A photograph showing a person walking from left to right in the foreground. They are wearing a red shirt and dark pants. In the background, there are several large, temporary structures made of blue and black tarps, set up in a grassy field. The sky is blue with some clouds.

In picture:  
**Evicted families  
in Mt Hampden  
set up temporary  
structures**

# Monthly Monitoring Report

NOVEMBER 2025

[www.zimpeaceproject.com](http://www.zimpeaceproject.com)

# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In November, the Zimbabwe Peace Project recorded 113 human rights violations across the country, reflecting persistent challenges in the protection of civil, political, and socio-economic rights.

Violations included restrictions on freedom of expression, assembly, and association; threats of violence; infringements on personal security; displacements; and unjustified arrests. Additional concerns such as hate speech and obstruction of access to essential social services were also documented.

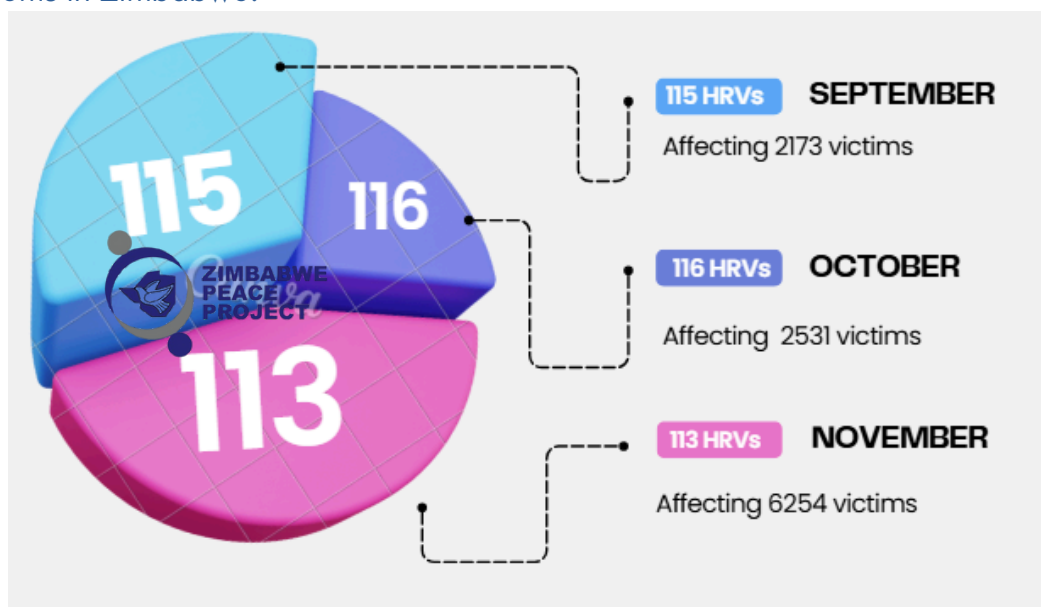
These violations affected a total of 6,284 individuals, 3,677 women and 2,607 men, including three women with disabilities, highlighting the gendered and intersectional nature of rights abuses.

Perpetrator data showed that ZANU PF leaders were responsible for 27.4% of violations, followed by the same party's supporters at 24.2%. Local authorities accounted for 12.3%, traditional leaders 11.2%, other government officials 6.9%, school authorities 6.1%, state security agents 5.4%, and the Zimbabwe Republic Police marked a notable decline from previous months from 15.2% to 1.8%. A further 4.7% of perpetrators could not be linked to any identifiable group.

At provincial level, Manicaland and Mashonaland East recorded the highest number of violations at 27 each, while Masvingo and Midlands each recorded 12, Mashonaland West 11, Harare 10, and Mashonaland Central 9. Matabeleland North recorded 3 violations, while Bulawayo had the lowest at 2.

In reflecting on pathways to sustainable peace, the report highlights ongoing efforts to enhance women's participation in leadership and strengthen responses to gender-based and online violence. However, in the section "Ten Steps Backwards," the report revisits emerging regressions that continue to undermine human rights protection and democratic accountability, signaling the need for renewed commitment to safeguarding fundamental freedoms in Zimbabwe.

## HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS



## ABOUT ZPP

The Zimbabwe Peace Project, ZPP, is a peace-promoting organisation that uses human rights lenses in peacebuilding, having established that the deprivation and abuse of human rights pose the greatest threat to peace in Zimbabwe.

The organisation was established in 2000 as a project of civil society and faith-based groups in response to the violence and human rights violations that characterised the political landscape of the time. These organisations were the Catholic Commission for Justice and Peace (CCJP), the Evangelical Fellowship of Zimbabwe (EFZ), the Zimbabwe Council of Churches, Zimbabwe Human Rights Association (ZIMRIGHTS), Zimbabwe Election Support Network (ZESN), Civic Education Network Trust (CIVNET), Counselling Services Unit (CSU), Zimbabwe Liberators Platform (ZLP) and Non-Violent Action and Strategies for Social Change (NOVASC). Over the years, the ZPP network of members has evolved as the network welcomed new member organisations while others have developed new thematic interests or have ceased to exist. Current member organisations are the Catholic Commission of Justice and Peace (CCJPZ), Evangelical Fellowship of Zimbabwe (EFZ), Zimbabwe Council of Churches (ZCC), Zimbabwe Human Rights Association (ZIMRIGHTS), Counselling Services Unit (CSU), Women and Law Southern Africa (WLSA), National Association for the Care of the Handicapped (NASCOH) and the Women's Coalition of Zimbabwe (WCoZ).

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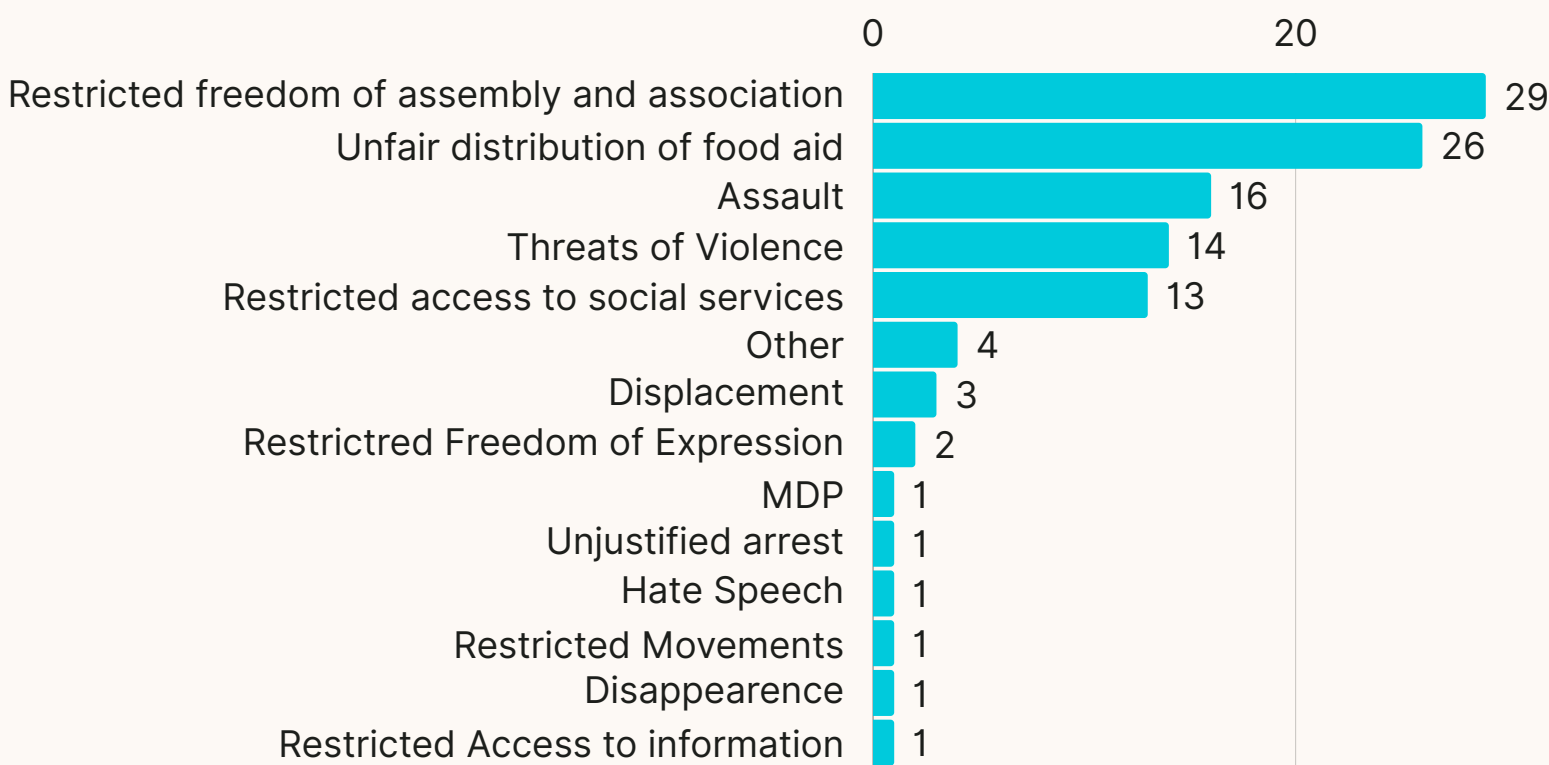
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# November Human Rights Violations



