



THE EARLY WARNING MONITOR

GLIC Weekly Report

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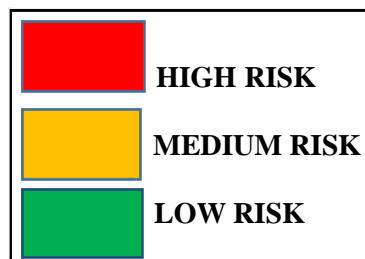
Top of the Agenda

GLOBAL TERRORISM INDEX: NIGERIA RANKS SIXTH, WITH 565 FATALITIES IN 2024

Nigeria has ranked sixth in the 2025 Global Terrorism Index, with a score of 7.658, moving up from eighth place in 2023 and 2024. According to the 2025 report released on March 5, the country recorded 565 terrorism-related deaths in 2024, indicating an increase in fatalities over the previous two years. “Globally, deaths from terrorism have declined by almost a third since the peak in 2015, with Iraq and Nigeria recording the largest decreases. Deaths in Nigeria peaked at 2,101 in 2014, before dropping to 392 in 2022, the lowest level since 2011. However, fatalities increased by 34 per cent in 2023 to 533, and further to 565 in 2024.” The report further explained that IS-Sahel has expanded its reach beyond its primary area of operation in the Liptako-Gourma region, which spans the borders of Burkina Faso, Mali, Niger, and Nigeria. In 2024, the group launched a series of attacks across several countries, including Nigeria (16 attacks), Niger (12 attacks), Mali (6 attacks), and Burkina Faso (1 attack). HumAngle: [Global Terrorism Index: Nigeria Ranks Sixth, with 565 Fatalities in 2024](#) March 6th, 2025.

Analysis

Despite global progress in reducing terrorism, Nigeria continues to face significant challenges with terrorist activities exacerbated by her proximity to the Sahel-which is now the global epicenter of terrorism. Out of the ten countries most affected by terrorism, five are in the Sahel- with Burkina Faso being the most impacted by terrorism and Niger Republic having the largest surge in terrorism-related deaths. Nigeria’s ranking as the 6th most terror affected country moving up from the 8th place in 2023 and 2024 is worrisome, with implications for Nigeria’s security, economic, political and social stability. The cost on Nigeria is immense affecting the country in complex and multifarious ways. Economically, the much-needed foreign direct investment into the country will be constrained as potential investors see Nigeria as unsafe for their businesses. Also, government funded will be significantly diverted to defense and counter-insurgency efforts from much needed social services such as healthcare, education and infrastructural development. Terrorists activities results in deaths and displacements, several Nigerians have been displaced from their communities resulting in a humanitarian crisis affecting the country. The GTI ranking 2025 for Nigeria therefore calls for an urgent need for a comprehensive security strategy that addresses the root causes of terrorism, including poverty inequality and weak governance. Strengthening border security and regional cooperation is crucial to counter the cross-border movement of terrorist groups. Addressing terrorism requires a multifaceted approach that combines both kinetic and non-kinetic measures that incorporate socio-economic and political strategies.



WEST AFRICA

GUINEA-BISSAU'S PRESIDENT EMBALO TO SEEK SECOND TERM

Guinea-Bissau's President Umaro Sissoco Embaló said he will run for a second term in November, amid tensions with an opposition that refuses to recognize him as the country's current president. Meanwhile, a delegation from the West African regional bloc ECOWAS that had been sent to Guinea-Bissau in hopes of resolving the country's political crisis departed Monday after what they said were threats of expulsion from Embaló. Embaló, who dissolved the opposition-dominated parliament in late 2023, told reporters he would run again Monday at the airport in the capital Bissau following his trip to Russia, Azerbaijan and Hungary. ***"I will be a candidate for my own succession,"*** Embaló said. Guinea-Bissau's constitution sets the presidential term at five years, renewable once, and Embaló would be running for an allowed second term. But the details of his first term are complicated, and the opposition argues that his first term already has ended.

