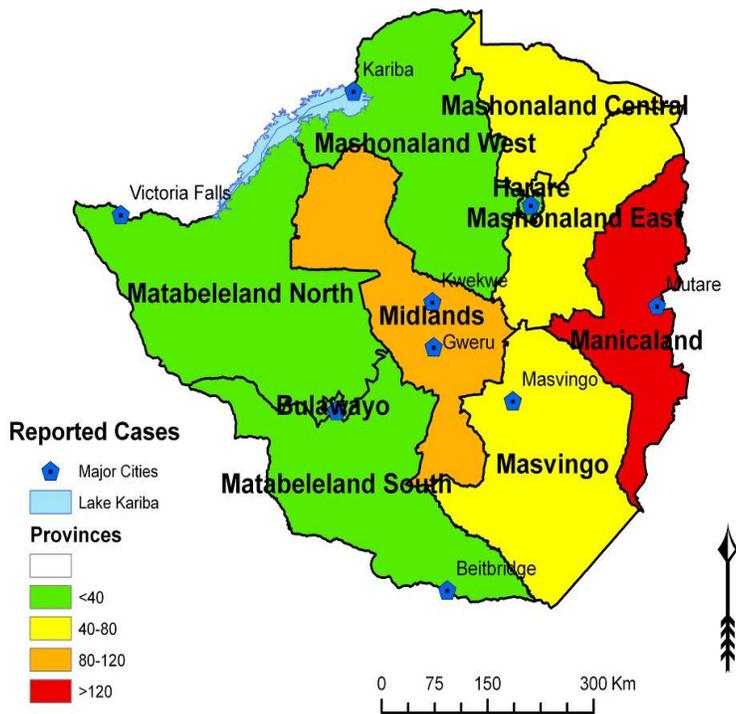


## ZPP Monthly Monitor

**August 2012 Provincial Violations Map**



### BACKGROUND & FORMATION

The Zimbabwe Peace Project (ZPP) was conceived shortly after 2000 by a group of Churches and NGOs working or interested in human rights and peace-building initiatives, and was to become a vehicle for civic interventions in a time of political crisis. In particular ZPP sought to monitor and document incidents of human rights violations and politically motivated breaches of the peace e.g. violence.

Today, ZPP's co-operating member organizations include, Zimbabwe Council of Churches (ZCC), Catholic Commission for Justice & Peace in Zimbabwe (CCJPZ), Evangelical fellowship of Zimbabwe (EFZ) Zimbabwe Election Support Network (ZESN), Counselling Services Unit (CSU), Zimbabwe Civic Education Trust (ZIMCET), Zimbabwe Lawyers for Human Rights (ZLHR), Zimbabwe Human Rights Association (ZIMRIGHTS), Civic Education Network Trust (CIVNET), Women's Trust and the Habakkuk Trust.

### VISION

Sustainable Justice, Freedom, Peace and Development in Zimbabwe, for All

### MISSION

To work for sustainable Peace through Monitoring, Documentation, Research & Publications, and Community Peace Building Interventions ~ through & with our Members & Partners

Information Department

Zimbabwe Peace Project

14/09/2012

## **METHODOLOGY**

This report is based on reports from ZPP long-term community based human rights monitors who observe, monitor and record cases of human rights violations in the constituencies they reside. ZPP deploys a total of 420 community-based primary peace monitors (two per each of the 210 electoral constituencies of Zimbabwe). These community-based monitors reside in the constituencies they monitor. They compile reports that are handed over to ZPP provincial coordinators who man the different ZPP offices in the ten administrative provinces of Zimbabwe. Upon receipt and verifications of the reports from the monitors, the provincial coordinators compile provincial monthly monitoring reports, which are then consolidated at national office into the ZPP monthly monitoring reports published in retrospect.

## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The political environment in Zimbabwe deteriorated considerably in August due to the impasse in the Constitution-making exercise. The month of August witnessed a significant rise in incidents of politically motivated human rights violations as a direct result of the political impasse.

