



## THE EARLY WARNING MONITOR

*GLIC Weekly Report*

*4th July, 2025*

### ***Top of the Agenda***

#### **TOGO PROTESTS SIGNAL YOUTH ANGER AT DYNASTIC RULE – BUT IS CHANGE POSSIBLE?**

The chants have faded in the streets, the barricades have been cleared, and an eerie calm hangs over Togo after days of mass protests in the West African nation's capital. But beneath the surface, anger simmers, security forces remain stationed at key intersections, and many fear the storm is far from over. From June 26 to 28, thousands took to the streets of Lome to protest constitutional reforms that critics say enable President Faure Gnassingbe to remain in power indefinitely. The 59-year-old – in office since 2005 following the death of his father, who ruled for 38 years – was recently sworn in as president of the Council of Ministers, a powerful executive role with no term limits under a newly adopted parliamentary system. Aljazeera: [Togo protests signal youth anger at dynastic rule – but is change possible?](#) July 4<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

### ***Analysis***

To many observers, these protests in Togo represent more than a reaction to constitutional reform; but they signal a generational break. If this perspective becomes increasingly popular among the people, the demonstrators might return to the streets with greater vigour and aggression, which can inspire a military coup in Togo. The military can step in under the pretext of maintaining peace and order or under the pretext of the dire need to restructure the government. If a military takeover should happen, Togo will likely join the Alliance of Sahel States AES and that will be another blow to ECOWAS, who has already lost three (3) members to the Alliance. This is plausible as Togo seeks to strategically become the gateway access of the AES to the Atlantic Ocean to facilitate international trade. Consequently, the military government that might take over government may likely stay in power indefinitely, subverting democratic norms and the rule of law. It is therefore imperative that ECOWAS puts measures in place to entrench peace and stability in Togo to avoid a breakdown of law and order. ECOWAS must reject and discourage incumbent presidents from tampering with the constitution of member states for tenure elongation. ECOWAS needs to ensure it upholds the principles of its Protocol on Democracy and Good Governance among member states in the region.

## ***NIGERIA***

### **BANDITS ATTACK CLAIMS 15 LIVES IN SOKOTO**

No fewer than 15 persons have been reportedly killed by bandits suspected to be members of Lakurawa in Kwallajiya village of Tangaza Local Government Area of Sokoto State. Local sources said the suspected assailants stormed Kwallajiya village in the early hours of Wednesday and started shooting sporadically and in the process killed over 15 persons. Some community members expressed concern over the persistent violence in the area, alleging that some persons in parts of the community collaborated with terrorists unleashing violence on citizens in the area. Community members claimed that the recent attack was carried out by a group of notorious bandits in the area identified as Charambe. The Executive Chairman of Tangaza Local Government Council, Isa Bashir Kalanjeni, led a delegation to the village and attended the mass burial of the victims.

Channels: Bandits Attack Claims 15 Lives In Sokoto July 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2025.

## ***WEST AFRICA***

### **DEADLY HEAT IN WEST AFRICA WARNS OF CLIMATE CHANGE-DRIVEN SCORCHERS TO COME**

On a hospital bed in Niger, a 96-year-old woman lay motionless attached to a drip - one of thousands of possible victims of West Africa's worst heatwave in living memory, which a report said on Thursday was linked to fossil fuel-driven climate change. In late March and early April, days and nights of extreme heat above 40° Celsius (104°F) gripped many West African countries. Temperatures soared so high in Mali and Burkina Faso they equated to a once in 200-year event, according to the report on the Sahel region by World Weather Attribution (WWA).

Reuters: Deadly heat in West Africa warns of climate change-driven scorchers to come July 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2025.

### **AL-QAIDA-LINKED GROUP CLAIMS ATTACK AGAINST MALI ARMY POSITION NEAR SENEGAL**

Armed men attacked a Mali community just over the border from Senegal on Tuesday in a development an expert called especially worrying as the deadly violence spreads. The al-Qaeda-linked JNIM extremist group claimed responsibility for the coordinated attack on several Malian army positions in the country's west and central regions. One position was in Diboli, across the border from Senegal, which has largely been spared the extremist attacks.

