

Zimbabwe Cases, 1970-2012
Last Updated: 1 January 2018

torg	gname	onset	min	max
T539	ZIMBABWE AFRICAN NATIONALIST UNION (ZANU)	4-Apr-73	1978	2002
T1453	LIBERATION WAR VETERANS ASSOC		1992	2001
T2373	MOVEMENT FOR DEMOCRATIC CHANGE		1999	2006
T2393	NATIONAL YOUTH SERVICE OF ZIMBABWE		2001	2002
T9019	ZIMBABWE AFRICA PEOPLE'S UNION	5-Sep-67	1967	0
T9020	PATRIOTIC FRONT (PF)		1976	0

I. ZIMBABWE AFRICAN NATIONALIST UNION (ZANU)

Torg ID: 539

Min. Group Date: 1978

Max. Group Date: 2002

Onset: 1973

Aliases: None

Part 1. Bibliography

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Part 2. Basic Coding

Aliases: None

Group Formation: 1963

Group End: 1979 (victory), 2014 (political party)

Part 3. Narrative

Group Formation

ZANU formed in 1963 when some members splintered from the Zimbabwe African People’s Union (Global Security n.d.). It ascribed to a leftist and pan-African nationalist ideology (Hoffman et al. 1991, 12; Global Security n.d.). Its political aim was to overthrow Ian Smith’s apartheid government and establish a new government (Global Security n.d.). The group’s first violent attack may have been in 1965 when it began launching cross-border attacks into Zimbabwe from Zambia (Hoffman et al. 1991, 7), but was likely in 1972 when it launched attacks from Mozambique (Global Security n.d.; Hoffman et. al 1991, 10).

Geography

The group formed in Gwelo, Zimbabwe (Global Security n.d.). It had an external base of operations in Mozambique (Global Security n.d.). It also had an external base of operations in Tanzania and Zambia (Hoffman et al. 1991, 7; New York Times 1973; Gleditsch et al. 2013, 425). It launched its armed campaign around the Centenary area along the Mozambique-Rhodesia border (Global Security n.d.). It primarily conducted attacks in Rhodesia, and later Zimbabwe (GTD 2017). It also had attacks in Namibia (GTD 2017).

Organizational Structure

Ndabaningi Sithole founded ZANU in 1963 and was its first leader; he was replaced by Robert Mugabe in 1974 (Global Security n.d.; CIA 1983). Sithole became famous for writing a pamphlet on black nationalism in 1959 (Global Security n.d.). Members were Shona-speaking (Global Security n.d.). It had an armed wing known as the Zimbabwe African National Liberation Army also known as ZANLA (Global Security n.d.). It primarily employed rural Maoist guerrilla tactics to secure territory and enjoyed massive popular support in the areas it controlled (Hoffman et al. 1991, 12). The political wing was the Zimbabwe African National Union (Gleditsch et al. 2013, 423). In 1976, ZANU and ZAPU had approximately 1,000 fighters (Gleditsch et al. 2013, 423). It had over 50,000 supporters in 1979 (Global Security n.d.). Another source states approximately 22,000 fighters disarmed in 1979 (Gleditsch et al. 2013, 423).

External Ties

ZANU received weapons from China (Global Security n.d.; Gleditsch et al. 2013, 423). Algeria, China, and Tanzania provided military training for recruits starting in 1965 (Global Security n.d.; Hoffman et al. 1991, 3, 7). ZANU was a splinter of the ZAPU, but they both fought together against the Rhodesian government in 1972 (Gleditsch et al. 2013, 423). ZANU and ZAPU also received recognition from NGOs in Africa like the OAU, World Council of Churches, and the Third World lobby (Hoffman et al. 1991, 3).