There were 462 cases recorded during the month under review up from the 375 incidents recorded during the month of July.

The COPAC led process stalled: raising political tension and deepening polarization as the partners in the Global Political Agreement took hardened and opposing positions on the COPAC draft constitution which ironically- was co-authored by their representatives in the Constitutional Parliamentary select committee (COPAC).

ZANU-PF rejected the COPAC draft and insisted on forcing its own amendments into the draft constitution. The party launched a vilification campaign against the draft labelling it “a gay instrument of neo-colonialism”.

Meanwhile-its partners in the coalition government- the two MDC formations have endorsed the draft and praised it as a progressive document- setting the scene for a constitutional referendum that might lead to a bruising political contest.

The national census program was turned into a fiasco as soldiers and other members of state security agencies invaded the enumerator training centres across the country seeking to impose themselves on the program and displace teachers alleging that they were aligned to the two MDC formations who wanted to use the exercise as a platform to campaign for their parties.

Reports from across the country indicate that their motive was not political but material as the hefty allowance set aside for enumerators was the actual incentive for them to seek to muscle in on the program.

An analysis of the violations trends over the past five years shows that the month of August has had fewer cases of human right violations since 2008 where 964 cases were recorded two months after the ill-fated June 27 Presidential run-off.

The violations continued on a downward trend in 2009 where 527 cases were recorded only to increase in the year 2010 to 848 reported cases while 720 incidents were witnessed in August 2011.

## Major Highlights for the month of August 2012

- ZANU-PF aligned militias organized under the banner of a shadowy political grouping that calls itself “*Simudzwa Makoni Youth Group*”, invaded Rusape Country Club looting property and other stocks including beer. The group led by one Kudzai Chipanga, told the chairperson of Rusape Country Club that they had been sent by the patron of the youth group Honourable Didymus Mutasa to take over the club. They eventually took over the country club through the use of fear, threats and terror.

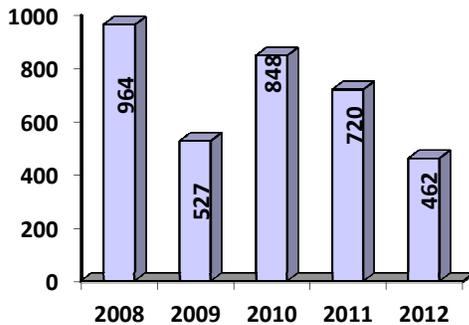


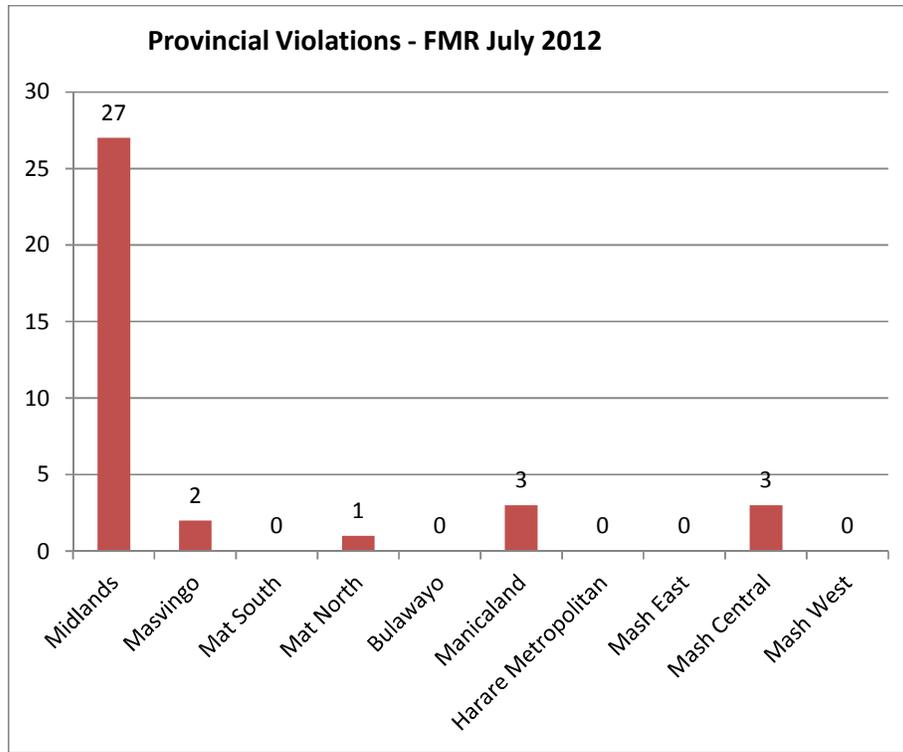
Figure 1: Trends of PMV for Aug 2008 – Aug 2012

