



ZIMBABWE
PEACE
PROJECT

105 HRVs
3205
Victims

Monthly Monitoring Report

FEBRUARY 2026

www.zimpeaceproject.org

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In February 2026, the Zimbabwe Peace Project (ZPP) documented 105 human rights violations affecting 3,205 victims. These ranged from severe abuses, including torture, assault, and enforced disappearances, to violations of civil and political rights, such as restrictions on freedoms of assembly, association, and expression, as well as limitations on access to social services. Additional violations included unfair distribution of food aid and government support, incidents of hate speech, unjustified arrests, and displacement.

Of the 3,205 victims, 1,651 were women, including 24 women with disabilities, while 1,554 were men, including 14 men with disabilities, highlighting the wide-reaching impact of these violations across different groups in society.

The data gathered in February showed that state institutions and ruling party actors were responsible for the majority of human rights violations, reflecting the politicisation of power and its impact on citizens' rights. The Zimbabwe Republic Police (ZRP) accounted for 21.12% of violations, while ZANU PF members contributed 35.46% , largely through political intimidation, coercion, and interference with freedoms of assembly, association, and expression. Local councils were implicated in 15.14% of cases, and school authorities in 11.55%, often exerting control over civic and community spaces. Traditional leaders were responsible for 6.37%, with other government officials and suspected state agents each accounting for 3.59%, other actors 1.99%, and the Zimbabwe National Army (ZNA) 1.20%. 1.99% of the perpetrators had no known affiliation. The data highlights the systemic role of both state and politically affiliated actors in perpetrating human rights violations, raising concerns about institutional accountability, protection of personal security, and the right to freely participate in political and civic life.

In February, human rights violations were most concentrated in Harare (30 violations), followed by Manicaland (17) and Matabeleland North (16), reflecting heightened political activity and civic engagement in these areas. Masvingo recorded 11 violations, Mashonaland East 8, Mashonaland Central (6) and Mashonaland West (7), Bulawayo and Midlands 4 each, and Matabeleland South 1. The pattern indicates that urban centres and politically contested provinces are more prone to violations, often linked to political and civic activities, while rural regions report fewer incidents, highlighting the need for targeted monitoring and protection of rights in high-risk areas.

In our analysis of efforts to promote sustainable peace in Zimbabwe, the Zimbabwe Peace Project (ZPP) commends Zimbabwe Heads of Christian Denominations for calling for the protection of Constitutional and democratic values. However, ZPP also decries the persistent violence, intimidation, and denial of fundamental freedoms that have accompanied the amendment process, as highlighted in the "Ten Steps Backwards" section, where politically motivated assaults, restrictions on assembly, and interference by state and party actors undermine both public confidence and the principles of sustainable peace.

ABOUT ZPP

The Zimbabwe Peace Project, ZPP, is a peace-promoting organisation that uses human rights lenses in peacebuilding, having established that the deprivation and abuse of human rights pose the greatest threat to peace in Zimbabwe.

The organisation was established in 2000 as a project of civil society and faith-based groups in response to the violence and human rights violations that characterised the political landscape of the time. These organisations were the Catholic Commission for Justice and Peace (CCJP), the Evangelical Fellowship of Zimbabwe (EFZ), the Zimbabwe Council of Churches, Zimbabwe Human Rights Association (ZIMRIGHTS), Zimbabwe Election Support Network (ZESN), Civic Education Network Trust (CIVNET), Counselling Services Unit (CSU), Zimbabwe Liberators Platform (ZLP) and Non-Violent Action and Strategies for Social Change (NOVASC). Over the years, the ZPP network of members has evolved as the network welcomed new member organisations while others have developed new thematic interests or have ceased to exist. Current member organisations are the Catholic Commission of Justice and Peace (CCJPZ), Evangelical Fellowship of Zimbabwe (EFZ), Zimbabwe Council of Churches (ZCC), Zimbabwe Human Rights Association (ZIMRIGHTS), Counselling Services Unit (CSU), Women and Law Southern Africa (WLSA), National Association for the Care of the Handicapped (NASCOH) and the Women’s Coalition of Zimbabwe (WCoZ).

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Report Human Rights Violations

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ENFORCED DISAPPEARANCES, ABDUCTIONS AND TORTURE

During the reporting period, the Zimbabwe Peace Project (ZPP) documented three grave human rights violations involving abductions, enforced disappearances, and torture, occurring in a context of heightened political tension following the gazetting of the Constitutional Amendment Bill No. 3 and by-elections.

On 26 February 2026, two members of the National Constitutional Assembly (NCA) were abducted and tortured by unidentified men shortly after leaving the NCA offices in Harare. The victims had just attended their political party meeting discussing developments around the Constitutional Amendment Bill No. 3 when they were seized. The assailants blindfolded the victims and transported them to an undisclosed location, where they were subjected to severe physical assault before being dumped in the Highlands suburb with visible signs of injury and pain. This incident constitutes violations of several fundamental rights, including the right to personal security, freedom from torture and cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment, and freedom of association and political participation.

