



THE EARLY WARNING MONITOR

GLIC Weekly Report

14th February, 2025

Top of the Agenda

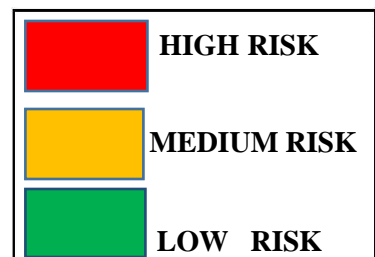
CHINA BUILDS SPACE ALLIANCES IN AFRICA AS TRUMP CUTS FOREIGN AID

On the outskirts of Cairo, a cutting-edge space lab was supposed to be the first in Africa to produce homegrown satellites. Step inside the plant, though, and the made-in-Africa image begins to fade. Satellite equipment and parts arrive in crates from Beijing. Chinese scientists scan space-tracking monitors and deliver instructions to Egyptian engineers. A Chinese flag hangs from one wall. The first satellite assembled at the factory, hailed as the first ever made by an African nation, was built mainly in China and launched from a spaceport there in December 2023. China has publicly announced much of this space assistance to African countries, including its donations of satellites, space monitoring telescopes and ground stations.

Reuters: [China builds space alliances in Africa as Trump cuts foreign aid](#) February 11th, 2025.

Analysis

The United States of America's retreat from foreign assistance and multilateral cooperation, as well as its 'America First' ideological shift represents a rupture from the multilateral cooperation that has underpinned United States of America's foreign policy for generations. With this foreign policy posture adopted by President Donald Trump, the US has gradually and effectively begun a dismantling of its soft power architecture and global influence with the freezing of foreign assistance to countries and scrapping of the United States Agency for International Development USAID. The US has therefore created a vacuum and an ideal opportunity for China to further broaden its much-desired global influence and soft power architecture around the world particularly in Africa. Indeed, China already has an inroad into the continent with its humongous infrastructural development. The strategic retreat of the US from Africa has only provided the Chinese a platform to further increase its tentacles by providing the much-needed foreign aid and humanitarian assistance on the continent.



NIGERIA

195 NIGERIANS KIDNAPPED IN JANUARY AMID RISING FEAR AND OUTRAGE

At least 195 Nigerians were kidnapped in various tragic incidents across the country in January, according to Human Angle Tracker. The incidents, which occurred in different parts of the country, have left many families shattered and raised concerns about the safety and security of citizens. Human Angle Tracker provides data-driven insights into key issues in Nigeria, including conflict and security trends, humanitarian crises, and governance and accountability. The rising wave of kidnappings has sparked widespread fear and outrage, with many calling on the government to take decisive action to address the crisis.

Human Angel: [195 Nigerians Kidnapped in January Amid Rising Fear and Outrage](#) February 12th, 2025.

3,907 RIFLES MISSING FROM POLICE FORMATIONS, COMMANDS — SENATE (SECURITY)

A shocking report from the Public Account Committee of the Senate reveals that 3,907 firearms, mostly AK-47 rifles, have gone missing from police commands and formations across Nigeria. This discovery was made after the Office of the Auditor-General of the Federation audited the books of the Nigeria Police Force. The Nigeria Police Force has a Department of Research and Planning, which is responsible for conducting regular inspections of police formations, divisions, and sections to ensure that they are functioning effectively and efficiently.

Tribune: [3,907 rifles missing from Police formations, commands — Senate](#) February 11th, 2025.

LASSA FEVER CLAIMS 12 LIVES IN ONDO

A Lassa fever outbreak in Ondo State has resulted in 12 fatalities, with at least 112 confirmed cases. The Acting Statistician-General of the state, Olusola Ajayi, disclosed this to journalists on Wednesday, revealing that a total of 353 cases had been reported. Describing the situation as alarming, Ajayi urged workers of the Waste Management Authority to intensify efforts and collaborate with health sector stakeholders to maintain a clean environment. He emphasized that proactive measures were necessary to curb the spread of the disease and safeguard public health.

Daily Trust: [Lassa Fever Claims 12 Lives in Ondo](#) February 13th, 2025.

NIGERIANS OUTRAGED AS TELECOM GIANTS HIKE DATA PRICES AMID ECONOMIC HARDSHIP

Nigerians are voicing anger over steep increases in mobile data prices by two of the country's leading telecom providers MTN and Airtel at a time when many are already struggling with rising living costs. MTN, Nigeria's largest network, tripled the price of its popular 15GB weekly bundle from 2,000 naira (\$1.33) to 6,000 naira (\$3.99), while Airtel also raised its data tariffs significantly. The sudden changes have left subscribers frustrated, with many accusing the companies of worsening an already dire economic situation.

Africa News: Nigerians outraged as telecom giants hike data prices amid economic hardship
February 12th, 2025.

