

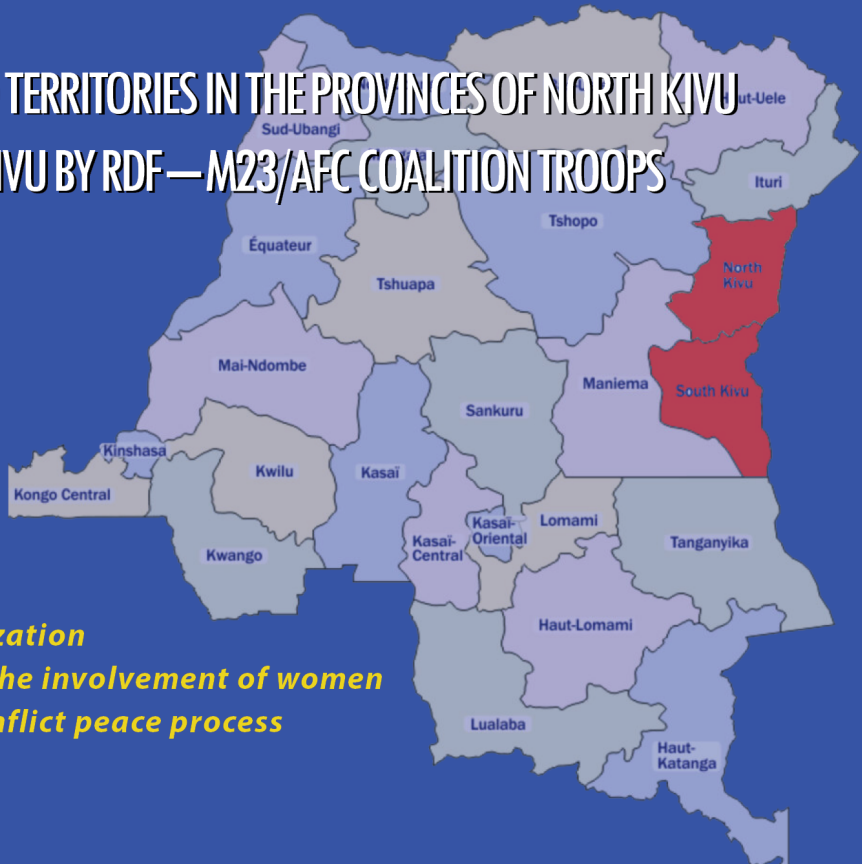


**Training Center
for Active Education Methods in Congo**

Member of the International Federation of Training Centers
for Active Education Methods
"FICEMEA"

VIOLATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN LAW SINCE THE OCCUPATION

OF CITIES AND TERRITORIES IN THE PROVINCES OF NORTH KIVU AND SOUTH KIVU BY RDF — M23/AFC COALITION TROOPS



- *Citizen mobilization*
- *Advocacy for the involvement of women in the post-conflict peace process*



“Monitoring of violations of human rights and international humanitarian law since the occupation of cities and territories in the provinces of North Kivu and South Kivu by RDF – M23/AFC coalition troops »

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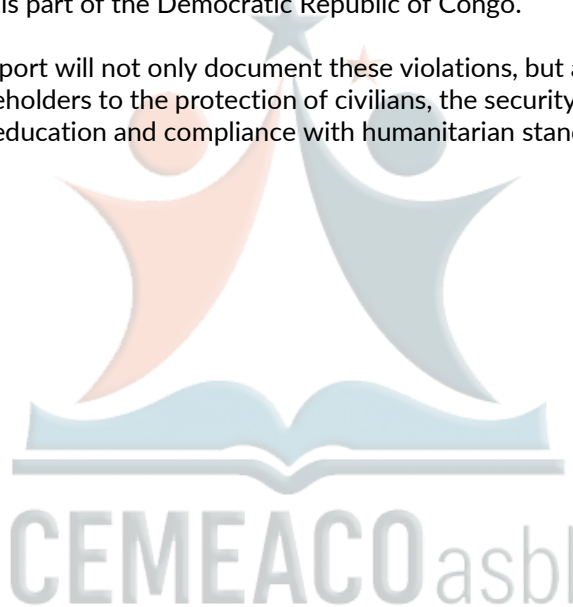
2. INTRODUCTION

This report was prepared in the context of an unprecedented crisis in the provinces of North and South Kivu, following the occupation of several towns and territories by RDF–M23/AFC coalition troops. The events documented in this report reveal the scale of human rights violations and breaches of international humanitarian law, as well as the serious consequences for civilian populations, including internally displaced persons, medical personnel, and patients.

In addition to the direct impact on the safety and health of populations, this crisis has also profoundly disrupted the education sector. Many schools have been closed or destroyed, and teachers and students have been displaced, significantly reducing access to education for children and youth in affected areas.

This report is intended as a reference tool for humanitarian actors, national and international authorities, and anyone concerned with the protection of populations, the promotion of justice, and educational continuity. It presents specific facts, detailed findings, and rigorous analyses to contribute to raising awareness and mobilizing action on the situation in this part of the Democratic Republic of Congo.

We hope that this report will not only document these violations, but also strengthen the commitment of stakeholders to the protection of civilians, the security of health facilities, the maintenance of education and compliance with humanitarian standards.



3. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The eastern Democratic Republic of Congo, particularly the provinces of North and South Kivu, remains in a protracted crisis marked by chronic instability, despite national and international peace initiatives. The upsurge in violence observed in occupied cities and territories between January and August 2025 represents a critical turning point in this conflict.

During this period, a major offensive was launched against the cities of Goma and Bukavu and some of their respective territories by RDF and M23/AFC coalition troops, causing a rapid deterioration of the security, humanitarian and institutional situation.

These attacks were accompanied by massive human rights violations, several of which can be classified as war crimes under international law. The main documented facts are as follows:

- Extrajudicial executions, kidnappings and targeted persecution of journalists, human rights activists, religious leaders and certain civilian figures believed to be close to the government.
- Arbitrary arrests, illegal detentions and acts of torture in unrecognized centers, often accompanied by ransom demands or death threats.
- Forced labor inflicted on civilians forced to perform degrading tasks under the threat of physical or financial punishment.
- Large-scale sexual violence, particularly in internally displaced persons camps and during prison escapes, with cases of gang rape.
- Massive looting and destruction, including warehouses of certain international organizations (World Food Program), schools, health centers, and private and public property.
- Forced dismantling of certain displaced persons camps (Bushagara, Kanyaruchinya, Bulengo), without security guarantees or humanitarian assistance, and forced returns to high-risk areas, in contradiction with the principles of international humanitarian law.
- Use of heavy weapons against civilian areas, including against displaced persons camps, resulting in the deaths of many civilians and the destruction of shelter infrastructure.
- Fragile implementation of the agreements, resulting in delays in the implementation of the timetables set in Washington and Doha.
- Uncertainty regarding the effective withdrawal of the Rwandan armed forces and its M23/AFC auxiliaries from occupied towns and territories.

All of these events have led to a major humanitarian crisis, marked by:

- The massive displacement of hundreds of thousands of people in the cities of Goma and Bukavu as well as the territories of Nyiragongo, Masisi, Rutshuru, Walikale, Lubero, Walungu, Kabare and Kalehe.
- The destruction of the administrative apparatus and public services, including courts, official buildings and water, electricity and telecommunications distribution networks.
- The mass escape of more than 4,763 prisoners from Munzenze Central Prison in Goma and other places of detention in cities and territories under occupation,

aggravating the general insecurity and further compromising the functioning of justice and respect for public order.

This citizen monitoring presents a series of cases of serious violations of human rights and international humanitarian law suffered by civilian populations in the cities of Goma and Bukavu, as well as in the territories of Nyiragongo, Masisi, Rutshuru, Lubero, Walikale, Kalehe, Walungu and Kabare.

It documents several abuses committed between February and August 2025 by RDF and M23/AFC coalition troops in the eastern Democratic Republic of Congo, based on direct testimony, field observations, and credible local sources. It is the result of the concerted efforts of members of a network of civil society organizations called CEMEACO, committed to defending human rights, promoting gender equality, citizenship education, peacebuilding, and strengthening democracy.



4. METHODOLOGY

As part of its mission to document human rights violations in eastern DRC, CEMEACO set up a rigorous data collection, analysis and processing system in January 2025, mobilizing 55 "ARCD" data collection relay actors, including 45 men and 10 women. These relays come from the cities of Goma and Bukavu as well as the territories of Nyiragongo, Masisi, Rutshuru, Lubero, Walikale, Walungu, Kalehe and Kabare. They are familiar with local realities and have solid experience in data collection in conflict zones.

They acted with caution and according to strict guidelines for their personal safety and collected data on serious violations committed by RDF and M23/AFC coalition troops during the occupation of these towns and territories in North and South Kivu provinces. These violations include: assassinations, kidnappings, rape, torture, extortion, looting, destruction of infrastructure and attacks on fundamental freedoms.

The collected data were transmitted to the central monitoring unit responsible for their verification, processing, and publication. Only facts observed directly or confirmed by multiple credible sources were retained, excluding partisan accounts. The system also incorporated rigorous double-checking: the information synthesized by the monitoring unit was returned to the field contacts for final validation to ensure its authenticity, accuracy, and reliability.

Initially, the team focused its attention on the city of Goma, the territories of Nyiragongo, Rutshuru, Masisi, Lubero and Walikale where certain violations were observed and documented in detail. Each incident was recorded to ensure the traceability and veracity of the information.

Subsequently, the city of Bukavu and the territories of Kalehe, Walungu and Kabare were also examined. The relay actors carried out systematic documentation of similar cases, thus making it possible to draw up a reliable and structured inventory of human rights violations in the region.

After collecting field data, the relay actors began analyzing the information gathered. Very quickly, they were able to identify several cases of human rights violations affecting civilian populations.

In parallel, several strategic and complementary actions were carried out by CEMEACO as follows:

- Documentary collection of legal texts and international agreements related to peace and human rights (resolutions of the United Nations Security Council and the European Union, Rome Statute, Framework Agreement for Peace, Constitution of the DRC).
- Development of specific guidelines for the collection and operational transmission of data from local cells to central supervision.
- Publication of a peace advocacy note for parliamentary, diplomatic and governmental bodies as well as civil society organizations at the international level dated February 1, 2025.
- Moral and political support from FICEMEA through an official message from its President at the end of the Board of Directors of March 7, 2025 in Brussels.

- Finalization of the report and preparation of concrete actions to be taken as part of advocacy for peace, justice and the protection of civilians in the affected areas.

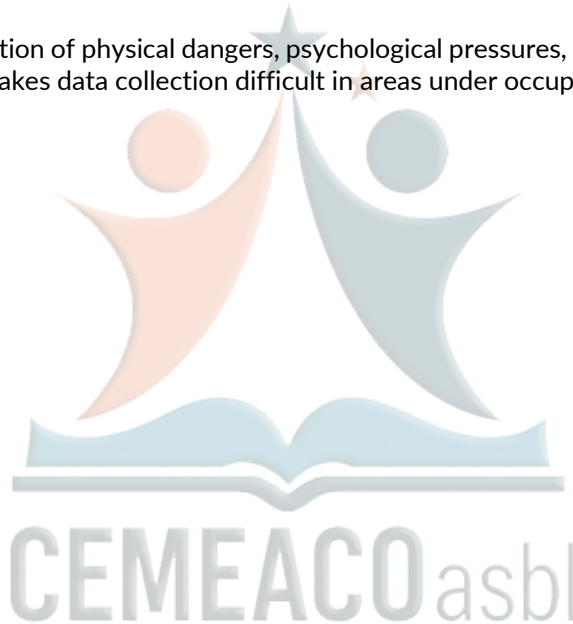
In an extremely fragile security context such as that of Goma, Bukavu and the occupied territories, data collection relay actors face numerous obstacles that sometimes complicate their work. They are directly exposed to armed violence, gunfire, ambushes and bombings, and are often threatened and intimidated by the authority of the RDF and M23/AFC coalition or certain local actors subservient to it.

Access by relay actors to neighboring municipalities, neighborhoods, territories, and groups remains limited due to control by coalition forces, checkpoints, and the hostility of the population, which is reluctant to provide information for fear of reprisals. Added to this are problems of communication interruptions that hinder data collection in the field.

Psychological pressure is also high: prolonged exposure to violence, trauma and atrocities leads to mental fatigue, stress and the risk of burnout.

Data verification remains difficult in an environment where misinformation and rumors are common, and where information can be manipulated or biased.

Overall, the combination of physical dangers, psychological pressures, logistical obstacles, and social barriers makes data collection difficult in areas under occupation.



5. CONTEXT

For more than three decades, the eastern Democratic Republic of Congo has been the scene of recurring armed conflicts, characterized by the presence of national and foreign armed groups and a persistent humanitarian crisis. This chronic instability is aggravated by regional geopolitical issues and illicit economic interests.

In this climate of widespread violence and repeated violations of human rights and international humanitarian law, the provinces of North Kivu, South Kivu and Ituri remain the epicenters of clashes between, on the one hand, the Armed Forces of the Democratic Republic of Congo "FARDC" and foreign and local armed groups, and on the other hand, between the "FARDC" supported by the Wazalendo and the Rwanda Defence Force coalition and the March 23 Movement with the Congo River Alliance "RDF - M23/AFC".

These clashes, particularly the offensive on the cities of Goma and Bukavu and in certain territories during the months of January and February 2025, have led to dramatic consequences: targeted assassinations, sexual violence, forced displacement, the looting of vital infrastructure such as schools and medical facilities and the collapse of public services.

Faced with growing instability in the strategic mineral-rich provinces of North and South Kivu, and with the aim of obtaining the immediate withdrawal of Rwandan forces and their M23/AFC proxies, the government of the Democratic Republic of Congo launched a diplomatic offensive. This approach led to the adoption of several major texts: Resolution 2773 (2025) on the situation in eastern DRC, adopted by the UN Security Council at its 9865th meeting on 21 February 2025, as well as Resolution 2025/2553(RSP) of the European Parliament, adopted on 13 February 2025. In addition, there is the Doha Principles Agreement and the Washington Declaration.

Regarding Congolese civil society organizations, some of them, active in the provinces and territories under occupation, have distinguished themselves by denouncing human rights violations, documenting crimes, carrying out advocacy actions with international bodies and acting as humanitarian actors to support displaced persons and vulnerable populations. However, there was little mobilization of civil society, with the exception of religious denominations, which condemned the occupation by coalition troops, organized prayer mornings and initiated programs to promote peace and national reconciliation.

In this context of emergency and prolonged crisis, CEMEACO, as a civil society organization committed to human rights and citizenship education, has established a specific citizen monitoring system. This initiative is part of a broader dynamic of mobilizing associative networks and national, regional, and international legal instruments to promote peace, transitional justice, and recognition of victims.

6. OBJECTIVE OF THE ACTION

As a civic duty and with full responsibility, the objective of the action carried out by CEMEACO is to document and analyze the violations of human rights and international humanitarian law committed by the RDF and M23/AFC coalition troops during the occupation of the cities of Goma and Bukavu as well as the territories of Nyiragongo, Lubero, Rutshuru, Masisi, Walikale, Walungu, Kalehe and Kabare in order to strengthen accountability, inform public opinion, feed advocacy mechanisms and mobilize national and international actors around the protection of civilian populations and peacebuilding.



7. LEGAL BASIS FOR THE ACTION

CEMEACO had to rely on a legal basis to carry out its action. This ensures that the action is legitimate, compliant with the law, protected against disputes, and ensures that it takes place within a clear framework that defines responsibilities and strengthens credibility.

