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Centre de Recherches et d'Études Géostratégiques

Center for Geostrategic Research and Studies

# MEDIA MONITORING

## « INTERNATIONAL SECURITY AND DEFENSE »

**From May 24th to 31th, 2021**

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# AFRICA

**NIGERIA – 05/24/2021 : Nigeria protesters block Abuja highway after kidnapping surge :** Hundreds of protesters partially blocked a highway into Nigeria's capital Abuja on Monday after residents reported a spate of kidnappings in the area. **(Africa News-Article Link)**

**SUDAN – 05/24/2021 : Murder, rape torture : ICC opens evidence hearing in Darfur case :** The International Criminal Court Prosecutor opened a hearing of evidence on Monday against Ali Kushayb, an alleged leader of the notorious Janjaweed militia blamed for atrocities in Darfur, calling him a ``willing and energetic'' perpetrator of crimes in the conflict-torn region of Sudan in 2003-2004. **(Africa News-Article Link)**

**D.R. CONGO – 05/24/2021 : DRC volcano : Goma residents lampoon authorities for lack of warning :** Anger, sadness and regret, a mix of these emotions is at play in Goma, the capital of the North Kivu province in the east of the Democratic Republic of Congo. **(Africa News-Article Link)**

**MOZAMBIQUE – 05/24/2021 : Hundreds continue to flee Palma despite army assurances :** Six weeks after it was raided by Islamic State-linked fighters, the northern Mozambican town of Palma remains deeply traumatised and hundreds of its residents flee each day, survivors and aid workers say.
**(Africa News-Article Link)**

**ETHIOPIA – 05/24/2021 : US restricts visas from Ethiopia, Eritrea over Tigray crisis :** The United States has begun restricting visas for government and military officials of Ethiopia and Eritrea seen as undermining efforts to resolve the deadly fighting in Ethiopia's Tigray region, saying it is time for the international community to take action in a conflict that has sparked allegations of ethnic cleansing and fears of famine. **(Africa News-Article Link)**

**MALI – 05/24/2021 : Mali President, Prime minister 'detained' by soldiers in political twist suggestive of coup :** Malian soldiers unhappy with the new government announced by the transitional authorities took the president and prime minister by force on Monday to the Kati military camp, a few kilometres from Bamako, in a coup shaking the country plunged in a deep crisis. **(Africa News-Article Link)**

**MOROCCO – 05/24/2021 : Death and despair as African migrants arrive in Spain :** More than 8,000 people climbed around border fences and swam from Morocco to the Spanish-governed enclave of Ceuta.
**(Al Jazeera-Article Link)**

**SENEGAL – 05/24/2021 : Senegal opposition leader Ousmane Sonko barred from leaving country :** Senegalese opposition leader Ousmane Sonko has been barred from leaving the west African country.
**(Africa News-Article Link)**

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**SENEGAL – 05/24/2021 : Senegalese rally against LGBTQ rights :** Several hundred protesters rallied Sunday in Dakar to demand that homosexuality be made a crime in Senegal, according to AFP journalists.
**(Africa News-Article Link)**

**ETHIOPIA – 05/24/2021 : Ethiopia accuses US of meddling after sanctions over Tigray :** Ethiopia's government protests restrictions imposed by Washington over alleged human rights abuses in the Tigray region. **(Al Jazeera-Article Link)**

**SOUTH AFRICA – 05/24/2021 : Cuban involvement – and cost – in SA military questioned :** Cuba, in the form of the Caribbean island nation's military mechanics and technical personnel, earned over a billion Rand in the seven years Project Thusano has been going. **(Defence Web-Article Link)**

**SUDAN – 05/24/2021 : Sudan court sentences officer to death for killing protester :** A Sudanese court sentenced to death on Monday a paramilitary officer charged with killing a demonstrator during a deadly breakup of a protest camp in the capital, Khartoum, two years ago.
**(AP News-Article Link)**

**RWANDA – 05/24/2021 : 2 rebels killed in foiled attack in western Rwanda : Army :** Military says repelled attack by FLN rebels crossing from Burundi, killing two. **(AA-Article Link)**

**MALI – 05/25/2021 : Mali's former coup leader takes power after president's arrest :** Colonel Assimi Goita says he acted after president and prime minister failed to consult him about a new government. **(Al Jazeera-Article Link)**