Abduction and Torture of Civic Activist in Glen Norah

On 17 February 2026, Baird Gore, a resident of Glen Norah and member of the Constitutional Defenders Forum (CDF), was abducted from his home by armed men travelling in a black Ford Raptor vehicle. The perpetrators first arrived when the victim was absent and assaulted his brother while demanding information about his whereabouts. The victim was later forcibly seized, blindfolded, and transported to an unknown location, where he was subjected to severe torture and interrogation. During the ordeal, he was questioned about the activities of the CDF and about his association with opposition politician Tendai Biti, including inquiries about the organisers and funding of a recent press



conference. The victim sustained serious injuries, including a broken hand, back injuries, and leg injuries. The attack highlights the risks faced by civic activists and individuals perceived to be linked to opposition political mobilisation, reinforcing a climate of fear and intimidation that undermines democratic participation.

Attempted Abduction and Disappearance of By-Election Candidate

In Chegutu West, Ward 1 Councillor-elect Giff Konaja, is missing in a case of suspected enforced disappearance. The victim participated and won the by-election held on 22 February 2026 following the death of Councillor Kimpton Mkombwe under the ZANU PF ticket, but however disappeared before taking office. Prior to the election, the victim reported an attempted abduction by suspected members of his party (ZANU PF), who questioned his political background and loyalties. Konjana previously contested the parliamentary seat in 2018 under the MDC Alliance, where the official winner was declared as Dexter Nduna by the Zimbabwe Electoral Commission. The victim has remained missing since the incident, raising concerns of a possible enforced disappearance. This case raises serious concerns regarding violations of the right to personal liberty and security, protection from enforced disappearance, and political rights including the right to participate in public affairs and elections.

The pattern of abductions, torture, and enforced disappearances documented during the reporting period signals a worrying escalation in politically linked violence and intimidation in Zimbabwe. Such incidents not only inflict severe physical and psychological harm on victims and their families, but also create a broader climate of fear that discourages civic participation, political activism, and open engagement in constitutional and governance processes.

ASSAULTS AND POLITICAL COERCION

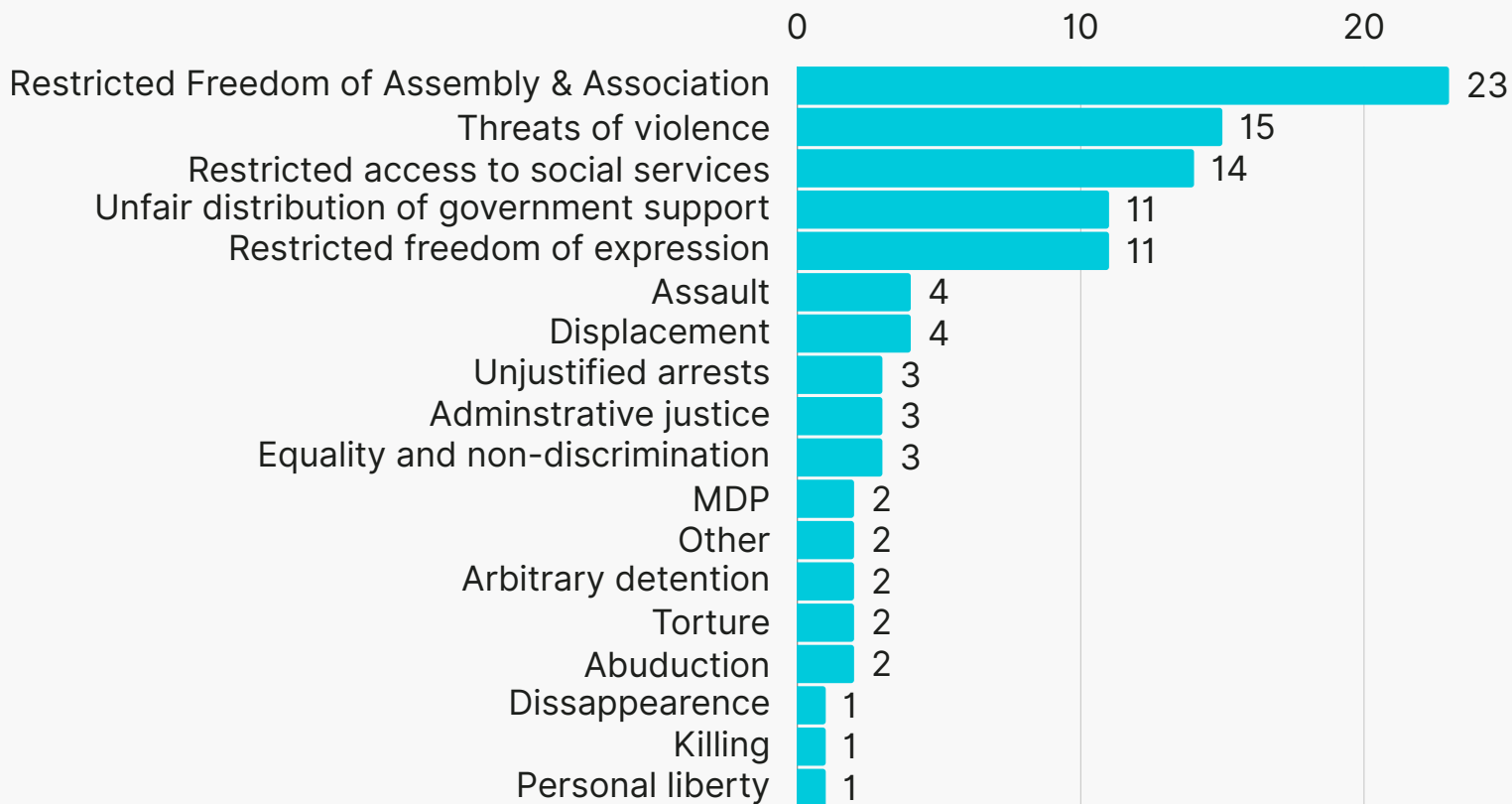
In February, ZPP documented seven cases of assault affecting 10 people (1 woman and 9 men), reflecting a pattern of politically motivated violence, intimidation, and abuse of authority that undermines citizens' fundamental rights. One of the most serious incidents occurred at the headquarters of the National Constitutional Assembly (NCA) political party in Harare, where armed men violently forced their way into the premises shortly before a scheduled meeting. The assailants fired a gunshot and proceeded to severely assault the party's president, Lovemore Madhuku, using baton sticks and iron bars, leaving him hospitalized. The perpetrators also vandalised the offices and assaulted other party members present. The attack appeared intended to disrupt the meeting and intimidate participants engaging in political and constitutional discourse.

