



THE EARLY WARNING MONITOR

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Top of the Agenda

TRUMP ANNOUNCES TRAVEL BAN AND RESTRICTIONS ON 19 COUNTRIES SET TO GO INTO EFFECT MONDAY

President Donald Trump resurrected a hallmark policy of his first term, announcing that citizens of 12 countries would be banned from visiting the United States and those from seven others would face restrictions. The new ban includes Afghanistan, Myanmar, Chad, the Republic of Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Haiti, Iran, Libya, Somalia, Sudan and Yemen. There will be heightened restrictions on visitors from Burundi, Cuba, Laos, Sierra Leone, Togo, Turkmenistan and Venezuela. Trump said some countries had “deficient” screening and vetting or have historically refused to take back their own citizens. His findings rely extensively on an annual Homeland Security report of visa overstays of tourists, business visitors and students who arrive by air and sea, singling out countries with high percentages of remaining after their visas expired. Associated Press: [Trump announces travel ban and restrictions on 19 countries set to go into effect Monday June 5th, 2025.](#)

Analysis

President Donald Trump has announced travel restrictions and prohibitions that apply to 19 nations, but Nigeria is not one of them. Twelve nations—some of which are African states—will be prohibited from entering the country under the policy effective June 9th. Although Nigeria is not on the list, seven African states are, and more may still make the list. Recall that the previous Trump administration once restricted Nigeria's travel access to the United States, primarily due to security and information-sharing concerns. The current strategy employed by the Trump administration categorises the affected countries into groups based on their alleged security threats. Although Nigeria is not listed in the red (full ban), orange (partial restrictions), or yellow (warning) tiers, the dynamic nature of these assessments means that countries can be reclassified if deemed non-compliant with U.S. security expectations. Given the evolving and unpredictable nature of U.S. immigration policies and to prevent itself from making the list of countries with travel bans or restrictions, it is pertinent that Nigeria put in place effective strategies. Nigeria needs to strengthen its security protocols to conform to global best practices and make passport issuance and visa vetting procedures more robust. Secondly, active diplomatic engagement with the US is essential to show commitment to shared security goals to allay worries regarding Nigerian immigrants. Thirdly, the Nigerian government needs to keep up with changes in U.S. immigration policy to effectively address any changes that might negatively impact Nigerians living in the United States.

	HIGH RISK
	MEDIUM RISK
	LOW RISK

NIGERIA

NEW TERRORIST GROUP MAHMUDA RESUMES ATTACKS IN KWARA COMMUNITY, KILLS THREE

A terrorist group called Mahmuda carried out a fresh attack on Duruma village in Baruten Local Government Area, Kwara State. The group has seized control of communities in Babana and Wawa Districts in Borgu Local Government Area of Niger State. Report showed that residents of several communities in Kaiama Local Government Area of Kwara State were fleeing their homes in droves as the Mahmuda terrorist group tightened its grip on the region.

Nairaland: New Terrorist Group Mahmuda Resumes Attacks In Kwara Community, Kills Three June 3rd, 2025.

SALLAH: MOKWA BRIDGE COLLAPSE FUELS TOMATO, PEPPER PRICE SURGE

Less than 48 hours to Eid-el-Kabir, the prices of tomatoes, peppers, onions, and other perishables have suddenly soared in the aftermath of the collapse of the Mokwa Bridge in Niger State, which left hundreds of trucks conveying food items trapped. Market sources say the price surge is as a result of the failed bridge and the Sallah celebrations, which begin on Saturday. The bridge, a strategic gateway used by trucks conveying foodstuffs, livestock and other produce from the North to the southern parts of the country, was destroyed by last Thursday's devastating flood, which killed over 200 people with hundreds of others unaccounted for. The development has sparked anxiety over the disruption to the food supply chain as the Muslim faithful celebrate the Eid on Friday.

Punch: Sallah: Mokwa bridge collapse fuels tomato, pepper price surge June 5th, 2025.

LAND DISPUTE: ARMY WARNS AGAINST ESCALATION OF VIOLENCE IN TARABA

Brigadier General Kingsley Uwa, the Commander of 6 Brigade, Nigerian Army, Sector 3, Operation Whirl Stroke, has issued a stern warning against the escalation of violence and cautioned individuals or groups against taking the law into their own hands. The brigade commander issued the warning during a two-day stakeholders' meeting aimed at resolving lingering communal tensions in the Karim Lamido Local Government Area of Taraba State. Held in Jalingo, the state

capital, the meeting brought together critical stakeholders from the old Muri chiefdom in response to recent disputes between the Fumang and Illela communities. According to a statement issued by Captain Olubodunde Oni, a spokesman for the brigade, the disagreement, which stemmed from land and boundary issues, had escalated into violence, resulting in damage to farmlands and injuries to several individuals.

Channels TV: Land Dispute: Army Warns Against Escalation Of Violence In Taraba June 5th, 2025.

