



# **CAMEROON: Human Rights Report**

**March 2021**

THIS REPORT PROVIDES AN OVERVIEW OF HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS THAT OCCURRED IN CAMEROON IN MARCH 2021. THE REPORT FOCUSES ON VIOLATIONS THAT OCCURRED IN THE CONTEXT OF MAJOR SECURITY CRISES IN THE COUNTRY, INCLUDING THE ANGLOPHONE CRISIS IN THE NORTHWEST AND SOUTHWEST REGIONS AND THE BOKO HARAM CONFLICT.

**STAND UP FOR CAMEROON**



**Stand Up For Cameroon** is a dynamic of political parties, civil society organizations and Cameroonian citizens that aims to unite actors around a political transition to rebuild the state and build a nation that respects the principles of justice, equity and human rights.

With this report based on the outstanding work done by civil society organizations in Cameroon and abroad, we intend to provide a comprehensive report that informs the Cameroonian people and serves as an advocacy tool at the national and international levels to end human rights violations in Cameroon.

Douala, March 2021

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## Introduction

In this month of March 2021, Stand Up For Cameroon, through its Human Rights Working Group, has once again monitored, documented and reported on violence and human rights violations throughout the national territory of Cameroon

The monitoring of incidents on digital platforms of human rights violations, the exploration of reports and websites of national and international human rights organizations and the field visits of the working group, have enabled us during this month, to observe a Cameroonian society which is increasingly violent, a constant characteristic of the state of Cameroon which government seems to ignore, while trampling on its own commitments and laws as concerns the promotion and protection of human rights.

The working group was able to identify situations of violence involving cases in conflict zones, between individuals, and cases related to governance. In this March 2021 report, the focus is on the right to health and the right to housing. Specific inserts shed light about the situation of some journalists in prison. Situations of various violations that fall mostly within the field of civil and political rights, economic, social, and cultural rights,

The third report of the year 2021 of the Human Rights Working Group of Stand Up For Cameroon, was produced in a context where we observe an increase in the activity of Boko Haram in the four countries concerned and the difficulty for the State of Cameroon not only to face the recurrent threats of the armed terrorist group, but also to find sustainable solutions for the population of this area.

March is also the month in which the regions of the Adamawa, the East and the North of Cameroon continue to undergo the effects of the armed conflict in the Central African Republic; the population of the English-speaking regions continues to suffer violence with its stream of displaced persons and refugees, in a crisis where the objective of the government now seems to be not the resolution of the problems brought to the table by the consortium of English-speaking actors, but rather simply the return of a semblance of calm and peace, whether this is real or not.

## Context

Below is a description of some acts of violence observed in Cameroon in March 2021. These facts and figures are not exhaustive.

### Overview of violence in March

Category	Total Number	Anglophone Crisis	Boko Haram	Other situations
Fatalities	33 cases	11 cases	22 cases	-
	100 people	39 people	61 people	-
Burnings	01 case	01 case	-	-
	No death	No death	-	-
Explosions	03 cases	02 cases	01 case	-
	02 deaths	01 death	01 death	-
Kidnappings	03 cases	01 case	02 cases	-
	04 people	01 person	03 people	-
Violations of rights (Violence without death)	21 cases	04 cases	14 cases	03 cases in Douala
<b>Total number of acts of violence recorded: 61</b>				

### Summary table of Fatalities

Category	Total	Anglophone Crisis	Boko Haram
Militias against the population	16 cases	02 cases	14 cases
	26 people	03 people	21 people
Armed confrontations (Army & Non-state Armed Groups)	13 cases	07 cases	06 cases
	65 people	28 people	37 people
Exactions of the FMO against the population	02 cases	01 case	01 case
	02 people	01 person	01 person
Acts of violence between civilians	02 cases	01 case	01 case
	07 people	06 people	01 person
<b>Total Number: 33 cases – 100 people</b>			

### Summary table of Kidnappings

Category	Total	Anglophone Crisis	Boko Haram
Militias against the population	03 cases	01 case	02 cases
	04 people	01 person	03 people
<b>Total Number: 03 cases – 04 people</b>			

### Summary table of violence

Category	Total	Anglophone Crisis	Boko Haram	Other situations
Militias against the population	16 cases	03 cases	13 cases	-
Armed clashes FMO against militias	02 cases	01 case	01 case	-
Exactions of the FMO against the population	02 cases	-	-	02 cases
Between population	01 case	-	-	01 case
<b>Total Number : 21 cases</b>				

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### Summary table of Burnings

Category	Total	Anglophone Crisis	Boko Haram
Armed clashes FMO against militias	01 case	01 case	0 case
<b>Nombre Total : 01 cas</b>			

### Summary table of Explosions

Category	Total	Anglophone Crisis	Boko Haram
Militias against the population	02 cases	01 case	01 case
Armed clashes FMO against militias	01 case	01 case	0 case
<b>Total Number: 03 cases</b>			

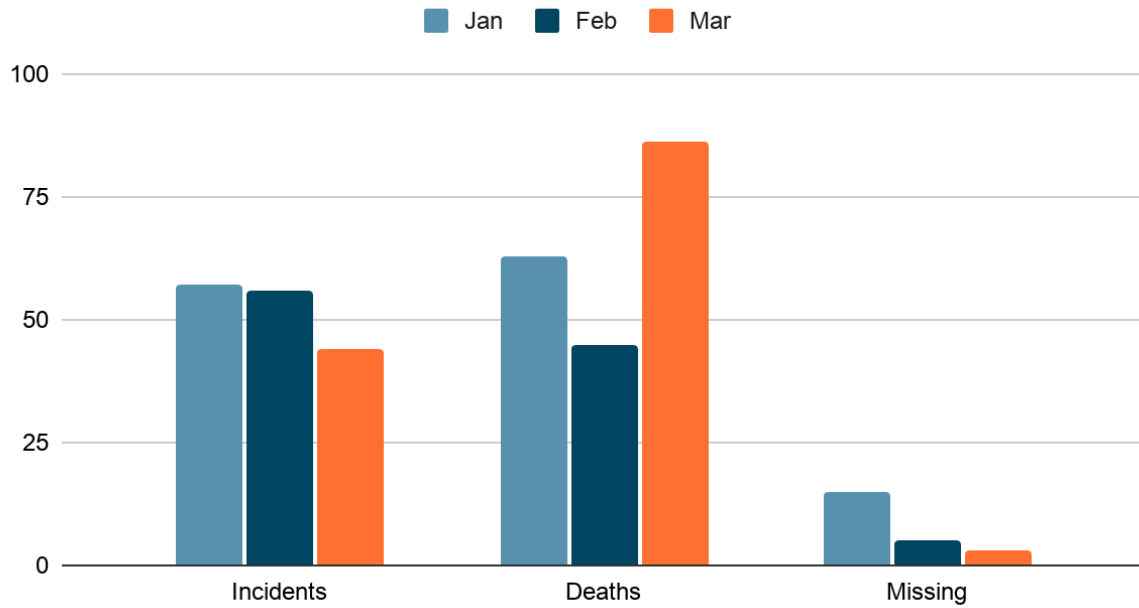
**Statistics on the evolution of the situation of human rights violations between January, February and March 2021**

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Rubrics	January 2021		February 2021		March 2021	
<b>Number of deaths</b>	At least 59		At least 43		At least 100	
	32 – Anglophone Crisis	27 – War against Boko Haram	28 – Anglophone Crisis	15 – War Against Boko Haram	39 – Anglophone Crisis	61 – War against Boko Haram
<b>Kidnappings</b>	At least 13 in the anglophone Crisis		At least 16 people		At least 04 people	
			05 - Anglophone Crisis	11 Boko Haram	01 – Anglophone Crisis	03 – Boko Haram
<b>Burnings &amp; explosions</b>			04 cases – Anglophone Crisis		04 cases - Anglophone Crisis	

