



IN TRANSFORMATION
INITIATIVE

MONTHLY UPDATE

MOZAMBIQUE



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MAIN STORIES

**The Political Power Grab
and Democratic
Backsliding in
Mozambique**

**How Paul Kagame Spins
Security and Diplomatic
Web in Mozambique**

HIGHLIGHTS

- A possible third term for President Filipe Nyusi carries economic risk as it will signal to international investors a lack of commitment to the rule of law.
- Rwanda's military involvement in Mozambique is spinning a security and diplomatic web that benefits the former's economic ambitions.
- Mozambique is ranked 102 out of 180 countries (1=best) on the 2023 World Press Freedom Index, up from 116 in 2022.
- Controversies around the local government election voter registration process raise questions about state manipulation that may benefit Frelimo.
- Twenty judges had been expelled from the Mozambican judiciary over the past ten years for criminal behaviour, mostly crimes of corruption.
- The government is setting up a specialised police unit to deal with kidnappings, as the kidnapping of a Maputo businesswoman highlighted this scourge.
- Sporadic violence erupted in Cabo Delgado province once again, with a series of clashes between insurgents and security forces.
- The SAMIM force in Mozambique is struggling with a short fall in its 2022-2023 budget due to the non-payment by contributing countries.
- The production of liquefied natural gas (LNG) by TotalEnergies and Exxon Mobile is expected in 2027 and 2029, respectively.
- TotalEnergies CEO Patrick Pouyanne sees cost considerations as the last step before restarting Mozambique's LNG project as the security situation has stabilised.
- Mozambique's Business Robustness Index fell by one percentage point to 28% in the first quarter of 2023.

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- China will reduce by 98% its tariffs for Mozambican imports, under a new Agreement on Preferential Treatment for Goods Originating in Mozambique.
- The International Monetary Fund (IMF) carried out a second monitoring mission regarding its US\$470 million financing package to Mozambique.
- Mozambique's public debt stands at US\$14.4 billion, of which 30% is domestic debt and 70% external debt.
- The Fraser Institute's Annual Survey of Mining Companies 2022 put Mozambique 61st out of 62 countries on the Investment Attractiveness Index (1=best).
- The US Africa Command (US-AFRICOM) wants enhanced cooperation with Mozambique.