In another case of political coercion in Chitungwiza, Ward 8 in the Zengeza East constituency, three residents, one woman and two men, were assaulted by ruling party youths who were conducting door-to-door mobilisation for party cell structures. The victims were beaten after expressing that they did not support the party. Similarly, in Ward 4 of Harare, a male victim was assaulted by ruling party supporters after being accused of supporting an opposition party.

In a separate incident at Tombo 1 Business Centre in Nyanga South, two civilians, a public transport operator and a passenger, were physically assaulted by soldiers, after motorists unknowingly parked in an area allegedly declared as reserved parking for a former army commander despite the absence of any signage. The soldiers dispersed bystanders who attempted to approach the scene. These incidents constitute violations of the right to personal security and political rights including the freedom to hold and express political opinions without fear of violence or intimidation.



FEBRUARY HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS



RESTRICTIONS ON THE FREEDOMS OF ASSEMBLY AND ASSOCIATION

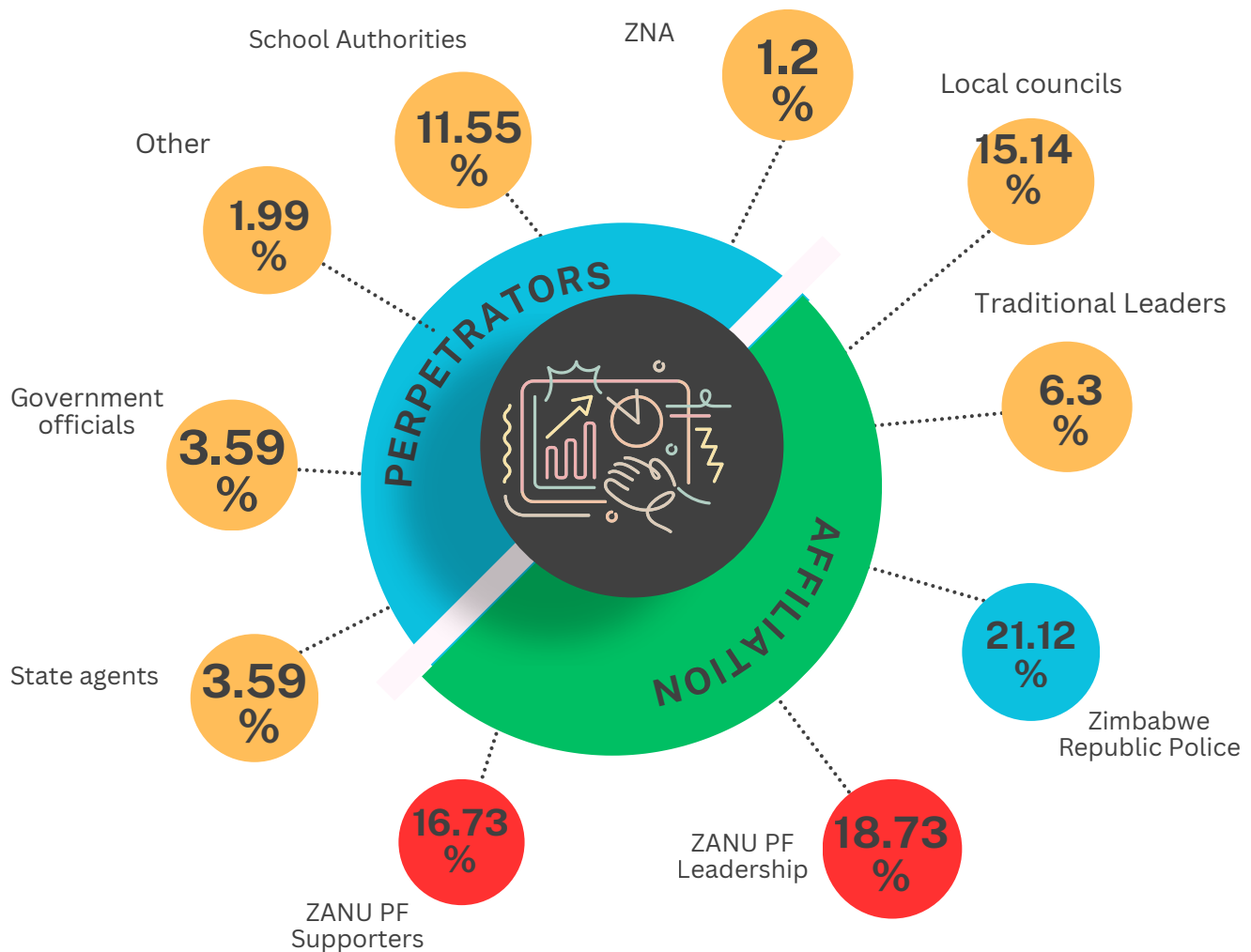
In February, ZPP documented 23 violations affecting the freedoms of assembly and association, occurring within an increasingly tense political environment linked to national debates surrounding the Constitutional Amendment Bill No. 3. The most serious violations involved state interference with lawful public meetings and civic engagements intended to discuss constitutional reforms, raising concerns about the shrinking civic space for dialogue and dissent. In one case, the Zimbabwe Republic Police (ZRP) banned the planned launch of the Constitutional Defence Forum (CDF) scheduled for 28 February 2026 at the Harare Showgrounds in Harare, despite organisers having earlier notified authorities and adjusting the venue following police advice. The meeting was intended to facilitate public discussion on the constitutional amendment process and its implications, yet police issued an official prohibition, effectively preventing the gathering and limiting public participation in governance debates. Similar restrictions were recorded in multiple provinces where meetings organised by civic groups such