NIGERIA'S DEFENCE CHIEF PROPOSES FENCING BORDERS TO CURB INSECURITY

Nigeria's defence chief on Tuesday called for the country's borders with its four neighbours to be completely fenced to curb the entrance of armed groups amid escalating insecurity. Nigeria's military has been strained by widespread security issues, particularly a 16-year insurgency in the northeast led by Islamist militant group Boko Haram and its offshoot Islamic State West Africa Province. Security forces and civilians have been attacked and killed and tens of thousands of people have been displaced.

Reuters: Nigeria's defence chief proposes fencing borders to curb insecurity June 3rd, 2025.

MOKWA FLOOD: DEATH TOLL HITS 200, OVER 500 MISSING

The death toll in the flood disaster at Mokwa town in Mokwa Local Government Area of Niger State last Wednesday has risen to over 200 as more than 500 others are said to be missing. The flood, which is said to be the worst in the area in 60 years, swept through the Mokwa districts of Tiffin Maza and Anguwan Hausawa after late night torrential rain. Hundreds of houses were also destroyed and many people displaced. Among the victims of the flood were women and children, including many pupils of Quranic schools in the area.

Daily Trust: <https://dailytrust.com/mokwa-flood-death-toll-hits-200-over-500-missing/> June 3rd, 2025.

AFRICA

AFRICAN TRADE UNIONS WANT SAUDI ARABIA PROBED FOR WORKER ABUSE, RACISM

A group of African-led trade unions urged the U.N.-backed International Labor Organization on Wednesday to create its highest-level inquiry into Saudi Arabia, citing abuses of migrant workers in the 2034 World Cup host nation. On the same day in Geneva, the ILO signed a renewed working agreement with the kingdom's government. "It reflects a shared commitment to advancing labor policies that are aligned with international standards and national priorities," said ILO director general Gilbert Houngbo, the former prime minister of Togo. A different view was suggested by trade unions in 36 countries — including Ghana, Nigeria and Senegal — who filed a formal

complaint with the ILO asking for a “Commission of Inquiry.” It alleged evidence of forced labor, wage theft, physical and sexual abuse and systemic racism targeting African workers, and continued Saudi use of the kafala system tying them to employers especially in construction and domestic work.

Africa News: African trade unions want Saudi Arabia probed for worker abuse, racism June 5th, 2025.

MALI SAYS TWO MORE ARMY POSTS ATTACKED AS JIHADIST VIOLENCE ESCALATES

Islamist militants hit two more military installations on Wednesday and Thursday, Mali's army said, the latest in a quick spate of attacks that the insurgents say have killed hundreds of soldiers and underscored their gains. Ground and air reinforcements were being mobilised on Thursday morning to respond to an attack on a security post in Mahou, located in eastern Mali near the border with Burkina Faso, an army statement said.

Reuters: Mali says two more army posts attacked as jihadist violence escalates June 5th, 2025.

GLOBE

ISRAEL KILLS DOZENS ACROSS GAZA, STOPS AID DISTRIBUTION FOR WHOLE DAY

At least 26 Palestinians have been killed in intense overnight air attacks carried out by the Israeli army across Gaza, with majority of the killings reported in Khan Younis, Gaza City and Jabalia. Israel's military has warned starving Palestinians in Gaza against approaching roads to the US-backed aid distribution sites run by the controversial Gaza Humanitarian Foundation (GHF), which will be closed for a whole day for “renovation, reorganisation and efficiency improvement work. Aljazeera: Israel kills dozens across Gaza, stops aid distribution for whole day June 4th, 2025.

ALL JEWISH AMERICANS ARE QUESTIONING THEIR SECURITY' AFTER VIOLENT ANTISEMITIC ATTACKS

A group gathered in Boulder, Colorado, to raise awareness for hostages held in Gaza was attacked, leaving 12 people injured. The suspect, Mohammed Sabry Soliman, accused of throwing incendiary devices at them, allegedly planned the attack for a year, and told police he wanted to "kill all Zionist people," according to court documents. It was the latest in a string of attacks against Jewish people and institutions, ratcheting up anxiety among those in North America's Jewish community who see these incidents as signs of growing antisemitism in the US.

BBC: All Jewish Americans are questioning their security' after violent antisemitic attacks June 4th, 2025.

NORTH KOREA'S KIM VOWS 'UNCONDITIONAL SUPPORT' FOR RUSSIA'S WAR IN UKRAINE

North Korean leader Kim Jong Un vowed to “unconditionally support” Russia in its war in Ukraine and said he expected Moscow to emerge victorious, Pyongyang’s state media said Thursday. North Korea has become one of Moscow’s main allies during its more than three-year Ukraine offensive, sending thousands of troops and container-loads of weapons to help the Kremlin oust Ukrainian forces from Russia’s Kursk border region. Meeting top Russian security official Sergei Shoigu on Wednesday, Kim said that Pyongyang would “unconditionally support the stand of Russia and its foreign policies in all the crucial international political issues including the Ukrainian issue,” the Korean Central News Agency reported.

