



### MAIN STORIES

#### Sanctions

#### Zanu-PF Conference

#### Attacking the MDC Alliance

#### RBZ Measures to Stop Exchange Rate Volatility

#### Currency Plans

#### Coronavirus

## HIGHLIGHTS

- The Special United Nations (UN) Rapporteur on the “negative impact of unilateral coercive measures on the enjoyment of human rights,” Belarus’ Alena Douhan found that sanctions against Zimbabwean politicians and institutions should be scrapped because they worsen pre-existing social and economic woes.
- The European Union (EU) dismissed claims that the two decades-long restrictive measures imposed on individuals and state firms had triggered an economic meltdown. EU ambassador to Zimbabwe Timo Olkkonen maintained the bloc’s position that there were “no sanctions against Zimbabwe.”
- The United States (US) representative to the UN, Linda Thomas-Greenfield, dismissed Douhan's report. She said the deteriorating situation in Zimbabwe was not because of sanctions imposed on select individuals and companies, but poor administration and human rights violations.
- The Zanu-PF 19th National Annual People’s Conference endorsed Emmerson Mnangagwa as the party’s presidential candidate for the 2023 harmonised elections.
- MDC Alliance President Nelson Chamisa reportedly survived an assassination attempt in Mutare, Manicaland Province, on 19 October.
- Fifteen police officers who were arrested on 13 October, have been taken to court for allegedly disrupting a Zanu-PF meeting and assaulting party members in Bindura, Mashonaland Central Province.
- Thirty-nine members of the War Veterans Welfare Pressure Group (WVWPG - drawn from across the country’s provinces), arrested on 26 October in Harare for participating in a gathering with the intent to cause public violence, were granted \$5 000 bail each. The disgruntled war veterans withdrew their affiliation to Zanu-PF after they were arrested.

# ZIMBABWE



- The Organised Crime and Corruption Reporting Project (OCCRP) reported that Kudakwashe Tagwirei, who is close to Mnangagwa and his inner circle, leveraged his privileged access to fuel and mining markets to strike a lucrative partnership with commodities giant Swiss-based Trafigura.
- Belarusian President Alexander Lukashenko's right-hand man Viktor Sheiman travelled to Zimbabwe in 2018, securing huge trade deals. Sheiman's own son stood to gain from a controversial gold mining venture.
- As of 2 November 2021, Zimbabwe had registered 133,007 coronavirus cases 4,679 deaths and 127,754 recoveries. Level 2 Lockdown will be maintained to 3 November and the United Kingdom decided to remove Zimbabwe from the COVID-19 travel red list.
- Public Service Minister, Paul Mavima, said that a circular, which declared that all unvaccinated government workers would be barred from reporting to work as of on 18 October “only applies to civil servants who have deliberately avoided vaccination.”
- The World Bank said in its October 2021 Macro Poverty Outlook report that GDP is expected to re-bounce to 5.1% in 2021. Growth of 5.4% is predicted for 2022 and 4.2% for 2023.
- The International Monetary Fund (IMF) said in its October 2021 World Economic Outlook (WEO) that the economy will grow by 5.1% in 2021. It predicts growth of 3.1% in 2022 and 3.0% in 2026.
- The Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) expressed concern regarding the increase in month-on-month inflation, from 4.7% in September 2021 to 6.4% in October 2021 and annual inflation from 51.5% to 54.5% over the same period.
- Finance Minister Mthuli Ncube said he would propose a 900 billion Zimbabwe dollar (US\$9.68 billion) budget for 2022, more than double this year’s total. Ncube said GDP is projected to grow by 7.8% in 2021.



# ZIMBABWE



- According to the World Food Programme (WFP), during the month of September, the estimated number of people with insufficient food consumption increased by 100,000 from 5.6 million estimated in August 2021 to reach 5.7 million in September.
- The government ruled out adopting the US dollar as the country's sole official currency, terming it "suicidal."
- The RBZ's Financial Intelligence Unit (FIU) ordered banks to urgently implement measures to detect ongoing debit card abuses fuelling the black-market US\$ trades.
- The RBZ banned bulk physical airtime sales, ordering telecommunications service providers to reduce sales of physical airtime recharge vouchers to 20% of all airtime sales by 31 January 2022 and to 10% by 30 April 2022.
- The government will cancel operating licences of businesses that price their goods using unofficial exchange rates.
- Nearly 580 000 Zimbabwean youths left the country for greener pastures in 2020 alone, an International Labour Organisation (ILO) report shows.
- Most top executives in the mining sector are optimistic that the economy will grow in 2022 with most players planning to expand operations going forward, according to the State of the Mining Industry Report.
- A survey commissioned by Zimbabwe's mining chamber found that mining companies were losing 20% of gross export proceeds.
- The Zimbabwe Energy Supply Authority (ZESA) power utility executive chairman, Sydney Gata, announced on 18 October that a deal with Zambia for the initial import of 100 megawatts (MW) of electricity had been signed.
- Mnangagwa, who is among other world leaders in Glasgow for the Conference of Parties (COP26) meeting, met British Prime Minister Boris Johnson and United Nations Secretary General Antonio Guterres on the side-lines of the conference on 2 November. Mnangagwa said his re-engagement efforts "are now bearing fruit" after he was welcomed by Johnson and Guterres.



# ZIMBABWE



- Mnangagwa met with EU President Charles Michel. The European Council was ready to work with Zimbabwe, including in the fight against climate change, Michel said.
- China, along with the African Union (AU) and the Southern African Development Community (SADC) and other African countries issued a strongly-worded solidarity messages as Zimbabwe marked its Anti-Sanctions Day.



**IN TRANSFORMATION  
INITIATIVE**