## RESTRICTED FREEDOM OF ASSEMBLY AND ASSOCIATION

In November, the Zimbabwe Peace Project documented 29 breaches of freedom of assembly and association, protected under Section 58 of the Constitution, revealing a pattern of coercion, manipulation, and partisan control that significantly undermined citizens' rights. In Gokwe Central Ward 6, three young men were lured to a purported youth empowerment meeting and pressured to publicly renounce their affiliation to CCC, an act that violated their right to freely associate and inflicted reputational and psychological harm as their coerced declarations were circulated across the town. In Mutare North Constituency, distribution of household items and school supplies such as 400 pens per school by Member of Parliament Hon Mahachi Admire was restricted to ruling-party supporters, with teachers compelled to attend partisan events and constraining freedom of association.

In Epworth North Ward 6, a community budget consultation was violently disrupted by ruling-party supporters who turned the meeting into a partisan rally, forcing council officials to abandon proceedings and threatening a local councillor, an incident that not only violated residents' right to participate in civic processes but also created an environment of intimidation for the roughly 200 attendees. In Mutoko South Ward 26, residents were informed by ZANU PF district leadership that agricultural inputs from government would be withheld from those without ruling-party cards, demonstrating coercive tactics that weaponise essential livelihoods to compel political compliance. Further, across Epworth North and South, as well as in Mbare, residents were forced to attend political meetings by ruling party leaders, including women, youth, and children, and through a coercive closure of shops. This is largely possible due to a clandestine use of partisan structures to control trading spaces. These incidents collectively show systematic breaches where political actors exploited authority, resources, and economic vulnerabilities to restrict independent assembly and association, eroding community autonomy and undermining democratic participation.



