



MAIN STORIES

**Tinkering with the
Financial System**

Mnangagwa in Davos

HIGHLIGHTS

- Zanu-PF Members of Parliament (MPs) have allegedly been sharing their growing disdain for the party with colleagues in the opposition Citizens Coalition for Change (CCC).
- CCC president, Nelson Chamisa, claims that the army is fed up with President Emmerson Mnangagwa and is ready to replace him in the 2023 elections.
- Chamisa welcomed Thokozani Khupe saying the opposition party wanted to work with everyone to unseat Zanu-PF. CCC Vice President Professor Welshman Ncube was instrumental in ‘recruiting’ Khupe to the party.
- The CCC trounced Zanu-PF and other parties in seven of the eight municipal by-elections held on 7 May.
- Utterances by Mnangagwa encouraging students to learn to manufacture ‘guns and bombs’ have been widely criticised.
- The Zimbabwe Peace Project (ZPP) said Zanu-PF perpetrated the majority of human rights abuses across the country in April. ZPP recorded 165 incidents in which the ruling party was responsible for violations.
- There was a heavy deployment of riot police on 9 May, ahead of a planned stayaway to protest against growing economic hardships. The stayaway failed. On 26 May, police officers swarmed Bulawayo as government moved to quash potential demonstrations.
- The government is set to deploy security forces to confiscate maize stocks from farmers amid low deliveries of grain to the country’s sole buyer, the Grain Marketing Board (GMB).
- Deputy Minister of Lands, Agriculture Fisheries, Water & Rural Resettlement Douglas Karoro was arrested on allegations of stealing 700 bags of fertiliser, US\$18 000 worth of maize seed and 5 000 vegetable seed kits from the Presidential Input Schemes.

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- The African Development Bank (AfDB) said in its 2022 Africa Economic Outlook (AEO), published in May 2022, that growth is projected to average 3.5% in 2022 and 3.2% in 2023.
- Zimbabwe lifted its ban on bank lending, more than a week after President Mnangagwa announced a freeze on loans in a move he said was meant to stop speculation against a rapidly devaluing local currency. The backtracking came after business groups warned that the lending freeze would hurt commerce and worsen Zimbabwe's economic crisis.
- Zimbabwe's annual consumer price inflation jumped to 131.7% in May 2022, from 96.4% in the prior month.
- The Ministry of Finance authorised the suspension of duties on basic commodities for the next six months, starting on 17 May.
- The government plans to pay one-off gratuities and monthly pensions to a new batch of around 160,000 war veterans, war collaborators and ex-political prisoners who missed out during the first round of compensation in 1997.
- Zimbabwe is likely to suffer a nearly 50% decline in maize output in 2022 because of poor rainfall and a prolonged dry spell.
- As of 2 June 2022, Zimbabwe had registered 252,703 coronavirus cases, 5,506 deaths and 244,434 recoveries.
- The US\$3 billion Great Dyke Investments (GDI) platinum mega-project has reportedly all but collapsed.
- Mnangagwa attended the World Economic Forum (WEF) meeting in Davos. Mnangagwa apparently had a torrid time to explain how he had largely failed to implement reforms he promised in 2017.
- Mnangagwa blames the recent xenophobic attacks in South Africa on "long colonialism" describing it as, "a racialised war of black African underdogs." Mnangagwa added that the attack on foreigners was disguised as nationalism and served to derail African unity.



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- Zanu-PF spokesman, Christopher Mutsvangwa, launched a stinging attack on British MPs, describing them as “political toddlers” suffering from a “colonial hangover”.
- US acting ambassador to Zimbabwe Thomas Hastings, said that Mnangagwa has done little to erase the country’s ‘bad-boy’ image for the normalisation of relations and lifting of targeted sanctions to happen.
- Mnangagwa, in his latest column in the local Sunday Mail newspaper, slammed the West and lavished praise on Beijing.
- The chairperson of the Russian Federation Council, Valentina Ivanovna Matvienko, who arrived in Zimbabwe on 1 June for a three-day official visit, described the Western sanction policy as “mindless.”
- Russia’s ambassador to Zimbabwe, Nikolai Krasilnikov, after paying a courtesy call on Speaker of the National Assembly, said his country was grateful to Zimbabwe for throwing its weight behind the Kremlin in its armed conflict with Ukraine.
- According to Indonesia state media Zimbabwe is seeking to buy arms from PT Pindad.

