



MAIN STORIES

Attempt to Weaken
Wagner

IMF Statement

III Global Organised
Crime Index

Humanitarian
Developments

HIGHLIGHTS

- President Faustin-Archange Touadéra’s office is reportedly working out the details of an unprecedented agreement with the American security consultancy firm Bancroft Global Development with the aim of weakening Wagner.
- The Global Initiative Against Transnational Organised Crime said in its Global Organised Crime Index – 2023, that there is limited state presence in the CAR outside the capital, Bangui, and a lack of citizen participation and limited rule of law contribute to a weak governance system; the country has not yet demonstrated a capacity to implement anti-money laundering measures; and given the fact that the CAR is a well-known kleptocracy, the small banking sector and international bank transfers are under surveillance because of past incidents of state fund transfers to foreign private bank accounts.
- Former prime minister Firmin Ngrebada, often mentioned as a possible successor to Touadéra, is still among the most influential figures in Bangui. Currently, he is seen as a potential candidate for the newly created roles of presidency or vice-presidency of the National Assembly. Ngrebada remains close to Touadéra, meeting him frequently.
- The International Criminal Court (ICC) has released former militia leader Maxime Mokom and is dropping all charges against him. Mokom had faced charges of war crimes and crimes against humanity.
- Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) said in a report that sexual violence in the country is a public health emergency. Between 2018 and 2022, MSF treated more than 19,500 survivors of sexual violence.

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC (CAR)



- On 9 October, rumours of the presence of rebels at PK12 on the road to Damara created panic in Bangui. Many people began to flee, businesses were paralysed and schools sent children home. In the end it transpired that two armed herders were arrested.
- As of 20 October 2023, 23 people, including 18 civilians were killed in 62 incidents and accidents involving explosive devices.
- On 7 October, around 60 associations supporting the Bangui regime protested against what they said is a plan for the “terrorist destabilisation of the CAR from French territory” because of the country’s cooperation with Russia.
- The operators of a CAR-based cryptocurrency investment company, Clé du Succès, are accused of defrauding investors of approximately \$1.6 million.
- The International Monetary Fund (IMF) said the economic situation in CAR is stabilising. The risks of a major crisis have been eased as a result of the government’s efforts, supported by the Extended Credit Policy (ECF) arrangement. Growth projections in 2023 have been revised downward from 2.2% to 1%.
- The World Bank October 2023 Macro Poverty Outlook states that continuing the weak economic performance of the past two years, CAR's real GDP is estimated to have grown by only 0.5 % in 2022. Real GDP growth is projected to rebound to 1.3% in 2023, before averaging 2.4% between 2024-25.
- At the invitation of the Central African Government, the third strategic review of the political process was held on 23 October 2023 in Bangui, under the patronage of Touadéra. The meeting noted the “significant efforts made,” particularly within the framework of the Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration (DDR) Program and the Restoration of State Authority throughout the territory.



CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC (CAR)



- A French diplomatic delegation visited the country on October 12 and 13, led by Mohamed Bouabdallah, Deputy Director of Political Affairs at the Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs (MEAE). The delegation discussed the future of MINUSCA in the country.
- On the occasion of the launch of the steering committee of the European Union Advisory Mission in the Central African Republic (EUAM RCA), Touadéra urged the EU to expand the Mission's mandate, emphasising the inclusion of civil protection and the establishment of multipurpose units.
- Both the government and opposition rejected an initiative by the African Union (AU's) Panel of Wise Men to hold a dialogue from October 2 to 7 in Bujumbura, Burundi.

