



LET THE TRUTH BE TOLD! KNOWLEDGE IS POWER!

HANDS OFF OUR ACTIVISTS!

South Africans demand an end to the killings of those who speak out



Activists marching to the Cape Town central police station. Photo: Busi Mtabane

“Government is very quiet about the killings of activists”, this is according to Nonhle Mbuthuma, spokesperson for Amadiba Crisis Committee (ACC), a group fighting mineral extraction in Xolobeni in the Eastern Cape.

Far too many activists in South Africa live in fear for their lives, and for good reason - in the last ten years alone, 16 members of the shack dwellers movement, Abahlali baseMjondolo (AbM) have been killed and no one has been prosecuted. On 8 October

2018, thousands of people, including unions and other civil society members took to the streets of Durban, Cape Town and Johannesburg calling on the police and government to stop the murders of those who dissent.

AbM fights against evictions and for public housing in KwaZulu-Natal, which has become so notorious for political violence that Premier Wilis Mchunu instituted a Commission of Inquiry into the “political killings” in the province. Several politicians

and activists have been targeted by a corrupt cabal that includes police officers.

Members of AbM live in constant fear, regularly intimidated, threatened and arrested. Thapelo Mohapi, AbM spokesperson says the movement’s founder and president, Sbu Zikode, was in hiding for three and a half months following death threats. Zikode came out of hiding last month for the protests, saying he “has accepted his inevitable death”.

At the Cape Town march, Axolile Notywala from the Social Justice Coalition, called on President Cyril Ramaphosa and Police Minister Bheki Cele to ensure that criminals within the ANC and the police “must be investigated and they must be arrested”.

Nosipho Ntshangase, a member of Right2Know adds, “I don’t think the government is willing to do much because I believe most of these killings are politically motivated and are ordered by people who are occupying government offices. Hence they drag their feet when it comes to properly dealing with the killers, and by that I mean sending them to jail or even investigating such cases.”

Dominic Brown from Cape Town-based movement, Unite Behind said, “what we are seeing in Abahlali, what we are seeing in Xolobeni, what we are seeing in the gang towns and townships of Cape Town is all the same. They want us to shut up.”

Two ACC leaders, Sikhosphi Bazooka Rhadebe and Scorpion Dimane were assassinated about two years ago and the justice system has failed them. ACC has tried in vain to get the police to finalise at least one of the cases. Its leaders continue to live in fear in Xolobeni.

MTN AND CO: WHO’S SPYING ON YOUR USERS?

Companies face legal demand for surveillance information

For years, activists have said that South Africa’s spying law is being abused to spy on innocent people without their knowledge. The Regulation of Interception of Communications and Provision of Communication-related Information Act (RICA) already faces a major court challenge which will be heard in early 2019 (See April 2018 edition – ‘Spying is a threat to democracy’).

In a separate case, MTN, Cell C and Telkom are now being taken to court for refusing to tell their customers how much RICA surveillance is taking place on their networks.

This follows information requests, submitted by R2K activists using the Promotion of Access to Information Act, asking all the cell phone companies for their RICA surveillance statistics. Each company was asked for the number of war-

rants it had received from the RICA judge every year, which allowed the company to enable government agents to listen in on a customer’s communication, or reveal who the customer is communicating with. Only Vodacom provided the statistics, which showed that it obtained hundreds of warrants from the RICA judge every year.

However, MTN, Cell C and Telkom are still facing court action by R2K with help from the Legal Resources Centre (LRC), after they refused to provide any statistics, saying that it would violate RICA’s secrecy clauses.

Sbu Nzama, a R2K KZN activist who helped organise marches against surveillance in Durban, said, “Uma kukuthi bayahluleka ukuthi badelele lolulwazi kithi sizoshumayela izwi kubobonke abantu abasebenzisa ama service wabo



Free our phones

ukuthi abaphephile.” (“If they don’t release this information to us, we inform all customers that their service isn’t safe.”)

“These basic statistics allow us to know how often the state invaded our privacy,” says Tsanga Mukumba, a legal researcher at the LRC. “We have a right to know how many of us are being spied on.” He added that people could use that information to demand changes to the law if their rights are being violated.

Murray Hunter, an R2K activist who submitted one of the requests, said that South Africa’s spying laws had forced

the companies to spy on customers who may not even be guilty of any crime, but are being targeted as activists or whistleblowers. “If companies like MTN and Cell C want to stand up for our privacy, the first step is to be transparent with us,” said Hunter.

In 2017, R2K used PAIA requests to show that MTN, Vodacom, Cell C and Telkom also received tens of thousands of warrants from magistrates’ courts, which forced them to hand over more than 100,000 customers’ sensitive call records to police.

Scrap the Jozi 'protest fees'!

Communities demand that Joburg officials stop charging for the right to protest!

For years, R2K and allied organisations have refused to pay fees to the Johannesburg City Council (JCC) to protest, and in November they launched a campaign to demand that others are able to do the same.

According to South African law, a fee for gatherings should only apply to commercial events such as sports events, festivals and concerts – not to protests which are protected by the Constitution.

However, the Johannesburg Metropolitan Police Department (JMPD) charges poor communities and groups to exercise their right to protest. For a long time, R2K and allies have attempted to engage JMPD officials and even Office of the Speaker of Johannesburg on this issue, but the department insists that these fees are required by the City Council.

"In our current political context, the right to protest is crucial for communities to hold the powerful to account and ensure their voices are heard," said R2K activist General Moyo. The protest fee is just one example of how different government officials are denying and repressing communities' right to organise. Even when people adhere to the Regulation of Gatherings Act, often authorities twist these very processes to try intimidate, dissuade and repress the communities from exercising this right.

"Protests are an inconvenience for government," says R2K's Thami

Nkosi. "They call for a higher level of ethical leadership, transparency and accountability, which is dwindling in the current political climate with its high levels of corruption."

This is a direct attack on the right to fully and meaningfully participate in democracy through protest..

THE DEMANDS:

- Demand the City of Johannesburg and JMPD stop applying fees to protest gatherings immediately!
- Urge you not to pay the protest fees that are being charged by the JMPD!
- Demand an end to other tactics employed by JMPD to frustrate communities who are trying to follow the bureaucratic process of the Gatherings Act, such as only 'accepting' notices in person, and only 'processing' them on Wednesdays.
- Demand the right to give notice any day of the week, in person, on paper or digitally!

R2K has called on all communities and organisations that have been charged for protesting to join in demanding that the JCC and JMPD do away with this practice.

Call the Right2Protest Hotline (0800 212 111) for legal advice when your right to protest is being restricted.



Durban cops can't stop our right to protest

Activists in Durban are fighting for their right to protest.

"The Regulation of Gatherings Act (RGA) is meant to protect citizens' right to protest and hold gatherings, but in the eThekweni Municipality the rules seem to not matter", said Sthembiso Khuluse, R2K Campaigns Organiser. For many local communities, just the administration of holding a protest is complex. It is difficult to notify the municipality and police about protests, who treat activists like criminals when they exercise their right to protest.

In a recent case, the organisers of a service delivery protest in Umlazi were forced to go to court at the last minute after police tried to 'ban' the protest from going ahead. Instead of using the Regulation of Gatherings Act, Umlazi police said the gathering must comply with the Safety at Sports and Recreational Events Act, which relates to safety at sporting and stadium events, but does not apply to protests. Although the organisers had followed all the steps in the Gatherings Act, Umlazi police then said they must also provide ambulances at their

protest, insurance liability and other things that may be required at a sports event.

This was only the latest example where officials have contravened the Gatherings Act. Last year, officials tried to stop an R2K march in Umlazi by demanding that the organisers needed to give notice of the march 14 days ahead of time, whereas the law requires a week's notice.