This citizen action is thus based on resolutions and legal instruments of international, regional and national scope. These are:

1. Resolution 1325 (2000) adopted by the UN Security Council on women, peace and security at its 4213th meeting on 31 October 2000 (items 9, 10, 11 and 12);
2. Resolution 2773 (2025) on the situation in the east of the Democratic Republic of the Congo adopted by the UN Security Council at its 9865th meeting on 21 February 2025 (items 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 15, 16, 17);
3. Resolution (2025/2553(RSP)) of the European Parliament, 13 February 2025;
4. The Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (preamble) of July 17, 1998, entered into force on July 1, 2002;
5. The Constitution of the Democratic Republic of Congo of February 18, 2006 in these provisions dealing with:
 - Civil and political rights: Articles 17 and 18 (right to a fair trial); Article 22 (freedom of thought, conscience and religion); Article 23 (right to freedom of expression); Articles 25 and 26 (freedom of assembly and public demonstration) and Article 29 (inviolability of the home);
 - Economic, social and cultural rights: Articles 43 (right to education) and 47 (right to health);
 - Rights of vulnerable groups: Articles 14 and 15 (women's rights, gender equality and the fight against violence against women); Articles 40 and 42 (children's rights: protection against exploitation and compulsory schooling) and Article 49 (protection of disabled people and the elderly);
 - Article 37 paragraph 2 on collaboration between public authorities and associations;
 - Article 63, paragraph 1: "Every Congolese has the right and the sacred duty to defend the country and its territorial integrity against an external threat or aggression."
6. Appeal from His Excellency the President of the Democratic Republic of Congo, on the occasion of the side event on the recognition of genocides committed in the DRC, on the sidelines of the 60th session of the United Nations Human Rights Council on September 8, 2025.

8. DISCOVERING CEMEACO

8.1. Presentation

The Training Center for Active Education Methods in Congo, CEMEACO for short, is a non-profit association under Congolese law created in 2012. It is a member of the International Federation of Training Centers for Active Education Methods (FICEMEA), an international NGO under Belgian law and sits on the Board of Directors and the General Assembly of FICEMEA.

CEMEACO promotes inclusive, continuous and active education, centered on autonomy, cooperation and social transformation.

8.2. Vision and Strategic Missions

CEMEACO focuses its action on three main axes. First, it promotes a New Education, open to all, at every stage of life, and which relies on concrete activity and the environment as levers of development. Second, it positions itself as a training and continuing education organization, offering spaces for continuous learning to strengthen skills and promote the emancipation of social, educational and cultural actors. Finally, it implements active education methods, based on personal commitment, cooperation and creativity, in order to stimulate critical thinking and strengthen the capacity for action in favor of social transformation.

8.3. Values

CEMEACO promotes some of the following values:

- Participation
- Inclusion
- Integrity
- Accountability
- Human rights

8.4. Themes

CEMEACO bases its action on gender equality, citizenship, human rights, the right to education for all, the migration issue and democracy, through which it trains and supports various social and educational actors, while promoting formal, non-formal and informal education with a view to social development at the local, national and international levels.

8.5. Partners

CEMEACO favors interactive partnerships with technical and financial partners as well as with civil society organizations, including churches, which participate in the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of its projects, such as the Centre Wallonie Bruxelles Internationale in Kinshasa, the Governance, Elections and Citizenship Network and the Electoral Integrity and Mediation Commission.

9. ANALYSIS OF HIGHLIGHTS

9.1. NORTH KIVU PROVINCE

9.1.1. Brief presentation of the city of Goma

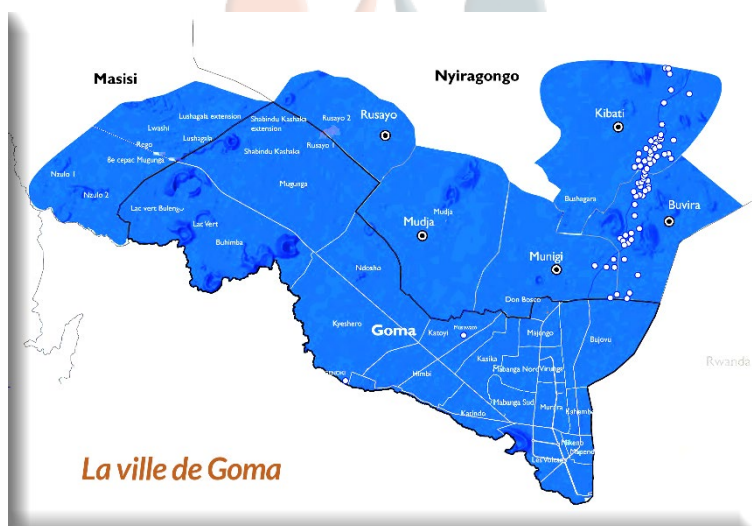
The city of Goma is the capital of the North Kivu Province. It is located between the city of Gisenyi in Rwanda, the Nyiragongo Territory, the Virunga National Park and the Masisi Territory and is subdivided into two communes and 18 districts, namely:

1. The Commune of Goma

It comprises 7 districts, namely: Volcans, Mikeno, Mapendo, Katindo, Himbi, Kyeshero and Lac Vert.

2. The Municipality of Karisimbi

It in turn includes 11 districts, which are: Kahembe, Katoyi, Majengo, Mabanga-Nord, Mabanga-Sud, Kasika, Murara, Virunga, Ndosho, Mugunga and Bujovu.



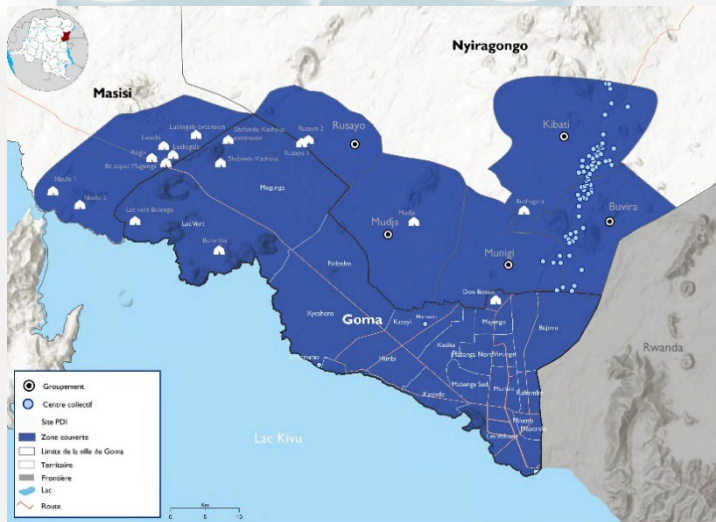
9.1.2. Human rights violations in internally displaced persons camps

The city of Goma had a population of over 2 million before the occupation by the RDF and M23/AFC coalition troops, of whom over 696,650 were internally displaced. These displaced people were housed in the camps of Bushagara, Kanyaruchinya, Don Bosco, Mudja, Acogenoki, Rusayo 1, 2 and 3, Buhimba, Rego, Lushagala, Lushagala 2, Baraka, Lac Vert/Bulengo, Kashaka, 8^eCEPAC Lac Vert Mugunga, Shasha, Samsam, Nzulo, Musawato, ...

The displaced are Congolese civilians who received support from the DRC government, humanitarians, churches, and people of goodwill. They came from the Jomba group on Chanzu/Runyoni hill, Bwisha and Bwito chiefdoms in Rutshuru territory. They arrived in Goma in June 2022, fleeing the advances of RDF and M23/AFC coalition troops. Thousands more came from the territories of Masisi, Nyiragongo, Walikale, and part of Lubero territory in North Kivu Province, and from Minova, Kalehe, and Bweremana in South Kivu Province.

Among these thousands of displaced people were officials of local authorities, state public service agents, teachers, civil society actors and some active members of the ruling political parties and groups.

Following the occupation of the city of Goma, the humanitarian situation worsened: displaced persons from the Nzulo, Bulengo, Lushagala, Rusayo and Kanyaruchinya camps fled to downtown Goma or the territories of Rutshuru and Masisi, including Mpox patients treated in certain medical facilities. After the dismantling of the IDP camps around Goma, approximately 3,680 households (16,560 people) found refuge in certain new collective centers identified by humanitarian partners.

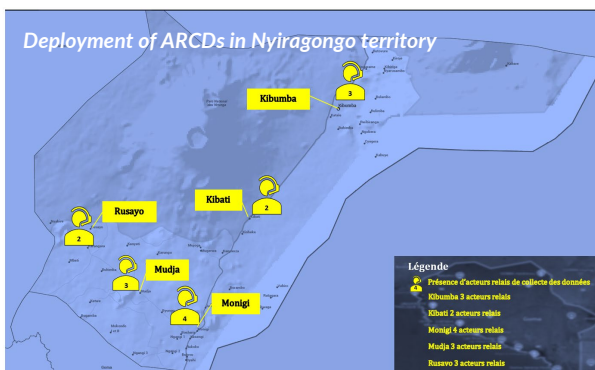
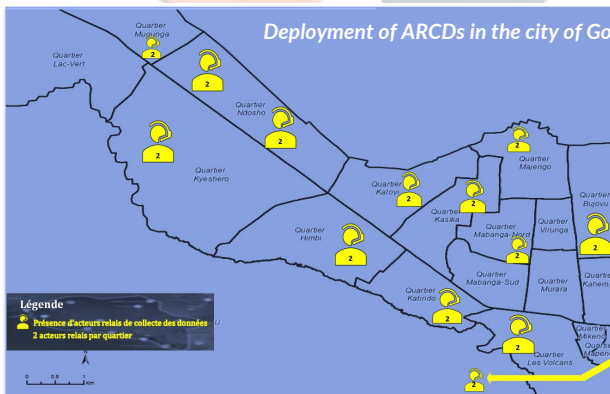


9.1.3. Some cases of human rights abuses committed by the RDF and M23/AFC coalition

It was noted that the occupation of the city of Goma and the territory of Nyiragongo on January 26, 2025, was accompanied by extreme violence on the part of the RDF and M23/AFC coalition troops.

To carry out its action, CEMEACO had deployed 28 data collection relay actors in the city of Goma spread across 14 of the city's 18 neighborhoods, with 2 people per neighborhood; representing a land occupation sample of 2.5% of the entire city of Goma. Despite the efforts made by the DRC Government, NGOs and international partners to provide rapid assistance, our data collection relay actors reported some cases of human rights violations, including assassinations, rapes, kidnappings, torture, arbitrary arrests, and destruction of medical, health and school infrastructure in the city of Goma and the territories of Nyiragongo, Rutshuru, Masisi, Walikale and Lubero.

The maps below illustrate our deployment plan for data collection relay actors in the city of Goma and the territory of Nyiragongo:



In response to the violence perpetrated by the RDF and M23/AFC coalitions and in order to preserve their own security, the relay actors documented and synthesized some cases of human rights violations while providing a clear overview of the incidents identified and the areas concerned. The table is as follows:

Date of incidents	Location	Circumstances of the assassinations	Civilians murdered and injured
January 26, 2025	Nyiragongo territory, site of displaced persons Rusayo 1 and Rusayo 2	RDF and M23/AFC coalition troops had launched bombs into the displaced persons' camps, causing several deaths and serious injuries among civilians.	28 civilians killed among the displaced, including 11 children, 9 women and 8 men 17 other people seriously injured, including 9 children, 3 men and 5 women in these two sites
January 26, 2025	Nyiragongo territory in the Monigi group	RDF and M23/AFC coalition troops had launched bombs into the village of Ngangi 2, killing and injuring civilians.	4 civilians killed (men) in their homes and 6 others seriously injured
January 26, 2025	Nyiragongo territory, Monigi group, Bukumu chiefdom, Kiheru village	RDF and M23/AFC coalition troops launched bombs into Kiheru village, causing civilian deaths and injuries.	6 civilians killed including 3 men, 1 woman and 2 children 9 other civilians seriously injured.
January 27, 2025	Nyiragongo territory in the Monigi group, Kiisi roundabout.	RDF and M23/AFC coalition troops fired live ammunition at peaceful citizens seeking shelter, causing deaths and injuries.	2 civilians killed (men) on the spot, including a motorcycle driver and the civilian he was transporting 3 other civilians seriously injured.

January 27, 2025	Nyiragongo territory in the Monigi group, Kiisi roundabout.	Following the attack by RDF and M23/AFC coalition troops against FARDC and the Wazalendo Homeland Volunteers (VDP), coalition forces retaliated by targeting civilians, resulting in the deaths of several people.	11 civilians killed, including 4 men, 4 women and 3 children 7 other civilians were seriously injured, including 4 children.
January 28, 2025	City of Goma, Municipality of Karisimbi, Katoyi district 2 lamps	RDF and M23/AFC coalition troops fired live ammunition at a crowd of people trying to flee the hostilities, resulting in the deaths of several civilians and injuries.	14 civilians killed, including 8 men, 2 women and 4 children 16 civilians seriously injured
January 28, 2025	City of Goma, commune of Goma, Himbi 2 district, Walikale avenue (around 2:20 p.m.)	In the midst of looting of the warehouses of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), Sadiki, Maison Haujue and shops by civilians, troops of the RDF and M23/AFC coalition appeared and fired live ammunition at several people, causing death and serious injuries.	13 civilians were killed, including 8 women, by gunfire, and 5 other civilians died of asphyxiation in the warehouses after being trampled during the looting. 9 civilians seriously injured, including 5 men and 4 women.
January 28, 2025	City of Goma, Commune of Goma, Kyeshero District, Kituku Avenue (around 10 a.m.).	RDF and M23/AFC coalition troops fired on civilians seeking shelter, causing deaths and injuries.	36 civilians were shot dead, including 10 adult men, 4 women and 3 young boys. 19 seriously injured people died of their injuries at the scene of the tragedy a few hours later.

January 28, 2025	City of Goma, commune of Karisimbi, between the Majengo and Kasika districts near the Mutinga roundabout.	RDF and M23/AFC coalition troops targeted civilian populations and fired live ammunition at them, causing deaths and injuries and damaging their homes.	11 civilians killed, including 4 women, 5 men and 2 children. 7 other civilians seriously injured by gunfire.
January 28, 2025	City of Goma, commune of Karisimbi, Katoyi district, avenue Rwisoma (near the Katindo mosque).	RDF and M23/AFC coalition troops stormed several residences of peaceful citizens and killed civilians.	2 civilians killed (men)
January 29, 2025	City of Goma, commune of Karisimbi, Kasika district (near the Silcas station in front of the "B" function room)	RDF and M23/AFC coalition troops fired on a crowd of people looting the "B" function room, killing and wounding others.	10 civilians killed on site, including 8 men and 2 women. 3 other civilians seriously injured. 1 woman died of her injuries in a health facility 2 days later
January 29, 2025	City of Goma, Karisimbi commune, Mabanga district, at the World Food Programme (WFP) office	RDF and M23/AFC coalition troops fired on civilians who were attempting to break into the WFP warehouse.	12 civilians killed. 7 others seriously injured.
January 29, 2025	City of Goma, commune of Karisimbi, Ndoshho district (entrance to the NGO "All for Peace and Development", on the road leading to Sake).	As he was closing his shop for fear of being looted, RDF and M23/AFC coalition troops appeared and shot a civilian at point-blank range, killing him.	1 civilian killed (man).

