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Centre de Recherches et d'Études Géostratégiques

Center for Geostrategic Research and Studies

MEDIA MONITORING

« INTERNATIONAL SECURITY AND DEFENSE »

From March 22nd to 29th, 2021

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AFRICA

ERITREA – 03/22/2021 : EU sanctions Eritrea for rights abuses, Eritrea calls it 'malicious' : The European Union slapped sanctions on Eritrea on Monday for alleged human rights violations, including extra-judicial killings, torture, enforced disappearances and arbitrary arrests. **(Africa News-Article Link)**

NIGER – 03/22/2021 : At least 40 killed in fresh attack in Niger near Mali border : Armed men have killed at least 40 people in raids on villages near Niger's border with Mali, an area that has seen increasingly deadly attacks by armed groups with links to the Islamic State and al-Qaeda.
(Africa News-Article Link)

TUNISIA – 03/22/2021 : Tunisian police pile pressure on young activists : Hamza Nasri, a young Tunisian activist, hit the streets as part of anti-government protests in recent months. Now he says he is under police watch and afraid for his friends. **(Africa News-Article Link)**

UGANDA – 03/23/2021 : Uganda arrests American for 'subversive activities' : An American citizen has been arrested in Uganda on suspicion of subversion against the government, police said. **(Africa News-Article Link)**

ETHIOPIA – 03/23/2021 : Ethiopia's leader Ahmed admits atrocities committed in Tigray : Ethiopia's Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed has for the first time admitted that atrocities were committed during the military offensive in the northern Tigray region. **(Africa News-Article Link)**

D.R. CONGO – 03/23/2021 : UN says scale of violence in DR Congo 'alarming' : The United Nations Human Rights chief on Monday warned of worsening violence in the eastern Democratic Republic of Congo, with reports of nearly 3,000 civilians killed last year. **(Africa News-Article Link)**

NIGERIA – 03/23/2021 : Dozens of Nigerians pile pressure, demanding release of kidnapped students : Dozens of people, including parents of kidnapped students in Nigeria protest on Monday, demanding the release of the wards.
(Africa News-Article Link)

ETHIOPIA – 03/23/2021 : 11 organizations demand halt to attacks and rape in Tigray : The heads of nine U.N. agencies and other officials demanded a halt to attacks against civilians in Ethiopia's embattled Tigray region, "including rape and other horrific forms of sexual violence". **(AP News-Article Link)**

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NIGERIA – 03/23/2021 : 500 Boko Haram members jailed in Nigeria since February : 1,000 Boko Haram members prosecuted, 500 jailed, serving various terms of up to 60 years, says official. **(AA-Article Link)**

SAHEL – 03/23/2021 : African Union outraged over terrorist attacks in Niger : African Union Commission reiterates urgent need to strengthen fight against terrorism in Africa's Sahel region. **(AA-Article Link)**

SOMALIA – 03/23/2021 : 'Climate change deprives 70% of Somalians of safe water' : Without immediate humanitarian aid, crisis is likely to peak in June, says Save the Children. **(AA-Article Link)**

WORLD – 03/23/2021 : EU adopts €5billion fund to train and equip foreign military forces : Despite criticism from European lawmakers and advocacy groups, the EU adopted the €5 billion worth French-brokered European Peace Facility (EPF) on Monday (22 March), which will open the door for the bloc to deliver military aid to partner countries and finance the deployment of its own military missions abroad. **(Euractiv-Article Link)**

KENYA – 03/24/2021 : Kenya gives UN 14-day deadline to close refugee camps : Dadaab, Kakuma refugee camps pose security threat, says Interior Ministry. **(AA-Article Link)**

MOZAMBIQUE – 03/24/2021 : Total to resume Mozambique LNG work after security reinforced : Total will restart construction at its $20 billion liquefied natural gas (LNG) development in Mozambique after the government increased security, the French firm said on Wednesday. **(CGTN-Article Link)**

ETHIOPIA – 03/24/2021 : Tigray : Eritrean troops killed more than 100 civilians, rights group : Eritrean soldiers killed more than 100 civilians in the city of Aksum in Tigray in November last year, the Ethiopian Human Rights Commission (EHRC) said in a report published on Wednesday. **(Africa News-Article Link)**

