



INCLUSIVE SOCIETY INSTITUTE

MEDIA STATEMENT

INCLUSIVE SOCIETY INSTITUTE ON MALEMA HATE SPEECH RULING

Cape Town, 27 August 2025. The Inclusive Society Institute (ISI) welcomes today's ruling by the Equality Court against Mr Julius Malema and the EFF. We have consistently cautioned political leaders to refrain from inflammatory rhetoric, particularly speech that is racist in nature or that incites violence. Hiding behind claims of "political rhetoric" is irresponsible and dangerous.

As we argued in the context of slogans like *Kill the Farmer, Kill the Boer*, even when such speech may be found technically legal, it remains profoundly unwise in a society struggling with reconciliation and social cohesion. This case went further: it crossed the line into illegality, with direct incitements to violence and racially charged threats.

We therefore welcome the Court's clear stance. We call on all politicians, not only the EFF, to abandon divisive and reckless language. South Africa's fragile social fabric cannot withstand leaders who normalise racism and violence. Such rhetoric has no place in our democracy.

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