RT: Al-Qaida-Linked Group Claims Attack Against Mali Army Position Near Senegal July 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2025.

### **THREE INDIANS SEIZED IN MALI DURING MILITANT ATTACKS**

Three Indians working in Mali were kidnapped from a cement factory during a spate of militant attacks this week in the troubled west African nation, New Delhi's foreign ministry said. The men were seized Tuesday when "a group of armed assailants carried out a coordinated attack at the factory premises" of the Diamond Cement Factory in Kayes, the main city in Mali's western region, the ministry said in a statement late Wednesday.

Alarabiya: [Three Indians seized in Mali during militant attacks](#) July 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2025.

## ***AFRICA***

### **SOUTH AFRICA REPORTS NEW BIRD FLU OUTBREAK ON POULTRY FARMS**

South African authorities have confirmed new outbreaks of the highly pathogenic H5N1 avian influenza strain on two poultry farms, according to the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH). These are the country's first reported cases since September 2024. The Paris-based agency noted that the virus, known for its severe impact on bird populations and potential risk to humans, was detected during routine surveillance. Although H5N1 rarely infects humans, health experts continue to monitor the situation closely due to its potential to mutate.

Africa News: [South Africa reports new bird flu outbreak on poultry farms](#) July 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2025.

### **SUDAN: RSF PARAMILITARIES AND ALLIES DECLARE PARALLEL GOVERNMENT**

In Sudan, the Tasis alliance announced on Tuesday, July 1, the creation of a governance council. This coalition of armed groups, political parties, and civil society organizations, allied with the Rapid Support Forces paramilitaries, was launched in February in Nairobi, Kenya. Its aim is to establish a parallel government to that of Port Sudan, where the regular army has been stationed since the onset of the war two years ago. With this alliance, General Hemedti's paramilitaries are attempting to gain political ground against his rival, General Abdel Fattah al-Burhan. The announcement was made with great fanfare in Nyala, the capital of South Darfur state. The governance council of the Tasis alliance consists of 31 members.

Africa News: [Sudan: RSF paramilitaries and allies declare parallel government](#) July 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2025.

## ***THE GLOBE***

### **HEATWAVE ACROSS EUROPE LEAVES 8 DEAD AS EARLY SUMMER TEMPERATURES HIT RECORDS**

Four people died in Spain, two in France and two in Italy as an early summer heatwave continued to grip much of Europe on Wednesday, triggering health alerts and forest fires and forcing the

closure of a nuclear reactor at a Swiss power plant. Spanish officials said a wildfire in Catalonia had killed two people a day earlier, and authorities reported heatwave-linked deaths also in Extremadura and Cordoba. France's energy minister reported two deaths linked to the heat, with 300 others taken to hospital.

Reuters: [Heatwave across Europe leaves 8 dead as early summer temperatures hit records](#) July 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2025.

### **TRAGIC WILDFIRES IN TURKIYE: FIRST FATALITY CONFIRMED**

An elderly man was found dead from smoke inhalation after a wildfire in western Turkiye. Firefighters continue battling blazes that have caused evacuations and highway closures. Hundreds of fires, spurred by harsh weather, have occurred nationwide, leading to tens of thousands being evacuated as the fires rage on. The tragedy struck in western Turkiye on Thursday when firefighters discovered the body of an elderly man after extinguishing a wildfire near a village. The 81-year-old man, identified as the first fatality in a series of nationwide wildfires, succumbed to smoke inhalation, according to Suleyman Elban, the governor of Izmir province. In response, security forces and emergency teams swiftly evacuated 37 other villagers from the affected area. Meanwhile, a separate inferno in the Aegean coastal town of Cesme prompted the deployment of hundreds of firefighters, helicopters, and aircraft to tackle the blaze. The fire, ignited on Wednesday, forced evacuations of three neighborhoods and temporarily closed roads

DevDiscourse: [Tragic Wildfires in Turkiye: First Fatality Confirmed](#) July 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2025.

