



IN THE MATTER BETWEEN

Zvambooker

and

LawmoonYacar

before the

Takakula Down Human Rights Court





1. The peoples of the *Takakula Down Continent* (TDC) are known for their cheerfulness even in the face of adversity and for embodying the belief that even the smallest gestures can bring great joy. Their warm, calm demeanour and optimism have earned them a global reputation as “*the happiest peoples in the world.*” Fittingly, the seal of the *Takakula Down Union* (TDU), the continental body mirroring the functions of the Organization of American States, proudly features a smiling quokka at its centre. Yet, beneath this spirit of unity and optimism, parts of TDC face enduring challenges. Two island states, Zvambooker and LawmoonYacar (Yacar) have for some time been caught in cycles of political turmoil. Both Zvambooker and Yacar are founding members of the TDU; and are members of the United Nations (UN).
2. On the eastern horizon beyond the TDC stretches the sprawling Amana Musat Fentera (AMF) continent, where sunlight drapes rolling plains and jagged highlands in golden warmth, and within its embrace lies the storied state of Dabula. Once a colonial state, Dabula now breathes with a spirit all its own, its rivers singing ancestral songs and its forests murmuring pains of liberation wars against a colonial past. Yet, war has never been a thing of the past, and it rarely announces itself in thunder. In early 2022, war once again crept in quietly, first as whispers in the market squares, then as smoke curling above the ridgelines of the Kuro Highlands. The people of Kuro, farmers and herders, had tended their steep terraces for centuries, their songs echoing through valleys where the soil was red with iron and the air heavy with memory. But by 2023, the music of their fields was once again replaced by gunfire, and their rivers ran dark.
3. The conflict began, as many do, with a promise of reform that devolved into accusation and blood. The central government in Dabula, faced with rising dissent, branded the self-determination movement in Kuro as a terrorist rebellion. In response, the Kuro’s Restoration Front (KRF), a group of armed men in the Kuro Highlands, claiming to fight for justice and equality, declared war on the state. As weeks and months passed of sporadic confrontations between KRF and Dabula Defence Forces (DDF), civilians found themselves as constant victims.
4. For centuries, the Kuro people have been known as the first people of the Kuro Highlands, the original stewards of what would later become the state of Dabula. Long before Dabula bore its name, the Kuro had already walked the Kuro Highlands ridges, burying their ancestors on the high plateaus in line with their spiritual and religious traditions, and planting grain in soil that remembered them. Over generations, some of their clans travelled across the Dracooler Sea, settling in the TDC island that would later become Zvambooker, to the northwest of Dabula. There, their knowledge of cattle, of rainfall, of the old mountain rites blended with new landscapes and new neighbours, shaping the early social foundations of the Zvambooker nation. To this day, Zvambooker oral tradition speaks of these first arrivals, the Kuro of the Kuro Highlands, the Mountain Star People, revered as the progenitors who gave the nation its earliest identity, its early systems of kinship, its sense of belonging to land rather than rulers. As an Indigenous but numerically small highland community in Dabula whose spiritual and religious



identity is increasingly marginalised, the Kuro's language and traditions have grown closer to those of Zvambooker, fostering a strong sense of shared ancestry and cultural kinship, leading the Kuro to view Zvambooker as a kindred people rather than a distant foreign state.

