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Mission in the Central African Republic



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pour la stabilisation en République centrafricaine

April – June 2024

## HUMAN RIGHTS QUARTERLY BRIEF ON THE CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

### HIGHLIGHTS

- **Presentation to the Head of State of a revised National Action Plan of the Strategic Committee to address Conflict Related Sexual Violence (CRSV).**
- **Appointment of a Selection Committee to examine candidacies for new Commissioners of the Truth, Justice, Reparation, and Reconciliation Commission (CVJRR).**
- **One hundred elements of the armed group Azandé Ani Kpi Gbé, trained by the OSP and recruited into the FACA under the name of “Wagner Ti Azande”.**
- **In Q2 2024, MINUSCA HRD documents 657 human rights violations and abuses, affecting 1,114 civilians.**
- **Recurrent violations related to the rights to physical and mental integrity (23%), deprivation of liberty and conditions of detention (20%), property (18%), right to life (12%), and CRSV (12%).**
- **At least 136 civilians, including 115 men, six women, 14 boys and one girl were killed (an 86% increase compared to Q1 2024). Most victims (63 victims) are attributable to 3R elements.**

# SIGNIFICANT HUMAN RIGHTS RELATED DEVELOPEMENTS

Following the annulment of the 30 December 2020 presidential decree designating members of the Truth, Justice, Reparation, and Reconciliation Commission (CVJRR), on 7 May,<sup>1</sup> a Selection Committee to designate the next Commissioners was appointed on 24 May by presidential decree. It includes representatives from the National Assembly, the Government, civil society, African Union and the United Nations to vet and propose new commissioners.<sup>2</sup>

A number of measures were taken by the Government to address challenges in the justice sector. The deployment of 295 correction officers recently integrated into the Central African Republic's (CAR) public civil service began. This is expected to enhance the management and operational capabilities of the penitentiary system. On 14 May, the Ministry of Justice, Promotion of Human Rights and Good Governance circulated the penal policy<sup>3</sup>, highlighting the importance of judicial independence, adherence to procedural timelines, and the timely resolution of detention related cases, especially for detainees who are minors, disabled, or otherwise disadvantaged. The Ministry of Justice also issued a directive<sup>4</sup> detailing inter alia, disciplinary measures against judicial actors who are assigned to the regions but remain in Bangui without authorisation.

With support of MINUSCA and with the Central Africa Regional Office of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), the Ministry of Justice organised a workshop on the role and contribution of a national

mechanism for the prevention of torture from 24 to 26 April in Bangui. The opening ceremony was attended by the Minister of Justice and the Deputy Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General in the CAR who emphasized the importance of preventing torture and fighting disinformation.

During the reporting period, criminal court sessions were held which contributed to addressing prison overcrowding and illegal detentions. On 2 May, the *Tribunal de grande instance* (TGI) of Berbérati held a mobile court hearing in Dédé-Mokouba. A total of 23 cases were examined involving 26 defendants, 11 of whom were in pre-trial detention. On 19 April, the TGI of Bria held its first mobile court hearing in Sam-Ouandja (Haute-Kotto Prefecture). From 13 to 29 May, the Court of Appeal of Bouar held its first criminal session of the year following multiple postponements.

On 30 April, the Special Criminal Court (SCC) made public an international arrest warrant against former President François Bozizé for alleged crimes against humanity committed between February 2009 and March 2013, initially issued on 27 February 2024. On 12 April, the former Minister of Tourism and leader of the Anti-Balaka (Ngaissona section), Dieudonné Ndomaté, was arrested. On 21 June, the SCC reported the arrest of former Anti-Balaka Commander Edmond Beïna. On 17 June, he was formally charged with various crimes against humanity and war crimes allegedly committed in Guen, Gadzi and Djomo in February and March 2014.

<sup>1</sup> Décret n°24.119 rapportant le décret n°20.435 du 30 décembre 2020 entérinant la désignation des membres de la Commission Vérité, Justice, Réparation et Réconciliation, 7 May 2024.

<sup>2</sup> Décret n°24.139 entérinant la désignation des membres du comité de sélection des candidats pour la Commission Vérité, Justice, Réparation et Réconciliation, 24 May 2024.

<sup>3</sup> Circulaire relative aux instructions de politique pénale n°258/MCJPDHBM/DIRCAB-24

<sup>4</sup> Déplacement des magistrats et autres collaborateurs, N. 328/MCJPDHBM/DIRCAB.24.

On 25 June, the revised National Action Plan of the Strategic Committee to address CRSV was presented to the Head of State in the presence of selected technical and financial partners, including

MINUSCA, represented by the DSRSG/RC/HC. Partners pledged support towards the implementation of the Action Plan.

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## CONTEXT

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The reporting period was marked by continued armed group activities with implications for the protection of civilians and respect for human rights as well as the training of elements of armed groups by OSP and their non-regulatory recruitment into the FACA.

