

**15 December // 6PM // on-line**

<https://cesnet.zoom.us/j/95166880021>



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## **Electoral Violence in Africa:**

### **A Focus on the Human Rights Abuses in the 2021 Elections in Uganda**

A study drawing on statistical data from more than 50 African elections from 2011 to 2017, indicated that nearly all these elections had cases of human rights abuses at some stage of the poll. On January 14, 2021, Uganda held a fiercely contested and controversial presidential election, which gave the incumbent president, Yoweri Museveni, a sixth term in office. Museveni, who has been in power for 35 years, beat his closest challenger, Robert Kyagulanyi, commonly referred to as Bobi Wine (musician-cum-politician), by 58.6 per cent to 34.8 per cent. Based on an empirical study, the lecture will highlight the contentiousness of the elections, explain the shrinking civic space in Uganda, the clampdown on the media, incapacitated election observers and the massive voting irregularities. The lecture will further underline that the 2021 elections triggered unprecedented levels of human rights abuses by the security forces, which included frequent arrests of opposition candidates, killing of opposition supporters, illegal arrests, incommunicado abductions, detention in ungazetted facilities, disappearance of several citizens, torture and heavy deployment of the military to intimidate voters.