



## THE EARLY WARNING MONITOR

*GLIC Weekly Report*

*31<sup>st</sup> October, 2025*

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

#### **MALI SHUTS SCHOOLS AND UNIVERSITIES AS JIHADIST BLOCKADE WORSENS FUEL CRISIS**

Mali has suspended schools and universities nationwide due to a severe fuel scarcity caused by a blockade on fuel imports imposed by Islamist insurgents. Education Minister Amadou Sy Savane announced on state television that all educational institutions would remain closed until November 9, stating that the blockade had affected the movement of staff and students. He said the authorities were "doing everything possible" to end the crisis so that classes could resume on 10 November. Long queues have been snaking around petrol stations in Bamako in recent weeks, and the city's usually crowded streets have now reportedly fallen quiet. The military government had earlier this month assured residents that it was only a temporary issue, but the crisis has persisted, and it has the potential to disrupt the overall security situation in unpredictable ways. BBC News: [Mali Shuts Schools and Universities as Jihadist Blockade Worsens Fuel Crisis](#) October 30<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

### ***Analysis***

The Sahel region has been plagued by the offshoot of Al-Qaeda, the Jama'at Nusrat al-Islam wal-Muslimin (JNIM), which was formed in Northern Mali in 2017 by a coalition of five jihadist militant groups. The group, which rejects the authority of the Sahel governments, seeks to impose its strict interpretation of Islam and Sharia in the areas where it operates. JNIM have been ascribed to diverse extremist activities, from strict dress codes to bans on music and drinks. The ushering in of 2025 signaled intense attacks by the JNIM group, particularly in Mali. The first half of 2025 recorded over 117 casualties in Mali, and by the second half of the year, the frequency of their attacks in Mali has heightened to a great extent. Evidence has shown how they utilize several tactics to attack the citizens of Mali, from planting IEDs(Improvised Explosive Devices) on major roads, particularly in the capital city of Mali, Bamako, to targeting military bases and stealing their weapons, which is added to their artillery.

In recent times, they have utilized new attack strategies to suppress government authorities while keeping Malian citizens under economic and security subjugation. As identified from notable sources and witnesses, the simultaneous attacks by JNIM from October 5th to October 7th, 2025, targeted the Malian Armed Forces (FAMA) and civilian logistics convoys, signalling the group's

ability to strike on various fronts simultaneously. Their strategic attacks were evident on the military convoy between Diangounte and Diema, which are strategic trade corridors linking Kayes to Bamako, critical routes for trade, commerce, and fuel supply. Concurrently, they also ambushed several fuel tankers en route to the capital for fuel distribution in the Sikasso region. These events have culminated in a fuel shortage and low distribution of fuel to the capital, thereby causing a ripple effect on the Malian economy and the welfare of its citizens. Emphatically, this worsening situation has left the Malian government with no choice but to make drastic decisions, which will inevitably harm major sectors in the country. On October 28, 2025, the government announced the closure of schools due to the fuel situation, which has reduced movement to a minimal level. Additionally, the United States of America has also relocated its diplomats and key personnel from the capital due to this issue, whose resolution is not in sight.

On a final note, this issue is a glaring signal that the JNIM group won't stop its attacks anytime soon, and it may continue to expand within the Sahel region, particularly the AES group. Therefore, swift action should be taken by the international community to curb the excesses of the extremist group before it brings the region to total ruin.

## ***NIGERIA***

### **POWER OF INCUMBENCY IMPAIRS NIGERIA'S ELECTORAL INTEGRITY, SAYS EX-INEC CHAIR JEGA**

Former INEC Chairman, Prof. Attahiru Jega, has warned that Nigeria's democracy faces serious threats due to the abuse of incumbency power, which undermines electoral integrity. Speaking at an event on democratic governance, Jega noted that many incumbents manipulate state resources, institutions, and security agencies to gain unfair advantage during elections. He emphasized that credible elections must be transparent, impartial, and reflect the genuine will of the people. According to him, when elections lack integrity, governments lose legitimacy, weakening public trust and democratic stability. He called for reforms to strengthen INEC's independence, curb vote-buying, and ensure fair electoral processes.

