



The People's Coalition for Civil Action

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For Immediate Release

PCCA Condemns Threats of Arbitrary Arrest Against Garang Deng Aguer

The People's Coalition for Civil Action (PCCA) is deeply alarmed by reports of an attempt by the regime in Juba to arrest Hon. Garang Deng Aguer, a public figure - a prominent businessman, former Governor of NBG state-Aweil, and former Head of National Economic Commission of SPLM/A - apparently in response to his public defense of the victims of Khor Kaltan massacre of March 28, 2026 and his criticism of what appears to be the targeted persecution of members of his constituency in Aweil. He also spoke about long detention of former Government officials without forwarding them to court, contrary to Article 19 of the Transitional Constitution of South Sudan (TCSS), 2011 as amended.

The PCCA condemns in the strongest possible terms any attempt to arrest Mr. Garang for exercising rights and duties clearly enshrined and protected under the Constitution, particularly the freedom of expression and political opinion, Article 24.1 of the TCSS 2011 as amended. Such actions represent a grave violation of fundamental civil liberties and form part of a broader pattern of intimidation aimed at silencing dissent through fear and coercion. The PCCA takes these threats with the utmost seriousness and warns the authorities against carrying out any unlawful arrest. Such actions risk further inflaming an already tense political environment and may push public frustration beyond its limits.

Over the past several years, the people of South Sudan have witnessed an alarming expansion of repression, arbitrary arrests, enforced disappearances, and unlawful detentions targeting activists, political dissidents, journalists, and ordinary citizens. In several cases, critics of the government have reportedly been abducted from neighboring countries and forcibly returned to Juba for detention. Many others have disappeared without a trace, leaving their families trapped in uncertainty, fear, and anguish without justice or meaningful closure.

As the situation stands, senior political and military figures across multiple factions remain under detention or face politically contested prosecutions. The leadership of the Sudan People's Liberation Movement-in-Opposition (SPLM-IO), including First Vice President Dr. Riek Machar Teny, remains under detention under what many observers regard as politically motivated charges. Former National Security Service Director General Gen. Akol Koor Kuc, former Vice President Dr. Benjamin Bol Mel, Maj. Gen. Christo Thon and several of his colleagues, as well as senior government and banking and financial sectors officials accused of corruption, are being held under arbitrary arrest or detention.

Two weeks ago, authorities arbitrarily arrested two Members of Parliament despite constitutional protections guaranteeing parliamentary immunity in clear abrogation of article 67 of the Constitution. More recently, forty-seven MPs affiliated with the SPLM-IO were dismissed and replaced in parliament after opposing legislation widely viewed as an attempt to undermine the Revitalized Peace Agreement and in violation of article 63 and 77 of the Constitution.

What appears to be driving these erratic decisions and arbitrary arrests is a growing perception among many South Sudanese that effective political authority is increasingly fragmented and opaque. An open secret in political circles is the widespread belief that President Salva Kiir no longer exercises full control over the affairs of the state and that ambitious political actors operating behind the scenes are engaged in an intense struggle over the future leadership of the country. In this environment, political rivals, critics, and perceived competitors increasingly find themselves subjected to intimidation, detention, or exclusion from public life.

The PCCA has repeatedly expressed concern about the direction of governance in South Sudan. On 15 March of this year, the PCCA publicly called upon the relevant constitutional authorities to assess President Kiir's capacity to effectively discharge the responsibilities of his office in light of growing concerns regarding the state of governance and decision-making at the highest levels of government.

These developments reflect an increasingly dangerous pattern of political repression that continues to erode constitutional governance and shrink democratic and civic space in South Sudan. They expose a regime that appears increasingly unable to tolerate criticism, political dissent, or public scrutiny and which now relies on intimidation, arbitrary detention, and coercion to conceal deepening political, economic, governance, and security failures.

The PCCA therefore calls for the immediate and unconditional cancellation of any arrest warrant against Hon. Garang Deng Aguer and the immediate release of all political detainees. Political differences are not settled through intimidation, arbitrary detention, or the barrel of a gun, but through dialogue, democratic participation, and the ballot box.

What is becoming increasingly clear is that the regime recognizes the growing public anger arising from worsening insecurity, economic hardship, corruption, and failures of governance. Citizens across the country are watching with deep frustration and alarm what they perceive as a systematic disregard for their constitutional, civil, and human rights. The continued suppression of dissent and erosion of democratic freedoms threaten to further undermine public trust, political stability, and prospects for peaceful democratic transition.

The PCCA therefore calls upon the people of South Sudan to stand together in solidarity because this repression is not directed at one community, region, or political constituency alone, but at every citizen who dares to speak against injustice, corruption, and authoritarian rule. This is not merely an issue affecting the people of Aweil, Gogrial, Tonj, or Jonglei; it is a national crisis that threatens the freedom and dignity of all South Sudanese citizens.

What is increasingly evident is the emergence of a political order willing to sacrifice the rights, freedoms, and wellbeing of its own people in order to preserve power. The PCCA therefore urges

citizens across all communities, political affiliations, and regions to put aside their differences, stand up for one another, and peacefully confront authoritarianism, repression, and the erosion of constitutional rule. The struggle for freedom, justice, and democratic governance did not end with independence, and the people of South Sudan must not allow the sacrifices made during the liberation struggle to give way to fear, repression, and dictatorship.

The PCCA believes that the greatest barrier standing between the people of South Sudan and their freedom is fear. Increasingly, the regime's internal fractures and political contradictions are becoming visible to the public. What was once presented as a governing coalition committed to national unity and stability is now widely perceived as a system sustained through corruption, ethnic patronage, familial, coercion, and political violence rather than democratic legitimacy or public service.

History has repeatedly shown that deeply entrenched authoritarian systems rarely reform themselves voluntarily. Meaningful political change ultimately depends on the courage, unity, and collective action of ordinary citizens determined to defend their rights, dignity, and democratic future. For this reason, the PCCA expresses its confidence in the ability of the people of South Sudan to peacefully organize, resist repression, and work toward ending the cycle of violence, corruption, and authoritarian rule that continues to undermine the country's future.

Accordingly, the PCCA calls upon its members, supporters, and grassroots networks across the country to strengthen civic mobilization, deepen community engagement, and prepare for coordinated nonviolent civil action in defense of democracy, constitutional governance, and fundamental human rights. The PCCA and its allies shall, in due course, announce a second National Day of Awakening calling upon the people of South Sudan to fulfill their civic duty. We are certain about one thing, when we stand together in unity, we can overcome!

The People Shall Prevail!