### **RUSSIAN NEWS OUTLET IN AZERBAIJAN RAIDED AMID DIPLOMATIC ROW**

The Azerbaijani Interior Ministry has announced a raid on the Baku office of Russian news network Sputnik. The move comes amid tensions between the two nations, following a police raid on suspected Azerbaijani gangs in Russia. Russian Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Maria Zakharova expressed concern with the development, and that the government of Azerbaijan would not respond to requests for explanations sent by Moscow.

RT: [Russian news outlet in Azerbaijan raided amid diplomatic row](#) July 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2025.

### **MOSCOW-BAKU TENSIONS: WHAT IS KNOWN SO FAR**

The relationship between Moscow and Baku has rapidly deteriorated in the aftermath of a Russian police raid on a suspected ethnic organized crime gang, which resulted in the death of two suspects. Baku has retaliated by taking hostile steps, targeting Russian journalists and artists and detaining a group of the country's nationals it portrayed as a "crime ring."

RT: [Moscow-Baku tensions: What is known so far](#) July 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2025.

### **FRANCE RETURNS MILITARY BASE TO SENEGAL**

France has handed over a military communications base in western Senegal to local authorities after withdrawing its troops, the French embassy has announced. The West African nation's

president, Bassirou Diomaye Faye, called for an end to a decades-old defense pact with the former colonial power last year, declaring it “incompatible” with the country’s sovereignty.

RT: France returns military base to Senegal July 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2025.

### **TRUMP THREATENS HAMAS**

US President Donald Trump has warned Hamas against rejecting a new American-backed ceasefire proposal, stating that the militant group’s position will only deteriorate if it refuses to accept the deal, which has reportedly already been agreed upon with Israel. “Israel has agreed to the necessary conditions to finalize the 60 Day CEASEFIRE, during which time we will work with all parties to end the War,” Trump wrote, thanking mediators Qatar and Egypt for their efforts.

RT: Trump threatens Hamas July 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2025.

### **PENTAGON HALTS WEAPONS SUPPLIES TO KIEV – MEDIA**

The Pentagon has suspended shipments of several categories of US-made weapons to Ukraine. The decision reportedly followed an internal review of American weapons reserves ordered by US Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth, amid rising concerns about the rate at which munitions are being depleted. The move reportedly affects dozens of Patriot missile interceptors, Stinger and AIM air-to-air missiles, hundreds of Hellfire and GMLRS systems, as well as thousands of 155mm artillery shells that Washington had previously pledged to Kiev. Some of the weapons which were already positioned in Europe have now been withheld and will be provided to Ukrainian forces, NBC reported.

RT: Pentagon halts weapons supplies to Kiev – media July 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2025.

### **GAZA WAR MUST CONTINUE – ISRAELI MINISTER**

Israeli Finance Minister Bezalel Smotrich has said that the war in Gaza must continue until “a decisive victory” is achieved, rejecting calls for a ceasefire or negotiated settlement. Speaking at a press briefing on Monday, Smotrich said Israel was “in the midst of a campaign against a crushed terrorist organization” and warned that there would be “no greater danger” to the country’s future than halting the operation prematurely. “This war must end in a decisive victory for many generations to come, without agreements, without mediators,” he said.

RT: Gaza war must continue – Israeli minister July 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2025.

### **IRAN WARNS UKRAINE OF ‘CONSEQUENCES’ OVER RECENT COMMENTS**

Tehran has summoned Ukraine’s charge d’affaires and delivered a formal protest over remarks by Ukrainian officials in support of the recent US-Israeli attack on the country. The move was announced by Iran’s Foreign Ministry on Monday. In a statement on its official website, the ministry denounced what it called “unjustified comments made by some Ukrainian officials regarding the Zionist regime’s and American aggression against Iran. “By supporting the military aggression of the Zionist regime, Ukrainian officials have in fact ignored Ukraine’s international legal obligations regarding respect for the principles and purposes of the United Nations Charter

and the four Geneva Conventions,” Shahram Farsai, the head of the First Eurasian Department, told the Ukrainian envoy.

RT: [Iran warns Ukraine of ‘consequences’ over recent comments](#) July 2nd, 2025.