Guardian News: Power of incumbency impairs Nigeria's electoral integrity, says ex-INEC Chair Jega October 28<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

### **TRUMP THREATENS TO LAUNCH ATTACKS IN NIGERIA OVER 'KILLING OF CHRISTIANS'**

US President Donald Trump threatened military action against Nigeria over alleged anti-Christian violence, claiming he had instructed the "Department of War" to prepare for attacks. He warned that the US would cut aid and "go in guns-a-blazing" if killings continued, though he did not specify which groups were responsible. Experts and human rights analysts rejected

claims of a “Christian genocide” in Nigeria, calling them false and inflammatory. Nigerian President Bola Tinubu defended his government’s efforts to protect all citizens and uphold religious freedom, urging cooperation with the US instead of confrontation to address insecurity affecting both Muslims and Christians.

Al Jazeera: <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2025/11/1/trump-threatens-to-launch-attacks-in-nigeria-over-killing-of-christians> November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025

### **NIGERIA: JNIM HAS ARRIVED, NO MORE DULLING**

JNIM, al-Qaeda’s Sahel-based coalition led by Iyad ag Ghali, has extended its reach into Nigeria, claiming an October 2025 attack in Kwara State after forming a local brigade. Once confined to Mali and Burkina Faso, JNIM now threatens West Africa, escalating from 150 attacks in 2020 to over 400 in 2025. Nigeria faces this sophisticated insurgency with underfunded, poorly trained forces crippled by corruption, poverty, and political interference. The writer urges a strategic overhaul—considering limited mercenary support for short-term relief—but stresses lasting reform: rebuilding institutions, strengthening policing, revitalising northern economies, and uniting regional efforts to stop the growing threat.

LinkedIn: Nigeria: [Nigeria: JNIM Has Arrived, No More Dulling](#) November 1st, 2025.

### **NIGERIA UPDATES MPOX GUIDELINES TO COMBAT RESURGENCE**

Nigeria is intensifying its efforts to control mpox by updating clinical management guidelines, enhancing referral and data systems, and increasing public awareness to prevent community transmission. Since 2017, mpox has posed a continuous public health threat in Nigeria. In 2024, the country recorded 189 confirmed cases. As of 19 October 2025, there have been 389 confirmed cases and six deaths across 35 states and the Federal Capital Territory (FCT). The Nigeria Centre for Disease Control and Prevention (NCDC), collaborating with the World Health Organization (WHO) and supported by the World Bank, conducted a national workshop to review the outdated 2019 mpox case management and infection prevention guidelines. The earlier guidelines did not incorporate the latest WHO recommendations, evolving clinical evidence, or available antiviral treatments. This review brought together clinicians, infectious disease experts, epidemiologists, health educators, IPC focal persons, state health officials, and partners from the most affected states.

HealthCare Mea News: [Nigeria updates Mpox guidelines to combat resurgence](#) October 29<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

### **ELECTORAL ISSUES: HOW FAR CAN ‘PROF INTEGRITY’ GO?**

The article discusses the appointment of Joash Ojo Amupitan (SAN) as Chair of Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) by Bola Tinubu and asks whether his reputation for integrity can translate into meaningful electoral reform in Nigeria. While Amupitan is described as principled and fair, the piece highlights systemic challenges: incumbency influence, weak institutional independence, declining voter trust post-2023 elections, and unresolved reforms

such as campaign-finance regulation and electronic result-transmission. The article argues that despite his credentials, Amupitan will face “political hawks” and entrenched problems raising the question: “How far can he go?”

ThisDay News: Electoral Issues: How Far Can ‘Prof Integrity’ Go? October 29th, 2025.

### **NIGERIA'S TOP GENERAL SAYS INSUFFICIENT 'RESOURCES' HAMPERING WAR AGAINST TERRORISM**

Nigeria’s incoming Chief of Defence Staff, Lieutenant General Olufemi Oluyede, told the Senate that the military lacks sufficient resources to effectively combat terrorism and banditry. Speaking during his confirmation hearing, he urged Nigeria to strengthen and restructure its police force, arguing that many military duties fall within police responsibilities. Oluyede also called for increased local arms production to reduce costs. His remarks follow President Bola Tinubu’s reshuffle of top military leaders amid denied coup plot rumors. Despite reduced violence since Boko Haram’s peak, Nigeria still faces persistent insurgent and bandit threats, straining security forces nationwide.

