

# SINKING DEEPER



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PEACE  
PROJECT

THE ZIMBABWE PEACE PROJECT  
MONTHLY MONITORING REPORT  
MAY 2022

## INTRO

The escalation of political activity continued into the month of May and major political parties are now preparing for the general election, which is due by July 2023. The patterns of intimidation and harassment, abductions, and assaults implicating the ruling party continued unabated.

The organization recorded cases where Zanu PF abused its influence in government to manipulate national processes like the voter registration blitz, the mobile national documentation outreach, and aid distribution.

In this month's roundup, we dig into these cases and provide detailed analyses and recommendations.

2023:  
ANOTHER  
2008 IN  
WAITING

Between March and June 2008, over 200 opposition supporters were killed while thousands of others were injured and tens of thousands were displaced in one of the vilest electoral periods in Zimbabwe's history. The systematic targeting of the supporters of the then main opposition party, the MDC-T, was in response to the party's parliamentary and presidential election victory over Zanu PF.

For the first time in 28 years, Zanu PF was facing defeat right in its face and the party used all at its disposal - the police, intelligence agents, the military, war veterans and youth militia- to overturn the defeat.

After the orgy of violence, the country was to get into a multi-party dialogue that led to a unity government between Zanu PF and the opposition.

For five years, Zimbabwe enjoyed general political harmony and unfortunately missed a chance to conduct, for the first time, a genuine, inclusive and effective healing and reconciliation process to deal with the conflicts that date back to colonial times.

For those that suffered in 2008, and perhaps in the previous political and social conflicts, the memories remain vivid.

It is, therefore of great concern that over the past two months, the Zanu PF government, which was the major perpetrator of the 2008 electoral violence and other forms of atrocities before that, is on a systematic drive to intimidate citizens, especially those in rural areas ahead of the 2023 elections.

What is more worrying is that Zanu PF ward leaders who are holding meetings, mostly in the Mashonaland, Masvingo and Manicaland provinces are promising that the party, together with the state security agents will unleash violence the same way they did in 2008 if Zanu PF loses in the 2023 elections.

So far, Zanu PF has been responsible for 165 human rights violations in April and 193 in May, all related to how the party is closing down the space for opposition activity.

In one of the cases recorded in Mt Darwin East at Chaparira village, Zanu PF activists led by Christopher Mbereko allegedly besieged the home of a Citizens Coalition for Change (CCC) supporter Tendai Kurauone\* on the night of 14 May and attacked him, leaving him seriously injured. The Zanu PF youths accused the man of working with CCC cheerleader, Godfrey Karembera known as Madzibaba veShanduko.

\*name altered to protect the victim



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MAY 2022

Still in Mt Darwin East, in one of the most bizarre cases, Zanu PF activists in Mt Darwin East have been calling on an Apostolic Sect to shut down its church over allegations that the church has CCC supporters among its membership.

ZPP is informed that the local Zanu PF leadership sent a message advising the church leadership to halt gatherings over the issue and on 27 May, the sect failed to convene its service as Zanu PF supporters had besieged the church shrine and went on to hold a rally there.

At Madondo Village in Muzarabani North, Zanu PF youths organised a ward meeting where they told villagers that the party would not hesitate to burn homes, assault and kill opposition supporters if the party fails to win the 2023 elections.

These are not just coincidences because at Zaranyika Village Ward 5 in Murehwa North, Zanu PF activists torched a CCC supporter Temba's (name altered) house after accusing him of wearing CCC regalia in the ward. A Zanu PF youth Innocent Nyamadzawo had approached Temba and told him to remove and burn the CCC T-shirt he was wearing, and when he resisted, Nyamadzawo dragged Temba to Zanu PF Ward Councillor Shadreck Chinake who forcibly removed and threw the T-shirt into a toilet pit. On 4 May, after a series of threats Temba's house was allegedly set on fire by Zanu PF activists. No arrests have happened yet and this is despite the victim having given the police officers a list of suspects.

In Murehwa North, Zanu PF activists led by Taurai Chindowa, armed with a 'voters' roll,' conducted door to door visits intimidating and harassing villagers claiming that, "Zanu PF will know villagers who will vote for opposition parties as they will refer to the voters roll". The voters roll used to intimidate villagers was illegally acquired by Zanu PF activists during the by-elections.

In addition to using the intimidation tactics, the ruling party has also used its influence in government to manipulate national processes to its advantage.

In one of the well-publicised cases, first published by the Masvingo Mirror Zanu PF bussed its supporters in a Mutendi High School bus at night and proceeded to the Civil Registry Office in Masvingo where its supporters allegedly acquired national IDs unprocedurally in the dead of the night.

The Masvingo Mirror captured the incident and made live calls to the District and Provincial Registrars, who both refused to answer questions on why people were getting National IDs at night.

ZPP also recorded similar cases across the country and in one of those, at Chatsworth, in Gutu West, a Zanu PF ward chairperson identified as Changweda allegedly disturbed a national identity document issuing process after she arrived at the centre and forced the Registrar General's officials to attend to the Zanu PF supporters she had brought ahead of everyone else.

In some parts of Buhera West, some Zanu PF officials are banning the issuance of National IDs to young people who do not have a letter of declaration from Zanu PF. In an audio recording of one of the meetings held in the constituency, one Brighton, who is a Zanu PF youth chairperson said it was the young people who were bringing in CCC into the area. He went on to order the ban of meetings by churches and NGOs in all the wards of Buhera West.