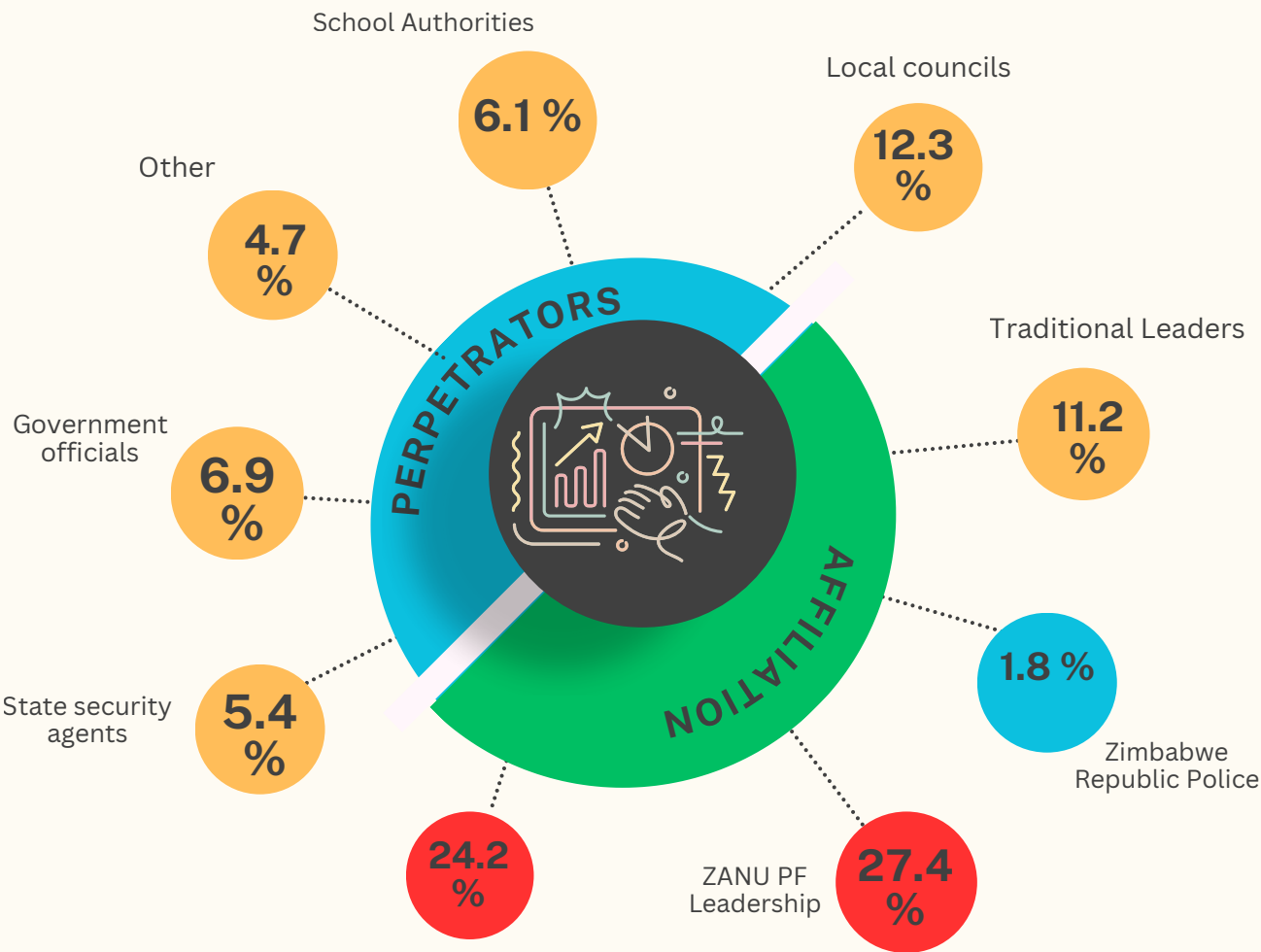
## EVICTIIONS

On 29 November 2025, 7,000 victims were forcibly evicted from the Willdale Farm Compound by Willdale Bricks in Mt. Hampden, Zvimba District, raising serious human rights concerns despite the existence of a high court order intended to regulate the evictions. These families, who had resided on the land for a lengthy period, were given less than an hour to remove their belongings before bulldozers demolished their homes. Many lost possessions, while salvaged property was dumped along the Chinhoyi-Nyabira road, where over 4000 endured precarious conditions. The relocation efforts to Nyabira expose emerging challenges, as the site lacks essential amenities, including running water and sanitation, undermining the families' right to adequate housing, security, and general conditions for their dignity. While the Cabinet has established an Inter-Ministerial Committee to develop long-term solutions for illegal settlements, the immediate handling of the evictions affected the protection of vulnerable populations. The incident underscores the need for state authorities to ensure that evictions are conducted lawfully, with sufficient notice, alternative housing, and basic services, safeguarding the human rights of displaced communities.