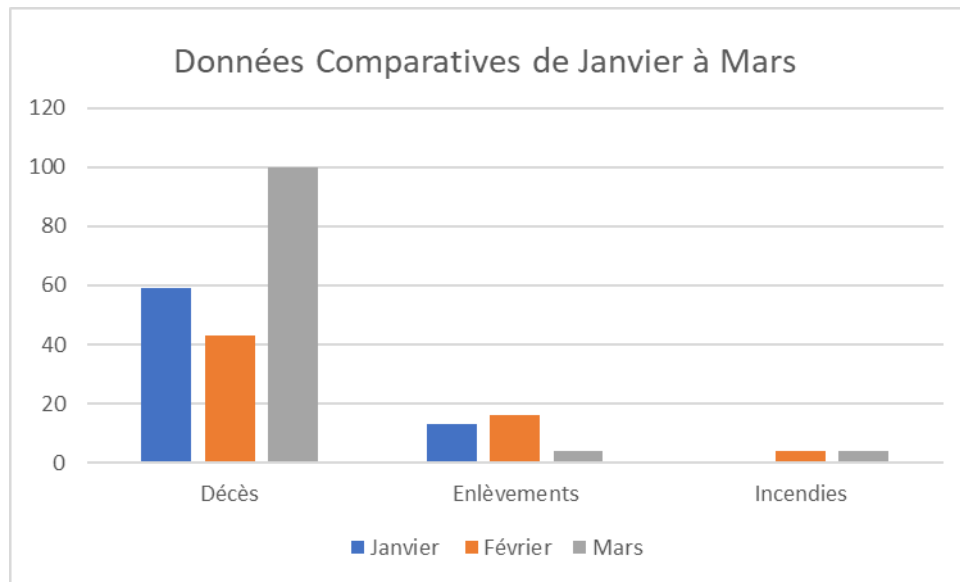


## Jan-March 2021

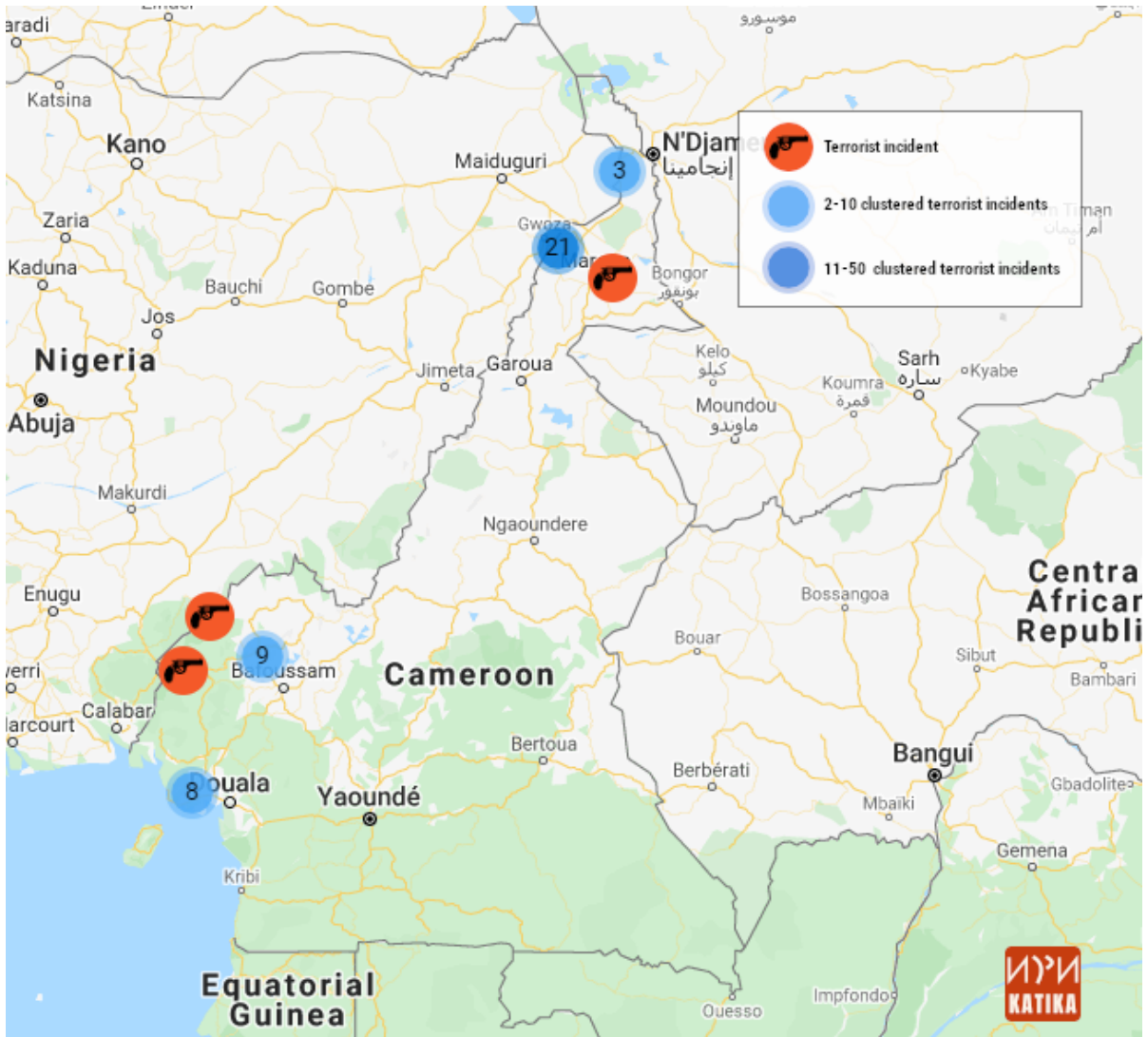


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Source: <https://katika237.com> (2021-04-04)



Sources: Elements of our reports from January to March 2021



source: <https://katika237.com> (2021-04-04)

### 1. Violations of Civil and Political Rights in crisis areas and other regions

The armed conflict in the Northwest and Southwest regions of Cameroon continued to take a toll on innocent civilians, armed separatists, and the armed forces. The month of March was marked by several events that resulted in loss of life. In several of these cases, investigations have been opened. More than 4,000 people have already lost their lives in this crisis since 2016 and the death toll continues to rise daily. On the Boko Haram side, there have been

several cases of incursions by the jihadist sect into towns bordering Nigeria that have rekindled fear among the population, and several cases of civilian deaths.

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Date and Place	Description	Sources
<b>1.1. Burnings and Explosions</b>		
26th March 2021, Kossala, Kumba Subdivision, Meme Division, South-West Region	Angel Ngum, aged 07, was killed in an explosion while cleaning a coconut on a stone. Underneath was hidden a homemade bomb that exploded. She died in Mutengene hospital after losing her arms in the explosion.	<a href="https://mimimefoinfos.com/kumba-une-fillette-tuee-par-un-engin-explosif/">https://mimimefoinfos.com/kumba-une-fillette-tuee-par-un-engin-explosif/</a>  <a href="https://actucameroun.com/2021/03/26/sud-ouest-une-fillette-tuee-par-un-engin-explosif-improvise/">https://actucameroun.com/2021/03/26/sud-ouest-une-fillette-tuee-par-un-engin-explosif-improvise/</a>
04th March 2021, Bamenda, Mezam Division, North-West Region	02 policemen hit in an explosion	From the field by REACH OUT Association
1st March 2021, Bamkika'ai, Kumbo Subdivision, Bui Division, North-West Region	In a raid to confront the secessionists, soldiers of the Cameroonian army burned down a building which served as the Rest House for visitors within the premises of the Life Abundant Primary Healthcare Project owned by the Cameroon Baptist Convention	<a href="https://cbchealthservices.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/Public-Notice.pdf">https://cbchealthservices.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/Public-Notice.pdf</a> <a href="https://mimimefoinfos.com/bui-division-soldiers-burn-healthcare-facility-in-kikaikilaki/">https://mimimefoinfos.com/bui-division-soldiers-burn-healthcare-facility-in-kikaikilaki/</a>  <a href="https://twitter.com/CMRNewsAgency/status/1366812633886842886">https://twitter.com/CMRNewsAgency/status/1366812633886842886</a>
<b>1.2. Killings</b>		
29th March 2021, Bwitingi-Buea, Fako Division, South-West Region	<p>Members of a non-state armed group invaded Mr. Mbah's home in Bwitingi-Buea, demanding the doors be opened to them.</p> <p>The family did not, and they shot at the house.</p> <p>Ingwari Mbah, his 13-year-old daughter, was shot in the leg.</p> <p>Her father was kidnapped under death threats.</p> <p>Doctors Without Borders is taking care of the child.</p>	Field elements collected by the REACH OUT association

<p>27th March 2021, Dabanga, Logone-Birni Sudivision, Logone-et-Chari Division, Far North Region</p>	<p>Far North Governor Midjiyawa Bakary said more than 100 Boko Haram fighters attacked military installations in Dabanga. They were in 6 vehicles and about 20 bikes.</p> <p>The attack was repelled by the Cameroonian army, and vehicles and weapons were seized.</p> <p>03 civilians, one BIR and 20 Boko Haram fighters were killed during the attack, according to the Governor.</p> <p>This is one of the largest Boko Haram attacks Cameroon has seen in several years.</p>	<p><a href="https://www.aa.com.tr/fr/afrique/ameroun-attaque-meurtri%C3%A8re-attribu%C3%A9e-%C3%A0-boko-haram-dans-l-extr%C3%A4me-nord/2190524">https://www.aa.com.tr/fr/afrique/ameroun-attaque-meurtri%C3%A8re-attribu%C3%A9e-%C3%A0-boko-haram-dans-l-extr%C3%A4me-nord/2190524</a></p> <p><a href="https://twitter.com/loeil_du_sahel?lang=en">https://twitter.com/loeil_du_sahel?lang=en</a></p> <p><a href="https://www.google.com/url?q=https://humangle.ng/6-terrorists-3-civilians-one-soldier-die-in-boko-attack-on-dabanga-cameroon/&amp;sa=D&amp;source=editors&amp;ust=1617495617316000&amp;usq=A0vVaw2wVo6wmhpiwg0ov0aCQIzm">https://www.google.com/url?q=https://humangle.ng/6-terrorists-3-civilians-one-soldier-die-in-boko-attack-on-dabanga-cameroon/&amp;sa=D&amp;source=editors&amp;ust=1617495617316000&amp;usq=A0vVaw2wVo6wmhpiwg0ov0aCQIzm</a></p> <p><a href="https://www.voanews.com/africa/cameroon-says-boko-haram-has-intensified-attacks-supplies">https://www.voanews.com/africa/cameroon-says-boko-haram-has-intensified-attacks-supplies</a></p>
<p>26th March 2021, Foe Bakundu, Mbonge Sub-Division, Meme Division, South-West Region.</p>	<p>There are conflicting reports as to whether there was an incident or not in Foe Bakundu on March 26.</p> <p>Some websites report a large-scale incident in which the Cameroonian army killed about 20 people in an attack on armed groups.</p> <p>The army denies this information and speaks of 02 Ambazonians killed.</p> <p>All of our sources on the ground have been unable to confirm either version. SUFC continues to gather information.</p>	<p><a href="https://www.camerounweb.com/CamerounHomePage/NewsArchive/Massacre-de-civil-Mbonge-un-d-put-fran-ais-accuse-l-arm-e-camerounaise-584152">https://www.camerounweb.com/CamerounHomePage/NewsArchive/Massacre-de-civil-Mbonge-un-d-put-fran-ais-accuse-l-arm-e-camerounaise-584152</a></p> <p><a href="https://www.msn.com/fr-xl/afrique-centre-et-est/other/cameroun-le-mindef-donne-sa-version-sur-les-suppos%C3%A9s-massacres-de-kumbo-et-mbongue/ar-BB1f7jHz?ocid=ORAN">https://www.msn.com/fr-xl/afrique-centre-et-est/other/cameroun-le-mindef-donne-sa-version-sur-les-suppos%C3%A9s-massacres-de-kumbo-et-mbongue/ar-BB1f7jHz?ocid=ORAN</a></p> <p><a href="https://mimimefoinfos.com/cameroon-soldiers-carry-out-ngarbu-type-massacre-in-mbonge/">https://mimimefoinfos.com/cameroon-soldiers-carry-out-ngarbu-type-massacre-in-mbonge/</a></p> <p><a href="https://cameroonnewsagency.com/mindef-uses-same-denial-style-to-wash-hands-off-kumbo-mbonge-killings/">https://cameroonnewsagency.com/mindef-uses-same-denial-style-to-wash-hands-off-kumbo-mbonge-killings/</a></p>
<p>25th March 2021, Maroua, Diamare Division, Far North Region</p>	<p>The army's Rapid Intervention Battalion repelled an attack by Boko Haram fighters in the village of Gouzang, killing three assailants.</p>	<p>ACLED</p>

