

SOS-TORTURE Burundi REPORT NO. 517 PUBLISHED ON NOVEMBER 9, 2025

This report by SOS-Torture Burundi covers the period from 1 to 8 November 2025. It documents cases of human rights violations committed on Burundian territory.

During this period, five (5) people were murdered in the provinces of Bujumbura and Burunga.

The report also denounces the case of one (1) person who was seriously injured by bullets fired by the police in the province of Bujumbura and that of one (1) person who was arbitrarily arrested and detained in the province of Gitega.

1. Violation of the right to life

- On Sunday, November 2, 2025, in the morning, the lifeless body in a state of decomposition of a woman identified as Appolonie Ndayisaba, 48 years old, was found on the shores of Lake Tanganyika in the Gisyo district, Kanyosha zone, Mugere commune, in the province of Bujumbura.

According to the testimony of her family members, Appolonie Ndayisaba had come to visit her relatives living in the Gisyo district. On Friday, October 31, she went out for a short walk, but did not come home again. After fruitless searches everywhere, including using social media, her body was found on Sunday morning with injuries that show she was killed by as-yet-unidentified criminals.

SOS-Torture Burundi calls for the opening of an immediate, thorough and impartial investigation in order to establish the circumstances of the death and identify the perpetrators with a view to punishing them in accordance with the law.

- On Tuesday, November 4, 2025, in the morning, two lifeless bodies of a woman known as Nadine Nininahazwe and her son, Axcel Beni Irangabiye, aged one year and two months, were discovered on the hill of Muzi, Maramvya area, commune of Rumonge, in the province of Burunga.

According to residents of Muzi hill, Nadine Nininahazwe and her child had been missing since Saturday, November 1. Neighbors, worried about their prolonged absence, then alerted the local administrative authorities who immediately began their search. They then decided to open their house where they found the body of the child, his head immersed in a bucket of water. Shortly afterwards, the mother's body was discovered on the same day in a wooded area on the same hill.

The father of the family, who is currently residing in Tanzania for professional reasons, was not at the victims' home at the time of the incident. The exact circumstances of their deaths are still unclear and no suspect has yet been identified.

SOS-Torture Burundi calls for the opening of a thorough, impartial and profound investigation to elucidate the exact circumstances of their deaths and identify the perpetrators so that they can be punished in accordance with the law.

- On Wednesday, November 5, 2025, in the afternoon, around 2 p.m., artisanal gold miners discovered two lifeless bodies of a man of about 50 years old and a boy of about ten years old on the banks of the Nyamagana River, on the hill of Nyamagana, zone and commune of Cibitoke, in the province of Bujumbura.

According to the testimony of the gold miners, they were alerted by a bad smell and flies circling near the thickets, not far from the river. The two bodies of these as-yet-unidentified people bore multiple deep wounds. They were then transported to the morgue of the Cibitoke hospital for an autopsy.

SOS-Torture Burundi calls for a thorough investigation to identify those responsible and punish them in accordance with the law.

2. Violation of the right to physical integrity

- On Thursday, November 6, 2025, on the night, around 9 p.m., a policeman whose name is not yet known seriously wounded a refugee from the Banyamulenge community identified as Mugiraneza while she was returning on a motorcycle from her business activities in the Buterere district, Ntakangwa commune, province of Bujumbura.

According to eyewitnesses, Mugiraneza was intercepted by two policemen, one of whom opened fire directly, without even a warning, seriously wounding her leg. The victim was evacuated to a critical condition in Bujumbura.

SOS-Torture Burundi calls for the opening of an immediate and impartial investigation to identify these two policemen, establish responsibility and punish them in accordance with the law.

3. Violation of the right to freedom of movement: arbitrary arrest and detention

- On Wednesday, November 5, 2025, in the morning, at around 11:30 a.m., policemen arbitrarily arrested a man known as Médard Nkenguburundi at his home located on Kirehe hill, Mungwa zone, in the commune and province of Gitega and took him to the cell in the Mungwa zone.

According to members of his family, Médard Nkenguburundi was arrested and imprisoned simply because these policemen could not find his adult son whom they suspect of having impregnated a local girl.



SOS – Torture/Burundi

Monitoring sur les cas de torture, les arrestations arbitraires, les disparitions forcées et les exécutions sommaires au Burundi

SOS-Torture Burundi calls for the immediate and unconditional release of Médard Nkenguburundi, who has been detained in violation of the principle of the personality of the criminal responsibility of natural persons (article 18 of the Burundian penal code).

SOS-Torture/Burundi was initiated with the aim of informing national and international opinion about the serious human rights violations underway in Burundi through monitoring reports, particularly on torture, arbitrary arrests, enforced disappearances, sexual violence and summary executions.

This initiative to inform about the realities of the country followed the carnage of a hundred people killed during the day of December 11 and December 12, 2015 by police and soldiers under the pretext of pursuing rebels who had just attacked military camps located on the outskirts of the capital.

The affected areas are said to be protest areas of President Nkurunziza's third term, namely Musaga, Mutakura, Cibitoke, Nyakabiga, Jabe, the last two being located in the center of the Bujumbura City Hall.