In the **Haut-Oubangui**<sup>5</sup> Region, **Haut-Mbomou** Prefecture, 100 elements of the armed group Azandé Ani Kpi Gbé (AAKG) were trained by the OSP and on 1 May, recruited into the *Forces Armées Centrafricaines* (FACA) under the name of “Wagner Ti Azande” (WTA).<sup>6</sup> The non-regulatory recruitment of AAKG elements into FACA poses significant challenges due to the lack of transparent vetting mechanisms and implications for accountability for human rights abuses and social cohesion. Of note, on 21 June, in Zemio, members of the Muslim community addressed a letter to the local authorities, including the Prefect, MINUSCA and the Defence and Security Forces, denouncing the abuses committed against Muslims and Fulani by elements of the WTA. Similarly in the **Plateaux/Bas-Oubangui**<sup>7</sup>, about 130 former Anti-Balaka elements from the Kouango sub-prefecture were selected by the OSP to undergo military training at the Berengo training centre, in the

**Lobaye** Prefecture heightening the possibility of their non-regulatory recruitment into the FACA.

In the **Haut-Oubangui**, **Fertit**<sup>8</sup> and **Yadé**<sup>9</sup> Regions, attacks by armed groups remained a major challenge. For instance, in the **Mbomou** Prefecture, on 14 April, *Coalition des patriotes pour le changement* (CPC) elements attacked Kologbota village (27 km south of Bakouma), and killed nine men, injured two others and burned down several houses. On 6 May, in the **Haut-Mbomou** Prefecture, the movements of around 300 elements from the *Unité pour la paix en Centrafrique* (UPC) were reported from Zémio to Mboki raising concerns over potential clashes. Regarding **Haute-Kotto** Prefecture, between the 1 and 7 June, the CPC and the *Parti du Rassemblement de la nation centrafricaine* (PRNC) were involved in different incidents including the burning down of 56 houses and extortion of the population in Abaya (13 km south-west of Ouadda). This led to a mass displacement of about 500 persons from villages along the Ouadda axis towards the town of Ouadda. In the **Ouham-Fafa** Prefecture, on 9 May, 15 armed members of the *Retour, Réclamation et Réhabilitation* (3R), jointly with armed transhumance herders, reportedly killed nine civilians in the villages of Karoungba and Katie (**Ouham-Fafa** Prefecture) and set fire to 30 houses, causing a mass

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<sup>5</sup> For the purpose of this report, the Haut-Oubangui Region includes the Basse-Kotto, Haut-Mbomou and Mbomou Prefectures.

<sup>6</sup> In English, Wagner for the Azande.

<sup>7</sup> The Plateaux/Bas-Oubangui Region includes the Ombella M'Poko and Lobaye prefectures, and Bangui.

<sup>8</sup> For the purpose of this report, the Fertit Region includes the prefectures of Bamingui-Bangoran, Haute-Kotto and Vakaga.

<sup>9</sup> For the purpose of this report, the Yade Region includes the Lim-Pende (reflected by the maps under Ouham-Pende), Ouham and Ouham-Pende. Note that due to limitations of the software being used, the figures for Ouham-Fafa, which normally concern the Kaga Region, are also included here (reflected in the maps of Ouham).

displacement of the population. The attack is said to be linked to transhumance and was reportedly carried out in retaliation for the theft of cattle by youth associated with anti-Balaka ex-combatants. In the **Plateaux/Bas-Oubangui** Region, on 12 May,

3R elements attacked civilians in a mining site, killing nine persons and injuring several others in retaliation for their refusal to cooperate with the group in exploiting the mine.