Africa News: [Guinea-Bissau's President Embaló to Seek Second Term](#) March 5th, 2025.

WEST AFRICAN MISSION LEAVES GUINEA-BISSAU AFTER 'PRESIDENT'S THREATS'

The West African regional bloc, Ecowas, says a mission deployed to Guinea-Bissau to help resolve an election dispute has left the country after the president threatened to expel it. The team was sent in last month to help reach a "political consensus" on how to hold elections this year. Guinea-Bissau's general elections had been scheduled for last November but President Umaro Sissoco Embaló postponed them. He has since announced 30 November this year as the new date. The opposition has opposed the delay and said Embaló's term should have expired last week, although a Supreme Court ruling recently extended his term in office to September. In a statement on Sunday, Ecowas said its team had met Embaló, other politicians and civil society groups to try to reach a consensus on when the elections should be held. Ecowas said its team, together with the UN Office for West Africa and the Sahel (Unowas), had been deployed to the country from 21-28 February. It said it had "prepared a draft agreement on a roadmap for elections in 2025 and had started presenting it to the stakeholders for their consent". The team however "departed Bissau in the early morning of 1st March, following threats by [President] Umaro Sissoco Embaló to expel it", it said.

BBC: [West African mission leaves Guinea-Bissau after 'president's threats'](#) March 3rd, 2025.

AFRICA

TRIAL OF 40 OPPOSITION FIGURES IN TUNISIA SPARKS TENSIONS AND DIVISIONS

A trial of 40 prominent opposition figures, including politicians, lawyers, media personalities, and business leaders accused of conspiring against state security, began on Tuesday in Tunisia.

Proceedings at the Tunis Primary Court began with nine detained defendants absent, as the judges opted for remote sessions. It's a move defense lawyers and activists decried as a breach of fair trial standards. Only those released on bail attended in person, while families of the detained and protesters outside the courthouse demanded transparency and the physical presence of all accused. Africa News: [Trial of 40 opposition figures in Tunisia sparks tensions and divisions](#) March 3rd, 2025.

SUDAN: DISTRESSING REPORT ON CHILD RAPE CASES BY UNICEF

The United Nations has reported that sexual violence against children is being employed as a common strategy in the ongoing conflict in Sudan. A recent report highlights those millions of children are in jeopardy due to this alarming trend. In a shocking report, the UN children's agency has revealed that children as young as one year old have been victims of rape across nine states in Sudan. As of early 2024, the agency reported that 221 children, including boys, have suffered this horrific fate at the hands of armed men. These alarming statistics were gathered from gender-based violence service providers operating in the region, highlighting the severe impact of ongoing violence on the youngest and most vulnerable members of society.

Africa News: [Sudan: distressing report on child rape cases by UNICEF](#) March 5th, 2025.

UN LAUNCHES \$11.2 MILLION APPEAL TO CONTAIN UGANDA'S EBOLA OUTBREAK

The United Nations has launched an emergency appeal to raise \$11.2 million to support Uganda's fight against an Ebola outbreak, following US foreign aid cuts that have strained the country's health budget. Uganda declared an Ebola outbreak in January, after a male nurse at the country's national referral hospital in Kampala died from the highly infectious virus. A second victim, a four-year-old child, also succumbed to the disease last week, according to the World Health Organisation (WHO). The country has reported 10 confirmed cases of Ebola's Sudan strain, which currently has no approved vaccine. The \$11.2 million appeal aims to fund Uganda's Ebola response from March to May, focusing on seven high-risk districts.

Arise News: [UN Launches \\$11.2 Million Appeal To Contain Uganda's Ebola Outbreak](#) March 4th, 2025.

