



## MAIN STORIES

Wagner

Arrest Warrant for  
Bozizé

High-Level  
Conference on  
Transhumance

World Bank  
Assessment

## HIGHLIGHTS

- On 30 May, the United States (US) Department of the Treasury’s Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) sanctioned two companies that are linked to Wagner in the Central African Republic (CAR), Mining Industries SARLU and Logistique Economique Etrangere SARLU.
- After nearly 2 months of training by Russian soldiers, around 200 A Zandé Ani Kpi Gbé militiamen, now called Wagner Ti Azandé, joined the ranks of the Central African Armed Forces (FACA) in May 2024. The A Zandé Ani Kpi Gbé, a predominantly ethnic Azande armed group was created in 2023 with the aim of fighting the Union for Peace in the CAR (UPC), a predominantly armed Fulani group.
- Wagner and FACA units are currently deployed in Haut-Mbomou and Ouham Prefectures where they are reportedly committing abuses against Muslims as they pursue the rebels.
- On 30 April, the Special Criminal Court in the CAR issued an arrest warrant for former President François Bozizé for crimes committed between February 2009 and March 2013 by his presidential guard and internal security services. Guinea-Bissau President, Umaro Sissoco Embaló, said he will not extradite Bozizé because there is no agreement between CAR and Guinea Bissau.
- The high-level national conference for peaceful and prosperous transhumance in the CAR was held on 13 May in Bangui, chaired by President Faustin-Archange Touadéra. The conference made recommendations related to the legal and institutional framework for transhumance, agropastoral infrastructure, conflict prevention and management, security and cross-border dialogues.

# CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC (CAR)



- On 19 May, President Faustin Archange Touadéra's Special Advisor, Fidèle Gouandjika, announced on social media that an alleged coup had been foiled. Gouandjika named Armel Sayo, the former minister in charge of state reforms and former leader of the Révolution Justice-Sayo as the ringleader.
- The CAR is ranked 76 out of 180 countries (1=best; 180=worst) on the 2024 World Press Freedom Index, published by Reporters Without Borders, up from 98 in 2023.
- Participants in the Kimberley Process (KP) intersessional meeting and special plenary in Dubai under the chairmanship of the UAE in May supported CAR's reinstatement to the KP in light of the improving security situation.
- On May 29, the National Assembly adopted the new Central African Mining Code. The new mining code, according to the government, aims to improve resource management and fight against corruption.
- On 16 May, the government and the European Union (EU) signed a financing agreement worth 34 million euros for three projects, including human development, protection of biodiversity, health, gender, women's empowerment and forest management. An agreement was also signed between the EU and the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) to finance local elections in October 2024 to the tune of 2 million euros.
- The Central African Minister of Small and Medium Enterprises and Private Sector Promotion, Hyppolite Ngaté Robard and a delegation was in Tehran from April 27 to May 1 where they amongst others discussed the possibility of resuming operation at the Bakouma uranium mine, closed by French company Areva.
- The National Civil Aviation Agency announced the termination of the management contract at Bangui M'poko international airport awarded in January 2023 to International Handling Services (ITHS) and re-awarded the contract to American company Aviation Handling Service (AHS).
- At the end of April, the French Ambassador in Bangui, Bruno Foucher, laid the first stone of the gendarmerie housing project.