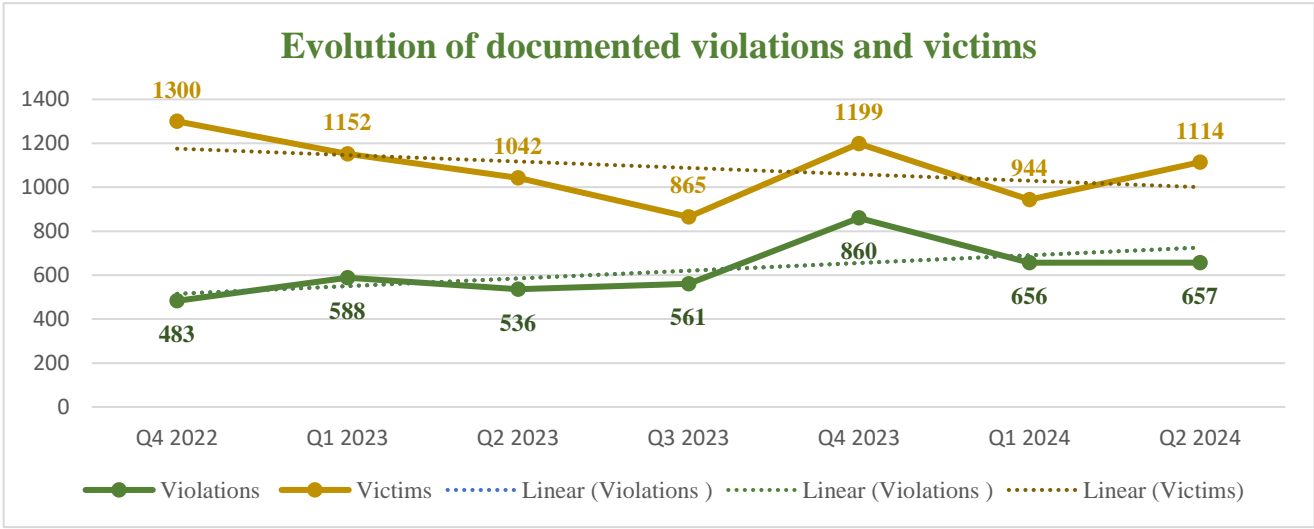
## GENERAL TRENDS

During the second quarter of 2024, MINUSCA documented 657 human rights violations and abuses and breaches of international humanitarian law (IHL) affecting 1,114 civilian victims, representing an increase of **one** violation and of **18%** in terms of victims, compared to the previous quarter.

**State actors** were responsible for **41%** of the human rights violations and for **43%** of the victims. Most violations (**134** violations affecting **361** victims) are related to arbitrary arrest and detention, including detention beyond the legal time limit for police custody, and violations linked to conditions of detention that do not comply with national and international standards. **Armed groups signatories to the Accord Politique pour la Paix et la Réconciliation** (APPR-RCA) were responsible for **38%** of the human rights abuses and for **40%** of the victims. **Other actors**, including armed groups non-signatories to the APPR-RCA, were responsible for **21%** of abuses and **17%** of victims.

In addition, a significant increase in violations to physical and mental integrity was noted this quarter, totaling **153** violations and affecting the highest number of victims (**389**). Forced recruitment and use of children was on the rise (**19** violations affecting **57** victims, compared to **four** violations affecting **five** victims in Q1 2024).

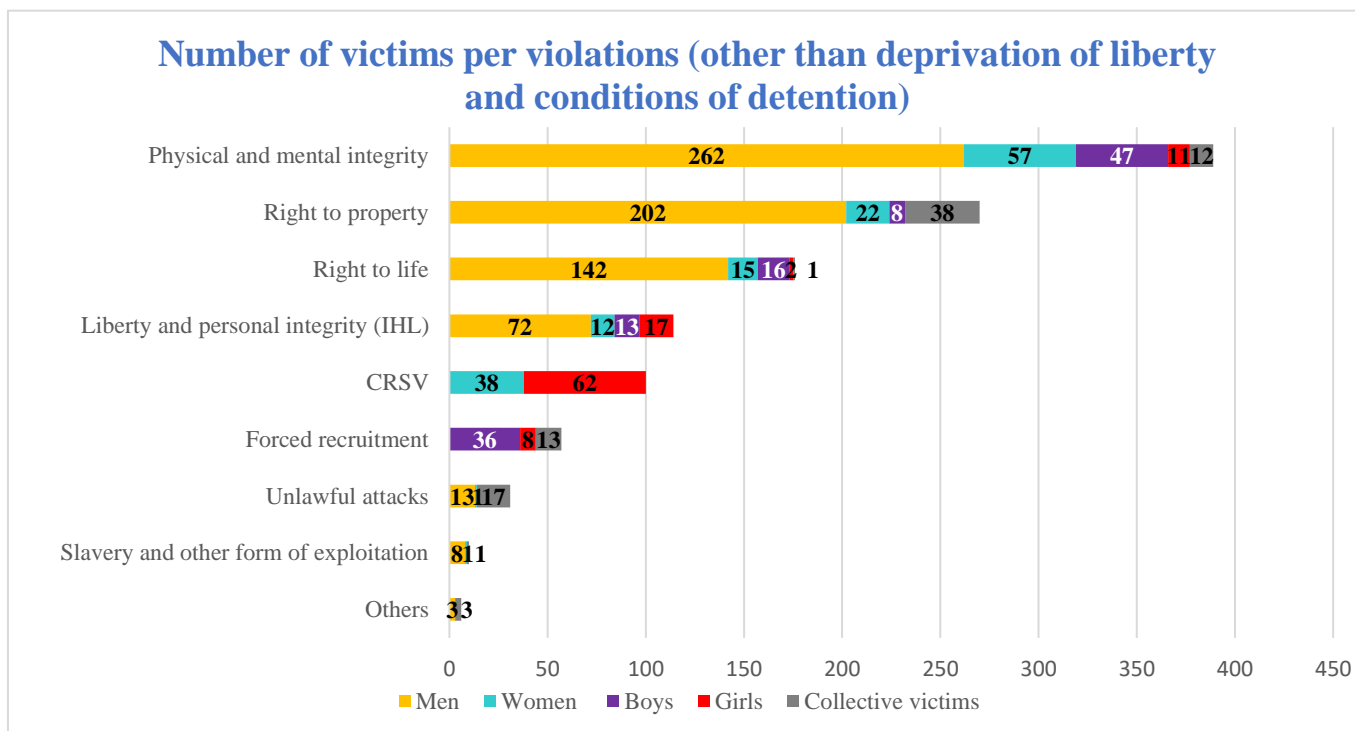
The **Fertit** was the most affected Region, with **228** violations affecting **298** victims, while the **Haute-Kotto** Prefecture was the most affected Prefecture, (**148** violations and **159** victims), including for Conflict-related Sexual Violence (CRSV) (**20** violations affecting **18** victims). In the **Haute-Kotto**, the main perpetrator of CRSV was the UPC with eight abuses affecting eight victims. In the **Vakaga** Prefecture, 14 CRSV cases affecting **21** victims were documented including five cases affecting 10 victims attributed to the *Rapid Support Forces* (RSF) from Sudan.