<p>January 29, 2025</p>	<p>Nyiragongo territory in the Mudja group, Bukumu chiefdom, Kiziba 1 village (in a place commonly called terminus 2).</p>	<p>Following the attack on Munzenze Central Prison in Goma, several young escapees joined the RDF and M23/AFC coalition in Nyiragongo territory. Armed and equipped by the RDF and M23/AFC coalition, they participated in clashes against the FARDC, supported by Wazalendo fighters. In retaliation, coalition troops targeted civilians, causing heavy casualties, numerous civilian injuries, and cases of rape and looting of homes.</p>	<p>19 civilians killed, including 2 women and 17 men, 6 civilians seriously injured</p> <p>34 cases of house burglaries</p> <p>6 cases of rape of women by the escapees; the latter demanded a deposit of 50,000 FC per household.</p>
<p>January 29, 2025</p>	<p>City of Goma, Commune of Karisimbi, Katoyi district, (near the Kin-Marché supermarket).</p>	<p>RDF and M23/AFC coalition troops targeted the crowd of fleeing civilians, causing loss of life and injuring several civilians. This incident occurred around 10:30 a.m.</p>	<p>4 civilians killed, including 1 woman and 3 men</p> <p>2 other civilians seriously injured.</p>
<p>January 29, 2025</p>	<p>City of Goma, Commune of Karisimbi, Bujovu district near Goma international airport (specifically in Byahi)</p>	<p>The RDF and M23/AFC coalition attacked FARDC positions, supported by Wazalendo fighters, while hitting civilian homes, causing human losses and many serious injuries.</p>	<p>28 civilians killed, including 11 women,</p> <p>10 adult men and 7 young boys</p> <p>19 civilians were seriously injured and taken to medical facilities.</p>

January 29, 2025	City of Goma, commune of Karisimbi, Bujovu district (precisely at the level of Joli).	Between 5:00 a.m. and 2:30 p.m., RDF and M23/AFC coalition troops, opposed to the FARDC supported by Wazalendo volunteers, fired on civilian homes, causing the death of dozens of people and many wounded among the population.	34 civilians were killed, including 15 women, 6 adult men and 13 children aged between 7 and 14. 13 civilians injured
January 29, 2025	City of Goma, commune of Karisimbi, Kasika district (precisely in the Katindo camp and its surroundings).	RDF and M23/AFC coalition troops targeted civilian homes with heavy weapons. The attack, which occurred around 7:30 a.m., left several people dead and seriously injured.	22 civilians killed, including 7 women, 8 men and 7 children (of different ages and sexes), Around ten seriously injured civilians were referred to medical facilities.
January 30, 2025	City of Goma, commune of Goma, Himbi district, behind the administrative building of the Moise campus of the Free University of the Great Lakes Countries (ULPGL)	RDF and M23/AFC coalition troops besieged three civilian homes and opened fire on some of their occupants.	14 civilians killed, including 5 men, 3 women and 6 children
January 30, 2025	City of Goma, commune of Karisimbi, Katoyi district, Avenue Vinchumbi 2	RDF and M23/AFC coalition troops targeted civilians in their homes. After torturing them, they executed them. Their lifeless bodies were dumped along Nyabushongo Road around 8:20 p.m., before being recovered on the morning of January 31, 2025, by Red Cross volunteers.	4 civilians killed (men).

January 31, 2025	Nyiragongo territory, Mudja group, Kiziba 1 village (precisely at terminus 2)	At around 3:30 p.m., RDF and M23/AFC coalition troops, engaged in fighting against the FARDC supported by the Volunteers of the Homeland (Wazalendo), targeted several civilian homes using heavy weapons. These attacks caused the death of civilians and left several seriously injured among the population.	7 civilians killed including 2 men, 3 women and 2 children. 3 women seriously injured.
January 31, 2025	City of Goma, commune of Goma, Kyeshero district, avenue Kituku	RDF and M23/AFC coalition troops arrested several civilians, falsely accused of collaborating with the Volunteers of the Fatherland (Wazalendo). Some of them were shot dead, and their bodies were later recovered by Red Cross volunteers.	7 civilians killed (men).
February 1, 2025	City of Goma, commune of Karisimbi, Katoyi district, avenue Vinchumbi 2.	Coalition troops opened fire on a young man in his twenties as he stood in front of the gate of his residence at around 9:15 p.m.	1 civilian killed (man).
February 1, 2025	City of Goma, commune of Karisimbi, Ndoshoh district (on the main road towards Sake)	Two soldiers from the RDF and M23/AFC coalition had murdered a motorcycle driver who was transporting them at around 6:45 a.m., after confiscating his motorcycle.	1 civilian killed (man).
February 3, 2025	City of Goma, commune of Goma, Kyeshero district, avenue CCLK	The RDF and M23/AFC coalition soldiers murdered two young people on the grounds that they were collaborating with the Volunteers of the Homeland (Wazalendo).	2 civilians killed (young men).

February 3, 2025	Nyiragongo territory, Kibumba group, Kingarame village, Buhumba	RDF and M23/AFC coalition troops had abducted a woman they suspected of being the wife of a Wazalendo fighter.	1 case of targeted assassination (woman)
February 4, 2025	Nyiragongo territory, Mudja group, Bukumu chiefdom (precisely in Mutaho).	Four civilians, accused of collusion with the FDLR, were abducted from their homes by RDF and M23/AFC coalition troops. Their lifeless bodies were discovered on March 5, 2025, at approximately 6:30 a.m.	4 cases of targeted assassinations (men).
February 6, 2025	City of Goma, commune of Karisimbi, Bujovu district, avenue Byahi.	At around 9:20 p.m., RDF and M23/AFC coalition troops stormed the residence of Mrs. Clarice KEZA's family and murdered the entire family, consisting of five civilians, including two parents and three children.	5 civilians killed including 2 parents and 3 children.
February 6, 2025	City of Goma, Karisimbi commune, Mabanga district (near the Goma Unity stadium)	RDF and M23/AFC coalition troops fired live ammunition at a mentally disabled man around 1:00 p.m.	1 civilian killed (man)
February 8, 2025	City of Goma, commune of Karisimbi, Bujovu district.	RDF and M23/AFC coalition troops arrested, tortured and murdered Ms. ASIFIWE BAIBONGE, coordinator of the women's non-governmental organization called "Association Femme Avenir".	1 civilian killed (woman)

February 8, 2025	City of Goma, commune of Goma, Kyeshero district, near the Salomon campus of the Free University of the Great Lakes Countries (ULPGL)	Four soldiers from the RDF and M23/AFC coalition fired live ammunition at peaceful citizens and caused deaths among civilians.	2 civilians killed (men) including a passerby and a resident of the neighborhood who was accompanying his neighbor who had come to visit him.
February 7, 2025	City of Goma, Karisimbi commune, Majengo district, near the Central African Baptist Center/Ngangi (CBCA) church, not far from the Tunda school	During a night patrol, RDF and M23/AFC coalition troops detained a civilian they believed to be an armed fighter. Following a tense exchange, they shot him at point-blank range. The incident, which occurred late at night, was reported by witnesses observing the scene from their homes.	1 civilian killed (man).
February 10, 2025	City of Goma, commune of Karisimbi, Majengo district, Killinite (Mama ni Mama space).	Four heavily armed men from the RDF and M23/AFC coalition troops killed a motorcycle driver around 7:20 p.m.	1 Case of targeted assassination.
February 10, 2025	Nyiragongo territory, Mudja group, Bukumu chiefdom, Kiziba2 village	RDF and M23/AFC coalition troops raided the village chief's home and killed him and some of his family members for refusing to adhere to the M23/AFC movement's ideology.	Targeted assassinations of 5 civilians including 2 men (1 Village Chief, his bodyguard) and 3 of his children including 1 boy and 2 girls.
February 11, 2025	City of Goma, commune of Karisimbi, Mabanga Nord district.	RDF and M23/AFC coalition troops murdered a young man, accusing him of being drunk. The incident took place around 6:10 p.m.	1 case of murder.

February 11, 2025	City of Goma, commune of Goma, Kyeshero district.	RDF and M23/AFC coalition troops killed Mr. Innocent Musemakweli, a 39-year-old agent of the North Kivu Revenue Directorate (DGRNK) at the time of the incident, accusing him of criticizing the M23/AFC authority. The incident took place around 7:00 p.m.	1 civilian killed (man)
February 12, 2025	City of Goma, commune of Goma, Les Volcanoes district, Avenue la Corniche (not far from the Petit Paris restaurant)	RDF and M23/AFC coalition troops murdered two civilians who were in a car. They abandoned these peaceful citizens and took their vehicle with them.	2 civilians murdered
February 13, 2025	City of Goma, commune of Karisimbi, Katoyi district (near the Sainte Monique school).	RDF and M23/AFC coalition troops assassinated musician and activist Delphin Katembo Kinywasiki, known by his stage name Delkat Idengo, for his opposition to the M23/AFC's authority. The execution took place around 1 p.m. near his home.	1 case of targeted assassination (man)
February 13, 2025	City of Goma, commune of Karisimbi, Bujovu district (at Birere).	An unidentified woman was killed by RDF and M23/AFC coalition soldiers after expressing her dissatisfaction with growing insecurity and abuses of power suffered by civilians.	1 case of targeted assassination (woman)

February 13, 2025	City of Goma, commune of Karisimbi, Ndosho district (at Rwasama).	Four soldiers from the RDF and M23/AFC coalition assassinated Mr. David Mambo Mulumba for reasons that remain unclear. The civilian population subsequently apprehended the four alleged perpetrators and killed them all.	1 case of murder (man)
February 13, 2025	City of Goma, commune of Karisimbi, Ndosho district, avenue Minova (near the Ndosho Primary School).	RDF and M23/AFC coalition troops killed two young men: a motorcyclist named Joël Bwira Balinda and a passerby, Mr. Mutebwa Safari.	2 cases of targeted assassinations (men)
February 13, 2025	City of Goma, commune of Karisimbi, office1 district, avenue Virunga	RDF and M23/AFC coalition troops had arrested and then coldly shot dead young people on the road, accusing them of collaborating with FARDC soldiers. It was 7:30 p.m. when the incident occurred.	6 civilians murdered (men)
February 14, 2025	City of Goma, commune of Goma, Les Volcans district (behind the Saint-Esprit Catholic parish)	RDF and M23/AFC coalition troops assassinated a young man named Christophe, a phone credit seller, not far from his home.	1 civilian person (male)
February 14, 2025	City of Goma, commune of Karisimbi, Ndosho district, avenue Kalima,	At around 8:20 p.m., RDF and M23/AFC coalition troops arrested four men at a liquor store, accusing them of being in contact with the Volunteers of the Fatherland (Wazalendo), before taking them to an unknown destination. On the morning of February 16, 2025, two days later, their lifeless bodies were found.	4 cases of targeted assassinations (men)

February 16, 2025	City of Goma, commune of Karisimbi, Katoyi district, avenue Rwosoma	RDF and M23/AFC coalition troops raided a home looking for a car dealer. When they failed to find him, they shot his biological mother at point-blank range after she refused to reveal her son's location.	1 case of targeted assassination (woman)
February 16, 2025	City of Goma, commune of Karisimbi, Majengo district (next to Kilijuwe at Ngeleza).	RDF and M23/AFC coalition troops murdered a motorcycle driver and his passenger after stealing several valuables from them.	2 cases of assassination of civilians (men)
February 16, 2025.	City of Goma, commune of Karisimbi, Mugunga district, Avenue Maendeleo	RDF and M23/AFC coalition troops abducted civilians from four residences and took them to an unknown destination. Their lifeless bodies were found the following morning.	9 civilians were abducted and killed, including 3 men and 6 women who were raped before being executed.
February 16, 2025	City of Goma, commune of Karisimbi, Ndosho district, avenue de la Carrière (opposite the Communauté Baptiste hospital in the Center of Africa/Ndosho, on the road commonly called Moro Moro).	The RDF and M23/AFC coalition troops confiscated the car and other valuables of two peaceful citizens and killed them on the spot, along with other passersby.	5 civilians killed, including 2 men (1 commissioner and his friend) and 3 women who witnessed the event.
February 17, 2025	City of Goma, Goma commune, Kyeshero district, (near Doctors On Call for Services Hospital)	RDF and M23/AFC coalition troops confiscated civilian property, including money and phones, and murdered two men.	2 cases of murder (men)

February 18, 2025	City of Goma commune of Goma, Ndosho district, avenue Kanyamuhanga,	At around 7:20 p.m., RDF and M23/AFC coalition troops shot at a shopkeeper as he was about to close his shop.	1 case of murder (man)
February 19, 2025	City of Goma, commune of Karisimbi, Ndosho district, avenue de la Carrière	RDF and M23/AFC coalition troops abducted and then murdered civilians, accusing them of consuming cannabis at a drinking establishment during the day.	6 civilians were murdered: 2 bodies were found on February 20, 2025 at the entrance to the Katindo mosque, while the other four were discovered not far from the parking lot where motorcycles are taken to go to Masisi, along the Sake road.
February 21, 2025	City of Goma, commune of Karisimbi, Kasika district, Baraka avenue, 8th Community of Pentecostal Churches in Central Africa, (behind Camp Katindo around 6:30 p.m.)	RDF and M23/AFC coalition troops entered a sports center, surrounded civilians playing sports, and opened fire on them, causing deaths. This incident occurred at a sports venue commonly known as Torée (CHUMA).	30 civilians were killed, including young sportsmen and women and other young shopkeepers who were in a communications unit sales shop.
February 21, 2025	City of Goma, commune of Goma, Ndosho district (at the Doctors On Call for Services hospital).	On his way home, a lawyer named Pacifique was assassinated by RDF and M23/AFC coalition troops. The alleged motive was his participation in 2018 in assisting some M23 members accused of embezzling teachers' salaries in Luhonga, Masisi territory.	1 case of targeted assassination (man)

February 21, 2025	Nyiragongo Territory, Mudja group, Bukumu chiefdom (around 7:30 p.m.)	RDF and M23/AFC coalition troops abducted four civilian men, accusing them of having ties with Wazalendo fighters. Their bodies were found three days later, on February 24, 2025, bound and with bullet holes.	4 cases of targeted assassinations of civilians (men).
February 24, 2025	Nyiragongo territory, Monigi group, Bukumu chiefdom, Ngangi 2 village (near the Don Bosco stadium)	RDF and M23/AFC coalition troops set fire to a bar on the grounds that it was being used as a recreational facility for FARDC and Wazalendo troops. These acts resulted in the deaths of civilians. The incident took place around 9:15 p.m.	14 civilians burned alive.
February 24, 2025	City of Goma, commune of Goma, Kituku district, avenue Centre Chrétien du Lac Kivu	RDF and M23/AFC coalition troops abducted and then executed four young men on the grounds that they were in cahoots with the Wazalendo.	4 cases of targeted assassinations (men).
February 24, 2025	City of Goma, commune of Karisimbi, Ndosho district, avenue Mama Naomi	At around 8:30 p.m., RDF and M23/AFC coalition troops killed six young men who were drinking beer in a bar.	6 cases of targeted assassinations (men).
February 24, 2025	City of Goma, commune of Karisimbi, Mugunga district (next to Sam Sam)	RDF and M23/AFC coalition troops stormed a residence and executed four civilians there, wrongly suspected of collaborating with the Volunteers of the Fatherland (Wazalendo).	4 cases of targeted assassinations (men).