25th March 2021, Mokolo Subdivision, Mayo-Tsanaga Division, Far North Region	Boko Haram fighters attacked Tourou village, killing 3 people, injuring 4 others took away goods.	ACLED
24th March 2021, Mayo Moskota Sub- Division, Mayo-Tsanaga Division, Far North Region	Suspected Boko Haram fighters killed one person in the bush near Madakar village.	ACLED
24th March 2021, Zeneme Glapar Village, District of Mozogo, Mayo-Tsanaga Division, Far North Region	<p>03 Boko Haram attacks were recorded in the Mayo-Moskota district during the night of 24-25. The armed fighters attacked the village of Gaïtawe and fled after a confrontation with the BIR army.</p> <p>Around midnight, the armed fighters attacked the village of Dzamadzaf.</p> <p>Between midnight and 1:00 a.m., the insurgents attacked the village of Gouzang.</p> <p>After an intense confrontation with the BIR army, 03 of them were killed.</p>	<a href="https://twitter.com/SembeTv/status/1375047230302920704">https://twitter.com/SembeTv/status/1375047230302920704</a>
24th March 2021, Mogode Sub-division, Mayo-Tsanaga Division, Far North Region	Residents captured a pastoralist suspected of having collaborated with kidnappers and beat him up to death.	ACLED
24th March 2021, Mora Subdisvision Mayo-Sava Division, Far North Region	Military forces reportedly shot and killed a pastoralist in Aissa Karde village.	ACLED
23rd March 2021, Mayo Moskota Subdivision, Mayo-Sava Division, Far North Region	The army's Rapid Intervention Battalion ambushed Boko Haram fighters on the road between Houza and Zarwa villages killing 3 of them.	ACLED

22nd March 2021, Bakwelle Village, District of Eyumojock, Manyu Division, South-West Region	Secessionist fighters attacked two military vehicles in Mpkot. At least 01 were killed and several injured.	<a href="https://twitter.com/CMRNewsAgency/status/1374289098626756609">https://twitter.com/CMRNewsAgency/status/1374289098626756609</a>
22nd March 2021, Muea Subdivision, Fako Division, South-West Region	A man named Mallam was shot by suspected secessionist fighters while defending his friend, a bar manager, who was being taken away. Another friend of him who were also trying to defend the bar manager was shot at close range	<a href="https://mimimefoinfos.com/buea-man-shot-by-separatist-fighters-dies-in-hospital/">https://mimimefoinfos.com/buea-man-shot-by-separatist-fighters-dies-in-hospital/</a>
21st March 2021, BlaGossi, District Mokolo, Mayo-Tsanaga Division, Far North Region	03 people were killed in a Boko Haram attack, 02 women, Ngargoua Tsihoua, 65, Zada Hawadak, 55, and a man, Guitire Ngahadek, 60. About 10 people were injured and are in the Mokolo District Hospital.	<a href="https://mimimefoinfos.com/boko-haram-trois-personnes-tuees-une-dizaine-de-blesses-a-mokolo/">https://mimimefoinfos.com/boko-haram-trois-personnes-tuees-une-dizaine-de-blesses-a-mokolo/</a> <a href="https://twitter.com/LOeil_du_Sahel/status/1373882481963843584">https://twitter.com/LOeil_du_Sahel/status/1373882481963843584</a>
20th March 2021, Soueram, Fotokol Subdivision, Logone-et-Chari Division, Far North Region	03 targeted Boko Haram attacks in the Fotokol area and in two locations in Nigeria bordering Cameroon. The attacks targeted the bases of the Mixed Multinational Forces (MMF) 02 Cameroonians soldiers killed.	<a href="https://agencecamerounpresse.com/defense/extr%C3%A0me-nord-deux-soldats-camerounais-tu%C3%A9s-par-boko-haram-%C3%A0-la-fronti%C3%A8re-avec-le-nig%C3%A9ria.html">https://agencecamerounpresse.com/defense/extr%C3%A0me-nord-deux-soldats-camerounais-tu%C3%A9s-par-boko-haram-%C3%A0-la-fronti%C3%A8re-avec-le-nig%C3%A9ria.html</a> <a href="https://www.journalducameroun.com/cameroun-deux-soldats-tues-par-boko-haram-dans-lextreme-nord-cameroun/">https://www.journalducameroun.com/cameroun-deux-soldats-tues-par-boko-haram-dans-lextreme-nord-cameroun/</a> <a href="https://twitter.com/SembeTv/status/1373524606032678913">https://twitter.com/SembeTv/status/1373524606032678913</a>
20th March 2021, Nguetchewe, Mokolo Subdivision, Mayo-Tsanaga Division, Far North Region	A young man in his twenties was attacked by an armed gang around 7:00 p.m., trying to snatch his motorcycle and farming equipment. The death of this young man is confirmed by some sources, while others say that he was injured. However, after being informed by the vigilance committee, the army went in pursuit of the assailants and two soldiers were killed.	<a href="https://www.msn.com/fr-xl/afrique-centre-et-est/cameroun-actualite/cameroun">https://www.msn.com/fr-xl/afrique-centre-et-est/cameroun-actualite/cameroun</a> <a href="https://twitter.com/SembeTv/status/1373526408497135618">https://twitter.com/SembeTv/status/1373526408497135618</a>
18th March 2021, Kangaléri, District of Dargala, Diamaré Division, Far North Region	02 peoples were killed in an attack by fighters of the Islamist group Boko Haram.	<a href="https://twitter.com/LOeil_du_Sahel/status/1372897959071916033">https://twitter.com/LOeil_du_Sahel/status/1372897959071916033</a>

18th March 2021, Foe Bakundu Village, Mbongue Subdivision, Meme Division, South-West Region	Ambazonian General Spirito, whose real name is Akuro Kandel, was killed with 05 of his men by the BIR. After his death, his body was exposed at BICEC Junction in Kumba.	<a href="https://www.africa-press.net/cameroun/politique/kumba-des-soldats-font-defiler-le-cadavre-dun-general-ambazonien-dans-les-rues">https://www.africa-press.net/cameroun/politique/kumba-des-soldats-font-defiler-le-cadavre-dun-general-ambazonien-dans-les-rues</a>  <a href="https://mimimefoinfos.com/national-and-international-news-roundup-18-march-2021/">https://mimimefoinfos.com/national-and-international-news-roundup-18-march-2021/</a>  <a href="https://www.cameroun24.net/actualite-cameroun-Le-general-ambazonien-Spirito-neutralise-par-l-arm-1-1-56809.html">https://www.cameroun24.net/actualite-cameroun-Le-general-ambazonien-Spirito-neutralise-par-l-arm-1-1-56809.html</a>
17th March 2021, Njinikom Subdivision, Boyo Division, North-West Region	Gendarmerie elements kill a man and disperse a secessionist money collection camp. The ambush was carried out by gendarmerie forces at the Baingeh market, where separatist fighters from Njinikom had set up a camp to collect money from transporters. Several civilians were injured in the clash.	<a href="https://mimimefoinfos.com/njinikomgovernment-soldiers-dislodge-separatists-park-kill-one/">https://mimimefoinfos.com/njinikomgovernment-soldiers-dislodge-separatists-park-kill-one/</a>
15th March 2021, Krawa-Mafa, Mayo-Tsanaga Division, Far North Region	A pregnant woman in her 30s lost her life after stepping on a landmine buried along the road. She was returning from the farm in the afternoon with three other women	<a href="https://twitter.com/SembeTv/status/1371792768138416135">https://twitter.com/SembeTv/status/1371792768138416135</a>
11th March 2021, Waza Subdivision, Logone-Et-Chari Division, Far North Region	Boko Haram fighters killed one person in a place called "White House", 6 kilometers from the village of Waza.	ACLED
11th March 2021, Limani Mora Subdivision, Mayo-Sava Division, Far North Region	Ali Kangado, a farmer living in Homaka, was shot dead by Boko Haram elements on his farm in Blassaley	<a href="http://www.cameroon-info.net/article/cameroun-insecurite-trois-personnes-tuees-par-des-elements-de-boko-haram-a-mora-et-396369.html">http://www.cameroon-info.net/article/cameroun-insecurite-trois-personnes-tuees-par-des-elements-de-boko-haram-a-mora-et-396369.html</a>  <a href="https://twitter.com/LOeil_du_Sahel/status/1370068039362871304?s=08">https://twitter.com/LOeil_du_Sahel/status/1370068039362871304?s=08</a>
10th March 2021, Mora Subdivision, Mayo-Sava Division, Far North Region	A boy was killed and several items of food were taken away following the attack of elements of Boko Haram in Galbi	<a href="https://twitter.com/SembeTv/status/1367831229190529025">https://twitter.com/SembeTv/status/1367831229190529025</a>