**Listen to the audio on next page**

The attempts to close down democratic space, as stated earlier in this report, are happening at a wider scale, with active involvement of some of the most senior members of the party. For example, Zanu PF's Second Secretary, Kembo Mohadi held a meeting with traditional leaders at Plumtree town offices where he told the traditional leaders to mobilize and campaign for Zanu PF and to fully participate in activities of the party ahead of the 2023 elections.



# WHERE ARE YOU?

## Moreblessing Ali

More than a week after being reported to have been abducted by Zanu PF activists in Chitungwiza, CCC activist Moreblessing is still missing. This is happening as her missing person docket allegedly went missing and the family is living in fear, unable to confront those responsible because of the positions they hold in the ruling party. The Chisango family is alleged to be behind the abduction and police have since issued a statement which downplays the abduction while the CCC has called out the police to act within their mandate as espoused in Section 219 of the Constitution, which implores the police to ensure the safety of every person. According to information available, Ali was abducted on Tuesday 24 May when a mob of Zanu PF supporters attacked her in the Nyatsimbe area of Chitungwiza and bundled her into an unidentified vehicle. The supporters are said to have been allegedly led by one Pius Jambo, a Zanu PF member and his half-brother Simba Chisango who is a Zanu PF leader in the area from which she disappeared.

## #BRINGBACKMOBY

[CLICK HERE OR THE AUDIO ICON TO LISTEN TO](#) a Zanu PF official announcing banning the issuance of National IDs to young people who do not have a letter of declaration from Zanu PF



# OUR RECOMENDATIONS

**In light of the developing situation ZPP makes the following observations and recommendations.**

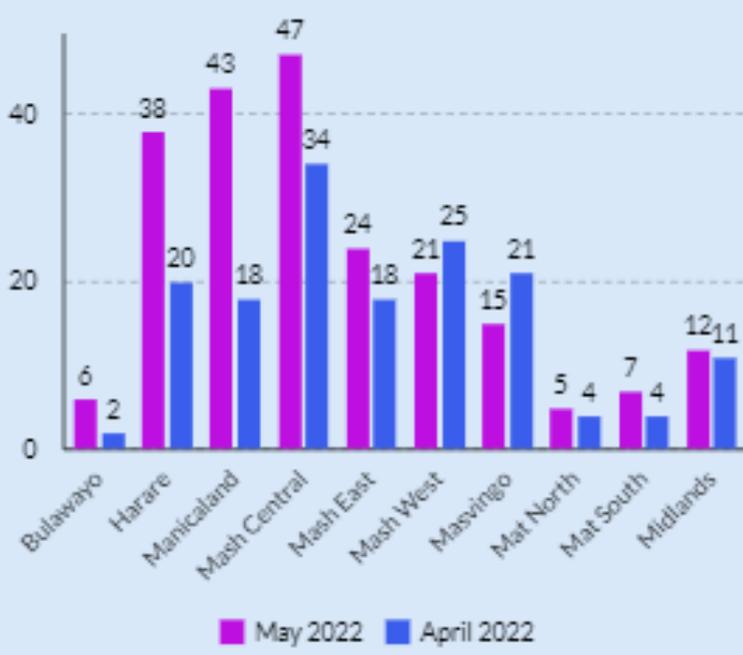
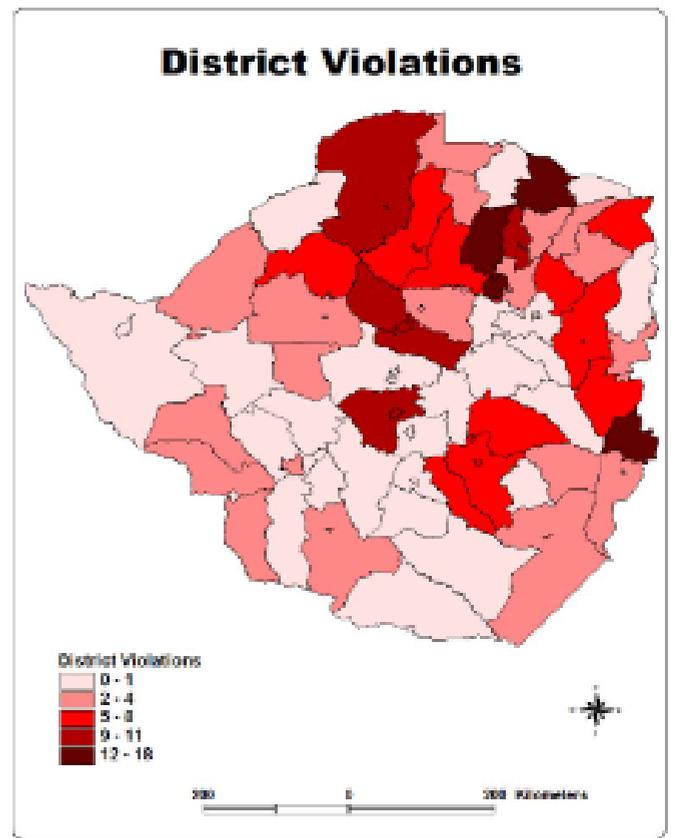
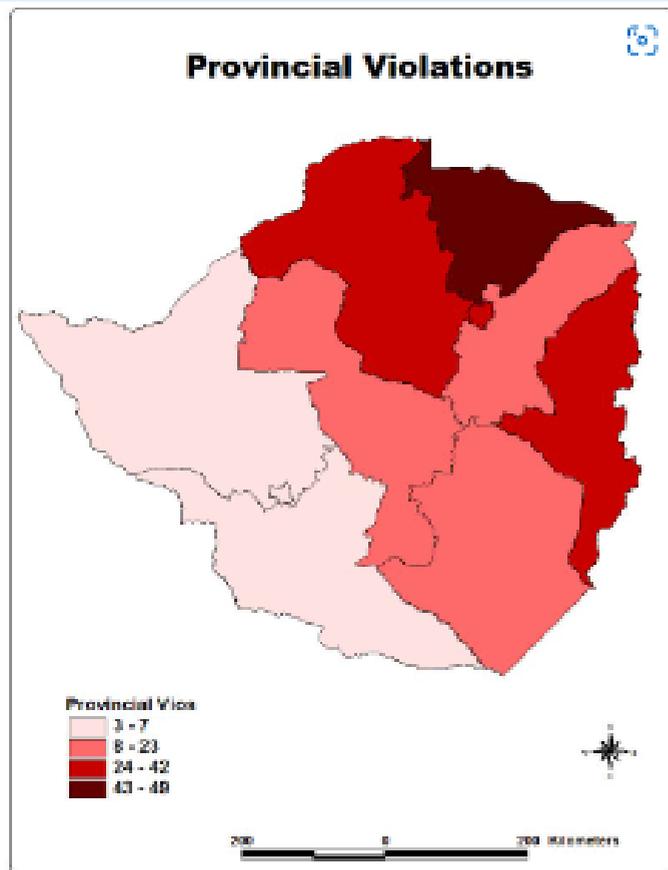
Parliament should institute a pre-electoral dialogue that leads to a pact, where all electoral malpractices are dealt with well in time before elections. This is based on the precedence set when Zanu PF and MDC-T worked on operationalizing SADC guidelines on elections in 2007 and this led to one of Zimbabwe's most open elections in March 2008.

