

BURUNDI: SERIOUS HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS COMMITTED AMIDST GROWING SECURITY INCIDENTS

CONTEXT

Increased security incidents and attacks by groups of unidentified armed men, especially against civilians, since August 2020 in several provinces of the country

MAIN VIOLATIONS

Executions, enforced disappearances, cases of arbitrary arrest and detention, torture and ill-treatment

MAIN VICTIMS

Anyone suspected of being involved in armed attacks or collaborating with rebel groups, including opposition members (mainly from the CNL party), military (ex-FAB), returnees, as well as some family members, often women, accused of complicity

MAIN PERPETRATORS

Intelligence agents (SNR), police officers, including from the Mobile Rapid Intervention Group (GMIR), and Imbonerakure

THE FIGHT AGAINST CRIME AND TERRORISM MUST BE CARRIED OUT IN FULL COMPLIANCE WITH HUMAN RIGHTS STANDARDS

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Excerpt from a testimony:

[...] They kept me tied up and handcuffed until the next day. [...] He hit me on the spine [...] The words and accusations that were repeated while I was being hit were that I should confess that I was part of an armed group, that I went to [X] to mobilise an armed group to overthrow the government, that I was trying to overthrow the government