

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. RES. 1321

Calling on the Government of Nigeria to ensure that all legal proceedings involving Mazi Nnamdi Kanu are conducted in full accordance with Nigeria's constitutional obligations and international human rights commitments.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 22, 2026

Mr. JAMES submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the
Committee on Foreign Affairs

RESOLUTION

Calling on the Government of Nigeria to ensure that all legal proceedings involving Mazi Nnamdi Kanu are conducted in full accordance with Nigeria's constitutional obligations and international human rights commitments.

Whereas Mazi Nnamdi Kanu is a political figure known for advocating on behalf of communities in southeastern Nigeria;

Whereas Mazi Nnamdi Kanu has publicly expressed his views regarding political self-determination and governance through speech and advocacy;

Whereas concerns have been raised regarding the circumstances of Mazi Nnamdi Kanu's apprehension in

Nairobi, Kenya, in June 2021, and his subsequent transfer to Nigeria;

Whereas questions have been raised by legal observers and international bodies regarding whether this transfer complied with applicable legal standards and international obligations;

Whereas the United Nations Working Group on Arbitrary Detention, in an opinion issued on July 20, 2022, found that Mazi Nnamdi Kanu's detention violated international human rights obligations and called for his release and the provision of remedies;

Whereas courts in Kenya have issued rulings concerning the legality of Mazi Nnamdi Kanu's transfer from Kenya to Nigeria;

Whereas concerns have been raised by human rights organizations regarding due process, access to counsel, and conditions of detention;

Whereas prolonged detention without adequate medical care raises serious humanitarian concerns;

Whereas the protection of freedom of expression, fair trial rights, and humane treatment of detainees are fundamental principles recognized under international law, including the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights;

Whereas the United States has a longstanding commitment to advocating for the protection of human rights and the rule of law globally; and

Whereas the United States has previously engaged diplomatically in cases involving individuals detained abroad where credible concerns of wrongful detention exist: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

2 (1) calls on the Government of Nigeria to en-
3 sure that all legal proceedings involving Mazi
4 Nnamdi Kanu are conducted in full accordance with
5 Nigeria’s constitutional obligations and international
6 human rights commitments;

7 (2) urges the Government of Nigeria to care-
8 fully consider the findings of the United Nations
9 Working Group on Arbitrary Detention and to take
10 appropriate steps consistent with those findings;

11 (3) encourages the Government of Nigeria to
12 ensure that Mazi Nnamdi Kanu has consistent ac-
13 cess to legal counsel, necessary medical care, and
14 humane conditions of detention;

15 (4) encourages the Secretary of State to engage
16 with the Government of Nigeria regarding concerns
17 related to due process, detention conditions, and re-
18 spect for fundamental rights; and

19 (5) reaffirms the commitment of the United
20 States to the protection of human rights, freedom of
21 expression, and the rule of law worldwide.

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