

2012-03-14

Lifos

Fråga-svar

Demokratiska Republiken Kongo. Situationen för medlemmar i Union pour la Démocratie et le Progrès Social (UDPS)

Fråga

Information efterfrågas om situationen för medlemmar i partiet Union pour la Démocratie et le Progrès Social (UDPS).

Svar

International Crisis Group (2011) skriver om trakasserier och arresteringar av medlemmar i UDPS.

In Katanga, the Union of Congo Nationalists and Federalists (Union des nationalistes et fédéralistes du Congo – UNAFEC)³⁴ uses young militants known as “Zulus”³⁵ to intimidate opposition party militants, especially those of the Union for Democracy and Social Progress (Union pour la démocratie et le progrès social – UDPS).

[...]

Some UDPS militants were harassed and arrested before the major public rally of 24 April in Kinshasa.³⁹ (s. 5)

Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada (2011):

Treatment of UDPS members and leaders

According to the UDPS diplomatic adviser in the Canadian representative office, opposition leaders and members officially have freedom of expression; however, in practice, they are at the mercy of the police and military in power (UDPS 18 Mar. 2011). As

example, he reports that the authorities systematically refuse to allow members of the opposition to organize public demonstrations (ibid.). Similarly, the Committee of Human Rights Observers (Comité des observateurs des droits de l'homme, CODHO), a human rights advocacy organization in the DRC (CODHO 30 Apr. 2003), states in a 27 September 2010 news release that the government of the DRC has still not authorized—either before or after the 2006 elections—peaceful demonstrations to be held by opposition political parties and independent civil society organizations. According to the CODHO news release, on 26 September 2010, UDPS members attending a meeting in Kinshasa to discuss, among other things, the 2011 election process were arbitrarily arrested and detained (CODHO 27 Sept. 2010). Members of the Congolese National Police (Police nationale congolaise, PNC) reportedly fired live rounds at UDPS members and arrested approximately 30 people (ibid.). PNC officers also seized all equipment, including over 100 chairs and an electrical generator (ibid.). CODHO notes that, according to its sources, [translation] “despite informing municipal authorities of its meeting through correspondence, a National Police battalion ... attacked the building with barbaric violence” (ibid.). According to the 30 September 2010 statement signed by UDPS spokesperson Bernard Ali Risasi Kasongo, the 27 party members who were arrested on grounds of [translation] “malicious destruction and incitement to disobedience” were released.

United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, MONUSCO (2011) uppger att demokratin har stärkts i vissa delar av landet, men samtidigt fortsätter medlemmar av UDPS att utsättas för kränkningar.

This report acknowledges progress made in some areas of consolidation of democracy in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and improvement, especially in recent months, in the behavior of some police units tasked with maintaining order during political demonstrations. Nevertheless, most of the violations noted in the report targeted members or supporters of opposition parties, in particular the Union pour la démocratie et le progrès social (UDPS) and the Union pour la nation congolaise (UNC). (s. 4)

Xinhua (2011):

The main opposition of the Democratic Republic of Congo (DR Congo) on Tuesday said seven people were killed and 542 others arrested by police during last week's swearing-in ceremony by its leader as the Central African country's president.

Confrontations erupted between police and supporters of the Union for Democracy and Social Progress (UDPS) in the capital Kinshasa, where the self-claimed winner of the Nov. 28 presidential elections,

Etienne Tshisekedi, swore himself in at the Martyrs Stadium on Friday.

UDPS Secretary General Jacquemin Shabani denounced the killing and arrests made by police at a press conference held in Kinshasa on Tuesday.

He said seven people were found dead during the clash between police officers and the militants of the party, who were not allowed to enter the stadium. Until today, four persons remain missing, he declared.

According to local reports, police fired live bullets and used tear gas to disperse Tshisekedi's supporters.

Activities were paralyzed at the "Victory" round-about in central Kinshasa and near the Martyrs Stadium, where no shops were opened at the time.

Tshisekedi declared himself the president after rejecting the results of the polls published by the National Independent Electoral Commission (CENI) and then confirmed by the Supreme Court.

The results showed that the 40-year-old incumbent, Joseph Kabila, was re-elected with 48.95 percent of the votes cast, against 32.33 percent for the 79-year-old contender, Tshisekedi.

Kabila was sworn in for another five-year term on Dec. 20

Human Rights Watch rapporterar om våld i samband med valet 2011, som bl.a. uppges ha drabbat anhängare till UDPS:

Human Rights Watch: *24 Killed since Election Results Announced*, 2011-12-22

http://www.ecoi.net/local_link/207705/313156_en.html

(Hämtad 2012-03-01)

Denna sammanställning av information/länkar är baserad på informationssökningar gjorda under en begränsad tid. Den är sammanställd utifrån noggrant utvalda och allmänt tillgängliga informationskällor. Alla använda källor refereras. All information som presenteras, med undantag av obestridda/uppenbara fakta, har dubbelkontrollerats om inget annat anges. Sammanställningen gör inte anspråk på att vara uttömmande och bör inte tillmätas exklusivt bevisvärde i samband med avgörandet av ett enskilt ärende. Informationen i sammanställningen återspeglar inte nödvändigtvis Migrationsverkets officiella ståndpunkt i en viss fråga och det finns ingen avsikt att genom sammanställningen göra politiska ställningstaganden. Refererade dokument bör läsas i sitt sammanhang.

Källförteckning

Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada, *Democratic Republic of the Congo: Information on the Union for Democracy and Social Progress (Union pour la démocratie et le progrès social, UDPS [...])*, 2011-04-06 <http://www.unhcr.org/cgi-bin/texis/vtx/refworld/rwmain?page=printdoc&docid=4db7c2ac2> (Hämtad 2012-02-27)

International Crisis Group, *Congo -The Electoral Dilemma*, 2011-05-05 [http://www.crisisgroup.org/~media/Files/africa/central-africa/dr-congo/175%20Congo%20-%20The%20Electoral%20Dilemma%20ENGLISH.ashx](http://www.crisisgroup.org/~/media/Files/africa/central-africa/dr-congo/175%20Congo%20-%20The%20Electoral%20Dilemma%20ENGLISH.ashx) (Hämtad 2012-02-24)

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Xinhua¹, *DR Congo opposition says 7 killed, 542 arrested by police*, 2011-12-28 http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/world/2011-12/28/c_131330416.htm (Hämtad 2012-02-27)

¹ Dow Jones Factivas beskrivning av källan: *China's official news agency, Xinhua (the New China News Agency), is the largest local domestic information news provider. Through Xinhua's 30 domestic and over 100 foreign bureaux, the agency aims to provide daily economic and political news as well as market analysis, news on finance and trade, industrial policies and laws.*