



EAST AFRICAN CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANISATIONS' FORUM  
*Strengthening Civil Society in the Integration Processes*

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## **SAFEGUARDING PEACE AND UNITY IN SOUTH SUDAN: A CALL FOR INCLUSIVE DIALOGUE AND REGIONAL SOLIDARITY**

The East African Civil Society Organisations' Forum (EACSOFF) continues to stand in solidarity with the people of the Republic of South Sudan and acknowledges the commendable efforts made by national leaders, regional actors, and international partners in advancing the peace process and supporting state-building since the signing of the 2018 Revitalized Agreement on the Resolution of Conflict in South Sudan (R-ARCSS). EACSOFF recognizes that transitioning from years of violent conflict to a peaceful and democratic society is a complex and delicate process, requiring not only political will but also inclusive dialogue, reconciliation, and sustained commitment from all stakeholders. While significant milestones have been reached, the journey towards lasting peace remains ongoing. EACSOFF reaffirms its support for the people of South Sudan and urges continued cooperation among all parties to ensure the effective implementation of the peace agreement, strengthen institutions, and promote justice, unity, and national healing for a peaceful and prosperous future.

However, the East African Civil Society Organisations' Forum (EACSOFF) is deeply concerned by recent unsettling developments in the Republic of South Sudan, particularly reports of the house arrest of First Vice President Dr. Riek Machar and the resurgence of violent clashes in the Upper Nile region. These unfolding events pose a serious threat to the fragile gains achieved since the signing of the 2018 Revitalized Agreement and risk eroding the foundations of trust and cooperation that have been painstakingly built among key stakeholders. EACSOFF fears that such actions may destabilize not only South Sudan but also compromise peace and security across the broader East African region.

*Thus, the East African Civil Society Organisations' Forum (EACSOF) respectfully calls upon:*

- 1. South Sudan Leaders seek Peace and hold dialogue to solve on going rise of tensions,** we respectfully urge all South Sudanese leaders to exercise maximum restraint, demonstrate political maturity, and recommit to the principles of peaceful dialogue and inclusive governance. A return to constructive engagement is essential to safeguarding national unity and ensuring long-term regional stability.
- 2. The East African Community (EAC) Heads of State and Secretariat, the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), and the African Union (AU),** to play an active and constructive role in facilitating renewed dialogue among South Sudanese leaders. At this critical juncture, regional and continental solidarity is essential to prevent further escalation and to preserve the progress made under the 2018 Revitalized Peace Agreement. However, it is imperative that such engagements are guided by the *principles of impartiality, transparency, and respect* for South Sudan's sovereignty. A balanced and inclusive approach—grounded in fairness and a genuine commitment to peace—will strengthen trust among stakeholders and encourage a return to dialogue. EACSOF affirms its readiness to support these efforts and contribute to a people-centered, peaceful resolution.
- 3. The Current Chair of the summit, that is Republic of Kenya,** to employ immediate measures to deescalate the rising tensions in South Sudan, by engaging the political leaders to seek solution to the rising political unrest within the country and remind the leaders of their commitment to the EAC Treaty by ensuring peace and security to the people of South Sudan.

The East African Civil Society Organisations' Forum (EACSOF) remains steadfast in its commitment to supporting initiatives that advance peace, stability, and development in South Sudan and the broader East African region. While the current challenges are undeniably formidable, they also present a critical opportunity for South Sudanese leaders to rise above division, exercise statesmanship, and reaffirm their genuine commitment to the aspirations of their people.

*“Peace is not imposed—it is nurtured through inclusive dialogue, courageous leadership, and the collective will of a nation’s people. At EACSOFF, we believe that sustainable peace begins when communities are heard, leaders are accountable, and justice becomes the foundation for unity. We remain committed to walking alongside the people of South Sudan and the region in building bridges where conflict once stood.”*



Mr. Edmund Yakan  
PRESIDENT EACSOFF  
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