as the Defend the Constitution Platform and Accountability Lab Zimbabwe were barred or disrupted by the police on procedural grounds linked to the Maintenance of Peace and Order Act, despite organisers having notified authorities. In Bulawayo, a public dialogue hosted by the Bulawayo Progressive Residents Association, the Public Policy Research Institute of Zimbabwe, and the Election Resource Centre to unpack the constitutional amendment was also prohibited by police without clear legal justification, while journalists invited to a policy discussion led by a local political analyst were blocked from accessing the venue by police vehicles, effectively preventing media coverage and limiting the public’s right to information. In Harare South Ward 10, police barred a youth engagement organised by activists including Emmanuel Sitima and Clayton Gonese, which was intended to commemorate National Youth Day and mobilise young people to discuss the constitutional amendment proposals.

KEY VIOLATIONS

In another case in Binga North Ward 9, a youth activist was threatened by traditional leader Jonah Munkombwe and warned that soldiers could disrupt his civic awareness meetings on the constitutional amendments, forcing the cancellation of a planned peaceful demonstration. Additionally, in Murehwa, a meeting convened by Local Government Minister and ZANU PF Provincial Chairperson for Mashonaland East, Honourable Daniel Garwe intimidated religious leaders and village heads to mobilise communities in support of the ruling party's political agenda and to report those resisting political messaging linked to the campaign to amend the constitution.

Beyond state restrictions, political coercion and intimidation were also recorded, including in Nyanga South Ward 15, where a local ruling party councillor pressured an opposition activist to defect to the ruling party under threats that he would be excluded from government development programmes if he refused. In Mutasa South Ward 21, a community meeting organised by residents to discuss concerns over Chinese mining activities affecting local water sources was dispersed after the presence of suspected intelligence operatives created fear among participants, followed by the arrival of a truck carrying police officers, forcing organisers to cancel the meeting.