POLITICALLY MOTIVATED ASSAULTS UNDERMINE CITIZENS  
PERSONAL SECURITY

During the reporting month, 14 politically motivated assaults were documented, reflecting a concerning trend in violations of the right to personal security, political rights, and freedom of expression. In Mutoko, Mashonaland East Province, a man was attacked and injured by ruling-party supporters after visiting his parents and was accused of attempting to influence local political opinions. In Chitungwiza, Harare Ward 10, four opposition supporters, two men and two women, were assaulted by suspected ruling-party supporters while attending a funeral of a well-known opposition activist, demonstrating how politically motivated violence continues to infiltrate social and family spaces. Additional assaults were recorded in Uzumba Maramba Pfungwe (UMP), where a resident was beaten at home for opposing the ruling party. Further, two women in Mashonaland East were assaulted in their homes by ruling-party supporters and suspected state agents for their allegiance to opposition political parties. Collectively, these incidents illustrate an increasingly hostile environment in which citizens expressing dissenting political views face intimidation, physical harm, and violations of their fundamental freedoms, undermining democratic participation and community safety.





## Enhancing women's civic participation

Across Zimbabwe, growing collaboration among government institutions, civil society, and development partners is strengthening efforts to enhance women's participation in public life and eliminate all forms of violence against women, including those emerging on digital platforms. Drawing from the Zimbabwe Peace Project's engagements with the Ministry of Women Affairs, UN Women, and academic partners such as Arrupe Jesuit University (AJU), including the commemorations of UNSCR 1325 on Women, Peace and Security supported by UN Women, and the AJU's Women's Empowerment Conference marking the start of the 16 Days of Activism, there is clear evidence of an encouraging national commitment to elevating women as leaders in community peacebuilding and civic participation.

These initiatives are timely and necessary. Despite significant progress, less than 40% of women who experience violence ever report it, and even fewer pursue formal support services. This silence is compounded by rising cases of technology-facilitated abuse, including online harassment, non-consensual sharing of personal information, stalking, and targeted political disinformation that discourages women from engaging publicly or seeking leadership roles.

As digital spaces increasingly shape civic participation, the risks women face, both online and offline, must be understood as interconnected. Zimbabwe's National Action Plan and other strategic policy frameworks therefore play a critical role. Such frameworks must address the structural and cultural barriers that restrict women's participation, strengthen mechanisms for reporting and response, and explicitly incorporate safeguards against technology-based violence. Such policies should integrate digital literacy, accountability frameworks for online platforms, and survivor-centred support systems that recognise the unique vulnerabilities women encounter.

The collective work seen throughout the 16 Days of Activism highlights that sustainable peace and inclusive governance cannot be achieved without safe, accessible, and empowering spaces for women. Continued collaboration, robust policy implementation, and investment in both community-level and digital safety initiatives are essential to ensuring that women in Zimbabwe can participate freely, equally, and without fear.