5. Equally, some peoples from the Kuro Highlands migrated northward to settle the Pulo Highlands, laying the foundations for what would later become the United Kingdom of Pulo (UKP). Since 1998, UKP has asserted claims over the Kuro Highlands, insisting that these lands rightly belong to it, sparking persistent disagreements with Dabula and even escalating into war between the two states. As of 2026, the dispute is pending before the International Court of Justice (ICJ). Despite ongoing litigation, a considerable number of UKP forces continue to occupy parts of the Kuro Highlands, a presence that Dabula vehemently protests, underscoring the enduring tension over territory and sovereignty.
6. Yacar, led by the steely President Violet Ariku, at first declared neutrality about any wars in Dabula and Yacarian diplomats often spoke of regional stability. Yet, as early as February 2023, cargo manifests from Yacar to Dabula began to tell another story. Convoys of unmarked trucks crossed into Dabula under cover of darkness, carrying *"agricultural machinery"* that, according to later newspaper reports, bore the serial marks of Yacarian military equipment. Yacar is a militarily capable state and its factories produce sophisticated weapons including precision drones.
7. By 2024, an NGO from Zvambooker collected evidence of what it called a *"grave pattern of coordinated violence"* against the Kuro people. In an operation that DDF called *"Operation Purity"* entire villages in the Kuro Highlands, namely, *Ganza, Turo, and Ngaru*, were razed in a single week. Aerial footage showed firelines that moved with military precision. Survivors spoke of strange hovering machines that descended at dawn, silent and gleaming, launching strikes before disappearing beyond the hills. Investigators later identified the fragments as components of Yacarian-manufactured drones, once advertised at international arms fairs.
8. Then came the leaked intercept, a recording whose words would haunt diplomats' corridors for months. It was said to capture a conversation between General *Tulo Ranz*, Yacar's Defence Minister, and Commander *Sila Othar* of the DDF: *"The Kuro villages are the root"*, one voice said. *"Burn the root, the tree will wither."* Grok on X verified the recording, anonymously broadcasted online, as authentic. Dabula, however, denied the tape's authenticity, calling it a fabrication *"produced by the enemies of peace"*. Forensic experts could neither definitively authenticate nor dismiss it, although linguistic analysts noted that the speaker's accent matched Yacarian dialect patterns.
9. Amid this controversy, Zvambooker, with its historic ties to the Kuro minority, has accused Yacar of *"aiding, abetting, and facilitating acts of genocide, crimes against humanity, and war crimes"*. In one television interview, Zvambooker's Minister of Foreign Affairs said: *"Yacar's aid in this war is not benign assistance, but conscious complicity in a campaign aimed at erasing an ethnic and religious group. Yacar is knowingly fueling a fire it can see and its claim to innocence burns with the embers. Yacar exercise decisive influence over the DDF's operations, not merely by*



supplying weapons, but through real-time tactical coordination, joint operational planning, and intelligence-sharing. If the world cannot see the line between assistance and atrocity, then impunity will wear the mask of sovereignty.”

10. In several of its submissions in many UN fora, including the UN Human Rights Council and the UN General Assembly, Yacar insisted it acted and continues to act lawfully to preserve regional stability by supplying non-lethal aid such as rations, communication gear, and defensive drones to prevent the conflict from spilling over its borders. On several occasions, Yacar has emphasised that it does not exercise any form of control of any warring parties in Dabula, and it should not be faltered for its humanitarian work. In her last presentation at the UN General Assembly, Yacar’s President Violet Ariku stated: *“Yacar does not become a puppeteer merely because it shares tools with a neighbour. The Yacarians do not burn villages, it is not in our nature. We only seek to contain chaos, and other nations must support our efforts.”* Soon after her presentation, she was asked by press outside the UN buildings about the trending recording alleged to be between General Tulo Ranz and Commander Sila Othar to which she retorted: *“I have no comments on fruits of unlawful espionage. Ladies and gentlemen, let us not waste our time on narratives that blend grief and conjecture.”*
11. In April 2024, the village of *Ngaru* in the Kuro Highlands became the setting of an atrocity that still divides investigators. On the 17 April, at dawn, witnesses say a column of armed men, some in mismatched uniforms, descended upon the settlement. What began as a raid for *“suspected insurgents”* ended in thirty-seven civilian deaths, including schoolteacher Muri Chavura, found beside the blackboard where he had written the words *“Hope is stronger than fear.”* Reports from local investigators recorded that many of the bodies bore burns consistent with incendiary strikes; fragments of drone casings recovered from the site were traced to a *Yacarian model*, Talon X3. Yet Yacar’s Ministry of Defence insists the fragments could have been remnants from black-market drones long decommissioned. *“Our weapons are often stolen, copied, and resold”*, its spokesperson told the press. *“To find a fragment is not to find a finger on the trigger.”*
12. Indeed, when the smoke first rose over the hills of Kuro Highlands in Dabula, the world saw only chaos. But beneath that smoke, patterns began to form. KRF once a ragtag band of rebels, had grown into a disciplined force. Their uniforms, stitched from disparate cloth, now bore markings that intelligence analysts later matched to Yaca’s military surplus. In the months that followed, Yacarian-made drones traced quiet arcs above Kuro villages, mapping routes later shelled by mortars whose trajectories were too precise to be attributed to the weapons of DDF. Yacar has maintained that their surveillance drones have always been used to map humanitarian routes. Indeed, many Kuro villagers have depended on food supplies from Yacar.
13. Local newspapers reported that at dawn, when the Kuro villagers of *Ngaru* and *Ganza* fled, they could hear not just their attackers’ voices but the rhythm of foreign command, the crisp tones of officers trained far away. Zvambooker’s investigators compiled coordinates of DDF field operations that aligned with Yacarian satellite reconnaissance schedules, arguing that Yacar’s influence was not distant but decisive. Still, the facts remain tangled. Yacar Military insists that



its presence in Dabula was no more than “*technical assistance*” offered to curb terrorism spilling toward its borders. Its generals deny commanding any force, its government insists no troops crossed the frontier to fight.