February 27, 2025	City of Goma, commune of Karisimbi, Ndosho district, avenue Ile Nsongo.	Between 10:00 PM and midnight, RDF and M23/AFC coalition troops murdered an adult and his son in their residence, then left the premises without taking any possessions.	2 cases of targeted assassinations including 1 father and his son.
February 27, 2025	Nyiragongo territory, Monigi group, Bukumu chiefdom, Turungu village (around 10 p.m.)	RDF and M23/AFC coalition troops killed five civilians in their own residence, accusing them of sheltering members of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Rwanda (FDLR), and took several valuables.	5 civilians killed, including 1 woman and 4 men.
March 5, 2025	City of Goma, commune of Karisimbi, Ndosho district, Minova avenue (a few meters from the Tank commonly called chez Maman Olive Lembe.)	Around 8:30 p.m., during a patrol, RDF and M23/AFC coalition troops arrested a peaceful citizen, a motorcycle driver, as he was walking home. They confiscated his motorcycle before killing him. On the morning of March 6, 2025, his body was taken to the Baptist Community Hospital in Central Africa/Ndosho.	1 case of targeted assassination (man).
March 5, 2025	Nyiragongo territory, Rusayo group, Bukumu chiefdom, Kabalekatambi village (Kanzana hill).	On March 5, 2025, at approximately 8:40 p.m., RDF and M23/AFC coalition troops killed 15 civilians, including 11 family members of Rafiki Hatengeka Patient, 39, and his neighbor, and seriously injured nine other people, who were transferred to the Baptist Community health facility in Central Africa/Ndosho. The perpetrators suspected these victims of collaborating with the FARDC and Wazalendo fighters.	15 civilians killed, 9 people seriously injured.

<p>March 6, 2025</p>	<p>City of Goma, Municipality of Goma, Kyeshero district</p>	<p>At around 6:00 a.m., RDF and M23/AFC coalition troops abducted and tortured Mr. Fikiri Bishuko, Matanda groupement leader, on the pretext that he had the morphology of a Hutu member of the FDLR. The abduction took place while he was guarding his brother hospitalized at the Baptist Community Hospital in Central Africa in Ndosho. Returned to his residence on March 13, 2025, one week after his abduction, Mr. Fikiri Bishuko died of his injuries.</p>	<p>1 Case of targeted assassination (man).</p>
<p>March 7, 2025</p>	<p>City of Goma, commune of Karisimbi, Katoyi district, Rue Marie Lumoo</p>	<p>Around 9:00 p.m., RDF and M23/AFC coalition troops stormed a bar and opened fire on two civilians. One died instantly, while the other, seriously injured, died on March 9, two days after being admitted to La Charité Maternelle hospital. In the same circumstances, three women present in the bar were robbed of their valuables.</p>	<p>2 civilians killed (male).</p>
<p>March 7, 2025</p>	<p>City of Goma, commune of Goma, Katindo district (next to the Carmel Catholic parish, around 7:40 p.m.).</p>	<p>RDF and M23/AFC coalition troops killed a young man in front of his home gate.</p>	<p>1 civilian killed (man).</p>

March 7, 2025	Nyiragongo territory, Monigi group, Bukumu chiefdom, Ngangi 2 village (specifically in Buhene)	During a daytime patrol, RDF and M23/AFC coalition troops shot six civilians at a local bar, accusing them of daytime drinking and having ties to the Wazalendo. The victims were taken to the morgue.	6 cases of targeted assassinations (men).
March 14, 2025	City of Goma, commune of Goma, Kyeshero district, avenue Kituku	On March 14, 2025, at approximately 6 p.m., two civilians were abducted from their homes by RDF and M23/AFC coalition troops and transported in a vehicle to an unknown destination. The following morning, their lifeless bodies, bound and showing signs of torture and bullet holes, were discovered on the shores of Lake Kivu.	2 cases of murder (men).
March 15, 2025	City of Goma, commune of Goma, Katindo district, avenue la Frontière	RDF and M23/AFC coalition troops abducted a young man from his home. His body was found on Saturday, March 22, a week later, dressed in a FARDC uniform.	1 case of targeted assassination (man).
March 17, 2025	City of Goma, commune of Goma, Kyeshero district, avenue Centre Chrétien du Lac Kivu	RDF and M23/AFC coalition troops killed Mr. Godet KAKULE at his home because he criticized the M23/AFC authority and refused to raise awareness among the population about joining the M23/AFC. The incident took place around 8:15 p.m.	1 case of targeted assassination.

March 18, 2025	City of Goma, commune of Karisimbi, Kasika district (at Katindo camp).	During the patrol, RDF and M23/AFC coalition troops killed a young man in front of their home because he had not complied with orders to enlist in the ranks of the M23/AFC.	1 case of targeted assassination (man).
March 19, 2025	City of Goma, commune of Karisimbi, Kasika district (near Katindo camp)	RDF and M23/AFC coalition troops abducted a civilian from his residence late at night after he allegedly refused to show them where FARDC soldiers were hiding and took him to an unknown location. His bullet-ridden body was found on the morning of March 19, 2025.	1 case of targeted assassination (man).
March 21, 2025	City of Goma, commune of Goma, Mapendo district	On March 16, 2025, at around 3:20 p.m., in the Mapendo neighborhood, RDF and M23/AFC coalition troops abducted a young man from his home near Mount Goma. Four days later, his body was found in the street, dressed in a FARDC uniform, showing signs of torture and several bullet holes.	1 case of murder of a civilian (man).
March 22, 2025	City of Goma, commune of Karisimbi, Majengo district (precisely in Byahi)	RDF and M23/AFC coalition troops entered the residence of Mr. EFREM HAMULI. They killed him and his visitor, on the grounds that his residence had sheltered FARDC soldiers during the clashes of January 29, 2025; facts that neighbors and other residents of the neighborhood considered unfounded.	2 cases of targeted assassinations (men).

March 22, 2025	City of Goma, commune of Goma, Katindo district, Frontière Avenue	On March 22, 2025, Marie Bisimwa Wani, 26, was abducted by RDF and M23/AFC coalition troops; her body, found on March 23, showed signs of torture, rape, and bullet holes.	1 case of targeted assassination (woman).
March 23, 2025	City of Goma, commune of Karisimbi, Katoyi district, Lumbulumbu avenue, (precisely at the level of Christ Roi)	On the night of March 23, around 1:20 a.m., three civilians were abducted from their homes by RDF and M23/AFC coalition troops in Mugunga. Their bodies were found the next day, dressed in FARDC uniforms.	3 civilians killed (men).
March 23, 2025	City of Goma, commune of Karisimbi, Ndoshoh district, avenue de la Démocratie (behind the Mont Sinaï school)	During their night patrols, RDF and M23/AFC coalition troops burst into the home of a 29-year-old man known as Emmanuel. After violently removing him from his home, they shot him at point-blank range as he tried to alert his neighbors. His lifeless body was transported to the morgue the following morning, March 24, 2025, by neighbors and Red Cross rescuers.	1 case of targeted assassination (man).

March 23, 2025	Nyiragongo territory, Munugi group, Bukumu chiefdom, Kiheru village (Kimbilio hill).	After stealing his motorcycle, RDF and M23/AFC coalition troops murdered the owner and displayed his body until the following morning (March 24, 2025) before transporting it to the morgue by Red Cross rescuers. This incident took place around 7:14 p.m.	1 civilian killed intentionally.
March 24, 2025	City of Goma, commune of Karisimbi, Kasika district, avenue Italia	During their patrols, RDF and M23/AFC coalition troops assassinated a young motorcycle driver named Guershom. He was shopping for customers.	1 case of murder (man)
March 24, 2025	City of Goma, commune of Karisimbi, Katoyi district, Lumbulumbu avenue, (next to the Christ-Roi parish, not far from the Kibwetivile sign)	At around 7:45 p.m., RDF and M23/AFC coalition troops murdered a man in his thirties. His bound body, showing signs of gunshot wounds, was found the following morning (March 25) on the shores of Lake Kivu.	1 case of murder (man)
March 24, 2025	City of Goma, commune of Karisimbi, Himbi 1 district, (see Goshop near Manganga hospital, entrance to the "2 Paysages" hotel not far from Fleurs de Lys towards Maji Matulivu).	The lifeless body of a peaceful citizen was found, his neck tied with a rope and his head covered with a bag. He was reportedly abducted around 7:00 p.m. These acts are attributed to RDF and M23/AFC coalition troops.	1 case of murder of a (man)

March 24, 2025	City of Goma, commune of Karisimbi, Mugunga district, avenue Maendeleo	At around 7:55 p.m., RDF and M23/AFC coalition troops assassinated an adult, chief of Maendeleo Avenue, in his residence, under the pretext that he was collaborating with FARDC soldiers and Wazalendo fighters.	1 case of targeted assassination (man).
March 25, 2025	City of Goma, commune of Karisimbi, Mugunga district, avenue Mushebere	At approximately 8:15 p.m., RDF and M23/AFC coalition troops murdered three adults in their homes, allegedly for consuming alcohol.	3 cases of targeted assassinations (men)
March 27, 2025	City of Goma, commune of Karisimbi, Kyehoro Avenue Kituku district	During their daytime patrols, RDF and M23/AFC coalition troops stopped a 24-year-old man, accusing him of staring at them with malicious intent. They immediately beat and tortured him. Thanks to the continued intervention of the population, the young man was saved and transported to a medical facility.	1 case of torture (man).
March 27, 2025	Nyiragongo territory, Mundja group, Bukumu chiefdom, Kiziba 1 village.	RDF and M23/AFC coalition troops abducted 44-year-old Paulo Mwinihire from his home, suspecting him of collaborating with the FARDC. Early in the morning of March 28, 2025, his lifeless body, bound and with gunshot wounds, was found in the street.	1 case of targeted assassination (man)

<p>April 2, 2025</p>	<p>Nyiragongo territory, Munjda group, Bukumu chiefdom, Kiziba village1.</p>	<p>RDF and M23/AFC coalition troops killed two men and abducted two others, all from the same family, on the grounds that they were Wazalendo collaborators. The two murdered men and the two abducted others were never found.</p>	<p>2 cases of targeted assassinations and 2 cases of kidnappings.</p>
<p>April 3, 2025</p>	<p>City of Goma, commune of Karisimbi, Mabanga Nord district.</p>	<p>RDF and M23/AFC coalition troops had killed a young man known as Oswald. Oswald, a money changer, was besieged in his home by four heavily armed RDF and M23/AFC coalition troops. After killing him, they took away a large sum of money and valuables.</p>	<p>1 case of targeted assassination (man).</p>
<p>April 3, 2025</p>	<p>City of Goma, commune of Karisimbi, Majengo district</p>	<p>On April 3, 2025, at approximately 7:45 p.m., RDF and M23/AFC coalition troops abducted two young men, Bauma Alimasi Apollinaire, 34, and Akimoli Bauma Dany, 27, and took them to an unknown destination. The following morning, their lifeless bodies, tied up and with gunshot wounds, were found in Lac Vert, near Mugunga.</p>	<p>2 cases of targeted assassinations of civilians.</p>

<p>April 7, 2025</p>	<p>City of Goma, commune of Karisimbi, Majengo district (precisely in the market commonly called Ki30)</p>	<p>RDF and M23/AFC coalition troops fired live ammunition at Maisha Ruhunga, 29, a motorcycle driver living in the Katoyi neighborhood on Rwisoma Avenue. His motorcycle was confiscated by the same troops. Seriously injured, he was taken to hospital with the help of his fellow drivers, where he died around 11:20 p.m.</p>	<p>1 case of targeted assassination of a civilian (man).</p>
<p>April 7, 2025</p>	<p>City of Goma, commune of Goma, Kyeshero district.</p>	<p>RDF and M23/AFC coalition troops assassinated a 25-year-old man named Christian Bireo Mukandirwa. The assassination took place around 7:00 p.m., a few meters from the young man's residence.</p>	<p>1 case of targeted assassination, civilian (man).</p>
<p>April 7, 2025</p>	<p>Nyiragongo territory, Kibati group, Bukumu chiefdom (next to Kanyaruchinya)</p>	<p>RDF and M23/AFC coalition troops fired live ammunition at a 46-year-old adult named Bahati Bukira Donat, alleging he was collaborating with the FDLR. The incident took place at his home late at night. Seriously injured, he was taken to a medical facility where he succumbed to his injuries (around 1 a.m.).</p>	<p>1 case of targeted assassination of a civilian (man).</p>

April 15, 2025	City of Goma	On Tuesday, April 15, at 1:00 a.m. in Goma, heavily armed men attacked the residence of Bishop Bahati Kajangu Mijiza, legal representative of the UZIMA TELE Church and vice-president of the North Kivu Ecclesiastical Region responsible for settlement. They shot him at point-blank range without hitting him, then attempted to decapitate him with machetes, unsuccessfully, before beating him from head to toe with the same weapons.	1 civilian seriously injured (man)
April 23, 2025	City of Goma, Karisimbi commune, Mabanga district (in front of the Goma Unity stadium)	RDF and M23/AFC coalition troops guarding the Unity Stadium in Goma fired live ammunition at a young woman in her twenties after raping and torturing her.	1 civilian raped and killed (woman)
May 1, 2025	City of Goma, commune of Karisimbi, Ndosho district, avenue de la Démocratie	Three bandits burned alive in Goma on the night of Wednesday, April 31 to Thursday, May 1. According to the residents' testimonies, the three elements belonged to the RDF and M23/AFC coalition troops. They were captured looting and one of them admitted that they were operating in civilian clothes with weapons so as not to tarnish the image of the M23/AFC.	3 bandits (men)
May 18, 2025	City of Goma, commune of Karisimbi, Katoyi district, avenue Makengele	The uniformed men entered a shop and a pharmacy, shooting at the owners and customers at around 7:37 p.m., killing several men.	4 civilians killed (men)

May 20, 2025	Nyiragongo Territory, Bugamba locality	Unidentified armed men robbed and murdered Mr. Augustin Muriho, a well-known family man.	1 civilian killed (man)
May 22, 2025	Rutshuru Territory, Bukombo and Tongo groups in the Bwito chiefdom	Clashes took place between RDF and M23/AFC coalition troops and Wazalendo fighters in several villages in the Bukombo and Tongo groupements. During these clashes, coalition troops burned several houses and a church in the 8 ^e Community of Pentecostal Churches in Central Africa (8 ^e CEPAC) in Lubwe-South.	No results so far
May 25, 2025	City of Goma, commune of Goma, Kyeshero district (around Kituku Cathedral, around 7:30 p.m.)	Unidentified armed men raided a shop, confiscating valuables and phones from the owner, Mr. Mutindi Parfait, and subsequently shot him dead.	1 civilian killed (man)
May 25, 2025	City of Goma, commune of Karisimbi, Majengo district (at the Mutinga roundabout)	A motorcyclist was murdered by armed men at around 7:20 p.m.	1 civilian killed (man)
May 26, 2025	City of Goma, commune of Karisimbi, (near the CBCA Virunga hospital, Baptist Center of Central Africa of Virunga)	At around 7 p.m., RDF and M23/AFC coalition troops opened fire on Dr. Obedi Musambale, Chief Medical Officer of Karisimbi Health Zone. He was critically injured and died shortly after being admitted to CBCA Ndosho Hospital.	1 civilian killed (man)

Beyond the facts contained in the table above and in view of the evolution of violence in the towns and territories of North Kivu, the data collection relay actors reported some of the following facts:

- In July 2025 in the city of Goma, Karisimbi commune, Ndosho district, Mr. Lucien, working as a mason, was captured on his construction site by RDF and M23/AFC coalition troops and taken to Runyonyi on the grounds of going for military training. There, he was forced to cut wood to build accommodation sites for coalition troops. During this heavy work, he was seriously injured in the leg and beaten from time to time despite his inability to do this chore. Given the deterioration of his health, he was secretly transferred to a hospital in Goma. Since his injuries were too severe, he died. Below is his photo.