SOUTH AFRICA ACCUSES ISRAEL OF USING 'STARVATION' IN GAZA

A fragile ceasefire since January saw an influx of humanitarian aid into Gaza, before Israel on Sunday announced it was blocking deliveries until Hamas accepted its terms for an extension of the truce. "Preventing food from entering Gaza is a continuation of Israel's use of starvation as a weapon of war as part of the ongoing campaign of what the ICJ ruled to be plausible genocide against the Palestinian people," the South African foreign ministry said in a statement, referring to Pretoria's case against Israel at the International Court of Justice. "The people of Gaza are experiencing immeasurable suffering and urgently need food, shelter and medical supplies," it added. "South Africa calls on the international community to hold Israel accountable," it said.

Arab News: [South Africa accuses Israel of using 'starvation' in Gaza](#) March 6th, 2025.

THE REGION WITH MORE 'TERROR DEATHS' THAN REST OF WORLD COMBINED

The Sahel region of Africa is the "epicentre of global terrorism" and now, for the first time, accounts for "over half of all terrorism-related deaths", according to the Global Terrorism Index (GTI). Its new report says that in this semi-arid area to the south of the Sahara Desert 3,885 people out of a worldwide total of 7,555 died. The GTI report adds that while the global figure has declined from a peak of 11,000 in 2015 the figure for the Sahel has increased nearly tenfold since 2019, as extremist and insurgent groups "continue to shift their focus" towards the region. The index is published by the Institute for Economics and Peace, a think-tank dedicated to researching global peace and conflict. It defines terrorism as the "threatened or actual use of illegal force and violence by a non-state actor to attain a political, economic, religious, or social goal through fear, coercion, or intimidation".

BBC: [The region with more 'terror deaths' than rest of world combined](#) March 5th, 2025.

DR CONGO DEFIES PRESSURE OVER TALKS WITH REBEL M23

Despite growing international pressure, the Democratic Republic of Congo is standing firm on its decision not to have direct talks with the M23 rebel group that has made major advances in the east of the country in recent months. The UK government added to calls for the group to be part of an "inclusive dialogue" to help find a political solution to the conflict. But in an interview with the BBC, DR Congo Prime Minister Judith Suminwa Tuluka said her government wants to negotiate with neighboring Rwanda, which it accuses of backing the M23. At least 8,500 people have been killed since fighting escalated in January, according to the Congolese authorities. Hundreds of thousands have also been forced from their homes amid the chaos triggered by the fighting, in which UN experts and others see Rwanda as having a key role. The fact remains that the aggressor of the territorial integrity and of the sovereignty of the Democratic Republic of Congo is Rwanda," Suminwa Tuluka said, citing a UN experts' report from last year that stated that between 3,000 and 4,000 Rwandan troops had crossed into Congolese territory and were fighting alongside the M23. Peace talks brokered by Angola hit a deadlock last December after Rwanda demanded that the Congolese government talk directly to the M23. The rebel group then advanced swiftly, taking control of the cities of Goma and Bukavu in January and February. At a joint East and Southern African mediation effort last month, regional leaders called for a ceasefire, the exit of "uninvited foreign armed forces" from Congolese territory and also urged for direct negotiations between "state and non-state parties... including M23".

BBC: [DR Congo defies pressure over talks with rebel M23](#) March 3rd, 2025.

GABON'S MILITARY RULER DECLARES BID FOR PRESIDENCY

Gabon's transitional leader General Brice Oligui Nguema has announced his intention to run as a candidate in the Central African nation's presidential election, scheduled for next month. The military ruler led a group of Gabonese soldiers to overthrow his cousin, former President Ali Bongo, shortly after he had been declared the winner of a disputed presidential election in August 2023. The ousted leader, accused of corruption and irresponsible governance, had been in power for 14 years after succeeding his father. Gen. Nguema, who was then the republican guard chief, has been the interim president ever since. He had previously promised to oversee "free, fair, and credible" elections in order to transfer power to civilians.

RT: [Gabon's military ruler declares bid for presidency](#) March 4th, 2025.