10th March 2021, Guirbala, Mora Subdivision, Mayo-Sava Division, Far North Region	Mahama Talla, a young man of about 18, was killed in his home and another injured by Boko Haram elements in an attack.	<a href="http://www.cameroon-info.net/article/cameroun-insecurite-trois-personnes-tuees-par-des-elements-de-boko-haram-a-mora-et-396369.html">http://www.cameroon-info.net/article/cameroun-insecurite-trois-personnes-tuees-par-des-elements-de-boko-haram-a-mora-et-396369.html</a> <a href="https://twitter.com/LOeil_du_Sahel/status/1370068475243343875?s=08">https://twitter.com/LOeil_du_Sahel/status/1370068475243343875?s=08</a>
10th March 2021, District of Bamenda I, Mezam Division, North-West Region	Secessionist fighters ambushed the police checkpoint at Hospital Round-About, killing 02 members of the armed forces.	<a href="https://twitter.com/CMRNewsAgency/status/1369750215322898436">https://twitter.com/CMRNewsAgency/status/1369750215322898436</a>
04th March 2021, Kumbo Subdivision Bui Division, North-West Region	Soldier Lah Pionmi Louis Christian of the BIR dies in a fire in Kumbo	<a href="https://twitter.com/CMRNewsAgency/status/1371076997397540872">https://twitter.com/CMRNewsAgency/status/1371076997397540872</a> <a href="https://fb.watch/4sb9h0PP3z/">https://fb.watch/4sb9h0PP3z/</a> de <a href="https://www.facebook.com/Union-des-Artistes-du-changement">https://www.facebook.com/Union-des-Artistes-du-changement</a>
04th March 2021, Mokolo Subdivision, Mayo-Tsanaga Division, Far North Region	A woman was killed and two young boys abducted by Boko Haram fighters at Sougoulé, a village in the District of Mokolo	<a href="https://mimimefoinfos.com/mokolo-a-lextreme-nord-01-mort-et-02-enlevements-ce-matin/">https://mimimefoinfos.com/mokolo-a-lextreme-nord-01-mort-et-02-enlevements-ce-matin/</a>
03rd March 2021, Makary Subdivision, Logone-et-Chari Division, Far North Region	02 fishermen were killed, one injured, and one missing following an ambush by about 40 Boko Haram elements while fishing in the Elbeid River around 11:00	<a href="https://twitter.com/SembeTv/status/1367046801019256832">https://twitter.com/SembeTv/status/1367046801019256832</a>
03rd March 2021, Waza Subdivision, Logone-et-Chari Division, Far North Region	Sonkyat Duclair, a truck driver, was shot dead and another wounded on National Road 1 between Waza and Mora in an ambush by Boko Haram elements.	<a href="https://twitter.com/LOeil_du_Sahel/status/1370068233898893312?s=08">https://twitter.com/LOeil_du_Sahel/status/1370068233898893312?s=08</a> <a href="https://m.scoopernews.com/detail?newsId=14068614">https://m.scoopernews.com/detail?newsId=14068614</a> <a href="http://www.cameroon-info.net/article/cameroun-insecurite-trois-personnes-tuees-par-des-elements-de-boko-haram-a-mora-et-396369.html">http://www.cameroon-info.net/article/cameroun-insecurite-trois-personnes-tuees-par-des-elements-de-boko-haram-a-mora-et-396369.html</a>
03rd March 2021, Kolofata Subdivision, Mayo-Sava Division, Far North Region	01 boy killed and several food items collected during an attack on the village of Pouche by Boko Haram elements.	<a href="https://twitter.com/SembeTv/status/1369931326560886787">https://twitter.com/SembeTv/status/1369931326560886787</a>



03rd March 2021, Akwaya Subdivision Manyu Division, South-West Region	Separatist fighters reportedly shot a man on his way to Utanga, Nigeria. The biker bringing him there refused to give money at an “ambazonians” checkpoint. As he was trying to escape, One ambazonien opened the fire that hit the second man on the bike, who was a Mbororo	<a href="https://mimimefoinfos.com/nigeria-safety-of-cameroonian-refugees-in-doubts-after-suspected-amba-boys-shoot-host-community-resident/">https://mimimefoinfos.com/nigeria-safety-of-cameroonian-refugees-in-doubts-after-suspected-amba-boys-shoot-host-community-resident/</a>
2 <sup>nd</sup> March 2021, Makary Subdivision, Logone-et-Chari Division, Far North Region	Heavily armed elements of Boko Haram attacked Mafoufou, resulting in 02 deaths and 04 injuries.	<a href="https://twitter.com/SembeTv/status/1367831229190529025">https://twitter.com/SembeTv/status/1367831229190529025</a>
2 <sup>nd</sup> March 2021, Nwa Subdivision, Donga-Mantung Division, North-West Region	A new confrontation between Mbororo herders and farmers in the commune of Nwa caused at least 06 deaths. This violence led to the burning of several houses and a market. It is also the source of several displacements to Nigeria.	<a href="https://www.journalducameroun.com/en/category-news-in-brief/cameroon/">https://www.journalducameroun.com/en/category-news-in-brief/cameroon/</a> <a href="https://www.camerounweb.com/CamerounHomePage/NewsArchive/Nwa-vers-un-nouvel-affrontement-entre-les-leveurs-et-les-agriculteurs-577573">https://www.camerounweb.com/CamerounHomePage/NewsArchive/Nwa-vers-un-nouvel-affrontement-entre-les-leveurs-et-les-agriculteurs-577573</a>
2 <sup>nd</sup> March 2021, Bui Division, North-West Region	The Cameroonian army raided separatist training camps. A confrontation took place, and the toll was at least 15 dead: 2 soldiers and 13 separatists.	<a href="https://www.aa.com.tr/fr/afrique/cameroun-crise-anglophone-deux-militaires-et-treize-s%C3%A9paratistes-tu%C3%A9s-/2162591">https://www.aa.com.tr/fr/afrique/cameroun-crise-anglophone-deux-militaires-et-treize-s%C3%A9paratistes-tu%C3%A9s-/2162591</a> <a href="https://www.voanews.com/africa/cameroun-military-accused-killing-civilians-new-attacks-separatists">https://www.voanews.com/africa/cameroun-military-accused-killing-civilians-new-attacks-separatists</a>
1st March 2021, Kejom Ketingu, Tubah Subdivision, Mezam Division, North-West Region	The Cameroonian army broke into a house during a meeting call Njangui. They killed 01 man and took 03 others to an unknown location, among them the beneficiary of the meeting.	<a href="https://mimimefoinfos.com/one-killed-as-soldiers-raid-njangi-meeting-in-small-babanki/">https://mimimefoinfos.com/one-killed-as-soldiers-raid-njangi-meeting-in-small-babanki/</a>
<b>1.3. Violences</b>		
28th March 2021, Amchidé, Kolofata Subdivision, Mayo-Sava Division, Far North Region.	02 motorcycles belonging to civilians seized along the road in the locality of Amchidé by suspected Boko Haram militants who were hiding in the bush waiting for passers-by	<a href="https://twitter.com/SembeTv/status/1376430484964655106">https://twitter.com/SembeTv/status/1376430484964655106</a>
27th March 2021, Nguetchewe,	An armed Boko Haram militant was apprehended by members of	<a href="https://twitter.com/SembeTv/status/1376092893375557633">https://twitter.com/SembeTv/status/1376092893375557633</a>