Group Outcome

Zimbabwe banned the group in 1963 (Global Security n.d.). Zimbabwe arrested Sithole and Mugabe in 1964 (Global Security n.d.). In 1965, Rhodesian forces quickly overran rebel forces during their training and pre-empted any attacks (Hoffman et al. 1991, 7). This forced ZANU to retrench and seek military training from the Chinese (Hoffman et al. 1991, 7). In 1974, the Rhodesian government began peace talks with ZANU and ZAPU after making massive inroads against ZANU (Hoffman et al. 1991, 10; Gleditsch et al. 2013, 423). In the late 1970s, South Africa placed sanctions on the Rhodesian government, undermining its ability to fight the insurgency (Gleditsch et al. 2013, 423). In 1979, the Rhodesian government and the rebels reached a peace agreement (Gleditsch et al. 2013, 423). ZANU disarmed and took over the government. In 1980, Rhodesia became Zimbabwe (CIA 1983). The group still conducted some attacks as a violent political party as late as 2014, but the insurgency ceased in 1979 (GTD 2017; Gleditsch et al. 2013, 423).

Interesting quote from Hoffman et al. 1991

“One of the greatest weaknesses of the Rhodesian counterinsurgency campaign was its lack of emphasis on military intelligence” (28-29) - interesting anecdotes about Rhodesian counterintelligence and their assessments about external support

II. LIBERATION WAR VETERANS ASSOC

Torg ID: 1453

Min. Group Date: 1992

Max. Group Date: 2001

Onset: NA

Aliases: Liberation War Veterans Association, Liberation War Veterans Assoc

Part 1. Bibliography

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<http://www.refworld.org/docid/4d3e6ecf2.html>
- Amnesty International, Zimbabwe: Toll of impunity , 25 June 2002, AFR 46/034/2002, available at: <http://www.refworld.org/docid/3d199ed54.html>
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<https://search-proquest-com.stanford.idm.oclc.org/docview/1564020137?accountid=14026>
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<https://search-proquest-com.stanford.idm.oclc.org/docview/1967514978?accountid=14026>.

Part 2. Basic Coding

Aliases: Zimbabwe Liberation War Veterans, ZNLWVA

Group Formation: "late 1990s" (1997?) (Shubin 2012)

Group End: 2001 (last attack), 2017 (Active)

Part 3. Narrative

Group Formation

The ZNLWVA was a pro-government organization that also had an armed militia (Amnesty International 2002). The group did not oppose the Zimbabwe government (UK Home Office 2017). It formed in the late 1990s (around 1997-1998) to help ensure veterans could receive a proper pension and to prevent the MDC opposition party from gaining power (Madinah 1998; Reuters 2008; Ireland RDC 2011; Shubin 2012). It first came to attention in 2000 for attacking members of the MDC opposition party (Amnesty International 2002). It also conducted several attacks against farm owners starting in 2000 (Reuters 2008; Shubin 2012).

Geography

The group conducted attacks in Nyamandlovu, Zimbabwe (GTD 2017). The group was not transnational and did not have an external base of operations.

Organizational Structure

The leader of ZNLWVA was Chenjerai Hunzvi in 1997 (Shubin 2012). The leader of ZNLWVA was Chris Mutsvangwa in 2016 (Standard 2016). Members are veterans from the original revolutionary war in the 1970s (Southern Africa Report 2011; Ireland RDC 2011). The group partially operated under the authority of the Ministry of Defense (Southern Africa Report 2011). They have approximately 30,000 members and wear uniforms (Reuters 2008).

External Ties

The group did not oppose the Zimbabwe government until 2017 (UK Home Office 2017; Standard 2016). It supported Mugabe's ruling party, the ZANU-PF (Amnesty International 2002).

Group Outcome

The group changed its stance and began opposing the government in 2016 after Mugabe changed parts of the constitution to shore up his rule (Standard 2016). In 2017, the group supported the military coup that deposed Mugabe (Baynes 2017; Daily Maverick 2017). The group's last violent attack was in 2001 (GTD 2017). The group remained active after this date working on behalf of the Zimbabwe Ministry of Defense.

