



THE EARLY WARNING MONITOR

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Top of the Agenda

MADAGASCAR'S MILITARY LEADER THANKS GEN Z PROTESTERS AS HE IS SWORN IN

Col Michael Randrianirina has been sworn in as the new president of Madagascar days after a military takeover in the Indian Ocean nation. He swapped his fatigues for a suit and thanked the young people who took to the streets for weeks of protests that prompted President Andry Rajoelina to flee the country and led to his impeachment. The ceremony took place at the Constitutional Court in the capital, Antananarivo, where a large crowd gathered to watch - including those who spearheaded the demonstrations. "Today marks a historic turning point for our country. With a people in full fervour, driven by the desire for change... we joyfully open a new chapter in the life of our nation," he said. The former French colony now enters a transition period, which will be full of political obstacles and legal uncertainty - though there is cautious optimism about Col Randrianirina's leadership. Constitutional Court president Florent Rakotoarisoa has criticised the international community for describing the situation in Madagascar as a coup. He denied that there had been a violation of the constitution in Madagascar, instead blaming the constitution for causing the situation to deteriorate.

BBC News: [Madagascar's military leader thanks Gen Z protesters as he is sworn in](#) October 17th, 2025.

Analysis

Madagascar's Gen Z protest is unprecedented. Led by young people largely mobilised through digital platforms, it solidifies the trend of young Africans yearning for improved governance and dividends of democracy in the continent. Madagascar's Gen Z protest started in September 2025 and was focused in the capital, Antananarivo. It was triggered by frequent water and power outages that spread to other cities across Madagascar. The protest escalated over several days and resulted in President Andry Rajoelina fleeing into exile in France. Protesters had hoped that Rajoelina would simply resign and pave the way for a smooth, democratic transition. Instead, he clung to power, dissolving his government and holding a series of dialogues with different groups, efforts that were not enough to deescalate the tensions.

Much worries lies in the fact that, like other former French colonies in Africa that have experienced coups in recent years, it has been hinted that relations with France may also change

under his leadership with warmer ties sought with Russia. Randrianirina attended a meeting with Russian embassy officials to discuss "serious" co-operation between both states. Earlier during the protests, demonstrators were seen waving Russian flags on the streets calling for Moscow's intervention. However, Randrianirina told the Gen Z demonstrators he was taking power and that the military would form a government and hold elections within two years. Pro-democracy advocates, both inside and outside the country, hope that this promise will be fulfilled.

NIGERIA

NEMA ADVISES EDO FLOOD-PRONE RESIDENTS TO RELOCATE UPLAND AS RIVER NIGER RISES

The National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) in Edo State has urged residents living along the River Niger to relocate to higher grounds as water levels continue to rise following dam releases. Head of Operations, Kenoma Ojuederie, warned that flooding is imminent and relocation is crucial to prevent casualties. He assured that internally displaced persons (IDP) camps are ready to accommodate affected residents, with government support in place. Edo SEMA Executive Secretary, Jerry Idahosa, confirmed that local committees are on red alert and evacuation plans have been prepared, emphasizing that while the situation is being monitored, there is currently no cause for alarm.

Daily Post: NEMA Advises Edo flood-prone Residents to Relocate Upland as River Niger Rises October 12th, 2025.

FEAR OF EFCC FUELING DEFECTIONS INTO APC - CHEKWAS OKORIE

Chief Chekwas Okorie has claimed that fear of EFCC prosecution is pushing many opposition politicians to defect to the ruling APC in search of protection. He argued that such defections weaken Nigeria's democracy and called for laws that strip defectors of their elected positions. Okorie also expressed doubt over the credibility of the new INEC Chairman, Prof. Joash Amupitan, citing declining public confidence and participation in the electoral body after past controversies. He warned that unless INEC proves its independence in upcoming elections, public trust in the political system will continue to erode. He therefore urged stronger laws to prevent political opportunism and restore confidence in Nigeria's democracy.

Vanguard News: Fear of EFCC fueling defections into APC - Chekwas Okorie October 13th, 2025.

NIGERIA INTENSIFIES FIGHT AGAINST VACCINE-PREVENTABLE DISEASES WITH NATIONWIDE MEASLES-RUBELLA AND POLIO CAMPAIGN

The Government of Nigeria has launched a nationwide integrated vaccination campaign targeting more than 106 million people across all 36 states and the Federal Capital Territory. The campaign delivers measles-rubella, polio vaccines, and HPV vaccination to close immunity gaps and protect children and adolescents from life-threatening diseases. Led by the National Primary

Health Care Development Agency (NPHCDA) in collaboration with the World Health Organisation (WHO), Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, the Gates Foundation, UNICEF, and other partners, the campaign was officially flagged off in Abuja by the First Lady of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, Senator Oluremi Tinubu. “This effort builds on our united front against polio, tuberculosis, HPV, and other vaccine-preventable diseases. With these vaccines, our children will be protected and enjoy a lifetime of safety,” the First Lady said.