Collectively, these incidents demonstrate a systematic pattern of interference with citizens' rights to peacefully assemble, associate, and participate in public affairs, while also implicating related rights including freedom of expression, access to information, political participation, and the right to engage in community decision-making without intimidation. These violations also reflect heightened political contestation around constitutional reforms and governance debates across provinces.



ZPP Supports Church Call to Protect Zimbabwe's Constitution and Democratic Values

The Zimbabwe Peace Project (ZPP) commends the Zimbabwe Heads of Christian Denominations (ZHOCD) for their call to protect Zimbabwe's constitution and democratic values in their pastoral statement on the proposed Constitution of Zimbabwe Amendment (No. 3) Bill, 2026. ZPP commends the church leaders for speaking with moral clarity and courage on matters affecting the nation's constitutional order and democratic future.

ZPP echoes the church's concerns that the proposed amendments risk undermining the spirit and aspirations of the people-driven 2013 Constitution, particularly where such changes may alter key governance provisions without broad public consultation or a referendum. The church's reflection also rightly situates the debate within Zimbabwe's broader challenges, including entrenched corruption, growing poverty and inequality, and the continued decline of essential public services such as health and education.

ZPP supports the call for leadership that upholds justice, accountability, and humility in governance and joins the church in urging national leaders to safeguard constitutionalism, respect the will of the people, and prioritize reforms that strengthen democratic institutions, protect citizens' rights, and advance the common good for all Zimbabweans.

Meanwhile the Parliament of Zimbabwe has called on citizens, civil society organisations, and other stakeholders to submit views and comments on the proposed Constitution of Zimbabwe Amendment Bill No. 3. The Bill was approved by Cabinet in February 2026 and gazetted on 14 February 2026, initiating a 90-day public consultation period before it can proceed through the parliamentary legislative stages. During this period, Parliament has encouraged members of the public to actively participate by providing written submissions and engaging in dialogue on the proposed amendments.

Submissions can be sent to clerk@parlzim.gov.zw or bills@parlzim.gov.zw, while additional consultations may be conducted through relevant parliamentary committees responsible for justice and legal affairs.



DID YOU SEND ?

#Constitutional Amendmentbill3

send views to: bills@parlzim.gov.zw



Impunity and Inaction: Security Agencies Failing to Protect Citizens from Political Violence

The pattern of assaults, abductions and torture documented during the reporting period raises serious concerns about the role of law enforcement and state security institutions in safeguarding the right to personal security in Zimbabwe. The Zimbabwe Peace Project notes that the Zimbabwe Republic Police (ZRP) and other state security agencies have a constitutional obligation to protect citizens from violence, investigate criminal acts, and ensure accountability for perpetrators, particularly where incidents appear to be politically motivated. However, several of the documented cases suggest a pattern of delayed responses, inadequate investigations, or outright denial of involvement, which contributes to a broader climate of impunity and insecurity.

A notable example is the violent assault on Lovemore Madhuku, the president of the National Constitutional Assembly (NCA), who was severely beaten by armed assailants who stormed the NCA offices in Harare. While the police publicly denied that their officers were responsible for the attack, there has been no visible evidence of a prompt or thorough investigation to identify the perpetrators, despite the fact that the NCA offices were under routine surveillance and security presence by law enforcement officers. The absence of swift investigative action raises serious concerns regarding the state's willingness or ability to protect victims of politically linked violence and to hold those responsible accountable. Failure to investigate such incidents not only denies justice to victims but also suggests tolerance for politically motivated violence, which emboldens perpetrators and undermines public confidence in law enforcement institutions.

This pattern is particularly troubling given the broader context in which violence has occurred against political actors, civic activists, and individuals associated with dissenting views, including those engaging in debates around the Constitution of Zimbabwe Amendment Bill No. 3. Under both the Constitution and international human rights standards, the state has a duty not only to refrain from committing abuses, but also to actively protect individuals from violence by third parties and ensure effective investigations when violations occur. When state institutions fail to act decisively, the right to personal security, freedom from torture and ill-treatment, and the rights to freedom of expression, assembly and association are all placed at risk.

The continued occurrence of such violations underscores the urgent need for independent, timely and transparent investigations into incidents of political violence, as well as stronger institutional safeguards to ensure that citizens can freely express their views, participate in political processes, and engage in civic activities without fear of intimidation, assault or retaliation. Violence and intimidation against political actors and civic leaders are incompatible with democratic governance and must be unequivocally condemned by state authorities, accompanied by concrete action to ensure accountability and the protection of fundamental rights.

