



EFF STATEMENT ON THE UGANDAN PRESIDENT YOWERI MUSEVENI'S DECISION TO SIGN THE ANTI-HOMOSEXUALITY BILL INTO LAW

Monday, 29 May 2023

The Economic Freedom Fighters (EFF) condemns the signing of the Anti-Homosexuality Bill by Uganda's President Yoweri Museveni officially into law, an act which has today officially legalized the persecution of members of the LGBTQI± community.

Museveni, who had returned the bill to the Ugandan Parliament to be revised due to its lack of provision for so-called "rehabilitation" of those engaged in same sex relationships, has now signed the inhumane and draconian legislation into law, a fundamental step backwards in the quest to promote democracy, freedom of expression and freedom of association in Africa.

As of today in Uganda, those who identify as homosexuals and choose their partners on the basis of their sexual identity can be sentenced to life imprisonment and in instances of "repeat offenders", death. The bill that has been signed by Museveni is nothing short of state-sponsored hate and homophobia.

The narrative that gender and sexual identities that are non-heteronormative are against African values, cultures and that they

somehow erode family values is baseless and dangerous. It is a hateful logic that is not rooted in any historical truth or objective reality, as many within the LGBTQI± community continue to practice their cultures and spiritualities to no detriment of any of the institutions they choose to associate with.

Ironically, the values of anti-homosexuality which inspire the anti-homosexuality bill which Museveni has signed into law, stem from colonialist laws imposed by the British in Uganda during the time of British Colonialism in the country.

The assertion therefore that homosexuality is a product of imperialism is counter-intuitive and nonsensical, as Western society has historically been at the forefront of outlawing and shaming homosexuality, and these outdated attitudes are what inform the pervasive homophobia in society today.

The EFF encourages all human rights activists within and outside of Uganda to continue to stand against the illogical, hateful and homophobic laws being passed against the LGBTQI± Community in Uganda.

The laws are a stepping stone towards the repression of people on the basis of villainizing their identity, and all of Africa must resist hateful ideas which seek to criminalize the identities of people.

ISSUED BY THE ECONOMIC FREEDOM FIGHTERS

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