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## EYE ON WEST AFRICA (8th February - 14th February 2025)

1 message

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Fri, Feb 14, 2025 at 3:20 PM



# Eye on West Africa

### Countries in Political Transition

#### UN Calls for Immediate Release of Former Niger Leader Mohamed Bazoum

The United Nations human rights body has called for the immediate release of Nigerien President Mohamed Bazoum, who has been detained since the military coup in 2023.

Both the former president and his wife have been entirely cut off from public contact, with only his doctor allowed to visit him. The UN considers their detention "arbitrary" and a violation of international law.



Read more [here](#)

## Conflict Prevention Peace and Security

### France and Senegal in Talks to Arrange the Departure of French Troops



This week, France and Senegal announced that they have agreed to establish a commission tasked with organizing the departure of French troops from Senegal by the end of 2025.

In November, Senegalese President Bassirou Diomaye Faye expressed in an interview with Le Monde that he sought to end the presence of French troops in Senegal. The French military has had a presence in the country since the 1960s, and currently, approximately 350 French soldiers are stationed there.

*Read more [here](#)*

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### About 25 Civilians Killed in an Attack by Gunmen in Mali

This week, gunmen attacked a convoy of vehicles escorted by Mali's army, killing 25 civilians mostly gold miners.

The attack took place about 30 kilometers from Gao, the largest city in the country's northeast where armed groups have remained hostile to the military government. This has been the deadliest attack on civilians this year.



*Read more [here](#)*

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## Rule of Law and Constitutionalism



Read more [here](#)

## Ghana's Ex-Finance Minister Declared Fugitive

Ghana's former finance minister, Ken Ofori-Atta, has been declared a fugitive over alleged corruption during his time in government.

He is accused of causing financial losses to the state, including \$58 million spent on the stalled national cathedral project.

Ofori-Atta has not commented on the allegations. His lawyers say he is out of the country for medical reasons.

## Liberian President Suspends Hundreds of Officials Over Asset Declaration Failure

Liberian President Joseph Boakai has suspended over 450 top government officials, including ministers, for failing to declare their assets. They will be off work without pay for a month or until they submit their declarations.

Boakai stated that their actions violated the code of conduct for state officials.



Read more [here](#)

## More Than 70 Opposition Parties Unite Against Pastef Government

In Senegal, the opposition has formed a new coalition called the *Front for the Defense of Democracy and the Republic*. Led by former Dakar Mayor Khalifa Sall, this alliance seek to unite various opposition parties to challenge the policies of the current government, the Pastef party.

So far, 76 political parties have joined the coalition. Key historical parties like the Alliance for the Republic (formerly led by President Macky Sall).



Read more [here](#)

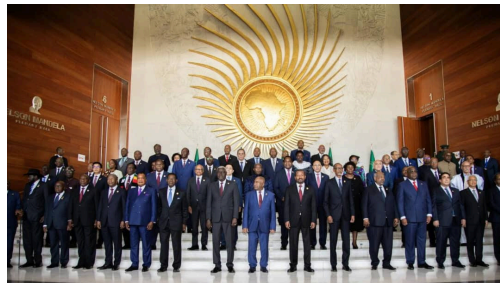
However, the Senegalese Democratic Party of Karim Wade and the party of former Prime Minister Amadou Ba, who came second in the last presidential election, have not yet joined the Front.

## Geopolitical Monitor

### African Leaders to Push for Slavery Reparations Despite Resistance

African leaders at the AU summit in Ethiopia are pushing for slavery and colonial reparations despite resistance from former colonial powers including leaders like Donald Trump and many in Europe who have remained opposed to it.

From the 15th to the 19th century, at least 12.5 million Africans were kidnapped, forcibly transported by mostly European merchants and sold into slavery.



Read more [here](#)



### Trump ordered to temporarily lift USAid freeze and allow foreign aid funding

A federal judge in the U.S. has ordered Donald Trump's administration to temporarily lift the funding freeze that has shut down US humanitarian aid and development work around the world, and he has set a five-day deadline for the administration to prove it is complying.

Read more [here](#)



## ABOUT EYE ON WEST AFRICA

"Eye on West Africa" is a bi-weekly wrap-up of news-making events and developments affecting democratic governance in the ECOWAS Region.

"Eye on West Africa" is a knowledge product of the Data and Analysis unit of the West Africa Democracy Solidarity Network (WADEMOS). WADEMOS is a transnational democracy solidarity network that mobilizes, coordinates, and leverages the collective power of civil society and other pro-democracy actors, resources, and opportunities within the West African Region to advance, defend, and reinvigorate democracy and promote democratic norms and reforms in the sub-region.

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