

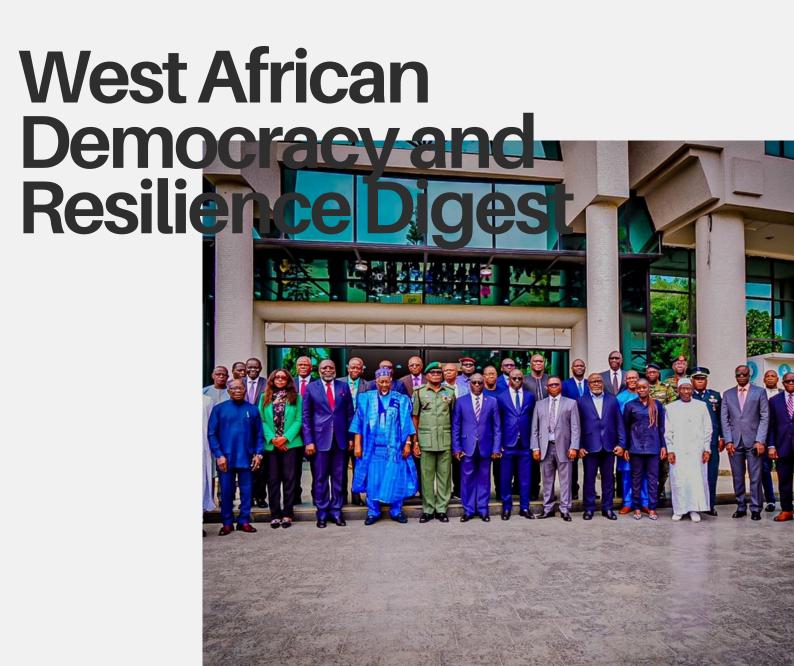
WEST AFRICAN DEMOCRACY AND RESILIENCE DIGEST

week 02









To support good governance, democracy and sustainable development in West Africa, The Abuja School of social and Political Thought takes a look at the activities in the region...

Here is a round up of your bi-weekly Democracy Digest, a quick summary of some important events from West African countries to note today



NIGERIA



ECOWAS Leadership

President Tinubu has been re-elected chairman of ECOWAS for the second time, he say ECOWAS needs security, stability to achieve its potentials. Tinubu calls for commitment, funding towards regional standby force (The Daily Times)

The newly elected ECOWAS chairman, Nigerian President Bola Tinubu, has emphasized a firm stance against military coups and the importance of democracy in the region. Tinubu has committed to enhancing regional security and counterterrorism efforts, calling for collective action to address the increasing threats of terrorism and political instability (<u>Africanews</u>).

NIGERIA



ECOWAS Parliament Receives Nigeria's Country Report, Highlights Progress and Challenges

The ECOWAS Parliament has received Nigeria's country report, presented by Senator Barau I. Jibrin, highlighting the country's progress and challenges in political, security, economic, and human rights spheres. The report, presented to the Sixth Legislature of the ECOWAS Parliament, provided an overview of Nigeria's political situation, stabilizing under President Bola Ahmed Tinubu's inclusive government. The administration has engaged stakeholders in decision-making processes, addressing economic policies, security, poverty eradication, youth unemployment, and public salaries and wages review.

On security, Nigeria is strengthening its capacity to address challenges, collaborating with regional and international partners to prevent youth recruitment into harmful groups.

Read more on (Ecowas_parliament)

GAHNA





Ghana is set to receive a \$360 million tranche from the IMF as part of its Post COVID-19 Program for Economic Growth, with the IMF revising the country's 2024 growth target to 3.1% (Ghana News Agency) (CitiNewsroom). Effective July 1, 2024, electricity tariffs for industrial consumers and water tariffs for all customer classes have increased to maintain the financial viability of utility service providers amidst fluctuating exchange rates and inflation (Ghana News Agency). Additionally, the government has settled first term arrears for school feeding program caterers and released over GH¢500,000 for free dialysis sessions, highlighting ongoing efforts to improve education and healthcare services (CitiNewsroom). However, corruption continues to pose a significant threat to national security, prompting calls for stronger measures (CitiNewsroom)

BURKINA FASO MALI NIGER



Formation of a new Alliance

The heads of the armed forces of the Niger Republic, Mali, and Burkina Faso, claim that their countries' citizens have "irrevocably turned their backs" on the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS).

Speaking on Saturday at the Alliance of Sahel States (AES) inaugural conference in Niamey, the capital of Nigerien, Niger Republic's military leader Abdourahamane Tiani claimed the ECOWAS was not doing enough to stop the bloodshed perpetrated by jihadists.

Following the three Sahelian countries' withdrawal from ECOWAS in February, the AES was established.

After Tiani's revolution in July 2023 in Niger, the military-run governments had a falling out with the West African regional union.



FARI-2025 Planning: The International Committee is preparing for the second edition of FARI-2025, focusing fosterina regional scientific educational collaborations. The term "FARI-2025" refers to the "Framework for Agricultural Resilience in the Islands by 2025" initiative launched by the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS). This framework aims to enhance the agricultural resilience of member states by addressing climate change impacts. improving security, and promoting sustainable agricultural practices. (ECOWAS).



Burkina Faso, Mali, and Niger have confirmed their withdrawal from ECOWAS and are planning to form a tri-state confederation within the Sahel Alliance. This decision comes in response to sanctions imposed by ECOWAS following coups in these countries. The three nations are working on creating a new bloc of cooperation and have committed to moving forward independently from ECOWAS (<u>Africanews</u>).



Niger continues to face significant security challenges, including a recent ambush that resulted in the death of 21 soldiers. Additionally, Niger has revoked the operating license of a French company at a major uranium mine, indicating ongoing tensions and reassertion of control over national resources (Africanews).



In Guinea-Bissau, President Umaro Sissoco Embaló has formed a new government with a focus on tackling corruption. This move comes as part of efforts to stabilize the political situation in the country and strengthen governance (Africanews).

TAS



Alongside Burkina Faso and Niger, Mali's decision to exit ECOWAS is part of a broader strategy to establish closer ties within the Sahel Alliance. The governments of these countries have cited ECOWAS sanctions as unjust and detrimental to their populations. The ministers from these nations are meeting to solidify their plans for the new confederation (<u>Africanews</u>).



Thank you for reading!

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