WEST AFRICA

WEST AFRICANS HAVE A HIGH RISK OF KIDNEY DISEASE

Kidney disease, leading to kidney failure, afflicts disproportionately more black people than white people. Thus, there is a huge burden of kidney healthcare costs among black people all over the world. For instance, in the US, although the black population is only 13% to 14% of the total, black people account for one third of the patients with end-stage kidney disease requiring dialysis or transplantation. Hypertension, diabetes and HIV, which also cause kidney failure, tend to cause more severe kidney damage and rapid deterioration in black people than in white people.

The Conversation: West Africans have a high risk of kidney disease – new study confirms genetic cause
February 12th, 2025.

FRENCH TROOPS TO EXIT SENEGAL BY END OF 2025

France and Senegal are setting terms for a withdrawal of all French soldiers stationed in the West African country by the end of this year. The two countries said in a statement on Wednesday that they are establishing a joint commission that would oversee the “departure of French elements” from the country and “a restitution of [military] bases” by year’s end. The foreign ministries of both countries said they intend to work on “a new defence and security partnership” that would take into account “strategic priorities of all parties”.

Aljazeera: French troops to exit Senegal by end of 2025 February 12th, 2025

AFRICA

BURHAN TO FORM NEW, TECHNOCRATIC GOVERNMENT AS ARMY RECAPTURES KHARTOUM (SUDAN)

Abdel Fattah al-Burhan, the head of the Sudanese army, has revealed his intention to form a new, technocratic wartime government. According to sources in the Sudanese army, Burhan plans to implement this plan when his forces complete the recapture of Khartoum. In recent weeks, the Sudanese army has gained the upper hand in its war against the rebel Rapid Support Forces (RSF) after a long time spent on the defensive. Despite the army’s victories, the RSF still controls much of western Sudan and is advancing in Darfur, prompting Burhan to rule out a ceasefire before Ramadan begins.

iAfrica – Burhan to Form New, Technocratic Government as Army Recaptures Khartoum
February 11th, 2025.

TRUMP'S USAID KNOCKDOWN UNDERMINES AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT

Following the Trump administration's decision to gut USAID, the organization has been nearly dismantled, thereby posing a serious threat to African development. All of the agency's staff have already been placed on administrative leave, with the exception of a few mission-critical employees. While that has resulted in a lot of upheaval, more chaos is expected: Reportedly, there are plans to shrink USAID's workforce from 10,000 to around 300, with just a dozen focusing on Africa. This move has alarmed African development partners and Washington policy advisers, who call it "upsetting and irrational" and fear it will reverse historic progress in humanitarian and economic projects across the continent. USAID played a pivotal role in financing key initiatives in Africa, including the provision of life-saving HIV/AIDS medication.

iAfrica – [Trump's USAID Knockdown Undermines African Development](#) February 11th, 2025.

CONFIRMED EBOLA CASES IN UGANDA CLIMB TO NINE

The health ministry of Uganda has reported an increase in confirmed Ebola cases from three to nine. According to a statement from the health ministry on Monday, one of the nine confirmed cases has resulted in death, while seven patients are receiving treatment in a hospital in Kampala, and one is hospitalized in Mbale, close to the Kenyan border. All eight patients are reported to be in stable condition, and 265 individuals who had contact with the confirmed cases are under quarantine. This month, the World Health Organization announced that Uganda has initiated a trial vaccination program targeting the Sudan strain of Ebola.

African News: [Confirmed Ebola cases in Uganda climb to nine](#) February 11th, 2025.

AFRICAN LEADERS ORDER IMMEDIATE CEASEFIRE IN DR CONGO AS M23 REBELS ADVANCE (CONGO)

At a summit in Tanzania, African leaders from the East African Community (EAC) and the Southern African Development Community ordered army chiefs to meet within five days to establish technical guidelines for an immediate and unconditional ceasefire. The summit also called for opening humanitarian corridors to evacuate deceased and wounded persons amid the escalating crisis in eastern DR Congo, where the Rwanda-backed M23 rebels have seized Goma and are advancing into South Kivu. The directive comes on the heels of multiple failed ceasefires and peace talks, leading to doubts that it will be yielded. Beyond that, the escalation conflict has led to fears of a wider, regional conflict, especially since Burundi, Malawi, and South Africa support the DR Congo army.

iAfrica – [African Leaders Order Immediate Ceasefire in DR Congo as M23 Rebels Advance](#) February 11th, 2025.

UNAIDS WARNS HIV INFECTIONS COULD SURGE WITHOUT U.S. SUPPORT

The head of the United Nations AIDS agency (UNAIDS) has warned about the future of global HIV prevention efforts. Winnie Byanyima, UNAIDS Executive Director, emphasized that HIV infections had been declining in recent years, with 2023 seeing 1.3 million new cases. In a statement, Byanyima expressed grave concern for those who would be impacted by a loss of funding: "People are going to die because life-saving tools have been taken away from them," she

said. "And from what I have heard, I have not yet heard of any European country committing to step in, but I know that they are listening and trying to see where they can come in because they care about rights, about humanity."

African News: [UNAIDS warns HIV infections could surge without U.S. support](#) February 11th, 2025.