Previously officials have tried to ban marches by Abahlali baseMjondolo and Mayine iZania using unlawful processes.

After Umlazi organisers got the demand for ambulances, R2K intervened and wrote to officials at SAPS and the eThekweni Metro Police Department, to inform them that these were unlawful procedures, but the officials insisted. After consulting the Right to Protest hotline (0800212111), the organisers approached the Legal Resources Centre (LRC), who took the case to high court.

Just minutes before the proceedings began, Captain Govender of

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Fedisang 'tefo ya ho ipelaetsa' Jozi!

Setjhaba se batla hore baofisiri ba Joburg ba kgaotse ho batla tefo bakeng sa tokelo ya ho ipelaetsa!

E se e le dilemo jwale R2K le mekgatlo e hatang mmoho le yona e hana ho lefa Lekgotla la Motse wa Johannesburg (Johannesburg City Council [JCC]) tefo bakeng sa ho ipelaetsa, mme ka November e ile ya thakgola letsholo la ho batla hore ba bang le bona ba kgone ho etsa se tshwanang.

Ho latela molao wa Afrika Borwa, tefo ya ho kgobokana e lokela ho batlwa feela diketsahalong tsa kgwebo tse kang dipapadi, mekete ya setjhaba le dikonsarete – e seng ha ho ipelaetswa, kaha hona ho sireletswa ke Molao wa Motheo.

Le ha ho le jwalo, Lefapha la Se-polesa sa Motse wa Johannesburg (Johannesburg Metropolitan Police Department [JMPD]) le lefisa setjhaba le dihlopha tse futsanehileng bakeng sa hore di sebedise tokelo ya tsona ya ho ipelaetsa. E se e le nako e telele R2K le ba hatang mmoho le yona ba leka ho buisana le baofisiri

ba JMPD esita le ofisi ya Motsamaisi wa Dipuisano wa Johannesburg ka taba ena, empa lefapha lena le lomahantse meno hore Lekgotla la Motse le batla ditefiso tsena.

General Moyo, eo e leng moitseki o itse: "Maemong a rona a dipolotiki hona jwale, ke ntho ya bohlokwa haholo hore setjhaba se be le tokelo ya ho ipelaetsa e le ho etsa hore ba nang le matla ba jare boikarabelo le ho netefatsa hore lentsoe la bona e le setjhaba lea mamelwa."

Tefo e batlwang bakeng sa ho ipelaetsa ke mohlala o le mong feela wa kamoo baofisiri ba sa tshwaneng ba mmuso ba timang setjhaba tokelo ya ho kgobokana le ho e hatikela ka maoto. Esita le ha batho ba latela Molao o Tsamaisang Dikopano, hangata balaodi ba sotha mehato ena e lokelang ho latelwa e le ho leka ho tshosa, ho kgathatsa matla le ho hatella setjhaba e le hore se se ke sa

sebedisa tokelo ena.

Thami Nkosi wa R2K o re: "Mmuso o nka ho ipelaetsa e le tshitiso." Ho hloka hloka boetapele bo matla ho tsa tsamaiso, ponaleto le boikarabelo, e leng dintho tse nyamelang dipolotiking tsa kajeno tse tletseng ka bobodu."

Ena ke tlhaselo e tobileng tokelong ya ho nka karolo ka ho feletseng le ka tsela e atlehang pusong ya setjhaba ka setjhaba ka ho ipelaetsa.

SEO RE SE BATLANG:

- Re batla hore Motse wa Johannesburg le JMPD hangang o kgao-tse ho batla tefo ya hore batho ba kgobokane bakeng sa ho ipelaetsa!
- Re le kopa ka tiyo hore le se ke la lefa tefo ya ho ipelaetsa e batlwang ke JMPD!
- Re batla hore JMPD e kgaotse maqheka a mang ao e a sebedisang ho ferekanya setjhaba se lehang

ho latela mehato e dumelletsweng ke Molao wa Dikopano, maqheka a kang a ho 'amohela' ditsebiso feela ha di tlišwa ke motho ka seqo, le ho 'sebitsana le tsona' feela ka Laboraro.

- Re batla ho ba le tokelo ya ho fana ka tsebiso letsatsing leha e le lefe la beke, e bang e fanwa ke motho ka seqo, ka pampiri kapa ka mokgwa wa dijithale!

R2K e ipiletsa ho batho bohle hammoho le mekgatlo e kileng ya lefiswa bakeng sa ho ipelaetsa hore ba nke karolo hammoho le yona ho batlang hore JCC le JMPD di kgaotse mokgwa ona.

Letsetsa Mohala o sa Lefellweng wa Right-2Protest (0800 212 111) bakeng sa keletso ya molao ha o sitiswa ho sebedisa tokelo ya hao ya ho ipelaetsa.



R2K activists picketing against high data costs in Durban. Photo: Murray Hunter

Data Must Fall: people vs profits

R2K demands regulations to lower communications costs

The Competition Commission was the latest stop for a nation-wide demand: data must fall! At recent public hearings, R2K appeared before the Commission to demand industry regulations to bring down data costs. R2K has been calling for this since 2014 when it first launched the Vula 'maConnexion campaign against high communication costs.

Appearing for R2K, Cleo Shezi and Lazola Kati presented research on the 'lived cost of communications in South Africa', drawing on a study by R2K and the LINK Centre at Wits University which looked at how poor people experience the costs of airtime and data in their lives.

The cost of communication is often misunderstood in quantitative terms. R2K's submission argued that a simple monetary value to the cost of a phonecall or internet access does not capture an individual's lived experience of trying to access their right to communicate. According to Kati, who is the R2K National Communications Rights Focus organiser, the cost of communications is based purely on competition between services providers, and does not take

into account what people can actually afford. R2K's submission presented this reality for the poor and working classes, and rural businesses.

"If you want to apply to a good school for your children, you need to do it online," said Shezi. "If you need to apply for a job, you need to apply online. How can you apply online if you can't afford internet?"

The National Development Plan described South Africa's current ICT infrastructure as "abysmal" compared with the best international standards. In India 1 GB only costs R11, R22 in Nigeria, R71 in Ghana, R24 in Russia charges and R98 in Tanzania. In South Africa, 1GB of data costs R129.

"We specifically compared South Africa's costs with other BRICS countries," said Kati. "Why is our government not having conversations with other BRICS countries? The numbers show that South Africa is sold into a capitalist system that our communications market only caters for the wealthy."

R2K's Vula 'maConnexion campaign

continues to call for:

- ICASA and all regulatory bodies to ensure that data costs are cut to match the socio-economic needs of South Africans
- Affordable data and airtime for all South Africans
- Universal communication: Everyone has a right to available and affordable communications
- Free SMS's
- Everyone should get a free basic amount of airtime and data in the same way that we have free basic water and electricity
- ICASA must regulate the cost of airtime and data to stop profiteering
- Prepaid users should not cross-subsidise contract users
- Unused data bundles should not expire
- Cellphone companies must improve service quality, including network outages, dropped calls, calls that don't connect and data coverage
- The range of toll-free numbers (like police and ambulances) should be expanded to include schools and hospitals

The right to Inquiring an inquiry

Commissions of inquiry ignore their responsibilities set out by the Constitution

The Right2Know campaign has spoken out about the way in which Commissions of Inquiry violate their Constitutional obligations accountability, transparency and responsiveness.

Most recently, they are still awaiting their requests for access to transcripts of the Moerane Commission of Inquiry into political killings in KZN. KZN Premier Willie Mchunu missed the deadline for responding to R2K's Promotion of Access to Information Act request for the information.