Mozogo Subdivision, Mayo-Tsanaga Division, Far North Region.	vigilante groups and security forces in the bushes of Nguetchewe. The arrest was made after hunters were alerted to the fact that they saw four armed men in the bush when they went to check their traps. The other three fled.	
25th March 2021, Dzamadzaf, Mayo-Moskota Subdivision Mayo-Tsanaga Division, Far North Region.	Boko Haram fighters attacked Dzamadzaf village destroyed the village's solar street lighting system.	<a href="https://twitter.com/SembeTv/status/1375047230302920704">https://twitter.com/SembeTv/status/1375047230302920704</a>  ACLED
24 March 2021, City of Penja, Moungo, Division Littoral Region	Police fired tear gas at a group of people who had gathered to pay their respects to the mayor of Penja City as his remains were being taken to the cemetery. Several people were injured.	ACLED
21st March 2021, Kolofata Subdivision, Mayo-Sava Division, Far North Region	Boko Haram fighters attacked a local vigilante post in the Mayo Duro neighborhood of Amchide.	ACLED
17 mars 2021, Amchidé Kolofata Subdivision, Mayo-Sava Division, Far North Region	After killing Goni Idrissa on February 11 in an attack in Amchide, fighters from the Islamist group Boko Haram raided the Ouro Dole neighborhood on March 17 and the home of the deceased. They dispossessed his children of money and phones before fleeing, avoiding a confrontation with the army.	<a href="https://twitter.com/SembeTv/status/1372118595245867014">https://twitter.com/SembeTv/status/1372118595245867014</a>
14th March 2002, Commune of Mora, Department of Mayo- Sava, Far Nord Region	Suspected Boko Haram fighters attacked a group of traders traveling from Gogolum Yobe to Kangaleri village and took away a tricycle. One trader was reported missing	ACLED
12th March 2021, Nkwen, Mezam Division, North-West Region	A police officer was stabbed, and his gun taken away by boys in a car while they were doing their normal checkpoint outside their office.	Eléments de terrain recueillis par l'association REACH OUT

<p>12th March 2021, Bilingue High School of PK 21- Massoumbou, Douala 3rd, Wouri Division, Littoral Region</p>	<p>Judicaelle Tsague was taken to the Judicial Police of Bonanjo-Douala on March 12, where she has been held in custody since then.</p> <p>Following an altercation with her classmate Franck Tessop, she threw a pair of scissors at him, which hit him in the chest, and he died a few moments later in a Health Center.</p> <p>Both are students in the fourth grade at the bilingual high school of PK 21.</p>	<p><a href="https://www.griote.tv/affaire-du-meurtre-du-lycee-de-pk-21-la-jeune-eleve-auteure-du-coup-fatal-reste-gardee-a-la-police-judiciaire/">https://www.griote.tv/affaire-du-meurtre-du-lycee-de-pk-21-la-jeune-eleve-auteure-du-coup-fatal-reste-gardee-a-la-police-judiciaire/</a></p> <p><a href="https://www.237campus.com/lycee-bilingue-de-pk-21-une-eleve-tue-son-camarade-apres-une-dispute/">https://www.237campus.com/lycee-bilingue-de-pk-21-une-eleve-tue-son-camarade-apres-une-dispute/</a></p>
<p>12th March 2021, Kotrahe, Mayo-Moskota Subdivision, Mayo-Tsanaga Division, Far North Region</p>	<p>Boko Haram fighters made a failed attempt to steal cattle in the villages of Kotrahe and Gambas. Security guards and military personnel were alerted by gunfire and arrived just in time to scare off the insurgents.</p>	<p><a href="https://twitter.com/sembetv?https://twitter.com/SembeTv/status/1367831229190529025">https://twitter.com/sembetv?https://twitter.com/SembeTv/status/1367831229190529025</a></p>
<p>10th March 2021, Hile Alifa Sub-Division, Logone-Et-Chari Division, Far North Region</p>	<p>Boko Haram abducted several Fulani herders in Kafaram village,</p>	<p><a href="https://twitter.com/SembeTv/status/1372118595245867014">https://twitter.com/SembeTv/status/1372118595245867014</a></p> <p>ACLED</p>
<p>9th March 2021, Kolofata subdivision Mayo-Sava Division, Far North Region</p>	<p>Boko Haram fighters attacked pastoralists in Tolkomari village, they killed 3 cattle and took away others but the military and local vigilance group later retrieved the stolen cattle.</p>	<p>ACLED</p>
<p>8th March 2021, Kolofata Sub-Division, Mayo-Sava Division, Far North Region</p>	<p>Boko Haram fighters shot and injured one person in Ashigashiya village,</p>	<p>ACLED</p>
<p>7th March 2021, Akum, Santa Sub-Division Mezam Division, North-West Region</p>	<p>Ambazonian separatists opened fire on transport buses around the village of Akum. No deaths and/or casualties were reported.</p>	<p>ACLED</p>
<p>7th March 2021, Hile Alifa, Logone-Et-Chari Division,</p>	<p>Boko Haram fighters opened fire on civilians in Tchika village no fatality or casualty was reported.</p>	<p>ACLED</p>

Far North Region		
6th March 2021, Mora subdivision, Mayo-Sava Division, Far North Region.	The military forces and local vigilance group engaged in fire fight with Boko Haram around Double-Alagarno village no fatality or casualty were reported.	ACLED
6th March 2021, Matazem, Bamenda 2, Mezam Division, North West Region	Ambazonian separatists opened fire on transport buses in the Matazem district, injuring several passengers.	ACLED
2nd March 2021, Ldaotsaf, Mayo Moskota Subdivision, Mayo-Sava Division, Far North Region	Boko Haram attacked Ldaotsaf village injuring one person and taking away a motorbike.	ACLED
2nd March 2021, Mboppi, District Douala 1st, Wouri Division, Littoral Region	Law enforcement forces used tear gas canisters to disperse bikers and municipal police officers engaged in a bare-knuckle clash at the Mboppi market. The reason for this confrontation lies in the fact that the motorcycle drivers did not appreciate the claims of driving licenses and mandatory wearing of the chasubles of the municipality made by the agents of the municipality.	<a href="https://www.journalducameroun.com/information-en-continue/cameroun/#384817">https://www.journalducameroun.com/information-en-continue/cameroun/#384817</a>
1 March 2021, Mayo Moskota subdivision, Mayo-Sava Division, Far North Region.	Boko Haram looted Ldaotsaf village, taking away over 30 goats and sheep.	ACLED
<b>1.4. Kidnapping</b>		
13th March 2021, Buea, Fako Division, South-West Region	Fame Bunyui Ayisse, a journalist working at the CRTV station in the South West, was abducted on Saturday from her home by armed men. The kidnappers reportedly demanded the sum of 10 million for her release. But she was finally released on Sunday night. A ransom was reportedly paid	<a href="https://www.griote.tv/crise-anglophone-la-journaliste-fame-banyui-a-ete-victime-de-torture-avant-sa-liberation/">https://www.griote.tv/crise-anglophone-la-journaliste-fame-banyui-a-ete-victime-de-torture-avant-sa-liberation/</a>  <a href="https://www.cameroononline.org/sud-ouest-fame-bunyui-ayiseh-la-journaliste-de-la-crtv-enlevee-a-buea/">https://www.cameroononline.org/sud-ouest-fame-bunyui-ayiseh-la-journaliste-de-la-crtv-enlevee-a-buea/</a>

13th March 2021, Mokolo Subdivision, Mayo-Tsanaga Division, Far North Region	02 people were abducted by Boko Haram fighters. According to the testimony of the inhabitants, the jihadist fighters had already given the ultimatum to the local residents that they do not wish to see anyone in the fields while the farmers are in the middle of harvesting for the year 2021	<a href="https://mimimefoinfos.com/mokolo-a-lextreme-nord-01-mort-et-02-enlevements-ce-matin/">https://mimimefoinfos.com/mokolo-a-lextreme-nord-01-mort-et-02-enlevements-ce-matin/</a>
03 March 2021, Afadé, Makary Subdivision Far North Region	01 man missing after Boko Haram jihadists attack	<a href="https://twitter.com/SembeTv/status/1367421967117221888">https://twitter.com/SembeTv/status/1367421967117221888</a>

## 2. Violations of economic, social and cultural rights: right to health, right to housing.

### 1.1. Violation of the right to health<sup>1</sup>

Faced with a second wave of Covid-19 since February 2021, the Cameroonian authorities have taken belated action. The general laxity of the Government on the application of barrier measures has resulted in a general laxity by the population. The consequences are dire for the population and are resulting in a violation of the right to health for many Cameroonians.

Consequences include :

- A significant increase in Covid-19 cases, without the production of reliable statistics by the Government.
- A sharp increase in deaths.
- An accumulation of patients who are overloading the hospitals.
- Abusive dismissal of some employees by their companies.

**The Order of Physicians and Health professionals in the field have made the following observations:**

- More and more serious cases are being recorded every day in the care centers
- Hospitals are overburdened and soon to be overwhelmed
- There is a lack of equipment in the field, such as tests and equipment for respiratory assistance.

#### <sup>1</sup> Sources:

- <http://lurgentiste.com/prise-en-charge-des-cas-le-casse-tete-permanent/>
- Rapport webinaire avec quelques médecins sur la situation actuelle de covid-19 au Cameroun
- <http://lurgentiste.com/prise-en-charge-des-cas-le-casse-tete-permanent-2/>
- <http://lurgentiste.com/dr-zachaeus-ebongo-nanje-nous-avons-une-insuffisance-des-kits-pour-le-testing/>

- Insufficient staff for resuscitation.
- The pandemic management system is completely centralized.
- Public laboratories are not keeping pace. Private laboratories are not used, yet they could be.
- Lack of sufficiently clear data on the causes of death
- Existence of false positives and trafficking in tests
- The current communication creates fear among the population and drives them away from health centers.
- All other pathologies are neglected. We are totally disorganized in relation to other diseases.
- The current reception capacity is "outdated" or "about to be" and the therapeutic protocol is outdated.