## VIOLATIONS

During the period under review, most human rights violations and abuses included violations of the **right to physical and mental integrity**<sup>10</sup> including torture, ill-treatment, maiming, and injuries (153); **deprivation of liberty and conditions of detention**,<sup>11</sup> that do not comply with national and international standards (134); violations to **the right to property**<sup>12</sup> including appropriation of property and illegal taxation (119); violations of the **right to life**<sup>13</sup> including extrajudicial or summary executions or other killings (78); and

**CRSV**<sup>14</sup> including rape and sexual slavery (77). As a party to international and regional treaties such as the International Covenant for Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) and pursuant to relevant provisions of national laws, authorities are responsible for taking concrete measures to prevent and respond to violations/abuses of committed by either State or non-State actors.<sup>15</sup> Violations and abuses of the **right to physical and mental integrity** (153) including torture, ill-treatment, maiming and



<sup>10</sup> The violation to the right to physical and mental integrity includes torture, ill-treatment, maiming and injuries, and threats on physical and mental integrity.

<sup>11</sup> Deprivation of liberty and conditions of detention include arbitrary arrest and detention, and conditions of detention that do not comply with national and international minimum standards (food shortage, lack of access to WASH, inhuman conditions of detention as well as non-separation of adults/minors, non-separation by gender or by status sentenced/indicted.)

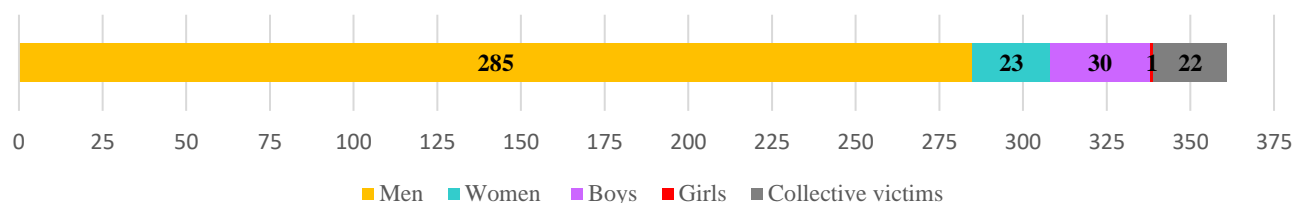
<sup>12</sup> The violation of the right to property includes destruction or appropriation of property and illegal taxation.

<sup>13</sup> The violations of right to life comprises extrajudicial or summary execution and other killings, attempted killings, enforced disappearances, deaths in custody, and death threats.

<sup>14</sup> The CRSV violations/abuses include rape, attempted rape, sexual slavery, forced pregnancy, forced marriage, attempted forced marriage, forced nudity, and sexual assault and harassment.

<sup>15</sup> The Universal Declaration of Human Rights of 10 December 1948 recognizes the right to liberty and security of person (Article 3), and the right to physical integrity and the prohibition of torture and cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment (Article 5). The ICCPR, which came into force in CAR on 8 August 1981, guarantees the right to life (Article 6), the right to physical integrity and the prohibition of torture and cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment (Article 7), the right to liberty and security of person (Article 9) and the right to be treated with humanity (Article 10).

## Number of victims per violations (deprivation of liberty and conditions of detention)



injuries, and threats to physical and mental integrity, affected **389** victims (**262** men, **57** women, **47** boys, **11** girls and **12** groups of collective victims). This represents a **13%** increase in the number of violations and a **77%** decrease in the number of victims compared to the previous quarter. The violations/abuses of the right to physical and mental integrity represent **23%** of total violations and abuses documented this quarter. **Armed groups signatories to the APPR-RCA** were responsible for most abuses to the right to physical and mental integrity (**63** abuses and **205** victims), in particular cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment committed by the UPC and the 3R armed groups. In most of the cases, the abuses were committed alongside appropriation of property. On 11 May, in Lim-Pende Prefecture, men dressed in military outfits and armed with rifles and blades, attacked at least 15 people (seven women, six men, and two boys aged 14 and 7 years-old). The perpetrators, acting in groups of three to four, and affiliated to the 3R, punched, kicked and beat up the victims with their rifles and the flat sides of the blades. During the same incident, they also raped a 32-year-old woman. Similar incidents in the same area have also been reported.

