



MAIN STORIES

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HIGHLIGHTS

- The United Nations Security Council on 7 June 2021 strongly condemned violations of human rights and international humanitarian law in the Central African Republic (CAR) and warned that attacks on United Nations peacekeepers may constitute war crimes.
- The United States (US) and Russia traded accusations over actions in the CAR. US Political Coordinator, Rodney Hunter, expressed outrage at reports that Russian military instructors led military offensives and were involved in sexual violence and looting. Russia's Deputy UN Ambassador accused the US of making "baseless allegations."
- Vice World News reported that it had uncovered evidence of Kremlin-backed gunmen gang-raping civilians and using hit squads to kill torture victims.
- A Russian Air Force Antonov An-124 transport aircraft delivered Mi-8MT and Mi-24V helicopters to the CAR.
- Russia's Ambassador in the CAR, Vladimir Titorenko, said that his country supplied the CAR with a third batch of weapons "free of charge." These include assault rifles, machine guns, sniper rifles, pistols, RPGs, hand grenades and ammunition.
- A delegation led by Prime Minister Firmin Ngrebada participated in the St. Petersburg International Economic Forum (SPIEF), which took place from 2 to 5 June 2021. Ngrebada met the Russian Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mikhail Bogdanov and they confirmed their intention to deepen the "political dialogue" between the Russian Federation and the CAR.
- Ambassador Vladimir Titorenko was allegedly recalled because of clashes with Faustin Archange Touadéra's Russian security advisor, Valery Zakharov.

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC (CAR)



- France suspended aid to and military cooperation with CAR because of what it says is the government's failure to stop "massive disinformation campaigns" against France. France cut 10 million euros in budget support.
- The Chad government accused the CAR of executing six of its soldiers after an attack on the outpost of Sourou in Chad on 30 May. Generals in N'Djamena and elsewhere in the region attributed the operation to Russian instructors deployed alongside the Central African Republic's troops. Chad and CAR have called on the United Nations (UN) and African Union (AU) to investigate the incident,
- At least 11 people were killed by explosive devices in five accidents in the country's western Nana-Mambéré Prefecture between 20 April and 16 May 2021. On 28 May 2021, two members of the Central African Armed Forces (FACA) and three Russians were killed when their vehicle drove over a landmine in Bondiba in the prefecture of Nana-Mambéré.
- Fighting in the village of Boyo, located about 40 kilometres from Bambari, Ouaka prefecture, between Union for Peace in the Central African Republic (UPC) rebels and Russian mercenaries left 20 people dead, mostly civilians.
- Representatives of the AU, the UN, the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS), and the European Union (EU) visited the CAR from 2 to 5 June. They expressed concerns about the security, humanitarian and human rights situation and called for the resumption of dialogue.
- The Human Rights Division of MINUSCA (DDH) said that during the period of May 11 to 17, it documented 40 incidents of abuse and violations of human rights and international humanitarian law affecting at least 61 victims.



CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC (CAR)



- Almost half of the population (47 percent) suffers from a sharp rise in acute food insecurity, the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) and the World Food Program (WFP) warned. From April through August 2021, 2.29 million people will likely experience high levels of acute food insecurity.
- According to the World Health Organisation (WHO), from 3 January 2020 to 9 June 2021, there were 7,101 confirmed cases of COVID-19 with 98 deaths. The Government on 20 May 2021 officially launched a COVID-19 vaccination campaign. On 19 May, President Touadéra declared COVID-19 as a public health emergency.
- The International Monetary Fund (IMF) said economic activity is expected to contract slightly in 2021, compared to the 3.5 percent growth expected before the security situation deteriorated.
- President Touadéra visited Angola and held a private meeting with President João Lourenço. They agreed to expand areas of cooperation between their countries.
- The CAR and Iran are in arrears in paying their dues to the United Nations' operational budget and could lose their voting rights in the General Assembly.

