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# The Democratic Crisis in Mozambique: The Constitution Torn Apart and the Rule of Law Violated

• Mozambique is going through one of the darkest periods in its history, where the foundations of the Democratic Rule of Law are systematically being destroyed by authoritarian and repressive practices. Recent episodes of state violence, including killings, brutal repression of peaceful demonstrations, indiscriminate use of force, arbitrary detentions, and the persecution of dissenting voices, highlight a collapse of constitutional principles and international human rights standards.



#### **Fraudulent Elections: The Root of Violence**

The current crisis stems from general elections marred by blatant fraud that undermined the legitimacy of the democratic process. President Filipe Nyusi and the ruling party disregarded the fundamental principle that sovereignty resides in the people, as guaranteed by the Constitution of the Republic. The electoral process was turned into a sham, triggering a wave of violent repression aimed at silencing those demanding justice and truth.

## Lives Lost to Repression: Deaths, Injuries, and Arbitrary Detentions

Since the start of peaceful demonstrations, over 80 people have been killed in violent state actions. Hundreds more have been injured in brutal and indiscriminate attacks, while hundreds of citizens have been arbitrarily detained, many without access to legal defense or information about their whereabouts. One of the most symbolic episodes of this crisis was the deliberate killing of a young girl, run over by a military armored vehicle. This cruel act reflects the dehumanization that has overtaken state apparatuses, destroying innocent lives and corroding the moral fabric of society.

### Terror in Neighborhoods: The State Against Its People

Armed men wielding AK-47s patrol neighborhoods, indiscriminately shooting to kill in broad daylight, evoking images of failed states like Haiti. Agents of the National Criminal Investigation Service (SERNIC) roam with lists of young people marked for execution, while tear gas is indiscriminately fired in the dead of night, suffocating entire families.

These acts are not only flagrant human rights violations but also a psychological terror tactic against the very citizens the State is supposed to protect.

## The Constitution Torn Apart and the Rule of Law Destroyed

By consolidating power through electoral fraud and resorting to systematic violence against peaceful citizens, Filipe Nyusi's government has torn apart the Constitution of the Republic and replaced the Democratic Rule of Law with a regime of oppression. The State, which should be the guardian of fundamental rights, has become their greatest violator, destroying lives and silencing voices.

Systematic repression and disproportionate use of force demonstrate that the government rules through fear, not legitimacy. The deaths, injuries, and arbitrary detentions are marks of a State that has lost respect for democratic and human values.

## **The Price of Democratic Betrayal**

The destruction of democratic principles and the collapse of the Rule of Law have plunged Mozambique into a dangerous cycle of instability. Without justice, transparency, and the protection of fundamental rights, the country drifts further away from the ideals of democracy and equality.

## **A Call for Democratic Resistance**

In light of this alarming scenario, it is urgent for democratic forces, both national and international, to unite in demanding accountability and justice. The lives lost, the injured bearing the scars of violence, and the detainees awaiting freedom cry out for action.

Rebuilding Mozambique requires restoring democratic foundations, beginning with respect for the popular will and the protection of human rights. The fight for a just, democratic, and peaceful Mozambique is not merely a political issue but a moral imperative.

History will not forgive indifference in the face of the destruction of democracy and the Rule of Law in Mozambique. The future of the country depends on a firm and collective response to end this cycle of oppression and build a nation where human dignity is respected, and justice prevails.



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