### A hit on Freedom of Assembly

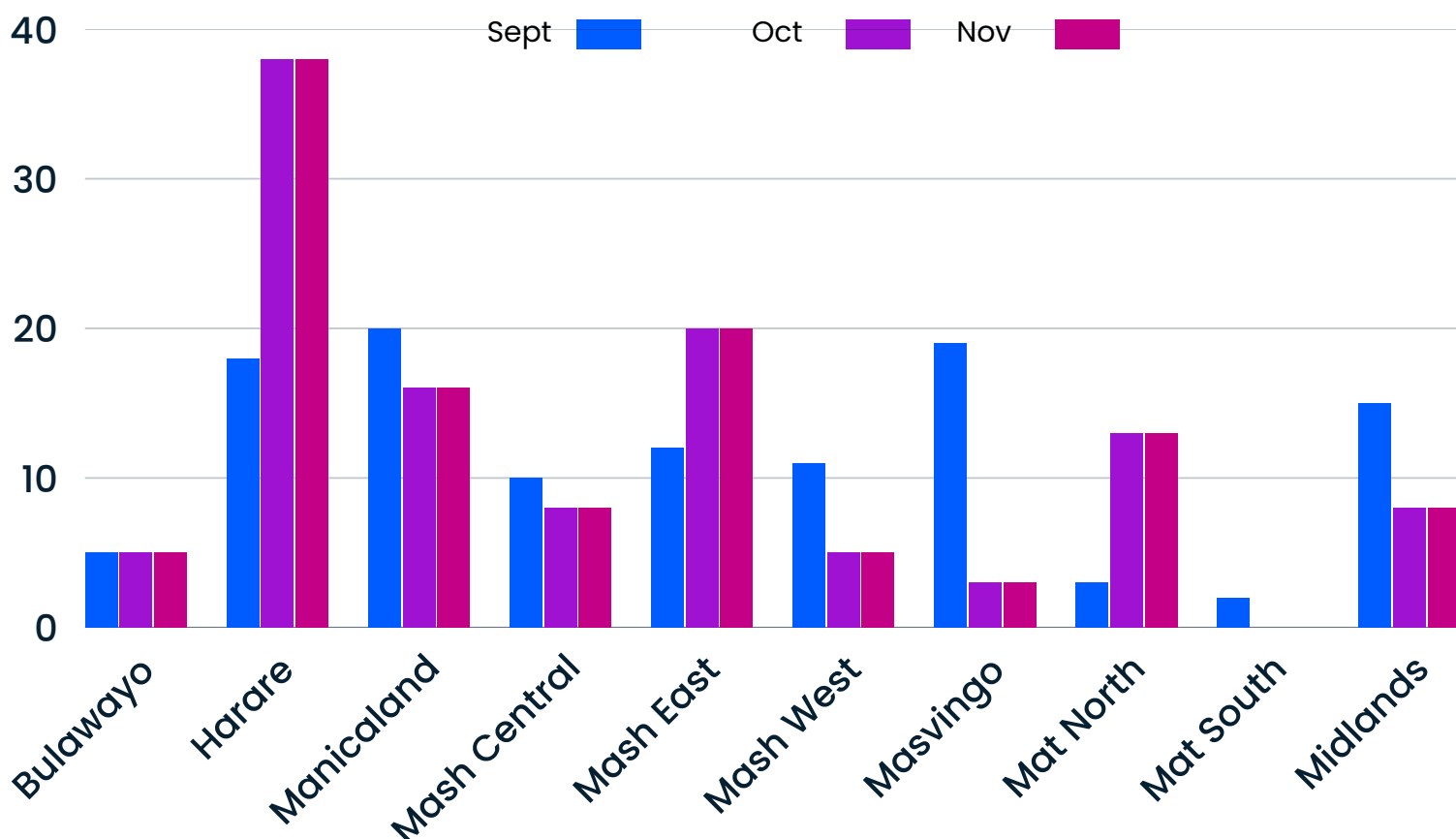
Freedom of assembly and association lie at the heart of democratic participation, enabling citizens to organise, express collective interests and engage meaningfully in public affairs. In Zimbabwe, these rights are firmly protected under Section 58 of the Constitution, which guarantees every person the freedom to assemble and associate with others, and to form or belong to political parties, organisations or groups of their choice. These freedoms are further reinforced by Section 67, which protects political participation, and Section 194, which obligates public institutions to act with neutrality, accountability and fairness. When these constitutional guarantees are undermined, the result is a weakened civic space where citizens cannot freely exercise agency or hold the State accountable.

The Zimbabwe Peace Project has consistently documented a regression of the enjoyment of these rights reflected in persistent pattern of coercion, manipulation and partisan control. These abuses range from forced attendance at political meetings, disruptions of civic processes, and weaponisation of public resources, to coercive demands for political allegiance in exchange for aid or access to economic opportunities. Incidents such as the coercion of young men in Gokwe Central to denounce their political affiliation, the partisan distribution of inputs in Mutare North and Mutoko South, and the violent takeover of a community budget consultation in Epworth demonstrate how political actors use authority and economic vulnerability to suppress independent organising.

These violations not only breach constitutional rights but also erode community autonomy, distort civic engagement and weaken democratic participation. Ultimately, systematic interference with assembly and association shrinks public space, undermines trust in governance and deprives citizens of their power to freely shape their political and social destinies.