D.R. CONGO – 03/24/2021 : 33 killed in DR Congo crackdown on rebels : Twenty-seven rebels, five civilians and a soldier have died in a two-day military operation against a notorious armed group in eastern DR Congo, the army said on Tuesday. **(CGTN-Article Link)**

SOUTH AFRICA – 03/24/2021 : Beit Bridge fence will not be repaired – De Lille : Public Works and Infrastructure Minister Patricia de Lille told the National Council of Provinces (NCOP) the by-now infamous 40 km stretch of fencing adjacent to the Beit Bridge port of entry will not be repaired as it is reportedly "not fit for purpose" as well as not complying with specifications. **(Defence Web-Article Link)**

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KENYA – 03/24/2021 : Two Killed, Several Injured as Mandera Bound Bus Runs Over IED : At least two people died and several others injured on Wednesday morning after a bus they were travelling in ran over an Improvised explosive device (IED) set on Arabia Road in Mandera county. **(Kahawa Tungu-Article Link)**

GUINEA GULF – 03/24/2021 : French navy seizes six tons of cocaine off African coast : The French military says it seized 6 tons of cocaine with an estimated value of up to 1 billion euros ($1.2 billion) from a cargo ship traveling off the west coast of Africa. **(CGTN-Article Link)**

MOZAMBIQUE – 03/24/2021 : Additional helicopters to join the Mozambican military as mercenaries are eased back : Mozambique's military will soon start using Mi-17 and Mi-24 helicopters in the fight against insurgents in Cabo Delgado province as Dyck Advisory Group (DAG) private military contractors have their involvement reduced. **(Defence Web-Article Link)**

SENEGAL – 03/24/2021 : Senegalese journalists allege increasing intimidation over Ousmane Sonko : Journalists in Senegal say they have rarely experienced as much intimidation as they have since opposition leader Ousmane Sonko was detained for several days earlier this month, sparking unrest that claimed five lives.
(Africa News-Article Link)

D.R. CONGO – 03/24/2021 : Twelve dead in new DR Congo attack blamed on ADF militia : Twelve people have been killed in a fresh attack by the notorious ADF militia in the eastern Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), a local official said on Wednesday. **(CGTN-Article Link)**

NIGERIA – 03/24/2021 : Nigeria, Western Allies Stage Naval Drills in Piracy Hotspot : Nigeria and several Western allies have begun annual joint naval drills in the Gulf of Guinea to combat piracy and other criminal activities, officials said Wednesday.
(The Defense Post-Article Link)

LIBYA – 03/25/2021 : A top Libyan military commander wanted by ICC shot dead : A senior Libyan military commander Mahmoud al-Werfalli and his cousin were shot dead Wednesday, a security source said.
(Africa News-Article Link)

ETHIOPIA – 03/25/2021 : US Appeals for Cease-fire in Ethiopia's Tigray Rejected : A U.S. senator whom President Joe Biden sent as an emissary to Ethiopia says he urged Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed to declare a cease-fire in the embattled Tigray region, but his appeal was rejected. **(VOA-Article Link)**

MOROCCO – 03/25/2021 : 4 arrested for links to alleged IS attack plot : More than 1,000 Moroccans are believed to have joined IS between 2013 and 2017 as the organization seized territory across Syria and Iraq. **(Ahramonline-Article Link)**

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SOMALIA – 03/25/2021 : Mortar attack kills at least 3 civilians : Al-Qaeda-affiliated terror group al-Shabaab claims responsibility for mortar attack in capital Mogadishu. **(AA-Article Link)**

ETHIOPIA – 03/25/2021 : MSF says staff witness Ethiopian troops execute civilians in Tigray : 'The soldiers then forced the passengers to leave the minibuses. The men were separated from the women, who were allowed to walk away. Shortly afterward, the men were shot'. **(Ahramonline-Article Link)**

MOZAMBIQUE – 03/25/2021 : Jihadi rebels hit town in north Mozambique near gas project : Jihadi rebels are fighting to capture Palma, a strategic town in northern Mozambique where fighting continued Thursday after launching a three-pronged assault on the center a day earlier.
(AP News-Article Link)

ETHIOPIA – 03/25/2021 : UN, Ethiopia rights agency to conduct joint Tigray probe : The United Nations and an Ethiopian rights agency said on Thursday they had agreed to carry out a joint investigation into abuses in the embattled region of Tigray, where fighting persists as government troops hunt down the region's fugitive leaders.
(AP News-Article Link)