### **Difficulties:**

- Obligation to pay for complementary examinations including chest X-ray following positive test results.
- In some hospitals, some families are obliged to pay for prescriptions and examinations, despite the fact that the Minister of Health has hammered on the fact that patients are to be treated free of charge.
- Despite the decentralization of the national response to the Coronavirus, some health facilities complain that they do not have the material and financial means to fight against the disease

### **Health worker challenges:**

- 1605 health personnel have been infected by Covid-19 since March 2020 and 31 have lost their lives.
- Non-payment of bonuses for 7 months for some and 3 months for others, non-payment of salaries since November 2020 (for the Orca Center in particular)
- Lack of protective equipment for their work

### **Situation of the pandemic in the North West and South West regions:**

- Since 24 March 2020, 1712 cases have been confirmed, 33 deaths, with a case fatality rate of 2.1%.
- Lack of Equipment
- Difficulty for populations to differentiate between cholera and covid-19 vaccine when teams are deployed to the field.

### **Recommendations :**

- Modify communication by emphasizing the warning signs and the number of deaths already recorded.
- Sharpen screening strategies
- Promote early care of patients
- Decentralize the management of the pandemic by strengthening the health districts with the necessary resources and capacity for action.

## 1.2. Violation of the Right to Housing

In Cameroon, illegal evictions are a violation of the right to housing that impacts hundreds of thousands of Cameroonians. Cameroonian law stipulates the conditions for informing the population before displacement, the obligation of resettlement and compensation. Unfortunately, this law is rarely respected and the State remains one of the most guilty actors of violations in this area.

- **Case of Bonadibong**

The populations of the Bonadibong neighbourhood, located in the 1st district of the city of Douala at the place known as Rue des Pavés in the early hours of Friday 19 February 2021 saw their houses cleared by a caterpillar accompanied by the security forces. About a hundred houses were destroyed. As the people were not notified, this destruction did not give them the opportunity to secure their documents and other belongings. According to one victim, this is a land dispute between them and a private individual that has been before the courts since 2012. After the proceedings in Douala, they went to the Supreme Court for the continuation of the case. They approached the Minister in charge of Land Affairs who had ordered the cancellation of the land title, the subject of the dispute, in favor of the occupants. They were surprised by the forced eviction that took place without a land title and was nevertheless supervised by the police.

- **Case of New-Town Aeroport**

The people of Newtown Airport 1, a township located in the 2nd district of the city of Douala, Littoral region, were evicted on January 9, 2021 by the administrative authorities, on the grounds of cleaning up the airport area. Many of its inhabitants have been living there since 1964, according to the land registry book which gives them the right of ownership. More than 200 families living in the area known as Fret Aéroport were evicted. It was through a forced eviction ordered by the Senior Divisional Officer of the Wouri Department. The machines of the Douala Urban Community destroyed about a hundred houses built in this area located on the edge of the Douala airport.

The reason for this eviction, the authorities justify, is the continuation of the extension of the Douala airport, the construction of which is imminent. Now evicted, these families are squatting, without any hope of resettlement from the authorities, who have refused to compensate them claiming they illegally occupied the area. Following a letter addressed to the Senior Divisional Officer of the Wouri Department by a collective of associations working in the field of forced evictions for an audience for more explanations concerning this case, the latter replied by saying that another wave of home destruction is planned for this district.

- **Case of Evictions at PK 17**

On 19 March 2021, at PK 17 in the 3rd district of Douala, more than 200 families wishing to acquire a piece of land to build a shelter seized the opportunity offered at a place called Boumkoul Palmeraie where they acquired spaces from the village communities of the locality.

Many of them, having already built, and others being in the process of doing so, were surprised by the appearance of a lady by the name of Widow Njoh with a military escort consisting of gendarmes and a machine, claiming ownership of an area by brandishing a land title of 4 hectares on this space where 200 families live. Such actions are to be deplored in a state governed by the rule of law such as Cameroon, where the clearing of a disputed plot of land is supposed to be the outcome of a judicial procedure, which must first be notified to the parties before the action is taken. State structures, administrations and security forces seem to be used by individuals as well as by the state itself for the regular violation of citizens' housing rights.

**Brief review and evaluation of pending cases:**

Date	Description	Situation in March 2021
<b>The situation of tension between the Bar Association and the Government of Cameroon.</b>		
June 2020	The lawyers will demonstrate their anger following the multiple humiliations that they continue to receive from the magistrates as well as from the forces of law and order, when they wish to meet with their clients who have been arrested and detained in police stations, gendarmeries, and prosecutors' offices. Magistrates are challenged in proceedings, including violations of reasonable time limits, beyond the conflict of interest that characterizes these various bodies. Some lawyers will be arrested, tried and convicted. Lawyers will demonstrate in order to be restored to their rights.	. To date, the government has not reacted or responded officially to the lawyers' complaints about the difficulties they face in carrying out their duties. The President of the Bar has been buried and the corporation is in a transitional phase. The problems raised remain. This is problematic for the effectiveness of the rule of law in Cameroon.
<b>Situation of political activists incarcerated following the peaceful demonstrations of September 22, 2020</b>		
<b>22nd September 2020</b>	Activists of the MRC and other allied organizations following the publication of the results of the 2018 presidential election denounce an electoral hold - up operated by the ruling party.  During a peaceful march initiated throughout the national territory on September 22, 2020, activists and supporters were arrested in three regions of	A recent complaint by the Collective of Defense Lawyers for the change of Magistrate Joel Albert Bias of the Military Court of Yaoundé has not met with a favorable response.  In a communiqué dated February 24, 2021, the defense lawyers accused him of denial of justice,



	<p>the country namely Yaoundé, Bafoussam and Douala. They have been held in pre-trial detention in the prisons of the cities where they were arrested and are being prosecuted before the Military Tribunal.</p> <p>They are accused of conspiracy, terrorism, insurrection, etc.</p> <p>These charges suggest political motives, given that the marches were peaceful.</p>	<p>violation of reasonable deadlines and bias.</p> <p>In the same communiqué, the collective denounced the inexplicable division of public action, which is being exercised, sometimes before the ordinary courts, sometimes before the special courts, for the same facts qualified as an offence concerning the MRC demonstrators arrested on 22 September 2020.</p> <p>In addition, requests for habeas corpus (free appearance of the defendants) were not accepted by the judges.</p> <p>The activists and supporters are still in prison.</p>
<p><b>Situation of the 04 militants of the movement Stand Up For Cameroon</b></p>		
<p>18th September 2020, Bali, Douala 1St District, Wouri Division, Littoral Region</p>	<p>September 18, 2020, four Stand Up For Cameroon activists were arrested while on their way home from the regular Black Friday meeting.</p> <p>Black Friday is a nonviolent protest initiated by the Stand Up For Cameroon movement since March 2016.</p> <p>It consists of wearing black on Fridays as a sign of protest.</p>	<p>To date, the four activists, Moussa Bello Mira Angoung, Tehle Membou and Ntsama Etienne, after 6 months of pre-trial detention at the Douala Central Prison, have been charged with the offenses of conspiracy to commit insurrection and revolution and others by the investigating judge of the Military Tribunal and referred for trial before the same Tribunal.</p> <p>They were notified of their referral order on February 24, 2021 and are awaiting notification of the hearing date.</p> <p>In the meantime, the time limits for their pre-trial detention have expired, but they are still in prison.</p>

**The disappeared in the context of the conflicts against Boko Haram**

<p>27th December 2014, Mora, Mayo-Sava Division, Far North Region</p>	<p>More than 200 boys and men were arrested by security forces in the villages of Magdémé and Doublé.</p> <p>During the operation, at least eight people, including a child, were killed, more than 70 buildings were burned, and numerous items of property were stolen or destroyed by security forces.</p>	<p>According to Amnesty International's report of March 9, 2020 to date, the Cameroonian authorities insist that only 70 men were arrested in the raid.</p> <p>They acknowledge that 25 of them died during their first night in detention, but they have not revealed the location of the bodies or even identified the victims.</p> <p>They denied that more than 200 men were arrested that day and that 130 have since been forcibly disappeared.</p> <p><a href="https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2020/03/new-amnesty-campaign-cameroun/">https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2020/03/new-amnesty-campaign-cameroun/</a></p>
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**Investigations following the massacre of students in Kumba**

<p>24th Octobre 2020, Kumba, Mème Division, South-West Region</p>	<p>On Saturday, October 24, 2020, suspected separatists broke into a private school in the city of Kumba, the "Mother Franscica" school and shot several children at close range.</p> <p>The provisional death toll is at least seven students, with several others injured.</p>	<p>. Aid to the victims of the massacre was announced by the government, but has not been fully implemented to date.</p> <p>The founder of the school, her husband, and 04 teachers are no longer in detention.</p> <p>It is unclear whether they will be prosecuted or not in this case.</p>
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### 3. Brief review of a few particularly worrying cases<sup>2</sup>

#### 3.1. Two cases of violations of prisoner's rights:

Amadou Vamoulke, journalist and former director general of CRTV now incarcerated in the Central Prison of Kondengui, through an open letter, drew the attention of national and international opinion, on the overcrowding of prisons and the impact of Covid-19 which has created many victims within the prisons. It is important to recall that the Government of Cameroon at the beginning of the pandemic in 2020 opted for the release of major criminals by reducing their sentences, rather than the release of thousands of political prisoners which would have significantly reduced the prison population.

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Paul Chouta, an online journalist and whistleblower, has been detained for almost two years (more than 22 months) on defamation charges for which the maximum sentence is six months. His trial was postponed for the 23rd time on March 18, 2021.