**Other actors including armed groups non-signatory to the APPR-RCA in addition to explosive ordnances** were responsible for **23%** of abuses (**35**) affecting **21%** of victims (**81**). The **Haute-Kotto** Prefecture recorded the most violations and abuses with **37** violations/abuses affecting **90** victims, with **62%** of the abuses caused by unidentified CPC (**8**) and UPC (**15**).

At least **361** persons (including **285** men, **23** women, **30** boys, **one** girl and **22** groups of collective victims) were victims of **arbitrary arrest and/or detention, including conditions of detention** that do not comply with the national and international standards. With regards to police custody, the Criminal Procedure Code provides a maximum of 72 hours renewable once while the newly adopted Constitution has reduced the timeframe to 48 hours. While the Code is still widely applicable, there is a need to harmonize its provisions in line with the Constitution. In addition, detention conditions continue to fall below the minimum standards (Mandela Rules) for detention and relevant provisions of the ICCPR, and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR). Violations of the right to liberty and conditions of detention account for **20%** of all violations representing a **16%** decrease in the number of violations but an **8%** increase in the number of victims compared with the previous quarter. **Police** (**48** violations affecting **121** victims) and **Gendarmerie** (**46** violations affecting **136** victims) were the main perpetrators. **Ombella-M'Poko** was the most affected Prefecture with the most violations (**25**) and victims (**72**). **State actors** were responsible for **36%** of these violations (**55**) and **29%** (**104**) of victims.

**Violations/abuses of the right to property** represented **18%** of the human rights violations and abuses (**119**) affecting a total of **270** victims (including **22** women, **eight** boys, **38** groups of collective victims). **Armed groups signatories to the APPR-RCA** were responsible for **64** abuses

and **150** victims, **State actors** for **28** violations and **75** victims, and **other actors** for **27** abuses and **45** victims. Among the different categories, the UPC was involved in **28** abuses affecting **81** victims while unidentified CPC elements were responsible for 15 abuses affecting 22 victims. **FACA was involved in 17** abuses affecting **28** victims. **Haute-Kotto** was the most affected Prefecture with **34** violations/abuses and **84** victims. On 25 June, armed elements of the 3R and Anti-Balaka affiliated to the CPC intercepted a convoy of motorbikes in Bosso village, on the Abba/Gallo axis (Nana-Mambéré Prefecture), seized the belongings of at least ten men and beat two other civilians with military belts and rifle butts.

During the second quarter of 2024, violations of the **right to life**, including extrajudicial or summary executions or other killings, enforced disappearances, deaths in custody and death threats, represented **12%** of violations and abuses (**78** violations) and affected **176** victims (**142** men, **15** women, **16** boys, **two** girls and **one** groups of collective victims). Among those victims, **136** were killed and **11** were victims of attempted killing. More than half of the violations/abuses of the right to life is attributable to **armed groups signatories to the APPR-RCA** (**44** abuses and **114** victims, including 99 people killed) while State actors were responsible for **26** victims, including eight persons killed. Meanwhile, **other actors** were responsible for **36** victims, including 29 persons killed. The **3R** armed group was the main perpetrator (**14** abuses affecting **66** victims, including **63** victims killed). **Unidentified elements of the CPC** were implicated in **eight** abuses, affecting **23** victims including **21** victims

**killed**. For instance, on 2 April, 3R elements ill-treated and killed 16 men in Bohong (approximately 90 km from Paoua), Ouham-Pende Prefecture. The victims were working in a corn field when 3R elements entered the field, tied them up and shot them. The most affected Regions include **Yadé** (**16** violations affecting **63** victims), particularly **Ouham** and **Ouham-Pende** Prefectures.

While **CRSV** cases slightly decreased both in terms of violations (**-5%**) and victims (**-4%**) compared to the previous quarter, it accounted for **12%** of the total number of human rights violations and abuses and **9%** of the victims documented during the period under review (**77** cases affecting **100** victims, notably **38** women and **62** girls). The **Haute-Kotto** (**20** violations affecting **18** victims) and **Vakaga** (**14** violations affecting **21** victims) were the most affected Prefectures. Rape (**58** cases with **27** women and **55** girls affected) continued to be prevalent, while other CRSV cases included attempted rape (10 cases affecting 11 victims), forced marriage (seven cases affecting seven victims), forced nudity (one case affecting one victim) and sexual slavery (one case affecting one victim). CRSV cases remain underreported and perpetrators in the reporting period comprised **armed groups signatories to the APPR-RCA** (**47%**), **other actors** (**35%**), and **State actors** (**18%**). The **UPC** (**13** cases affecting **28** victims) and **3R** (**11** cases affecting **15** victims) were the main perpetrators. For instance, on 4 June, 3R members raped and beat two women on their farm in Lemouna (25 km from Paoua), Ouham-Pende Prefecture. Both victims received medical care.

