



**SUMMARY ON POLITICALLY-MOTIVATED
HUMAN RIGHTS AND FOOD- RELATED
VIOLATIONS**

March 2011

26/04/2011

HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS MONITORING

SUMMARY

Following the official launch of the Zanu PF anti-sanctions campaign by President Robert Mugabe on March 2, 2011, a number of people had their rights to freedom of assembly, expression and association violated.

From many parts of the country people were being coerced to append their signatures to the document and it was witnessed that the trend would cascade down to provincial level after people were also forced to attend the launch in Harare.

The anti-sanctions campaign petition is one of the Zanu PF conference resolutions to collect at least two million signatures on a petition against the sanctions, which President Robert Mugabe has blamed for the country's dire economic situation and prolonged food insecurity. The targeted sanctions, imposed in 2001 and 2002 by the United States and the European Union (EU), banned travel and froze the bank accounts of individuals and companies linked to President Mugabe and his party.

Zanu PF is convinced that the anti-sanctions campaign is a necessary step to bring renewed pressure on the European Union (EU), Britain and the United States of America to reconsider their embargo on Zimbabwe.

There has been an escalation of politically motivated violence in Zimbabwe since the beginning of the year with the month of March witnessing high profile cases of human rights violations. Energy and Power Development Minister Elton Mangoma was arrested twice during the month under review on alleged corruption charges relating to a US\$5 million fuel deal and a case of flouting tender procedures.

Mangoma, was picked up from his Chaminuka Building offices in Harare by detectives from the Criminal Investigations Department (CID) Fraud Squad. He subsequently appeared in court in leg irons and hand cuffs under heavy police guard.

During the same period the Supreme Court dismissed the state's appeal against senior MDC-T official Roy Bennett.

The Supreme Court also nullified the election of Lovemore Moyo as Speaker of the House of Assembly following a constitutional challenge by Zanu PF politburo member and Tsholotsho MP Jonathan Moyo. Lovemore Moyo was however re-elected the Speaker after defeating Zanu PF national chairperson Simon Khaya Moyo on March 29, 2011.

Police also banned several MDC-T rallies and this has become a ground for conflict between partners in the inclusive government as it appears that ZANU PF always has its planned activities.

In the period under review civil society organisations were concerned by the continued targeting of human rights defenders by the police. The Executive Director of the Zimbabwe Human Rights NGO Forum Abel Chikomo was on several occasions summoned to the Harare

Central Police Station and was eventually charged under section 6(3) with subsection 1 of the PVO Act. In the same period Crisis in Zimbabwe Coalition Director McDonald Lewanika was briefly detained by the police in Chitungwiza for being found in possession of T-Shirts. He was released and subsequently had his office and his home searched by the police. The month also saw the chairperson of the International Socialist Organisation (ISO) chairperson Munyaradzi Gwisai being released on bail together with five co-accused persons facing treason charges.

During the same month the co-chairperson of the Constitutional Parliamentary Select Committee (COPAC) and Nyanga North MP together with 23 supporters from his party were granted US\$50 bail each after being jailed for four weeks from February to March, 2011.

The escalation of cases of politically motivated human rights violations prompted the Southern African Development Committee (SADC) Troika of the Organ on Politics, Defence and Security Cooperation toughening its stance on the political leadership in Zimbabwe demanding an immediate end to violence, intimidation, hate speech, harassment, and any other form of action that contradicts the letter and spirit of Global Political Agreement (GPA).

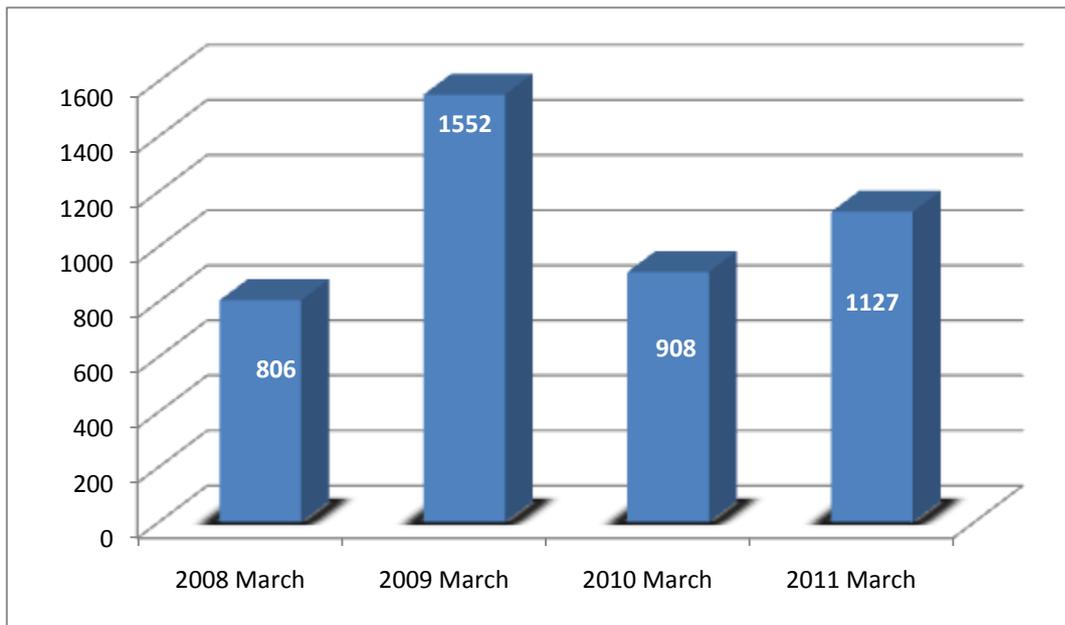
Zambian President Rupiah Banda at the meeting in Livingstone Zambia, warned the region to be wary of events in North Africa lest they be replicated in the region. He also urged the country's political leaders to respect the wishes of the people.

There were also concerns about reports of exhumation of remains of an estimated 2 000 people from a disused mineshaft in Chibondo, Mt Darwin, in Mashonaland Central province by a group of war veterans. Most stakeholders were worried that this process might not have been done in the proper manner.