14. Several NGO reports note that Yacar’s “*technical advisors*” stayed longer than the official records show; that joint operations rooms in the border town of Kumhiri continued to hum with activity well into 2025. Yet some newspapers claim those rooms fell silent months earlier, after Yacar scaled down its humanitarian mission and closed the old base by the Nakaro Port, a base which was established for soldiers that Yacar claimed were there to provide security for humanitarian workers. Indeed, hundreds of medical doctors praised the Yacarian soldiers for the security they received. There were reports, however, that among these soldiers, were commanders who provided leadership to DDF during the cover of the night. Between these two versions of the truth lies the question that divides many commentators in Dabula and beyond. On 1 September 2025, Yacar’s Parliament, arguing that Yacar was being unfairly targeted by international institutions, in particular, the TDC human rights system, by a two-thirds vote formally withdrew from the jurisdiction of the *Takakula Down Human Rights Court*, declaring that the Court had “*become politicised and inconsistent with the Charter’s original spirit*”.
15. Two months later, in Ganza, the story deepened. Survivors described a week-long siege during which men in camouflage detained villagers under suspicion of aiding terrorists. Among the detained was Reverend Tomaso Kwanza, a local pastor whose disappearance was reported by The *Dabula Herald* and later documented by *Human Integrity Watch* (HIW). The NGO alleged that Reverend Kwanza was subjected to electric shocks and water immersion techniques in a makeshift holding site “*consistent with Yacarian training methods*”. HIW cited testimony from a former security contractor who claimed to have “*seen Yacarian advisors*” instructing interrogations from behind mirrored glass. Yacar dismissed the report as “*manufactured atrocity propaganda*”, adding that the alleged contractor “*had no verifiable identity*”. Investigators’ attempt to locate the detention site found only an abandoned warehouse and water drums, ambiguous relics that whispered of violence, but not conclusively of its author. They found manuals in Yacarian script—*Field Interrogation: Principles of Efficiency*.
16. In July, photographs published by the international investigative collective *Veritas Journal* stirred fresh debate. The images showed four bound men, later identified as Lembo and the Sapatina brothers, kneeling beside a dirt trench. The metadata placed the photos near the Nakaro Port, thirty kilometres inside Dabula territory, and timestamps matched an offensive later claimed by the DDF. The accompanying article, however, alleged that the men had been captured by forces “*trained and provisioned*” by Yacarian personnel. The photographs’ blurred insignia, some resembling Yacar’s military crest, others DDF symbols, became the fulcrum of dispute. Digital experts disagreed: one report found the images “*unaltered and consistent with field light*”, another claimed they were “*composites designed to inflame opinion*”. For the families of the dead, these questions mattered little. “*They were my sons*”, said their mother, Mrs. Nyasha Sapatina, her voice trembling in a radio interview. “*Does it matter whose drone watched them die?*”