### **TRUMP ORDERS REVIEW OF SYRIAN LEADER’S TERRORIST DESIGNATION**

US President Donald Trump has dismantled much of the decades-old American sanctions program imposed on Syria and has ordered a review of the terrorist designation of Ahmed al-Sharaa, who led the coalition of Islamist forces that toppled the previous government of Bashar Assad. Trump signed an executive order on Monday, easing broad financial restrictions while maintaining targeted sanctions against Assad and his former government, which was deposed late last year by Hayat Tahrir al-Sham (HTS) and other militant groups. US sanctions against what it designates as Foreign Terrorist Organizations will also remain in place. However, Trump’s order directs Secretary of State Marco Rubio to review HTS’s designation, as well as al-Sharaa’s label as a “Specially Designated Global Terrorist.” Washington will also revisit its designation of Syria as a State Sponsor of Terrorism, first imposed in 1979.

RT: [Trump orders review of Syrian leader’s terrorist designation](#) July 2nd, 2025.

### **‘WE DON’T KNOW’ WHERE IRAN’S ENRICHED URANIUM IS – IAEA CHIEF**

More than 400 kilograms of enriched uranium remains unaccounted for in Iran following Israeli and US airstrikes on key nuclear facilities. Speaking to CBS in an interview, Grossi admitted that “we don’t know where this material could be, or if part of it could have been under the attack during those 12 days.” Grossi said Iran’s stockpile of uranium enriched to 60% purity – which is shy of the 90% required to build a nuclear weapon – has effectively gone missing since Israel and the US launched strikes on the country. Some of it could have been destroyed and some could have been moved, he noted. The 400kg uranium is a quantity the IAEA has assessed as theoretically sufficient to produce more than nine nuclear bombs if enriched to 90%.

RT: [‘We don’t know’ where Iran’s enriched uranium is – IAEA chief](#) July 2nd, 2025.

### **TRUMP’S TRAVEL BAN: FALLOUT FOR 2026 WORLD CUP AND 2028 OLYMPICS**

U.S. President Donald Trump often says the 2026 World Cup and 2028 Los Angeles Olympics are among the events he is most excited about in his second term. Yet there is significant uncertainty regarding visa policies for foreign visitors planning trips to the U.S. for the two biggest events in sports. Trump’s latest travel ban on citizens from 12 countries added new questions about the impact on the World Cup and the Summer Olympics, which depend on hosts opening their doors to the world.

Africa News: [Trump’s travel ban: Fallout for 2026 World Cup and 2028 Olympics](#) July 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2025.

### **ETHIOPIA’S PM ABIY AHMED SAYS MEGA DAM GERD ON THE NILE ‘NOW COMPLETE’**

Ethiopia’s Prime Minister said a multibillion-dollar mega dam on the Blue Nile, which has caused




deep consternation to downstream neighbors Egypt and Sudan over its effect on their water supply, is complete and will be officially inaugurated in September. Abiy said in an address to parliament: “To our neighbors downstream – Egypt and Sudan – our message is clear: the Renaissance Dam is not a threat, but a shared opportunity ... The energy and development it will generate stand to uplift not just Ethiopia.” Earlier this week, Egyptian President Abdel Fattah el-Sisi and Sudan’s leader Abdel Fattah al-Burhan met and “stressed their rejection of any unilateral measures in the Blue Nile Basin”.

Aljazeera: Ethiopia’s PM Abiy Ahmed says mega dam GERD on the Nile ‘now complete’ July 4<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

### **RUSSIA BECOMES FIRST COUNTRY TO RECOGNISE AFGHANISTAN’S TALIBAN GOVERNMENT**

Russia has accepted the credentials of a new ambassador of Afghanistan as part of an ongoing drive to build friendly relations with the country’s Taliban authorities, which seized power as United States troops withdrew from the country four years ago. The move makes Russia the first country in the world to recognize the country’s Taliban government. Moscow, which called the US withdrawal a “failure”, has taken steps to normalize relations with the Taliban authorities since then, seeing them as a potential economic partner and ally in fighting terrorism.

Aljazeera: Russia becomes first country to recognize Afghanistan’s Taliban government July 4<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

	<b>HIGH RISK</b>
	<b>MEDIUM RISK</b>
	<b>LOW RISK</b>