A look at the month of March shows that human rights violations have remained high. In 2008, there were only 806 politically motivated human rights violations and the trend has been increasing thereafter. This was however despite the fact that the country was holding harmonised elections which were viewed as relatively peaceful. In March 2009, there was an upsurge in violations witnessing 1 552 politically motivated human rights violations.

There was however a marked decrease in violations in March 2010 where 908 cases were recorded. The rise in political tensions as a result of possible elections and the constitutional referendum being held this year have however led to a resurgence of political violence. During the period under review, there were 1 127 cases of politically motivated human rights violations recorded. The majority of the incidents were linked to the Zanu PF anti-sanctions campaign.

The report also looks at cases of the politicisation of food and other forms of aid in most of the country's 10 provinces by mainly Zanu PF supporters.



INCIDENCES OF POLITICALLY MOTIVATED VIOLATIONS

The **Midlands Province** remained one of the top regions with the highest number of politically motivated human rights violations witnessing 209 cases during the month under review. The March figure showed a slight decline to the February figure of 224 cases of politically motivated violations. The majority of the cases witnessed during the month were related to the ongoing Zanu PF anti-sanctions campaign.

It has also been noted that the MDC-T supporters have been fighting against each other during the month as members jostle for positions before the fast approaching party national congress.

On March 1, 2011, MDC-T supporters clashed at Tsungayi Township in Gokwe Nembudziya constituency when they were campaigning for their respective candidates in the area. The clashes ended up with one of the youths being assaulted.

An MDC-T activist was heavily assaulted with a bicycle chain by Zanu PF supporters after he had declined to attend a meeting that was being addressed by an army Major Mlilo in Nemangwe. The victim was instructed to sit through the meeting to which he refused and this did not go down well with the army official who ordered that he be beaten. The assaults took place near Sasame Police Station but the police did not intervene. The victim was heavily injured that he had to seek treatment at a local clinic.

Zanu PF youths and members of the war veterans' association are reportedly moving around the province forcing villagers to sign the anti-sanctions petition. An MDC-T member was approached by Zanu PF supporters who started accusing him of being a sell-out at Mushayi Township in Zvishavane. The victim was being accused of mobilising people not to sign the anti-sanctions petition because it was a Zanu Pf project and not a national issue. He was threatened with unspecified action.

An MDC-T youth activist was chased away from his home by Zanu PF supporters for allegedly making “wrong” contributions during the constitutional outreach meetings. It is alleged that the MDC-T activist in August 2010 made contributions that were against the Zanu PF positions to the constitution. He was later forced to leave the country to South Africa. Upon his return he was beaten up by the Zanu PF youths who told him to return where he was or else they would kill him.

Mashonaland East Province witnessed a surge in cases of politically motivated human rights violations during the month of March with a total of 190 cases being recorded compared to the 169 for the month of February.

With the anti-sanctions crusade now in full force, teachers and in particular school headmasters have had their rights violated. Schools have been turned into venues for Zanu PF rallies where people are forced to sign the anti-sanctions petition.

In Murehwa West constituency, the headmaster and teachers were forced to sign the petition first before anyone else at Chemhondoro Primary School. The headmaster was also quizzed and harassed by Zanu PF youths as to why he had accepted a computer gift from Ward Nezi the MP of the area. This was the same story for the victim’s counterpart the headmaster for Chemhondoro Secondary School who was also harassed and intimidated by the same youths for having accepted a generator from the same MP.

A teacher from Liebenberg High School in Chivhu was allegedly transferred to a smaller school in rural Sadza after being suspected to be an MDC-T member. The victimisation came after the teacher had refused to sign the anti-sanctions petition.

In Chikomba West constituency, suspected MDC-T members have been displaced from their homes at Chikomba Township by Zanu PF supporters in positions of authority. An MDC-T supporter had his stand allocated to another person (a known Zanu PF supporter) without his knowledge. The victim was told by council officials that it was a mistake and was told to wait until new stands are available.

Another MDC-T supporter from Chikomba West, Geluka Village lost his farm to a Zanu PF youth official. The perpetrator is alleged to be armed with a new offer letter from the District Administrator with recent dates but the victim was given the offer letter in 2009. The victim has since left the farm fearing for his life after a group of Zanu PF supporters demonstrated outside his house accusing him of being a sell-out.

Tensions remained very high in **Manicaland Province** as the Zanu PF anti-sanctions campaign went into top gear during the period under review. Following the launch of the Zanu PF national anti-sanctions petition drive in Harare by President Robert Mugabe, the campaign was decentralized to the provinces where many people’s rights to freedom of movement, expression and association were violated.

On Saturday, March 19, 2011, the Zanu PF launched the provincial anti-sanctions campaign in the city of Mutare with a projection of getting over 500 thousand signatures from the province. The event alone saw a rise in violations of the people’s rights as Zanu PF youths,

war veterans, soldiers and traditional leaders were reportedly forcing people to attend the gathering from all the province's seven districts of Nyanga, Makoni, Mutasa, Buhera, Chimanimani, Mutare and Chipinge.

On the eve of the anti sanctions launch in Mutare, a municipal police officer (corporal) who also doubles up as a Zanu PF vigilante only identified as Gondo reportedly warned stall holders and vendors at Sakubva Musika that they were to attend the anti sanctions ceremony the following day or risk having their stalls repossessed.

In Mutare, business came to a standstill, as a group of marauding Zanu PF supporters forced the closure of all businesses from Sakubva Musika into the city centre. All shops including major supermarkets like TM, OK and Spar were forced to close. Banks and small business operators had to close for the day since the launch finished around 5PM.

At St Benedict Mission (Chiendambuya) in Makoni North, more than forty teachers and nurses were forced to attend and sign the anti sanctions petition at a meeting convened by war veterans.

From Chimanimani West, war veterans assaulted an MDC-T supporter at Matendeudze Village whom they accused of failing to attend an anti sanctions meeting. In the Chimanimani and Chipinge districts, it is reported that civil servants were forced to attend the launch in Mutare or risked being dismissed from work. The victim reported his case to police but got no help as the police details present told the victim that he had invited the treatment upon himself by failing to comply.

