registration exercise for the Pfumvudza farming inputs. It is said that Masvina told the community that only ZANU PF activists should register as they are guaranteed that they will benefit from the scheme. At ward 25 of Masvingo South it was reported that a ZANU PF activist identified as Tinashe Chigora refused to register 2 citizens for food aid citing that they are Citizen Coalition for Change activists. Chigora told the two victims that they would never be allowed to register for the scheme as it did not include 'sell outs.' The same was witnessed at ward 1 of Masvingo North constituency, it was reported that Kudakwashe Muripi of ZANU PF dismissed all villagers from benefiting from farming inputs especially those who were not appearing in the ZANU PF cell group register. It is said that Muripi told opposition supporters to request food aid from Douglas Mwonzora and Nelson Chamisa. Among those who were dismissed and deprived is Josiah Paradzai.

Political intolerance was further witnessed at ward 20 of Masvingo Central it was reported that ten unidentified ZANU PF activists who were wearing their party regalia assaulted a Citizen Coalition for Change member. The victim was coming from Mapanzure when he was waylaid by ZANU PF activists whose identities are not yet known. He was beaten with logs and sustained injuries. Ward 20 CCC councillor German Wisdom Tichazorwa took the victim to the police to make a report and later took him to Nemamwa Rural Clinic for treatment. At Chiringa township of Gutu West ward 6, it was reported that ten ZANU PF members severely assaulted five members of the Citizen Coalition for Change. It is said that ZANU PF assailants were led by Benson Gadzikwa after they found CCC members campaigning. CCC members were beaten with baton sticks, stones, and logs.

Midlands Province

Midlands province recorded three major violations of political rights, equality and non-discrimination and human rights dignity. The politicisation of food aid and unfair distribution of Pfumvudza farming inputs became the major feature of the violations. At Gokwe Central constituency ward 15 it was reported that community members summoned their Member of Parliament, David Masvisvi for him to clarify the unfair distribution of Pfumvudza on opposition members. Masvisvi further remarked that the scheme only targeted ZANU PF members and hence members from Citizen Coalition for Change should either join the ruling party or continue being deprived of farming aid. At ward 12 of Gokwe Nembudziya it was reported that a ZANU PF activist identified as Lewis Mapiye told the community of Nyatso-Makure ward that Pfumvudza scheme was for the ruling party members only. In that meeting, it is said that Mapiye dismissed all citizens that were not called from the beneficiary list. In ward 23 of Silobela it was reported that Garisayani Phiri of ZANU PF deprived 2 victims of farming inputs. It is said that Phiri told the two that they should collect their share from Nelson Chamisa and Tendai Biti as they belong to the opposition. At Kadzunge ward 6 of Zhombe, it was reported that headman Charles Kadzunge threatened to evict all supporters of Citizen Coalition for Change activists. Verified facts opine that Kadzunge highlighted this in a meeting that sought to register citizens from the Pfumvudza farming scheme. Kadzunge remarked that CCC members are retrogressive and tarnish his village and hence they need to be punished and evicted. In ward 8 of Zhombe it was reported that a ZANU PF member was threatened and intimidated by three members of Citizen Coalition for Change. It is said that John Huni, Norman Ncube and Takawira Moyo told the victim that he deserved to be beaten because he belongs to ZANU PF. The three further warned him that his homestead would one day be set on fire because he supports ZANU PF.



Bulawayo Province

The province recorded an increase in political intolerance following the nationwide recalls within the Citizen Coalition for Change. At Mpompini line in Cowdry Park constituency, it was reported that Gerald Ndlovu insulted the Citizen Coalition for Change candidate Pashor Sibanda with unprintable words of insults. Ndlovu called Sibanda a dog being used by Nelson Chamisa to divide Bulawayo Province and further purge members of the Citizen Coalition for Change that do not conform to the leadership style exhibited by Chamisa. At ward 1, it was reported that Ndabezinhle Mabhena of Mthwakazi Republic Party assaulted 2 men for wearing ZANU PF regalia. One of the victims was slapped five times and manhandled. The matter was reported to the police. Increased political intolerance was recorded at ward 28 of Cowdry Park, where ZANU PF activists identified as Commando and Clever Tshuma were going around intimidating and harassing opposition members. It is said the two are always at local shops warning to beat all those who would vote for the Citizen Coalition for Change in the upcoming by-elections.

Matabeleland North Province

Ahead of the by-elections in Binga North, and Lupane West, ZANU PF violated political rights of the citizens where it intimidated them in the name of campaigning. At Sinakoma ward 5 of Binga North it was reported that Binga Rural District Chief Executive Mr Kabome threatened and intimidated villagers after he warned that they should vote for ZANU PF or else face the harsh realities. In that meeting the main purpose was to introduce Chineka Munchimba to the electorate before the by elections which are scheduled for 9 December 2023. Several people turned up for the meeting with a rough approximation of around 500. Many people were shocked and expressed disbelief to the threats let alone coming from a civil servant. In the same ward it was reported that Chief Saba told villagers that anyone seen campaigning for the opposition party Citizen Coalition for Change shall be beaten up and expelled from the village. Saba said this during the village head meeting and warned village heads that they need to mobilise for the party. This is against the traditional leadership act where custodians of traditional leadership mingle



in political activities.

Political rights were further violated in Lupane Centre, where a ZANU PF activist identified as Jonathan Vundla was going around the shops instructing shopkeepers to campaign for the ruling party. It is said that Vundla made a warning remark that the shopkeepers should at least display a ZANU PF poster in their shops to be protected from any problems. Vundla warned that those who fail to comply might have their licenses revoked. Vundla further said that the party was determined to fight if it loses once more in Lupane East constituency in the upcoming byelections.