**BURKINA FASO – 05/25/2021 : Journalists in Burkina Faso blocked from accessing IDP sites :** Government move causes concern about press freedom and the visibility of the country's humanitarian crisis.
**(Al Jazeera-Article Link)**

**MALI – 05/25/2021 : Mixed feelings in Bamako over military-detained interim officials :** Mixed feelings amongst the residents of Bamako on Tuesday following the arrest the day before of Mali's interim President Bah Ndaw and Prime Minister Moctar Ouane in the Wet African nation's newest political crisis.
**(Africa News-Article Link)**

**D.R. CONGO – 05/25/2021 : Wide cracks appear in ground near DR Congo volcano sparking more fears :** Two major cracks appeared on the ground in the eastern DR Congo city of Goma on Tuesday as powerful aftershocks from the Mount Nyiragongo volcano shook the area, an AFP reporter saw. **(Africa News-Article Link)**

**HORN OF AFRICA – 05/25/2021 : A dangerous road home for Horn of Africa migrants :** COVID-19 is a key factor forcing migrants travelling to Saudi Arabia to make risky journeys home from Yemen. **(ISS-Article Link)**

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**TUNISIA – 05/25/2021 : Tunisian ship rescues 100 Europe-bound migrants from dinghy :** A Tunisian navy frigate rescued 100 migrants from sub-Saharan Africa early Tuesday as their inflatable dinghy foundered in the Mediterranean Sea.
**(AP News-Article Link)**

**NIGERIA – 05/25/2021 : Nigeria condemns military coup in Mali :** Detention of interim president and prime minister by soldiers blasted by Mali's neighbor Nigeria. **(AA-Article Link)**

**D.R CONGO – 05/25/2021 : Congo govt delegation surveys volcano damage as frustration grows :** The volcanic eruption in eastern Congo two days ago has killed at least 32 people, officials said Monday as residents searched for missing loved ones amid destroyed homes on the outskirts of the eastern city of Goma where aftershocks were detected. **(Africa News-Article Link)**

**ETHIOPIA – 05/26/2021 : Ethiopia's Tigray at 'serious risk' of famine, warns UN official :** Mark Lowcock, in reported briefing to Security Council, calls for scaling up of assistance in next two months to prevent famine. **(Al Jazeera-Article Link)**

**D.R. CONGO – 05/26/2021 : A botched ransom attempt ? Ambassador's death in Congo may not be what it seemed :** At around 10:00 a.m. on Feb. 22, seven men, some armed, stepped onto a road in eastern Congo and forced two cars belonging to the United Nations World Food Programme to stop. **(Reuters-Article Link)**

**MALI – 05/26/2021 : Mali Reportedly Closes Land, Air Borders, Imposes Curfew as Interim President Resigns :** Mali, where the interim president and prime minister resigned, closes land and air borders and imposes a curfew, the Seneweb portal, which is based in neighboring Senegal, reported. **(Sputnik-Article Link)**

**NIGERIA – 05/26/2021 : Dozens missing as boat sinks with 160 onboard in Niger River :** Dozens of people were missing in northwest Nigeria on Wednesday after an overloaded boat ferrying around 160 passengers sank in the Niger River, a local official said. **(Africa News-Article Link)**

**D.R. CONGO – 05/26/2021 : Suspected ADF Militia Kills 13 in Eastern DR Congo :** Thirteen people in the eastern DR Congo have been killed in a suspected attack by the Allied Democratic Forces (ADF), a militia that the US says is linked to the Islamic State group, local officials said Wednesday.
**(The Defense Post-Article Link)**

**MALI – 05/26/2021 : AU, ECOWAS, and French president condemn Mali coup :** Police vehicles patrolled the streets of Bamako, Mali's capital on Tuesday in a show or state that mirrored the uncertain political developments in the west African nation. **(Africa News-Article Link)**

**EAST AFRICA – 05/26/2021 : East African customer acquires SKYLOCK counter-UAV systems :** An unidentified customer in East Africa has acquired SKYLOCK's counter-drone system for use on vehicles. **(Defence Web-Article Link)**

