



MAIN STORIES

**New President for the
Constitutional Court
and Some International
Criticism**

**Rebels Fighting in
the Ukraine (and
Deserting)**

**Relations With
France Continue to
Deteriorate**

HIGHLIGHTS

- On 24 October, President Faustin-Archange Touadéra dismissed Constitutional Court President, Danièle Darlan after the court ruled that a commission for constitutional reforms to draft a new Constitution was unconstitutional. On 21 November, Touadéra appointed Jean Pierre Waboué as the new president of the Constitutional Court.
- The spokesperson for the United States (US) State Department, Ned Price, said in a statement on 28 October that his country “notes with deep concern” a recent series of actions targeting members of the Constitutional Court, adding that independence of the judiciary is a fundamental principle of any democracy.
- Prime Minister Félix Moloua announced that local elections had been postponed from 22 January to 16 July 2023.
- The Republican Bloc for Defending the Constitution (BRDC), a coalition of opposition parties and civil society groups, issued a statement on 22 November, saying that it plans to organise peaceful demonstrations to push for Touadéra’s ouster.
- The Wagner Group reportedly abandoned dozens of former Central African Republic (CAR) rebels in Ukraine’s Donbas region after recruiting them to fight President Vladimir Putin’s war.
- Touadéra, during a meeting with around a hundred Federal Presidents of the United Hearts Movement (MCU), on 31 October said that he wanted to drive France out of the CAR, adding that he will do so with the support of Russian mercenaries and Rwandan soldiers.

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC (CAR)



- CAR revoked the French Ambassador's position as dean of the diplomatic corps in the country. The French Ambassador held the position as dean of the diplomatic corps since 1960.
- In the wake of the dismissal of Darlan, some opposition leaders in France and the US established the Resistance and Transition Council aimed at restoring constitutional order. They held a protest against Touadéra in Paris on 5 November and called for his removal from office. The government accused the Council of incitement to popular uprisings.
- One of the pro-regime's militia leaders, Blaise Didatien Kossimatchi, alleged that France is preparing an invasion of Bangui in December 2022
- The UN Security Council decided to extend the mandate of the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilisation Mission in the Central African Republic (MINUSCA) until 15 November 2023.
- After its first-ever trial, the Special Criminal Court, a tribunal of local and international judges, sentenced Issa Sallet Adoum, Yaouba Ousmane, and Mahamat Tahir to jail terms from 20 years to life. They were accused of taking part in an attack by the Return, Claim and Rehabilitation (3R) armed group in May 2019 in which 46 villagers in CAR were massacred.
- People have been fleeing into the bushes in the prefectures of Vakaga, Bamingui-Bangoran and Haute-Kotto, following the arrival of a large number of rebels from the 3R and the Front Populaire pour la Renaissance de Centrafrique (FPRC), led by Nourredine Adam, in the region. Touadéra reportedly suspects that former transitional president, Michel Djotodia, is financing Adam to restart attacks.
- Touadéra, and President Vladimir Putin expressed in a telephone exchange their desire to strengthen bilateral cooperation in politics, trade and economy.
- There are speculations that the CAR's recent adoption of Bitcoin was a means of opening up the financial system to Russian companies after they were locked out by global sanctions.





- Georges Gougouey, an adviser to Touadéra, was one of the main figures working behind the scenes to set up the headquarters of the BRICS (Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa) in Bangui. Gougouey played a central role in organising the 20 to 24 November visit of BRICS boss, Larisa Zelentsova, of Russia, to Bangui.
- During the Kimberley Process (KP) meeting in Botswana, the CAR Monitoring Team (MT) documented that only eight of the CAR's diamond-producing subprefectures were KP-compliant and that diamond-production continued in non-compliant subprefectures. The CAR has refuted the CAR MT report.
- Chadian rebels, whose presence had been reported for several months on Central African territory, finally made their first incursion into Chadian territory. The rebels are allegedly supported by Wagner, which is determined to overthrow President Mahamat Deby Jr.
- The Defence ministers from Cameroon said they were deploying a joint force to their common border after at least 80 people were taken hostage over the past three months.
- The Minister for Economy Lea Doumta, who led a delegation on a two-day visit to India, said that her country is impressed with India's growth and development model and is keen to emulate it. During the visit, CAR signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with EV manufacturer Pravaig Dynamics. Under the MoU, the company can access strategic resources such as lithium and rhodium and also operate the country's first special economic zone (SEZ).
- United Nations (UN) Secretary General, Antonio Guterres, announced the appointment of Mohamed Ag Ayoya of Mali as the new resident coordinator for the CAR.