# PROVINCIAL OUTLOOK



## Mashonaland East

In November, Mashonaland East recorded a total of 27 human rights violations, spanning politically motivated assaults, restrictions on political participation, and discriminatory practices. Among the most serious incidents, a man in Mutoko was attacked and injured by ZANU PF supporters after visiting his parents, accused of promoting opposition views. Similarly, in Uzumba Maramba Pfungwe across multiple wards, victims were assaulted including with baton sticks and home-based intimidation for holding anti-ruling party views, particularly affecting two women. Beyond physical violence, violations included politically motivated discrimination in access to resources where in Murewa Ward 23, ten residents were denied food aid and farming inputs for not supporting the ruling party, while in Mutoko Ward 26, residents were coerced to purchase ZANU PF membership cards under threat of losing agricultural support. These incidents illustrate a pattern of intimidation, political coercion, and denial of basic rights, undermining freedom of expression, personal security, and equitable access to social and economic resources in the province.

## Matabeleland North

In November, Matabeleland North recorded three human rights violations, primarily involving economic coercion and unfair access to resources. In Umguza Ward 4, residents faced chaos during the distribution of presidential fertilizer inputs, with insufficient supplies and a mandatory \$2 payment per household, denying many access to essential agricultural support. In other areas, Chief Saba and village heads in Binga South engaged in coercive annual tax collection, demanding USD \$3 per household under threat of losing access to food aid, despite previous mismanagement of funds and aid reflecting concerns of economic rights, equitable access to resources, and protection from coercion.

## Midlands

In Midlands province, 12 human rights violations were documented primarily involving politically motivated discrimination, coercion, and denial of essential services. In Gokwe North, in Chireya, the Pfumvudza program and Cotton input distribution were marred by exclusionary practices with only a few village heads and high-profile farmers receiving seeds and fertilizers, while the majority of residents were denied access, often based on political affiliation or alleged non-compliance with local taxes. Similarly, in Ward 8, Mauto Village, ruling party structures overrode elected councillors to control distribution of inputs, giving preferential access to ZANU PF supporters and threatening opposition members, creating a climate of fear and coercion. In the education sector, serious violations were recorded at Globe and Phoenix Primary School Kwekwe Central Constituency (Ward 6), where approximately 130 children were sent home during end-of-year examinations for non-payment of fees, undermining their right to education and personal development. Additionally, politically motivated manipulation was evident in Gokwe, where youths were coerced into publicly renouncing opposition affiliation to receive promised financial support, reflecting systematic infringements on freedom of association, expression, and equitable access to resources.

## Bulawayo

In Bulawayo province, two human rights violations were recorded, highlighting economic coercion and environmental rights abuses. In Ward 13, ZANU PF youths extorted vendors and farmers in local markets, demanding \$20-\$40 under threat of confiscating produce, violating the right to property and protection from coercion. In New Luveve, Ward 16, residents endured overflowing sewage for over two weeks, despite reporting the issue, posing serious health risks and breaching the right to a clean and safe environment raising concerns on how inadequate municipal services undermine residents' health, and basic living conditions.

## Manicaland

In Manicaland, 27 human rights violations spanning from politically motivated discrimination, coercion, and abuses affecting access to social services were documented. In Mutasa Ward 13, 16 residents were denied aid for failing to be "paid-up" members of the ruling party, illustrating the politicisation of essential resources. Similarly, in Chipinge East Ward 10, Chief Ngungunyana excluded opposition supporters from receiving agricultural inputs, reallocating benefits to ZANU PF affiliates, highlighting systemic political discrimination. Violations also extended to civic and community participation. In Mutare Ward 11, school heads were compelled to attend a politically linked gathering, and in Mutare Ward 4, residents were forced to contribute 20kg of maize for clinic construction under threat of being labelled as defying party directives. A similar case of coercion was recorded in Makoni Ward 35. Collectively, these incidents reflect a pattern of rights violations that undermine freedom of association, political participation, and equitable access to social services, while exposing communities to undue pressure and intimidation linked to partisan affiliation.