WHO News: Nigeria intensifies fight against vaccine-preventable diseases with nationwide measles–rubella and polio campaign October 14th, 2025.

GENERAL ELECTIONS MAY HOLD IN NOVEMBER 2026 AS NASS PROPOSES MAJOR ELECTORAL REFORMS

The National Assembly is proposing major electoral reforms that could shift Nigeria’s next general elections to November 2026, six months earlier than usual. The amendment aims to ensure all election disputes are resolved before the May 2027 handover. It also introduces digital voter cards, NIN-linked registration, diaspora and inmate voting, and mandatory electronic result transmission. While these reforms promise modernization and inclusion, they raise concerns about INEC’s readiness, cybersecurity vulnerabilities, and possible constitutional conflicts if implementation is rushed. Analysts warn that if poorly managed, these changes could heighten political tension and undermine public trust ahead of the 2026 elections.

Nigerian Info: General Elections May Hold in November 2026 as NASS Proposes Major Electoral Reforms October 14th, 2025.

NIGERIA ACCELERATING ACTION TO EXPAND HIV PREVENTION OPTIONS WITH LONG-ACTING INJECTABLE PREP

Nigeria is intensifying efforts to eliminate AIDS as a public health threat by 2030 through expanded HIV prevention strategies. Beyond daily oral pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP), the country is introducing long-acting injectable PrEP to improve access and bridge prevention gaps. Supported by the WHO and Global Fund, the National AIDS, Viral Hepatitis and STIs Control Programme (NASCP), alongside NACA and partners, assessed over 70 facilities across 10 states for readiness to implement multiple PrEP options. The findings will inform national planning, with NASCP emphasizing inclusive prevention tools that reach diverse populations and advance Nigeria’s HIV elimination goals.

WHO News: Nigeria accelerating action to expand HIV prevention options with long-acting injectable PrEP October 15th, 2025.

SOLDIERS DISLODGE TERRORISTS FROM TARABA HIDEOUTS, RECOVER WEAPONS

Troops of the 6 Brigade, Nigerian Army/Sector 3, Operation Whirl Stroke, conducted successful clearance operations in Taraba State, flushing out terrorists and recovering weapons and stolen items. They engaged with terrorists in Badekoshi, forcing them to flee deeper into the forest. The troops recovered an AK-47 rifle, ammunition, uniforms, and a motorcycle. The Brigade

Commander commended the troops for their professionalism and urged them to sustain the momentum. The Nigerian Army is committed to ensuring the safety of citizens and will continue to work with other security agencies to achieve lasting peace in the State.

Punch News: Soldiers dislodge terrorists from Taraba hideouts, recover weapons October 15th, 2025.

POLICE FOIL PLANNED KIDNAPPING AND ARMED ATTACK IN ABUJA

Operatives of the FCT Police Command have foiled a planned kidnapping and armed attack by suspected bandits in Byazhin Forest, Abuja. During the operation, officers recovered an AK-47 rifle and ammunition. According to the Police PRO, SP Josephine Adeh, the raid followed intelligence from the Force Headquarters indicating that a notorious bandit leader, Idrisa, alias “Mai Duna,” had plotted coordinated attacks on villages near the Byazhin axis. Acting on this, on October 10, 2025, around 9:00 p.m., the Command’s Anti-Kidnapping Unit launched a tactical ambush along the criminals’ routes as part of ongoing efforts to curb banditry in the FCT.

Punch News: Police foil planned kidnapping and armed attack in Abuja October 15th, 2025.

GUNMEN KILL 57-YEAR-OLD ADAMAWA FARMER; POLICE INVESTIGATE

The Adamawa State Police Command has launched an investigation into the death of 57-year-old farmer Patrick Mija in the Labau community, Shelleng Local Government Area. Police spokesperson Yahaya Suleiman told PUNCH Metro on Tuesday that Mija was attacked on Sunday while returning from his farm. He confirmed that security operatives were immediately deployed to the scene and that efforts are ongoing to identify and arrest the attackers. “We received a report that the farmer was assaulted on his way back from the farm. Our officers visited the scene and the health centre, where he was later confirmed dead,” Suleiman said.

Punch News: Gunmen kill 57-year-old Adamawa farmer; police investigate October 15th, 2025.