During the period under review, Mutare and Chimanimani districts witnessed the re-establishment of Zanu PF youth militia training bases. Six bases were recorded as having been set up by war veterans. The bases have been allegedly set up at the following places: Chinyauhvera/Chiefs Hall in Mutare South, Bezerly Bridge in Mutare North, Bambazonke and Chiadzwa (Mutare West), Mhandarume and Chakohwa (Chimanimani West), Gaza in Chipinge and Garahwa in Chipinge South. According to reports, only Zanu PF especially the children of war veterans are the ones preferred and undergoing training. At Bezerly Bridge, the youths are being trained by some army personnel including one only known as Brigadier Ndhlovu.

At Chinyauhvera (22 miles), it is reported that more than sixty youths lost various amounts of money ranging from \$20 to \$50 to war veterans who were training them. The youths were reportedly duped into paying by the war veterans claiming that it was training fees. The youths are being trained under the guise that they will be employed at Chiadzwa as security guards.

There were also reports of infighting within the MDC-T as they prepared for the party's national congress to be held from 28 to 30 April, 2011. Violence was reported at most of the meetings to elect the party's structures to represent the province at the national congress.

The Zanu PF anti-sanctions campaign dominated the human rights violations in **Masvingo Province** during the period under review. Zanu PF structures, notably war veterans, youth

militias and state security agents were reportedly mobilising people to sign the anti-sanctions petition.

Traditional leaders were also roped into the anti-sanctions campaign in most rural constituencies, where they coerced villagers to attend meetings called by Zanu PF where people were forced to sign the petition.

The provincial anti-sanctions campaign was launched in the city by Information and Publicity Minister Webster Shamu and people were bussed in from all the province's districts to Mucheke Stadium. Supermarkets, shops, market stalls, tuck shops and bottle stores were forcibly closed to ensure that everyone attended the official launch of the campaign.

Masvingo Rural District Council chief executive officer and Zanu PF central committee member Clemence Makwarimba was reportedly forcing people to attend meetings called for the signing of the anti-sanctions petition at Nemanwa Growth Point and Chirichoga High School in Masvingo West constituency.

War veterans' leader Jabulani Sibanda maintained his presence in the province causing a lot of suffering to villagers in the district of Gutu. Sibanda held several meetings with civil servants in the district and openly told them to align with Zanu PF as the party was their liberator and "employer".

A former Zanu PF member is reported to have disappeared from Mutombwa Village in Ward 16 in Gutu East after he allegedly defected to the MDC-T. The victim is suspected to have been kidnapped by supporters from his former party and his whereabouts were still unknown at the time of publication.

From Mwenezi district, teachers and in particular headmasters were forced to attend Zanu PF meetings where they were ordered to declare their allegiance to Zanu PF and sign the anti-sanctions petition. Villagers were forced to attend Zanu PF meetings by soldiers under the command of one Major Moyo.

Traditional leaders in Zaka were also reported to be demanding that villagers pay a fine mainly in the form of livestock for their failure to attend Zanu PF meetings. Headman Manjoro instructed an MDC-T female supporter to pay a fine in the form of a goat for allegedly attending an MDC-T rally held at Jerera growth Point on March 20, 2011.

The trend has been the same in **Mashonaland Central Province** where cases of politically motivated human rights violation were on the increase as Zanu PF has reportedly intensified its anti-sanctions campaign. There were 166 incidents recorded during the month under review a slight increase from the 151 recorded in February.

Zanu PF political party meetings are being called on a daily basis in most of the constituencies. This has also seen the establishment of terror bases in all the constituencies and the introduction of the National Youth Service training at district levels.

The province has witnessed the establishment of militia bases in at least all the constituencies. In Mazowe South, bases were set up in Tsungubvi at Old Clinic, Heyshort

Farm and Mukoko Farm. Another base was established at Nzvimbo Growth Point in Mazowe Central Constituency. The base is at what is known as the Beerhall.

In Guruve South, a base was set up at Chifamba Primary School while in Muzarabani South; two bases were set up in Chimwashira Village and Charmwood Farm.

The bases were allegedly set up for conducting all night political meetings (pungwes), night patrols and forcing people to attend Zanu PF meetings and they are allegedly being led by soldiers. The Province recorded two meetings where they spent the whole night singing Zanu PF and Chimurenga revolutionary songs. At Chemukute Farm in Bindura North there was a pungwe meeting led by a Major Chimonyo who is a serving member of the army. Another pungwe meeting was held at Gato Village – Centenary, Muzarabani South where people were forced to attend by Zanu PF youths and war veterans.

Cases of infighting in the MDC-T were also recorded in the province where two activists allegedly assaulted the party's acting provincial chairperson at Muzarabani Growth Point during a restructuring meeting.

An MDC-T activist from Muzarabani North was assaulted by Zanu PF youths after he had allegedly refused to sign the anti-sanctions petition at Mpofu Village.

Politically motivated human rights violations were on the increase in **Mashonaland West Province** as a direct result of the Zanu PF anti-sanctions campaign, the upcoming MDC-T congress and the anticipated constitutional referendum and general elections. There were 126 cases witnessed during the month under review showing an increase from the 93 incidents recorded in February.

In most cases Zanu PF supporters were the perpetrators who were forcing people to sign the anti-sanctions petition. In Zvimba district, the victims were mainly teachers who were forced by the Zanu PF councillors, the youth militia and war veterans to sign the petition.

Villagers in the province have also been harassed for attending civil society organisation meetings. In Magunje people were harassed for attending a Zimbabwe Human Rights Association (ZimRights) meeting while in Chinhoyi people were harassed and threatened with arrests for attending a Zimbabwe Lawyers for Human Rights (ZLHR) organised meeting.

Residents of Karoi and Kariba have witnessed the deployment of soldiers who are marching the streets in the morning and evening leaving the people terrified. It could not be established why the soldiers have been carrying out their drill in the streets and not their barracks.

There were also cases of intra-party violations within the MDC-T as prospective candidates were fighting against each other in the run-up to the party's congress earmarked for 28-30 April, 2011.

Many white owned companies in Kariba are likely going to close following spates of intimidation from Zanu PF youths and war veterans. The talk of indigenisation has pushed some Zanu PF supporters to claim for shareholding in the white owned companies.

