We the Youth 4 Uganda (Y4U) have noted with great concern the unfortunate state of affairs that occurred since the 18th day of November 2020.

These unfortunate occurrences are as a result of the ongoing Presidential and member of parliament campaigns that are taking place all across the country ahead of the 2021 general elections.

Following the arrest of presidential candidates Hon. Robert Kyagulanyi and Hon Patrick Oboi Amuriat, several riots and protests erupted across the country especially in Kampala and other urban centres in Uganda. These violent protests across the country has led to destruction of property such buildings, roads, looting and stealing of property and the death of many people.

We have noticed the continuous and excessive use of arms and teargas by security forces some of which are dressed in plain clothes as has thus exacerbated the unrest in the country resulting into the destruction of property such police stations. At least about 40 people have been reported to have lost their lives and many others are injured and admitted in different hospitals.

We condemn the violent protests and advises all citizens to desist from all acts of violence which puts the lives of people at risk.

We further condemn in the strongest terms the response by the security agencies where they used violence and impunity particularly the increased use of live bullets and other ammunitions on unarmed civilians.

In light of the above occurrences in our country we recommend the following:

1. That, the Electoral Commission as a government agency mandated to conduct elections convene a meeting together with security agencies and all presidential aspirants to discuss the spate of violence that has marred the process.

2. We urge all youth to desist and reject any form of violence that extends acts of looting, assault and vandalism of property. We further urge the youth to respect political opinions of every individual as this will help normalise the situation.

3. That the security officers who are directly responsible for perpetuating acts of violence, should be held individually liable and prosecuted.

4. That security organs refrain from using unnecessary and brutal force, wrongful arrests or detention of Ugandans.

5. That security agencies enforcing the COVID-19 guidelines should do it across all political disciplines without any segregation.

6. That the Government of Uganda respects the rights of Ugandans to freely and peacefully assemble and to associate irrespective of their political persuasion.

We condone and grieve with the families of those whose lives have been lost.

In Conclusion, Youth 4 Uganda calls for calm and peace all over the country ahead of the 2020 elections.