SOUTH AFRICA – 03/25/2021 : Protest in South Africa over conflict in Ethiopia's Tigray : Members of Ethiopia's Tigrayan community in South Africa demonstrated in the capital in a bid to bring international attention to the humanitarian crisis in the embattled region. **(AP News-Article Link)**

D.R. CONGO – 03/25/2021 : DRC former police chief Gen. John Numbi wanted by authorities : Prosecutors of the Democratic Republic of Congo have launched an investigation into former police chief General John Numbi over the high-profile murder of a human rights activist.
(Africa News-Article Link)

NIGER – 03/25/2021 : At least 11 killed in Niger attacks and classrooms set on fire : At least 11 people have been killed in three separate jihadist attacks in the western Tillaberi region that is close to Mali, local officials said. **(Africa News-Article Link)**

IVORY COAST – 03/25/2021 : Duekoue massacre suspect Oueremi on trial : Ivory Coast began the trial of the massacre of over 800 people killed in 2011 in the remote village of Duekoue located in the Western region of the country. **(Africa News-Article Link)**

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NIGERIA – 03/25/2021 : The growing phenomenon of Christian insurgents in the South : While Boko Haram monopolises the attention of politicians and specialists in northern Nigeria, in the south, Christian insurgents are becoming increasingly inspired by the terrorist group's methods.
(The Africa Report-Article Link)

SOUTH AFRICA – 03/25/2021 : Who is behind the pro-Zuma ANC military 'veterans' ? : Concerns have been mounting over attempts by an increasingly militant faction in South Africa's governing African National Congress to mobilise support for former president Jacob Zuma in his efforts to defy the law. How far might they go ? **(The Africa Report-Article Link)**

EAST AFRICA – 03/25/2021 : DRC/Rwanda: Tshisekedi and Kagame work to address insecurity in the east : Representatives of Rwanda's and the DRC's defence and security forces met recently in Kinshasa, and they made several important decisions about cooperation in eastern DRC. **(The Africa Report-Article Link)**

LYBIA – 03/25/2021 : Libya demands departure of foreign forces, mercenaries : Foreign ministers of France, Germany and Italy meet their Libyan counterpart in Tripoli. **(AA-Article Link)**

SOUTH SUDAN – 03/25/2021 : South Sudan Government Threatens Rights Activists Living Abroad, Report Says : A new report says South Sudanese journalists, rights activists and opposition members living outside the country are still at risk of being harassed and even killed by South Sudanese authorities, most notably by the National Security Service (NSS) intelligence agency. **(VOA-Article Link)**

KENYA – 03/25/2021 : Rights Groups, Residents Decry Kenyan Demand to Close Huge Refugee Camps : Kenyan authorities have ordered the United Nations refugee agency (UNHCR) to make plans to close two refugee camps that are home to more than 400,000 refugees, mainly Somalis and South Sudanese.
(VOA-Article Link)

ETHIOPIA – 03/26/2021 : Ethiopia PM says Eritrea to withdraw troops from Tigray : Eritrea will pull its troops out of Ethiopia's northern Tigray region, Ethiopian Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed said Friday, a potential breakthrough in a drawn-out conflict that has seen atrocities carried out against civilians.
(Africa News-Article Link)

SIERRA LEONE – 03/26/2021 : EU 'looks at ways to send aid' to vicinity slum by inferno : Residents describe the scene as a poor neighborhood in the Sierra Leonean capital, Freetown was gutted by fire late Wednesday March 24.
(Africa News-Article Link)

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LIBYA – 03/26/2021 : Bulldozers and looting threaten Libya's ancient treasures : The spectacular ruins of the ancient Greek city of Cyrene survived Libya's 2011 revolution and an ensuing decade of lawlessness, but today they face new threats : plunder and bulldozers. **(Africa News-Article Link)**

IVORY COAST – 03/26/2021 : Ivory Coast to repatriate 38 trafficking victims to Burkina Faso : Ivorian authorities announced that 38 trafficking victims from Burkina Faso, 18 minors and 20 adults, will be deported from Ivory Coast to their country of origin in the next few days. **(Africa News-Article Link)**

NIGERIA – 03/26/2021 : Yoruba/Fulani relations at breaking point, as Buhari security promises ring hollow : For centuries, Yoruba farmers and Fulani pastoralists have co-existed in the southwest.
(The Africa Report-Article Link)