TRT Afrika: Nigeria's top general says insufficient 'resources' hampering war against terrorism October 29<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

### **EXPERTS WARN OF HEALTH SYSTEM COLLAPSE AS ‘JAPA’ DRAINS WORKFORCE**

Health experts have warned that the mass migration of medical professionals, known as “Japa,” is endangering Nigeria’s fragile healthcare system. Speaking at the Olikoye Ransome-Kuti Memorial Lecture at Obafemi Awolowo University, Professor Roger Makanjuola criticized the government’s “tokenistic” response to the crisis. He revealed that Nigeria has only 1.83 health workers per 1,000 people, far below the WHO standard of 4.45, and that 17,000 of 55,000 licensed doctors have emigrated. Tracing the issue to decades of neglect, he urged reforms such as merit-based promotions, better pay, diaspora engagement, and transparent governance to strengthen institutions and revive the nation’s health sector.

Punch News: Experts warn of health system collapse as ‘japa’ drains workforce October 3<sup>1st</sup>, 2025.

## **WEST AFRICA**

### **MALI SHUTS SCHOOLS AND UNIVERSITIES AS JIHADIST BLOCKADE WORSENS FUEL CRISIS**

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resume on 10 November. Long queues have been snaking around petrol stations in Bamako in recent weeks, and the city's usually crowded streets have now reportedly fallen quiet. The military government had earlier this month assured residents that it was only a temporary issue, but the crisis has persisted, and it has the potential to disrupt the overall security situation in unpredictable ways.

BBC News: [Mali Shuts Schools and Universities as Jihadist Blockade Worsens Fuel Crisis](#) October 27<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

### **HOW AL-QAIDA-LINKED JIHADIST GROUP JNIM IS BRINGING MALI TO ITS KNEES**

Al-Qaida-linked militants from Jama'at Nusrat ul-Islam wa al-Muslimin (JNIM) have blockaded fuel routes to Mali's capital, Bamako, triggering severe shortages, power cuts, and economic paralysis. The group's escalating attacks signal a tightening siege on the city and growing risk of Mali becoming an Islamist state under sharia law. Western governments have urged citizens to evacuate amid fears of another coup, the third in five years, as the ruling junta struggles to contain the crisis. Analysts warn that dwindling fuel supplies and internal military tensions could destabilize the regime, while JNIM's expanding control brings Mali closer to Taliban-style governance.

The Guardian UK: [How al-Qaida-linked jihadist group JNIM is bringing Mali to its knees](#) November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025

### **NIMET PREDICTS THREE-DAY DUST HAZE AND RAIN FROM MONDAY**

The Nigerian Meteorological Agency (NiMet) has forecasted dust haze and rainfall across the country from Monday to Wednesday. Northern states like Borno, Kano, and Katsina will experience slight dust haze, while Taraba and Adamawa may see isolated thunderstorms and light rain. The central region, including the FCT, Nasarawa, and Kogi, will have sunny skies with intermittent clouds and possible moderate rainfall. Southern states will face cloudy conditions and thunderstorms, with heavy rains likely in Rivers, Cross River, and Akwa Ibom. NiMet warned of flash floods and advised caution for motorists, respiratory patients, and airline operators to monitor weather updates.

Punch News: [NiMet Predicts Three-Day Dust Haze and Rain from Monday](#) October 27<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

### **US EMBASSY IN MALI URGES AMERICANS TO LEAVE 'IMMEDIATELY'**

The US Embassy in Bamako has urged American citizens to leave Mali immediately due to worsening security conditions, fuel shortages, and service disruptions. It warned that overland travel is unsafe because of terrorist attacks and advised citizens to use commercial flights or prepare to shelter in place if necessary. Non-essential embassy staff and families have already been evacuated, and consular services outside Bamako are unavailable. Mali's fuel crisis, caused by armed groups blocking supply routes, has crippled transport, led to long fuel queues, and forced nationwide school closures, leaving Bamako's streets unusually quiet amid growing

insecurity and instability.