III. MOVEMENT FOR DEMOCRATIC CHANGE

Torg ID: 2373

Min. Group Date: 1999

Max. Group Date: 2006

Onset: NA

Aliases: Movement For Democratic Change (Mdc), Movement For Democratic Change

Part 1. Bibliography

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Part 2. Basic Coding

Aliases: MDC

Group Formation: 1999

Group End: 2016 (Active)

Part 3. Narrative

Group Formation

The MDC formed in 1999 as the principal opposition party against Mugabe's ZANU-PF (Raftopolous n.d.; BBC 2005). It was a violent political party. It sought to challenge Mugabe's rule and gain some political representation after Mugabe changed the constitution to restore a legislature (BBC 2005). The group's first violent incident was in 2002 when members of the group attacked members of the ZANU-PF (GTD 2017).

Geography

The group had attacks in Harare, Kuwadzana, and Buhera, Zimbabwe (GTD 2017).

Organizational Structure

The MDC's leader was Morgan Tsvangirai (BBC 2005; Telegraph 2008; Raftopolous n.d.). The group was a violent political party (BBC 2005; Telegraph 2008; Canada IRB 2015). It is unknown how many members it had.

External Ties

No information could be found about external ties to other state or non-state actors.

Group Outcome

The group partially splintered in 2005 over a disagreement about whether to participate in elections (BBC 2005; Wines 2007; Canada IRB 2015). The group's last violent incident was in 2006 when it attacked an MDC politician (GTD 2017). The group remained active as of 2015. It reported attacks on party members in 2013 (Canada IRB 2016).

IV. NATIONAL YOUTH SERVICE OF ZIMBABWE

Torg ID: 2393

Min. Group Date: 2001

Max. Group Date: 2002

Onset: NA

Aliases: None

Part 1. Bibliography

- GTD Perpetrator 20331. Global Terrorism Database. Study for Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism. Last modified June 2017.
<http://www.start.umd.edu/gtd/search/Results.aspx?perpetrator=20331>
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<http://www.nytimes.com/2003/12/28/world/reports-of-rape-and-torture-inside-zimbabwean-militia.html>

Part 2. Basic Coding

Aliases: National Youth Service, NYS

Group Formation: 2001

Group End: 2002 (last attack?) 2017 (active)

Part 3. Narrative

Group Formation

The National Youth Service launched in 2001 as a paramilitary youth group sponsored by the Zimbabwe government (Canada IRB 2006; Herald 2017a; Herald 2017b). The group was a pro-government organization that allegedly tortured and attacked Mugabe opponents (Thompson 2003; Mail and Guardian 2007). The group's first violent attack was in 2002 (GTD 2017).

Geography

The group had training camps in Border Gezi, Dadaya, Guyu, Kamativi, Mushagashe, Vumba (ibid.), Mutare, Manicaland, and Zvishavane (Canada IRB 2006). It is unknown where it conducted attacks.

Organizational Structure

The group had allegedly 10,000 members in 2003 (Thompson 2003). The group recruited youths in their teens (Thompson 2003; Canada IRB 2006). Members received military training and education about the ZANU-PF ideology (Canada IRB 2006).

External Ties

The group was a paramilitary wing that supported Mugabe and ZANU-PF (Canada IRB 2006).

Group Outcome

The group was still active in 2017 (Herald 2017a; Herald 2017b). It is unknown when the group's last violent attack was or if it was still conducting attacks.

V. ZAPU

Torg ID: 9019

Min. Group Date: 1967

Max. Group Date: 0

Onset: 1967

Aliases: Zimbabwe African People's Union, Zimbabwe African People's Union (ZAPU)

