



A STILL ALARMING SITUATION!

The fifth report of the Stand Up For Cameroon Working Group focused on the observation of situations of violence and human rights violations throughout the national territory in general, and in areas where armed conflicts are taking place in particular.

The observations show that in May 2021 there are:

- **At least 71 situations of violence were recorded, 42** of which were in the North-West and South-West regions (Anglophone crisis), **23** in the Far-North (fight against Boko Haram) and **06** in the other regions.
- **At least 81 people were killed, 49** in the conflict in the North-West and South-West regions, **29** in the Far North and **03** in other regions.

The situations of violence recorded are distributed as follows:

- **32 violent incidents** involving the regular armed forces, non-state armed groups (separatists and Boko Haram) and the population resulted in **71** direct deaths. Other incidents outside the crisis areas resulted in the death of **03 people**.
- **21 violent incidents** involving the military and non-state groups resulted in no deaths.
- **10** explosions using improvised explosive devices. A total of **07** people were **killed in** these explosions.
- **05 cases of kidnapping** involving **30 people**.
- **02 cases of serious gender-based violence**.

The observation since January 2021 shows the following cumulative data:

- ✓ **At least 325 people** have been killed in the Far North, South - West and North - West regions. **At least 145 people** were **killed** in the fight against Boko Haram and **168** in the Anglophone crisis.
- ✓ **At least 90 people kidnapped, 68** in the Anglophone crisis and **22** in the fight against Boko Haram.
- ✓ **At least 32 explosions and fires** caused by fighting groups in the Far North and Anglophone regions.

OTHER FACTS AND TRENDS FOR THE MONTH OF MAY 2021

The situation in the conflict zones remains worrying!

With regard to the main theatres of conflict, which are the Far North, North - West and South - West regions, the following can be noted.

- ✓ The use of improvised explosive devices was again confirmed. This confirms a recent development observed over the previous two months.
- ✓ Kidnapping is important and is a very important means of mobilizing financial resources by non-state armed groups.
- ✓ Violence against the population by both the army and non-state groups is still a reality.
- ✓ Non-state armed groups continue to be a very significant threat and retain the capacity to cause significant harm to populations.



The situation of imprisoned activists has not developed at all

The situation of the activists of the Stand Up For Cameroon movement (SUFC), the Movement for the Renaissance of Cameroon (MRC) and other citizens who have been arrested for more than eight months remains unchanged. The hearings before the various military and civil courts have not led to any progress. On the contrary, dismissals for spurious reasons have been pronounced.

The rights of the two members of the LGBT community were severely violated

SUFC's investigation revealed that the arrest and conviction of Loïc Djeukam (alias "Shakiro") and Roland Mouthe (alias "Patricia") were subject to serious procedural violations and serious rights violations. These included arrests without a warrant, interrogations in the absence of their lawyers, violence and insults in detention, coercion to sign the minutes of statements obtained under duress, insults and death threats. They were sentenced to five years in prison with fines of 200,000 CFA francs for "attempted homosexual conduct, public indecency, and not possessing their national identity card at the time of their arrest. »

Conditions of detention that do not meet any national or international standards in Douala prison

The May 2021 report also gives an account of an investigation at the Douala Central Prison, where a very serious situation is experienced on a daily basis both by the detainees and by the families and relatives of detainees. It describes various human rights violations, malfunctions and trafficking which are abuses known to all but on which the authorities do not seem to act.

Malpractice in the management of Covid funds - 19: A serious infringement of the right to health of Cameroonians

Indeed, the first findings of the report of the Chamber of Accounts of the Supreme Court of Cameroon indicate that the Covid-19 funds were managed in an unorthodox manner. In summary, this progress report shows that expenditure was 20 times higher than the provisions for multiple budget lines, overpricing was double or quintuple, contracts were awarded to unapproved suppliers and to suppliers with family ties to ministry staff, cash payments were made in violation of administrative procedures, etc. And yet Cameroonians have died and continue to die from Covid-19 because the tests were not available, because oxygen was not available or because personal protective equipment was not available.





RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SUFC HUMAN RIGHTS WORKING GROUP

There are 35 of them and they are addressed to various targets. These include the State of Cameroon (Cameroonian political and security authorities), armed groups, Cameroonian civil society organizations, journalists, ordinary Cameroonian citizens, international organizations and partner countries of the State of Cameroon.

Cameroonian authorities are strongly advised to:

- Ending violence against civilians through collective punitive operations by the defense and security forces
- Ensuring strict respect for the rights of defendants during arrest and detention
- Ending the practice of torture and other degrading treatment
- Release those arrested in total violation of Cameroonian laws and procedures.
- Shedding light on key cases of serious human rights violations
- Establish frameworks for dialogue, monitoring of commitments and correction of dysfunctions that can be observed throughout the territory.

Armed groups in conflict areas, particularly in the North -West and South - West regions, are strongly advised to

- Ending violence against civilians
- Ending attacks on public officials
- Bringing to international justice those guilty of crimes within their ranks
- Renounce the use of weapons as a political means to achieve their cause.

Citizens, journalists, opinion leaders and civil society organizations in Cameroon are strongly advised to

- Pooling efforts in monitoring and documenting cases of violence and human rights violations in Cameroon
- Pooling efforts in the field of human rights information and training for citizens
- Pooling efforts in advocacy at national and international level
- Pooling efforts in the defense and protection of victims and human rights defenders

To international organizations and partner countries of the State of Cameroon, it is strongly recommended to

- ❖ Ask the Cameroonian State to shed light on the unresolved issues mentioned by the various human rights actors.
- ❖ Supporting efforts to document incidents of violence and human rights violations
- ❖ Support information campaigns on serious human rights violations
- ❖ Put their weight behind stopping the harassment and violence against lawyers, political activists and human rights defenders.
- ❖ Support the efforts of victims and civil society to ensure fair trials and the release of those arrested in total violation of national laws and procedures.
- ❖ Take strong and severe sanctions against those responsible for the violence at the level of the government and non-state armed groups.
- ❖ Supporting dialogue processes between Cameroonian socio-political actors
- ❖ Support ceasefire processes between warring parties in insecure areas

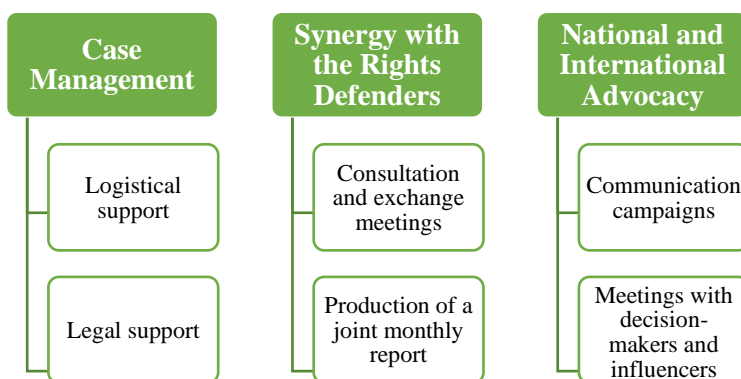




- ❖ Support conflict resolution dynamics in conflict-affected communities
- ❖ Contribute to efforts to ensure that the various mechanisms for monitoring, training, evaluation, sanctioning and correcting dysfunctions and abuses are in place and fully functional.

ABOUT THE STAND UP FOR CAMEROON HUMAN RIGHTS WORKING GROUP

Stand Up For Cameroon (SUFC) is a dynamic group of political parties, civil society organizations and Cameroonian citizens that aims to initiate a political transition in Cameroon in order to re-found the state and build a nation that respects the principles of justice, equity and human rights. SUFC's human rights working group operates at three levels:



This report is written jointly by Cameroonian civil society and political organizations.

Its objective is to report as comprehensively as possible on violence and human rights violations recorded on Cameroonian territory in general, and in crisis areas in particular.

To this end, it publishes a report every month and lobbies various national and international actors to help improve the human rights situation in Cameroon.