17. By September, the case of Mira Kando, a 19-year-old nursing student from the village of Turo in the Kuro Highlands, captured international attention. She was reportedly abducted by armed men while returning from a Red Crescent clinic. Weeks later, a leaked video circulated through encrypted messaging apps, showed a young woman bearing her likeness being interrogated and beaten, accused of treating “terrorists”. Forensic linguists identified Yacarian-accented voices in the footage, though Yacar dismissed this analysis as “*linguistic conjecture by hostile elements*”. When the video was presented in the UN Human Rights Council, Yacar’s delegation walked out, calling it “*unverified psychological warfare*”. Months later, Mira’s family received a letter stamped with an unfamiliar military seal, containing only four words: “*She served wrong hearts.*”
18. As the conflict in Dabula tore through the valleys of the AMF continent, its flames also cast long shadows across the *Dracooler Sea*. Merchant vessels, humanitarian fleets, and even fishing boats whispered now through the waves like fugitives, aware that pirates lurked behind every swell, and rogue factions fired upon ships with impunity. In this chaos, the rule of law dissolved like mist at dawn, and the high seas were reborn as a territory of danger, where sovereignty blurred and violence often approached without warning. Governments across TDC spoke anxiously of a “*sea gone feral*” and international observers warned that the humanitarian consequences of the Dabula conflict were spilling far beyond Dabula’s own shores.
19. Amid this uncertainty, *Madame VeeGee*, a Yacarian submarine built for stealth and endurance, travelled unseen beneath the surface from Yacar toward *Nakaro Port* in southern Dabula. The vessel carried more than provisions, it carried hope. Stacked tightly in its steel belly were thousands of nutrition packs and medical rations meant for civilians trapped in conflict zones. On board were 97 medical doctors and 33 nurses, volunteers from Yacar’s global medical mission, prepared to establish emergency clinics in the Kuro Highlands. Accompanying them were also 30 specially trained marines and commandos as well as hundreds of crates of armaments.
20. On 7 December 2025, at dawn, torpedoes pierced the deep and split *Madame VeeGee* open like a ruptured drum. The sea swallowed its contents, every doctor, every nurse, every marine, and for a moment the water burned before falling silent. Hours later, the KRF publicly claimed responsibility: “*We destroyed an enemy war vessel attempting to smuggle arms into Dabula.*” This statement, broadcast through illicit radio channels, insisted that the submarine posed a military threat. However, investigators soon discovered a disturbing anomaly: the torpedo systems used in the attack were not the improvised devices typical of the KRF, but were Zvambooker-manufactured anti-submarine rockets and precision air-launched torpedo-delivery missiles, weapons known for their sophistication and restricted export.
21. Further intelligence deepened the mystery. Satellite logs revealed that the KRF could not have located *Madame VeeGee* without advanced quantum-entanglement maritime detection systems, technology owned exclusively by Zvambooker. These systems operate by scattering quantum-linked micro-sensors across vast ocean spaces, detecting minute thermal and acoustic signatures and transmitting them instantaneously to coordinating networks, even across



continents. Combined with Zvambooker's AI-driven submarine recognition software, capable of reconstructing vessel identity from faint underwater vibrations, the attackers had been able to track *Madame VeeGee* with uncanny precision. Forensic analysts concluded that *"the strike required technological orchestration far beyond the KRF's known capabilities"*, prompting speculation that Zvambooker military specialists had directed the attack remotely.

22. Zvambooker officials rejected the allegations with fervour. The Minister of Defence declared: *"Zvambooker did not authorise, assist, or enable any attack. Our weapons fall into dangerous hands because Yacar and its allies fail to curb regional smuggling. Blame lies not with us but with those who destabilise Dabula under the guise of humanitarian missions."* The Zvambooker Foreign Affairs Spokesperson added that the presence of marines and armaments on the submarine *"transformed Madame VeeGee into a legitimate military target"*, arguing that its sinking, while tragic, did not violate any law. The president of Yacar stated on national television: *"Our healers were drowned, not by fate, but by a state that hides behind rebels it secretly fuels."* According to Yacar, the combination of Zvambooker-exclusive quantum technologies, specialist training, and weapons provenance forms a *"chain of accountability too deliberate to ignore"*. Yacar further explained that the marines who accompanied the submarine were to provide security for humanitarian workers and *"for the stabilisation of humanitarian corridors"*. To some, the dual cargo, medicine and munitions, was a symbol of necessity in a violent world. To others, it was an omen of blurred intentions.
23. As the conflict in Dabula deepened, the air itself seemed to breathe in grief, the soil soaked in the memory of villages turned to ash, the rivers carrying whispers of names once called in laughter. Each dawn brought a new count of the dead and a fresh list of the displaced, their shadows stretching further across borders and headlines. In New York, Geneva, and Addis Ababa, the world's conscience began to stir uneasily. The UN Secretary-General took to the marble podium beneath the blue and gold emblem, his words echoing through the chamber: *"Enough blood has been shed. The people of Dabula deserve peace — now, not tomorrow."* He urged all parties, the government, the KRF, and their foreign patrons, including Yacar, to lay down their arms and seek dialogue before the country *"dissolved entirely into smoke and sorrow"*.
24. A flurry of diplomatic cables followed, resolutions drafted in urgent tones, envoys dispatched to broker what seemed an impossible truce. Yet, even as the calls for peace grew louder, the artillery in the Kuro Highlands answered back, indifferent to the speeches of distant diplomats. Yacar's representatives at the UN maintained that their assistance was *"limited, lawful, and in pursuit of regional stability"*, while Zvambooker's delegation insisted that *"stability cannot be built upon the bones of the Kuro"*. In that tense season, the world stood at the edge of outrage and inaction, its moral vocabulary tested against the firelight of Dabula's war.
25. Meanwhile, a general election was held in Yacar. The *Yacar Nationalist Party* (YNP), once a whisper on the fringes, rose with a voice sharpened by grievance. At every rally, YNP leaders spoke of sacrifice; of Yacarian daughters and sons buried in foreign soil, of a ruling *Yacar*