R2K sent a letter of request on 16 August and the timeframe for obtaining the documents ended on 27 October 2018.

In the Zondo Commission into State Capture, documents pertaining to Finance Minister Nhlanhla Nene's public testimony were recalled and journalists were asked to not publicise them any further. R2K's letter requesting documents from this Commission, too, has still not received a response to a letter sent on 11 October.

In both instances there has been no substantiated explanation.

Having submitted many requests for information and transcripts from different commissions of inquiry, R2K has found their requests either stonewalled, ignored, or repeatedly delayed.

According to Mluleki Marongo, R2K Access to Information Organiser "The campaigns' requests for access to information to both the Moerane Commission of Inquiry into the political killings in Kwazulu Natal and to the Zondo Commission into allegations of State capture were met with cold heartedness."

Sinenhlanhla Manqe, R2K national working group member in says that although R2K has attempted to obtain information about several commissions, they have not had their Constitutional right to do so respected. "When Commissions report back to communities, they only inform them on part of the decisions, not the whole thing. Communities have no in-

put, and at the end of the day, have no faith in the commissions."

R2K makes the following demands from those who are authorised to establish commissions, and who duly establish such commissions:

Ensure, as a norm, that the default position when it comes to transparency and access to information pertaining to a Commission on inquiry, is one of openness

Seek a legal opinion from counsel or representations from the evidence leaders, if there is doubt on transparency and openness regarding specific information of that Commission before stonewalling requests for that information

Prescribe in the rules of that specific commission that all requests for information must be responded to and that any denial for access to information is explained and substantiated!

Established recourse avenues for instances where requests for information have been denied!

Hlukanani nezishosho zethu!

AbaseNingizimu Afrika bebegwale imigwaqo ezweni lonke befuna kuqedwe ukubulawa kwalabo abalwisana nenkohlakalo

"Uhulumeni uthule mayelana nkubulawa kwezishosho zethu", lokhu kushiwo nguNonhle Mbuthuma, okhulumela i-Amadiba Crisis Committee (ACC), okuyiqembu elilwisana nokuqalwa kwemayini yezimbiwa eXolobeni eMpumalanga Kapa.

Izishosho eziningi kakhulu eNingizimu Afrika zisabela izimpilo zazo, ngezizathu ezifanele. Eminyakeni eyishumi edlule, sekubulawe amalungu enhlango yabahlala emjondolo iAbahlali Basemjondolo (AbM) futhi akukaze kuboshwe muntu. Ngomhla we-8 kuMfumfu 2018, izinkulungwane zabantu, okubalwa nabezinyunyana namalungu omphakathi banikele emgqaqweni eThekwini, eKapa naseGoli befuna amaphoyisa nohulumeni baqede ukubulawa kwabaphikisayo.

Inhlangano yeAbM lilwisana nokususwa nokuhlaliswa komphakathi KwaZulu-Natal eseyidume kakhulu ngokubulala kwezepolitiki osekuholele ekutheni uNdunankulu uWillis Mchunu asungule iKhomishana Yophenyo ezehlakalweni zokubulala ngokwezepolitiki esifundazweni. Osopolitiki abaningi nezishosho baqondwe yiqeqebana elikhohlakele elihlanganisa namaphoyisa.

Amalungu e-AbM ahlala ngokwesaba, ayasatshiswa futhi ayaboshwa. UThapelo Mohapi, okhulumela i-AbM uthi umsunguli wenhlangano uSbu Zikode, wayesekubhaceni izinyanga ezintathu nesigamu emva kokusatshiswa ngokufa. UZikode uphume ekubhaceni ngenyanga edlule ezoyoyina imibhikisho, uthe "usekwamukele ukufa kwakhe okungeke kugwemeke".

Emashini yaseKapa, uAxolile Notywala weSocial Justice Coalition, ucele uMongameli uCyril Ramaphosa noNgqongqoshe Wamaphoyisa uBheki Cele ukuthi baqinisekise ukuthi imiguluku-du ngaphakathi kwe-ANC namaphoyisa "kumele iphenywe futhi kumele iboshwe".

UNosipho Ntshangase, oyilungu le-Right2Know unezelele ngokuthi "angicabangi ukuthi uhulumeni uzimisele ukwenza okuthile ngoba ngikhohla ukuthi lokhu kubulala kuhlangane nezepolitiki futhi kugunyazwa abantu abasezikhundleni eziphezulu kuhulumeni. Yingakho behudula izinyawo uma sekufanele kubhekwane nezigilamkhuba, futhi ngalokho ngisho ukuthi bababophe noma baphenya lamacala."

UDominic Brown wenhlangano esekapa i-Unite Behind uthe, "esikubona kubahlali, yilokho esikubona eXolobeni, nesikubona emalokishini ezigebengu eKapa konke kuyafana. Bafuna ukusivala imilomo."

Abaholi ababili be-ACC uSikhosphi Bazooka Rhadebe no-Scorpion Dimane babulawa eminyakeni emithathu edlule futhi ubulungiswa abenzekanga. I-ACC isizame ngokungenampumelelo ukuphoqa amaphoyisa ukuba aphothule noma elilodwa lamacala. Abaholi bayo baphila ngokwesaba eXolobeni.

kuMTN nezinye: ngubani ongcothozela abathengi benu?

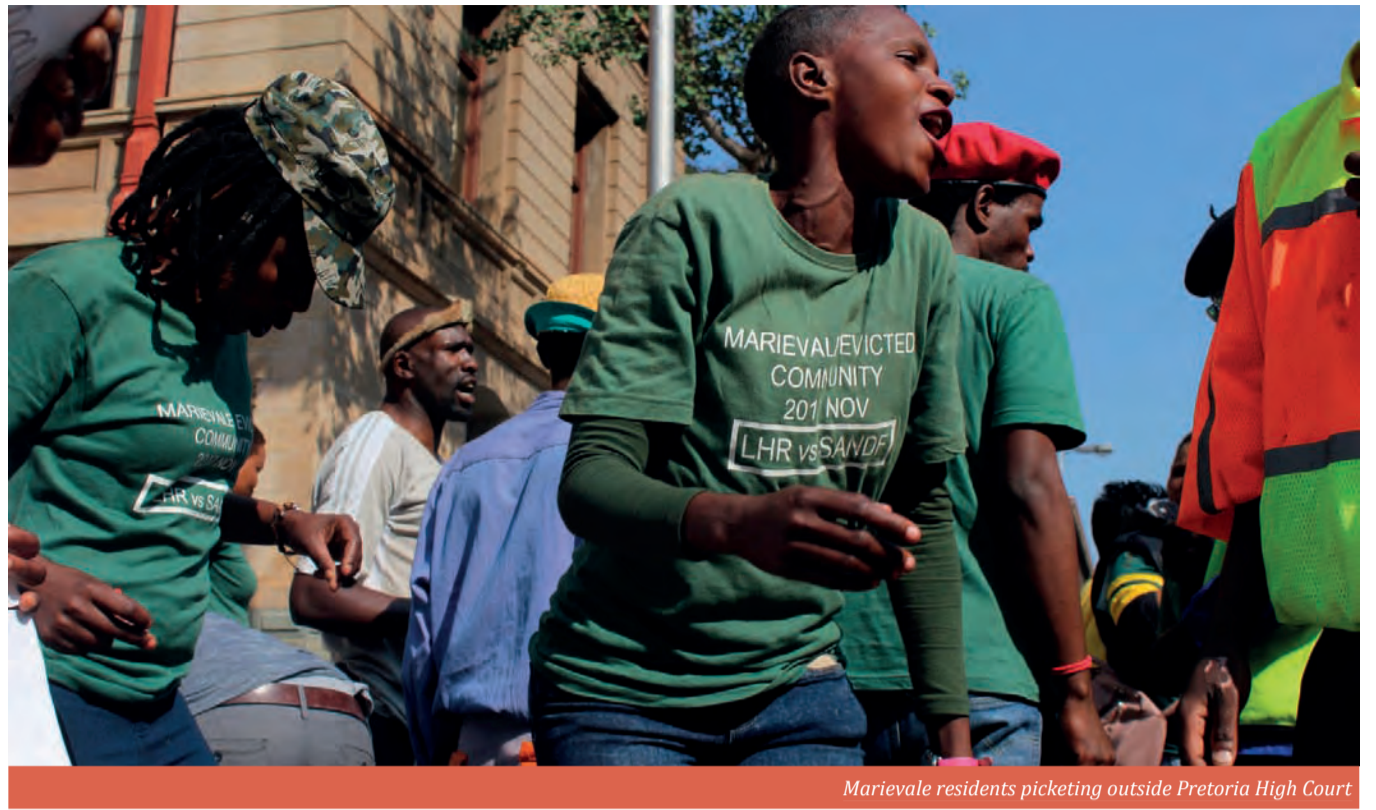
Sele kuyiminyaka ngoku amatshantliziyo ekhala ngokuxhatshazwa kwemithetho yoMzantsi Afrika elawula iintshukumo zobuntlola, esetyenziselwa ukuhlola abantu abamsulwa ngaphandle kolwazi lwabo. UMthetho woNxibelelwano iRegulation of Interception of Communications and Provision of Communication-related Information Act okanye iRICA ngamafuphi sele ujamelene nozengezeke lwetyala eliya kuchotshelwa yinkundla ekuqaleni kuka-2019 (Fumana upapasho lwenyanga kaTshazimpuzi kwalapha ku-2018 – olusihloko sithi 'Ungcothozo ngumngeni kwinkqubo yolawulo yentando yesininzi).