- On August 11, 2025, in the city of Goma, Goma commune, Himbi district, a motorcyclist was killed near the compound of the medical facility called "Mental Health." The attackers took his motorcycle and robbed two shops. It was 6:00 p.m. when the incident occurred. Below is his photo (alive and deceased).



- On August 22, 2025, in the city of Goma, Karisimbi commune, Ndosho district, a guard from the EVESA company was assassinated at his post. Elements of the RDF - M23/AFC coalition forced the enclosure and took the belongings inside. The body was taken to the CBCA hospital in Ndosho.
- On August 23, 2025, in the city of Goma, Karisimbi commune, Mugunga district, Mr. Baseme, father of four children, was shot dead by unidentified men. His entourage suspected an operation by the RDF-AFC-M23 coalition, which had already burglarized the same house a week earlier.

Other sources report that RDF-AFC-M23 coalition troops regularly arrest citizens, sometimes wrongly suspected of being Wazalendo, eliminate them and abandon their bodies in isolated neighborhoods to conceal their actions.

- On the night of August 24-25, 2025, in Goma, in the Ndosho district (Karisimbi commune), armed robbers attacked the convent of the Carracciolini priests of the Blessed Isidore Bakanja parish, near the Simba station, methodically burglarizing the rooms and taking money, telephones, computers and other electronic goods; no serious injuries were reported, but the material losses were significant and the parish community remains in shock.

- On August 25, 2025 in the city of Goma, Karisimbi commune, Kiisi district, Apostle Kitoga was assassinated in his car returning from a church meeting.
- From August 24 to 26, 2025, in the city of Goma, Karisimbi commune, Mugunga district, four bodies showing signs of torture were found. They were young men abducted in Goma and then executed in Mugunga. They were identified as Byenda Lawi, Baraka Malisawa, Muhindo Kagheni, and Besojuwi.



Overall, the period from January to August 2025 reflects a continuum of security and humanitarian crises, with civilian populations exposed to constant risks. Documenting these incidents aims to provide a detailed overview of violations and their impacts to support appropriate interventions and strengthen the protection of affected communities.

9.1.4. Violations of social and cultural rights

9.1.4.1. Destruction of schools and educational centers

The offensive by RDF and M23/AFC coalition troops in the cities of Goma and Bukavu and in the occupied territories has caused widespread disruption to the education sector: schools have been bombed, converted into shelters



or military positions, and mass closures. There has been a gradual reopening and/or tentative resumption of classes in the aforementioned cities, on the orders of the RDF and M23/AFC coalition authorities.

However, the relay actors indicated, on the one hand, that despite the resumption of classes in March 2025, several schools remained closed or damaged in the provinces of North and South Kivu and, on the other hand, the educational situation remained delicate. The use of schools by the military further complicates traceability and the securing of rehabilitations. This situation has had particularly serious consequences on the education sector: many school infrastructures have been rendered unusable, forcing thousands of students to abandon their studies or to attend classes in precarious conditions, sometimes in the open air. The destruction of educational materials, combined with the flight and displacement of teachers, has exacerbated the decline in the quality of education. The same sources indicated that many students, particularly those who had fled the city of Goma, remain displaced and their parents still have not heard from them.

These repeated disruptions increase school dropout rates, compromise educational continuity and seriously threaten the educational future of a generation already weakened by insecurity.

The relay actors proceeded to identify some schools and public establishments damaged by the horrors of war in the cities of Goma and Bukavu as well as the territories under occupation, classifying them according to sub-divisions or administrative consolidations. The table below provides an illustration:



9.1.4.2. Himbi Subdivision

ESTABLISHMENT AND REGISTRATION NUMBER	MANAGEMENT REGIME	DAMAGE CAUSED
NYAMULAGIRA Primary School 6123420	Catholic Convention Schools	2 sheets of metal with large bullet holes
KARIBU Primary School 6101657	Catholic Convention Schools	70 desks stolen 25 broken desks 6 classrooms damaged
Primary school BULENGO NCA	Catholic Convention Schools	24 latrine doors destroyed 3 250W solar panels stolen 3 amplifiers stolen 3 100 amp batteries stolen 50 hygiene kits destroyed 250 cups stolen 2 boxes of white chalk stolen 1 box of stolen soap 3 1000 litre water tanks stolen 1 5000 liter water tank stolen 15 office tables and chairs stolen
NYABYUNYU Primary School 6116751	Catholic Convention Schools	5 classrooms damaged 99 pulpits used as firewood 5 teachers' tables and 5 chairs stolen 4 latrine doors destroyed 1000 liter water tank destroyed School textbooks and administrative documents burned.
BUSIMBA Primary School 6125619	Seventh-day Adventist Convention Schools	25 pulpits used as firewood
MILITA Primary School 6125601	Community of Pentecostal Churches in Central Africa	52 Pulpits used as firewood, 7 classroom doors damaged 8 latrine doors demolished 7 classroom tables destroyed 4 broken chairs 4 classroom windows damaged
PATEMO Primary School 6123318	Community of Baptist Churches of Eastern Congo	150 desks destroyed and used for cooking 4 wooden shelves used for cooking 10 stolen wooden chairs 6 wooden paintings stolen 6 stolen wooden tables 3 stolen stools 2 stolen office tables 535 school textbooks stolen 36 teaching materials stolen
UENEZAJI Primary School 6128982	Seventh-day Adventist Convention Schools	12 broken desks 4 office windows broken 1 door demolished

LAVIGNE Primary School 6181249	International Nazarene Church	15 stolen benches 2 classroom doors broken
BANDELEBBI Primary School 6129344	Kimbanguist Conventioned Schools	12 pulpits used as firewood 42 school textbooks stolen 1 large format Larousse dictionary stolen 12 buckets of water (plastic) stolen 6 hand basins stolen 6 classroom doors broken.
MUUNGANO INSTITUTE	Private Schools	40 desks stolen.
NYABYUNYU INSTITUTE 61166751	Catholic Convention Schools	28 pulpits used as firewood 6 classroom windows damaged
DISSASI INSTITUTE	Kimbanguist Conventioned Schools	15 pulpits used as firewood 6 hand wash basins 6 25-litre water cans stolen

9.1.4.3. Karisimbi Subdivision 1

NAME OF ESTABLISHMENT AND REGISTRATION NUMBER	MANAGEMENT REGIME	DAMAGE CAUSED
ITIG 6101653	Catholic Convention Schools	5 classrooms damaged The damaged computer room The teachers' office was damaged The damaged meeting room The damaged electrical and electronics laboratory The Office of the Director of Discipline damaged The construction site to house the damaged boarding school

MWILU INSTITUTE 6175982	Kimbanguist Conventioned Schools	17 pulpits used as firewood 2 damaged blackboards 2 broken office tables 5 water cans stolen 2 broken hand basins 7 sheets of metal destroyed by bullets 2 classroom doors broken 3 damaged office windows
FURAHA Primary School of Application 6121030	Assemblies of God Fellowship in Africa	1 megaphone stolen 1 large format dictionary stolen 4 small format dictionaries stolen 6 boxes of stolen chalk 1 stolen schoolbag 4 third-year "champions" school books stolen 50 school books on "French language practices" stolen 1 box of black paint for stolen paintings
CSPMF/INSTIGO INSTITUTE 6138608	Non-Agreement Schools	1 LENOVO laptop stolen
NYIRAGONGO Primary School 2 6123228	Community of Pentecostal Churches in Central Africa	1 access door to the latrines destroyed 30 classroom windows broken 6 sheets of metal destroyed by bullets
CHIPUKO Primary School 6101645	Catholic Convention Schools	8 damaged sheets 70 slats of lost glass 5 latrine doors destroyed
TANGANYIKA Primary School 6121021	Non-Agreement Schools	200 pulpits used as firewood 20 broken wooden windows 5 classroom doors damaged 200 sheets of metal stolen 100 school books stolen 1 computer stolen 10 latrine doors destroyed 1 printer stolen

MANANGA Primary School 6129402	Kimbanguist Conventioned Schools	27 desks used for cooking 1 hand washing kit stolen 1 1000 liter water tank damaged 4 buckets of water stolen 3 basins of water stolen 12 French language practice books stolen 6 classroom blackboards damaged
SAINT JOSEPH INSTITUTE 6123246	Catholic Convention Schools	253 sheets of metal from classrooms stolen 4 office ceilings destroyed by bullets 2 classroom walls demolished 15 classroom windows broken 46 classroom windows broken
KIANGANI Primary School 6129269	Kimbanguist Conventioned Schools	12 pulpits used as firewood 3 hand washing kits stolen 8 buckets of water stolen
MWILU INSTITUTE 6175982	Kimbanguist Conventioned Schools	17 pulpits used as firewood 2 classroom blackboards destroyed 2 tables in the Director's office used for cooking 5 water cans stolen 2 sets of stolen hand wash basins 7 sheets of a classroom destroyed by bullets 2 classroom doors damaged 3 classroom windows broken
MWANSOMBO Primary School	Assemblies of God Fellowship in Africa	225 desks used for cooking 14 classrooms damaged, Educational manuals burned School books burned
Primary School 1 NYABUSHONGO 6123199	Assemblies of God Fellowship in Africa	105 pulpits used as firewood
FURAHA INSTITUTE 6121030	Assemblies of God Fellowship in Africa	21 pulpits used as firewood 15 broken desks 5 sheets of classroom sheet metal with bullet holes 3 classroom doors broken 1 damaged blackboard

BORA Primary School 6159547	Anglican Community in Congo	10 pulpits used as firewood 8 latrine doors destroyed
NAZARENE Primary School 6117143	International Nazarene Church	2 desks used for cooking 1 damaged water tank 3 stolen dictionaries 30 school books set on fire
LUBERIZI Primary School 6123355	Anglican Community in Congo	15 pulpits used as firewood 3 toilet doors destroyed
NEEMA Primary School 6123098	Catholic Convention Schools	124 desks destroyed, 7 of which were used as firewood 26 sheets perforated by bullets 80 windows of ten classrooms broken 125 6th grade school books and 120 5th grade school books stolen

9.1.4.4. Karisimbi Subdivision 2

NAME OF ESTABLISHMENT AND REGISTRATION NUMBER	MANAGEMENT REGIME	DAMAGE CAUSED
AYUBU Primary School	Islamic Convention Schools	11 pulpits used as firewood 4 classroom blackboards destroyed 13 planks of the classroom roof torn off
Scout Primary School	Private	10 broken desks 6 classroom locks stolen
KAUSA Primary School	Private	6 classroom blackboards destroyed 20 pulpits used as firewood The damaged school desk Stolen school textbooks and teaching manuals
KALONDA/GLOIRE School Complex	Private	27 desks used for cooking Latrines set on fire 1 5000 liter water tank stolen, dozens of benches broken 6 hand washing kits stolen
SHABAA Primary School 6121028	Catholic Convention Schools	1 classroom door torn off, classroom windows broken The damaged entrance gate

LES PATRIOTES School Complex	Private	19 desks used as firewood, hand-washing kits stolen 5 classroom blackboards with bullet holes
UPENDO Primary School 6158953	Protestant Convention Schools	Dozens of classroom doors destroyed Classrooms (made of wood) damaged as these woods were used for cooking
UPENDO School Complex 6158953	Protestant Convention Schools	104 pulpits used as firewood 7 stolen dictionaries 1 3500 liter water tank destroyed 4 HP laptops stolen.
VISION OF THE EAST School Complex	Private	About ten damaged desks Classroom doors destroyed The doors of the latrines used for cooking
NYOTA School Complex	Private	About twenty benches used as firewood
UZIMA Primary School 6125564	Seventh-day Adventist Convention Schools	3 classroom doors destroyed 10 desks used for cooking Damaged latrines
JOHN KNIGHT Primary School 6159567	Protestant Convention Schools	About fifty of the pulpits used as firewood
Primary School 2 KINYUMBA	Non-Agreement Schools	7 desks used for cooking All latrine doors used as firewood
BIREMA Primary School 2 6123114	Protestant Convention Schools	About ten desks destroyed
MUUNGANO BWATO School Complex	Private	21 classroom benches destroyed, 1 200 litre water drum damaged
School Complex of March 8	Private	60 classroom windows destroyed 15 desks used for cooking 1 printer-photocopier stolen

MSAWATO Primary School 6138598	Anglican Community in Congo	5 classroom windows destroyed 3 broken office windows 13 classroom doors destroyed 3 classroom blackboards destroyed 26 desks used for cooking About ten school books stolen 6 trash cans stolen 1 tank of 1500 liters of water damaged
MOUNT SINAI SCHOOL GROUP	Private	School books and administrative documents stolen About thirty benches broken
SAINT PIERRE School Complex	Private	Child dies in bomb attack
AMMDI School Complex	Private	Death of a child by a stray bullet.
ANDERSON Elementary School 6155667	Protestant Convention Schools	Dozens of fixed benches were used for cooking.
Primary School 2 NYABUSHONGO 6123288	Protestant Convention Schools	5 latrine doors stolen 3 hand washing kits stolen
MARUDJO Primary School	Protestant Convention Schools	46 classroom benches stolen 18 pulpits used as firewood 1 demolished equipment depot 13 sheets of metal from classrooms stolen 5 5-litre cans of water stolen, 1 hand basin stolen 4 classroom doors destroyed 6 classroom windows stolen and destroyed
FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY SCHOOL 6162659	Non-Agreement Schools	NB: The entire school building and its annexes were completely destroyed, followed by the looting and destruction of teaching materials.

9.1.4.5. Nyiragongo/Kibumba Sub-Division

NAME OF ESTABLISHMENT AND REGISTRATION NUMBER	MANAGEMENT REGIME	DAMAGE CAUSED
NURU Primary School	CECME	Sheet metal damaged by bullets Broken classroom windows Damaged classroom doors Stolen teaching materials
KIBWE Primary School/6136025	Non-Agreement Schools	Damaged school (broken benches and classroom doors, etc.)
LOVE PEACE Primary School 6155750	Non-Agreement Schools	6 classrooms damaged 3 classrooms burned down 1 office burned down
KIBUMBA Primary School 6101668	Catholic Convention Schools	4 classrooms destroyed
BUHUMBA Primary School 6101667	Catholic Convention Schools	Damaged school (broken benches and classroom doors, etc.)
MUJOGA Primary School 6156867	Protestant Convention Schools	Damaged school (broken benches and classroom doors, etc.)
MUZABIBU Primary School 6175649	Protestant Convention Schools	3 classrooms burned down 1 office burned down
JIBU Primary School 6162594	Protestant Convention Schools	Classroom doors stolen
MIKENO Primary School 6129340	Community of Baptist Churches of Eastern Congo	Damaged school (broken benches and classroom doors, etc.)
MONT HELUE School Complex 6176127	Community of Baptist Churches of Eastern Congo	School completely destroyed (broken benches and classroom doors, etc.)
EMMAUS Primary School 6155751	Protestant Convention Schools	School damaged and vandalized (broken benches and classroom doors, etc.)
RULIMBA Primary School 6162593	Protestant Convention Schools	School damaged and vandalized (broken benches and classroom doors, etc.)
NGANZO Primary School 6129352	Seventh-day Adventist Convention Schools	School damaged and vandalized (broken benches and classroom doors, etc.)
KANYANJA Primary School 6155740	Anglican Community in Congo	School damaged and vandalized (benches and classroom doors destroyed, etc.)
St Francis of Assisi Primary School	Protestant Convention Schools	School damaged and vandalized (desks set on fire, classroom windows and doors broken, etc.)
BUSESA Primary School	Protestant Convention Schools	School damaged and vandalized (roof, benches and classroom doors broken, etc.)
KIBIRIGA Primary School	Protestant Convention Schools	School damaged and vandalized (school books stolen, benches and classroom doors broken, etc.)
NURU INSTITUTE 6155748	Non-Agreement Schools	School damaged and vandalized (desks, tables, chairs, classroom doors broken, etc.)