National Congress (YNC) that had, in their telling, squandered youth in wars that were neither just nor necessary. Their words struck chords long quieted by duty, and by the time the ballots were cast, the country had already turned its face toward a new horizon. The YNP won not with a roar, but with a deep, deliberate certainty, as if the land itself had exhaled and changed direction.

26. With the new YNP government, the easy, historic closeness between Dabula and Yacar began to fray and finally tear. The YNP spoke of reorientation, of reclaiming sovereignty from entangling alliances, and in their speeches, Dabula became a symbol, sometimes of betrayal, sometimes of burden. The air between the two states grew colder. Ministers who once crossed borders with open palms now arrived with guarded smiles, and conversations clipped at the edges. The cultural kinship of Yacar-Dabula peoples, centuries deep and rooted in shared memory, found itself strained beneath the weight of politics. In Dabula, uncertainty spread quietly, like frost across the valley fields.
27. Zvambooker watched the rift unfold with the patience of a fisherman waiting for the sea to change. They understood the currents well: a wounded alliance, a prideful new government, a neighbour caught between memory and strategy. And so Zvambooker moved with the careful grace of a nation that knows opportunity when it sees one. Envoys arrived in Dabula with warm hands and warmer promises. Trade deals were floated like lanterns on calm water. Military cooperation, cultural exchanges, and quiet assurances of solidarity found their way into conversation. As the distance between Dabula and Yacar widened, Zvambooker stepped softly into the space left behind, stitching itself ever closer to Dabula's new anxieties, until their presence felt less like a new partnership and more like an answer to a question Dabula had not yet admitted it was asking.
28. In the sweltering heat of early October 2025, the foreign ministers of Zvambooker and Dabula shook hands under the crystal chandeliers of the Grand Peace Hall in Novara City, to celebrate a peace agreement. The event was broadcast live across the world, a smiling Minister Jonath Sirel of Zvambooker, hand in hand with Minister Elira Vass of Dabula, declaring the "*Aurora Ceasefire Agreement*" between Dabula forces and the KRF. Behind them stood President Karsten Vale of Zvambooker, hailed by some newspapers as the "*Architect of Peace*" and by others as "*The Broker with a Bill.*"
29. The ceasefire did not come cheap. Under *Annex III of the Aurora Ceasefire Agreement*, Dabula granted Zvambooker exclusive rights to extract all rare-earth minerals from the Kuro Highlands. In addition, Decree 2025/07, issued by Dabula Mavhu's transitional administration just days after the ceasefire, allocated 4,200 hectares of fertile land in the Zinta Valley to Aurora Minerals Ltd., a Zvambooker-based corporation with close ties to President Vale's political allies. The decree cited "*economic revitalisation needs*" and "*special gratitude for peace facilitation*", but domestic critics in Dabula called it a "*land grab in the guise of peace*".
30. Earlier during the war, Zvambooker geologists walked the quiet soils of the Kuro Highlands and uncovered what would soon alter the destiny of nations. Beneath the earth, they found rich



deposits of Gallium, Germanium, Neodymium, Tantalum and Indium, all critical minerals essential to advanced modern technology, including artificial intelligence (AI). But discovery soon gave way to disruption.

