

**THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA
IN THE CONSTITUTIONAL COURT OF UGANDA AT KAMPALA
CONSTITUTIONAL PETITION NO. 025 OF 2018**

**1. HUMAN RIGHTS NETWORK FOR JOURNALISTS LTD
2. EASTERN AFRICA MEDIA INSTITUTE (U) LTD:::PETITIONERS
VERSUS**

ATTORNEY GENERAL:::RESPONDENT

**CORAM: HON. MR. JUSTICE FREDRICK EGONDA-NTENDE, JCC
HON. LADY JUSTICE ELIZABETH MUSOKE, JCC
HON. MR. JUSTICE CHRISTOPHER MADRAMA, JCC
HON. LADY JUSTICE MONICA K. MUGENYI, JCC
HON. MR. JUSTICE CHRISTOPHER GASHIRABAKE, JCC**

JUDGMENT OF ELIZABETH MUSOKE, JCC

The petitioners filed this Petition under **Article 137 (1) and (3)** of the **1995 Constitution** and **Rule 2** of the **Constitution Court (Petitions and References) Rules, 2005**, challenging the constitutionality of several provisions of the Uganda Communications Act, 2013.

Background

In 2013, Parliament passed the Uganda Communications Act, 2013 ("UCA"). The UCA, which commenced on 18th January, 2013, provides for regulation of the communications sector which encompasses telecommunications, broadcasting, radio communications, postal communications, data communication and infrastructure

The two petitioners are registered non-governmental organizations engaged in advocating for the promotion, protection and respect of the rights of members of the media sector. The petitioners contend that several provisions of the UCA are inconsistent with and/or in contravention of the 1995 Constitution, and in particular contend that Sections 7 (1) and (2), 9, 11 (2), (3) and (4), 13, 14 (5), 16 (4) (d) (iii), 29 (a), 31 and para (a) (i), (ii) and (iv) of Schedule 4, 60 (5), 61 (b), 63 (2), 67 (1) (f) and (2) Section 72 (1) and (2) (c) violate the right of freedom of the media and other press