DR CONGO REBELS HAVE ABDUCTED HOSPITAL PATIENTS – UN

At least 130 sick and wounded men have been abducted from two hospitals in the Democratic Republic of Congo's (DR Congo) eastern city of Goma by M23 rebels, the UN Human Rights Office (OHCHR) reported on Monday. The militants seized Goma, the capital of North Kivu Province, late in January in their latest offensive against the country's government, launched at the beginning of the year. OHCHR spokesperson Ravina Shamdasani said the rebels raided CBCA Ndosho Hospital and took 116 patients, as well as 15 others from Heal Africa Hospital last Friday night, accusing them of being members of the DR Congo army or the pro-government Wazalendo militia.

RT: [DR Congo rebels have abducted hospital patients – UN](#) March 4th, 2025.

THE GLOBE

UK BANNED FROM SHARING US INTEL WITH UKRAINE

The US has banned the UK from providing American intelligence to Ukraine, the Daily Mail reported on Tuesday. Several Western media outlets earlier reported that the US had suspended the delivery of all American military aid to Kiev, following a public spat between President Donald Trump and Vladimir Zelensky. According to the British tabloid, all UK intelligence agencies and military outlets "received an order expressly forbidding the sharing of US-generated intelligence" marked as 'Rel UKR' – meaning 'Releasable to Ukraine'. The move would further undermine Kiev's ability to fight Russia, the newspaper noted.

RT: [UK banned from sharing US intel with Ukraine](#) March 5th, 2025.

RUSSIA SAYS SANK CARGO SHIP CARRYING BRITISH WEAPONS FOR UKRAINE

Russia claims to have sunk a cargo vessel carrying weapons and military equipment bound for Ukraine on Saturday, March 1. Russian Telegram war channel Talipov Online said Moscow's forces unleashed two Iskander-M missiles targeting Panama-flagged container ship MSC Levante F at the port of Odesa. The vessel, seen carrying yellow and red containers, reportedly made a stop in Turkey to load British sea drones and other weapons from the UK's NATO base before heading to Ukraine. "The container ship was struck as it prepared to unload," the Telegram channel claimed. "After the strike detonations began, the cargo was completely destroyed, the ship sank." Ukrainian authorities confirmed that two port workers were injured in the strike, which also damaged port infrastructure. However, despite the claim, Russia has yet to provide evidence that MSC Levante F was indeed sunk.

The Defense Post: [Russia Says Sank Cargo Ship Carrying British Weapons for Ukraine](#) March 3rd, 2025.

JAPAN WILDFIRE MAPPED: ONE DEAD AND THOUSANDS EVACUATED AS COUNTRY BATTLES LARGEST FIRE IN DECADES

At least one person has died and thousands have been evacuated as Japan fights record-breaking wildfires that continue to burn on the main island's east coast. The Ofunato wildfire, in Iwate prefecture, has more than doubled in size in the past three days to become Japan's largest for 33 years. Japan's fire and disaster management agency (FDMA) said at least 84 homes had already been damaged by Wednesday, when it first learned of the wildfire. One body was discovered in the Shoji district of Sanriku-cho Ryoiri, local news reported. More than 3,600 residents from over 1,300 households have been evacuated from affected areas, according to officials.

MSN: Japan wildfire mapped: One dead and thousands evacuated as country battles largest fire in decades March 3rd, 2025.

TRUMP ISSUES 'LAST WARNING' TO HAMAS

Hamas must release the remaining Israeli hostages or face certain destruction; US President Donald Trump has warned. He issued the threat after talks about further prisoner swaps between Israel and the Palestinian armed group reportedly stalled. "Release all of the Hostages now, not later, and immediately return all of the dead bodies of the people you murdered, or it is OVER for you," the president wrote on his Truth Social platform on Wednesday. Trump added that he is "sending Israel everything it needs to finish the job."

RT: Trump issues 'last warning' to Hamas March 6th, 2025.