31. After the ceasefire agreement, before the ink of the ceasefire agreement had even dried, extensive mining began across the Kuro Highlands. The villages, long reliant on the land for their identity and sustenance, saw their world reshaped by machines they did not control. Their newly gained peace was shattered: the noise, the dust, the intrusion into ancestral rhythms. The Kuro villagers protested—first in grief, then in anger. Police met them with tear gas and rubber bullets, and when the clashes intensified, live ammunition was fired. Eighty-seven villagers lost their lives. Many others were arrested under charges of *“obstructing national development”* and *“disturbing the peace agreement”*.
32. On national television, the Dabula Minister for Mines and Local Development dismissed their grievances with chilling clarity: *“Critical minerals in the Kuro Highlands are for all peoples of Dabula. It is not a sole privilege of the Kuro villagers. We cannot be held hostage to village politics of a few villagers. Should we risk the development of the whole nation, including its peace and security, because a few villagers want to maintain subsistence farming on a land that our ancestors have blessed with the much-needed rare critical minerals that can take Dabula out of poverty? I do not think so.”*
33. What followed changed the balance of global technological power. Once ranked 14th in the race for AI, Zvambooker surged to first place, eclipsing long-established competitors in both civilian and military AI technologies. Reputable international organisations released verifiable evidence attributing this meteoric rise to Zvambooker’s unfettered access to Dabula’s rare critical minerals. Dabula, too, recorded steady economic growth after the peace agreement. When confronted about Zvambooker’s sudden ascent, the country’s Minister of International Trade and Commerce simply replied: *“It is our nation’s hard work. We make right decisions and strategic partnerships at the right time.”*
34. Yet beyond the data, behind the profits, the land itself was bleeding. Environmentalists from Yacar conducted extensive research on the ecological cost of extracting these rare minerals from the Kuro Highlands. Their findings spoke of devastation, rivers clouded with runoff, pastoral fields collapsing into pits, forests stripped bare, ecosystems fractured. The Director of the NGO *Environmental Justice* lamented that the Kuro Highlands, once a place of harmony and quiet abundance, were becoming an open wound on the earth.
35. Meanwhile, following the ceasefire agreement, in the courtrooms of Dabula’s capital, Mavhu City, the aftermath of the war continues to unfold in muted tones. Dozens of KRF commanders and a few DDF officers now face military tribunals, accused of war crimes and unlawful killings. Reporters are allowed into the proceedings, but only for the opening statements; the rest unfolds behind closed doors. Several mid-level officers have confessed to *“operational excesses”*, yet not one of them has mentioned Yacarian involvement. A handful of Yacarian nationals, former trainers, logistics experts, or so-called *“field advisors”*, were named in the



findings of some Dabula court judgments, yet no warrants have been issued. Dabula's Attorney General, when asked, said simply: *"We prosecute what is ours; foreign matters belong elsewhere."*

36. There was also a second wave of military prosecutions, focussing on torture, cruelty, and inhuman treatment. The prosecutions continue to date. Proceedings take place in a fortified compound where the press is not admitted. The defendants are mid-ranking KRF and DDF officers; their faces are tired, their uniforms mismatched. Testimonies describe waterboarding, electric shocks, and confinement in freezing cells. But none of the accused are foreign, none bear Yacarian names. When asked why, the prosecutor simply replied: *"We have no jurisdiction over guests who were never here."* Among the witnesses, several former detainees delivered sworn testimony they had seen Yacarian *"supervisors"* observing and directing interrogations through mirrored glass. Yet without official records, without signed orders or uniforms, their words dissolved into doubt in courts.
37. Mrs Sapatina was quoted by a local newspaper saying: *"The soil holds the evidence, but the soil cannot speak. There is no justice in Dabula, courts are simply performing ritual silence. Dabula's tribunals are designed not to reveal truth but to contain it."* Families of the victims, unsatisfied, wrote petitions to the Zvambooker Embassy seeking support for independent investigations. None came.
38. Yacar was quick to denounce the ceasefire arrangements. In a speech to the *International Press Guild*, Yacar's Foreign Minister, Dr. Nahlia Oram, accused Zvambooker of *"turning peace into a cover for resource exploitation"* and argued that such arrangements violated international human rights obligations. A coalition of activists known as *Indigenous Rights of Dabulians* (IRD) filed a petition before Zvambooker's Constitutional Court, arguing that the mineral and land agreements violated the rights of the Kuro people. The judges listened intently, but in the end, they ruled that the matter lay beyond their reach, citing the doctrine of parliamentary sovereignty. *"The court,"* wrote the Chief Justice, *"cannot review the wisdom of the state's foreign policy"*. The case garnered considerable attention in Zvambooker. In a university lecture hall, Professor Adela Mbiri of the University of Zvambooker posed a question that would echo far beyond academia: *"When sovereigns exchange peace for property, does it remain diplomacy—or does it become dominion? Any court asked to judge such an arrangement, would stand at the edge of its own design: Can a constitutional court, or a human rights tribunal, interpret treaties between nations, or does that trespass upon the sacred ground of state sovereignty? The boundary between human rights and diplomatic discretion has never looked so thin."*
39. The dispute might have stayed in the realm of diplomatic rhetoric had it not been for another flashpoint. In early 2025, Zvambooker's Ministry of Interior quietly rolled out a *"Selective Entry Policy"* under which Yacarians faced heightened visa requirements, including security vetting processes lasting up to 2 years. Students from Yacar studying in Zvambooker reported being abruptly told to leave within 14 days unless they reapplied for a *"special permit."* One student,