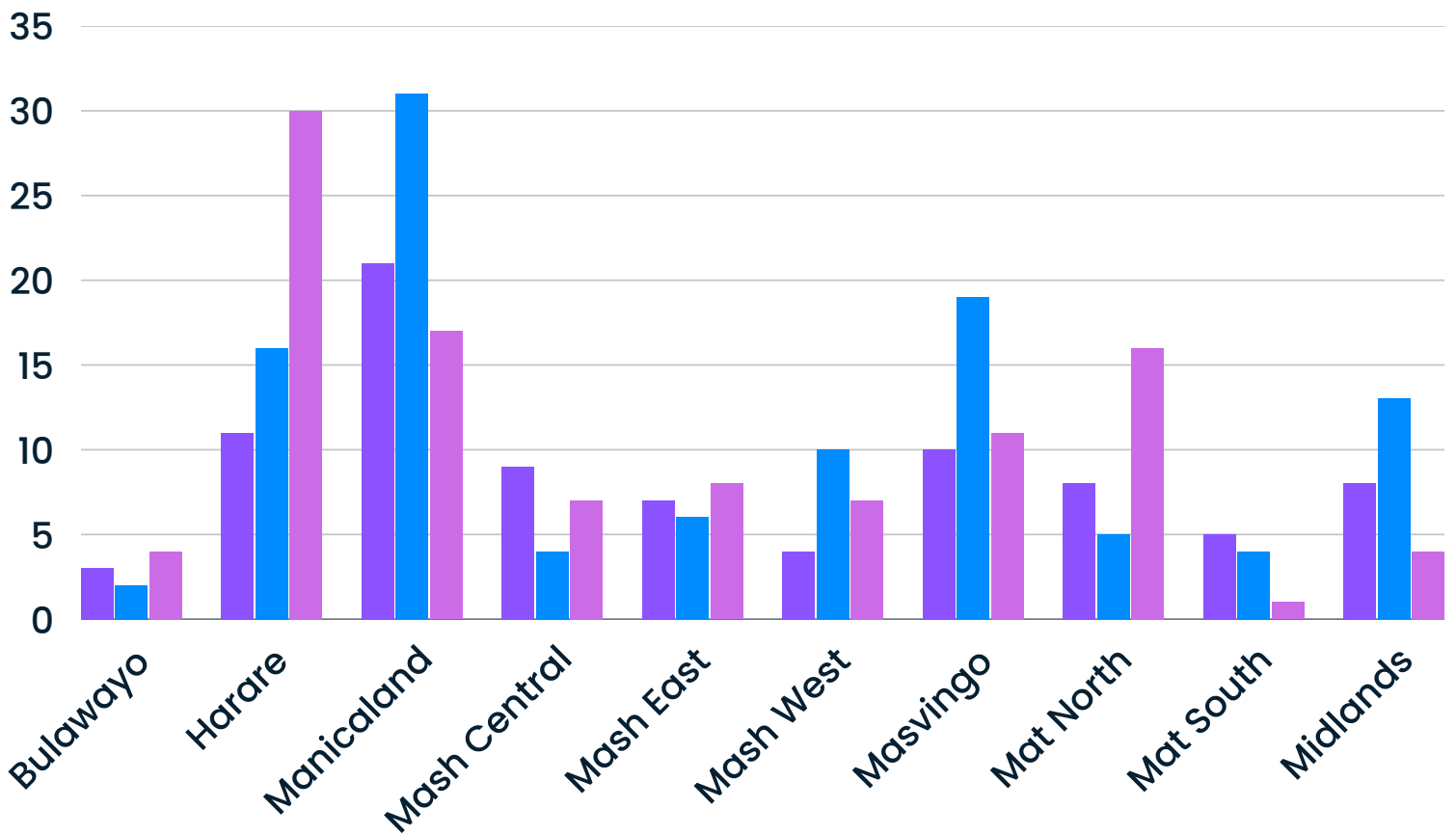
The growing climate of intimidation around the Constitution of Zimbabwe Amendment Bill No. 3 has made the cost of publicly discussing or debating the proposed changes increasingly high. This environment creates the perception that citizens are being pressured to support the Bill, while opposing views are effectively being criminalised. Such conditions undermine democratic participation and contradict the very spirit of constitutionalism.

The shrinking civic space for open dialogue is particularly concerning at a time when Parliament has invited citizens to submit their views on the Bill. For public consultations to be meaningful, citizens must be free to engage, discuss, and debate the proposed amendments without fear of intimidation, harassment, or reprisals.

A democratic constitutional process requires open civic space where diverse perspectives can be heard. Zimbabweans must therefore be allowed to freely deliberate on the Bill so they can make informed and meaningful contributions to Parliament on matters that directly affect the governance and future of the country.

