

Executive Summary

The People's Restorative Justice Commission (PRJC) is a citizen-led transitional justice body established in response to widespread state violence, unresolved historical injustices, and growing impunity in Kenya. It emerges from the collective pain and resilience of the people, particularly in the aftermath of the 2023–2024 protests.

Grounded in restorative justice principles and the African philosophy of Utu (Ubuntu), the Commission seeks to restore dignity, truth, and healing to victims and survivors of state-led oppression. Unlike previous state-driven processes, PRJC is independent and derives its authority directly from the people, in line with Article 1 of the Constitution of Kenya, which vests sovereign power in the citizenry.

Core Mandates:

Restoration and Healing: Provide immediate and long-term support to victims and survivors of political violence, including medical care, psychosocial support, legal assistance, financial compensation, and memorialization efforts. The Commission centers the voices and experiences of survivors to anchor national healing.

Documentation and Truth Recovery: Build a comprehensive people-led repository of past and ongoing human rights violations — ensuring that no truth is buried, and no survivor is forgotten. This record will form the moral foundation for collective remembrance and institutional reform.

Ending Impunity: Investigate and prosecute perpetrators of state-sponsored violence, with priority given to crimes committed from 2023 onward. The Commission will pursue both direct violators and those who planned, facilitated, or protected systemic abuse.

State Capture: Uncover and expose the systemic ways political and economic power has been captured by ruling elites and their networks. The Commission will document the collusion between state and private actors that distorts public policy and siphons public resources, entrenching inequality and undermining

democratic governance. It will also recommend structural reforms to prevent the capture of public institutions and ensure decisions serve the common good.

Institutional Corruption: Identify, investigate, and expose corruption within public offices, ministries, parastatals, and other state agencies. The Commission will hold to account those who exploit public office for private gain and will advocate for reforms that strengthen transparency, integrity, and socioeconomic justice across all state institutions.

Corporate and Institutional Accountability: Expose and hold accountable private sector actors, including telecommunication firms and financial intermediaries, implicated in surveillance, enforced disappearances, and election-related manipulation.

Justice System Reforms: Recommend urgent legal and institutional reforms to align Kenya's criminal justice system with the Constitution, human rights obligations, and best practices in transitional justice.

PRJC is a living promise that Kenya will not forget, and will not tolerate, the repetition of state brutality, state capture, or entrenched corruption. It is a people's mechanism to seek truth, secure justice, and restore hope.