21-year-old Mara Wye, told Global Voices Radio: *"I had two exams left before my degree. They just said my country was on a 'red list.' No one explained why."* These measures triggered outrage in Yacar's parliament. Yacar's Parliament passed a resolution accusing Zvambooker of *"economic coercion and discriminatory migration policies"* contrary to its fundamental human rights obligations. For Yacarian students, scholars, and families, phrases in the *"Selective Entry Policy"* such as *"enhanced vetting"* and *"temporary security suspensions"* translated into visa refusals, delays, and revoked visas. Yacar continued protesting, calling the policy a humiliation. Some Yacarians approached the Zvambooker's Constitutional Court which on 10upheld the state measures, declaring them as *"lawful exercise of sovereign discretion"*.

40. As its policies continue to tighten on Yacarians, the Zvambooker Ministry of Foreign Affairs issued a statement declaring that *"when diplomacy fails, lawful countermeasures remain the last instrument of conscience under international law"*. It justified the tightening of visa restrictions on Yacarian nationals as *"temporary, proportionate, and purpose-driven measures aimed at compelling Yacar to honour its extraterritorial human rights obligations in Dabula"*. In the same statement, the Minister stressed that Zvambooker's actions were *"not punitive but protective, rooted in the universal duty to ensure accountability for grave human rights abuses"*.
41. Leaked diplomatic cables later published by the *Takakula Times* revealed tense correspondence between the two governments. In one memo addressed to Yacar's Foreign Minister, Zvambooker's Deputy Minister of Home Affairs wrote: *"These measures are reversible. If Yacar initiates credible prosecutions of those responsible for the atrocities in Dabula, Zvambooker stands ready to suspend all visa restrictions immediately."* Another memo, dated two weeks later, reiterated that the measures *"were designed as an incentive for justice"*, warning, however, that *"failure to act will only deepen Yacar's moral and diplomatic isolation"*. Yacar, in response, condemned these measures as *"economic bullying disguised as humanitarian virtue"*, accusing Zvambooker of overstepping its jurisdiction and weaponising trade. Four months and three weeks passed before Yacar submitted this complaint as part of its case to the *Takakula Down Human Rights Court*.
42. Historical records from the Zvambooker Ministry of Foreign Affairs provide evidence that such conditional policies were not unprecedented. In 2019, Zvambooker imposed similar travel restriction on the State of Krunasha following reports of ethnic and religious cleansing in the *Nami Delta*. Within six months of Krunasha's government establishing an independent inquiry and beginning prosecutions, Zvambooker announced the immediate suspension of all restrictive measures, praising *"the triumph of accountability over impunity"*. Quoting from that earlier precedent, Zvambooker's current Foreign Minister reminded international observers that *"when justice is pursued in good faith, Zvambooker never hesitates to lift its hand"*. The government maintained that its present policy toward Yacar followed *"the same principled path of lawful countermeasures, calibrated not to destroy economies, but to fulfil the dictates of the public conscience, which are inspired by all major faith traditions"*.



