



THE EARLY WARNING MONITOR

GLIC Weekly Report

2nd May, 2025

Top of the Agenda

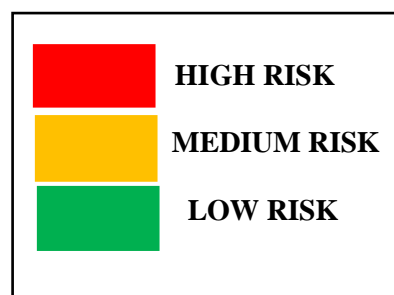
Trump's First 100 Days in Office, Tariffs and Implications for Africa

United States President Donald Trump marked the first 100 days of his second term in office with a campaign-like speech that praised his sweeping policies, particularly his stance on immigration and cuts to foreign aid. In the space of just more than three months, he has signed more executive orders than any other president, sent shockwaves throughout the globe with extensive mass deportations and proposed travel and visa bans. Trump has signed at least 142 executive orders so far. Trump's administration has implemented a flurry of tariffs, which, in his words, are to reduce the US trade deficit, remedy unfair trade policies against the US, bring manufacturing jobs back to the country and generate income for the US government. Trump's policies have impacted nations across the globe, especially in Africa.

Al Jazeera: [Trump's 100-day scorecard: Executive orders, tariffs and foreign policy](#), May 2, 2025

ANALYSIS

With the current trend of Trump's unilateral and protectionist US foreign policy, African states and their multilateral institutions, such as the African Union, must articulate a contingency blueprint on how the continent should navigate and respond to the Trump administration's policies. US–Africa relations under Trump's second term have suffered a setback and have not been as strong as long-term partners. Trump's stringent policies have wide-ranging implications for Africa's trade, security, public health, and migration policies. Trump's suspension of USAID, US withdrawal from the Paris Climate Change Agreement and the World Health Organisation, as well as the US diplomatic row with South Africa, have resulted in an atmosphere of uncertainty in the US-Africa relations. Trump's announcement of a 10% baseline tariff on all imports into the U.S. from all countries and higher rates on countries with trade surpluses with the U.S. has affected African trade with the United States. Lesotho leads with 50% while Burkina Faso and Seychelles are the only African countries spared. Africa needs a coordinated continental response to these tariffs, with the African Union playing a crucial role. Additionally, this is the time to actively implement the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA), especially as the global trade order has now been fragmented into regional trade blocs.



NIGERIA

BOMB BLAST KILLS 26 IN NORTHEAST NIGERIA

Improvised explosive devices detonated on a road in northeastern Nigeria, killing at least 26 people in several vehicles, including women and children, police said Tuesday. An Islamic State group affiliate in the West African country claimed responsibility for the Monday attack. The blasts happened on a busy road connecting the towns of Rann and Gamboru in Borno state, near the border with Cameroon, Nigerian police spokesperson Nahum Daso told The Associated Press. Multiple explosives planted along the route ripped into several civilian commercial vehicles coming from Rann, killing at least 26 people, he said. Most of those killed were local farmers and traders crowded in a Toyota pickup van that drove over a land mine, Daso said. He said the mine was buried by suspected militants from the Islamic State affiliate known as IS West Africa Province. Besides the dead, at least three people were injured and were taken to nearby medical facilities for treatment. Security forces have since secured the area and begun clearance operations.

Africa News: [Bomb Blast Kills 26 in Northeast Nigeria](#) 30th April, 2025.

DISINFORMATION FUELS SUPPORT FOR BURKINA JUNTA LEADER IN NIGERIA

While critics of Traore have blamed his government for clamping down on freedom of expression, others on social media are casting him in a positive light. Admiration by several Nigerians is shaped by a steady stream of viral videos, memes and social media posts -- many misleading or outright false -- portraying Traore as a fearless reformer who defied Western powers and reclaimed his country's dignity. "This growing admiration for Traore in Nigeria poses serious risks to national security and democratic stability," said Malik Samuel, a senior researcher at the pan-African thinktank Good Governance Africa. "It normalises military intervention as a viable political solution and opens the door to foreign ideological interference." Traore's rising appeal in Nigeria comes at a time of the worst cost-of-living crisis in a generation after President Bola Ahmed Tinubu embarked on tough economic reforms.