- From Mazowe Central constituency in Mashonaland Central, a popular Medical Doctor Paul Thistle based at Howard Mission Hospital was forcibly transferred in questionable circumstances that are suspected to be informed by political imperatives. The doctor was very popular with the local villagers for whom he went out of his way to

assist.

- Intra-party strife within the MDC-T led to skirmishes between the supporters of sitting Gutu North MP- Edmore Maramwidze and those of Dr. Tichinani Mavetera who is campaigning to depose him as the MDC-T candidate in the next elections.
- There was a memorial service on 11/8/12 for the late Mushure Jongwe who was a top MDC-N activist in Chikomba Central, Unyetu village. Distribution of the MDC-T Newsletters was the bone of contention that sparked the brawl and skirmishes between the party members. Admire Chakwizira was injured in the process. It was a case of a kettle and a pot calling each other black. MDC-T accused MDC-N of tearing their Newsletters whilst the latter accused MDC-T of forcing them to read their party materials. High profile MDC-T officials attended the function. There was Piniel Denga(MP-Mbare), Moses Jiri(MP-Chikomba Central), goodwill Chimbaira (National Chair-MDC-M) and Headman Ranga of Runyeta village.
- In Highfield west constituency- Arnold Musingwini of Zanu-PF was allegedly assaulted by Rocky Makusha- the driver of the local Member of Parliament Simon Hove on 30 August 2012 at Gazaland Shopping Centre after the he was seen pulling down MDC-T posters. MP Hove confirmed the incident saying that the matter was reported at Machipisa Police Station.
- Zimbabwe Election Support Network (ZESN) failed to conduct a public meeting at Chirasha Township in Shamva North constituency after no one turned up for the meeting. The ZPP is reliably informed that ZANU-PF supporters and the youths militia threatened residents with death or displacement if they came anywhere near the venue of the workshop. ZESN confirmed this incident.
- On a positive note- the Joint Monitoring and Implementation Committee (JOMIC) has increased its presence and visibility in the province especially in volatile Highfield suburb where its vehicles are always on patrol. The increased visibility of the body has led to a freer atmosphere.

- Harare Province also witnessed clashes between touts, ranks marshals and commuter omnibus operators over high ranking charges that were linked to the Chipangano gang (Mandimbandimba) which is allegedly aligned to Zanu PF. The ZPP could not immediately establish all the incidents related to this. According to media reports, there are over 6000 commuter omnibuses in Harare and the tout were now demanding US\$2 per trip. The issue became more of scam that was enriching the wrong people as the Harare City Council now claims it could have lost millions of dollars in revenue.