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## GEOGRAPHIC TRENDS

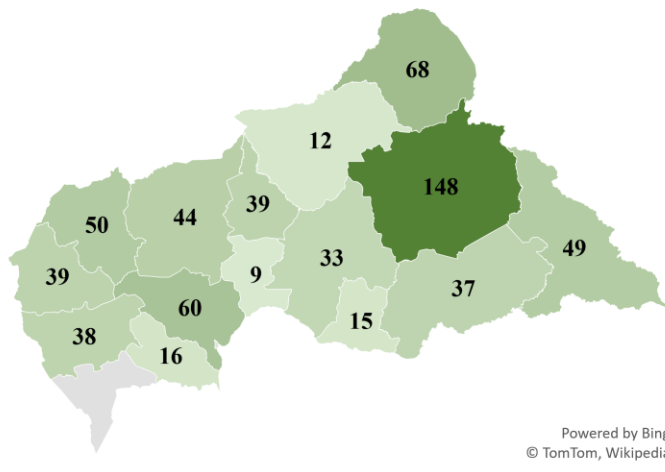
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Most of the human rights violations/abuses and victims in Q2 of 2024 were documented in the **Fertit** Region (**228** violations affecting **298** victims). It represents a **75%** increase in the number of violations/abuses and an **80%** increase in the number of victims compared to Q1 of 2024.

These high numbers in **Fertit** are notably due to abuses perpetrated by **UPC** elements, mainly in **Haute-Kotto** Prefecture.

The violations and abuses documented in the **Fertit** Region include destruction or appropriation of

### Number of confirmed violations/abuses per prefecture

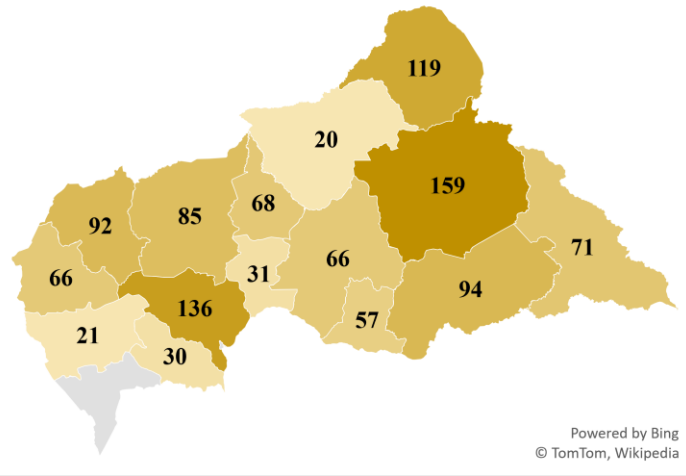


property (54 affecting 128 victims), ill-treatment (42 affecting 141 victims), death threat (14 affecting 14 victims), rape (21 affecting 26 victims) and killings (seven violations eight victims).

The Haut-Oubangui Region recorded 101 violations or abuses affecting 222 victims. A 10% increase in the number of victims was noted compared to Q1, mostly related to arbitrary arrest and/or detention including conditions of detention that do not comply with national and international standards (23 violations affecting 102 victims, representing 46% of the victims in the Region). Forced recruitment and the use of children were also prevalent (eight abuses and 42 children), primarily perpetrated by the AAKG (six abuses affecting 24 children) and the UPC (one abuse affecting 13 children).

The Yadé Region witnessed a decrease in the number of violations/abuses (94) and victims (177) compared to the previous quarter. Violations and abuses included rape (15 affecting 20 victims), killings (13 affecting 57 victims) and ill-treatment (12 affecting 45 victims). Ouham-Pendé Prefecture accounted for nine violations/abuses affecting 42 victims for ill-treatment, mostly perpetrated by 3R elements (seven abuses affecting 40 victims).

### Number of confirmed victims per prefecture



In the Kaga Region (81 violations/abuses affecting 165 victims), violations and abuses included arbitrary arrest and/or detention, including conditions of detention that do not comply with national and international standards for the treatment of detainees (29 violations affecting 93 victims), ill-treatment (eight violations affecting 33 victims), appropriation of property (nine violations affecting 43 victims), killings (five violations affecting 13 victims) and abductions (four violation affecting 12 victims). Unidentified CPC elements (18 abuses affecting 28 victims), the Police (14 violations affecting 28 victims), the Gendarmerie (nine violations affecting 30 victims), the FACA (14 violations affecting 14 victims) and the OSP (seven violations affecting 31 victims) were the main perpetrators. The Nana-Gribizi was the most affected Prefecture (39 violations and abuses affecting 68 victims) of Kaga Region.

In the Equateur Region (77 violations affecting 87), Nana-Mambéré was the most affected Prefecture (39 violations affecting 66 victims). Violations/abuses included deprivation of liberty and poor conditions of detention (22 violations affecting 28 victims), appropriation of property (15 violations affecting 35 victims) and ill-treatment (11 violations affecting 13 victims). The FACA was



responsible for the highest number of violations and victims (28 affecting 12 victims).

In the **Plateaux/Bas-Oubangui** Region (76 violations/abuses affecting 166 victims), most violations and abuses were related to deprivation of liberty and poor conditions of detention (26 violations affecting 79 victims), maiming and injuries (eight violations affecting 16 victims),

destruction or appropriation of property (10 violations affecting 26 victims) and killings (eight violations affecting 31 victims). The violations were mostly attributable to FACA (14 violations affecting 24 victims) while the 3R were most responsible for abuses (13 abuses affecting 33 victims) with **Ombella M'Poko** Prefecture being the most affected with (60 violations affecting 136 victims).