Regrettably, the country regressed soon after the elections and considering the current events, there is need to revisit that commitment by both political parties to ensure that Zimbabwe does not have a repeat of the 2008 electoral violence.

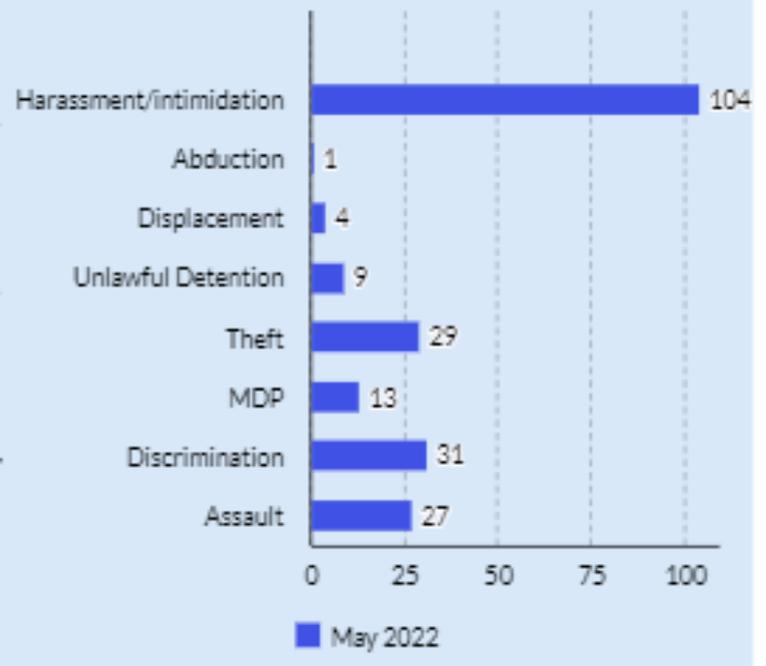
Never again should Zimbabweans be subjected to killings, torture, assault, harassment and displacement for political reasons and the onus is on the current elected representatives to make sure this does not happen and ZPP continues to appeal to each of their consciences. One more time, ZPP strongly recommends that the Zimbabwe Electoral Commission (ZEC), through its Multi-Party Liaison Committee, strengthens its ability to hold political parties to account without fear or favour.

ZPP also urges SADC to use its mandate to proactively prevent the recurrence of political repression. Through its relevant arms, the regional body should engage the Zimbabwean authorities and political parties to get a guarantee that the 2023 elections are going to be free, fair and peaceful and that they will allow the free expression of every Zimbabwean.

