



UNITED PEOPLE'S ALLIANCE (UPA)

UPA Charter



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The Political Charter of the United People's Alliance (UPA)

Preamble:

We, the representative of the political and armed movements, the Real Sudan People's Liberation Movement (R-SPLM), the South Sudan United Front and Army (SSUF/A), the South Sudan People's Movement and Army (SSPM/A), the National Salvation Front Revolutionary Command Council (NAS-RCC), the National People's Movement (NPM), the Upper Nile People's Liberation Front (UNPLF), and the South Sudan Salvation Movement (SSSM), representing the people of South Sudan, united in our common purpose to rescue South Sudan and by our profound commitment to secure a better future for our nation;

Conscious of the immense suffering, untold hardship, and systemic oppression inflicted upon our people by the corrupt regime in Juba;

Mindful of the squandered promise of our hard-won independence and the betrayal of the sacrifices of our martyrs;

Determined to end the cycle of violence, ethnic division and strife, and governance failure that have characterised the state;

Committed to the principles of democracy, justice, equality, federalism, and the rule of law as the only viable foundation for a peaceful, just, and prosperous South Sudan;

Asserting the inalienable right and patriotic duty of the people of South Sudan to oppose, resist and overthrow any government that suspends or abrogates the constitution, destroys the ends for which it was established, and to institute a new government that shall secure their peace, safety, liberty, and prosperity;

Hereby, solemnly adopt this Charter as our supreme guiding document in the struggle for fundamental change and the establishment of a New South Sudan.

Article I: Definition of the Problem of South Sudan

The protracted conflict in the Republic of South Sudan is fundamentally a political crisis driven by a violent suppression of people to maintain power and authority among a corrupt cartel. While ethnic identities have been mobilised and exploited by the reactionary elite in the course of the conflict, the core dynamic is not the presumed primordial ethnic hatred but the instrumentalisation of tribal identity by a political class contending to retain or capture and maintain control over the state and its resources for personal gain. The result is a self-reinforcing political economy of war, in which violence, patronage, and resource allocation converge to perpetuate violence and instability, thereby undermining governance. The Primary Drivers of the Conflict in South Sudan, which constitute the root causes of the problem, that must be addressed, are as follows:

Section I: Leadership Failure

1. Leadership failure due to loss of vision and lack of direction to steer the country towards unity, stability, peace and progress, foster inclusive governance, and build a cohesive national identity has been a decisive factor in the state's descent into civil war.
2. The foundational failure of South Sudan's leadership stems from the inability to transition from a liberation movement to a collaborative, governing partnership. The persistent personal rivalry and mutual distrust between key political and military elites constitute the central fault line in politics. This dynamic has fostered a winner-takes-all system, culminating in the outbreak of the 2013 civil war.
3. The leadership prioritises personal power over nation-building, thereby perpetuating a cycle of conflict.
4. Sustainable peace requires a fundamental transformation beyond superficial agreements. This entails the demilitarisation of politics, the establishment of genuine accountability, and the development of inclusive institutions by a new generation of leaders. Without this systemic change, the country will remain trapped in a cycle of violence.

Section 2: Political Power Struggle

1. Political power struggle, which tends to be violent and tribal, leading to unnecessary deaths, hatred and divisions among the communities.
2. This conflict originated within the Sudan People's Liberation Movement/Army (SPLM/A). After the death of its leader, Dr John Garang de Mabior, in 2005, long-standing rivalries resurfaced, primarily among the political and military leaders.
3. In July 2013, the President suppressed the call for democratic reforms within the SPLM and consolidated power by dismissing his entire cabinet, exposing the zero-sum nature of the political contest. This tension erupted

in December 2013 when a political debate spiralled into a brutal civil war. The President accused his critics in the leadership of the SPLM, including his deputy, of attempting a coup, triggering a conflict that fractured the national army along ethnic lines and led to widespread atrocities.

4. The attempt to resolve the 2013 political crisis through violence, rather than dialogue, established a dangerous precedent. It confirmed that, from the regime's perspective, political power derives from military strength, rather than from constitutional processes or popular mandates.

