



FDU-INKINGI
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United Democratic Forces



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COMITE DIRECTEUR – STEERING COMMITTEE

“Pour un Etat de Droit, la Démocratie et l’Egalité de chances” ; “For the rule of law, democracy and equal opportunity”

PRESS RELEASE

FDU-INKINGI’S CALL ON THE RWANDAN GOVERNMENT MOUTHPIECE “ THE NEW TIMES” TO STOP ITS MALICIOUS ATTEMPTS TO DRAG ITS PRESIDENT MRS VICTOIRE INGABIRE UMUHOZA IN THE UN REPORT.

The FDU-Inkingi would like to make it crystal that it rejects any overt or covert attempt to link Mrs Victoire Ingabire Umuhoza, President of FDU-Inkingi, to any moves to use force to access to power. It is not in line with her political convictions, there is no ideological, strategic or moral imperative for the Party FDU-Inkingi to take that route to political power.

Ideologically, the party is fighting to put in place mechanisms that allow democratic competition for and peaceful transfer of power. Mrs Ingabire Umuhoza is on record saying in her speech when she arrived in Rwanda on [16th January 2010](#), repeating it after her release on the [15th of September 2018](#), when she called on all those who want to use force to get to power to stop it. She reiterated once more in her [New Year message 2019](#) in which she stated that the objective number two of her party after “rebuilding the social capital” is to “demilitarise the state” meaning to end the culture of access to power through military force as has been the case in Rwanda for the last 45 years.

Strategically the party is quite aware that change must come from inside Rwanda and the work of the party is to empower people through awareness raising to claim and enjoy their rights. The self-proclaimed liberators from outside tend to take the population hostages for their so-called liberation.

Morally the party is quite aware of the scourges of war, the destruction of human life and resources that it involves. Rwanda has had more than its share in the numbers of people killed. Therefore, the party will do everything possible to avoid any recourse to war. It is in this regard that Mrs Victoire Ingabire Umuhoza was quick to support the initiative of the Rwandan Political opposition to ask dialogue with President Kagame.

Unfortunately in a news [article attributed to a certain Julius Bizimungu entitled “UN report pins Kayumba Nyamwasa on rebel group”](#), the alleged author tries to sinuously drag, by association, the President of FDU-Inkingi Mrs Victoire Ingabire Umuhoza into UN report that writes about an alleged armed rebel group called “P5” that is said to be led by Kayumba Nyamwasa in exile in South Africa and plans to attack Rwanda.

According to the report, the group is said not to have attacked Rwanda yet but strangely enough is said to have been fighting against rebel groups opposed to the Burundi government.

As the acronym P5 also refers to the Rwandan opposition Platform composed of five political parties that include FDU-Inkingi, the author of the article, sinuously tried to associate Mrs Victoire Ingabire Umuhoza to the alleged armed group. Although not mentioned in the report, the author, tries to reinforce her responsibility deliberately, hence misinforming readers that Mrs Victoire Ingabire Umuhoza has any stake in the so called rebel force

The article in order to sow confusion about the credibility of Mrs Victoire Ingabire Umuhoza as a bona fide nonviolent political leader, asserts that she was found guilty of inciting revolt against the government, forming an armed group (with an unknown name) to destabilise the country and minimising genocide. The author avoids deliberately to mention that Mrs Victoire Ingabire Umuhoza appealed to the [African court for Human and Peoples' rights](#) and that the ruling about inciting the citizens against the government and minimising genocide were quashed and that it stated that she had not received the right of proper defence in the case relating to forming an armed group. [The court went further to grant Mrs Ingabire leave to ask for damages.](#)

We would like to recall that the [New Times played a very big role in the campaign to get Mrs Victoire Ingabire arrested in 2010](#) and [was very much against the release](#) of Mrs Victoire Ingabire Umuhoza through presidential clemency.

The FDU-Inkingi would like to reassure Rwandans at large and its members that its stand on democratic competition and peaceful transfer of political power remains its overarching goal. We invite to reject any diversionary tactics aimed at blocking our way to a reconciled and democratic country, underpinned by the rule of law, respect for human rights and equal opportunity.

Done in London on January 4, 2019.

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