

January 16, 2025

H.E. Yoweri Museveni President of the Republic of Uganda Kampala, Uganda

Re: Immediate release of Eron Kiiza

Dear Mr. President,

The International Lawyers Assisting Workers (ILAW) Network, which comprises 1,300 labour lawyers in nearly 100 countries, including Uganda, urges your government to immediately release Eron Kiiza and drop all charges against him.

Based on the available information, we understand that Mr. Kiiza was assaulted, arrested, and convicted and sentenced to nine months detention by a Ugandan military court. It appears that the basis for these actions was his lawful effort to meet with his client, Kizza Besigye. As such, his detention violates the Constitution of Uganda as well as international law. Ugandan authorities must stop targeting lawyers simply for doing their job. Moreover, civilian must not be tried before military tribunals.

The ILAW Network has worked with Mr. Kiiza in litigation before the courts of Uganda concerning the fundamental rights of workers. We are deeply troubled by his arbitrary arrest and detention, which is not only a violation of his fundamental human rights, but a violation of the human rights of his clients to access legal assistance. We once again reiterate our call for his immediate release and the dropping of all charges.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey Vogt

Chair, ILAW Network