Part 1. Bibliography

- "Zimbabwe: The ZANU-ZAPU Rivalry." Declassified. Central Intelligence Agency. 1983. <https://www.cia.gov/library/readingroom/docs/CIA-RDP84S00552R000200030002-4.pdf>
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- Canada: Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada, Zimbabwe: Zimbabwe African People's Union (ZAPU); whether it is still active as an opposition party, ethnic affiliation; treatment of members and supporters by the Zimbabwean government; whether the situation in Bulawayo is different from elsewhere in Zimbabwe, 1 April 1999, ZWE31507.E, available at: <https://www.refworld.org/docid/3ae6aad90.html>
- Canada: Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada, Zimbabwe: Activities of the Zimbabwe People's Revolution Army (ZIPRA), the military army of the Zimbabwe African People's Union (ZAPU), including leaders, platform and whether it has been alleged or has been found to have participated or committed human rights abuses (1980-July 2002), 4 July 2002, ZWE39553.E, available at: <https://www.refworld.org/docid/3df4bed10.html>
- Australia: Refugee Review Tribunal, Zimbabwe: 1. Deleted. 2. Would being a high ranking member of PF Zapu make you a target of ZANU-PF today? 3. Deleted. 4. Is there any information that indicates that non-politically active family members of politically active people are subject to serious harm in Zimbabwe? Are family members of former and current members of the MDC and PF Zapu currently subject to serious harm in Zimbabwe? 5. Is Munyaradzi Musariri the Assistant Commissioner of Police? Please provide relevant information on him, including whether there is any evidence that he is a veteran of the war of independence. 6. Please provide a brief summary on the Matabeleland/ Gukurahundi massacres. , 21 September 2010, ZWE37383, available at: <https://www.refworld.org/docid/505b10942.html>
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Part 2. Basic Coding

Aliases: Any additional aliases you may have encountered

Group Formation: What is the earliest year the group was active?

Group End: What is the last year the group was active? Why did it stop using political violence?

Part 3. Narrative

Group Formation

This section is where you would include information about the group’s founding date, its initial goals, ideology, and date when it first came to attention as a violent group.

Geography

This section is where you would include information about the group’s operational environment including the names of areas where they operate from, the name of any external sanctuaries, the name of any cities, towns, or neighborhoods where they conduct attacks. You may also provide a generic descriptor if you cannot identify specifically where, but know what the geographic composition of the area was.

Organizational Structure

This section is where you would include information about the group’s organizational structure including its leadership, membership, source of funding, and different wings.

External Ties

This section is where you would include information about the group’s ties to other actors including both other armed groups as well as other countries. This includes information about external support, alliances, and splinters.

Group Outcome

This section is where you would include information about the state’s response to the group, if any, and how this affects the group. You will also identify whether the group is

still active, when it stopped using violence, and what happened to the group to cause it to stop using violence.

VI. PATRIOTIC FRONT
Torg ID: 9020
Min. Group Date: 1976
Max. Group Date: 0
Onset: 1976

Aliases: None

Part 1. Bibliography

- GTD Perpetrator 4013. Global Terrorism Database. Study for Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism. Last modified July 2018.
<https://www.start.umd.edu/gtd/search/Results.aspx?perpetrator=4013>
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<https://books.google.com/books?id=4ikxDwAAQBAJ&printsec=frontcover&dq=schmid+jongman&hl=en&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwjyXOaUzvHiAhVIJTQIHVDmAbYQ6AEIKjAA#v=onepage&q=zimbabwe&f=false>

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Part 2. Basic Coding

Aliases: This was an umbrella for ZANU and ZAPU (Schmid and Jongman 1988, 698).

Group Formation: This was an umbrella for ZANU and ZAPU (Schmid and Jongman 1988, 698).

Group End: This was an umbrella for ZANU and ZAPU (Schmid and Jongman 1988, 698).

Part 3. Narrative

Group Formation

This was an umbrella for ZANU and ZAPU (Schmid and Jongman 1988, 698).

Geography

This was an umbrella for ZANU and ZAPU (Schmid and Jongman 1988, 698).

Organizational Structure

This was an umbrella for ZANU and ZAPU (Schmid and Jongman 1988, 698).

External Ties

This was an umbrella for ZANU and ZAPU (Schmid and Jongman 1988, 698).

Group Outcome

This was an umbrella for ZANU and ZAPU (Schmid and Jongman 1988, 698).