#### 3.2. A case of violation of freedom of speech:

The fact concerns threats and intimidation, restrictions on freedom of expression to which scientists and academics in Cameroon are subjected. The latest victim is Professor Pascal Charlemagne Messanga Nyamding, a member of the Central Committee of the ruling party (CPDM) and a former teacher at the Institute of International Relations of Cameroon. The latter declared that he feared for his life, after a morning of interrogation at the Secretariat of State for Defense (SED) on March 9, 2021

#### 3.3. The Forgotten Crisis in the Adamaoua, North and East Regions

- A worrisome insecurity situation

In addition to the crisis in the North-West and South-West and the fight against Boko Haram, there is a worrying situation of insecurity in other regions of the country bordering the Central African Republic. This security crisis is probably the most forgotten crisis in Cameroon. It has an impact in the Adamawa region, at least one department in the North region and part of the East region.

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#### <sup>2</sup> Sources:

[https://www.lemonde.fr/afrique/article/2021/03/07/au-cameroun-les-kidnappings-d-eleveurs-ement-la-desolation-dans-l-adamaoua\\_6072248\\_3212.html](https://www.lemonde.fr/afrique/article/2021/03/07/au-cameroun-les-kidnappings-d-eleveurs-ement-la-desolation-dans-l-adamaoua_6072248_3212.html)

<https://www.journalducameroun.com/information-en-continue/cameroun/#384817>

<https://www.aa.com.tr/fr/afrique/cameroun-onze-corps-rep%C3%AAch%C3%A9s-des-eaux-dans-la-r%C3%A9gion-de-l-adamaoua-/1363651>

[https://www.lemonde.fr/afrique/article/2018/06/21/au-cameroun-des-preneurs-d-otages-ement-la-terreur-dans-l-adamaoua\\_5319070\\_3212.html](https://www.lemonde.fr/afrique/article/2018/06/21/au-cameroun-des-preneurs-d-otages-ement-la-terreur-dans-l-adamaoua_5319070_3212.html)

Entretiens du Groupe de Travail de Stand Up For Cameroon avec des sources locales.

Since 2013 in this area, Central African rebels in complicity with Cameroonian bandits and other armed groups from Chad and Sudan have been kidnapping and raiding livestock.

- **Some aggravating factors of this situation:**

This insecurity, which comes largely from border countries, is made possible by factors such as the porous nature of the borders separating Cameroon from its neighbors, intercommunity conflicts, and mass unemployment among young people, which makes them vulnerable and quick to be drawn into criminal activities.

It aggravates a very fragile social situation due to the lack of basic services such as hospitals and schools as well as the prevailing promiscuity in the regions concerned.

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- **Consequences of this insecurity**

. This situation has resulted in the violation of several rights of the populations:

- According to MBOSCUDA, the Association for the Social and Cultural Development of the Mbororo (nomadic Fulani whose main activity is herding), between 2015 and 2019:
  - ○ More than 300 Mbororo were taken hostage in Adamaoua.
  - ○ 70 of them were killed
  - ○ About 30 were rescued by the army.
  - ○ The rest, about 200 recovered their freedom against the payment of more than 2 billion CFA francs in ransom (more than 3 million euros).
- Several thousand internally displaced persons.
- Closure of schools and disruption of schooling for several thousand children

These figures are largely underestimated because families are increasingly reluctant to file complaints for fear of reprisals, which makes it difficult to find more recent and reliable figures. Currently, intelligence services are one of the sources that can report on the situation in these regions. But they do not provide their recent data.

The economic impact is enormous. According to the Adamawa representative of the Cameroon branch of the Association de l'Elevage au Sahel et en Savane (APEES), before the crisis, Cameroon had 7 million heads of cattle, including nearly 4 million in Adamawa. Today, they estimate that Adamawa has lost 50% of its livestock. Livestock farmers, who were the economic engine of the region, are devastated, and the local economy with them.

- **Types of Violence and Human Rights Violations Observed**

The most common forms of violence in this region were killings, attacks, kidnapping for ransom, robbery, and rape.

These acts of violence are accompanied by serious human rights violations in the form of repression, extortion, forced detention, torture, and conditional threats.

The vast majority of the perpetrators of these abuses and human rights violations are non-state armed groups and in some cases law enforcement and security personnel.

Hostages whose families were unable to pay ransoms were killed. Those whose money arrived after the deadline set by the kidnappers were tortured and seriously injured.

- **Possible developments of the situation**

The government says little about the crisis and does not publish statistics on the various violations.

In response to insecurity, the Cameroonian military has been deployed to the area with some success. Attacks have decreased.

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However, the resurgence of violence in the Central African Republic since December 2020 and suspicions of corruption and collusion that weigh on the army itself, are not reassuring for the population. Most of the population is still living with difficulty in the towns where they have been displaced to, their livestock activities have either stopped or are severely diminished, and kidnappings are once again a recurring phenomenon.

Effective and sustainable solutions to support these populations on the security, economic, psychological and social levels are still lacking. There is an urgent need to act to support the population and reduce the violence that affects them.

**4. Summary of violated laws and international instruments**

Cameroon is a part of the international human rights community and has integrated numerous regional and international instruments into national law through their ratification. At a time when the security context is increasingly delicate at the national level and the issue of human rights is at the heart of the concerns of the government and the population, it seems essential to recall that Cameroon is, and remains, a State governed by the rule of law by virtue of its various commitments at the constitutional and international levels. It must therefore respect the rights of its citizens, who, if necessary, have access to "UN" legal remedies to obtain redress in case of violation of these rights

<p><b>4.1. African legal Instruments</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights</li><li>• The African Charter on Democracy, Elections and Governance</li><li>• The African Charter on Youth</li><li>• The African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child</li></ul>
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## 4.2. International legal Instruments

- The Universal Declaration of Human Rights
- The International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights
- The International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
- International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights
- Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights
- Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women
- Convention on the Rights of the Child
- Declaration on the Protection of All Persons from Being Subjected to Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment
- International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families
  - Convention against Torture and Other Inhuman and Degrading Treatment or Punishment
  - Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict.

## 5. Urgent and priority areas of action: Recommendations

These actions concern:

- The State of Cameroon (Cameroonian political and security authorities)
- Non-State Armed Groups
- International organizations and partner countries of the State of Cameroon
- Cameroonian civil society organizations
- Journalists
- Ordinary Cameroonian citizen

### I – Recommendation for Cameroonian government authorities

Areas of work	Primary Objectives	Recommendations
A – Arrest and detention of people.	1. Put an end to violence against civilians through collective punitive operations by the defense and security forces.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Respect the rules related to arrests and detentions defined in the code of criminal procedure.</li> <li>b. Better equip judicial police officers with the new criminal procedure code</li> <li>c. Train police officers and security forces</li> <li>d. Proceed with systematic sanctions</li> </ul>

	<p>2. Ensure strict respect for the rights of defendants during arrests and detentions.</p>	<p>a. Take measures to stop corrupt acts such as the taking of interest by judicial police officers.</p> <p>b. Create a specialized Corps of judicial police officers under the authority of the Public Prosecutor.</p> <p><i>Benefits of this measure:</i></p> <p>a. <i>Harmonization of training between gendarmes and police officers on the respect of criminal procedure</i></p> <p>b. <i>The Public Prosecutor will have full powers of sanction over the Judicial Police Officers</i></p>
	<p>3. End the practice of torture and other degrading treatment.</p>	<p>a. Systematically punish the perpetrators through disciplinary and criminal sanctions each time the facts are proven.</p> <p>b. Provide ongoing training for the security forces so that they can be effective in respecting human rights.</p>
	<p>4. Ensure humane and decent conditions of detention for those arrested.</p>	<p>a. Improve and renovate existing infrastructure.</p> <p>b. Increase the capacity of the prison by building new security rooms and prison cells</p>
	<p>5. Enforce the right to a fair trial</p>	<p>a. Popularize the legal aid mechanism to enable citizens to be informed about the possibilities of assistance that exist.</p> <p>b. Respect the code of criminal procedure.</p> <p>c. Concrete commitments must be made to ensure access to justice and fair trials.</p> <p>d. A mechanism for monitoring and correcting abuses and dysfunctions must also be put in place to allow for an overall improvement in the situation.</p>

B – Respect for public freedoms and the effectiveness of the rule of law	6. Release those arrested in total violation of Cameroonian laws and procedures.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Effectively apply the provision relating to habeas corpus in the Code of Criminal Procedure.</li> <li>b. End the prosecution of citizens who have participated in peaceful protest activities.</li> </ul>
	7. Stop the violence and harassment of political activists and lawyers.	<p>For Political Activists</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Stop the prosecution of political activists arrested for their peaceful actions for offenses punishable by life imprisonment or the death penalty. This will allow them to appear free. When prosecuted for a sentence of life imprisonment or death are not eligible.</li> </ul> <p>For Lawyers :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Make concrete commitments so that lawyers can effectively assist their clients.</li> <li>b. Create a framework for dialogue and monitoring of the application of the State's commitments in terms of respect for the status of lawyers.</li> <li>c. Implement the proposals already formulated by the Bar Association for a better respect of the right to defense and the status of the lawyer.</li> </ul>
C - Transparency and restoration of trust with the people	8. Shedding light on some key issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Authorize independent commissions of inquiry into certain grievous cases: Ebam, Kumba, Magdeme, etc.</li> <li>b. Restitute the corpse of Samuel Wazizi and allow through an independent investigation that the truth be established.</li> </ul>
	9. Inform in a clear and objective way about the real situation in the different conflict zones.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Produce clear and regular reports on the conflict situations.</li> <li>b. Produce on a regular basis figures and other key data on prisoners, ongoing proceedings, and various key statistics.</li> <li>c. Respond to inquiries from victims' families, national and international NGOs on allegations of abuse.</li> </ul>



D – National Human Rights Commission of Cameroon	10. Rebuilding trust with civil society organizations specialized in human rights issues	a. It is important to consider the objections of human rights organizations to the staff and status of the Cameroon Human Rights Commission.
	11. Improving the effectiveness of the National Human Rights Commission	a. It is crucial that mechanisms for consultation and collaboration be defined so that this commission is an institution that truly serves the promotion and protection of human rights in Cameroon.