KIBWE INSTITUTE 6133838	Non-Agreement Schools	5 classrooms burned down 1 office burned down
KIBUMBA INSTITUTE 6136025	Catholic Convention Schools	School damaged and vandalized (benches, classroom doors and latrines broken, etc.)
KALANGALA INSTITUTE 613390	Community of Pentecostal Churches in Central Africa	School damaged and vandalized (teaching materials and school books burned, benches and classroom doors broken, etc.)
NGANZO INSTITUTE 6157504	Seventh-day Adventist Convention Schools	School damaged and vandalized (desks and classroom doors broken, school books stolen)
BETHANY INSTITUTE	Community of Baptist Churches of Eastern Congo	School completely destroyed (broken benches and classroom doors, school books and administrative documents set on fire, etc.)
BURAMBA INSTITUTE	Community of Baptist Churches of Eastern Congo	School damaged and vandalized (classroom benches and doors broken, teaching materials taken away)

9.1.4.6. Conventioned schools of the Church of the Revival of Congo

1. North Kivu Educational Province 1

NAME OF THE SCHOOL AND MANAGEMENT REGIME	SUBDIVISION	DAMAGED CLASSROOMS	DAMAGE DEGREE OF DESTRUCTION
Primary school THE DIVINE VISION Conventioned Schools of the Church of the Revival of Congo	HIMBI	6 classrooms	160 boards, 30 sheets and 60 benches 1 loss of human life (Student)
PACIFIC Primary School Conventioned Schools of the Church of the Revival of Congo	HIMBI	6 classrooms	130 boards, 40 sheets and 50 benches
BUYONZA Primary School Conventioned Schools of the Church of the Revival of Congo	NYIRAGONGO	6 classrooms	180 boards, 37 sheets and 60 benches
Primary school DELICE BEDEN Conventioned Schools of the Church of the Revival of Congo	NYIRAGONGO	6 classrooms	140 boards, 42 sheets and 60 benches
TUMAINI Primary School, Conventioned Schools of the Church of the Revival of Congo	NYIRAGONGO	6 classrooms	130 boards, 27 sheets and 52 benches
LWABOSHI INSTITUTE Conventioned Schools of the Church of the Revival of Congo	NYIRAGONGO	12 classrooms	120 boards, 42 sheets and 32 benches
PACIFIC INSTITUTE Conventioned Schools of the Church of the Revival of Congo	NYIRAGONGO	12 classrooms	160 boards, 29 sheets and 50 benches

TUMAINI INSTITUTE Conventioned Schools of the Church of the Revival of Congo	NYIRAGONGO	12 classrooms	Planks, 42 sheets and 39 benches
MWAMBA Primary School Conventioned Schools of the Church of the Revival of Congo	RUTSHURU	6 classrooms	180 boards, 36 sheets and 48 benches

2. North Kivu Educational Province 3

NAME OF THE SCHOOL AND MANAGEMENT REGIME	SUBDIVISION	ORGANIZATION	DEGREE OF DESTRUCTION
UMOJA Primary School Conventioned Schools of the Church of the Revival of Congo	GOMA	6 classrooms	70 boards, 80 sheets of metal and 60 benches
UMOJA INSTITUTE Conventioned Schools of the Church of the Revival of Congo	GOMA	6 classrooms	70 boards, 80 sheets of metal and 58 benches
USHINDI Primary School 2 Conventioned Schools of the Church of the Revival of Congo	MASISI 1	6 classrooms	40 boards, 58 sheets of metal and 70 benches
INSTITUTE 2 USHINDI Conventioned Schools of the Church of the Revival of Congo	MASISI 1	8 classrooms	42 boards, 60 sheets of metal and 62 benches
KAUSI Primary School Conventioned Schools of the Church of the Revival of Congo	MASISI 4	6 classrooms	62 boards, 18 sheets of metal and 58 benches
KILEMBE Primary School Conventioned Schools of the Church of the Revival of Congo	MASISI 4	6 classrooms	60 boards, 16 sheets of metal and 29 benches
KILEMBE INSTITUTE Conventioned Schools of the Church of the Revival of Congo	MASISI 4	6 classrooms	50 boards, 26 sheets of metal and 50 benches
MAARIFA Primary School Conventioned Schools of the Church of the Revival of Congo	RUTHSURU 1	6 classrooms	60 boards, 52 sheets of metal and 60 benches
MAARIFA INSTITUTE Conventioned Schools of the Church of the Revival of Congo	RUTHSURU 1	8 classrooms	63 boards, 48 sheets of metal and 62 benches
KIWA Primary School Conventioned Schools of the Church of the Revival of Congo	RUTHSURU 1	6 classrooms	80 boards, 57 sheets of metal and 40 benches
KABOKO Primary School Conventioned Schools of the Church of the Revival of Congo	RUTHSURU 1	8 classrooms	60 boards, 48 sheets of metal and 51 benches
MWENGE Primary School	RUTHSURU 2	6 classrooms	63 boards, 58 sheets of metal and 62 benches

Conventioned Schools of the Church of the Revival of Congo			
MWENGE INSTITUTE Conventioned Schools of the Church of the Revival of Congo	RUTHSURU 2	8 classrooms	70 boards, 60 sheets of metal and 59 benches
MWINDA Primary School Conventioned Schools of the Church of the Revival of Congo	RUTHSURU 3	6 classrooms	50 planks, 42 sheets of metal and 39 benches
MWINDA INSTITUTE Conventioned Schools of the Church of the Revival of Congo	RUTHSURU 3	12 classrooms	60 boards, 58 sheets of metal and 42 benches
SAMEHE Primary School 2 Conventioned Schools of the Church of the Revival of Congo	WALIKALE 1	6 classrooms	68 boards, 60 sheets of metal and 49 benches
INSTITUTE 2 SAMEHE Conventioned Schools of the Church of the Revival of Congo	WALIKALE 1	8 classrooms	59 boards, 62 sheets of metal and 37 benches
BYORO Primary School Conventioned Schools of the Church of the Revival of Congo	WALIKALE 3	6 classrooms	80 boards, 20 sheets of metal and 70 benches
BYORO INSTITUTE Conventioned Schools of the Church of the Revival of Congo	WALIKALE 3	6 classrooms	60 boards, 18 sheets of metal and 52 benches
MURINDI Primary School Conventioned Schools of the Church of the Revival of Congo	WALIKALE 3	6 classrooms	40 boards, 22 sheets of metal and 59 benches
MURINDI INSTITUTE Conventioned Schools of the Church of the Revival of Congo	WALIKALE 3	6 classrooms	38 boards, 23 sheets of metal and 53 benches
MABANGA Primary School Conventioned Schools of the Church of the Revival of Congo	WALIKALE 3	6 classrooms	32 boards, 17 sheets of metal and 42 benches
MABANGA Primary School Conventioned Schools of the Church of the Revival of Congo	WALIKALE 3	6 classrooms	80 boards, 90 sheets of metal and 60 benches
MABANGA INSTITUTE Conventioned Schools of the Church of the Revival of Congo	WALIKALE 3	6 classrooms	70 boards, 80 sheets of metal and 50 benches

In anticipation of the 2025-2026 school year, the stakeholders reported that some Catholic schools have been rehabilitated and others are in the process of being rehabilitated. However, public and religious schools located in the territories of Nyiragongo, Rutshuru, Masisi and Walikale have not yet been rehabilitated.

However, some partners, with financial support from UNICEF, have built wooden sheds just to allow children to resume classes.

9.1.5. Public buildings damaged in the city of Goma and Nyiragongo territory

The occupation of the city of Goma and the territory of Nyiragongo not only violated human rights and international humanitarian law, but also seriously damaged public infrastructure, thus depriving many citizens of their right to work.

Data collection relay actors based in Goma and Nyiragongo had identified some infrastructures affected by this extreme violence. These are:

- The Palace of Justice: This building was built and equipped with funds from the European Union. It was looted, ransacked, and vandalized. To this day, this building is not operational.
- The Provincial Governorate: This building was partially looted and vandalized. It is now partially operational.
- Government House: This building was looted and vandalized. It remains closed to this day.
- The Central Bank of Congo: RDF and M23/AFC coalition troops had forced open the access doors, but unfortunately the safes had resisted several attempts to open them by force.
- SOFICOM (money transfer company): The Goma branch was looted during the night of April 2-3 by heavily armed men.
- Goma International Airport was looted and vandalized and remains closed to this day.
- The office of the Administrator of the Nyiragongo territory had been vandalized and looted.

To date, relay actors have reported that this office has been relocated to Kibumba, its capital, where it is operational. Meanwhile, the territory has been under attack by RDF and M23/AFC coalition troops, resulting in the mass displacement of more than 70,000 civilians. These civilians have received assistance from international organizations, although access to these conflict zones remains limited due to insecurity.

9.1.6. Massive violations of freedom of expression under the authority of the RDF-M23/AFC coalition

The Constitution of the Democratic Republic of Congo stipulates in its articles 23 and 24 as follows:

- *Article 23:*

Everyone has the right to freedom of expression.

This right implies the freedom to express one's opinions or beliefs, in particular through speech, writing and images, subject to the law, public order and morality.

- **Article 24:**

Everyone has the right to information.

Freedom of information and broadcasting by radio and television, the written press or any other means of communication are guaranteed subject to respect for public order, morality and the rights of others.

The law sets out the terms for exercising these freedoms.

State audiovisual and print media are public services whose access is guaranteed equitably to all political and social movements. The status of state media is established by law, which guarantees objectivity, impartiality, and pluralism of opinions in the processing and dissemination of information.

Since the capture of Goma and the expansion of the influence of the Rwandan-backed RDF and M23/AFC coalition, freedom of the press and expression in the provinces of North and South Kivu has experienced unprecedented repression. A climate of fear has taken hold, marked by constant pressure on the media, acts of censorship, propaganda, and violence against journalists and activists, ranging from looting and destruction of equipment to threats and physical attacks.

In Lubero territory (North Kivu), more than ten community radio stations are now inactive: six have been vandalized and five placed under the direct control of the coalition, leading to the suspension of numerous media outlets and drastically reducing people's access to independent information. The coalition has imposed strict editorial control, prohibiting the broadcast of speeches critical of the movement, requiring the modification of certain terms, and organizing "training" sessions for media managers. Journalism is conditional on obtaining accreditations issued by coalition authorities, often for a fee, reinforcing control and the exclusion of independent voices.

The repression goes beyond censorship: many journalists and activists have been threatened, arrested, kidnapped, or assaulted. Some have fled for their lives; others have been killed, like Yoshua Kambere Machozi, the founder of a community radio station, who was found dead after his arrest. Local and foreign journalists are subjected to attacks and robberies while reporting. In this context, they face a cruel dilemma: work under control or leave the region, which leads to largely biased, even purely propaganda-based, reporting.

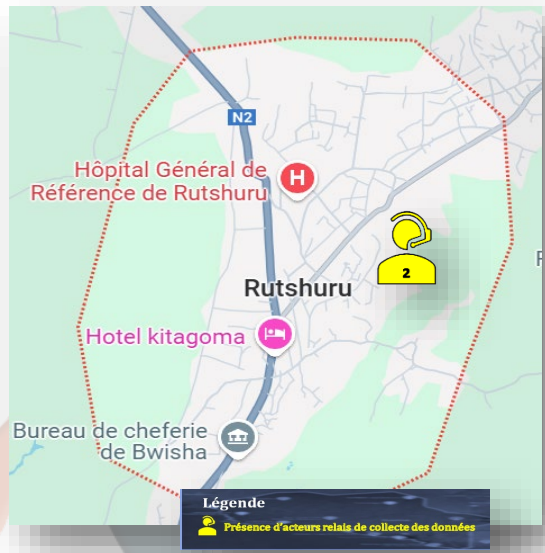
The Congolese government denounces this situation as a systematic muzzling of the press, aimed at manipulating information and depriving the population of free access to reliable sources. In short, in areas under the control of the DRC-M23/AFC coalition, press freedom is seriously compromised: media operate under constant surveillance, journalists live in fear and insecurity, and many information providers are silenced by flight, intimidation, or death. This repression illustrates the rebel movement's desire

to control the public narrative and impose its legitimacy through the manipulation of information.

9.1.7. Clashes in the territories of Rutshuru, Masisi, Walikale and Lubero: a glaring humanitarian disaster

1. Rutshuru Territory

The Rutshuru Territory is subdivided into two main chiefdoms: Bwisha and Bwito. The Bwisha chiefdom has Rutshuru center as its capital and includes the following groups: Rugari, Kisigari, Bweza, Jomba, Bukoma, Binza, Busanza. The chiefdom of Bwito has as its capital: Kikuku and includes the groups of Bukombo, Tongo, Bishusha, Kihondo, Mutanda, Bambo and Kanyabayonga.



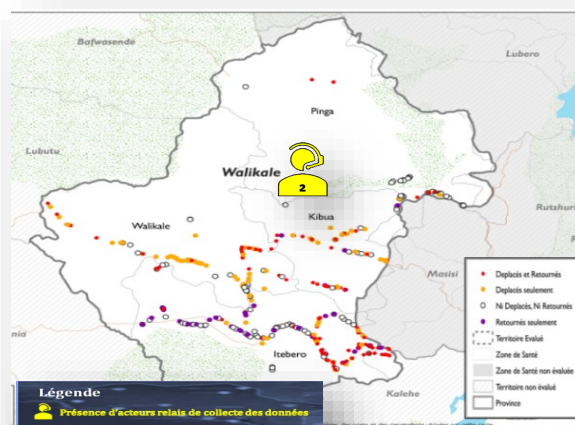
CEMEACO had deployed two data collection relay actors based in Rutshuru center since the beginning of February 2025. They reported the following facts:

- A dynamic of effective return of displaced persons from Goma to several localities in Rutshuru;
- Some returnees found their homes destroyed or occupied by other displaced people still present in the area, which portends the resurgence of community conflicts;
- The Kabizo medical facility located in the Bambo Health Zone has recorded approximately 2,000 households who have left the sites and collective centers near the city of Goma. These households have dispersed to a number of villages, including Bundase, Ruza, Katovu, Kabizo Marché, Kabizo Musienene and Rushashi;
- Nearly 1,900 displaced households have been accommodated, mostly in the Kabizo health area, by host families since February 2025.
- From 19 to 20 May 2025, RDF and M23/AFC coalition troops burned down civilian homes in the villages of Kanyabunga, Kojo, Mushanga, Bundase, Lubevu Sud, and other surrounding areas.
- On May 20, 2025, they killed about twenty civilians in the Bukombo groupement, including Mr. Nirembere Migambi, a teacher, and Ms. Vwiduhaye. Several other people were shot and wounded, including Messrs. Baranga, Ntezwurundi, Sibomana, and Evariste. On the same

- In the Mweso health zone, more than 28,000 people have returned to their villages, bringing the total number of returns to more than 78,000 inhabitants in the Masisi territory since the end of January 2025.
These populations face major challenges, including the destruction of infrastructure, limiting their access to healthcare, education and livelihoods.
- In the Masisi health zone, new clashes took place between the M23 and other local armed groups between February 18 and 25 in the Biiri group, including Masisi Centre, Katale, Lwanguba, Kanii, Kahongole, Kibuye and Lushebere.
At least four civilians were killed, including an aid worker hit by a stray bullet on February 20 at his base. A child who had taken refuge at the same base was injured, and a shell hit another aid facility, causing no casualties.
- On March 21, 2025, in the village of Mancha (Kamurotsa group, Bahunde chiefdom), RDF and M23/AFC coalition troops assassinated the village chief of Malehe, Charles Bihemu Kalimbiri, following his refusal to join the M23/AFC.
- In the same circumstances, Mr. Wete Mwami Yengayena, former president of the Saké civil society, was seriously injured by bullets for refusing to join the M23/AFC movement.
- On May 20, 2025, in the Bushali chiefdom, RDF and M23/AFC coalition troops burned down civilian homes in the villages of Karingi, Budurira, Kanyotsi, Musinga, Muderika, and Kaplafo. They also killed 13 civilians in Kasingi, including the town chief, Mr. Mabote Sinamenge, and Ms. Benenina.
- Violent clashes between the FARDC, supported by the Wazalendo, and RDF and M23/AFC coalition troops continue, exacerbating the humanitarian crisis. This situation is currently affecting thousands of children, and their protection and humanitarian assistance needs are not being adequately addressed.