Although political tensions have remained very high, **Harare Province** witnessed a major decrease in incidents of politically motivated human rights violations. This could be attributed to the few cases of displacements that were recorded compared to the February figure that saw over 140 people being evicted from Mbare.

There were 79 cases recorded during the month of March down from the 236 recorded during the month of February. State agents namely soldiers and the police continue to violate people's rights with impunity and there is selective application of the law by police whereby only people who are perceived to be MDC supporters and their sympathizers are arrested. Zanu PF perpetrators are not being brought to book even when cases are reported.

The police barred several MDC-T peace rallies in Harare claiming that the venues had already been booked by Zanu PF. On March 19, 2011 Zanu PF youths with the support of armed police officers disrupted an MDC-T peace rally that was supposed to be held at the Glamis Arena.

In Mount Pleasant at Golden Stairs, Emerald hill about seventeen Zanu PF youths, ten war veterans and six armed soldiers were forcing people to sign the anti – sanctions petition on 30 March 2011.

In Highfield an MDC-T activist was assaulted for refusing to sign the petition on 8 March 2011 by a Zanu PF member and in Western Triangle, Highfield, Pension Chari known MDC-T member was assaulted by Wisdom Chenzara Zanu PF member being assisted by about fifty women and twenty youths who were forcing people to sign the petition.

The forcing of people to sign the petition has been reported in all the constituencies of Harare Province.

It has also been reported that about ten policemen from Chitungwiza are extorting people of their monies in form of bribe by threatening vendors with arrest if they fail to pay.

On 26 March 2011 about ten riot police harassed and assaulted MDC-T supporters who had gathered at Harvest House their party's headquarters to restructure their party organs.

Matabeleland North Province recorded 13 human rights violations during the month under review nine of which were of harassment and intimidation which were directly linked to the Zanu PF anti-sanctions campaign. The remaining incidents were of people who were forced to attend Zanu PF meetings and later forced to sign the anti-sanctions petition.

On March 19, 2011, at Nkayi Centre in the Nkayi South Constituency, members of the CIO, Zanu PF party youths and war veterans forced the rural district council workers, civil servants and members of the public to attend a Zanu PF meeting where they were ordered to sign the anti-sanctions petition.

An MDC-T supporter was force marched from his homestead to a Zanu PF meeting by Zanu PF youth members in Hwange West Constituency at Lupinyu Business centre. The victim was later ordered to append his signature to the anti-sanctions petition.

In a case of intra-party violence, a female Zanu PF member was harassed by fellow party members for allegedly working closely with an MDC-T elected councillor for Ward 16 in Mathole area in the Bubi constituency. Still in the same constituency; two female MDC-T activists were harassed and intimidated by Zanu PF supporters after they refused to sign the anti-sanctions petition.

The MDC-T was denied access to a community hall in Lupane West Constituency, Mhlahlandlela area by the Lupane Local Board Commission in a case of harassment despite the fact that they had booked the venue two weeks in advance for a public meeting.

Matabeleland South Province witnessed a similar number of violations as Matabeleland North with more cases of harassment and intimidation having been recorded and related to the ongoing Zanu PF anti-sanctions campaign. However the constituencies of Beitbridge, Bulilima, Insiza, Matobo South and Gwanda central had no reported cases of politically motivated violence.

Harassment and intimidation cases were common in Umzingwane, Insiza North and Gwanda North constituencies where people are being intimidated and forced to sign the Zanu PF anti-sanctions campaign petition.

Zanu PF supporters disrupted an MDC-T meeting at Khozi Village, Gwanda North in the company of police officers. The MDC-T supporters were forced to chant Zanu PF slogans before being told that they had now become Zanu PF members.

The province also witnessed cases of violations between MDC-T activists and MDC-M supporters after failing to appreciate and respect each other's political views in Mangwe Constituency.

Bulawayo Province witnessed cases of intra party political violence within the MDC-T as the party prepares to hold its congress from 28- 30 April 2011. There were also cases where people were forced to sign the anti-sanctions campaign petition.

The disturbances related to the MDC-T congress were noted in the Lobengula, Makokoba, Bulawayo central and Nkulumane constituencies.

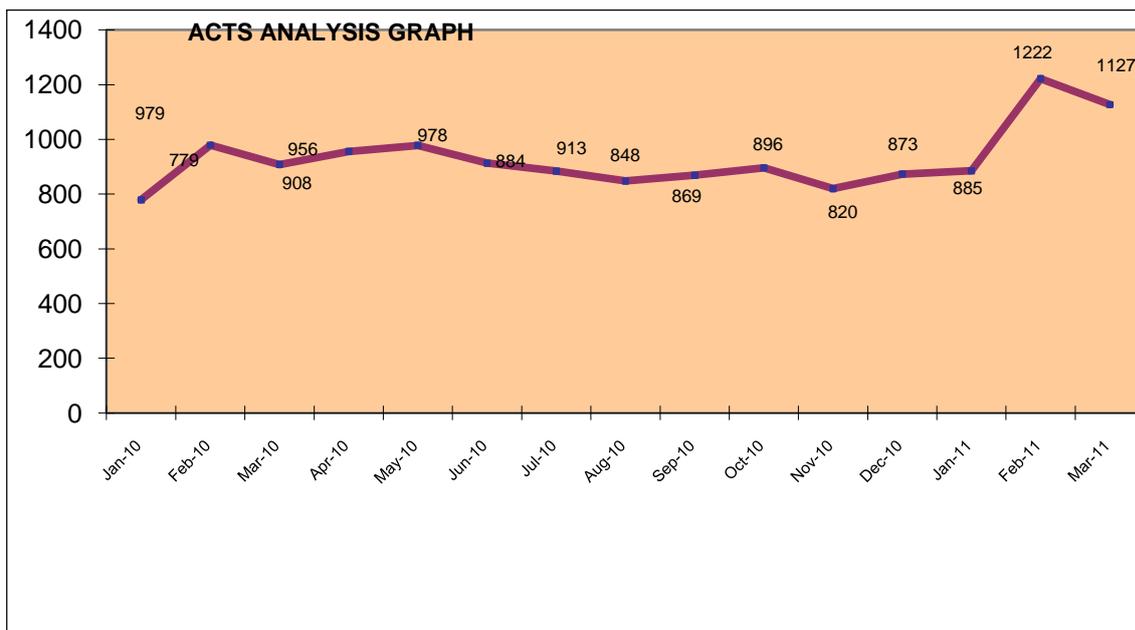
About sixty women who had gathered at the Baptist Church in Luveve constituency were threatened with assault or being detained by the police for attending a Zimbabwe Lawyers for Human Rights organised meeting. The police claimed that the ZLHR had not sought police clearance for holding that meeting.