Section 3: Systemic Governance Deficits and Institutional Weakness

1. State institutions are characterised by profound weakness, eroded integrity, and a pervasive incapacity to deliver services or security to the people
2. A governance culture dominated by patronage concentrates resources within a narrow clique, undermining public trust and creating incentives for violence as a mechanism of political and economic gain.
3. Fragmented and captured institutions hinder the rule of law, accountability, and the effective development and implementation of policy, eroding the social contract between the state and citizens.

Section 4: Pervasive Corruption with Impunity

1. The control of the state by the President and his cartels is aimed at controlling and looting public revenues and other national resources.
2. Rampant corruption, diversion of public funds, opaque budgeting, off-budget expenditure and unnecessary loans to enrich a small cartel and entrench their grip on power. At the same time, the population bears the costs of impoverishment, state fragility and failure.
3. The economic dimension creates powerful incentives for continued conflict, as control over the looting of resources becomes the most lucrative prize for those seeking to maintain or secure political power.
4. The critical lack of a proper legal framework and its implementation for land governance in South Sudan has created a permissive environment for systematic land grabbing, where influential individuals illegally seize large portions of land.

Section 5: Instrumentalisation of Ethnicity and Inter-Communal Violence

1. In the absence of a shared national identity, political leaders often mobilise support on ethnic bases to consolidate or grab power and frame their political ambition contests as existential threats to the tribe, ethnic or regional groups.

2. This manipulation heightens tensions over land and other resources, transforming historical grievances or traditional competition into flashpoints within the national crisis.
3. Militias frequently align with ethnic and tribal communities, turn into organised violence and become tools for projecting power and violent conflict over land and associated resources, which in turn triggers cycles of retaliation and mass atrocities.

Section 6: The Cycle of Fragile and Dishonoured Peace Agreements

1. The region and the international community have mediated multiple peace processes, most notably the 2015 ARCSS and the 2018 R-ARCSS, yet implementation has consistently fallen short of achieving sustainable peace.
2. Signatories often treat peace agreements as tactical pauses for consolidation of partisan power, rearmament and realignment rather than as genuine commitments to peace through political settlement, resulting in recurrent ceasefire violations and renewed conflict.
3. Critical provisions, such as security sector reform, the integration of forces, and the formation of a transitional government of national unity, are repeatedly delayed or enacted only partially, perpetuating a fragile peace and undermining credibility on both domestic and international fronts.
4. The negotiating parties at the Tumaini Peace Initiative seek to address these structural issues by fostering inclusive dialogue, promoting locally led solutions, and advocating for sustainable governance reforms. By tackling the root causes of conflict, these discussions will lay the foundation for lasting peace and stability in South Sudan.

Article 2: Strategic Direction and Framework

Section I: Vision of the UPA

1. The vision of the United People's Alliance (UPA) is to create a peaceful, democratic, prosperous, and inclusive new society in South Sudan, one where peace, liberty, justice, and equality form the foundation of governance.
2. UPA envisions a transformed homeland where the people of South Sudan live in unity, peace, and harmony.

Section 2: Mission of the UPA

1. The mission of the UPA is to reclaim South Sudan's promise and build a democratic, developmental, and welfare state rooted in the rule of law. Guided by the spirit of the liberation struggle, we are committed to

advancing liberty, justice, equality, and prosperity, ensuring a united and thriving nation for all.

2. The mission of the United People's Alliance (UPA) is to achieve a fundamental and irreversible regime change in the Republic of South Sudan through all means necessary, including negotiations with the government of the day in Juba to resolve the national crisis peacefully aiming to establish a transitional authority that will lead the country to sustainable peace and a genuine federal, democratic dispensation.
3. The UPA is dedicated to establishing a just, democratic, and prosperous South Sudan, founded on the rule of law. Honouring the sacrifices of the liberation struggle, we pledge to champion liberty, justice, and equality, fostering a future of unity, dignity, and shared progress for all citizens.