## II – Recommendations for non-state armed groups

Areas of Work	Primary Objectives	Recommendations
A – Renunciation of violence	2. Ending violence against civilians	<p>a. Political leaders and leaders of armed groups claiming to be "Ambazonians" must solemnly commit to cease racketeering activities and violence against civilians.</p> <p>b. Political leaders and leaders of armed groups claiming to be from "Ambazonia" must disassociate themselves from acts of violence against civilians.</p>
	13. Ending attacks on government officials.	a. Political leaders and leaders of armed groups claiming to be from "Ambazonia" must commit to renouncing attacks on public officials as well as law enforcement, security and defense forces.
B – Contribution to justice for the people	14. Bringing to international justice those guilty of crimes within their ranks.	<p>a. Political leaders and leaders of armed groups claiming to be from "Ambazonia" must allow independent investigations into serious cases of human rights violations.</p> <p>b. Those guilty or allegedly guilty of serious violations must be arrested and, when appropriate, brought to international justice.</p>

C – Seeking a peaceful and sustainable resolution to crises.	15. Renounce the use of arms as a political means to achieve their cause.	<p>a. Political leaders and leaders of armed groups claiming to be from "Ambazonia" must in the short term solemnly commit to a ceasefire and dialogue process.</p> <p>b. In the mid-term, they must renounce the defense of their political positions by arms.</p>
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### III - Recommendations for international organizations and partner countries to the State of Cameroon

Areas of Work	Primary Objectives	Recommendations
Support for the documentation of violence and human rights violations	16. Ask the Cameroonian state to shed light on the unresolved issues mentioned by the various human rights actors.	<p>a. Through appropriate channels, international organizations and Cameroon's partner countries and co-signatories of international instruments must request and obtain that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Independent investigations be authorized and conducted</li> <li>● b. The results of the investigations are made public.</li> <li>● c. Consequences are in accordance with national and international laws drawn.</li> </ul>
	17. Support efforts to document incidents of violence and human rights violations.	<p>a. International organizations and partner countries of the State of Cameroon can and should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Support research and investigation efforts for the manifestation of the truth in serious cases of human rights violations.</li> <li>● b. Support the conduct of in-depth studies to better understand the causes and recurring factors of human rights crises and violations.</li> <li>c. Support the dissemination of the results of studies and investigations to stakeholders in national life.</li> </ul>

	18. Support information campaigns on serious cases of human rights violations	<p>a. International organizations and partner countries of the State of Cameroon can and should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Support information, training, and awareness campaigns for national and international opinion on the human rights situation in Cameroon.</li> <li>● b. Protect whistleblowers and human rights defenders who initiate and conduct public campaigns on human rights.</li> </ul>
Contribution to the achievement of justice and the fight against impunity	19. Use their full weight to stop the harassment and violence against lawyers, political activists and human rights defenders.	<p>a. a. International organizations and partner countries of the State of Cameroon can and should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Support projects and initiatives aimed at protecting the rights of human rights defenders, activists, and lawyers</li> <li>● b. Remind the State of Cameroon of the international instruments relating to the respect of human rights.</li> </ul>
	20. Support the efforts of victims and civil society to ensure fair trials and the release of those arrested in full violation of national laws and procedures.	<p>a. International organizations and partner countries of the State of Cameroon can and should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Support victims' efforts to have quality counsel to represent them in cases</li> <li>● b. Demand and obtain Cameroon's respect for international rules and principles relating to fair trial.</li> <li>● c. Join their voices with those of the arbitrarily arrested to obtain their release..</li> </ul>
	21. Impose severe and strong sanctions against those responsible for the violence at the level of the government and non-state armed groups.	<p>a. International organizations and partner countries of the State of Cameroon can and should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Constantly remind stakeholders in conflicts of the sanctions they face for human rights violations</li> <li>● b. Take sanctions against political and security officials responsible for serious violations.</li> <li>● c. Take sanctions against political leaders in the diaspora and operational leaders of armed groups on the ground.</li> </ul>

Contribution to the decrease of the climate and the decrease of the hostilities	22. Support dialogue processes between Cameroonian socio-political actors	<p>a. International organizations and partner countries of the State of Cameroon can and should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Support dialogue initiatives and mediations between the different stakeholders, at the national and international levels.</li> <li>● b. Contribute to the sharing of experiences with countries that have experienced more or less similar crisis.</li> </ul>
	23. Initiate or support ceasefire processes between belligerents in areas of insecurity	<p>a. International organizations and partner countries of the State of Cameroon can and should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Hold regular sessions devoted to the examination of the crisis in Cameroon in international forums</li> <li>● Support and assist actors who wish to conduct mediation for global or localized cease-fires</li> <li>● Support the training and deployment of national mediators from the religious world and civil society.</li> </ul>
	24. Initiate or support conflict resolution processes in communities affected by conflict.	<p>a. International organizations and partner countries of the State of Cameroon can and should:</p> <p>a. Support dialogue initiatives between local communities in crisis areas.</p> <p>b. Support the idea of implementing a Justice, Truth and Reconciliation process globally.</p>

Contribution to systemic reforms that allow a better respect of human rights in Cameroon	25. 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.	<p>a. International organizations and partner countries of the State of Cameroon can and should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Organize regular working sessions at the national level with human rights organizations to take stock of the evolution of violence and human rights</li> <li>● Support the establishment of monitoring, training, and evaluation bodies for commitments made to improve the situation between the Government and civil society.</li> <li>● Strengthen the conditionalities relating to the respect of human rights, fundamental freedoms and the rule of law in the various conventions with the State of Cameroon.</li> </ul>
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#### IV – Recommendations for Cameroonian civil society organizations

Areas of Work	Primary Objectives	Recommendations
Synergy in the documentation of violence and human rights violations.	26. Pooling efforts in monitoring and documenting cases of violence and human rights violations in Cameroon	<p>a. Increase the systematic sharing of information on human rights violations among human rights organizations.</p> <p>b. Produce regular collective reports on the human rights situation.</p> <p>c. Collectively speak out on serious cases of human rights violations.</p>
Synergy in national and international advocacy	27. Pooling efforts in advocacy at the national and international level	<p>a. Systematically coordinate to seize advocacy opportunities at the national and international levels.</p> <p>b. Jointly define common approaches and campaigns at the national and international levels.</p>

Synergy in the defense and protection of victims and human rights defenders.	28. Pooling efforts in the defense and protection of victims and human rights defenders.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Establish, strengthen and expand the monitoring and alert system on threats to human rights defenders.</li> <li>b. Pool resources and approaches to accompany victims in serious cases of human rights violations.</li> </ul>
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#### V – Recommendations for journalists and opinion leaders

Areas of Work	Primary Objectives	Recommendations
Integration of the human rights issue in the editorial line	29. The issue of respect for human rights becomes a priority for the media.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Ensure the upgrading and training of journalists on human rights issues.</li> <li>b. Take steps to ensure that human rights information is systematically covered in your media.</li> </ul>
Synergy in investigations	30. Conduct systematic investigations in conjunction with human rights organizations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Systematically collaborate with human rights organizations in investigations</li> <li>b. Conducting systematic verification of official and unofficial reports of human rights violations</li> <li>c. Systematically monitor trials related to serious human rights violations.</li> </ul>
Public information and education	31. To contribute to the training of citizens on human rights	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Create programs dedicated to education on human rights laws and instruments.</li> <li>b. Give prominence to human rights information in Cameroon.</li> </ul>

## VI – Recommendations for Cameroonian citizens

Cameroonian citizens can and should:

**32. Get informed about the real situation of human rights in Cameroon.** In a context of crisis such as Cameroon's, ignorance of the gravity of human rights violations is an encouragement to those who systematically violate them.

**33. Learn about human rights and how to defend them.** No one is supposed to ignore the law. No one should ignore their rights and freedoms. Your rights and freedoms are guaranteed by the Constitution and many international instruments ratified by the State of Cameroon. Many organizations exist and can help you to educate yourself. Many contents are available on the internet. Train yourself to be able to resist arbitrariness and repression.

**34. Organize against potential violations of your fundamental's rights and freedoms.** No one is safe from a violation of their rights and freedoms. No one should believe that in the event of abuse and arbitrariness, without the support of an organization and a collective, he or she will be able to get out. It is an illusion to believe that one is safe from these various violations and abuses. For the rule of law to be a reality, it needs vigilant and organized citizens.

**35. Act to make the rule of law a reality.** You can and must act so that light is shed on certain massacres and certain massive human rights violations. You can and must act so that impunity for those responsible for human rights violations ends. You can and must act so that human life and the rights of all are respected.