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## PERPETRATORS

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During the reporting period, 268 violations affecting 484 victims were attributable to **State actors** (41% of total violations and 43% of documented victims). Half of the violations committed by state actors are related to **deprivation of liberty and conditions of detention** (134 violations, affecting 361 victims).

**State actors** were also involved in ill-treatment (55 affecting 104 victims); violations of the rights to life (15 violations affecting 26 victims including the killing of **six** men, **one** woman and **one** boy); violation of property (28 violations affecting 75 victims); CRSV (14 violations affecting 13 victims); violation of liberty and personal integrity (seven violations affecting eight victims); slavery and other forms of exploitation (six violations affecting six victims); unlawful attacks (four violations affecting four victims); forced recruitment (three violations affecting three victims); and denial of access to justice and fair trial (two violations affecting four victims). Most of the violations perpetrated by **State actors**, are attributable to **FACA** elements (89 violations affecting 75 victims, when acting alone), especially violations of right to physical and mental integrity (33 violations affecting 45 victims).<sup>16</sup> Victims of FACA elements generally suffered multiple violations such as ill-treatment, death threats and

appropriation of property including illegal taxation.

Jointly with other actors, such as OSP, or other Internal Security Forces (ISF), FACA elements were responsible for an additional 16 violations affecting 36 victims. Most of the violations by FACA occurred in the **Plateaux/Bas-Oubangui** Region (14 violations affecting 24 victims) with the majority of the incidents registered in Bangui and its vicinity (**nine** violations affecting 14 victims). On 15 May, FACA jointly with the OSP, subjected four men to arbitrary arrest and detention, torture and seizure of property in Roukoutou village, **Vakaga** Prefecture, **Fertit** Region.

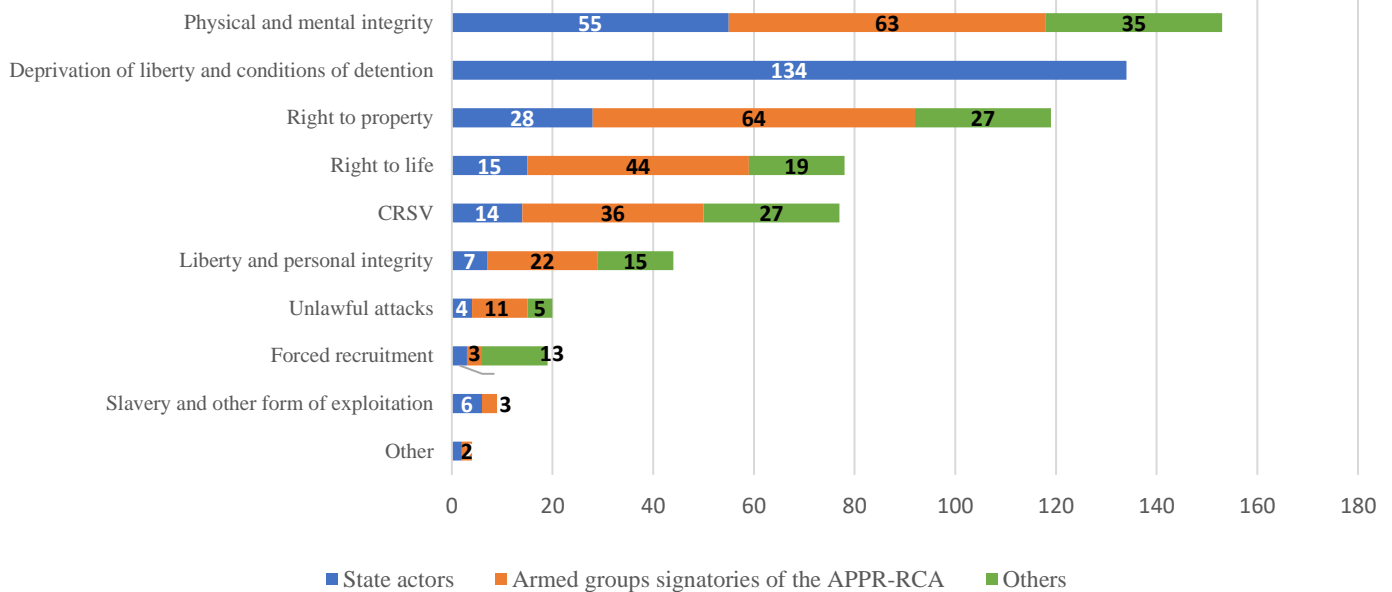
With regards to other State actors, the **Gendarmerie** was involved in 52 violations affecting 139 victims and the **Police** in 53 violations affecting 128 victims, with the majority being incidents related to deprivation of liberty and poor conditions of detention. Most of the violations perpetrated by OSP were related to ill-treatment (five violations affecting 34 victims) and torture (six violations affecting 17 victims) with one incident of arbitrary arrest affecting 25 victims.