Kwelinye ityala, uMTN, uCell C noTelkom kungoku nje batsalelwa ezinkundleni zamatyala ngenxa yokwala ukwazisa abathengi ngobungakanani bezinga leentshukumo zongcothozo kwiingcingo zabo.

Oku ke kulandela izicelo zokufumana iinkcukacha, ezangeniswa ngamatshantliziyo eR2K esebenzisa amasolotyama omthetho iPromotion of Access to Information Act, ecela iinkampani zeminxeba yesinqe ukuba zinikezele ngeenkukacha-manani ezidiza ubuzaza beentshukumo zongcothozo kusetyenziswa iRICA. Inkampani nganye yacelwa ukuba idize inani lezinyanzeliso ezizifumene kwijaji yeRICA minyaka le, nto leyo ekhokelele ekubeni inkampani leyo ivumele oongcothoza bakarhulumente ukuba baphulaphule iincoko zomntu osebenzisa iingcingo zayo, okanye idize umntu asukube encokola naye loo mntu. NguVodacom kuphela ke owathi wanikezela ngale nkcazelo, ziphumo ezo zidize ukuba le nkampani ifumene amakhulu-khulu ezinyanzeliso ezisuka kwijaji yeRICA minyaka le.

Noxa kunjalo ke, uMTN, uCell C noTelkom basajamelene neenkundla zamatyala emva kokurhuqelwa apho yiR2K, ngoncedo lweLegal Resources Centre (iLRC ngamafuphi) emva kokwala ukunikezela nangaziphi na iinkcukacha-manani, besithela ngelokuba oko kuya kuba kukudelela amasolotyama emfihlo aqulethwe

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Marievale residents picketing outside Pretoria High Court

Illegal evictions must be thrown out the door

Gauteng's leaders need to end violent evictions where poor people are murdered and harassed for fighting for their homes

While some people preach rhetoric about the need for access to land, in reality other people are experiencing the demise of landlessness on a daily basis. The leaders of Gauteng and the City of Johannesburg, especially Mayor Herman Mashaba have painted a narrative about the city's campaign to 'clean up' Johannesburg. But this narrative is only honest and factual to a certain extent.

The community of Marievale near Nigel was evicted from their homes by the South African National Defence Force in November 2017, but even after a court pronounced that their evictions were illegal in May this year, and they could move back home, they are still squatting in informal settlements as the army refuses to let them back in.

By this time the suffering had taken its toll on the community. Two men in the Koekemoer family had begun to suffer from depression and took their own lives.

"Our government doesn't care about us, they support what SANDF

did to us", said Marievale community leader Tumi Weyi.

"The psychological impact and suffering from the stress of these evictions is not considered," says Moeketsi Monaheng, R2K provincial administrator for Gauteng.

He adds that the Marievale case is very important because it was the first time that a recurring situation of soldiers taking arms against their own people during evictions was taken to court.

"But still, soldiers are walking around the informal settlement with guns to make sure people don't come back. They are above the law."

The state also uses private security companies to evict, intimidate and oppress vulnerable communities. The notorious Red Ants are regularly contracted by the Ekurhuleni Municipality to carry out evictions alongside the Ekurhuleni Metro Police Department (EMPD). In May 2017, this team evicted people living near Ivory Park, in a raid where people were murdered, raped, shot and robbed. The

Red Ants not only broke the law but were protected by members of the EMPD and given free reign to kill and demolish by the Department of Housing, the people who should be aware of Protection from Illegal Evictions act. R2K and community members of Ivory Park lodged a complaint against the Red Ants at the Private Security Regulating body (PSIRA) but the case was postponed to an as yet unconfirmed date.

In Turffontein, Mashaba declared war against building 'hijackers', as part of a media campaign to 'rescue' the buildings. But in reality he used this to enable mass raids on poor residents, where police and private security invaded their homes, arrested and harassed them.

But as with Marievale, people are fighting back. The Wits Economic Freedom Fighters Student Council (EFFSC) recently confronted accommodation company South Point to tell them that the fight for accommodation and shelter is part of the fight for land.

FROM PAGE 2

Durban cops can't stop our right to protest

Umlazi SAPS wrote an email denying he had prohibited the protest. However, R2K and the organisers had correspondence to show that SAPS and the municipality have been ignoring the law when it comes to protest.

These challenges to the communities' right to protest have become the norm in eThekweni and has led to R2K KZN working closely with LRC and partner organisations to explore the grounds

on which these contraventions of these rights to court. The aim of legal action is to hold Municipality officials properly accountable for not respecting Constitutional rights through manipulating by-laws and the RGA and in many cases, not even bothering to understand the laws.

Call the Right2Protest Hotline (0800 212 111) for legal advice when your right to protest is being restricted.



Go to www.r2k.org.za/signup to subscribe to R2K's free Weekly Briefing email that keeps you up-to-date with the latest news, trends and developments for transparency and openness in SA.

Amaphoyisa aseThekwini ngeke alimise ilungelo lethu lokubhikisha

Amaphoyisa nomasipala benza umthetho omusha wokwenqabela imiphakathi ukuba ibhikishe

Izishosho zaseThekwini zilwela ilungelo lazo lokubhikisha.

“UMthetho weNqubo yemiButhano (RGA) uhloselwe ukuvikela ilungelo lezakhamuzi lokubhikisha kanye nokubamba imibuthano, kodwa ngokwemithetho kaMasipala waseThekwini kubonakala kungashaywa ndiva lokho”, kusho uSthem-biso Khuluse, umhleli wemikhankaso ye-R2K. Kweziningi izakhamuzi, isiqondiso sokubamba imibhikisho nje sisodwa siyinkimbinkimbi. Kunzima ngisho nokubikela umasipala namaphoyisa ngemibhikisho, okuyibo kanye abaphatha izishosho njengamasela lapho zisebenzisa ilungelo lazo lokubhikisha.

