President Yoweri Kaguta Museveni

Parliament of Uganda

Parliament Avenue

Kampala, Uganda

Oldenzaal, January 2025

Dear President Museveni,

I write this letter to express grave concern about the abduction of Ugandan opposition politician and former presidential candidate, Kizza Besigye, from Nairobi on 16 November 2024 and his rendition to Uganda. His whereabouts were unknown and he was unreachable until he was arraigned in a military court in Kampala on 20 November, despite being a civilian. He was charged with offences relating to security and unlawful possession of firearms and ammunition.

This is not the first time that Besigye has been unlawfully arrested and detained. There is reason to be concerned that the charges against him may be politically motivated.

I urge your government to immediately release Besigye due to the nature of his abduction, which was in clear violation of both international human rights law and the process of extradition with its requisite fair trial protections.

Thank you for your attention to this urgent matter.

Yours sincerely,