



ANOTHER FINE MESS: USA-UGANDA DEHUMANISING “DEPORTATION” AGREEMENT CHALLENGED IN COURT

Kampala, Uganda - 2 April 2026: The Uganda Law Society and East Africa Law Society have learnt about **an advanced plot to forcibly remove (in the name of deportation) a dozen people from the United States and effectively dump them in Uganda through an undignified, harrowing and dehumanising process** that has reduced them into little more than chattel, for the benefit of unnamed, private interests on either side of the Atlantic.

We have been informed that the privately-owned aircraft carrying the deportees is or will soon be airborne and will be touching down at Entebbe International Airport today. Our research indicates that none of the mandated institutions, such as the Directorate of Citizenship and Immigration Control, the Parliament of Uganda, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs have been engaged regarding this matter. Moreover, **no policy document or legislation** has been promulgated to stipulate the procedures relevant to the transfer of people from one country to another.

Typical of such suspicious arrangements, we have also learnt about **private contractors who are falling over themselves to cash in on the suffering of fellow human beings** whose crime is to have been arbitrarily deemed as undesirable and as such disposable to the most willing takers, regardless of whatever fate awaits them. This development and the attendant illegalities that accompany it are reminiscent of **a dark past that the global family of humanity supposedly put behind itself** in pursuit of the ideal that every human being is born equal in dignity and rights.

In the United States, the militarisation of society has given carte blanche to captured **democracies in Africa** to carry on with despotism unchecked. As African citizens, besides our professional duties as lawyers, this is yet another act of effrontery that places the continent and its people at the bottom of a perceived racial hierarchy that justifies untold suffering, wanton lawlessness, political instability and perennial mistreatment that are the natural consequence of these kinds of State-sanctioned impunity—the manifestations of which abound in the Sahel, the Horn of Africa, the Congo and elsewhere in the Global South.

Yet, as precarious a situation we find ourselves in, we are uplifted by the millions of Americans and Ugandans who have individually and collectively mobilised and organised at various levels, and through different institutions, to mount **formidable pushbacks against rampant autocracy**. These millions have marched, protested, published, sang, litigated, run for elective office and built social movements in defence of the democratic experiment.

It is for this reason that we unreservedly assert our revulsion to this undertaking which, if not confronted from the get-go, will be yet another unchallenged setback in the quest for a just, orderly and open society.

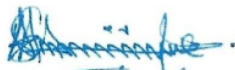
Towards a remedy, we have approached the Courts of Law in Uganda and the region, seeking bespoke reliefs designed to arrest this patent international illegality. **We urge the media and the public to draw the attention of the national, regional and continental publics, and stir discussion on this matter until it is either halted or reversed.**

Our perspective of the matter is broader than the single act of deportation. **We view it as but one gust from the ill winds of transnational repression that are blowing across our world.**

We invite the Ugandan and African public to interest itself in our modest effort at combating the collusion between **the governments in Washington and Kampala**, and play **their respective roles in challenging not just this particular deportation of human beings**, but the broader authoritarian project for which such acts are a necessary feature.

In the same breath, we implore the national and regional courts to consider our applications with the urgency and seriousness they deserve.

Over the coming days and weeks, pursuant to our mandate under Section 3(d) of the Uganda Law Society Act, we will continue updating you about the next steps in this campaign as we assert the sovereign rights of Uganda and the deportees who are enduring inhuman and degrading treatment at the hands of shadowy interests.



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