

SOS-TORTURE BURUNDI REPORT NO. 521 PUBLISHED ON 7 DECEMBER 2025

This report by SOS-Torture Burundi covers the period from 29 November to 6 December 2025. It documents cases of human rights violations committed on Burundian territory.

During this period, one (1) person was murdered in Gitega province.

The report also mentions the case of one (1) person who was seriously injured by Imbonerakure in Bujumbura province.

1. Violation of the right to life

- On Wednesday, December 3, 2025, in the morning, the lifeless body of a young man known as Jules Ndayikeza, 28 years old, was found inside his house, hanging under the framework, on the hill of Higirow, in the commune and province of Gitega.

Although the chief of Higirow hill, Sixte Niyimbona, claims that Jules Ndayikeza committed suicide, the residents of this locality believe that the victim was killed elsewhere by individuals not yet identified, then his body brought back to this place in order to simulate a suicide and thus distort the leads of a possible investigation.

The victim was buried the same day before the opening of an investigation to determine the exact circumstances of the death and identify the possible perpetrators.

SOS-Torture Burundi calls for an immediate, thorough and impartial investigation to determine the exact circumstances of the death and identify the perpetrators with a view to being brought to justice and punished in accordance with the law.

2. Violation of the right to physical integrity

- On Monday, December 1, 2025, during the night, 8 Imbonerakure¹ led by a certain Dany violently beat and seriously injured the head of the hill of Cabiza, Franck Mpawenimana, in the Gihanga zone, commune of Mpanda, province of Bujumbura.

According to eyewitnesses, the Imbonerakure threw the head of the hill to the ground, then violently stomped on him and kicked him with their boots. They punished him for the fact that he had tried to forbid them to continue to play their gambling game in public place.

The same sources specify that the head of the hill Franck Mpawenimana was evacuated in critical condition to the Saint Augustin hospital in Gihanga where he is receiving intensive care while his attackers remain free.

SOS-Torture Burundi calls for an impartial investigation to arrest the perpetrators of this crime, bring them to justice and punish them in accordance with the law.

¹ Members of the youth league affiliated to the ruling CNND-FDD (National Council for the Defense of Democracy-Forces for the Defense of Democracy).

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.