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**ETHIOPIE – 05/26/2021 : Hundreds detained in Tigray :** Eritrean and Ethiopian soldiers forcibly detained over 500 young men and women from displaced people camps in Shire in Tigray's northern region on Monday, aid workers and a doctor told Reuters.
**(Defence Web-Article Link)**

**MOZAMBIQUE – 05/27/2021 : Southern African Leaders Hold Summit on Jihadist Threat :** The meeting is expected to discuss the possibility of SADC deploying 3,000 troops to battle the insurgents.
**(The Defense Post-Article Link)**

**D.R. CONGO – 05/27/2021 : Authorities order evacuation of Goma :** An exodus of tens of thousands of people on Thursday morning after authorities ordered the evacuation of part of Goma city in the Eastern region of the Democratic Republic of Congo.
**(Africa News-Article Link)**

**EAST AFRICA – 05/27/2021 : Egypt, Kenya Sign Military Agreement as Dispute With Ethiopia Over Blue Nile Dam Heats Up :** Amid a continued impasse over a controversial Ethiopian dam on the Blue Nile, Egypt has signed a defense cooperation agreement with Kenya - the fourth defense agreement with East African nations this year and the second with a nation on Ethiopia's borders. **(Sputnik-Article Link)**

**ETHIOPIA – 05/27/2021 : US official condemns violence in Tigray, warns of new sanctions :** US legislators call for action amid reports of gang rapes, ethnic cleansing and war crimes by Ethiopian, Eritrean forces.
**(Al Jazeera-Article Link)**

**D.R. CONGO – 05/27/2021 : Death by knives and machetes in eastern DR Congo :** Suspected Islamist militants killed at least 22 civilians with knives and machetes in an overnight raid on villages near Beni in eastern Democratic Republic of Congo, a local official said. **(Defence Web-Article Link)**

**MOZAMBIQUE – 05/27/2021 : What would it take to stabilise Cabo Delgado ? :** Regional support is a good start, but much more than a SADC military deployment to Mozambique is needed. **(ISS-Article Link)**

**MALI – 05/27/2021 : Another German Heron for Mali :** The German government has approved the deployment of another Heron unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) to the United Nations mission in Mali, which will bring the total to four. **(Defence Web-Article Link)**

**SOUTH AFRICA – 05/27/2021 : Western Cape gun violence a cause for concern :** Western Cape Community Safety MEC Albert Fritz expressed his shock and anger at continuing gun violence in the provincial capital Cape Town. **(Defence Web-Article Link)**

**AFRICA – 05/27/2021 : US law enforcement participate in exercise Phoenix Express to help tackle maritime crime :** Law enforcement experts from the US Homeland Security Investigations (HSI), Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), and Naval Criminal Investigative Service (NCIS) conducted a subject matter expert exchange hosted by US Africa Command in Bizerte, Tunisia during exercise Phoenix Express, on 18 May. **(Defence Web-Article Link)**

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**NIGER – 05/27/2021 : Nigerian rescuers find dozens of bodies after boat tragedy :** Officials say only 20 people were rescued when the wooden boat ferrying more than 150 passengers to a market sank. **(Al Jazeera-Article Link)**

**HORN OF AFRICA – 05/27/2021 : US, France enhance interoperability over the Horn of Africa :** US Marine Corps and French Air Force members demonstrated joint capabilities over the Horn of Africa on 24 May, with a US aircraft refuelling a French fighter. **(Defence Web-Article Link)**

**MALI – 05/27/2021 : Will regional mediation solve the crisis in Mali ? :** Mali's military has seized power for the second time in months, jeopardising a planned return to democracy.
**(Al Jazeera-Article Link)**

**ETHIOPIA – 05/28/2021 : Eritreans commit atrocities in Tigray region :** Despite claims by both Ethiopia and Eritrea that they were leaving, Eritrean soldiers are in fact more firmly entrenched than ever in neighbouring Tigray, where they are brutally gang-raping women, killing civilians, looting hospitals and blocking food and medical aid, The Associated Press has found. **(Africa News-Article Link)**

**NIGERIA – 05/27/2021 : Nigeria boat accident : More bodies retrieved :** Nigerian rescue workers pulled more than three dozen bodies from the water on Thursday after an overcrowded river boat sank leaving more than 150 people missing and feared drowned. **(Africa News-Article Link)**