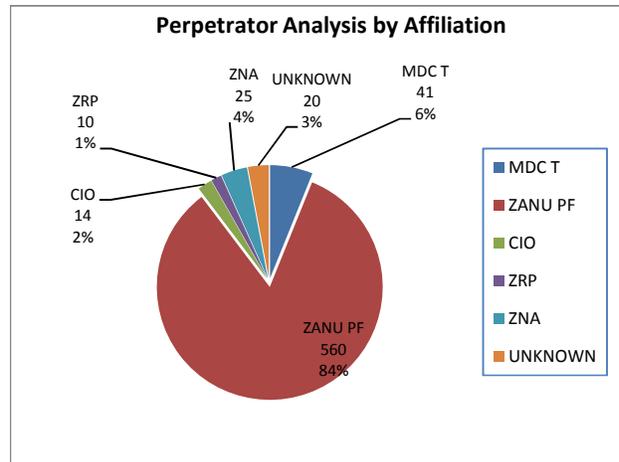
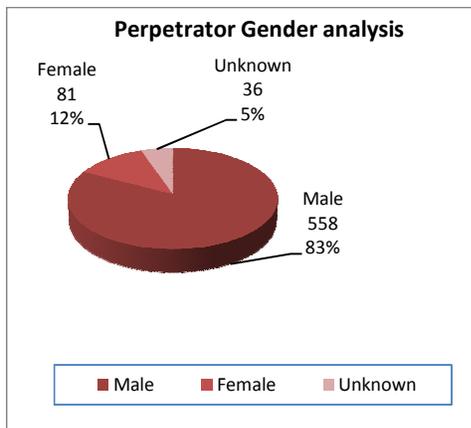
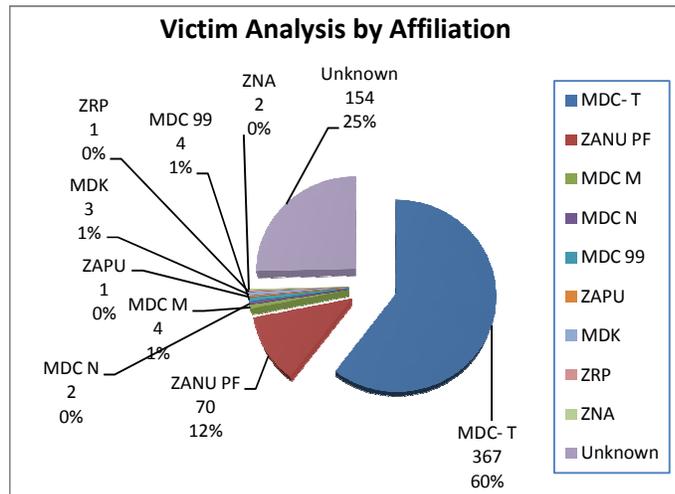
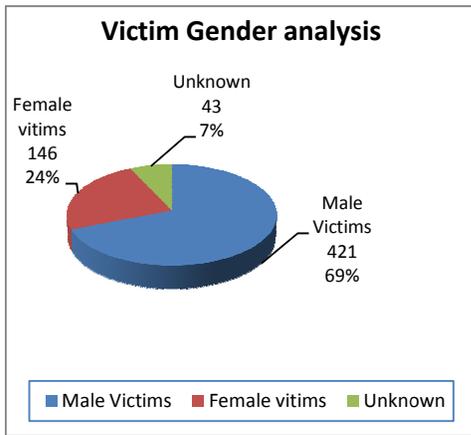
## INCIDENCES OF POLITICALLY MOTIVATED VIOLATIONS

