



EurAc Info

Daily Press Review on the Great Lakes region & EurAc network

25 January 2017

Press Review

EU Foreign Policy

DRC/EU - [Quatre ambassadeurs présentent leurs lettres de créance au Président Joseph Kabila](#), ACP Congo, 24 janvier



Bart Ouvry
@BartOuvry

Abonné

C'est un honneur et un beau défi de travailler pour des relations constructives et mutuellement bénéfiques entre la **#RDC** et l'**#UE**



RDCongoDiplomatie @DiplomatieRdc

Today in #Kinshasa , 4 new ambassadors presented credentials to President #Kabila @SouthAfrican_PR ; @BartOuvry ; @MarocDiplomatie #DPK

RETWEETS

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JAIME

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11:47 - 24 janv. 2017

DRC/BELGIUM - [Didier Reynders rappelle l'importance de l'Accord de la Saint-Sylvestre en RDC](#) // [Didier Reynders recalls importance of the New Year Agreement in the DRC](#), Belgian Foreign Affairs Ministry website, January 23

"Almost a month has gone by since the conclusion of the New Year's agreement facilitated by the Congolese National Episcopal Conference (CENCO) in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Didier Reynders wishes to underline the importance of this agreement, as testified by the significant popular appeasement that has occurred since last December 31st. He is therefore worried by the communiqué sent out by CENCO that observes blockages in the negotiations of 'Special Arrangements'.

The Minister supports the appeal by CENCO for responsibility and a sense of compromise to achieve the finalization by the end of this month of these Arrangements, as stipulated in the agreement. This should allow for the rapid installation of the Government and the Agreement follow-up National Council as well as the launch of the electoral process due to conclude in 2017.

Didier Reynders calls for respect of the New Year's agreement, including the elements that concern measures to reduce tensions. Belgium is particularly worried about the insufficient progress concerning the liberation of prisoners of conscience and the lifting of obstructions for the functioning of media and civil society. The judicial procedures concerning several political figures, the continued detention of members of citizens movements and the recent refoulement of the Human Rights Watch representative illustrate the absence of sufficient progress in this field.

Belgium continues to monitor the situation very closely. Following CENCO's request for an international accompaniment of the process, Belgium will continue to work for a strong engagement by the international community."

DRC/UK



Amb. Graham Zebedee
@GrahamZebedee

Abonné

#DRC urgently needs a govt which can deal with serious macroeconomic & public finance issues - hope its politicians will do a deal v soon.

Aaron Ross @aaronross6

UPDATE 1-#Congo central bank injects \$50 million into market to prop up franc
[af.reuters.com/article/drcNew... #DRC](#)

À l'origine en anglais

RETWEETS

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J'AIME

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17:24 - 24 janv. 2017 depuis République Démocratique Du Congo

Central Africa – Great Lakes – African Union & other regional institutions

DRC/BURUNDI - [RDC: plus de 150 présumés rebelles burundais menacés d'extradition](#), RFI, 24 janvier // [Detained Burundian rebels facing extradition from DRC at risk of 'a certain death' or torture](#), IBT, January 25

Accused of attempting to carry out armed actions in Burundi, the suspected rebels, currently detained in Uvira, Bukavu and the Congolese capital, Kinshasa, are now facing extradition. A Congolese military source quoted by RFI, said the suspected Burundian rebels were undesirable on Congolese soil.

[...]Florent Geel, Africa Director at the International Federation for Human Rights (FIDH) said the imminent extradition provides evidence of an important cooperation between Burundi and the DRC. "The extradition of these 150 suspected rebels would be the judicial translation of this political axis," Geel said.

The extradition, anticipated to take place on 24 January, was postponed following what Geel described as "a certain mobilisation" of international actors, due to fears the accused could face ill-treatment if they returned to their home country.

"The extradition of 150 suspected Burundian rebels [...] is worrying, it is a journey towards a certain death or at least to the regime's centres of torture, Geel told IBTimes UK in an exclusive interview.

Natural Resources - Conflict minerals

No major press coverage

DRC

Politics – Elections

[RDC: Etienne Tshisekedi quitte le pays après un accord sur le CNSA](#), RFI, 24 janvier

« En République démocratique du Congo, les négociations sont toujours en cours sur l'arrangement particulier avec des points de blocage sur le partage effectif du pouvoir. Mais un accord a finalement été trouvé lundi soir sur la question du Conseil national de suivi (CNSA). C'est cette nouvelle institution présidée par l'opposant historique, Etienne Tshisekedi et qui est censé faire respecter l'accord du 31 décembre.

[...] Les trois vice-présidences seront assurées par la majorité, le front pour le respect de la Constitution et l'opposition signataire du précédent dialogue. Quant à la clef de répartition des postes dans la plénière du CNSA : 9 pour la majorité, six pour le rassemblement, 4 pour le front, 4 pour l'opposition signataire, 2 pour l'opposition républicaine et trois postes pour la société civile. Le Conseil national de suivi doit être mis en place au plus tard le 15 février. »

[DR Congo's Catholic church says stalled political deal risks failing](#), Africanews, January 24 // [Accord en RDC: la Cenco s'impatiente et refuse toute prolongation](#), RFI, 25 janvier

[RDC: le procès du bâtonnier Jean-Claude Muyambo, une affaire politique?](#), RFI, 25 janvier

[RDC, expulsion d'Ida Sawyer : Kalev Mutond manque de vigilance](#), Afrik.com, 25 janvier