**D.R. CONGO – 05/28/2021 : Volcano aggravates humanitarian crisis in DR Congo :** Tens of thousands of people are fleeing the city of Goma and nearby towns in eastern Congo fearing another volcanic eruption by Mount Nyiragongo, which spewed lava near the city last week. **(Africa News-Article Link)**

**NIGERIA – 05/28/2021 : Search and rescue mission for passengers in Niger river :** A search and rescue operation is underway in northwest Nigeria after an overloaded boat ferrying around 180 passengers to a market in Malele Borgu local government area sank Wednesday in the Niger River.
**(Africa News-Article Link)**

**ETHIOPIE – 05/28/2021 : Schools in Ethiopia's Tigray region pillaged, occupied : HRW :** Prominent human rights group says all warring sides implicated in the attacking, looting and occupying of schools since start of conflict. **(Al Jazeera-Article Link)**

**NIGERIA – 05/28/2021 : What Abubakar Shekau's reported death means for Nigeria security :** If Boko Haram leader is indeed dead, some experts say they expect a number of his fighters to join ISWAP in further blow to Nigerian army. **(Al Jazeera-Article Link)**

**MOZAMBIQUE – 05/28/2021 : SADC Summit : Combat terrorism and ensure peace in Mozambique :** The crisis in Cabo Delgado is also posing a threat to other countries in the Southern African Development Community.
**(Africa News-Article Link)**

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**ETHIOPIA – 05/28/2021 : UN alarm over soldiers detaining displaced people :** The UN refugee agency is concerned over reports of soldiers taking hundreds of people from displacement camps in Ethiopia's Tigray region earlier this week, saying such sites should be a safe haven. **(Defence Web-Article Link)**

**SOUTH AFRICA – 05/28/2021 : More big successes for Operation Corona soldiers :** South African National Defence Force (SANDF) soldiers on Operation Corona border patrol duties have once again recorded big successes in securing South Africa's borders, confiscating illegal and stolen goods worth more than R16 million in three separate incidents. **(Defence Web-Article Link)**

**MOZAMBIQUE – 05/28/2021 : EU Mozambique military training mission on track :** The EU could have a military training mission in Mozambique in months, the bloc's foreign policy chief said, to help the southern African country tackle Islamist insurgents.
**(Defence Web-Article Link)**

**D.R. CONGO – 05/28/2021 : 33 Killed in Eastern DR Congo Rebel Attacks in Three Days :** At least seven people were killed in eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo in two overnight attacks blamed on the Allied Democratic Forces (ADF) militia, …
**(The Defense Post-Article Link)**

**MALI – 05/29/2021 : Hundreds show support for army and Russia :** Several hundred Malians rallied in the capital Bamako on Friday to support the army, as well as Russia, AFP journalists said, after the military reasserted control in the unstable Sahel state this week. **(Africa News-Article Link)**

**D.R. CONGO – 05/29/2021 : Thousands return to Rwanda fearing Nyiragongo volcano may erupt :** Thousands of people from the Democratic Republic of Congo are returning to neighbouring Rwanda, fearing that the Mount Nyiragongo volcano may erupt again. **(Africa News-Article Link)**

**NIGERIA – 05/30/2021 : 14 Nigerian students freed from kidnappers in Kaduna state :** The remaining 14 students who were kidnapped from a university in northwestern Nigeria were freed on Saturday, 40 days after being taken hostage, a local police spokesman told AFP. **(Africa News-Article Link)**

**MALI – 05/30/2021 : West African leaders meet to discuss Mali coup - what can we expect ? :** West African leaders will meet in Ghana on Sunday to decide the thorny question of their response to the double coup by the Malian military, Colonel Assimi Goïta, who is now officially the country's leader and has been invited to the summit. **(Africa News-Article Link)**

**ETHIOPIA – 05/30/2021 : Ethiopia holds anti-US rally over Tigray, supports China and Russia :** More than 10,000 people in Ethiopia are taking part in an anti-US rally in the capital Addis Abbaba, denouncing President Joe Biden's policy on the conflict in the country's northern region of Tigray. **(Africa News-Article Link)**

**CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC – 05/31/2021 : Bomb Kills 2 CAR Police, 3 Russian Paramilitaries :** The attack also wounded five members of the Central African security forces, UN sources said. **(The Defense Post-Article Link)**

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