



## MAIN STORIES

### Ceasefire

### The United Nations (UN) on CAR

### Russia

### Humanitarian Situation

## HIGHLIGHTS

- President Faustin-Archange Touadéra, on 15 October, declared a unilateral cessation of fighting against armed groups, saying he hoped it would lead to peaceful dialogue.
- The spokesman for the main rebel alliance, the Coalition of Patriots for Change (CPC), Abakar Sabone, welcomed the initiative but later said that Touadéra is recruiting 500 rebels from the ranks of the Allied Democratic Forces (ADF) who have been committing numerous crimes in the eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), to come to the Central African Republic and fight the CPC.
- The Unité pour la paix en Centrafrique (UPC), led by Ali Darrassa Mahamat, said in a statement that it took note of the presidential declaration while respecting for its part the cease-fire proclaimed by Touadéra. It added that the ceasefire was already being violated by the Central African Armed Forces (FACA) and the Russian mercenaries of Wagner and they would continue to fight.
- The G5 +, a group of states and international institutions that are partners of the Central African Republic (CAR), welcomed the declaration by Touadéra. The same applies to the United Nations (UN) Secretary General, António Guterres and the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR).
- The Coalition of the Democratic Opposition (COD-2020) accused Touadéra of wanting to lift the immunity of opposition Members of Parliament (MPs) and decided to withdraw its representatives from the Republican Dialogue Organising Committee. Touadéra is due to meet with COD leaders on 10 November to try and salvage the dialogue.
- On 18 October, Mankeur Ndiaye, Special Representative of the Secretary-General for the Central African Republic and Head of the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the Central African Republic (MINUSCA) briefed the Security Council on the situation in

## CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC (CAR)



- the CAR. In subsequent discussions, Touadéra said that the worsening security situation was aimed at sabotaging the electoral process, adding that the recent regrouping of ‘bilateral forces’ will help better protect civilians
- Ambassador Linda Thomas-Greenfield (United States) expressed concern over human rights abuses committed by Russian mercenaries; James Kariuki (United Kingdom) said his delegation remained concerned by credible reports of human rights abuses committed by Wagner; and Anna M. Evstigneeva (Russia) noted that Russian instructors, were not taking part in fighting.
- The UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR’s) “special procedures” independent experts, the largest body of independent experts within the UN human rights system, said on 27 October that civilians, including peacekeepers, journalists, aid workers and minorities in the CAR had been violently harassed and intimidated by ‘Russian instructors’ from the Wagner Group.
- The National Assembly awarded Alexander Ivanov, the spokesman of the Communauté des Officiers pour la Sécurité Internationale (COSI), a media outlet for Russian instructors on Twitter, “for the outstanding job done by in the fight against terrorists.” COSI has links with the Fondation pour la défense des valeurs nationales, a think tank associated with Wagner.
- The United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) said that 3.1 million people need humanitarian assistance and protection. Nearly 20% of Central African households’ host internally displaced persons (IDPs), placing additional burdens on households in their struggle to survive.
- MINUSCA accused the country’s presidential guard of opening fire on unarmed Egyptian peacekeepers and wounding ten of them, but the government said the allegation was inaccurate.



# CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC (CAR)



- OCHA said on 4 November 2021 that during the first ten months of 2021, 364 incidents affecting humanitarian workers had been recorded compared to 339 during the same period in 2020.
- On 7 November, Russian mercenaries executed the Secretary General of the UPC, Ali Tato and his wife in the town of Shimbolo.
- Portuguese soldiers are suspected of trafficking diamonds, drugs and gold back into Europe from the Central African Republic.
- French Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs, Jean-Yves Le Drian, accused Wagner of replacing the authority of the State and “confiscating its fiscal capacity.” Central African Minister of Foreign Affairs Sylvie Mbaïpo-Temon in reaction said Le Drian’s remarks was an effort to “infantilise” the CAR and its authorities.
- Touadéra paid a working visit to Libreville, Gabon. Touadéra met with his counterpart Ali Bongo Ondimba. They discussed the withdrawal of Gabonese troops from MINUSCA, by the UN due to allegations of sexual misconduct. Touadéra reportedly told Bongo that when “the truth comes out,” Gabon’s honour would be restored.
- A government delegation, led by Minister Sylvie Baïpo-Temon, was on a four-day visit to Germany. Christoph Hoffmann, chairman of the parliamentary group of the Free Democratic Party (FDP) in the lower house of parliament, said that German parliamentarians from all political and ideological backgrounds were against the presence of Wagner’s Russian mercenaries in Africa, and particularly in the CAR.
- The Global Initiative Against Transnational Organised Crime published the Global Organised Crime Index – 2021, which evaluates countries according to their levels of criminality on a score from 1 to 10 (lowest to highest organised crime levels). CAR is ranked 9th out of 193 countries with a criminality score of 7.04.



# CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC (CAR)



- The government's plans to overhaul the country's mining laws moved away from nationalisation through the Gemmes et Minéraux de Centrafrique (Geminca). Geminca will now be a simple purchasing office, like the current Comptoir des Minéraux et Gemmes (Comigem).
- CAR's suspension from the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI) process was lifted.