WEST AFRICA

BURKINA FASO: AID WORKERS DETAINED AMID HUMANITARIAN CRISIS

Burkina Faso’s military junta is detaining eight aid workers from the International NGO Safety Organisation (INSO) on espionage and treason charges, which Human Rights Watch calls baseless and politically motivated. The arrests, involving both local and foreign staff, reflect the junta’s escalating repression of NGOs amid a deepening humanitarian crisis. Since seizing power in 2022, the regime has shut down or suspended multiple international organisations, restricted media, and expelled UN officials. Analysts warn that by targeting INSO, which is vital for coordinating aid, the junta is endangering humanitarian operations in a country where over 6 million people rely on emergency assistance.

Human Rights Watch: Burkina Faso: Aid Workers Detained Amid Humanitarian Crisis October 14th, 2025.

RESIDENTS OF IHIALA RETURN HOME AFTER YEARS OF INSECURITY

After years of fear and displacement, residents of Ebonesie communities — Orsumoghu, Isseke, Mbosi, Lilu, and Ubuluisiuzo in Ihiala LGA, Anambra State — are returning home as peace gradually returns. Once plagued by violent criminal groups, the area now enjoys renewed calm following intensified security operations and government intervention. Grateful residents are rebuilding homes, farmlands, and public facilities. Community leaders praised the efforts of security agencies and the state government, while officials pledged continued measures to sustain peace. The return of residents marks a hopeful new chapter for the Southeast communities after years of insecurity and hardship.

NairaLand News: [Residents Of Ihiala Return Home After Years Of Insecurity \(video\) - Politics - Nigeria](#) October 17th, 2025.

COURT CONVICTS 59 FOREIGNERS FOR CYBERCRIME IN NIGERIA

The Federal High Court in Abuja has convicted 59 foreign nationals linked to a major cybercrime syndicate uncovered by the Nigeria Police Force National Cybercrime Centre. The convicts, mostly Chinese and Malaysian citizens, were among 130 suspects arrested during a police raid in the Jahi area of Abuja on November 3, 2024. Police spokesperson CSP Benjamin Hundeyin said the group, which included 113 foreigners and 17 Nigerians, was involved in large-scale internet fraud and hacking operations that threatened national cybersecurity. Earlier, 21 syndicate members were sentenced in August 2025, while another five were convicted in September.

Punch News: [Court convicts 59 foreigners for cybercrime in Nigeria](#) October 17th, 2025.

AFRICA

SAHEL JUNTAS IN ONLINE BID TO DISRUPT IVORY COAST POLL

Accounts linked to the juntas in Burkina Faso, Mali, and Niger have spread disinformation about Ivory Coast, including fake claims of President Alassane Ouattara's death and a fictitious coup, to incite unrest ahead of the October 25 election. Ivory Coast's ANSSI traced the campaigns using falsified France 24 and Jeune Afrique visuals to Burkinabe networks like the Rapid Intervention Communication Battalion (BIR-C), run by Ibrahima Maiga and allegedly connected to junta leader Captain Ibrahim Traoré's brothers. Analysts say these coordinated efforts aim to discredit democracy, weaken Ouattara, an opponent of the Sahel coups and divert attention from the juntas' stalled political transitions.

France 24 News: [Sahel Juntas in online bid to Disrupt Ivory Coast Poll](#) October 15th, 2025.

DRUG-RESISTANT SALMONELLA RIFE IN UGANDA'S POOREST REGION

In the dry, isolated area of Karamoja in northeastern Uganda – the country's poorest sub-region – children have long suffered from malnutrition and water shortages. Now a study has shown that

nearly half the food and water consumed by under-fives in the region is contaminated with drug-resistant Salmonella, further limiting their chances of survival. The peer-reviewed study, published in BioMed Central, found contamination in samples of both raw and cooked foods, as well as in community and household water. More than 90 per cent of the Salmonella enterica strains identified by researchers were resistant to azithromycin, one of the most common antibiotics, while more than a third were resistant to multiple drugs.

WHO News: Drug-resistant Salmonella rife in Uganda's poorest region October 15th, 2025.

CAN OBSERVERS GUARANTEE FREE AND FAIR ELECTIONS IN TANZANIA?

As Tanzania heads to its elections on October 29, concerns are rising over whether observer missions can truly guarantee a free and fair process. While regional bodies like the EAC and SADC have been invited, critics warn that such observers often lack independence and may end up legitimizing flawed polls. The article highlights shrinking civic space, limits on opposition activity, and weak electoral institutions, which are all signs of democratic backsliding. These issues pose a governance risk, as public trust in the process could erode further, sparking voter apathy or unrest if citizens feel the election outcome is predetermined or manipulated.