Barrons: https://www.barrons.com/news/disinformation-fuels-support-for-burkina-junta-leader-in-nigeria-baee68bc?refsec=topics_afp-news

NDLEA INTERCEPTS ILLICIT DRUGS WORTH N1BN IN LAGOS HOTEL

The National Drug Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA) said it has intercepted 589 bags of Canadian Loud, a strong strain of cannabis, worth N1,042,500,000 only in street value in a Lagos hotel. It said the illicit drug, with a total weight of 417.3 kilograms, was seized during an operation in the 80-room hotel in Victoria Island, which it said was used as cover for distributing illicit substances. It disclosed that no fewer than three people were arrested in the course of the operation at the five-storey hotel building between Friday April 25 and Saturday April 26, 2025, while two other suspects were currently at large.

Channels: [NDLEA Intercepts Illicit Drugs Worth N1bn in Lagos Hotel](#) 30th April, 2025.

NIGERIA GOVERNORS URGE ARMY TO RETHINK ANTI-JIHADIST STRATEGY

State governors in northeast Nigeria on Thursday called on government security forces to rethink their counter-insurgency strategy, after more than 100 people were killed last month in jihadist attacks. The region has seen an upsurge in Islamist militant attacks in recent weeks, reigniting a grinding conflict over the last 16 years that has left more than 40,000 dead and displaced two million. Governors from the states of Borno, Adamawa, Yobe, Gombe, Taraba and Bauchi met in the Yobe state capital Damaturu for the 11th North-East Governors Forum. Taraba state governor Agbu Kefas said in a closing speech that he and colleagues were alarmed at the increase in insurgent activity...Kefas said a "multidimensional approach" was needed to address the "root causes" of the unrest, with work on youth employment and training, better roads and education and poverty reduction.

Barrons:https://www.barrons.com/news/nigeria-governors-urge-army-to-rethink-anti-jihadist-strategy-c0c067e6?refsec=topics_afp-news

ARMY NABS 31 SUSPECTED INTERNET FRAUDSTERS IN EDO

Troops of the 4 Brigade Nigerian Army in Benin, on Monday, uncovered the hideout of suspected internet fraudsters in Benin, Edo State capital. Acting on a tipoff, the troops, led by the Brigade Commander, Ebenezer Oduyebo, stormed a building within First Bank Estate, called Awesome Garden, along the Benin-Sapele Bypass in Ikpoba-Okha Local Government area. Thirty-one persons suspected of engaging in cybercrime and ritual-related crimes were arrested at the facility. It was gathered that the arrested suspects have been handed over to the Edo State Command of the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission for further interrogation and possible prosecution.

Punch: Army nabs 31 suspected Internet fraudsters in Edo 30th April, 2025.

3 KILLED, 393 INJURED IN LAGOS-IBADAN EXPRESSWAY CRASHES IN THREE MONTHS

No fewer than 73 persons lost their lives while 393 others sustained varying degrees of injuries in road crashes along the Lagos-Ibadan Expressway between January and March. Figures obtained from a Federal Road Safety Corps report sighted by PUNCH Metro revealed that 1,271 people were involved in the 175 crashes recorded on the busy highway within the three months. According to the document, January recorded the highest number of crashes, while February had the highest fatalities. Among crashes recorded within January and March on the Lagos-Ibadan Expressway include a fatal crash around Ayetoro claiming nine lives in February; a lone accident at Fatgbems bus stop killing five persons in January, and the death of four persons in an accident at Alapako area in March.

Punch: 3 killed, 393 injured in Lagos-Ibadan Expressway crashes in three months 2nd, May 2025.