# THE VIOLATIONS IN GRAPHICS



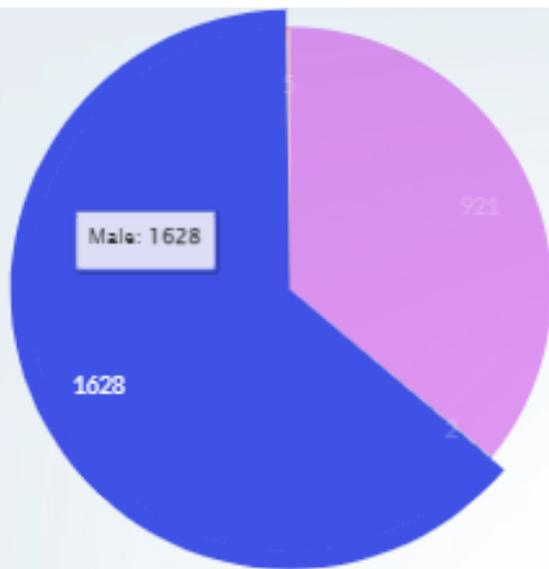
Provincial Violations



Types of Violations

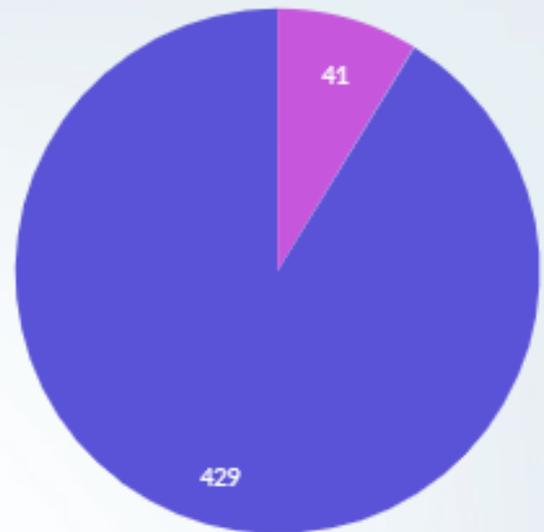


# THE VIOLATIONS IN GRAPHICS



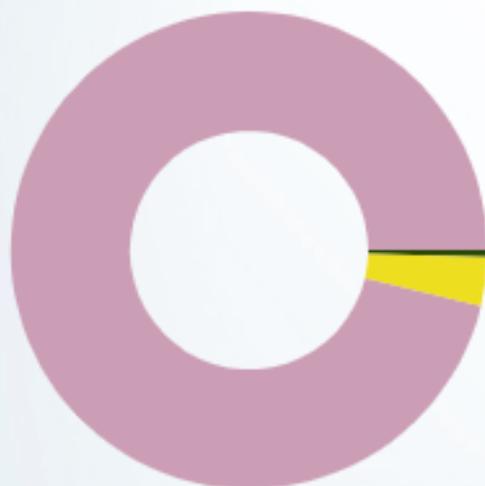
Female (36.03%) Female PWD (0.08%) Male (63.69%) Male PWD (0.2%)

Gender of Victims



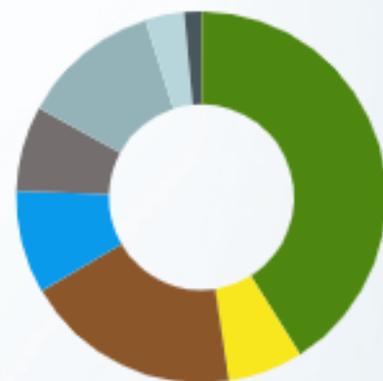
Female (8.72%) Male (91.28%)

Gender of Perpetrators



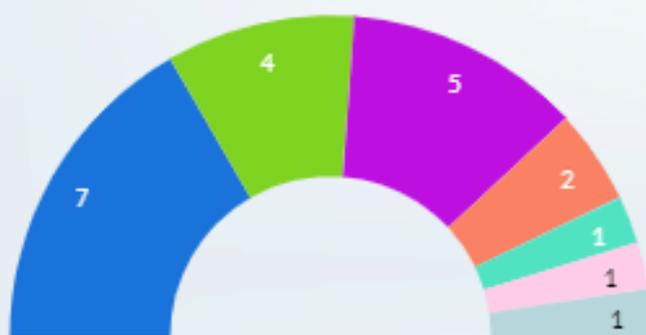
Zanu PF (0.47%) CCC (3.33%) General Citizens (96.21%)

Victims Affiliation



Zanu PF (41.06%) CCC (6.6%) ZRP (18.94%) Municipal Police (8.94%) ZNA (7.45%) Unknown (12.13%) State agents (3.4%) War Veteran (1.49%)

Perpetrators Affiliation



Harare (33.33%) Manicaland (19.05%) Mash Central (23.81%) Mash East (9.52%) Mash West (4.76%) Masvingo (4.76%) Midlands (4.76%)

Food & Other Aid Violations



Zanu PF CCC

Intra Party Violence



SPECIAL  
FOCUS

**FOOD  
INSECURITY**

**WE  
SAID SO  
BUT NOONE  
LISTENED**

25 May 2022, ZimLive reports that, according to the Grain Millers Association of Zimbabwe (GMAZ), Zimbabwe will import 400,000 tonnes of white maize from Zambia and Malawi as the country battles yet another bout of food insecurity.

The irony is that the country is importing from its neighbours, which have the same climatic and soil profile conditions.

The importation is despite the government of Zimbabwe having run sustained agricultural support programmes such as Command Agriculture and Pfumvudza.

Late last year, The Herald newspaper dutifully reported that President Mnangagwa's administration had introduced transformational measures in the agricultural sector anchored at achieving food security in the country and a return to self-sufficiency.

The Herald went on to state that the measures included, among other things, the Command Agriculture - contract farming aimed at supporting local farmers, the Pfumvudza concept - a concept of increased production with minimum resources as well as putting emphasis on climate proofing.

ZPP, standing to its true mandate of being a watchdog, continued to monitor the agriculture support mechanisms and noted quite a number of disturbing developments, which it put forward for consideration by government.

In November 2021, ZPP recorded cases of politicisation of Pfumvudza inputs aid where there was a deliberate and systematic process of sidelining perceived or real supporters of opposition political parties from benefitting from a government scheme that is supposed to benefit everyone regardless of their political affiliation.

In some cases, the distribution of the maize and fertilizer was done Nicodemously.

In direct contravention of the Constitution, Zanu PF and government officials and local leaders charged with the distribution of inputs conducted themselves in an openly partisan manner, and showed little regard for the respect of the fundamental value of equality and dignity for all.

# SPECIAL FOCUS

# OUR

# FINDINGS



The conflation of the ruling party and the State compounded by impunity continued and ruling party officials and activists continued to hijack government programmes without facing any consequences.