Emacaleni akamuva, abahleli bokuhlinzekwa ngezinsiza ababhikishile eMlazi baphoqelelwe ukuba baye enkantolo ngomzuzu wokugcina emva kokuba amaphoyisa azame ‘ukumisa’ umbhikisho ukuba uqhubeke. Esikhundleni sokusebenzisa uMthetho weNqubo yemiButhano, amaphoyisa aseMlazi athe umbuthano kumelwe uvumelane noMthetho wezokuPhepha kwezemiDlalo nezokuJabulisa, okuhlobana nokuphepha kwezemiDlalo nesezinkundleni, kodwa lokhu

akusebenzi emibhikishweni. Nakuba abahleli balandelele zonke zinyathelo zoMthetho wemiButhano, amaphoyisa aseMlazi athe kumelwe anikezele nangama-ambulensi uma kunombhikisho, imishwalensi nezinye izinto ezingadingeka lapho kunemidlalo.

Lokhu bekumane kuyisibonelo sakamuva lapho izikhulu ziye zamelana khona noMthetho wemiButhano. Ngonyaka odlule, izikhulu zizamile ukumisa imashi yeR2K Emlazi ngokuphoqelela ukuba abahleli banikezele isaziso semashi ngaphambi kwezinsuku ezingu-14, kuyilapho umthetho ufuna isaziso esingangeviki.

Muva nje, izikhulu zizamile ukumisa amamashi abahlali baseMjondolo kanye neMayine i-Azania basebenzisa inqubo engekho emthethweni.

Emva kokuba abhleli baseMlazi bethole isicelo esiphokelela ama-ambulensi, i-R2K iye yangenela futhi yabhalela izikhulu zakwa-SAPS nezase-Ethekwini Metro Police Department, ukuzibikela ukuthi lezi bekuyizinqubo ezingemthetho, kodwa izikhulu zaba nenkani. Emva kokushayela inombolo yeLungelo lokuBhikisha (0800212111), abahleli baqonde eNkabenzi yeziNsiza yoMthetho (LRC), okuyiyona ethathe

icala yalimikisa enkantolo ephakeme.

Emizuzwini engatheni nje ngaphambi kokuba icala liqale, uKapteni oPhethe waseMlazi SAPS ubhale i-imeyili yokwenqaba ukuthi uwumisile umbhikisho. Kodwa, i-R2K nabahleli bebenazo izincwadi ezibhaliwe ezibonisa ukuthi i-SAPS nomasipala bebelokhu beziba umthetho ngakwezokubhikisha.

Lezi zinsalele elungelweni lomphakathi lokubhikisha zigcine sezijwayelekile eThekwini futhi ziholele ukuba i-R2K KZN isebenzelane eduze ne-LRC kanye nezinhlangano ezibambe iqhaza ukuze kuhlolwe izisusa ezibangele ukuba le mpikiswano yamalungelo ifike enkantolo. Okuhloswe umthetho ukuvimba izikhulu zikaMasipala ezithintekile ngokufanele ngokuqondene nokungahloniphi amalungelo angokomthethosisekelo okuye kwalulazwa ngabomthetho ne-RGA futhi ezimweni eziningi, nangokungazihluphi ekuhambisaneni nomthetho.

Shayela Inombolo YeLungelo Lokubhikisha (0800 212 111) ukuze uthole icebiso elingokomthetho lapho ilungelo lakho lokubhikisha lishaywa indiva.

Ilungelo lokubuza ngophenyo

Umkhankaso we-Right2Know usuzwakalise isikhalo ngendlela amakhomishana ophenyo aphula ngayo izibopho zawo ngokoMthethosisekelo kwezezi-bophokubika, ngokuba sobala nokubhekana nokuvukayo.

Kamuva nje, basamele izicelo zokuthola okuqoshiwe kweKhomishana kaMoerane yezigigaba zokubulala okuhlangene nezepolitiki eKZN. UNdunankulu wase-KZN uWillies Mchunu uhlukelele ukugcina isikhathi ebesinqunywe sokuphendula isicelo seR2K somthetho i-Promotion of Access to Information Act sokuthola imininingwane.

iR2K yathumela incwadi yesicelo ngomhla we-16 kuNcwaba kanye nesikhathi okumele lemibhalo itholakale ngaso obekungomhla wama-27 kuMfumfu ngo 2018.

KuKhomishana kaZondo ye-State Capture, imibhalo ephathelele nobufakazi bukaNgqongqoshe Wezezimali uNhlanhla Nene kwabuyiselwa emuva futhi nezintatheli zayalelwa ukuba zingabushicileli. Incwadi yeR2K ecela le mibhalo kule Khomishana, nayo, ayikaphendulwa yize incwadi yabhalwa ngomhla we- 11 kuMfumfu.

Ezikhathini zombili akuzange kube nencazelo ebambekayo.

Emva kokufakwa kwezicelo eziningi zolwazi nemininingwane kwamakhomishana ahlukeni, iR2K ithole ukuthi izicelo zayo ziyavinjwa, zizitshwe noma zihudulelwe izinyawo.

NgokukaMluleki Marongo, ongumxhumanisi weR2K kwezokutholakala kwemininingwane, “imikhankaso yokucela imininingwane kumakhomishana kaMoerane ephenya ukubulala okuhlangene nezepolitiki kanye nekhomishana kaZondo ephenya ngezinsolo ze-State capture azisukunyelwanga ngokufanele.”

uSinienhlanhla Manqele, weR2K oyilungu likazwelonke lokusebenza uthi yize noma iR2K izamile ukuthola le mininingwane ngamakhomishana ambalwa, ilungelo labo lokuthola le mininingwane alihlonishwanga neze. “Uma amakhomishana ebika emiphakathini, abika okucashuniwe okuyizinqumo, hhayi okuphelele. Imiphakathi ayinazwi futhi ekupheleni kosuku, awawathembi amakhomishana”.

iR2K ifuna lokhu okulandelayo kulabo abagunyazwe ukusungula lolu hlobo lwamakhomishana:

- Ukuqinisekisa, njengenjwayelo, ukuthi indlela okusetshenzwa ngayo uma kukhulunya ngokuba sobala nokufinyeleleka kweminin-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7

Akukho mqondiso wamapolisa eMarikana

Uluntu olunxanwele isipolisa esibonakalayo lufumana isithembiso esingenanto

Emva kokuba abantu abalishumi elinanye badutyulwa bafa ngobusuku obubodwa kwindawo yamatyotyombe iMarikana ePhillipi East eKapa kwinyanga yoMsintsi, owasekuba nguMphathiswa wamaPolisa uFikile Mbalula watyelela uluntu kwaye wabamba intlanganiso kawonkewonke. Ngokutsho kweendaba ze-Eyewitness News, wabonisa ukuba kubanjwe abane kwabahlanu. U-Mbalula uphinde waqinisekisa ukuba babedibaniswe nokudutyulwa kwesininzi ngomhla we-29 kweyoMsintsi, ngokufaka ubungqina kunye neengxelo zamangqina.

Waxoxa noluntu ngamanyathelo okubuyisela uxolo kulommandla kwaye wabaqinisekisa ukuba amanyathelo athile athatyathwa ukuze knqunyulwe ulwaphulo-mthetho.

Sokudlule iinyanga ezisithoba enza esisithembiso kodwa akukho mapolisa angenelela kuluntu lwase-Marikana.