**Armed group signatories to the APPR-RCA** were responsible for 248 abuses affecting 445

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<sup>16</sup> including ill-treatment (18 affecting 24 victims), maiming and injuries (nine affecting 12 victims), threat to physical or mental integrity (four affecting six victims) and torture (two affecting three victims).

## Number of violations per type of perpetrator



victims (38% of the violations/abuses and 40% of documented victims). Most common abuses included ill-treatment (63 abuses affecting 205 victims), destruction or appropriation of property (64 abuses affecting 150 victims), CRSV (36 affecting 52 victims) including rape (26 cases affecting 18 women and 25 girls), and killing (29 abuses affecting 87 men, three women, eight boys and one girl).

Most of the abuses perpetrated by armed group signatories to the APPR-RCA were attributable to UPC elements (91 abuses affecting 153 victims) and the 3R (70 abuses affecting 144 victims).

UPC elements were mostly responsible for destruction or appropriation of property (27 abuses affecting 80 victims), ill-treatment (15 abuses affecting 52 victims) and killing (eight abuses affecting 10 men, and two boys), especially in the Fertit Region, (56 abuses affecting 86 victims) with the majority of the incidents registered in the Haute-Kotto Prefecture (53 abuses affecting 79 victims). On 24 June, three Fulani men were abducted by UPC elements, near Guérékindo village (50 km from Rafai and 20 km from Dembia), Mbomou Prefecture. The victims, who were cattle

herders, were abducted while returning from their cattle farm, on the Rafai-Dembia axis.

The 3R were responsible for the killing of 63 persons (13 abuses affecting 57 men, two women and four boys). The UPC were implicated in the destruction or appropriation of property (13 abuses affecting 19 victims) and rape (11 cases affecting 10 women and 15 girls). Most of these abuses occurred in the Yadé Region (48 abuses affecting 100 victims), particularly in the Ouham-Pende Prefecture (37 abuses affecting 81 victims).

Other actors were involved in 141 abuses affecting 187 victims. These actors mainly committed ill-treatment (22 abuses affecting 26 men, seven women, seven boys, two girls and one collective group of victims), destruction or appropriation of property (27 abuses affecting 45 victims), rape (18 abuses affecting 26 victims), killing (13 abuses affecting 29 victims), and abduction (12 abuses affecting 24 victims). Most victims of destruction or appropriation of property were also subjected to ill-treatment, deprivation of liberty or abduction. On 22 April, a group of unidentified armed men killed a 30-year-old-man, ill-treated six other adults, and

appropriated the property of various persons in Mbala (85 km from Ndele), in the **Nana-Gribizi** Prefecture. During the attack, the assailants targeted staff of an international NGO, beat up seven adults, including three NGO workers; one of the victims died due to his injuries. The assailants also looted houses and a store. The **Fertit** Region was the most affected by the abuses of other actors (**82** abuses affecting **96** victims) with the **Vakaga** Prefecture recording the most incidents (**44** abuses affecting **62** victims), mainly due to the activities of the RSF (**23** abuses involving **39** victims). The effects of the conflict in Sudan were illustrated by regular incursions of unidentified armed elements and **RSF which continues to have direct implications**

**on the protection of civilians and respect for human rights.** RSF were mostly responsible for destruction or appropriation of property (**eight** abuses affecting **19** victims), ill-treatment (**four** abuses affecting **10** victims) and rape (**four** abuses affecting **eight** victims).

Within the category of “other actors”, **unidentified armed men** were the main perpetrators (**49** abuses affecting **72** victims), being mostly responsible for destruction or appropriation of property (**12** abuses affecting **19** victims), killing (**eights** abuses affecting **17** victims) and ill-treatment (**seven** abuses affecting **21** victims).

## VICTIMS

During the period under review, **1,114** civilian victims of human rights violations and abuses perpetrated by armed groups, State actors and other perpetrators were documented representing an **18%** increase in the number of victims compared to Q1 2024. Of these victims, **338** suffered multiple violations.

**The majority of the victims were men (716) while women (120), boys (105), girls (78) and 95 groups of collective victims were also affected. Men** were the main victims of arbitrary arrest and/or detention including conditions of detention that do not comply with the national and international standards (**285**), appropriation of property (**201**), ill-treatment (**195**), killing (**115**), deprivation of liberty (**37**) and abduction (**35**). **Women** were mainly victims of ill-treatment (**33**), rape (**27**), appropriation of property (**22**) and threat to physical and mental integrity (**17**). **Boys** were mostly subjected to recruitment and use by armed groups (**36**), maiming and injuries (**27**), conditions of detention that do not comply with the national and international standards concerning the separation of adult and minors (**21**)

and ill-treatment (**20**). **Girls** were mainly victims of rape (**55**), abductions (**17**) and maiming and injuries (**eight**). Most of the groups of collective victims suffered from destruction and appropriation of property (**35**) and conditions of detention that do not comply with the national and international standards for the treatment of detainees (**19**).