Section 3: Objectives of the UPA

The political program of the UPA is a transformative national agenda designed to radically reshape the future of South Sudan. Its key objectives include:

1. Replacing the entrenched predatory and despotic regime with a responsive, accountable, people-centred, democratic system of government.
2. Promoting national unity in diversity based on mutual respect among all ethnic communities.
3. Empowering women, youth, people with special needs and other marginalised groups, ensuring their active participation in the nation's political, economic, and social life.
4. Ensuring that all faiths and cultures are celebrated and thrive in South Sudan, free from prejudice and discrimination.
5. Eradicating corruption, nepotism, tribalism, and regional sectarianism to build a just and accountable society.
6. Upholding a federal democratic system of governance, where leadership at all levels is determined through periodic free, fair, peaceful, and credible elections, focusing on programs rather than personal rivalries.
7. The mission of the UPA is to harness natural resources responsibly to eradicate poverty, illiteracy, and diseases, ensuring sustainable development and environmental protection for present and future generations."
8. Transforming South Sudan's male-dominated patriarchal society into one of equal rights and opportunities, where women participate in all aspects of public life.
9. Prioritising the needs of youth and future generations, ensuring they are at the heart of state and nation-building programs.
10. The UPA is fighting to attain a free, just, democratic and peaceful South Sudan.

11. Protection of South Sudan's territorial integrity, defined by its borders as they stood in 1956, is a fundamental principle for its sovereignty and stability.
12. Diversification of the economy to grow national wealth that would change the livelihood of our people, and equitable distribution of wealth for the welfare of all citizens and prosperity for all.
13. Creation of a national army and security apparatus that is diverse, inclusive, professional and apolitical.

Section 4: Foreign Policy of the UPA

1. The United People's Alliance believes that the security and prosperity of our citizens are inextricably linked to a stable, just, and cooperative world. The foreign policy of the UPA will be an extension of South Sudan's domestic values, including democracy, social justice, human rights, and sustainable development.
2. The UPA will pursue a course that is pragmatic, principled, and proactive.
3. The UPA will prioritise building broad coalitions on issues of common concern, from climate change to global health, rather than unilateral action.
4. The UPA will engage in persistent and principled dialogue with both allies and adversaries to manage conflicts, reduce tensions, and find common ground.
5. The security policy of the UPA will address the most pressing threats to our people: pandemics, climate change, cyber-attacks, food and energy insecurity, and transnational terrorism.
6. While maintaining a strong and modern defence capability, the UPA will exercise military power as a last resort, always within international law, and with a clear focus on diplomatic solutions and post-conflict stabilisation.
7. The UPA will champion a rules-based international trading system that is fair and inclusive.
8. Trade agreements will include enforceable clauses on labour rights, environmental protection, and digital privacy.
9. The UPA will work with diverse partners to build secure, resilient supply chains for critical resources, energy, and technology, thereby reducing strategic dependencies.
10. The UPA will lead efforts for sustainable development financing and advocate for equitable solutions to debt crises in the developing world.

Section 5: Climate and Global Commons Leadership

1. Environmental protection, particularly in the oil-producing areas, and the development of clear policies to mitigate the effects of climate change as part of global efforts to tackle worsening climate disasters.

2. The UPA will be a global leader in the transition to a green economy, exceeding our international climate commitments and sharing technology to support developing nations.
3. The UPA will work to protect the global commons, the rivers, outer space, and cyberspace, through new treaties and norms that prevent conflict and ensure equitable access.

Section 6: Regional Priorities

1. Deepen political, economic, and security ties with South Sudan's neighbours, the region and the continent at large, based on shared values and mutual interests.
2. Manage relations with strategic competitors through a blend of firmness and dialogue.
3. Re-energise partnerships with nations in Africa and around the world based on mutual respect, economic opportunity, and support for their development priorities, not as a theatre of great-power competition.
4. In essence, the foreign policy of the UPA seeks to establish cooperation with all countries while safeguarding national interests.
5. The UPA will leverage diplomacy, build broad partnerships, and work tirelessly to create a world that is not only safer but also more prosperous and just for humanity.