Ukugqibeleni ukubona amapolisa ezama ukungena kuluntu kwakuku sekuqaleni konyaka, kodwa ngexe-

sha lokufika kwePasika, elinye lamaxesha kaxakeka ngokuba nezinga eliphezulu lolwaphulo-mthetho, asizange sibone uphawu lwamapolisa. Ngelixa kwakukho iqela lokulinda elincinci lendawo, basebenze kuphela kwindawo yokurhweba, kufuphi nomthengisi omkhulu. Babengekho kwiindawo zokuhlala apho bekufuneka khona kakhulu.

Kwintlanganiso engaqhelekanga kunye noDan Plato, owayesakuba nguMphathiswa wezoKhuseleko lwasekuhlaleni eNtshona Koloni, uluntu ukuba kutheni kungekho sipolisa esibonakalayo okanye uphando lwentlalo kuluntu, apho wayengenayo impendulo.

Xa amapolisa ebonakalayo abonakala ebeka phambili iindawo kunye namashishini abucala, kwaye akuyona indawo eyingozi kunazo zonke kwindawo yokuhlala. Kuzo zonke iziganeko kwakukhona ukubonakala ekuqaleni konyaka kwakungaphandle kweendawo ezingaqhelekanga kwaye kungekhona kwindawo eziyingozi kakhulu. U-Siphiwe Tofi, ongumhlali waseMari-

kana uthi, “Abantu bayafa, kodwa akukho mntu uyikhathalele into yoba akukho polisa okanye abacuphi kulenginqi.”

Kukho iinzame zinkhokheli ezintsha zoluntu ekwakheni iforamu yeendawo, kuba ababekhokela ngaphambili besenza umsebenzi ongabonakaliyo. Uluntu lunesidingo esinzulu samapolisa kunye nokungenelela kukhuseleko.

Enye inkokheli yoluntu, uYawa Murathi* uthi imeko imbi kakhulu kubantu abahlala ekhaya emini, kwaye bajamelana nethuba eliphezulu lokuphangwa nokuqhekezelwa. Abanye bayesaba kakhulu, uthi, babuyeke ekuhlaleni kwiindawo zangasemva zokhuseleko.

Nangona iinkhokheli zizama ukufumana ulawulo olujongene nale nyewe, uncedo oluvela kwiNkonzo yamaPolisa aseMzantsi Afrika luyadingeka kakhulu kule ndawo enobugebengu obuphezulu, kwaye ngokuqinisekileyo ngaphezu kokutyelela emva kwenyanga ezintathu.

*Ayogama lakhe lokwenyani

Court victory for Marikana protest!

Mining companies often use the courts to stop protesters, but a North West judge sided with the community

After a months-long court battle for the right to protest between a community and a mining company, the legal system has finally forced the police and officials of a North West municipality to respect this right and allow people to protest in peace.

It started when Tharisa Mine to get a midnight court interdict that would stop R2K and Marikana communities from holding a march on the anniversary of the Marikana massacre. Fortunately, the members were able to get legal assistance, and turn Tharisa's legal bullying around.

The march, organised by the Marikana Youth Development (MYD) organisation and Right2Know (R2K), was to raise the grievances of the community surrounding the Tharisa mine, being denied their right to protest, and to commemorate the Marikana massacre in 2012. Another thing they planned was to demand that a former deputy commissioner of the North West, William Mpembe, should not be appointed as the head of security at Tharisa because he is still under investigation for his role in the 2012 massacre.

Ntombi Spenuka, MYD secretary, said "We wanted to tell the government and Tharisa that their blasting leaves cracks in our houses,

and we don't have any access to clinics and medicine, and our children do not have decent schools."

From the beginning of the process, MYD and R2K followed all the correct legal steps to hold the march, and notified the public order police more than a week before.

But on the day before the protest, the public order police called the organiser to a Section 4 meeting, which is meant for collective organising between all parties, but is often used to intimidate and dissuade protest organisers. These meetings usually include the public safety police, the intelligence unit, members of SAPS, members of the Tharisa security staff and two community convenors. However, on this day the organisers were only met by the municipal official, Molefe Sechabela who made them wait for almost three hours, waiting in vain for the police or mining executives to arrive.

Sechabela then tried to prohibit the march, but R2K reminded him that to do this he would need to list his reasons, a right according to the Regulation of Gatherings Act, which states that without a written prohibition of the march, the organisers free to go ahead. He responded, "I don't know what to say,



MYD members defending the right to protest. Photo: Bongani Xezwi

do what you got to do. It's beyond my control."

Meanwhile, the mine had kicked its legal team into action. At 18:30 that evening R2K received an email from Tharisa's lawyers, Cliffe Dekker Hofmeyr, demanding that R2K and MYD appear at the Mafikeng High Court less than two hours later, to defend themselves against an interdict from them, to not march. Although this short notice left them confused as to how to deal with this situation, lawyers from the Legal Resources Centre and PowerSingh acted quickly to negotiate a postpone to the next morning. The next morning, after working through the night on the legal papers, R2K and MYD and the lawyers appeared in court, along with five lawyers from Tharisa Mine and William Mpembe as the mine's head of security.

After hours of negotiation, the court handed down an order that

said the march must go ahead, and that the mine, police and municipality must respect the right to protest going forward. The court even ordered that a mine representative must receive the memorandum, which is usually refused.

Since the memorandum was handed over, all MYD has received is a brief email from Tharisa. "They took our memo, but they don't really care what it says," said Ntombi Spenuka. "And government does not protect our rights. I don't know if Tharisa gives government money, but they are obviously corrupted by the company."

"It is not often that communities are able to challenge these power structures without support from organisations like R2K and LRC," said Bongani Xezwi. "But while we had become more aware of this suppression of resistance, on that day we had a successful march."

Data Must Fall: Abantu ngaphezu kwenzuzo

iR2K ifuna kulungiswe imithethonqubo yokunciphisa izindleko zokuxhumana

Ikhomishana Yezokuncintisana ibe yindawo esanda kuvakashelwa njengengxenywe yomkhankaso kazwelonke wedata must fall! Emihlanganweni yomphakathi esanda kubanjwa, iR2K ivele phambi kweKhomishana ifuna kuhlelwe kabusha le mboni ukuze kwehle intengo ye-data. iR2K ibilokhu ilwela lokhu kusukela ngonyaka wezi-2014 ngenkathi yethula umkhankaso weVula 'maConnexion owawulwisana nentengo epehezulu yezokuxhumana.

Obemele iR2K uCleo Shezi noLazola Kati bathule ucwaningo mayelana 'nezindleko zokuxhumana eNingizimu Afrika', lapho becaphune ocwaningweni olwenziwe yiR2K neLINK Centre eWits University obelubheke ukuthi abantu bakubona kanjani ukubiza kwe-airtime nama-data ezimpilweni zabo.

Izindleko zokuxhumana zivamise ukungaqondakali ngokwezibalo. Umbono weR2K owawuthi ukubheka izindleko zokushaya ucingo noma ukusebenzisa

i-inthanethi akukuvezi okwehlela abantu uma bezama ukusebenzisa ilungelo labo lokuxhumana. NgokukaKati, ongumxhumanisi weR2K, izindleko zokuxhumana zisuselwe kuphela ekuncintisaneni kwabahlinzeki ngezokuxhumana, alikubheki ukuthi abantu bakwazi ukukhokha kangakanani. Umbono weR2K ububeka leli qiniso elibhekene nabampofu, abasebenzi nabamabhizinisi asemaphandleni.

