



MAIN STORIES

Limiting Presidential Eligibility Could Drive Deep Divides in the DRC

Tshisekedi Keeps Promise of Renegotiating Foreign Mining Contracts

President Tshisekedi Tries to Take on the Disarmament Challenge

The Islamic State's Expansion into Ituri Province

HIGHLIGHTS

- The proposed citizenship law is a high-risk gamble for instability; electoral reforms to improve the institutional mechanisms for electing leaders could be a better option.
- Renegotiating mining contracts is necessary but comes with geo-political and economic risks.
- Using a former rebel leader in the rebel disarmament group raises questions about justice for past atrocities committed by such leaders.
- The DRC scored of 8.85 (10 being highest) in the Basel AML Index on money laundering/terrorist financing (ML/TF) risk, placing it second in the world.
- The Allied Democratic Forces' (ADF) shift in tactics creates more problems for the security and international forces to achieve victory.
- Continued instability in eastern DRC, despite the state of siege, again questions the role of United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the DRC (MONUSCO).
- DRC is hosting 5.2 million internally displaced people (IDPs) due to rising militancy and banditry in eastern DRC.
- As of 20 September 2021, the DRC had recorded 56 387 coronavirus cases, 24 461 active cases, 1 068 deaths and 30 858 recoveries, while 306 299 tests were done.
- The government has been criticised about poor conditions in prisons following the death of 150 inmates in the first six months of 2021 in a penitentiary in Kinshasa.
- China supports the DRC government punitive measures against illegal Chinese mining operations.
- A multi-billion investment plan seeks to re-industrialise the DRC through doubling the number of industrial production units by 2026 and putting the country on a long-term course of growth to 2040.
- A diplomatic row is brewing between the DRC and Nigeria following alleged harassment of Nigerian diplomats.

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO (DRC)



- President Yoweri Museveni of Uganda wants to deploy Ugandan troops in the DRC to fight the Allied Democratic Forces (ADF)
- Increased trade of US\$250 million between the DRC and Turkey is expected following a state visit by President Felix Tshisekedi.