All Africa News: Can Observers Guarantee Free And Fair Elections In Tanzania? October 15th, 2025.

FIRE IN PARTY OFFICE RAISES TENSIONS AS CAMEROON AWAITS ELECTION RESULTS

Tensions are rising in Cameroon following the October 12 presidential election, as opposition candidate Issa Tchiroma Bakary declared victory ahead of official results. The ruling party dismissed the claim, while protests erupted in cities like Douala and a party office in Dschang was set ablaze. Security forces have made arrests and used tear gas to disperse crowds. With results expected by October 26, fears are growing of unrest, especially in the Anglophone regions already plagued by conflict. The situation could lead to post-election instability, institutional distrust, and potential government suppressions as tensions continue to build.

New York Times: Fire in Party Office Raises Tensions as Cameroon Awaits Election Results October 16th, 2025.

THE GLOBE

DOZENS KILLED IN PAKISTAN-AFGHANISTAN BORDER CLASHES

Dozens of troops and civilians were killed in border skirmishes between Pakistan and Afghanistan, with both sides accusing each other of initiating the violence. Pakistan's military claimed that the Afghan Taliban attacked two major border posts, resulting in the death of about 20 fighters. The Afghan Taliban stated that 15 civilians were killed by mortar fire during the clashes. The situation escalated following explosions in Kabul that were blamed on Pakistan, leading to a retaliatory offensive by the Afghan Taliban. Both sides have traded accusations of

harboring militant groups on their territory. Casualties on both sides have been reported, with tensions remaining high.

Punch News: Dozens killed in Pakistan-Afghanistan border clashes October 15th, 2025.

CLIMATE ADVISERS WARN UK TO PREPARE FOR 2 °C WARMING BY 2050

The UK's Climate Change Committee (CCC) has issued its first-ever warning for the government to prepare for 2°C of global warming by 2050, noting current adaptation measures are dangerously inadequate. After the UK's hottest summer on record, with four heatwaves and severe drought, the CCC projects heatwave likelihood rising to 80% and drought duration doubling. It urges urgent adaptation of infrastructure, housing, and agriculture to withstand intensified heat, flooding, and wildfires. The warning signals a critical shift: the 1.5°C Paris target is slipping out of reach, forcing policymakers to confront escalating climate impacts that now threaten food security and national resilience.

RTL News: Climate Advisers Warn UK to Prepare for 2 °C Warming by 2050 October 15th, 2025.

ITALIAN JOURNALIST'S CAR BOMBED, NO CASUALTIES

Prominent Italian journalist Sigfrido Ranucci's vehicle was destroyed by a bomb in an explosion in Pomezia, near Rome, but no casualties were reported. The attack was condemned by Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni and Interior Minister Matteo Piantedosi, who called it a serious act of intimidation. Ranucci's investigative television show, Report, is known for its in-depth reports. Italy ranks 49th in the world for press freedom, according to Reporters Without Borders. This attack highlights the dangers faced by journalists investigating organised crime and corruption in Italy, with around 20 journalists currently living under police protection due to threats and attacks.

Punch News: Italian journalist's car bombed, no casualties October 17th, 2025.

AID 'CRITICALLY LOW' IN GAZA A WEEK INTO CEASEFIRE AMID ISRAELI DELAY




A week into the ceasefire in Gaza, humanitarian assistance remains "critically low", with Israeli authorities delaying the reopening of the Rafah crossing to Egypt, citing security concerns, and insisting aid continue through the Israeli-controlled Kerem Shalom route instead. Civilians are facing acute shortages of food, water, fuel and medical supplies, even as truce conditions are nominally in place. The delay is exacerbating humanitarian suffering and raising urgent calls for full, immediate access to Gaza's most vulnerable.

Al Jazeera: Aid 'critically low' in Gaza a week into ceasefire amid Israeli delay October 17th, 2025.

TRUMP THREATENS TO 'GO IN AND KILL' HAMAS IF GAZA KILLINGS CONTINUE

Trump's remarks followed his earlier comment that the Hamas shootings including public executions, "didn't bother me much," calling them killings of gang members. On his Truth Social account, he warned: "If Hamas continues to kill people in Gaza, which was not the Deal, we will have no choice but to go in and kill them." He did not clarify who "we" referred to, later asserting the US military "won't need" to operate in Gaza. Since a partial Israeli pullback under a US-backed 20-point ceasefire, Hamas has tightened control over devastated cities, cracking down and publicly executing alleged collaborators.

Channels: [Trump Threatens To 'Go In And Kill' Hamas If Gaza Killings Continue](#) October 17th, 2025.

	HIGH RISK
	MEDIUM RISK
	LOW RISK