

# Statement by Prof MS Makhanya on current xenophobic attacks

## Unisa condemns current spate of xenophobic attacks

The University of South Africa (Unisa) strongly condemns the current xenophobic attacks gripping the country. Not only do we view this as a cowardly act and a gross violation of human rights, but also a reckless act of criminality and barbarism that goes against the core values of our nation and our people as a whole; as well as a betrayal of the values, vision and moral principles of the founding fathers of our democratic nation.

We are of the strong view that South Africa is a nation premised on the practice of Ubuntu/botho and good neighbourliness with one another as citizens, with the whole of Africa as our fellow brothers and sisters and the world at large as members of the same human race.

“At this dark hour in history, it behoves on all of us to remember the hospitality and shelter afforded by African countries to South African freedom fighters of yesteryear when we sought refuge in flight from the oppressive regime of the time. It cannot, and it must not be, that when it is our turn to give shelter to our brothers and sisters, we instead worsen their lot with such despicable acts of intolerance, inhumanity and violence. What we are doing as a people is a betrayal of what our founding father, Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela and his generation stood for. We must all raise our voices and declare: *This far and no further with the xenophobic attacks!*”

**Professor Mandla Makhanya**  
**Principal and Vice-Chancellor**

April 17th, 2015 | Category: Announcements