## Mashonaland Central

In November, Mashonaland Central recorded nine human rights violations, primarily involving politically motivated intimidation, unfair distribution of government inputs, and restrictions on access to essential resources. In Ward 9, Mbire, Mubvundika Village, an opposition supporter, was threatened by war veterans posing as “fishers of men,” who demanded his alignment with the ruling party while promising reparations for losses suffered during the 2008 violence. The victim now lives in fear, illustrating severe violations of personal security and freedom of political association. In Mazowe Central, Kakora Business Centre (Ward 10), beneficiaries of the Pfumvudza program were denied seeds and fertilizers if they had not surrendered maize or paid fees, reflecting discriminatory and unequal access to resources. Similar patterns were observed in Mt Darwin West (Ward 16), where only a few households received seeds and herbicides despite broad registration, and teachers in Zvimba West were excluded from allocations, highlighting systemic inequities. The incidents spotlight the violations of the right to personal security, political participation, and equitable access to public resources.

## Harare

10 human rights violations were documented in Harare Province primarily involving politically motivated assaults, intimidation, and restrictions on civic participation. In Chitungwiza Ward 4, opposition supporters were attacked by ZANU PF affiliates, including four victims at a funeral, violating the right to personal security and freedom of political association. In Epworth North Ward 6, a local council budget consultation was disrupted by rogue ZANU PF supporters, forcing council employees to abandon the meeting and the councillor to flee, highlighting intimidation and obstruction of civic processes. Additionally, in both Epworth North and South, residents, including predominantly women, were forcibly transported to attend ruling party meetings in Mbare, with local businesses closed during the event, reflecting coercion, restrictions on freedom of assembly, and undue political pressure. These incidents demonstrate systemic infringements on personal security, political rights, and community participation.

## Mashonaland West

In November, Mashonaland West recorded 11 human rights violations, encompassing environmental rights, forced evictions, land disputes, and politically motivated exclusion from social programs. In Kadoma Central, Westview Ward 10, overflowing sewage at Lady Tait Primary School posed serious health risks to children as young as four, highlighting violations of the right to a clean and safe environment, with local councillors failing to address residents’ concerns. In Mt Hampden, over 7,000 families were forcibly evicted from Willowdale Compound, losing homes and possessions, and relocated to a site in Nyabira lacking basic amenities such as water and sanitation, illustrating a pending crisis of the right to housing and personal security. Land disputes in Chegutu West’s Stanford Farm displaced ten families, while in Hurungwe West, residents were excluded from the Pfumvudza program for failing to pay levies or contribute grain, reflecting politically motivated discrimination. These incidents demonstrate systemic threats to basic rights, including safety, shelter, equitable access to resources, and participation in community development.



## Masvingo

During the reporting month, Masvingo province recorded 12 human rights violations, involving political and economic discrimination, coercion, and unfair access to social services. In Masvingo South Ward 12, village authorities, including Chief Charumbira and village head Chigwengwenene, were reported to manipulate beneficiary lists for agricultural inputs, adding fictitious names and excluding legitimate residents, denying them access to essential resources. In Mwenezi North Ward 4, residents of Chitemere village were compelled to pay \$2 for transportation to access government-provided seeds, despite the program being officially free, illustrating coercion and restrictions on equitable access to food security initiatives. In Zaka South Ward 20, a potential beneficiary of farming inputs was denied inputs because he did not meet arbitrary local requirements, such as contributing 10kg of maize or sorghum, highlighting politically and administratively motivated discrimination.

## Conclusion

The November human rights monitoring across Zimbabwe reveals persistent violations affecting freedom of expression, assembly, association, personal security, access to resources, and economic and environmental rights. From politically motivated assaults and coercion in Harare, Mashonaland, and Midlands, to forced evictions affecting over 7,000 victims in Mt. Hampden, and discriminatory distribution of social and agricultural services, citizens, particularly women, youth, and opposition supporters, remain vulnerable to intimidation, exclusion, and deprivation. Despite legal frameworks, high court orders, and policy measures, enforcement gaps, partisan interference, and inadequate protection mechanisms continue to undermine fundamental rights and equitable access to services. These patterns underscore the urgent need for strengthened accountability, transparent resource distribution, and the creation of safe, inclusive civic and community spaces, ensuring that all Zimbabweans can exercise their rights freely, without fear or coercion.



# Report Human Rights Violations

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