



MAIN STORIES

Zimbabwe Accused of Interference in Neighbouring Countries

Zanu-PF Congress

HIGHLIGHTS

- Zanu-PF passed a resolution seeking to amend the country's constitution that could see President Emmerson Mnangagwa extend his term by two years to 2030. In his closing address to delegates, Mnangagwa said even he was not above the party constitution and would abide by the term limits, which sees his tenure end in 2028.
- Zanu-PF passed a resolution to adopt the Zimbabwe Gold (ZiG) currency as the country's sole legal tender and phase out the use of US dollars.
- Zimbabwe's close ties with ruling parties in neighbouring countries are attracting controversy, with opposition movements in Botswana, Namibia and Mozambique accusing Zanu-PF of interfering in their national elections.
- Former Central Intelligence Organisation (CIO) Deputy Director General, Lovemore Mukandi, in his autobiography, wrote that Mnangagwa realised early on that he could not win free and fair elections, prompting him to begin plotting his rise to power already in the 1980s, culminating in the 2017 coup.
- Mnangagwa demoted Foreign Affairs Minister Frederick Shava in a mini-cabinet reshuffle. Shava was reassigned to the Higher and Tertiary Education Ministry swapping positions with Amon Murwira who will now head the Foreign Affairs Ministry.
- Public Service Minister July Moyo and Shava have been ordered by the High Court to repay ZWG206,370,840, which was borrowed from social and development funds without prior Treasury approval.
- Former Citizens Coalition for Change (CCC) president Nelson Chamisa announced plans for a political comeback, asserting that his return to the political arena "is divinely inspired."

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- According to the 2024 Ibrahim Index on African Governance (IIAG), published in October 2024, Zimbabwe was placed 31st on overall governance out of 54 African countries (1=best; 54=worst) with a score of 47.1 out of 100, representing a change of +1.4 over the period 2014 to 2023
- High-ranking CIO, army intelligence and police officials allege that a covert operation is underway to weed out dissenting voices in Zanu-PF as well as key opposition figures.
- Seven men were named in connection with a R70 million (US\$4 million) robbery at an Ecobank branch in Bulawayo, a record for the country.
- The International Monetary Fund (IMF) said in its October 2024 World Economic Outlook (WEO), that the economy will grow by 2.0% in 2024.
- The World Bank October 2024 Macro Poverty Outlook states that real GDP growth is expected to slump to 2% in 2024 due to El Niño-induced droughts, lower mining prices and macroeconomic instability.
- Zimbabwe's monthly consumer inflation shot up to 37.2% in October 2024, compared to 5.8% in the prior month following the devaluation of the Zimbabwe Gold (ZiG) currency by 43% in September.
- Nampak will sell its 51.43% holding in Nampak Zimbabwe to Zimbabwe Stock Exchange-listed TSL for \$25 million.
- Botswana retailer Choppies Enterprise Limited is mulling pulling out of Zimbabwe as its local subsidiary has become a stress on the group's finances.
- The Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET) said that Crisis (Integrated Food Security Phase Classification - IPC Phase 3) outcomes are expected throughout the country from October 2024 through May 2025.
- Zimbabwe confirmed its first two cases of mpox, the health ministry said on 13 October.



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- Hwange Thermal Power Station's Unit 7 was reconnected to the national grid on 1 November, adding an additional 300 megawatts (MW) to the country's power capacity.
- The Zimbabwean government is in talks with South Africa about its citizens who may be deported after their Zimbabwean Exemption Permits (ZEPs) expire, according to Justice, Legal and Parliamentary Affairs Minister Ziyambi Ziyambi.
- On 30 October, Zimbabwe and the European Union (EU) signed four financial agreements totalling €75 million to support the country's development.
- Lord Jonathan Oates, a member of the United Kingdom (UK's) House of Lords, condemned Zimbabwean government spokesperson, Nick Mangwana, for congratulating Botswana's opposition party, the Umbrella for Democratic Change (UDC), following their recent electoral victory. Oates labelled Mangwana's comments as "breathtaking shamelessness," particularly in light of Zimbabwe's contentious electoral history.
- Commonwealth Secretary General, Baroness Scotland believes Zimbabwe should be readmitted to the Commonwealth, despite concern over its human rights record.