Security

[MONUSCO Determined To Put An End To Transhumance-Caused Repeated And Violent Clashes In The South-Kivu Province](#), MONUSCO website, January 23

[Principales tendances des violations des Droits de l'Homme pour l'année 2016](#), Site web MONUSCO, 24 janvier



aujourd'hui publication de la note annuelle
situation des [#droitsdelhomme](#) en [#RDC](#) en
2016

Analyse droits de l'homme en RDC en 2016:

- 5.190 violations documentées, augmentation de 30% par rapport à 2015
- agents de l'État responsables de 64% des violations, 480 victimes d'exécutions extra-judiciaires
- PNC: principaux auteurs parmi les agents de l'État avec 30% des violations
- groupes armés responsables de 1.871 violations dans les territoires affectés par le conflit
- 1.009 civils tués dans les territoires affectés par le conflit, dont 718 par groupes armés
- 348 adultes victimes de violences sexuelles liées au conflit, 92 par des agents étatiques
- 1.102 violations libertés fondamentales / espace démocratique, quatre fois le nombre pour 2015
- au moins 167 militaires des FARDC et 59 agents de la PNC condamnés pour des actes constitutifs de violations

RETWEETS

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J'AIME

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10:39 - 25 janv. 2017

Others

[Congo central bank injects \\$50 million into market to prop up franc](#), Reuters, January 24

Burundi

Political & Security crisis

HIGHLIGHT - [Burundi: Un contrôle des ONG qui affecte la liberté des médias](#), Doha Centre for Freedom of Press, 24 janvier

[Célestin Ndayizeye was sworn in as new Environment Minister](#), Iwacu, January 24

TOP STORY - [Weakening opposition struggles to remain united](#), Iwacu, January 24

[CNARED: « Our main objective was to return home within nine months »](#), Iwacu, January 24

TOP STORY - [Burundi : début d'application de la grâce présidentielle en faveur de près de 2 500 prisonniers](#), Jeune Afrique, 24 janvier // [Mass presidential pardon for quarter of prisoners in Burundi](#), France24, January 24

Burundi began Monday releasing a quarter of its jail population under a mass presidential pardon, but prisoners' rights groups voiced concern they were just making room for more political inmates.

A first group of 300 were released from the Mpimba central prison in Bujumbura, but authorities aim to free some 2,500 of the total, which stood at 10,051 last month.

[...]“Every time political prisoners are released it's a good thing,” Pierre-Claver Mbonimpa of the Arodeh prisoners' defence group told AFP.

“But we are calling above all for the release of over 4,000 political detainees since the start of the crisis in Burundi,” added Mbonimpa, who lives in exile in Belgium.

But he said the pardon by President Pierre Nkurunziza was also aimed at “making space for the victims of numerous arbitrary arrests which add to the repression which Burundi suffers”.

TOP STORY - [Le camp militaire de Mukoni attaqué par des hommes armés au Burundi](#), VOA, 24 janvier // [Armed attack on Mukoni military camp](#), Iwacu, January 24

Sounds of gunshots were heard in the night of 23 January near the Mukoni military camp, north eastern Muyinga Province. The inhabitants speak of an attack on Mukoni military camp. The army spokesman said thieves were trying to steal in surrounding households but were intercepted by soldiers who were on patrol.

Rwanda

Politics & Security

TOP STORY - [Rwanda : l'opposant Thomas Nahimana de nouveau interdit d'entrée sur le territoire](#), africanews, 24 janvier // [Opposition leader Thomas Nahimana prevented from returning to Rwanda](#), again, IBT, January 24

“On Monday, Nahimana was once again prevented from boarding a Brussels Airlines flight – from Brussels to Kigali this time – as ordered by the Rwandan immigration authorities.

According to RFI, Brussels Airlines personnel accosted the politician as he was about to board his flight in the Belgian capital, and presented him with a letter signed by the Rwandan Immigration Directorate asking any aviation company flying into Kigali not to take him as a passenger.

Nahimana, who holds a French passport with a tourist visa, claimed that no explanation was given to him, as was previously the case in Nairobi.”

Interesting statements, research, analysis & campaigns

- Article, New Internationalist Magazine

[Burundi: time is running out](#)

By Philip Kleinfeld

January 2017

“Diplomacy has failed, and the international media has turned its back. But the crisis is continuing.”

- Tweet, FIACAT



FIACAT
@FIACAT_org

Abonné

Soutien aux avocats burundais radiés pour leur participation à l'examen du #Burundi par #UNCAT en cette Journée de l'#AvocatsEnDanger #OIAD



RETWEETS
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J'AIME
9



18:27 - 24 janv. 2017

- Article, DW

['Systemic corruption' in Africa, watchdog says](#)

By DW

25 January 2017

"Cape Verde is seen to have become cleaner, but Ghana more corrupt. Transparency International has just released its 2016 Corruption Perceptions Index. How have African countries moved up and down the league table?"

[...]Which African countries have slipped down the table, became more corrupt?

One could make a distinction. You have the likes of Somalia, Angola and the Congo - the DRC - that are still ranking quite low, but one surprise that came was Ghana which lost a few points going from 47 to 43. This is surprising because Ghana is known as a democratic country that has seen transfers of power taking place democratically. One example was the recent election in which John Dramani Mahama lost and a new president came to power without any bloodshed or civil unrest. But one of the major themes in the elections was the fight against corruption, because people increasingly felt that the government wasn't demonstrating commitment or working really for the benefit of citizens in the country.