



Source: Reuters

CLOONEY FOUNDATION FOR JUSTICE STATEMENT ON THE RELEASE OF STELLA NYANZI IN UGANDA

THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT CAN BE ATTRIBUTED TO A SPOKESPERSON FOR THE CLOONEY FOUNDATION FOR JUSTICE:

FEBRUARY 20, 2020

“The Clooney Foundation for Justice welcomes the release of Dr. Stella Nyanzi, an outspoken advocate for women’s rights, who had been unfairly imprisoned for posting a poem on Facebook suggesting that Uganda would have been better off if President Museveni had not been born. After a blatantly unfair trial that was given a ‘D’ by the TrialWatch experts that monitored and graded the trial, the appeals court in Uganda threw out the conviction partly on the basis that the defense team did not have adequate time to prepare a defense. This finding echoes the [TrialWatch Fairness Report](#), which concluded that the trial court ‘violated Dr. Nyanzi’s right to call and examine witnesses and, correspondingly, her right to adequate time and facilities for the preparation of a defense.’”

ABOUT THE CLOONEY FOUNDATION FOR JUSTICE’S TRIALWATCH INITIATIVE

The Clooney Foundation for Justice’s [TrialWatch](#) initiative monitors and grades the fairness of trials of vulnerable people around the world, including journalists, women and girls, religious minorities, LGBTQ persons and human rights defenders. Using this data, TrialWatch advocates for victims and is developing a Global Justice Ranking measuring national courts’ compliance with international human rights standards.