Two youths from the MDC led by Professor Welshman Ncube were manhandled in Bulawayo East Constituency by three suspected Zanu PF supporters after accusing them of putting up MDC posters in the area.

Table 1: Analysis of Politically motivated Violations by Province

ACTS	Midlands	Bulawayo	Mat. South	Mat. North	Masvingo	Manicaland	Harare	Mash. East	Mash. West	Mash. Central	TOTAL
Murder	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rape	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	2
Kidnapping/ Abduction	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	3
Assault	54	1	2	0	0	25	19	40	21	16	177
Theft/Looting	2	0	0	0	10	1	1	5	1	2	22
Discrimination	29	0	0	2	3	19	2	16	3	11	85
MDP	1	0	0	0	10	3	1	5	0	0	20
Torture	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Unlawful Detention	1	0	0	0	0	2	0	3	0	1	7
Harassment/ Intimidation	127	4	11	11	109	124	55	11	95	141	786
Displacement	2	0	0	0	0	4	1	4	4	2	17
Total	217	5	13	13	133	178	79	190	126	173	1127

Graphically trends are shown below.



VICTIM ANALYSIS BY GENDER AND ASSOCIATION

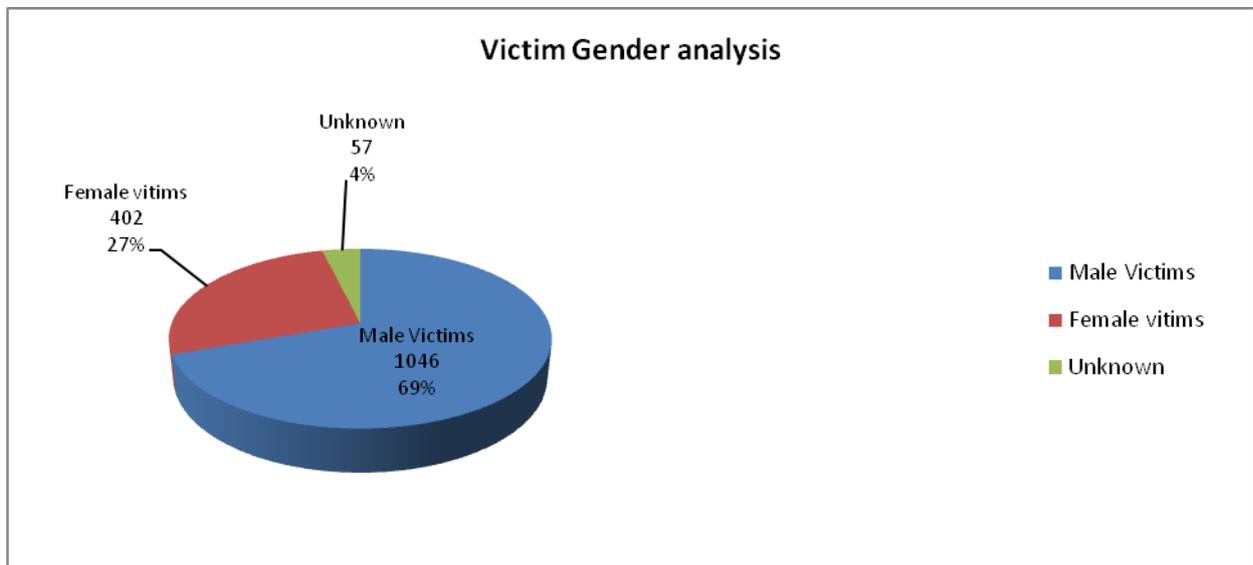
A close look at the victim toll distribution shows that more males had their rights violated than their female counterparts during the month under review. There were 1 046 male victims in the month of March. The male victims represented 69% of the 1 505 victims tally. The month saw 402 females having their rights violated constituting 27%.

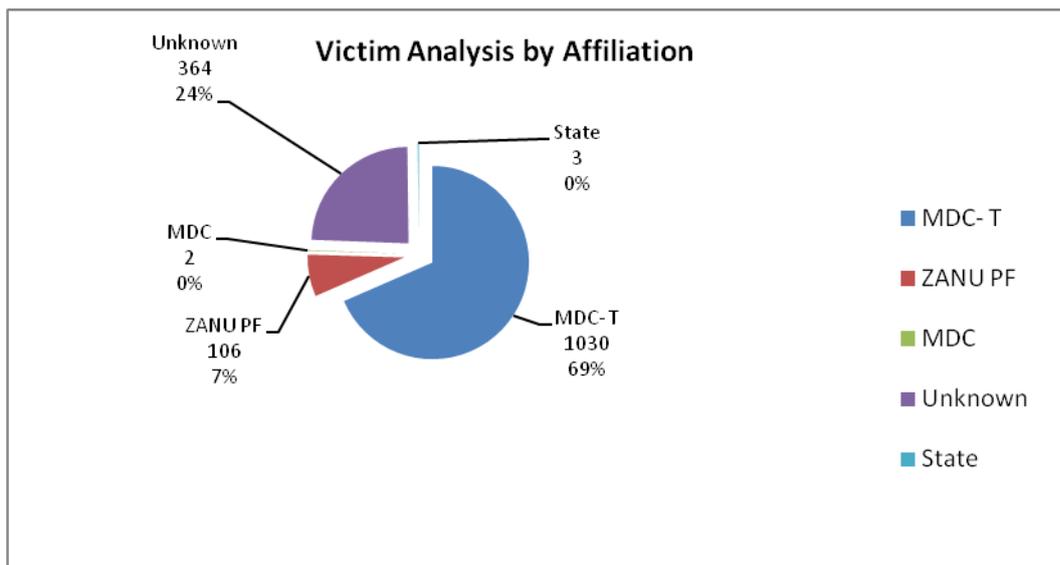
Though the victim toll is heavily skewed towards the usually politically active males, the fact that 27% of the victims were females remains a serious cause of concern.