AFRICA

SIERRA LEONE LAUNCHES MPOX VACCINATION DRIVE AS CASES SOAR

Sierra Leone has launched a nationwide mpox vaccination campaign after an explosion in cases of a new, more dangerous variant of the virus. Health authorities in the West African country have now confirmed 763 cases of the virus, including 177 recorded in two days last week, according to data from the National Public Health Agency. At least six people have died, with most of the infections centred on the capital Freetown and the surrounding area. In response to mounting infections, the government has begun a large-scale vaccination drive targeting frontline healthcare workers, close contacts of confirmed cases, people with compromised immune systems and children from age 12.

Telegraph: <https://www.telegraph.co.uk/global-health/science-and-disease/sierra-leone-mpox-outbreak-vaccination-drive/>

DR CONGO, RWANDA REACH PRELIMINARY AGREEMENT AFTER DOHA TALKS

Congo and Rwanda were expected to submit a draft agreement to end the war in Congo's east Friday. The agreement would be in line with a declaration of principles signed in Washington a week ago. Delegations from Kinshasa and Kigali have been meeting in Qatar to iron out their differences. On Wednesday, the US president's Africa envoy Massad Boulous joined Congolese, Rwandan, Togolese and French representatives at the talks in Doha. The draft deal would cover issues such as territorial sovereignty, the fight against armed groups, the mineral trade, refugees, and the role of international forces, particularly MONUSCO.

Africa News: DR Congo, Rwanda reach preliminary agreement after Doha talks 2nd, May 2025.

UN PUSHES FOR INCLUSIVE SOMALI DIALOGUE

In Baidoa, a top UN official discusses South West State issues and underscores the role of dialogue for tackling national priorities. Visiting South West State today, the top United Nations official in Somalia covered a range of local topics with the Federal Member State's leadership, in addition to reiterating the need for discussion on various national issues the country faces. "I underscored the importance of unity and inclusive dialogue among Somalia's political and community leaders," said the UN Secretary-General's Special Representative for Somalia, James Swan, while also adding that the national matters include security priorities and election planning.

Africa News: UN Pushes for Inclusive Somali dialogue 2nd, May 2025.

DR CONGO SEIZES ASSETS OF FORMER PRESIDENT

The Democratic Republic of the Congo has banned former President Joseph Kabila's party, the People's Party for Reconstruction and Democracy (PPRD), and ordered the seizure of his assets, accusing him of supporting M23 rebels. The rebels have taken control of parts of Eastern DR Congo, including Goma, which Kabila recently returned to after two years in South Africa. The

government criticized Kabila for entering the country through a rebel-held area and not condemning the M23's actions. Kabila claims he wants to help end the conflict, but authorities question his motives and allege he maintains ties with the insurgents.

RT: DR Congo seizes assets of former president 2nd, May 2025.

SADC BEGINS WITHDRAWAL OF ITS PEACEKEEPING FORCES FROM DR CONGO

The Southern African Development Community (SADC) began on Tuesday the withdrawal of its peacekeeping forces from the eastern regions of the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) through Rwanda. Local media sources in Rwanda reported seeing SADC forces moving several trucks of soldiers and equipment from Goma in North Kivu province through Rwanda. Reports indicate that the convoy will travel to Chato in north-western Tanzania before repatriation to various countries. "Our orders say by May 30, everyone and everything needs to be out of Goma and on its way. It was chaos over the weekend, but nobody is complaining because we're finally going home," one soldier is reported as saying.

Africa News: SADC begins withdrawal of its peacekeeping forces from DR Congo 30th April, 2025.

ANTHRAX OUTBREAK COMPOUNDS SECURITY CRISIS IN EASTERN DR CONGO

And with nearly seven million people forcibly displaced by violence since advances by M23 rebels earlier this year, the DRC is facing one of the world's most complex displacement crises, according to the UN migration agency (IOM). Living in overcrowded and under-resourced camps, displaced populations are increasingly vulnerable to both disease and attack. Since January 2025 alone, over 660,000 people have been forced to flee the Goma region after Government forces lost control of the key city along with Bukavu to the south.

United Nations. <https://news.un.org/en/story/2025/05/1162821>