AA News: US Embassy in Mali urges Americans to Leave ‘Immediately’ October 28<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

## **AFRICA**

### **SUDAN PARAMILITARY SAYS IT SEIZED LAST ARMY STRONGHOLD IN DARFUR**

In the recent escalation of the civil war in El Fasher, a key city in North Darfur, the paramilitary Rapid Support Forces (RSF) claimed to have overrun the army’s base after an 18-month siege. The RSF, which traces its roots to the infamous Janjaweed militias, is accused by the U.S., U.N., and Sudanese army of committing genocide against African-ethnic groups in Darfur. Satellite imagery shows heavy damage to the city’s infrastructure, and food, healthcare and escape routes are reportedly cut off. Thousands are fleeing, and hundreds of thousands reportedly remain trapped and at risk of mass atrocities.

NPR News: Sudan paramilitary says it seized last army stronghold in Darfur October 29<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

### **TANZANIA ROCKED BY UNREST AS ELECTION SPARKS CLASHES**

Tanzania’s general election on October 29, 2025 triggered unrest as opposition leaders were barred and civic space tightened, leading to mass protests in cities including Dar es Salaam. Demonstrators clashed with security forces, prompting a curfew, deployment of the military and nationwide internet disruptions. Samia Suluhu Hassan seeking a full term faced minor rivals after the main opposition parties were disqualified or sidelined. Rights groups report abductions, shootings and enforced disappearances. The ruling Chama Cha Mapinduzi (CCM) is poised to maintain its decades-long hold on power amid accusations of manipulation and legitimacy concerns.

RT News: Tanzania rocked by unrest as election sparks clashes October 30<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

### **SUPPORT FOR DEMOCRACY DECLINING IN SOUTH AFRICA – REPORT**

A new Afrobarometer survey reveals that fewer than half of South Africans now believe democracy is the best form of government, signaling declining faith in the political system. Although support for democracy has slightly risen since a 2021 low, more citizens now favor military rule than oppose it, with nearly half open to an army takeover. About 70% of respondents are dissatisfied with how democracy functions, especially among the poor, unemployed, and middle-aged. Unemployment tops the list of national concerns, followed by crime, insecurity, poor infrastructure, and corruption—issues driving frustration and disillusionment with South Africa’s democratic leadership.

RT News: Support for democracy declining in South Africa – report October 30<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

### **ETHIOPIA SEEKS MEDIATION TO EASE TENSIONS WITH NEIGHBOR**

Ethiopian Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed has called for international mediation to ease rising



tensions with Eritrea over access to the Red Sea. Addressing parliament, Abiy said he had engaged China, Russia, the US, the AU, and the EU to help find a peaceful resolution, stressing that Ethiopia's quest for sea access is "irreversible." Ethiopia lost its coastline after Eritrea's 1993 independence, and relations have recently soured amid accusations that Eritrea is mobilizing for war and aiding rebels. Abiy affirmed Ethiopia seeks no conflict, emphasizing regional cooperation and prosperity. The dispute follows Ethiopia's controversial 2024 sea access deal with Somaliland.

RT News: Ethiopia seeks mediation to ease tensions with neighbor October 30<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

### **REBELS ACCUSED OF MASSACRING HUNDREDS OF PEOPLE AS VIDEOS EMERGE OF ATROCITIES AND BODIES IN SUDANESE CITY**

Massacre in El Fasher, Sudan's Darfur region, has drawn global outrage after videos showed Rapid Support Forces (RSF) fighters executing civilians at El Fasher University's medical school and Saudi Hospital. Satellite images confirm mass killings, with hundreds of bodies visible. Survivors recount summary executions, rape, looting, and ethnic targeting as thousands flee amid the city's siege. The RSF, led by Mohamed Hamdan Dagalo (Hemedti), faces accusations of genocide and war crimes, which it denies despite mounting evidence. Humanitarian groups warn of missing men, mass abductions, and atrocities committed with impunity, prompting urgent calls for accountability and investigation.

CNN News: Rebels accused of massacring hundreds of people as videos emerge of atrocities and bodies in Sudanese city October 30<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

## ***THE GLOBE***

### **COP CONFLICT: FOSSIL FUEL LOBBY GROUP SHOULD HAVE NO SAY IN UN CLIMATE NEGOTIATIONS**

An opinion piece in Mint argues that the presence of fossil-fuel lobbyists at COP29 and prior UN climate talks undermines the credibility of the global governance process. It highlights that at COP28 in Dubai, over 2,400 delegates were linked to oil, gas or coal interests, exceeding many of the world's most climate-vulnerable countries' delegations. Drawing a parallel with the tobacco industry, the article calls for a firewall to exclude industry actors from decision-making roles, even if they remain observers. It argues that allowing those profiting from fossil fuels to help shape phase-out policy represents a conflict of interest that delays urgent climate action.