As has been in the past, the bulk of the victims have been MDC-T supporters who had their rights violated more than their counterparts from the other two political parties in the inclusive government that is Zanu PF and the MDC-M.

There were 1 030 MDC-T supporters who had their rights violated representing 69% of the victims compared to Zanu PF's 106 supporters accounting for 7% of the victims tally.

The analysis clearly shows that a large percentage of people are now afraid of openly declaring their political affiliation as 24% of the victims' connection to political parties was unknown. There were 364 victims whose affiliation was unknown.



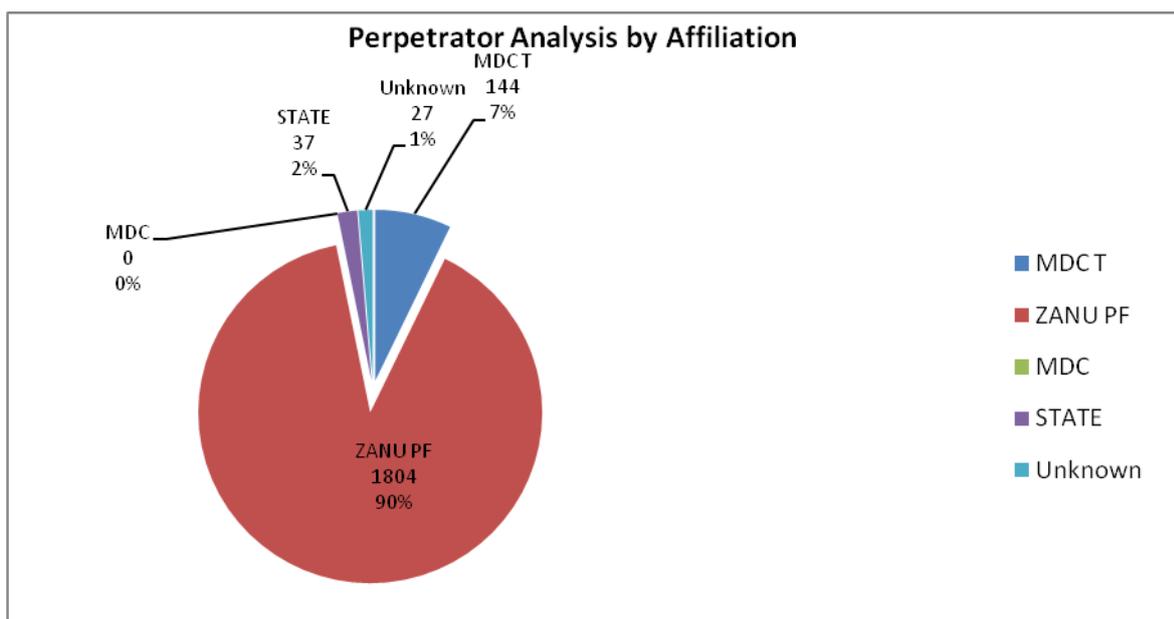
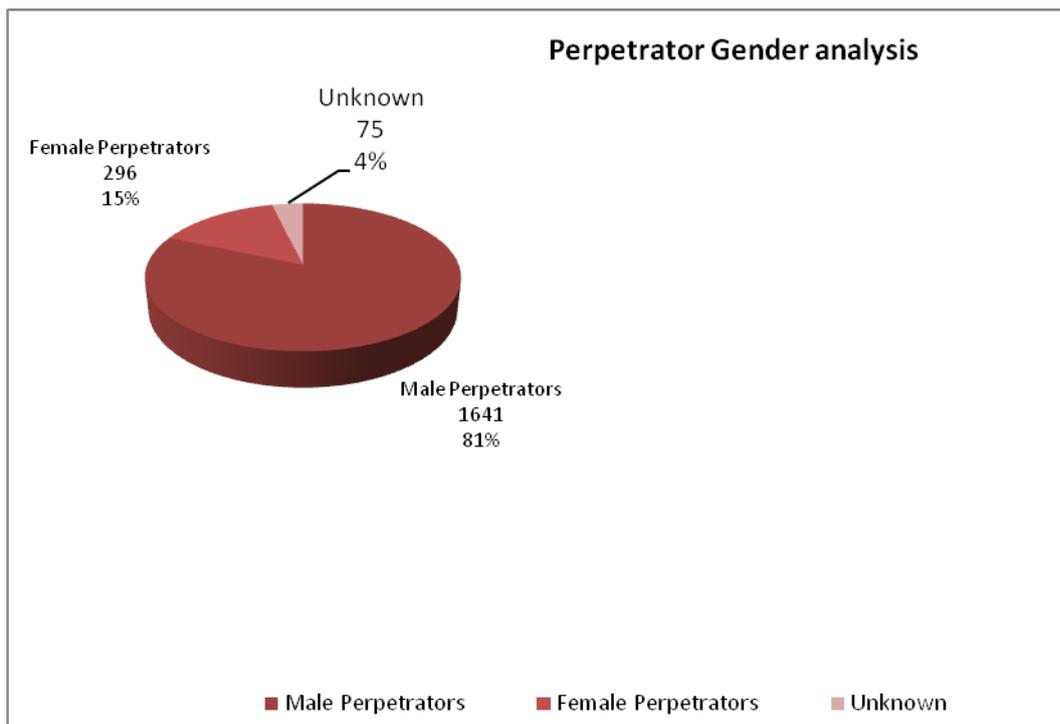


Male and Female Perpetrator Analysis and Charts

The perpetrators analysis by gender show that males were the chief culprits representing 81% of the violators of human rights compared to their female counterparts who constituted 15%. During the month of March, 1 641 males were recorded as perpetrators, while only 296 were females showing a marked increase as compared to the February figure of 172 females who were reported as having caused human rights violations throughout the country.