MACRON LABELS RUSSIA A 'THREAT'

Russia poses a direct threat to France and all of the EU, President Emmanuel Macron has said, urging the bloc to ramp up defense spending. Speaking in a televised address on Wednesday, Macron accused Russia of turning the Ukraine conflict into a global conflict. "If a country can invade its neighbor in Europe with impunity, then no one can be sure of anything anymore... Beyond Ukraine, the Russian threat extends to all of Europe, including us." The French president also sounded the alarm over what he called Russia's military expansion, claiming that Moscow is now spending over 40% of its budget on its military, with ambitious plans to grow the army by 2030. "Given this, who can truly believe that today's Russia will stop at Ukraine?" he said.

RT: Macron labels Russia a 'threat' March 6th, 2025.

BERLIN HAS RUN OUT OF WEAPONS FOR KIEV – GERMAN DEFENSE MINISTRY

Germany has reached the limit of its capacity to supply weapons to Ukraine from its own Bundeswehr arsenals, according to Michael Stempfle, the official spokesperson for the German Ministry of Defense. During a press briefing on Wednesday, Stempfle was asked about the further transfer of Patriot systems and other weapons from German arsenals to Ukraine. He stated that while Berlin has already delivered many systems to Ukraine, there is a "natural limit to this." He emphasized that Berlin also needed to strengthen the nation's own defense capabilities and make sure its European allies are "well positioned." He said that the process of ensuring Germany's own defenses was "running parallel to the Ukraine support." Thus far, Berlin has provided military assistance to the tune of \$47Bn to embattled Ukraine.

RT: Berlin has run out of weapons for Kiev – German Defense Ministry March 6th, 2025.

PUTIN APPOINTS NEW RUSSIAN AMBASSADOR TO US

Russian President Vladimir Putin has signed a decree appointing Aleksandr Darchiev as Russia's new ambassador to the US. According to the document, published on the state portal for legal information on Thursday, Darchiev will also be Moscow's permanent observer at the Organization of American States (OAS). The administration of US President Donald Trump handed over to Russia a note with the approval of Darchiev's candidacy as ambassador during talks between the sides in Istanbul in late February, which were aimed at restoring the proper functioning of the diplomatic missions of the two countries.

RT: Putin appoints new Russian ambassador to US March 6th, 2025.

US AND RUSSIA MADE DEAL ON IRAN TALKS – TOP PUTIN AIDE

Washington and Moscow decided to hold separate talks centered on Iran during last month's high-level negotiations in Riyadh, Russian President Vladimir Putin's foreign policy aide Yury Ushakov has said. "We discussed the situation around Iran, yes. And we agreed to hold separate talks on this matter," Ushakov told the press on Tuesday when asked about Western media reports to that effect.

RT: US and Russia made deal on Iran talks – top Putin aide March 4th, 2025.

KREMLIN CALLS FOR LIFTING OF SANCTIONS

Western sanctions against Moscow would have to be lifted to restore relations between the US and Russia, Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov stated on Tuesday. The comment follows a Reuters report on Monday which claimed the US was drawing up a plan to potentially give Russia sanctions relief. Since assuming office, US President Donald Trump has sought to restore ties with Moscow and negotiate a peaceful resolution to the Ukraine conflict. According to Peskov, Moscow has not yet heard any official statements on the issue and considers the restrictions illegal.

RT: Kremlin calls for lifting of sanctions March 4th, 2025.

UK'S STARMER ANNOUNCES 'COALITION OF THE WILLING' TO DEPLOY TROOPS TO UKRAINE

British Prime Minister Keir Starmer has announced that the UK and France are ready to lead a "coalition of the willing" to provide military support to Ukraine, including the deployment of troops and aircraft, aiming to secure Kiev's positions once a peace deal with Moscow has been reached. During an emergency summit in London on Sunday, following Ukrainian leader Vladimir Zelensky's disastrous trip to Washington, Starmer emphasized the necessity for the EU and other sponsors to step up and take a leading role in supporting Kiev. While acknowledging that some nations have little to contribute, he insisted that those willing should act with urgency.

RT: UK's Starmer announces 'coalition of the willing' to deploy troops to Ukraine March 2nd, 2025.