43. As days turned to months after the ceasefire and the smoke of Dabula's war refusing to clear, the fragile fabric between Zvambooker and Yacar began to fray beyond repair. What had begun as tense diplomatic exchanges hardened into open mistrust, and what were once backchannel conversations became public accusations. At international meetings, the two delegations faced each other not as partners in peace, but as adversaries cloaked in protocol. Speeches grew sharper, the applause thinner, and the air thick with quiet resentment. Zvambooker's Foreign Minister, weary from unreciprocated *démarches* and unanswered protest notes, declared before the UN General Assembly: *"When dialogue becomes denial, justice must speak. It is time to take the quarrel out of the realm of politics and into the domain of law. We are now preparing an inter-state human rights case against Yacar, to be filed before the Takakula Down Human Rights Court, our continent's final arbiter of the public conscience. For Zvambooker, this is not merely litigation — it is a moral reckoning for us to stand up for persons belonging to minorities, in line with the 'Faith for Rights' commitments. All members of the United Nations must reaffirm faith in human rights and their treaty obligations!"*
44. Legal scholars, human rights experts, and forensic analysts convened in Zvambooker's capital, poring over satellite imagery, intercepted communications, and testimonies from refugees who had fled the burning hills. On 30 September 2025, using the inter-state procedure, Zvambooker filed an application against Yacar (Application 2025/1) in the *Takakula Down Human Rights Court* (TDHRC), making the following claim:
- *Yacar bears international responsibility for the systematic and widespread violations of human rights in the territory of Dabula, contrary to its human rights obligations.*
45. The administration in Yacar did not take this lightly. Yacar's President announced on national television: *"For us Yacarians, the case placed before TDHRC by Zvambooker is a challenge to our sovereignty and a shadow cast upon our name. The stage has been set for justice to test the limits of power, and for law to wrestle once more with the ghost of war."* On 9 October 2025, Yacar filed its own claims against Zvambooker before the TDHRC (Application 2025/2), presenting the following three claims:
- *Zvambooker is responsible for the sinking of Madame VeeGee in violation of its human rights obligations.*
 - *The Aurora Ceasefire Agreement is inconsistent with Zvambooker's human rights obligations.*
 - *Zvambooker's visa policy targeting Yacarians violates its human rights obligations.*
46. TDHRC was established in terms of the *Takakula Down Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights* (Charter), a treaty adopted by the TDU that enshrines a broad range of civil, political, economic, social, and cultural rights, closely mirroring in both substance and spirit the provisions of the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights. The Court exercises both contentious and advisory jurisdiction. Its substantive jurisdiction is determined by Article 35, which reads as follows: *"The Court is competent to interpret and apply the Charter, as well as all other human*



rights treaties ratified by the parties before it.” Its jurisdiction extends to all member states that have ratified the Charter and accepted the Court’s competence in accordance with Article 36 of the Charter, which reads: “A state party may, upon depositing its instrument of ratification or adherence to the Charter, or at any subsequent time, declare that it recognizes as binding the jurisdiction of the Court on all matters relating to the interpretation or application of this Charter.” The Court’s remedial competence is as follows: “If the Court finds that there has been a violation of a right protected under its jurisdiction, the Court shall rule that the injured party be ensured the enjoyment of his or her right that was violated. It shall also rule, if appropriate, that the consequences of the measure or situation that constituted the breach of such right be remedied and that fair compensation be paid to the injured party.”

47. Both Yacar and Zvambooker are state parties to the Charter. Yacar ratified the Charter in 1989, and Zvambooker in 2010. They have also both ratified all the nine core UN human rights treaties, including the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR), and the Convention against Torture (CAT). Both states are also state parties to the main international humanitarian law instruments: the Hague Conventions (1899 and 1907), Geneva Conventions (1949) and their Additional Protocols (1977). Yacar made the declaration under Article 36 of the Charter to accept the Court’s jurisdiction when it ratified the Charter, while Zvambooker made the declaration only in 2019. The Charter makes no mention of reservations to the Charter or withdrawals from the Court’s jurisdiction. Yacar renounced its declaration accepting the jurisdiction of the TDHRC on 1 September 2025. Both Yacar and Zvambooker have a Constitutional Court, serving as the highest court for all matters pertaining to human rights. Under the Constitution of both countries, international agreements bind the state only after approval by Parliament.
48. Individuals, groups and non-governmental organizations may institute proceedings against any party to the Charter that had accepted the TDHRC’s jurisdiction. State parties to the Charter may bring applications against other states parties alleging violations of the Charter (inter-state applications), provided that all parties have accepted the TDHRC’s jurisdiction. The only admissibility requirement relevant to inter-state applications is that the Court may only deal with the matter after all domestic remedies have been exhausted, according to the generally recognised rules of international law.
49. Having reviewed Applications 2025/1 and 2025/2, which arise substantially from the same set of facts, the TDHRC decided to consolidate the matters into a single case, designating Zvambooker as the Applicant and Yacar as the Respondent. These designations are made without prejudice to the parties’ respective rights or positions. The Court’s President indicated that it will hear the two applications together, but will rule separately on their admissibility and merits. This procedure is adopted to ensure procedural balance and avoids duplication while maintaining each case’s independence.



Instruction: Prepare comprehensive memorials for both the Applicant (*Zvambooker*) and the Respondent (*Yacar*). Each memorial must address, in detail, the issues of jurisdiction, admissibility, the merits and appropriate remedies *of all the **four claims** before the Court.*