As has always been in the past months, Zanu PF had the highest percentage of perpetrators during the month of January accounting for 90% of people directly responsible for leading politically motivated human rights violations. There were 1 804 perpetrators from Zanu PF while 144 were MDC-T supporters with 37 cases having been perpetrated by state security agents and mainly soldiers accounting for 2%.

The perpetrator statistical spread still suggests that Zanu PF supporters have remained the major perpetrators across the board although the level of residual violence in the MDC-T is a great cause for concern. However official figures from the police suggest that MDC-T supporters are the main perpetrators of violence.



FOOD & OTHER FORMS OF AID RELATED VIOLATIONS

There was a slight decline in violations of food and other forms of aid in March from over 274 in February to 251 in March 2011. This decline could be due to the fact that many humanitarian NGOs have been scaling down on operations in anticipation of harvesting season.

The presidential agricultural assistance programme remains the main source of violations in Manicaland Province. War veterans at Spring Valley Farm in Nyanga south, barred about forty families from receiving fertilizer accusing them of being MDC-T members.

The denial of access to primary medical care to those in need due to political differences increased and majority of perpetrators on record show that they were from Zanu PF.

At Mukore clinic, a victim was denied medical treatment by a nurse after failing to produce a Zanu PF party card.

Most areas in Mashonaland East Province did not receive enough rains and as a result problems of hunger and starvation are looming in the districts of Maramba Pfungwe, Mudzi, Hwedza and Chikomba.

This has been the same for most of the southern provinces of Masvingo, Bulawayo, Matabeleland North and South where more Zimbabweans will require food aid. As has been in the past more people will have their rights violated at various food distribution points.

A total of 251 cases related to partisan distribution of food and other forms of aid were recorded in the period under review. Juxtaposed with the 274 cases reported in February 2010, March figures show a slight decrease of 5% standing at 251.

Most of the victims were denied these commodities on grounds of their political affiliation and in some cases have to be forced to denounce their political parties, forced to attend perpetrators' meetings and ordered to produce party cards in order to access aid. Worrisome reports of war veterans interfering even in the distribution of food sourced by the church were also received.

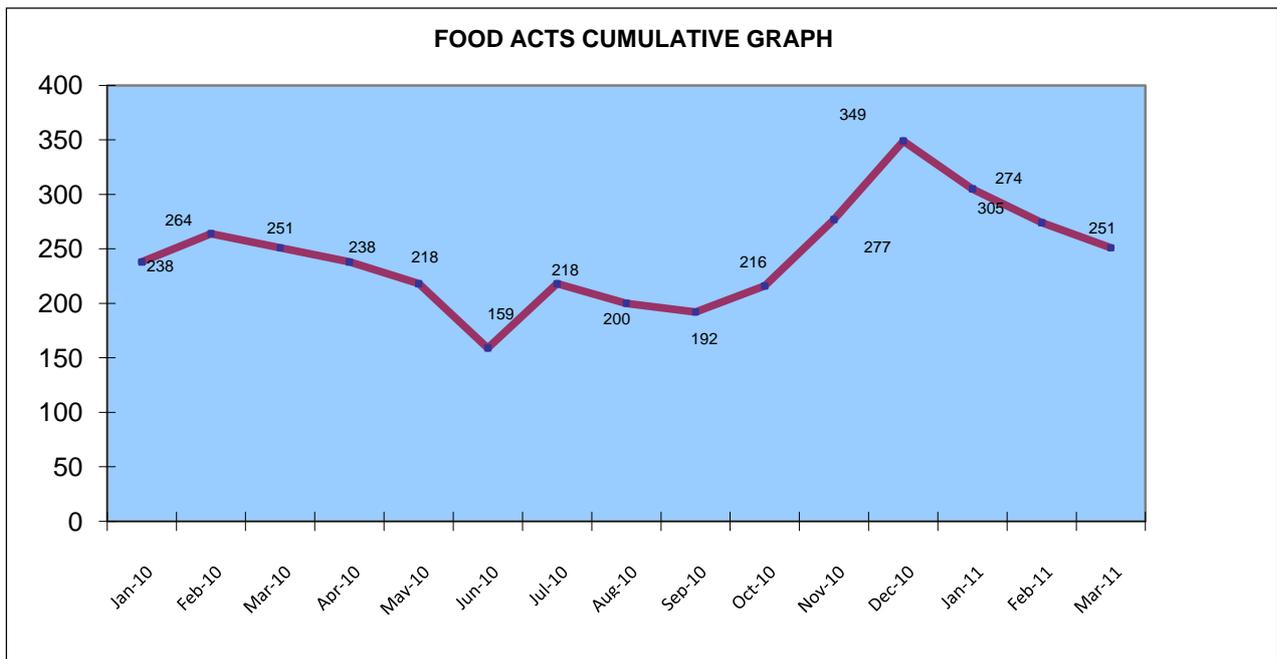
They are said to be forcibly taking over the distribution of food meant for the elderly, orphans and vulnerable children, diverting it to ZANU PF members leaving the intended beneficiaries stranded. In another instance, former victims in a case of revenge decided to withhold and deny their former perpetrators services.

The cumulative toll violations on the distribution of food and other forms of aid since January 2008, has risen to 13 314. Acts of discriminations and harassments continue to dominate the violations chart.

Table 2: CUMULATIVE TABLE FOR FOOD& OTHER FORMS OF AID RELATED VIOLATIONS

2008	2009	2010	FOOD & OTHER FORMS OF AID RELATED ACT - 2009				
			2011	HARASSMENT	VIOLENCE	DISCRIMINATION	TOTAL
Closing Figures for 2008-2010 →				4333	281	7868	12482
549	282	238	January	141	0	164	305
497	582	264	February	115	2	157	274
398	815	251	March	92	0	159	251
296	644	238	April				
250	505	218	May				
165	524	159	June				
370	487	218	July				
319	132	200	August				
365	175	282	September				
376	209	216	October				
930	208	277	November				
336	204	349	December				
4851	4767	2866	TOTAL	4680	263	8351	13314

Food Acts Cumulative Graph



EMERGING ISSUES & WAY FORWARD

The month of March has witnessed a rise in intra-party violence from the country's two major political of Zanu PF and the MDC-T as politicians fight to position themselves ahead of the imminent constitutional referendum and general elections.