3. Walikale Territory

Just like in other territories under occupation, CEMEACO has deployed two relay actors in the Walikale territory with the same mission. They started their work from February 2025 and reported some of the following facts:



On February 25, 2025, the Rusamambu Health Center in Walikale territory was looted by RDF and M23/AFC coalition troops.

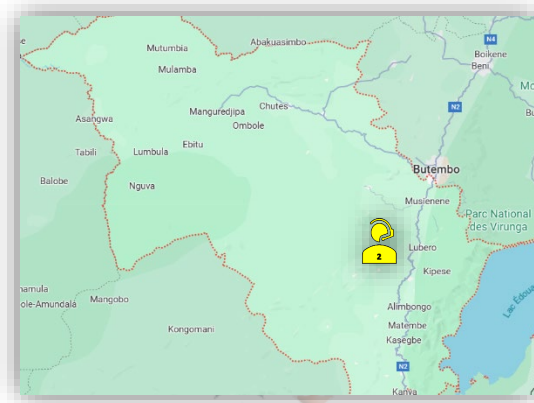
Medical kits were taken away and the health facility located in the Pinga Health Zone seriously damaged by RDF and M23/AFC coalition troops, depriving tens of thousands of residents of access to care;

This health zone is known for having received a massive influx of displaced persons and returnees, who have long been left without adequate humanitarian assistance. According to intermediary actors, more than 1,200 students in the Ikobo group were unable to return to school in 2025-2026, as the schools burned down by the RDF and M23/AFC coalition forces have not yet been rebuilt.

Civilians are experiencing difficulties due to the remains of impressive war explosives making certain areas dangerous. Humanitarian NGOs are ensuring the distribution of food to hundreds of internally displaced people in Kibua, but the needs remain enormous. However, relay actors report, the humanitarian situation continues to deteriorate following the increasing need for food aid, health care, and protection for vulnerable populations.

4. Lubero Territory

As part of the implementation of the directives issued by the central coordination, CEMEACO had deployed two relay actors in this territory.



The data collected and synthesized reported that during the month of February 2025, violence had caused more than 100,000 new displaced people on the Alimbongo-Kitsombiro, Alimbongo-Kipese and Bingi Kasugho axes, particularly towards the localities of Masereka, Kyondo, Musienene and the town of Butembo;

During the violence, armed men looted people's property in Musienene and Kimbulu.

Due to the ongoing hostilities along the Katondi-Kipese axis, several humanitarian organizations have evacuated their staff. Several health centers and schools have closed, and nearly 50,000 children have had their education interrupted.

The supply of basic necessities to the Lubero territory is compromised because the localities of Kipese and Lubango, sources of supply, are subject to repeated attacks by the RDF and M23/AFC.

During the last week of February, a bomb explosion damaged the administrative building of the Health Zone and a Health Center in the Alimbongo Health Zone. Local health sources stated that this explosion caused significant material damage, rendering health facilities unusable and depriving more than 20,000 residents of this Health Zone of access to care.

9.2. SOUTH KIVU PROVINCE

9.2.1. Brief presentation of the city of Bukavu

The city of Bukavu is the capital of South Kivu Province. It is bordered to the west and south by the Kabare Territory. To the north by Lake Kivu and to the east by the Ruzizi Valley, a tributary that allows Lake Kivu to flow into Lake Tanganyika and which forms the natural border with Rwanda and Burundi.

The city of Bukavu is divided into three communes and 27 districts, namely:

1. The Municipality of Ibanda includes 11 neighborhoods: Nyamoma or la Botte, Nyawera, Nyofu, Muhumba, Mukukwe, ISP, Nguba, Hippodrome, Nyalukemba, Ndendere and Panzi,
2. Kadutu Commune includes 11 districts: Kasali, Limanga, Mosala, Nyamugo, Cimpunda, Kanjangu, Nyakaliba, Buholo I, II, III, IV, V, VI, Funu, ETPO and Nkafu.
3. The Commune of Bagira comprises 5 districts: District A, District B, District C, District D and Mushekere

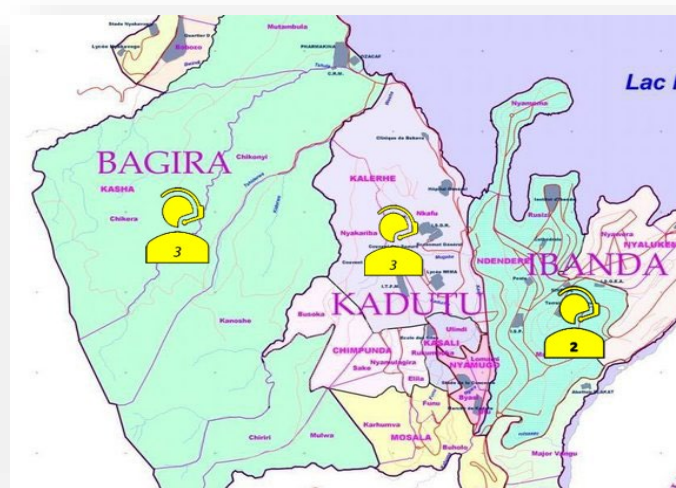
9.2.2. Some cases of human rights violations committed by the RDF - M23/AFC coalition

Just like the province of North Kivu (city of Goma and territories), the occupation of the province of South Kivu (city of Bukavu and territories) by the RDF and M23/AFC coalition troops was followed by extremely violent fighting, resulting in the destruction of infrastructure and causing numerous losses of civilian life.

To carry out its action, CEMEACO had deployed 8 data collection relay actors in the city of Bukavu spread across the 3 municipalities including Ibanda (2 relay actors), Kadutu (3 relay actors) and Bagira (3 relay actors); i.e. a land occupation sample of 1.8% of the entire city of Bukavu. With regard to the territories of Walungu, Kabare and Kalehe, CEMEACO had deployed 6 relay actors at a rate of 2 relay actors per territory.

Faced with the intensity of the violence and in a spirit of accountability, the relay actors transmitted several cases of human rights violations to the central coordination. They reported, in particular, assassinations, rapes, kidnappings, acts of torture, arbitrary arrests, as well as the destruction of health and school infrastructure in the city of Bukavu and in the territories of Walungu, Kabare, and Kalehe.

The map below illustrates our deployment plan for data collection relay actors in the city of Bukavu:



This situation has also led to massive displacement of populations to areas deemed safer, creating a humanitarian crisis marked by overcrowding in displacement camps and lack of access to health care, drinking water and education.

Local economic activity has been paralyzed, with markets and main roads cut off, exacerbating the precariousness of households already weakened by recurring conflicts. On the social level, this instability has exacerbated mistrust between communities, weakened the social fabric, and compromised the prospects for lasting peace in the region.

Serious human rights violations were committed, including summary executions of children following the capture of the city of Bukavu, under the pretext that they held weapons, as well as sexual and gender-based violence perpetrated during the conflict period.

Data collection relay actors reported the following cases of human rights violations:

- On February 12, 2025, RDF and M23/AFC coalition troops killed nine civilians, including Mr. Kalamo Mululu and a cousin of the Cibanja family who came to visit them. These executions took place on the road between Kabamba (Bugobe groupement) and Kavumu (Bugore groupement) after clashes with the Wazalendo Homeland Volunteers. This situation caused a massive displacement of residents to the Miti groupement (Kabare territory). Most of the displaced people took refuge in Kongé (Mudaka groupement), where humanitarian aid remains very insufficient.

- On February 14, 2025, following the escape of several inmates from the Kabare and Bukavu central prisons, some victims, lawyers, and witnesses sought safe havens. Their fear stems from their participation in the trials of these inmates convicted of serious human rights violations, some of which amount to international crimes.
- In February 2025 in the city of Bukavu, commune of Ibanda, two young boys, including a bus driver and his escort, were shot dead on Independence Square (known as Place du 24), wrongly accused of transporting stolen fuel.
- In March 2025, in the city of Bukavu, in the commune of Ibanda, two young people were killed while attending morning mass at Bukavu Cathedral. One lived on Avenue de l'Athénée and the other on Avenue Mbaki.
- On March 21, 2025 in Kavumu and Ibanda, seven civilians were executed, accused without proof of being members of the Wazalendo Fatherland Volunteers;
In the city of Bukavu, commune of Ibanda, on Avenue Pagecco, a Burundian student named Pascal was killed. His student status was only discovered after his execution;
In the town of Bukavu towards the commune of Kadutu, at the place commonly called "Essence", three civilians including a hairdresser were killed in retaliation for the death of an RDF/M23 soldier killed by civilians on the road to the Kadutu market.
- On March 29, 2025, in the city of Bukavu, commune of Kadutu, Mr. Janvier, an industrialist, was murdered while returning home.
- On April 10, 2025 in Mudaka, Kabare territory, a motorcycle driver from Konge was killed during clashes between rebels and the Wazalendo.
- On April 13, 2025, in Kavumu center, two men, Erick Rutsuba and Innocent, were killed. Other young people are missing, and some others were killed, disguised as rebels to make people believe they were the Wazalendo.
- On April 14, 2025, in the city of Bukavu, at the Bralima site, more than ten young people were shot dead, accused of attempted burglary of the Bralima company.
- On April 15, 2025, in the city of Bukavu, journalist Amisi Musada was abducted and found dead on April 19, showing obvious signs of torture.
- On April 21, 2025, in the city of Bukavu, Kadutu commune, specifically at Camp Sayo, cases of burglary and massive looting were committed by the RDF and M23/AFC coalition. On the same date, in the city of Bukavu, on ISGEA Avenue, a young boy was killed for disobeying two soldiers and Ms. Shany Bazibuhe (19 years old) was raped by at least seven rebels from the RDF and M23/AFC coalition.

- On May 17, 2025, four lifeless bodies were found on Lake Kivu (12 km from Bukavu). Three of these bodies were wrapped in bags and another was uncovered.
- On June 1, 2025, the Bideka Hospital Center in Walungu territory was robbed by RDF and M23/AFC coalition troops. The armed attackers stole all of the facility's funds, as well as cell phones and other belongings belonging to patients and staff. This attack caused severe trauma for the victims and severely disrupted the hospital's operations, resulting in a lack of resources for medicines, medical equipment, and staff payments.
- On the same day, at around 11:00 a.m., coalition troops abducted the president of the Provincial Council of the Order of Physicians of South Kivu, Dr. Mwadawa Zawadi Alice, and her husband, Mr. Magadju Titco (a humanitarian worker with the AAP), in Katana. They were taken to Kahungu, near Kahuzi-Biega National Park.
- On June 15, 2025, in the Kabare Centre region, clashes between rebels from the RDF and M23/AFC coalition and the Wazalendo Homeland Volunteers interrupted a wedding ceremony, resulting in the death of one student. Three other students were seriously injured.
- On June 23, 2025 in the city of Bukavu, Mr. Rodrigue, husband of the director of Pharmakina, was killed by RDF and M23/AFC coalition troops at his home around 6:00 a.m.
- On June 28, 2025 in the Kaniola Health Zone, RDF and M23/AFC coalition troops raped and massacred more than 15 people (men, women, children) in their homes.
- On June 29, 2025, in Bushwira, four civilians, including a woman, were killed in reprisals by rebels from the RDF and M23/AFC coalition.
- On June 30, 2025, in the city of Bukavu, 9 children were burned alive and 7 other young people were killed by RDF and M23/AFC coalition troops in their home near the "Essence" station.
Not far from the Brasserie Bralima, two other people were murdered by RDF and M23/AFC coalition troops;
In Muhungu Météo, between Mudaka and Mubumbu, 20 people were murdered by RDF and M23/AFC coalition troops in retaliation for attacks by the Volunteers of the Homeland (Wazalendo).
- From 16 to 17 July 2025 in Mudaka, three men including Messrs Roger Ciringa, Cubaka Mushengezi, Habamungu Rwikiza were killed by the RDF and M23/AFC coalition. In the same circumstances, a woman named Plamedie was seriously injured.
- On July 29, 2025, in the Kabare territory, nine members of the same family (father, mother, and children) were burned alive in their home. This act is attributed to the RDF and M23/AFC coalition.

- On August 5, 2025 in the city of Bukavu, Mr. Fiston Wilondja, journalist and member of the UNPC, was assassinated by troops of the RDF and M23/AFC coalition.



10. THE ECONOMIC IMPACT OF THE SECURITY CRISIS IN EASTERN DRC

The occupation of towns and territories in the provinces of North and South Kivu by RDF and M23/AFC coalition troops has had disastrous economic consequences, including the disruption of agricultural production, trade and mining, the destruction of infrastructure and the massive displacement of populations.

The areas controlled by the RDF and M23/AFC coalition troops, particularly in North Kivu and South Kivu, are rich in minerals (gold, coltan, cobalt, lithium, etc.).

Rwanda, which denied its involvement in the conflict through its support for the M23/AFC, had access to these resources, either directly or through smuggling networks, and was able to derive several enormous benefits from the war. According to some analysts, these benefits included increased security, greater control over resource-rich border areas, and possibly increased regional influence.

Today, evidence and testimony, resolutions and sanctions suggest its active involvement in providing military and logistical support to the M23/AFC.

Analysis of past and current information shows that these economic impacts are linked to a set of complex factors, including ethnic rivalries, economic and geopolitical interests, as well as the presence of armed groups including the M23/AFC.

The data collected and analyzed allowed us to present the following main economic impacts:

- Disruption of agriculture and trade
 - This war makes access to agricultural land difficult and leads to a decrease in agricultural production and unprecedented food insecurity;
 - This war is causing displacement of civilian populations and looting of resources, affecting commercial activities, disrupting supply chains and leading to an increase in the prices of basic necessities in all areas occupied by RDF and M23/AFC coalition troops;
 - This war makes it easier for the occupying forces and various armed groups to impose illegal taxes and harms local economic activities.
- Impact on mining
 - The provinces of North Kivu and South Kivu are often conflict zones where mining is disrupted or even interrupted by the degree of extreme violence;
 - Artisanal mining, often carried out in dangerous conditions, is even riskier in this time of war;
 - Control of mining sites is seen as an important issue for RDF and M23/AFC coalition troops seeking to finance their activities with these resources.
- Impact on infrastructure
 - The destruction of infrastructure (roads, bridges, buildings) makes the movement of goods and people difficult and affects the economy;
 - Rebuilding infrastructure takes time and requires significant investment.

- Displacement of populations and loss of livelihoods
 - The war has displaced thousands of people, losing their homes, lands and livelihoods;
 - Refugees and internally displaced persons depend on humanitarian aid, which places a burden on public finances;
 - The loss of human lives and skills diminishes the productive capacity of the region.

