

PRESS RELEASE

8th September, 2025.

CONCERN OVER POLITICAL PARTIES' CONSTITUTIONAL PROVISIONS VIOLATING QUALIFICATIONS OF POLITICAL ASPIRANTS

We, The Civil Rights Defenders, are concerned about the recent revelations that some political parties in Sierra Leone have constitutional provisions that violate the qualifications of political aspirants as enshrined in the Constitution of Sierra Leone.

OUR CONCERNS

Our concerns are based on the following:

- Some political parties have constitutional provisions that bar individuals with certain qualifications or backgrounds from contesting for leadership positions within the party or representing the party in elections.
- These provisions may contravene the Constitution of Sierra Leone, which sets out the qualifications for public office and guarantees citizens' right to participate in the democratic process.

OUR CALL

We call on all political parties in Sierra Leone to:

- Review and amend their constitutions to ensure compliance with the Constitution of Sierra Leone.
- Ensure that their constitutional provisions do not bar qualified individuals from contesting for leadership positions or representing the party in elections.
- Promote inclusivity, transparency, and accountability in their internal processes and decision-making.

OUR COMMITMENT

We are committed to promoting democracy, good governance, and the rule of law in Sierra Leone. We will continue to monitor the activities of political parties and advocate for reforms that promote the interests of citizens.

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We urge all stakeholders to join us in promoting democracy and good governance in Sierra Leone.

END