"Uma ufuna ukufakela izingane zakho isicelo esikoleni esisezingeni eliphezulu, udinga ukukwenza ku-inthanethi", kusho uShezi. "Uma udinga ukufaka isicelo somsebenzi udinga ukusifaka nge-inthanethi. Uzosifaka kanjani nge-inthanethi uma ungakwazi ukukhokhela i-inthanethi?" iNational Development Plan ichaza isimo sengqalasisinda yezokuxhumana yaseNingizimu Afrika njengesizingeni eliphansi kakhulu uma iqhathaniswa namazinga omhlaba. E-India u-1 GB ubiza R11, R22 e-Nigeria, R71

e-Ghana, R24 e-Russia charges u-R98 e-Tanzania. ENingizimu Afrika u-1GB ubiza R129.

"Saqhathanisa iNingizimu Afrika namanye amazwe e-BRICS," kusho uKati. "Yini uhulumeni wethu ungabi nezingxoxo nalamazwe eBRICS? Isibalo sikhomba ukuthi iNingizimu Afrika ingene ntshi ohlelweni lwayo lobungxowankulu kangokuthi ezokuxhumana zihlinzekelwe abanothile kuphela."

Umkhankaso we-R2K iVula 'maConnexion uyaqhubeka nokufuna lokhu:

- i-ICASA nezinye izinhloko ezihlela izindleko ze-data kumele ziqinisekise ukuthi izindleko ze-data ziyehliswa ukuze zihambelane nezenhlalomnotho yabaseNingizimu Afrika.
- iData ne-airtime ezokwazi ukuthengwa abaseNingizimu Afrika.
- Ukuxhumana nomhlaba: Wonke umuntu unelungelo lokuxhumana

okufinyelelekayo nokubiza intengo ephansi.

- Ama-SMS amahhala.
- Wonke umuntu kufanele ethole i-airtime ne-data ethize yamahhala njengamanzi nogesi wamahhala.
- i-ICASA kumele ihlele intengo ye-airtime ne-data iqede ukwenziwa kwenzuzo okungafanele.
- Abasebenzisa uhlelo lwe-prepaid akufanele basekela abasebenzisa uhlelo lwe-contract
- Ama-data angasetshenziwe akumele ashabalale.
- Abezinkampani zamaselula kumele bakhuphule izinga lokuhlinzeka amakhasimende ngezidingo, okuhlanganisa ukuphela kwe-network, izingcingo ezinqamukayo, ezingaphenduleki, izingcingo ezingangeni kanye nokutholakala kwe-data.
- Izinombolo zamahhala (njengezamaphoyisa nama-ambulensi) kumele zihlanganise izikole nezibhedlela

WIE SPIOENEER OP ONS GEBRUIKERS

Maatskappye soos MTN, Vodacom, Telkom en Cell C staar regs stap in die gesig oor toesig van inligting.



Ons het 'n reg op privaatheid. Photo by: Murray Hunter

Vir jare reeds is aktiviste van mening dat S.A se spioenasie wet misbruik word deur dat daar op onskuldige mense gespioeneer word sonder dat hulle dit agterkom.

Die Regulasie van Interpretasie van Kommunikasie en Voorsiening van Kommunikasie verwante Informasie wet (RICA) staan alreeds voor n ernstige hoftuitdaging wat vroeg in 2019 aangehoorsal word (sien April 2018 uitgawe Spioenasie is n bedreiging vir Demokrasie)

In n aparte geval word MTN, Cell C en Telkom hof toe geneem omdat hulle weier om kliente in te lig oor hoeveel toesig plaasvind op hul netwerke deur RICA

Dit volg op inligting versoeke ,ingedien deur R2K aktiviste wat die Wet op Bevordering van Toegang tot Inligting gebruik ,waarby selfoon groepe gevra word om hul RICA toesig statistieke bekend te maak. Elke groep is gevra vir die aantal eise per jaar ontvang van die RICA Magistraat wat groepe toelaat om regeringsagente in staat te stel om in te luister na kliente se kommunikasie/ gesprekke en boodskape, of bekend te maak met wie die klient kommunikeer .

Slegs Vodacom stel hul statistieke beskikbaar wat aandui dat hulle jaarliks honderde dagvaarings ontvang van die RICA Magistraat.

Alhoewel MTN , CELL C en Telkom steeds hofsake ervaar deur R2K en die hulp van Wets Onderstening Sentrum (LRC) nadat hulle geweier het om statistieke bekend te maak, is hulle steeds van

mening dat dit n verbreking van RICA se geheimshoudings klousule sal wees

Sbu Nzama, 'n R2K KZN aktivis, wat gehelp het om optogte teen toesig te organiseer in Durban, het gesê "indien hulle nie hierdie inligting bekend maak nie, hulle alle kliënte sal in kennis stel dat hul netwerke is nie veilig is nie."

Tsanga Mukumba, 'n wettige navorsers by die LRC se "Hierdie basiese statistiek laat ons toe om te weet hoe gereeld die staat in ons privaatheid inbraak maak. Ons het 'n reg om te weet hoeveel van ons word op gespioeneer." Hy het ook bygevoeg dat mense die inligting kan gebruik om verandering van die Wet te eis indien hul regte geskend word

Murray Hunter, 'n R2K aktivis wat ook n versoek , ingedien het, het gesê dat Suid-Afrika se spioenasie wette het netwerke / groepemaatskappye geforsier om op kliënte te spoeineer wat soms nie eens skuldig aan enige oortredings is nie , maar word eerder geteiken as aktiviste of fluitjie blaser/ bekendmakers of klaers . "Indien maatskappye soos MTN en Cell C op wil staan vir hul kliente se privaatheid is die eerste stap om deursigtig met hulle te wees", het Hunter gese .

In 2017, het R2K die PAIA versoeke gebruik om aan te dui dat MTN, Vodacom, Cell C en Telkom alreeds tien duisende waarborge van landroshuise ontvang, wat hulle gedwing het om meer as 100,0000 klientsensitief oproep rekords aan die polisie oor te handig.

FROM PAGE 5

Ilungelo lokubuza ngophenyo

- ingwane, yileyo yokuvuleleka.
- Ukuthola izeluleko zomthetho kubameli noma okubekwa yilabo abethula ubufakazi, uma kunokungabaza ngokuba sobala nokuvuleleka mayelana neminingwane ethize yaleyo Khomishana ngaphambi kokuvimba izicelo.
- Ukubeka imithetho yaleyo khomishana ethi zonke izicelo zemininingwane kumele ziphendulwe futhi ukuvinjwa kokufinyeleleka kule mininingwane kumele kuchazwe futhi kusekelwe!

Izindlela zokulungisa isimo lapho isicelo seminingwane sichithiwe!

Privatised telecoms keep the poor offline

We have a system where only the wealthy can easily afford decent access to telecommunications, writes Phezu Nthetha.

It would be so easy to just blame the state for the increasingly unaffordable cost of telecommunications. But if we truly live in a vibrant democracy, we have to place this blame on several other key sectors. While government plays the biggest role in enabling Telkom, a crude, capitalist monopoly, to charge such high rates, civil society and the media, whose silences have been too loud to ignore, also need to take responsibility. They have all allowed Telkom to run amok with a blank cheque which it uses to stifle regulation.

So why are South African telecommunication costs so high, and why are they so much more expensive than other, poorer African countries?

The main cause is the state's poor industry regulation. The Independent Communications Authority of South Africa (ICASA) has only just begun to conduct an inquiry into the market 20 years into democracy in order to introduce regulations, which means that until now the market was totally self-regulating and ultimately, 'free for all'.

Basic economic principles say that if barriers of entry are reduced, more players will enter the market, which in the long term means lower prices. But this is not true for the South Africa, where Telkom has a monopoly

over the broadband infrastructure and most networks still have to rent the access to this infrastructure.