GOMA CAMP RESIDENTS' FEARFUL AS M23 REBELS DEMAND THEIR EVACUATION

The sounds of hammering and the clattering of corrugated metal roofs resonated throughout Goma's Bulengo camp for internally displaced persons on Tuesday as residents began taking apart the shelters they had occupied for years. They reported that M23 rebels, allegedly supported by Rwanda, passed through the camp on Saturday and ordered them to leave within three days. Just weeks prior, M23 had seized control of Goma, a key city in eastern Congo that has long been a haven for those escaping ongoing violence.

Africa News: [Goma camp residents fearful as M23 rebels demand their evacuation](#) February 12th, 2025.

SUDAN, RUSSIA REACH AGREEMENT ON RUSSIAN NAVAL BASE

Sudan and Russia have reached a final agreement on the establishment of a Russian naval base on Sudan's Red Sea coast, Sudanese Foreign Minister Ali Youssif announced. The two countries initially signed a preliminary agreement in late 2020 to establish what was described as a Russian naval logistics hub in Sudan, with a maximum of 300 personnel and capacity to receive up to four warships, including nuclear-powered vessels. However, Sudanese authorities had since appeared hesitant to move forward with the plan.

Sudan Tribune: [Sudan, Russia reach agreement on Russian naval base: Sudanese FM](#) February 12, 2025

UAE PROPOSES SUDAN CEASEFIRE; ARMY REJECTS THE CALL

The United Arab Emirates called for a ceasefire in Sudan during the coming holy month of Ramadan, a UAE official said, a call rejected by the Sudanese army, as the country's civil war approaches the two-year mark. The army considers the UAE to be an aggressor of the war, accusing it of arming the paramilitary Rapid Support Forces, accusations U.N. experts and U.S. lawmakers have said are credible. The UAE denies these charges. The war in Sudan has created the world's largest humanitarian catastrophe, with more than 12 million people displaced, half the population hungry, and increasing fragmentation of the improvised country.

Reuters: [UAE proposes Sudan ceasefire; army rejects the call](#) February 11th, 2025.

THE GLOBE

HAMAS SAYS IT WILL POSTPONE HOSTAGE RELEASE, BLAMING ISRAEL

Hamas said Monday it will delay the further release of hostages in the Gaza Strip after accusing Israel of violating a fragile ceasefire that now faces its most crisis since it began three weeks ago. Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu is under heavy pressure to secure the release of remaining hostages after three Israelis freed Saturday came home emaciated after 16 months in captivity. Yet in a sign of the precarious nature of the truce, the Israeli military said late Monday it had cancelled leave for soldiers assigned to Gaza.

BBC: [Hamas says it will postpone hostage release, blaming Israel](#) February 13th, 2025.

TRUMP THREATENS TO ‘LET HELL BREAK OUT’ IN GAZA

US President Donald Trump has issued an ultimatum to Hamas, demanding the release of all remaining Israeli hostages held in Gaza by midday Saturday, and warning that failure to comply would result in “*all hell*” breaking out. On Monday, Hamas threatened to halt the release of additional hostages, accusing Israel of violating the terms of the fragile ceasefire agreement by preventing displaced Palestinians from returning to northern Gaza, restricting the delivery of humanitarian aid, and delaying negotiations for the second phase of the deal. In response, Israel alleged that Hamas’s actions constituted a complete breach of the agreement.

RT NEWS: [Trump threatens to ‘let hell break out’ in Gaza](#) February 13th, 2025.

EUROPEAN STATES WANT IN ON UKRAINE PEACE TALKS

The Weimar+ group of European countries have demanded to be part of negotiations on the Ukraine conflict agreed on by the US and Russia. In a joint statement released by France, Germany, Poland, Italy, Spain, the UK, the European External Action Service, and the European Commission on Wednesday, the group said lasting peace in Ukraine is a “*necessary condition for a strong transatlantic security.*” The statement came shortly after reports emerged that Russian President Vladimir Putin and his US counterpart, Donald Trump, had a phone conversation. Following the call, Trump said the two leaders agreed to have their teams begin negotiations to resolve the Ukraine conflict “*immediately.*”

RT NEWS: [European states want in on Ukraine peace talks](#) February 13th, 2025.

NATO BOSS ISSUES WARNING TO PUTIN

NATO Secretary-General Mark Rutte warned Russian President Vladimir Putin on Wednesday that the US-led military bloc would deal a crushing blow to Moscow if it attacks any of its member states. In recent years, senior officials from European NATO member states, including Rutte, have alleged that Russia is harboring aggressive plans toward the military bloc. Putin has repeatedly dismissed this speculation, calling it “*nonsense*” and a ruse to justify increased military spending. Answering reporters’ questions at a press conference in Brussels on Wednesday, Rutte said, “*At the moment, if Putin would attack NATO, the reaction will be devastating. He will lose.*”

RT NEWS: [NATO boss issues warning to Putin](#) February 13th, 2025.