RNB
RADICAL NEW BAR

UGANDA LAW SOCIETY

EXECUTIVE ORDER RNB NO 6 OF 2025

DEPARTURE FROM TRADITION OF POLITICAL NEUTRALITY AND OFFICIAL ENDORSEMENT OF CANDIDATES FOR THE 2026 GENERAL ELECTIONS IN DEFENCE OF THE RULE OF LAW

WHEREAS the Uganda Law Society (ULS), since its establishment, has upheld a proud tradition of political neutrality to enable constructive engagement with all governments while safeguarding the independence of the legal profession and advancing the rule of law;

WHEREAS the excessive militarisation of civilian and political life, the entrenched culture of corruption and impunity, and the total capture of state institutions—including the judiciary—under the Museveni/NRM regime have reached a point where neutrality equates to complicity;

WHEREAS security forces have been weaponised to suppress dissent through abductions, torture, extrajudicial killings, and the unlawful trial of civilians in military courts;

WHEREAS the judiciary has been systematically undermined through delibrerate coercion, rigged appointments, manipulated rulings, and clandestine judicial postings, rendering it a rubber stamp of militarism and political repression rather than an independent pillar of justice;

WHEREAS lawyers, journalists, citizens, and activists are routinely intimidated, arrested, or disappeared for upholding constitutional rights, as highlighted by President Yoweri Museveni's admission of operating a black site ("fridge") and threats of violence against voters;

WHEREAS silence in the face of this systemic assault on constitutionalism, human rights, and professional integrity would betray the core mandate of the Uganda Law Society;

NOW THEREFORE, I, **Isaac Kimaze Ssemakadde,** President of the Uganda Law Society, acting in consultation with the Radical New Bar Governing Council and invoking the extraordinary circumstances confronting the legal profession and the nation, do hereby issue this Executive Order to depart from our historic tradition of political neutrality. This decision is taken solemnly, as a necessary act of defence for the Constitution of the Republic of Uganda, the independence of the Bar and Bench, and the democratic future of our country.

DIRECTIVE

By the authority vested in me as President of the Uganda Law Society:

1. The Uganda Law Society hereby **unequivocally endorses:**

A. **Mr. Robert Kyagulanyi Ssentamu (Bobi Wine)** as candidate for President of the Republic of Uganda;

B. **Lord Mayor Erias Lukwago** for continued leadership of Kampala Capital City Authority;

C. **Dr. Obuku Ekwaro Anthony** for Member of Parliament, Oyam South Constituency;

E. All candidates of the **National Unity Platform (NUP)** and the **People's Front for Freedom (PFF)** contesting at every level—presidential, parliamentary, and local government—in the 2026 general elections;

F. All **lawyers and law students,** being members or aspiring members of the Uganda Law Society, who are standing as candidates at any elective position.

2. These endorsed candidates and platforms represent the foremost credible force for restoring constitutional order, economic justice, youth empowerment, accountable governance, and the independence of institutions. Their vision offers the only viable path to dismantling authoritarian consolidation and rebuilding a new Uganda governed by the rule of law.

3. The Uganda Law Society **condemns in the strongest possible terms** the Museveni/NRM regime's decades-long normalisation of impunity, over-militarisation of politics, and subversion of independent institutions. This regime has transformed instruments of state protection into tools of repression, eroding public trust in the law and placing the legal profession under existential threat.

4. Uganda urgently requires a **total political reset**: the complete demilitarisation of civilian affairs, the liberation of captured institutions, the end to abductions and sham trials, and the establishment of a government truly accountable to the people under the 1995 Constitution.

5. All members of the Uganda Law Society, the wider legal community, law students, civil society organisations, and patriotic Ugandans are hereby **called upon** to mobilise in support of the endorsed candidates. The Society shall deploy its resources—within the bounds of the law—to educate members and the public on the imperative of this historic electoral contest.

6. This Executive Order takes immediate effect and shall remain in force until the conclusion of the 2026 general elections or until revoked by subsequent lawful authority.

Let this stand as our collective resolve: The legal profession will no longer stand idle while the rule of law is extinguished. The 2026 elections present the moment to reclaim our nation and restore professional dignity. **Vote and remain within the vicinity (20 meters distance) of your polling station** to keep a watchful eye throughout the voting and counting of the votes for the purpose of safeguarding the interests of the endorsed candidates.

Signed and sealed this 21st day of December 2025.

Isaac K. Ssemakadde
President, Uganda Law Society

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