

## **SOS-TORTURE Burundi REPORT NO. 539 PUBLISHED ON APRIL 12, 2026**

This report of SOS-Torture Burundi covers the period from 4 to 11 April 2026. It documents cases of human rights violations committed on Burundian territory.

During this period, one (1) person was arbitrarily arrested and detained in Bujumbura province.

### **1. Violation of the right to freedom of movement: arbitrary arrest and detention**

- On Monday, April 6, 2026, during the day, around noon, Police Lieutenant Égide Igiraneza arbitrarily arrested a man known as Stève Ndayitambiye at the Prestige Musaga gas station located in the Musaga zone, Mugere commune, Bujumbura province.

According to eyewitnesses, vehicles in a queue were normally refueling at this service station until the turn of a VOXY brand vehicle with registration EA4407 on board which was police lieutenant Égide Igiraneza. A secret agreement between the police officer and the petrol station attendant then resulted in the distribution of 60 litres instead of the 30 litres that were normally being served to all the vehicles lined up. This situation has sparked outrage against the other drivers in line. This is how the victim, Stève Ndayitambiye, took a photo of this vehicle, in execution of a recommendation from SOPEBU (Burundi Oil Company) to denounce any behavior likely to cause disorder during the distribution of fuel at gas stations.

Subsequently, police officer Égide Igiraneza rushed Stève Ndayitambiye to snatch his phone and he tried to resist. In the end, he managed to kick him down and then retrieved his phone which he hurriedly brought to the Musaga police station. After a few moments, Police Lieutenant Égide Igiraneza returned with four other policemen to take Stève Ndayitambiye to the dungeon of the Musaga police station.



## SOS – Torture/Burundi

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

SOS-Torture Burundi has learned that Stève Ndayitambiye was finally released the next day after a night spent in arbitrary detention.

It calls for appropriate administrative and criminal sanctions to be taken against Police Lieutenant Égide Igiraneza in order to discourage such behaviour in the Burundi National Police and to rehabilitate the victim.

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.