PROVINCE	TYPE OF VIOLATIONS	COUNTS	MAJOR SOURCES OF CONFLICT
<b>Manicaland</b>	Unlawful Detention	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ The province experienced a rise in the number of violations in the month of August to 149 up from the 95 cases witnessed in July. The major sources of conflict were the Heroes Day and Defence Forces commemorations and the training of Census enumerators.</li> <li>➤ A group of Zanu PF activists numbering about 200 invaded a farm belonging to Norman Sachikonye the principal director in the Prime Minister's Office and an aspiring MDC-T parliamentary candidate for Makoni central.</li> <li>➤ A soldier based at Mutare's 3 Brigade and only identified as Dzvetete and a Zanu PF youth militia member known as Manyonga leading a group of 150 soldiers, police, war veterans and Zanu PF activists forced their way into the training hall for census enumerators at St Augustine Mission, Penhalonga on the 9th of August demanding to be included in the process.</li> <li>➤ At Chibwe High School on the same date, a group of soldiers and police numbering 120 brought in two army and police buses ran amok destabilizing the Census training process. They reportedly ate all the food meant for enumerators' lunch.</li> </ul>
	Harassment/intimidation	100	
	Assaults	15	
	Theft/looting	9	
	Discrimination	15	
	Malicious Damage to property	2	
	Attempted Murder	1	
	Displacement	4	
	Banned meetings	1	
<b>Total</b>	<b>149</b>		
<b>Midlands</b>	Harassment/intimidation	58	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ An MDC-T activist was assaulted by ZANU-PF member Maxwell Mlandeli Donald of ZANU-PF in Kabunyu Village, in Gokwe North on 10 August 2012. The victim and the perpetrator are neighbours who had an argument about which party was going to win the coming Parliamentary and Presidential elections and Maxwell felt hard done by his friend's arguments. He responded by assaulting him with a stick and his victim had to run away.</li> <li>➤ Luke Chidamaya of the MDC-T was assaulted by John Mpofu of ZANU-PF for choosing to attend church instead of a local ZANU-PF meeting in Zhombe on Sunday 12 August 2012. The perpetrator met the victim on his way and tried to force him to attend his party's meeting and when he resisted he was pushed to the ground and assaulted with clenched fists and booted feet.</li> </ul>
	Assault	16	
	Theft/looting	2	
	Discrimination	11	
	Displacement	1	
<b>Total</b>	<b>88</b>		
<b>Mash Central</b>	Harassment/intimidation	39	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ The province witnessed the disruption of the census training sessions in a number of Districts that include Guruve, Rushinga, Bindura and Mt Darwin. At each of the training centres more than seventy soldiers stormed the premises and ordered the trainings to stop unless the soldiers were incorporated into the programme.</li> <li>➤ There were counter demonstrations at Howard Hospital as some members of the community protested Dr Thistle's dismissal and others suspected of having been bussed in support. It is suspected that there was a political hand behind the entire goings on at Howard Mission.</li> <li>➤ In Mazowe West, people were forced to attend an all-night political indoctrination meeting at Kenge Mine by a retired soldier identified as Captain Tema and other Zanu PF members.</li> </ul>
	Assault	7	
	Discrimination	7	
	Theft/Looting	1	
	<b>Total</b>	<b>56</b>	
<b>Mash East</b>	Harassment/intimidation	27	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ The number of politically motivated human rights violations has remained significantly low for the past three months in Mashonaland East province.</li> <li>➤ But political tension and polarization has risen significantly with the constitutional logjam and the</li> </ul>
	Assault	9	
	Discrimination	4	