What needs to happen is for the country to shift from basic broadband internet access to the faster fibre broadband. Fibre is an advanced technology, and should be rolled out by a state agency rather than the private sector, which could reduce barriers of entry drastically.

The government needs to introduce community networks, where local communities collectively own the internet infrastructure and determine their own local data costs and pricing.

Civil society, it seems, has been asleep on the job when it comes to this narrative of advocacy, allowing ICASA to only engage with businesses and selected municipalities, and in the process rendering citizens redundant.

And lastly, the media has failed dismally to ask critical questions to all the sectors concerned, including the state as the main culprits and Telkom, monopoly capitalists who exploit a regime of deregulation that exists by default.

Now that we have attempted to answer the question of unaffordable telecommunications, we must end with another by Lenin: 'what needs to be done?'

FROM PAGE 2

kuMTN nezinye: ngubani ongcothozela abathengi benu?

kumthetho iRICA.

USbu Nzama, olitshantliziyo leR2K eKZN nowathi wancedisa ekuquzeleleni imingcelele eqhankqalazela ubuntlola eThekwini, uthethe wenjenje: "Ukuba kuyabohlula ukudiza ezi nkcukacha kuthi, siyakubashumayeza abantu abasebenzisa iinkonzo zabo, sibazise ukuba abakhuselekanga."

"Ezi nkcukacha-manani zingundoqo zisibeka kwimo yokwazi ukuba umbuso lo uzigqogqa-gqogqe kangakanani na iimfihlo zethu", utshilo uTsanga Mukumba, ongumphandi kwezomthetho eLRC. "Sinalo ilungelo lokwazi ukuba bangaphi na kuthi abangcothozelwayo." Wongeze ngelithi abantu bangazisebenzisa ezo nkcukacha ngokuthi banyanzelise iinguqu kulo mthetho ukuba amalungelo abo ayanyhashwa.

UMurray Hunter, olitshantliziyo leR2K nowathi wangenisa esinye sezi zicelo, uthe imithetho yong-

cothozo yoMzantsi Afrika inyanzelise ezi nkampani ukuze zingcothoze kubathengi bazo, ekunokuba akukho natyala analo umntu, kodwa ekuthi kujoliswe kubo ngenxa yokuba bengamatshantliziyo okanye bentame abenzi bobubi. "Ukuba iinkampani ezifana noMTN kunye noCell C zifuna ukuwuphaka-mela umkhwa wokunyhashwa kweemfihlo zethu, inyathelo lokuqala kukuba zona kuqala zingafihli nto," utshilo uHunter.

Ngo-2017, iR2K yasebenzisa izicelo zePAIA ukudiza ukuba uMTN, uVodacom, uCell C noTelkom nabo bafumana amashumi ngamashumi amawaka ezinyanzeliso eziphuma kwiinkundla zoomantyi, ezibanyanzela ukuba banikezele emapoliseni ngaphaya kwekhulu lamawaka eerekhodi zeminxeba yabathengi eziqulethe iinkcukacha ezinobuzaza.

2018 IN REVIEW



In 2018 we saw the Zuma era end and the Ramaphosa era begin, but the fight against spying abuses, anti-protest violations, and high cost of data and airtime continued!

13 JAN: R2K appears in Parliament to oppose the Critical Infrastructure Protection Bill harsh anti-protest clauses.

29 JAN: R2K supports the court case of Marievale community who were illegally evicted from their homes by the army.

3-7 FEB: R2K co-hosts the People's Tribunal on Economic Crime, which heard testimony on corruption in apartheid military smuggling, the 1999 arms deal, and state capture.

13 FEB: Jacob Zuma resigns as the President of the Republic of South Africa.

9-11 MAR: R2K held its 8th National Summit in Johannesburg.

28 MAR: R2K and SA filmmakers join the court case against censorship of Inxeba, which overturned the censorship board's classifying the film as 'porn'.

6 APR: R2K demands government's new privacy watchdog, the Information Regulator, explains why it isn't operational.

19 APR: Sentech threatens to switch off 15 community radio stations that can't afford broadcast fees.

20 APR: R2K supports the Amadiba Crisis Committee in its legal fight against mining on their ancestral lands in the Eastern Cape.

25 APR: R2K joins national protests led by SAFTU against anti-strike measures.

30 APR: R2K KZN protests against RICA spying and high data costs at Vodacom offices.

3 MAY: On Press Freedom Day, R2K pickets against worker surveillance at the SABC.

25 MAY: To mark Africa Day, R2K WC hosts a dialogue on surveillance and harassment of journalists in Africa.

8 JUN: R2K's submission on Parliament's Political Party Funding Bill calls for full transparency on who funds SA's political parties.

16 JUN: On Youth Day, R2K joins other civil society groups in highlighting continued legal persecution of #FeesMustFall activists.

16 JUN: R2K calls on the government and industry to slash the cost of data and airtime.

23 JUN: R2K marked World Whistleblower Day by picketing at the KZN Education Department in support of R2K activist Jacob Dube who lost his job as an educator after blowing the whistle.

27 JUN: The Constitutional Court rules in favour of My Vote Counts, saying the law should ensure voters know who is funding political parties.

4 JUL: R2K launches SPOOKED, a new report on surveillance of journalists in South Africa.

22 JUL: R2K Gauteng marches in solidarity with Simunye Workers Forum!

1 AUG: R2K joins the national #TotalShutDown marches against gender-based violence.

7 AUG: R2K joins amaBhungane's

legal challenge to the RICA surveillance law.

16 AUG: On Marikana Day, R2K joins ex-mineworkers' march on Parliament to demand action on unpaid benefits.

16 AUG: In Marikana, the High Court rules in favour of the right to protest, dismissing an attempt by the Tharisa mining executives to stop R2K and Marikana activists from protesting the company.

20 AUG: R2K files a PAIA request demanding KZN Premier Willies Mchunu releases the Moerane Commission report on KZN political killings, as well as transcripts. Mchunu relents on the report in September but delays on the transcripts.

21 AUG: R2K joins the landmark SJC10 case at the Constitutional Court, to challenge the criminalisation of peaceful protest.

30 AUG: R2K condemns xenophobic attacks and looting in White City, Soweto.

10 SEPT: In a landmark case on surveillance transparency, R2K sues MTN, Telkom and Cell C for refusing to reveal how often their users are spied on.

28 SEPT: R2K also joined information activists in Windhoek in discussions to build local transparency campaigns in Namibia.

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8 OCT: R2K joins the national day of action against violence on activists, after threats and assassinations of

Abahlali BaseMjondolo and Amadiba Crisis Committee leaders.

11 OCT: R2K calls on the Zondo Commission to release evidence that it was withholding from the media and the public.

17 OCT: R2K appears before the Competition Commission to demand regulations to bring down data costs.

26 OCT: R2K co-signs a joint letter demanding Parliament acts against the growing trend of closed-door meetings.

19 OCT: R2K co-hosts dialogues and workshops on media freedom on Black Wednesday (national media freedom day).

23 OCT: R2K urges former president Motlanthe to prevent Zimbabwean authorities' attempt to whitewash his inquiry into soldiers' killing of unarmed protesters by soldiers.

23 OCT: R2K Western Cape pickets outside SABC against retrenchments and spying of SABC workers.

24 OCT: R2K celebrates a victory for internet freedom, when Parliament rejects surveillance clauses in the new Cybercrimes Bill.

5 NOV: KZN Premier Willies Mchunu promises to release Moerane Commission transcripts to R2K, but misses the deadline.

16 NOV: Activists lead a huge campaign against the City of Johannesburg's attempts to charge 'fees' for the right to protest.

27 NOV: KZN premier finally runs out of delaying options to release transcripts of the Moerane Commission.

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