Any citizens who attempted to call out these partisan acts face the brutality of the Zanu PF activists.

The politicization disenfranchised deserving individuals who had the merit and capacity to produce.

In November 2021, ZPP warned that if the politicization of aid was not abetted, it would contribute to heightened levels of food insecurity.

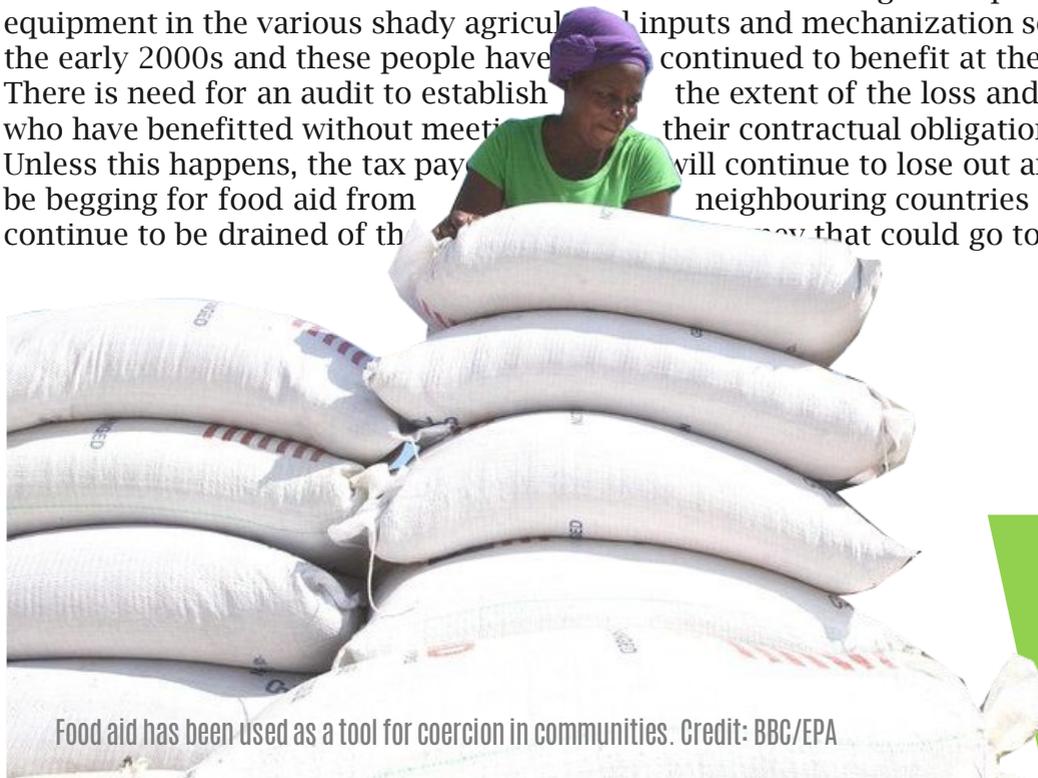
Unfortunately, none of the recommendations were not taken into account and we believe this is one of the major reasons why the country is facing a food security crisis that could have been avoided.

Currently, there is a pending court case where the Deputy Minister of Lands, Agriculture, Fisheries, Water and Rural Resettlement Douglas Karoro has been arraigned on allegations of grabbing 700 bags of fertiliser, US\$18 000 worth of maize seed and 5 000 vegetable seed kits from Presidential inputs schemes between March and May, and selling them at his private shop. ZPP has recorded cases of corruption during the distribution of Pfumvudza inputs and this is documented in 2021 October, November and December Monthly Monitoring Reports available on [zimpeaceproject.com](http://zimpeaceproject.com). Unfortunately, government continued to pay a blind eye.

In light of this, ZPP strongly recommends that government holds to account all individuals who have been implicated in politicization and looting of inputs and have them pay up so that the funds can be used to purchase the much-needed grain.

We are aware that there are some individuals who have been given inputs and agricultural equipment in the various shady agricultural inputs and mechanization schemes, which began in the early 2000s and these people have continued to benefit at the expense of the taxpayer. There is need for an audit to establish the extent of the loss and to hold to account those who have benefitted without meeting their contractual obligations to produce.

Unless this happens, the tax payer will continue to lose out and Zimbabwe will always be begging for food aid from neighbouring countries and the fiscus will continue to be drained of the money that could go to other needs.



Food aid has been used as a tool for coercion in communities. Credit: BBC/EPA

# PVO BILL

Another  
bite into  
DEMOCRATIC  
SPACE

Even before it is signed into law, the Private Voluntary Organisations Amendment Bill (PVO Bill) is already being softly implemented in what could be a test of the ground by government and Zanu PF on the effectiveness of the Bill in bullying civil society organisations that hold government to account.

In one of the boldest acts, Zanu PF vigilante, Taurai Kundishaya issued a chilling threat to the Zimbabwe Human Rights Association (ZimRights) staff conducting voter education in Mutoko.

Tweeting on his handle, Kundishaya, who has already earned himself the infamy of threatening violence, wrote:

“People of Mutoko, be vigilant, @ZimRightsLive is in your area today. They spend their night at East view Lodge, Mrehwa Centre, occupying Rooms 4,6 & 7. Their mission in Mutoko is to organize for violent demos. Their kombi is only branded at the back.”

On his tweet, Kundishaya added an image of the ZimRights voter education campaign minibus.