	Theft/Looting	2	<p>resultant uncertainty fuelling speculation and heated debate informed by party positions. One gets the feeling that the province is experiencing a ‘lull before a storm’ and the storm clouds are gathering in the form of the coming referendum and elections.</p> <p>➤ The decision by Zanu PF to disband its DCC organ was a blessing in disguise for the province as this organ was responsible for coordinating all Zanu PF activities in the province, fuelling violence especially in extreme remote parts of the province such as Maramba Pfungwe, Mudzi and Chikomba districts.</p>
	Displacement	2	
	<b>Total</b>	<b>44</b>	
<b>Mash West</b>	Assault	2	<p>➤ The serious cases include the utterance at a Zanu PF member’s funeral in Mbirimi village in Magunje area by Francis Ndambakuwa who openly threatened to kill people in order to stay in power. He openly declared that he had made people disappear in 2008 and he would not hesitate to do the same in future.</p> <p>➤ It has been reported that soldiers went on a rampage and beat up people in Kariba on the 19th of August 2012. The reason behind the beating was not known. As it is soldiers continue to harass people at night even those who work or knock off late.</p> <p>➤ Peter Madamombe a soldier from Hurungwe believed to be attached to 3 Brigade in Muatara and his gang of Zanu PF militias are reportedly assaulting youths accusing them of failing to attend Zanu PF meetings in the Kazangarare area.</p>
	Discrimination	7	
	Harassment/Intimidation	21	
	Torture	1	
	Unlawful Detention	2	
	<b>Total</b>	<b>34</b>	
<b>Masvingo</b>	Harassment/Intimidation	45	<p>➤ There was a slight increase in the number of politically motivated human rights violations in the province from 55 cases recorded during the month of July to 63 in August.</p> <p>➤ Intra-party strife within the MDC-T led to skirmishes between the supporters of sitting Gutu North MP- Edmore Maramwidze and those of Dr Tichinani Mavetera who is campaigning to depose him as the MDC-T candidate in the next elections.</p> <p>➤ Headman Gurajena of Gurajena village in Masvingo north constituency who is also a Zanu-PF activist attempted to evict scores of his villagers whom he accused of belonging to the MDC-T. The attempted displacement and resultant clashes have been going on since June 2012 and the latest clash was reported on 18 August 2012.</p>
	Assault	4	
	Discrimination	7	
	Malicious Damage to property	2	
	Theft/looting	2	
	Torture	1	
	Displacement	2	
	<b>Total</b>	<b>63</b>	
<b>Harare</b>	Assault	8	<p>➤ There was a slight increase in the number of politically motivated human rights violations in the province from 55 cases recorded during the month of July to 63 in August.</p> <p>➤ Intra-party strife within the MDC-T led to skirmishes between the supporters of sitting Gutu North MP- Edmore Maramwidze and those of Dr Tichinani Mavetera who is campaigning to depose him as the MDC-T candidate in the next elections.</p> <p>➤ Headman Gurajena of Gurajena village in Masvingo north constituency who is also a Zanu-PF activist attempted to evict scores of his villagers whom he accused of belonging to the MDC-T. The attempted displacement and resultant clashes have been going on since June 2012 and the latest clash was reported on 18 August 2012.</p>
	Harassment/Intimidation	5	
	Unlawful Detention	2	
	Displacement	2	
	<b>Total</b>	<b>16</b>	
<b>Mat North</b>			<p>➤ Politically motivated human rights violations from the province remained very low with only three incidents of harassment and intimidation having been recorded throughout the month.</p>
	Harassment/Intimidation	3	

	Total	3	➤ Members of the CIO, CID and PISI allegedly harassed and intimidated community business owners from Gwampa, Shabulana, and Lupane centre in the Lupane West constituency. The security allegedly imposed a curfew in which they ordered people to go home early while shop owners were ordered to close early from the 8th to the 9th of August. It is reported that the security personnel attributed the operation to the preparations for the Heroes commemorations which were to be held in the area.
<b>Bulawayo</b>	Harassment/Intimidation	3	➤ Despite the proliferation of political parties in Zimbabwe's second city, residents seem to have embraced tolerance of divergent opinions which has resulted in a peaceful political environment. ➤ Political infighting within the MDC-T was witnessed on August 19, 2012 at a branch meeting that was held at a house in Gwabalanda. The meeting was disrupted by the party youths who accused others for causing factionalism and the youths demanded that the suspended youth chairperson Richard Mlilo be reinstated.
	Assault	1	
	Malicious Damage to property	1	
	Total	5	
<b>Mat South</b>	Assault	1	➤ The Census exercise saw the harassment of teachers in some training stations as they were unceremoniously dismissed by senior police officers from their training stations. ➤ This happened in all training stations but of interest was the Tongwe training centre in Beitbridge East at Plumtree High School. A former police superintendent addressed trainees/enumerators and told them to leave with immediate effect or face some consequences. With him, outside the school premises were black boot police officers with dogs.
	Harassment/Intimidation	3	
	Total	4	
	<b>OVERALL TOTAL</b>	<b>462</b>	

## VICTIM/PERPETRATORS ANALYSIS BY GENDER AND ASSOCIATION



This Report was produced and circulated by the Zimbabwe Peace Project, P O Box BE 427, Belvedere, Tel: (04) 747719, 2930180, 2930182 and email: [zppinfo@gmail.com](mailto:zppinfo@gmail.com),

Please feel free to write to ZPP. We may not be able to respond to everything but we will look at each message. For previous ZPP reports, and more information about the Project, please visit our website at [www.zimpeaceproject.com](http://www.zimpeaceproject.com)