PROVINCIAL OUTLOOK

Dec ■ Jan ■ Feb ■



Bulawayo

In Bulawayo Province, four human rights violations were documented, largely reflecting restrictions on civic space, freedom of assembly and freedom of expression. The most notable incidents involved the prohibition of public discussions on Constitutional Amendment Bill No. 3. On 26 February, police barred a public meeting organised by civic groups at Rainbow Hotel meant to unpack the implications of the proposed constitutional amendments, despite the organisers having formally notified authorities in line with legal requirements. Similarly, on 6 February, journalists were blocked by police from accessing a media dialogue led by a political analyst at a venue in Burnside, preventing the press from engaging in a discussion on the legal and democratic implications of the proposed amendments. In another incident, the Defend the Constitution Platform was denied permission to hold a youth meeting on the same issue, with police citing provisions of the Maintenance of Peace and Order Act. These incidents highlight a growing pattern of state interference in peaceful civic engagement and public dialogue, undermining citizens' constitutional rights to participate in governance processes and freely debate issues of national importance.

Harare

In February, 30 human rights violations were documented in Harare province, reflecting a deteriorating environment for civil and political rights as well as socio-economic rights. The most serious violations involved abductions and torture. On 17 February, a Glen Norah resident was abducted from his home by armed men, blindfolded, severely assaulted and interrogated over alleged links to opposition activities before being dumped in the city with serious injuries. The man, after being taken to hospital was denied proper access to health care as he was quickly removed from the hospital by the police and further interrogated. In a separate incident on 26 February, two members of the NCA party were also abducted, tortured and abandoned in Highlands. Both incidents denote a serious breach of the right to personal security and freedom from torture and inhuman treatment and a host of other civil and political rights. In Harare Central, the deployment of police at the private law offices of former Minister and Member of Parliament Tendai Biti raises serious concerns about intimidation and the unintended inducement of fear among the public. The deployment, which occurred ahead of the launch of Constitution Defenders Forum convened by Biti, appeared as intended to intimidate and suppress freedoms of expression and association. Such actions risk undermining fundamental rights, including personal security, privacy, and freedom from harassment, and create a chilling effect on citizens and civic actors seeking to freely engage in discussions on constitutional matters.

Political violence escalated further in February, and in an incident documented on 1 March, armed men attacked the National Constitutional Assembly (NCA) offices and assaulted Professor Lovemore Madhuku. Other violations included forced evictions in Harare South where families and a pre-school were displaced during demolitions, harassment and extortion of informal vendors by municipal police in Kuwadzana, and the banning of civic meetings discussing Constitutional Amendment Bill No. 3. Political intimidation linked to internal party factionalism and threats to residents over political allegiance were also recorded in Epworth. Additionally, the collapse of sewer infrastructure in Glenview, exposing residents to serious health risks, highlights ongoing violations of the right to a clean and safe environment.



ZRP Officers camp outside Tendai Biti's offices in Harare

Masvingo

11 human rights violations were recorded in Masvingo province, highlighting concerns around socio-economic rights, political discrimination and restrictions on media freedom. One of the most serious violations relates to the denial of the right to healthcare, with Gawa Clinic operating for nearly a month without basic medication such as painkillers, forcing patients, including children, to travel about 8 kilometres to Mashoko Hospital and incur unaffordable medical and transport costs. Violations of freedom of the media were also documented when two journalists from a local media house were barred by police from covering the installation ceremony of Chief Chikwanda, with only the state broadcaster permitted access. Several cases also reflected politicisation and discrimination in the distribution of food aid and social welfare assistance, where beneficiaries were excluded or intimidated based on perceived political affiliation or local disputes such as in Zaka Central and Mwenezi East. In other incidents, community members in Chiredzi East were pressured to contribute funds for the refurbishment of a police base, while drought relief distributions were accompanied by messaging encouraging support for the 2030 political agenda. Additionally, community meetings were used to mobilise support for proposed constitutional amendments. Overall, the violations point to a pattern of political interference in humanitarian assistance, shrinking civic space and continued challenges in accessing essential public services.

Midlands

In Midlands province, four human rights violations were documented involving political discrimination, intimidation and coercion in community programmes. In Redcliff Ward 23, the distribution of presidential agricultural inputs was politicised, with village head and ZANU PF branch chairperson Brighton Mabulawa, alongside party officials, overseeing beneficiary lists that largely favoured ruling party supporters, resulting in opposition members being excluded from the programme. In another incident during a Social Welfare registration exercise, ZANU PF committee members attempted to hijack the process and demanded that only ruling party supporters be registered, forcing about ten individuals suspected of supporting the opposition to be registered separately for fear of violence. In Gokwe–Sasame constituency, villagers in Tsive Village were coerced into registering in a ZANU PF party register, with those suspected to be opposition supporters marked separately, raising concerns about intimidation and political surveillance. Additionally, at a School Development Committee meeting, local leaders including traditional and political authorities threatened parents with confiscation of property if they failed to pay school fees, with reports that gold buyers linked to party structures were being used to pressure parents to surrender part of their earnings. These incidents highlight growing political interference in community governance structures and access to public services.