By lying that ZimRights was intending to organize violent demonstrations and going onto invade the personal privacy by publishing illegally obtained room numbers of ZimRights staff, Kundishaya exposed the extent to which the ruling party is willing to go to suppress the good work of civil society organisations.

To its good, ZimRights has so far fearlessly mobilized Zimbabweans to register to vote as a way of complementing the work of the Zimbabwe Electoral Commission (ZEC).

It is with such regret that we find some individuals who represent the ruling party making such serious and illegal threats.

We would have expected a statement from Zanu PF condemning Kundishaya’s threat and disowning them as a party, we take their silence as being part of the threat.

We also expect the police to take action against such threats and not wait for citizens to have their rights violated for them to act. As ZPP we fear for the lives of the ZimRights staffers who have been under surveillance.

The ruling party’s silence on Kundishaya’s statements and its continued insistence that the PVO Bill will be fast-tracked through Parliament can only show the determination of the ruling party to close down space for civil society organisations.

Zanu PF spokesperson Christopher Mutsvangwa recently said the party would use its parliamentary majority to fast-track the Bill.

In light of these developments, ZPP calls for the following:

Considering that Zanu PF government is determined to pass the PVO Bill and may fast track it so that it becomes a useful tool for repression ahead of the 2023 elections, ZPP continues to urge for engagement to ensure that those pushing for the Bill to be passed into law understand the important and Constitutional role civil society organisations play towards development.

# CONFRONTING RECKLESS STATEMENTS

Responding to the Zimbabwe Peace Project April 2022 Monthly Monitoring Report implicating Zanu PF in human rights violations, Zanu PF Director of Information, Tafadzwa Mugwadi said something that is not only completely false, but reckless.

He was quoted in the NewsDay of 16 May in a [report](#) titled ZPP report exposes Zanu PF violence “...ZANU PF holds ZPP and Jestina Mukoko responsible for the sporadic needless orgies of violence that she hatches working with paid opposition activists targeting security officers, Government buildings, businesses, and individual citizens.... The revolutionary party is aware of a number of her rented properties which she uses as nursery beds for organising violent protests disguised as safe houses. To the contrary, Zanu PF as an organisation is a party of peace-loving doves, no wonder our motto is ‘unity, peace and development,’ he said.

ZPP, through her lawyer, Musa Kika, who is the Executive Director of the Zimbabwe Human Rights NGO Forum (The Forum), has since written to Mugwadi in his capacity as the Zanu PF Director of Information demanding, among other things, that Mugwadi either provides the evidence of his claims, or substantiate your claims or issue a public apology, failure of which, he would be facing a US\$50,000 lawsuit. Zanu PF has responded seeking further details about the issue.

ZPP is a member of The Forum.

In the letter of demand written to Kika contends that Mukoko is a well-known human rights activist. She is a former television personality and is accordingly easily recognised by many Zimbabweans, so as a result of Mugwadi’s utterances, her standing in the society has greatly diminished.

ZPP is a human rights monitoring and documentation organization that has continued to expose evidence-based statistics of of human right abuses in Zimbabwe

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**SPECC**



MAY 2022



# TOWARDS 2023

AS NOTED IN THE GRAPH, MASHONALAND CENTRAL PROVINCE HAS THE HIGHEST NUMBER OF POLITICALLY MOTIVATED HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS WITH A TOTAL OF 17 POLITICALLY MOTIVATED VIOLATIONS, 14 OF WHICH ARE SERIOUS

In this section, we analyse the trends of politically motivated human rights violations across the country.

This is part of the ZPP campaign to have citizens resist, reject and report violence ahead of the 2023 election.

The campaign, #RRRV2023 is specifically designed as an early warning system of political violence with the view that relevant agents can adopt preventive measures.

This is because ZPP has noted how community members are used to mete out violence against each other and the moment they unite against violence, peaceful contestation is likely to prevail. So, the #RRRV2023 campaign, separates politically motivated human rights violations from all the other forms of violations, and using a highly sophisticated data analysis tool, ZPP maps the severity of the violations to give an indication of the political volatility of each province.

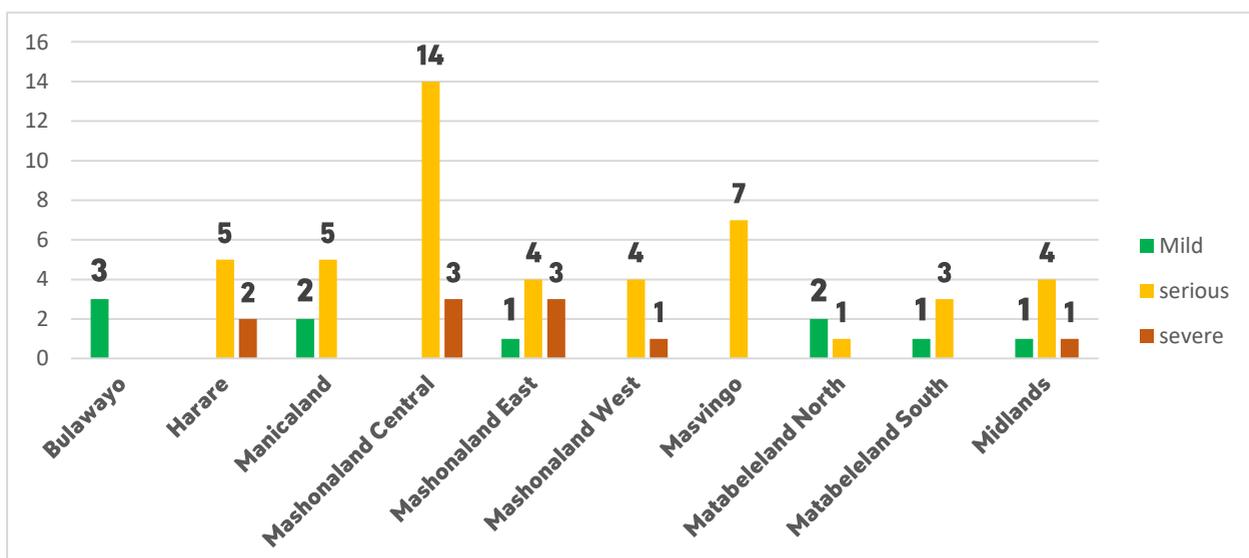
As noted in the graph, Mashonaland Central province has the highest number of politically motivated human rights violations with a total of 17 politically motivated violations, 14 of which are serious. The province also had the highest number of violations (17) in April.