Live Mint News: COP conflict: FossilFuel lobby group should have no say in UN climate negotiations October 27<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

### **WORLD FAR OFF TRACK TO MEET CLIMATE GOALS, UN WARNS**

The UN has warned that current national carbon-cutting pledges would reduce global emissions by only 10 percent by 2035, far below the 60 percent cut needed to keep global warming within 1.5°C. Ahead of COP30 in Brazil, most countries, including China and the EU, missed the

deadline to submit updated plans, leaving the UN with limited data. UN climate chief Simon Stiell said emissions are declining for the first time but not nearly fast enough. With global warming already at 1.4°C, experts warn of inevitable overshoot, urging nations to accelerate action to prevent irreversible climate damage.

Punch News: World Far Off Track to Meet Climate Goals, UN Warns October 28<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

### **STORM STRIKES CUBA AFTER TEARING THROUGH JAMAICA**

Hurricane Melissa tore a path of destruction across Jamaica on Tuesday, prompting the prime minister to declare the country a disaster area, after the storm made landfall as a Category 5 hurricane, one of the most powerful landfalls on record in the Atlantic basin. Melissa is now a Category 3 hurricane as it pounds Cuba on Wednesday morning, The NHC said the storm remains "extremely dangerous" with maximum sustained winds near 120 mph.

ABC News: Storm strikes Cuba after tearing through Jamaica October 29<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

### **‘HORRIFIC VIOLATIONS’: ARAB NATIONS SLAM RSF KILLINGS IN SUDAN’S EL-FASHER**

Saudi Arabia, Egypt, Qatar, Turkiye, and Jordan have condemned the Rapid Support Forces (RSF) for atrocities committed during their capture of el-Fasher in Sudan. Satellite images from Yale University show evidence of mass killings following the RSF takeover, which has left at least 2,000 people dead. The RSF’s seizure of the city, its 17-month siege, and reports of executions and sexual violence have drawn global outrage. Regional governments called for restraint, ceasefire, and protection of civilians. The UN warned of worsening foreign interference, while researchers said the violence may amount to genocide and urged urgent international action to halt the killings.

Al Jazeera: ‘Horrific violations’: Arab nations slam RSF killings in Sudan’s el-Fasher October 29<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

### **RUSSIA REACTS TO BELGIAN THREAT TO ‘WIPE MOSCOW OFF THE MAP**

Russia has condemned Belgian Defense Minister Theo Francken for “provocative and irresponsible” remarks after he claimed NATO could “wipe Moscow off the map” if Russia escalated the Ukraine conflict. In an interview with De Morgen, Francken dismissed fears that supplying Tomahawk missiles to Ukraine could trigger war, asserting that any Russian attack on Brussels would result in Moscow’s destruction. Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Aleksandr Grushko called the comments symptomatic of “military psychosis” in Europe. The Russian Embassy in Belgium warned that such rhetoric fuels militarism and threatens Europe’s future, reiterating that Western arms deliveries to Ukraine only heighten tensions

RT News: Russia reacts to Belgian threat to ‘wipe Moscow off the map October 30<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

### **KEY RUSSIAN ALLY GIVES TIME FRAME FOR ORESHNIK DEPLOYMENT**

Belarus will have Russia’s nuclear-capable Oreshnik medium-range missile system fully



operational by December, presidential spokeswoman Natalia Eismont announced after President Alexander Lukashenko's meeting with military officials. Eismont said the deployment is on schedule, dismissing rumors of delays. Lukashenko defended the move, arguing it mirrors NATO nations' plans to host similar weapons. The Oreshnik, developed after the U.S. withdrew from the 1987 INF Treaty, is part of Russia's new deterrence arsenal. A conventional version was tested in Ukraine last year. Putin claims the system's power rivals tactical nuclear strikes, reinforcing the deepening military alliance between Minsk and Moscow.

RT News: [Key Russian ally gives time frame for Oreshnik deployment](#) October 30<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