Mashonaland Central

In Mashonaland Central, six human rights violations were documented, mainly linked to the politicisation and abuse of agricultural input distribution. In Bindura South, at Muonwe Township, ruling party officials denied government inputs to at least three community members for failing to attend party meetings, raising concerns over discrimination and the violation of citizens' right to equal access to public resources. In Guruve North, at Negomo Primary School, beneficiaries were charged unauthorized transport fees for fertilizer under the Pfumvudza programme. More broadly, serious governance challenges were observed in Rushinga District, including lack of transparency, poor communication on distribution processes, diversion of inputs by local leaders, and inflated transport charges. These practices have resulted in the exclusion of ordinary community members from accessing government support and have heightened tensions within affected communities.

Mashonaland East

In Mashonaland East, eight human rights violations were documented with violations relating to political intimidation and the right to education. In Murehwa constituency, a meeting led by the Minister of Local Government and ruling party provincial leader Honourable Daniel Garwe pressured religious leaders and village heads to mobilise communities in support of the ruling party's agenda, including messaging around constitutional amendments. In another incident in Mudzi, a fertiliser distribution at Nyamuyaruka Business Centre was marked by political intimidation, where a ward councillor threatened a known opposition supporter and implied that access to government inputs signified support for the ruling party. Other reported incidents involved continued concerns about the politicisation of community programmes, education rights, political freedoms and community governance in the province.

Manicaland

ZPP documented 17 human rights violations in Manicaland province, reflecting a pattern of political intimidation, abuse of authority and socio-economic rights violations across several constituencies. In Nyanga North, two civilians, a public transport operator and their passenger, were assaulted by soldiers linked to a former military commander's security detail after parking in an area informally claimed as a private parking space, raising serious concerns about abuse of power and violations of the right to personal security. In Mutasa Central (Ward 14), a ZANU PF ward chairperson threatened residents with reprisals for failing to attend party cell verification meetings, while in another case in the same ward a local chairperson was coerced into abstaining from voting for a suspected

Mashonaland West

Seven human rights violations were documented in Mashonaland West, with the most serious relating to a suspected enforced disappearance in Gweru West constituency. Ward councillor Chipo Gibe, Kanaije, who was the 22 February by-election under ZANU PF went missing before assuming office of the previously reported 2020 attempted abduction by suspected ruling party members who questioned his political loyalties. His disappearance raises grave concerns regarding violations of the right to personal liberty, security and political participation in Karoma Central police station. Opposition MP Gift Mambiri from holding a routine constituency feedback meeting at Rimuka Hall despite proper notification under the Maintenance of Peace and Order Act, citing a planned demonstration that later proved to be nonexistent. The late denial prevented residents from engaging with their elected representative on governance and service delivery issues. In Makonde constituency, Ward 6, a woman elected as vice chairperson during a school committee AGM at Chikonohono Primary School faced discrimination and humiliation based on her disability, with some committee members attempting to force her removal from the position. Other incidents recorded in the province reflected political interference in community processes and discriminatory practices within local governance structures, undermining principles of equality, participation and democratic accountability.

Matabeleland North

16 human rights violations were documented in Matabeleland North, reflecting concerns around political intimidation, abuse of authority and violations of socio-economic rights across several constituencies. In Hwange Central, Member of Parliament Daniel Molokele was arrested by police while attending a Constitutional Development Fund committee meeting and briefly detained before being released without charge, raising concerns about interference with parliamentary and civic processes. In Binga North, reports indicate politicisation of government programmes, where women's empowerment grants administered through the Ministry of Women Affairs were distributed through ruling party structures, while about 15 village heads suspected of supporting the opposition were unjustly removed from allowance lists raising concerns of administrative justice. Cases of intimidation linked to civic engagement were also recorded in Binga North where a community activist raising awareness on Constitutional Amendment Bill No. 3 was threatened by a traditional leader. In Binga, three members of the Congress for Transformation party were arrested for alleged unlawful gathering during a political meeting. Other incidents included coercion by traditional leaders in community development projects, allegations of political interference in local government processes, and education-related violations. Additionally, opposition councillors in Tsholotsho faced suspension from Council amid contested allegations, raising concerns about possible politically motivated actions within local governance structures.

Conclusion

The human rights violations documented by ZPP in February highlight a troubling pattern in which, despite the existence of institutional mechanisms for public participation, the broader climate of coercion and suppression continues to undermine civil and political rights, threatening meaningful, participatory, and peaceful governance in Zimbabwe. The recorded abuses ranged from torture, assault, and enforced disappearances to violations of fundamental freedoms, including restrictions on assembly, association, and expression, as well as limited access to social services and unequal distribution of aid. Analysis of perpetrators shows that state institutions and ruling party actors are disproportionately implicated, demonstrating how political power structures are frequently leveraged to intimidate, coerce, or directly harm citizens. This pattern raises serious concerns about the failure of law enforcement and state security agencies to protect the right to personal security, underscoring the urgent need for accountability, the protection of civic space, and the safeguarding of human rights across Zimbabwe.



**Report
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