On the heels of Mashonaland Central is Mashonaland East, which has eight politically motivated human rights violations.

It is interesting to note that in all the provinces, there were pronounced incidents of political activity involving Zanu PF and CCC, with supporters of CCC being the majority of the victims.

As noted earlier in this report, the prevalence of violence in Mashonaland Central and East is because the two provinces are considered 'Zanu PF strongholds' and the party is using some of the most rogue methods to attempt to maintain control ahead of the 2023.

Using a highly sophisticated data analysis tool, ZPP maps the severity of the violations to give an indication of the political volatility of each province.



# MASH EAST

ZANU PF COUNCILLOR DAVID KUFAKWEMBA TOLD A CCC ACTIVIST TO VACATE THE WARD AS SHE WAS ACCUSED OF SPREADING AND DISTRIBUTING CCC MATERIAL.

The province is fast becoming a 'no-go' area for opposition politics as Zanu PF continued to hold a series of meetings where villagers received all sorts of threats if they ever associated with the opposition. In Murehwa North and South, CCC supporters were targeted for mobilizing supporters and wearing yellow clothes. On 15 May, in Muguvamadzi Village Ward 10 of Mudzi North Zanu PF Councillor David Kufakwemba told a CCC activist to vacate the ward as she was accused of spreading and distributing CCC material. The victim spends most of her time in Chitungwiza where she is gainfully employed. Kufakwemba told Saragado to stop any developments on her stand as she was no longer welcome in Mudzi.

# MASH WEST

The highlight in Mashonaland West was an incident where soldiers descended on and attacked villagers in Chegutu. The soldiers, armed with guns, whips and knobkerries were reportedly out to avenge the beating of their colleague by machete gangsters in the area. The attack left 20 villagers in need of medical attention at Chegutu General Hospital. Chegutu has remained a political hotspot of machete gang wars and it is alleged that Chegutu legislator, Dexter Nduna, is protecting artisanal miners using his political muscle and for political gain.

# MIDLANDS

AFTER THE MEETING, UNKNOWN ASSAILANTS ATTACKED A HOUSE BELONGING TO MUKASHI AND ASSAULTED HIS WIFE

In the Midlands, ZPP recorded intra-party violence by members of CCC and one of the incidents happened in Chirumhanzu South. During a CCC meeting attended by the party's National Organizing Secretary Amos Chibaya, two rivals, Simbarashe Mukashi and Patrick Cheza, who are all intending to contest in the 2023 elections for Chirumanzu South Constituency, disregarded the party's directive and bussed their respective supporters, resulting in squabbles and clashes. After the meeting, unknown assailants attacked a house belonging to Mukashi and assaulted his wife. One of the perpetrators allegedly left behind a branded Zanu PF t-shirt and hat. Meanwhile, Zanu PF continues to use food aid to campaign in the province and as the cost of living continues to rise and the levels of vulnerability escalates, food and other aid is likely to be more politicised.

In one of the cases in Shurugwi South Zanu PF party supporters who have membership cards, were the only ones who benefitted from the government aid. The supporters received a 50 kg bag of wheat, two bags of Compound D fertilizer and three bags of Compound C fertilizer per individual and Zanu PF members identified as John Mujubheki Murambiwa, Daniel Mulambo and Unity Moyo were in charge of the process.

## HARARE

**MOST CCC MEMBERS WERE LEFT NURSING SERIOUS INJURIES**

Harare province witnessed high levels of political violence towards the ward 7 Zengeza West by -election conducted on 7 May 2022. Citizens Coalition for Change (CCC) supporters led by aspiring ward 7 local authority candidate Lovemore Maiko clashed with Zanu PF youths in Chitungwiza during election campaigns resulting in violent skirmishes. As CCC activists were conducting a voter mobilisation campaign on 3 May, they were violently attacked by Zanu PF youths forcing them to retaliate. Street battles were reported in most parts of Zengeza west. However, most CCC members were left nursing serious injuries. In a video which went viral on social media, winning Zengeza West ward 7 Councillor Lovemore Maiko was captured on video being attacked with stones by Zanu PF youths. Maiko sustained severe cuts on the head while Lazarus Sigauke was left battling for his life in hospital.

## MASH CENTRAL

**ON 16 APRIL 2022, VILLAGERS IN MAZOWE SOUTH AT PROTEA FARM (WARD 16) WERE FORCED TO CONTRIBUTE CASH TOWARDS THE INDEPENDENCE DAY COMMEMORATIONS.**

The Independence Day commemorations in Mashonaland Central province were conducted at district and constituency level. The major challenge citizens encountered during the commemorations were forced contributions by Zanu PF and traditional leaders. There was a disturbing trend of violations where people were forced to contribute in cash and in kind towards the celebrations.