- Long-term challenges
 - War and insecurity hamper investment and long-term economic development;
 - The provinces of North and South Kivu, rich in natural resources, could experience economic growth if peace were restored.



11. PLEA FOR INCREASED PARTICIPATION OF WOMEN IN THE SUSTAINABLE PEACE PROCESS

Gender disparities are a global reality, and the Democratic Republic of Congo is no exception. In times of conflict, extreme poverty, low social status, and targeted violence against women and girls only exacerbate the discrimination experienced in times of relative normality. This reality is dramatically reflected in the provinces of North and South Kivu, occupied by the RDF and M23/AFC coalition forces, where gender-based violence has reached alarming levels.

Data collection relay actors documented cases of violations against women in several forms:

- Conflict-related sexual violence: individual and gang rapes, committed during escapes, in displacement camps, while collecting wood or water, or in homes meant to protect families. These rapes are often accompanied by beatings, humiliation, and physical and psychological trauma.
- Sexual slavery and exploitation, “survival sex”: in a context of extreme vulnerability, women and girls are forced into survival relationships, sometimes organized in “houses of tolerance” around the camps.
- Forced marriages, kidnappings and trafficking: Cases of adolescent girls and young women being kidnapped, forced into marriage or pimped have been reported.
- Recruitment of girls by armed groups: use for domestic, sexual, intelligence or portering tasks, aggravating the exploitation and insecurity of minors.
- Homicides, injuries and trauma due to indiscriminate attacks: bombing of densely populated civilian areas and displaced persons camps (e.g. Mugunga, Lac Vert), causing death or mutilation among women and children.
- Arbitrary detentions, kidnappings and torture: Women were subjected to deprivation of liberty and ill-treatment in and around the camps and on controlled routes.
- Looting, extortion and harassment: particularly at checkpoints and inside camps, restricting women's freedom of movement and increasing their exposure to violence.
- Obstacles to access to healthcare and essential services: The militarization of sites and insecurity make medical care difficult, including post-rape care (PEP), and increase the risk of maternal mortality.

This situation illustrates a persistent trend: violence against women, often diluted in a global interpretation of conflicts, remains invisible. However, it represents not only serious violations of human rights, but also a major obstacle to women's contribution to family survival, social cohesion, and the political and economic reconstruction of the country.

To enable women to fully play their role in a post-conflict context like ours, there is a need, among other things, to:

- Find a way for information to flow efficiently from the capital Kinshasa to decentralized institutions and local authorities in the occupied territories;
- Implement a platform for dialogue between security authorities and those working on gender at the local level;
- Take into account the issue of children in relation to security for the Democratic Republic of Congo and the Great Lakes region, which is experiencing numerous problems linked to cross-border trafficking of children, but also to cases of violence and abuse of children by the occupying forces;
- Raise awareness among populations about cross-border problems and the prevention of intra- and inter-community conflicts.



12. DEFENSE OF THE SOLIDARITY OF DESTINY AND THE INTEGRITY OF THE NATIONAL TERRITORY

The data collection relay actors had reported that unlike previous wars of land conquest and pillage of natural resources by Rwanda and its M23/AFC proxies, the resistance of the populations of North Kivu and South Kivu, particularly in the cities of Goma and Bukavu and in certain Territories, is manifested in various ways, ranging from public denunciation to participation in defense movements and mutual aid initiatives.

People, faced with violence and forced displacement, are organizing in their own way to make their voices heard and demand peace, the immediate return of legally established institutions while fighting for their survival and the reconstruction of their communities.

The data collection relay actors identified some key forms of citizen resistance to the order established by the occupying forces and their modus operandi, which can be summed up as:

- **Public denunciation**
The populations, often through demonstrations and public statements, especially on various social media platforms, are constantly denouncing the atrocities committed by the RDF and M23/AFC coalition troops and demanding an end to hostilities. No march or gathering of more than ten people is permitted. authorized in occupied areas.
- **Participation in defense movements**
Citizen groups, such as the Wazalendo, have formed to protect their villages and oppose the advances of RDF and M23/AFC coalition troops. These last ones face the untimely attacks of the Wazalendo resistance patriots
- **Mutual aid and solidarity**
Faced with mass displacement and precariousness, populations organize themselves to help each other, share resources and rebuild their lives.
- **Plea for Peace**
Civil society organizations and leaders Community organizations are carrying out advocacy actions for peace and justice, seeking to influence political decisions and mobilize the international community. This advocacy is carried out in much more difficult and dangerous conditions. Data collection relay actors noted, on the one hand, that some civil society leaders have chosen the path of exile to avoid exposure to inhuman or degrading treatment, and on the other, that some are still on the ground acting as eyewitnesses to everything that has been happening since the fall of the cities of Goma and Bukavu and the Territories.

- **Passive resistance**
In the face of occupation, some populations practice a form of passive resistance, refusing to collaborate with the occupying forces and preserving their traditions and culture. Aside from a few key forms of citizen resistance, the intermediary actors identified several factors underlying this dynamic. These include:
- **Defense of human rights**
The local population is mobilizing as much as it can to defend its fundamental rights, such as the right to life, security and liberty, and is using the "monitoring" approach.cases of arrests".
- **Refusal of impunity**
The collective will to bring to justice the perpetrators of crimes committed by RDF and M23/AFC coalition troops is a major driving force behind the resistance. Data collection actors note, however, that this will is undermined by the absence of competent jurisdictions.
- **Sense of pride and belonging**
The defense of their territory and their cultural identity strengthens the determination of the Congolese living in the Territories under occupation to resist. The data collection relay actors note that the feeling of national unity is an eloquent illustration of this because no one wants to hear of any balkanization of the Democratic Republic of Congo.
- **Hope for a better future**
Data collection relay actors note that the political will displayed by the government of the Democratic Republic of Congo to build a peaceful and prosperous future for future generations motivates the populations to continue the struggle.
- **Diplomatic action**
Faced with the offensive of the RDF – M23/AFC coalition in the east of the country, particularly in the cities of Goma and Bukavu and certain territories, the Congolese government has initiated, under the leadership of the President of the Republic, Head of State, an intense diplomatic action publicly denouncing the aggression and occupation of the territory. Resolutions 2773 of the UN Security Council of February 21, 2025 and 2025/2553 (RSP) of the European Parliament of February 13, 2025 are proof of this.

Diplomatic progress has resulted in the signing of two agreements: the Washington Agreement in Principle and the Doha Agreement. Both agreements remain insufficient without the involvement of justice, reconciliation, local governance, or addressing the root causes of the conflict.

- **Government action for education**
Despite the precarious security situation in the provinces of North and South Kivu, the DRC government organized a special session of the 2024-2025 State Examination for finalist students residing in rebel-controlled areas, in order to guarantee their right to education. According to stakeholders, these exams took place from June 24 to 27, 2025, in accordance with the national calendar,

although concerns remained about the effective participation of students in some areas due to security and logistical difficulties.

To address this, the government has stepped up distance learning through digital platforms, radio, and television, while also considering solutions such as opening humanitarian corridors to allow students to access examination centers. Despite these measures, the situation remains complex, reminding us that, even in times of crisis, the continuity of education remains a priority.



13. ANALYSIS OF THE CURRENT SITUATION

Since the capture of the city of Goma and certain towns and territories in the provinces of North Kivu and South Kivu, public institutions and civilian populations have been deeply affected by the actions of the RDF and M23/AFC coalition.

Beyond the sample documented by the ARCD, the occupation of the cities of Goma and Bukavu as well as certain territories occupied by the RDF and M23/AFC coalition from January 26 to August 31, 2025 caused the death of nearly hundreds of thousands of Congolese. In view of all this, two major impacts are observed, namely:

1. The transformation of institutions and the diversion of roles

- The Public Prosecutor's Office no longer functions according to its usual mandate. Instead, the M23/AFC authorities created the "Prosecutor's Office near the Civil Affairs Arbitration Center" (PGR/PG/BSS), operating from the former Children's Police (PSP) facility in downtown Goma and staffed by M23/AFC-affiliated lawyers. This service is now limited to civil cases, thus diverting the full role the Public Prosecutor's Office had in the national justice system.
- In the financial sector, no bank has been operational since the fall of Goma. The Caisse d'Épargne du Congo (CADECO) remains the only active institution and now collects taxes and fines imposed by the M23/AFC, a role that departs from its original mission as a financial cooperative.
- Civil status services continue to operate, but under the control of de facto judicial police officers (OPJ), delegated by the rebel forces, which transforms their traditional role as guarantor of civil status into a function supervised by the rebellion.

2. The consequences for civilian populations

The attacks by the RDF and M23/AFC coalition have triggered a wave of violence of exceptional magnitude, including:

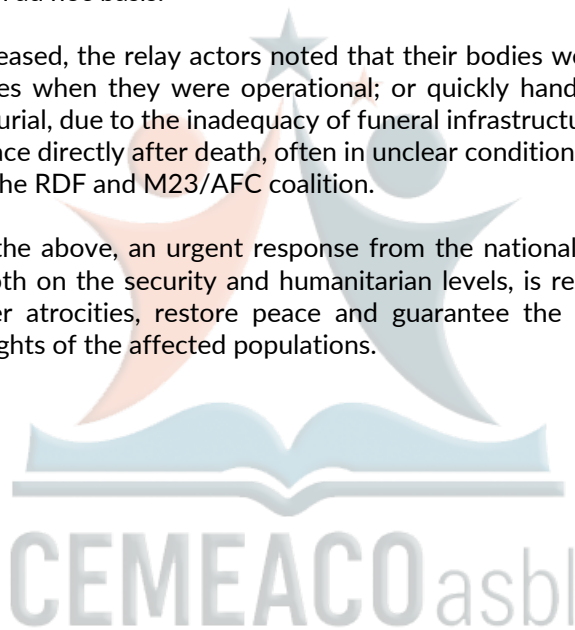
- Summary executions, kidnappings and targeted persecution of journalists, activists and citizens considered close to the government.
- Arbitrary arrests and torture in makeshift detention centers, often accompanied by extortion or death threats.
- Forced labor imposed on civilians, particularly for humiliating tasks such as cleaning morgues or sewers, under threat of punishment or violence.
- Massive sexual violence, including in displacement camps and during the Goma prison fire, with reported cases of gang rape.
- Destruction of government buildings, courts and vital infrastructure.
- Widespread water, electricity and internet outages in Goma.
- Destruction of medical facilities, schools, shops and private infrastructure, resulting in loss of life and disruption of essential services.
- Forced displacement of populations, sometimes returned to areas of active conflict, constitutes a serious violation of international humanitarian law.

- Use of heavy artillery by the RDF/M23 coalition in civilian areas and displacement camps, destroying thousands of shelters and causing numerous losses of life.
- Extremely critical humanitarian situation with growing needs for security, food assistance and protection.
- Countless challenges faced on the ground by the DRC government and humanitarian agencies.

Regarding the people injured during the occupation of the cities of Goma and Bukavu as well as the territories of Nyiragongo, Lubero, Rutshuru, Masisi, Walikale, Walungu, Kalehe and Kabare, the relay actors noted that they were taken to medical facilities to receive first aid as far as available resources allowed. However, they noted that the medical facilities were facing a critical shortage of medicines, blood, surgical equipment and qualified personnel. This significantly limited the capacity to provide care, forcing the humanitarian organizations present to intervene on an ad hoc basis.

As for the deceased, the relay actors noted that their bodies were registered and kept in morgues when they were operational; or quickly handed over to family members for burial, due to the inadequacy of funeral infrastructure. In many cases, burials took place directly after death, often in unclear conditions organized by the authorities of the RDF and M23/AFC coalition.

In view of all the above, an urgent response from the national and international community, both on the security and humanitarian levels, is required in order to prevent further atrocities, restore peace and guarantee the protection of the fundamental rights of the affected populations.



14. CONCLUSION

The persistence of violence in the eastern Democratic Republic of Congo, marked by serious and repeated violations of human rights and international humanitarian law, reveals the scale of the crisis facing civilian populations. The scale of documented atrocities, the destabilization of local state structures, and the collapse of basic services require an urgent, concerted, and multidimensional response.

Between January and August 2025, the cities of Goma and Bukavu and the occupied territories were the scene of repeated violence against civilians by RDF and M23/AFC coalition troops. They stormed homes and public places, carrying out summary executions, kidnappings, torture, looting, and sexual violence; massacring entire families, burning children alive, and killing civilians for insidious motives or in retaliation for clashes with the FARDC or the Volunteers of the Fatherland (Wazalendo).

These attacks affected all segments of the population, including professionals, local figures, and institutions, causing severe trauma and mass displacement. Public places such as sports centers, central squares, industrial and educational establishments, as well as health facilities, were also targeted.

To date, this violence has created a lasting climate of fear, resulting in significant loss of life and profoundly disrupting social and community life throughout these two provinces.

In this context, the documentation work carried out by CEMEACO, through a rigorous and participatory information collection system, constitutes a major citizen initiative in favor of truth, justice and memory. This monitoring is also a form of peaceful resistance, based on community engagement, methodological rigor and the desire to promote a future based on peace, accountability and human dignity.

The data collected must not remain a dead letter. They call upon the Congolese state, regional actors, the international community, and citizen movements to address their shared responsibility in protecting civilians, preventing conflict, and building a truly inclusive rule of law.

It is therefore imperative that these warnings be translated into concrete action: justice for the victims, sanctions for the perpetrators, increased humanitarian assistance, and a sincere political commitment to lasting peace. History must not repeat itself, and every actor now has a role to play in reversing the course of this tragedy.

15. RECOMMENDATIONS

1. To the Government of the Democratic Republic of Congo
 - Strengthen the protection of civilians in conflict zones by ensuring an increased and effective presence of security forces while respecting human rights.
 - Ensure safe humanitarian access to displaced and disaster-affected populations.
 - Support national justice mechanisms to investigate, prosecute and punish alleged perpetrators of serious human rights violations.
 - Strengthen partnerships with civil society for citizen monitoring of conflicts, violations, and peacebuilding.
 - Protect and support human rights defenders facing increased risks in conflict zones.

2. To the RDF and M23/AFC and allies
 - Immediately cease all forms of violence against civilians, including summary executions, sexual violence, abductions, and looting.
 - Respect international humanitarian law, in particular the Geneva Conventions, by guaranteeing the distinction between civilians and combatants.
 - Allow unhindered access to humanitarian actors and independent observers in areas under their control.

3. To the International Community (United Nations, African Union, European Union, etc.)
 - Strongly condemn the documented violations and exert increased diplomatic pressure on Rwanda and its M23/AFC proxies involved in human rights abuses.
 - Strengthen the civilian protection mandate for peacekeeping missions (such as MONUSCO), with adequate resources and presence.
 - Provide technical and financial support to transitional justice mechanisms, reparations for victims and citizen documentation.

4. To Congolese civil society
 - Continue independent documentation of human rights violations and strengthen local data collection capacities.
 - Conduct community awareness activities on fundamental rights, non-violence, and peaceful coexistence.
 - Strengthen synergies and coalitions between NGOs to carry out joint advocacy at the national, regional and international levels.

5. To technical and financial partners

- Provide long-term support for local monitoring, advocacy and peacebuilding initiatives led by organizations such as CEMEACO.
- Fund psychosocial rehabilitation, legal assistance and reintegration programs for war victims, particularly women and young people.
- Support national institutions in reforming the security sector, justice and post-conflict territorial governance.





Training Center
for Active Education Methods in Congo

Member of the International Federation of Training Centers
for Active Education Methods "FICEMEA"