

**MEDIA RELEASE
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Maybe not a banana republic, but a banana government

“The section the ANC apparently considers changing to alter property rights, section 25, is part of the Constitution’s Bill of Human Rights. It is thus ‘n fundamental right, and encroaching on this is a blatant attack on the universal principle of human rights, and in effect nullifies section 2 of the Constitutional principles negotiated at Kempton Park, and I quote: ‘Everyone shall enjoy all universally accepted fundamental rights, freedoms and civil liberties, which shall be provided for and enjoyed and protected and entrenched in the constitution...’ “ So says Rev. Theunis Botha, leader of the Christian Democratic Party (CDP) and acting chair of the Christian Democratic Alliance (CDA).

“Like all rights in the Bill of Human rights, this section may also be limited, but not in such a way that the essence of the right is altered. This can be done through legislation, which means government intends to alter the essence provided for in this section.”

“South Africa is a co-signatory to the Sadec tribunal as well as the African Commission of Human and People’s Rights. The African Charter guarantees the right to property (Article 14), and when encroached upon, lawful recovery and compensation (Article 21 (2)). South Africa will severely damage its image as constitutional democracy and move even closer to the international image of Zimbabwe. “

“This is apart from the fact that food security requires surety of land value to obtain production capital. “The hate speech of Julius Malema which the ANC refuses to condemn also comprises a violation of section 10 (Human dignity) of the Bill of Human Rights. It also reflects a total disregard of the government’s commitment to the constitution’s founding principles of non racialism and the government’s duty to ensure the safety of citizens.

“The country may not be a banana republic but the government tries its best to resemble a banana government.”

Miskien nie ‘n piesangrepubliek nie, maar wel ‘n piesangregering

“Die artikel wat die ANC skynbaar wil wysig om die status van eiendomsreg te verander, artikel 25, is deel van die grondwet se Handves van Menseregte. Dit is dus ‘n fundamentele reg, en om hierop inbreuk te maak is ‘n blatante aanval op die universele beginsel van menseregte. Dit maak in effek artikel 2 van die Grondwetlike beginsels wat by Kemptonpark onderhandel is tot niet wat bepaal dat almal op hierdie regte sal kan aanspraak maak en dat dit in die grondwet vervat sal wees.” So sê ds. Theunis Botha, leier van die Christen Demokratiese Party (CDA) en wnde. Christen Demokratiese Alliansie (CDA).

“Soos alle regte in die Handvaes van Menseregte kan hierdie artikel ook beperk word, maar nie op so ‘n wyse dat die essensie van die reg verlore gaan nie. Dit kan deur gewone wetgewing gedoen word, wat beteken dat die regering die essensie wil aantast deur die artikel self te wysig.

“Suid-Afrika is ‘n mede-ondertekenaar van die SADEC tribunaal asook die Afrika-kommissie vir Mense- en Groepregte. Die Afrikamanifes waarborg die reg op eiendom (Artikel 14) en wanneer daarop inbreuk gemaak word, wetlike herstel daarvan en kompensasie (Artikel 21 (2)). Suid-Afrika sal sy beeld as grondwetlike demokrasie ernstig skaad en meer die baadjie van ‘n Zimbabwe aantrek.

“Julius Malema se haatspraak wat die ANC weier om te veroordeel kom ook op die skending van artikel 10 (reg op waardigheid) in die handves van menseregte neer. Dit weerspieël ook die regering se volslae miskiening van sy staatkundige plig om die veiligheid van sy burgers te beskerm. “

“Die land is miskien nog nie ‘n piesangrepubliek nie, maar die regering doen sy uiterste bes om ‘n piesangregering te wees.”