Section 7: Core Values and Principles of the UPA

The following core values shall guide the United People's Alliance (UPA):

1. Upholding a democratic system where power, as servant leadership, is derived from the people through periodic free, fair, and credible elections.
2. Ensuring transparency, accountability, and the rule of law in governance.
3. Guaranteeing equal rights and opportunities for all South Sudanese, regardless of ethnicity, gender, religion, or social background.
4. Promoting fair and impartial justice to uphold human dignity and freedom.
5. Fostering national unity while embracing the rich cultural, ethnic, and religious diversity of South Sudan.
6. Promoting mutual respect and coexistence among South Sudanese communities.
7. Committing to building a non-violent, inclusive, and peaceful society, where conflicts are resolved through dialogue and reconciliation.
8. Ensuring the protection and security of all citizens.
9. Empowering women, youth, and people with special needs as central pillars of national development.
10. Creating an inclusive political, social, and economic environment where everyone has a voice and a stake in the country's future.
11. Promoting responsible and sustainable management of South Sudan's natural resources.

12. Ensuring that development initiatives focus on eradicating poverty, illiteracy, diseases, and underdevelopment while preserving the environment for future generations.
13. Fighting against corruption, nepotism, tribalism, and sectarianism to build a just and accountable society.
14. Ensuring that public service is based on merit, honesty, and ethical leadership.
15. Safeguarding the dignity and fundamental freedoms of all individuals.
16. Promoting a society where freedom of expression, association, and belief is respected and protected.
17. Advocating for a federal system of governance that empowers local communities and ensures effective service delivery.
18. Strengthening institutions to provide equal representation and autonomy at all levels of government.
19. Prioritising the needs of youth and future generations, ensuring policies and programs create lasting opportunities.
20. Transforming South Sudan into a modern, progressive, and forward-looking nation.
21. All major political and military decisions shall be made collectively. No single member group shall engage in unilateral negotiations or actions that undermine the collective interest of the UPA.
22. The UPA is committed to a federal system of governance and decentralisation as the only viable model for managing South Sudan's diversity and ensuring equitable development.
23. All UPA forces shall adhere strictly to International Humanitarian Law and human rights principles. The protection of civilians is a sacred duty.
24. The UPA shall uphold the highest standards of integrity and accountability. Any act of Corruption is illegal and shall be punishable to the full extent of the law.

Article 3: Amendments

1. This Charter comes into force immediately upon its adoption by the consensus of the founding Movements of the UPA.
2. Amendments to this Charter require a three-quarters majority of the UPA Leadership Council.

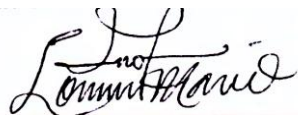
Founding Signatories:



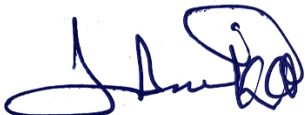
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1. **General Pagan Amum Okiech -Chairman of the Real Sudan People's Liberation Movement (R-SPLM)**



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2. **General Paul Malong Awan -Chairman and commander-in-chief of the South Sudan United Front and army (SSUF/A)**



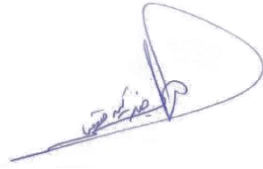
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3. **General Mario Loku Thomas – Chairman and Commander-in-Chief of the National Salvation Front Revolutionary Command Council (NAS-RCC)**



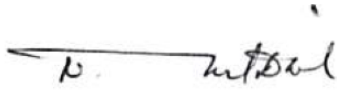
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4. **General Stephen Buoy Rolnyang – Chairman and Commander-in-Chief of the South Sudan People's Movement and Army (SSPM/A)**



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5. **Dr Matur Gorjok Gak, Chairman of the National People's Movement (NPM)**



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- 6. General Henry Oyay Nyago- Chairman and Commander-in-Chief of the Upper Nile People's Liberation Front (UNPLF)**



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- 7. General Nhial Deng Nhial -Chairman and commander-in-chief of the South Sudan Salvation Movement (SSSM)**

UNITED PEOPLE'S ALLIANCE



**UPA Mobile GHQ
November 1, 2025**