The Zimbabwe Peace Project welcomed the SADC Troika's stance against political violence its stern message to the country's political leadership. As guarantors of the GPA, the SADC put its right forward to guide the principals in the inclusive government to adhere to what they had already agreed to do.

ZPP is believes that if all articles to the GPA are fully implemented Zimbabwe would be on the road to political, social and economic recovery.

Speaking in an interview with the Financial Gazette, Zanu PF senior official and Minister of Tourism and Hospitality Industry Walter Mzembi spoke strongly against violence and urged political parties to conduct themselves in a peaceful manner during election times. "It will all depend on how political parties conduct themselves going into the elections. The President has made himself very clear. He does not want to see any violence associated with the elections. All political parties have pronounced the same, now the same parties must walk their talk.

"Law enforcement agencies must fall hard on both instigators and perpetrators of violence and must be seen to be doing so without any fear or favour for any party. Violence should be nipped in the bud. It should not be dealt with as an aftermath. Tourism is a peace sector that can only thrive in conditions of peace and stability," Mzembi was quoted as having said.

However, the political environment experienced during the period under review revealed the lack of tolerance among political players and we have also noticed the targeting of individuals who are not politically active. These have mainly suffered during the anti-sanctions petition signing throughout the country.

Police officers across the country have been accused of being partisan during the course of their duty. In most instances, Zanu PF has been viewed as the only legitimate party and as such people are forced to join it. Police officers have been reported to be incarcerating victims of political violence instead of the perpetrators.

Preliminary signs of a drought this year and the ever increasing political tension throughout the country, are most likely going to see an increase in the number of politically motivated human rights violations. The security of person is no longer guaranteed as lawlessness is slowly becoming the order of the day.

On the ongoing exhumations, the ZPP strongly feels that the exhumations could have been done in proper manner which entails the involvement of forensic investigators to support the exercise. The forensic investigations would also provide answers to the real identities of the victims and the real causes of death.

The anti-sanctions campaign is now in full swing and more people are likely to have their rights violated. It is ZPP's view that the signing of any petition should be a voluntary process and people should do it without being forced.

Although there has been some reduction in the number of politically motivated human rights violations the 1 120 cases recorded is still very high. Cases of harassment and intimidation have remained very high as more people continue to have their rights violated for either refusing to sign the anti-sanctions petition or refusal to attend Zanu PF meetings.

The reports of violence during the MDC-T's leadership restructuring exercise throughout the country also fly in the face of democracy and the rule of law, and the actions of its officials may increase community polarization and electoral apathy.

There has been also the continued victimization of non-governmental organisations and their leadership which has remained of a great concern for ZPP. Civic group's participation remains a critical element to the promotion of democracy, peace and socio-economic development. As in the past, ZPP presses for the opening of operational space for these groups to play their supplementary roles to government.

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 member organizations include, Catholic Commission for Justice & Peace in Zimbabwe (CCJPZ) Zimbabwe Election Support Network (ZESN), Counselling Services Unit (CSU), Zimbabwe Civic Education Trust (ZIMCET), Zimbabwe Human Rights Association (ZIMRIGHTS), Civic Education Network Trust (CIVNET).

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

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Table 3: PROVINCIAL VIOLATIONS OUTLOOK – March 2011

PROVINCE	TYPE OF VIOLATIONS/ACTIVITY(IES)		VOLATILE ZONES
	COMMON ACTS (VIOLATIONS)	CAUSES	
MIDLANDS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Harassment /Intimidation – death, violence & unspecified threats, hate language, Assaults • Discrimination • Forced to sign anti-sanctions petition 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Political intolerance • Wearing political party regalia, T/shirts from civil society organisations • Partisan distribution of food & other forms of aid 	Gweru, Chiwundura, Gokwe, Zvishavane and Mberengwa
MASHONALAND EAST	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Harassment/intimidation - death, violence & unspecified threats, hate language • Discrimination • Intra party violence • Forced to attend meetings and sign anti-sanctions petition 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Political intolerance • Wearing political party regalia, T/shirts from civil society organisations 	Maramba Pfungwe, Mudzi South, Marondera, Goromonzi and Mutoko
MANICALAND	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Harassment/Intimidations, unspecified threats, hate language, • Assaults • Discrimination – distribution of food & other forms of aid • Forced to sign anti-sanctions petition 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Political intolerance • Wearing political party regalia, T/shirts from civil society organisations • Preparation campaigns for referendum and projected 2011 elections 	Nyanga, Chimanimani, Chipinge Makoni and Buhera
MASVINGO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Harassment/Intimidation – (death, violence & unspecified threats, hate language,) • Forced to attend meetings and sign anti-sanctions petition • Assault • Discrimination 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Political intolerance 	Zaka, Bikita, Masvingo and Gutu Districts
MASHONALAND CENTRAL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forced to attend meeting and sign anti-sanctions petition • Harassment/intimidation – (death, violence & unspecified threats, hate language, Assault 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Political intolerance • Wearing political party regalia, T/shirts from civil society organisations • Campaign for Kariba Draft 	Mazowe South, Muzarabani North, Bindura and

MASHONALAND WEST	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Harassment & intimidation – (death, violence & unspecified threats, hate language,) • Assaults • Forced to attend meetings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Political intolerance • Campaigns for referendum and 2011 harmonised elections 	Chegutu, Chinhoyi, Kadoma and Mhangura,
BULAWAYO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Harassment & intimidation. Bulawayo is relatively calm 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Political intolerance 	Bulawayo East, Luveve, Nkulumane
MATEBELELAND NORTH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Harassment & Intimidation (threats, violence & unspecified threats, hate language,) • Discrimination 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Political intolerance • Partisan distribution of food & other forms of aid 	Hwange West and Binga South T
MATEBELELAND SOUTH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Harassment & intimidation • Forced to attend meetings • Discrimination 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Political intolerance 	Gwanda