



## **Court Issues Conservatory Order to Stop the Construction of a Church in State House**

### **PRESS STATEMENT FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Date: 28<sup>th</sup> August 2025

The High Court of Kenya yesterday issued a conservatory order restraining the Government of Kenya, its officers and or anyone acting on its behalf from constructing a permanent church or building associated with any religious faith within the Grounds of State House, Nairobi or any other State House or State Lodges until 18th November 2025.

On 26<sup>th</sup> August 2025, members of the National Integrity Alliance (NIA) moved to court to block President William Ruto's plan to construct a private church at State House, Nairobi, at an estimated cost of Sh2 billion. The Kenya Human Rights Commission (KHRC), Transparency International Kenya (TI-Kenya), Inuka Kenya Ni Sisi!, and The Institute of Social Accountability argued that the project violates Article 8 of the Constitution, which establishes Kenya as a secular state with no official religion.

Represented by lawyer Lempaa Suyinka, the petitioners contend that privileging Christianity through state-linked infrastructure entrenches religious favoritism, marginalizes non-believers, and undermines constitutional neutrality.

In a petition filed on grounds of urgency, the petitioners further argue that State House is public property and that the President cannot unilaterally use state resources for a personal religious project.

The petitioners warn that constructing a church at State House risks fueling religious tensions, eroding pluralism, and violating the doctrine of separation between church and state. They maintain that State House is public property and that the President cannot unilaterally deploy state resources for a personal religious project.

NIA demands that the State obeys and respects this court order.

## THE NATIONAL INTEGRITY ALLIANCE (NIA)

The National Integrity Alliance (NIA) is a citizen-centered integrity and anti-corruption coalition comprising Transparency International Kenya (TI-Kenya), Inuka Kenya Ni Sisi! The Kenya Human Rights Commission (KHRC) and The Institute of Social Accountability (TISA). NIA seeks to breathe life into the constitutional promise on Integrity by catalyzing frontline ethics and anti-corruption institutions, and active citizens to Detect, Deter, Disrupt and Defeat corruption at all levels of society.

[www.nia-ke.org](http://www.nia-ke.org) | X: **@RedCardKE** | **#RadaNiIntegrity**

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