This trend has been notable since year 2000 to date and Zanu PF has been at the centre of all actions by traditional leaders forcing civil servants (teachers, nurses) and villagers to contribute against their will. In Mazowe South Glendale Zanu PF district members came up with an ambitious list of food and non-food items which they went around demanding from the business fraternity, individuals and house holds. Below are some of the incidents.

On 16 April 2022, villagers in Mazowe South at Protea farm (Ward 16) were forced to contribute cash towards the Independence Day commemorations. Zanu PF Youth Chairperson Mcdonald Chagaka and Youth Secretary Jealous Franciso went around the farm compounds collecting \$1.00 USD contributions per household.

In Bindura South ward 12 at Muonwe Township Zanu PF chairperson Abraham Mhembere, coerced villagers to contribute cash towards the Independence Day commemorations. Villagers were made to contribute a \$1.00 USD per household and Mhembere claimed the ruling party, Zanu PF, was fundraising money to purchase a cow for the celebrations



## MASVINGO

FOUR CCC OFFICIALS WERE ARRESTED WHILE CONDUCTING A PARTY PROGRAMME IN ZAKA NORTH CONSTITUENCY

In the province, as in others, Zanu PF supporters have already begun targeting opposition supporters while the police have continued to act in a partisan manner, arbitrarily arresting CCC supporters. For example, on 21 May 2022, in Zaka North, four CCC officials were arrested while conducting a party programme in Zaka North Constituency. The four, Johannes Chongore, Manners Mundoga, Method Gwangwava and Tendai Machisani were arrested in Zaka and taken to Central Investigations Department Law and Order Masvingo. The arrests come on the backdrop of a number of cases countrywide, where CCC supporters have either been arrested or harassed for simply conducting their campaigns and this is happening as other political parties are freely conducting their business.

## BULAWAYO

ZANU PF ACTIVISTS FORCED VENDORS TO BUY PARTY CARDS

The month of May witnessed the rise of political intolerance among political parties. This was due to the fact that election momentum has been heightened by the recent by-elections. A case of political intolerance was reported at Esiqongweni of Magwegwe constituency, when Adam Mtshayisa of an unknown political party intimidated Sizakele Mhlanga. It is said that Mtshayisa intimidated Mhlanga who was wearing Zapu regalia and passed a remark that members of Zapu deserve to be beaten for disrespecting the government.

Meanwhile, Zanu PF party continued with its systematic intimidation of citizens in the province. On 9 May it was reported that Zanu PF activist identified as Kuda Chamboko went around forcing vendors to buy new party cards or risk losing their stands at Mkambo market.

## MAT NORTH

ZANU PF ALSO CONTINUED TO USE FOOD AS AN INSTRUMENT TO CAMPAIGN

Political intolerance at the highest level happened in this province when CCC leader Nelson Chamisa was barred from attending the funeral of Chief Mabhikwa, who died in a car accident this month. It is said that Chamisa arrived at the funeral and just as his security team was about to open the vehicle doors- state security agents blocked them while others were manhandled. The state security agents went to lay a siege on Chamisa's vehicle, leaving him having to follow the entire funeral proceedings from his car.

Zanu PF also continued to use food as an instrument to campaign and in Bubi constituency, a Zanu PF activist identified as David Moyo of Ward 5 deprived food aid to perceived opposition supporters. A similar incident happened at Siyangaya village, where Zanu PF activist only identified as Mandla Lifa intimidated villagers at the local shops, and said that those who failed to vote for Zanu PF in 2023 would be struck off the list of inputs beneficiaries.

# MANICALAND

SEVERAL  
VILLAGE HEADS  
WERE ASKED TO  
COME FORWARD  
AND CHANT  
ZANU PF  
SLOGANS

Political polarization has continued in the province and in one of the incidents, at Machongwe Growth Pont, in Chimanimani East, a Zanu PF youth identified as Isaac Mapunga, who is also an aide to the sitting legislator, Joshua Sacco, allegedly stripped a CCC youth of his party t-shirt. No arrests were made. In another incident, on 10 May 2022, people were asked to gather at Musirizwi Primary School by Matewu Dhliwayo, a Zanu PF supporter to celebrate the new ZUPCO bus which the area had been allocated. Unfortunately, it was donated to the school. The event turned into a political rally and children, some as young as five, were forced to chant Zanu PF slogans. Several village heads were asked to come forward and chant Zanu PF slogans in contravention of the Constitution which states that traditional leaders are supposed to be apolitical.

# MAT SOUTH

MOHADI SUMMONED A  
MEETING WITH TRADITIONAL  
LEADERS AT PLUMTREE TOWN  
OFFICES WHERE THEY WERE  
TOLD TO MOBILIZE AND  
CAMPAIGN FOR ZANU PF

In Bulilima West, it was reported that Zanu PF Vice-President Kembo Mohadi summoned a meeting with traditional leaders at Plumtree town offices where they were told to mobilize and campaign for Zanu PF. It is alleged that Mohadi instructed all traditional leaders to partake in activities of the party so as to ensure victory in the much-anticipated 2023 elections. Mohadi also held another meeting at Esikhoveni Institute where he said the same thing to traditional leaders. His statement contravenes the Constitution where in Section 281, traditional leaders are supposed to be non-partisan. In another meeting, on the eve to the Africa Day celebrations, Vice-President Retired General Constantino Chiwenga summoned a meeting of all traditional leaders in Gwanda where they were told to mobilize for the party ahead for the 2023 general elections.