MALI – 03/26/2021 : Strike Kills Six in Mali in Disputed Circumstances : Six people were killed in northeastern Mali on Thursday in disputed circumstances, with French forces saying a strike targeted jihadists and local residents alleging those left dead were young hunters.
(The Defense Post-Article Link)

SENEGAL – 03/26/2021 : President Macky Sall under fire for Sonko affair : Confronted with urban riots after the judicial indictment of oppositionist leader Ousmane Sonko, Senegal's President Macky Sall is experiencing the most serious crisis since his accession to power.
(The Africa Report-Article Link)

CAMEROON – 03/26/2021 : Cameroonians Stranded After Road to Troubled Western Regions Collapses : Thousands of Cameroonians are stranded after heavy rains Thursday collapsed the only road to the country's troubled Northwest Region.
(VOA-Article Link)

ETHIOPIA – 03/26/2021 : Deep concern for thousands of Eritrean refugees 'scattered' in Ethiopia's Tigray : n Ethiopia's embattled Tigray region there's deep concern for thousands of Eritrean refugees whose camps have been found burned to the ground, confirming satellite imagery and testimony from those who have fled attacks. **(UN News-Article Link)**

MOZAMBIQUE – 03/27/2021 : Convoy of Fleeing Civilians Ambushed in Besieged Mozambique Town : Suspected Islamist insurgents attacked a convoy of fleeing civilians, including foreign workers, as fighting continued in a northern Mozambique town that is near a number of gas projects, security and diplomatic sources said. **(VOA-Article Link)**

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ALGERIA – 03/27/2021 : Algerians protest against government in new Hirak demonstration : Thousands of the Hirak movement returned to the streets of the Algerian capital on Friday as they demanded significant changes to the country's government and political system -- chanting slogans such as "let the system fall". **(Africa News-Article Link)**

TUNISIA – 03/27/2021 : USS Dwight D. Eisenhower Hosts Visit for U.S. AFRICOM, Tunisian Defense and U.S. Sixth Fleet Leadership : From USS Dwight D. Eisenhower Hosts Visit for U.S. AFRICOM, Tunisian Defense and U.S. Sixth Fleet Leadership. **(America's Navy-Article Link)**

SUDAN – 03/28/2021 : Sudan, Rebel Group Sign Agreement on Separation of Religion and State : The Sudanese government and a major rebel group from its southern Nuba Mountains on Sunday signed a document which paves the way for a final peace agreement by guaranteeing freedom of worship to all while separating religion and the state. **(VOA-Article Link)**

MOZAMBIQUE – 03/28/2021 : Dozens Killed as Mozambique Attack Survivors Evacuated : Dozens of people were killed during coordinated jihadi attacks in Palma in northern Mozambique, the defense ministry said Sunday, four days after the raids were launched. **(VOA-Article Link)**

DJIBOUTI – 03/28/2021 : Al-Shabab Issues Threats Ahead of Elections in Djibouti : The leader of Somalia's al-Shabab militant group is calling for lone wolf attacks against American and French interests in Djibouti ahead of key presidential elections in the Horn of Africa country. **(VOA-Article Link)**

MOZAMBIQUE – 03/29/2021 : Attack on Palma leaves Total's LNG plans exposed : The attack by the Islamic militant group Ahlu Sunnah Wal Jammah (ASWJ) on the town of Palma in Mozambique's northern Cabo Delgado province raises the risks of failure for Total's onshore development of liquefied natural gas (LNG). **(The Africa Report-Article Link)**

IVORY COAST – 03/29/2021 : Security Post Attacked in Northern Ivory Coast : The attack occurred at around 1.00 am at Kafolo. A security post near Ivory Coast's northern border with jihadist-torn Burkina Faso was attacked overnight, a security official said, and a resident said two people were killed. **(The Defense Post-Article Link)**

SOUTH SUDAN – 03/29/2021 : At least 14 killed, 7 injured in South Sudan attack : At least 14 people have been killed and seven others injured in a deadly attack in Budi County of South Sudan's Eastern Equatoria State, a local government official confirmed Monday. **(China.org.cn-Article Link)**

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ATLANTIS - CENTER
Publication

48, Ifrane Street - CIL
Casablanca 20200
Morocco

contact@atlantis-center.org

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