Alarabiya: North Korea’s Kim vows ‘unconditional support’ for Russia’s war in Ukraine June 5th, 2025.

PHILIPPINES, US HOLD JOINT MARITIME DRILLS IN SOUTH CHINA SEA

The Philippines and United States militaries have sailed together in the South China Sea for a seventh time to boost interoperability between the two sides, Manila’s armed forces said on Thursday. The exercises, held on Wednesday in waters off the provinces of Occidental Mindoro and Zambales and away from contested features, included joint operations near shorelines as well as fire support. “The MCA (maritime cooperative activity) is a demonstration of both nations’ resolve to deepen cooperation and enhance interoperability in line with international law,” the Philippine armed forces said in a statement. The joint sail also showcased the Philippine vessel Miguel Malvar, a 118-metre guided missile frigate commissioned last month. It is one of two corvettes built by South Korea’s Hyundai Heavy Industries under the Philippines’ military modernization program.

Alarabiya: Philippines, US hold joint maritime drills in South China Sea June 5th, 2025.

ISRAEL ARMS EXPORTS HIT ALL TIME HIGH IN 2024: DEFENSE MINISTRY

Israel’s defense ministry said Wednesday that its arms exports hit an all-time high of more than \$14.7 billion in 2024, despite international criticism of Israel’s ongoing war against Hamas in Gaza. “Israel again reached an all-time peak in defense exports in 2024, marking the fourth consecutive record-breaking year in the scope of defense agreements,” the ministry, which oversees and approves the exports of Israel’s defense industries, said in a statement. The ministry said that demand for its missiles, rockets, and air defence systems had “reached a new significant milestone” and accounted for some 48 percent of the total number of exports, up from 36 percent in 2023. Additionally, “satellite and space systems exports saw substantial growth, representing 8 percent of deals in 2024 compared to 2 percent in 2023,” the ministry said. A breakdown of the regions to which the arms were exported showed that European countries made up more than half. Alarabiya: Israel arms exports hit all time high in 2024: Defense ministry June 4th, 2025.

SYRIA SAYS WOULD ‘NEVER BE A THREAT,’ AFTER ROCKET FIRE ON ISRAEL

Syrian authorities insisted Wednesday they would “never be a threat” to anyone in the region, after Israel bombed the country’s south in retaliation for overnight rocket fire on the Golan Heights. Israeli media said the projectiles were the first launched from Syria into Israeli territory since the

fall of Bashar al-Assad, with two unknown groups claiming responsibility. The Israeli military said it later struck “weapons” belonging to the Syrian government in retaliation. Defense Minister Israel Katz held Syria’s leader “directly responsible.” Following al-Assad’s overthrow, Israel moved its forces into the UN-patrolled demilitarized zone in the Golan, and has carried out hundreds of strikes against military targets in Syria. Israel says the strikes aim to stop advanced weapons from reaching Syria’s new authorities, whom it considers extremists. A group called the “Martyr Mohammed al-Deif Brigades” and the “Islamic Resistance Front in Syria” claimed responsibility for launching the two rockets at Israel.

Alarabiya: Syria says would ‘never be a threat,’ after rocket fire on Israel June 4th, 2025.

IRAN’S KHAMENEI DISMISSES US NUCLEAR PROPOSAL, VOWS TO KEEP ENRICHING URANIUM

Iran’s Supreme Leader Ali Khamenei said on Wednesday that abandoning uranium enrichment was “100 percent” against the country’s interests, rejecting a central US demand in talks to resolve a decades-long dispute over Tehran’s nuclear ambitions. The US proposal for a new nuclear deal was presented to Iran on Saturday by Oman, which has mediated talks between Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi and President Donald Trump’s Middle East envoy, Steve Witkoff. After five rounds of talks, several hard-to-bridge issues remain, including Iran’s insistence on maintaining uranium enrichment on its soil and Tehran’s refusal to ship abroad its entire existing stockpile of highly enriched uranium - possible raw material for nuclear bombs.

Alarabiya: Iran’s Khamenei dismisses US nuclear proposal, vows to keep enriching uranium June 4th, 2025.

CHINESE NATIONALS ACCUSED OF SMUGGLING 'DANGEROUS BIOLOGICAL PATHOGEN' INTO THE US

Two Chinese nationals have been accused of smuggling a fungus into the US that officials describe as a dangerous biological pathogen. Yunqing Jian, 33, and Zunyong Liu, 34, have been charged with conspiracy, smuggling goods, false statements, and visa fraud. The fungus called *Fusarium graminearum* can cause a disease in wheat, barley, maize and rice that can wipe out crops and lead to vomiting and liver damage if it gets into food.

BBC: Chinese nationals accused of smuggling 'dangerous biological pathogen' into US June 3rd, 2025.