

Historic mosque-mausoleum reopened

The mosque-mausoleum of the ruler of the Mamluk Sultanate has reopened in Cairo following years of restoration work. The work, carried out between October 2022 and November 2024, involved repairs to the external masonry and the dome. The mausoleum of Sultan al-Ashraf Qaytbay is attached to the Qaytbay Mosque, a complex dating from 1474. 23.07.2026

African Atlantic Gas Pipeline (AAGP)

One of Africa's most ambitious energy infrastructure projects has finally been approved. West African heads of state and government have officially endorsed the long-awaited Atlantic Gas Pipeline (AAGP) between Nigeria and Morocco. The massive, 6,000-kilometre-long pipeline will run along the Atlantic coast of 14 African countries, transporting Nigerian gas to Morocco before it is connected to the existing European gas network via Spain. Construction is scheduled to begin in 2028, with the total cost estimated at US\$25 billion. The project marks a departure from current models, under which gas is typically extracted from African countries, refined and processed abroad, and then supplied back to Africa at three or four times the price. It is expected to supply clean energy to over 300 million people along the route. 21.07.26

New monkey species - Colobus congoensis

A monkey with striking pink-orange lips and a black face, which lives in the forests of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, has been confirmed as a new species. The research team, comprising members from the DR Congo, the USA and Germany, gave the animal the Latin name Colobus congoensis to honour the country's natural diversity. It belongs to the larger group of colobus monkeys, an African species of monkey that lacks thumbs. The monkeys were known to the local people, who called them Likweli. 21.07.2026

Ebola: Clinical trial on antiviral drug

The WHO has launched the first clinical trial to investigate whether an antiviral drug can prevent infection in people exposed to the 'Bundibugyo' strain of Ebola in the Democratic Republic of Congo. The outbreak is spreading faster than the containment measures can keep up with and is spreading via known chains of transmission. 17.07.2026

Malawi: Tuition fees increased

The five state universities have doubled their tuition fees after the government approved a 100 per cent increase as an emergency measure to tackle the worsening financial crisis in the higher education sector. The fee rise has caused concern amongst students and parents, who are already struggling with the rising cost of living, and will increase the pressure on the state student loan programme to expand its scope and speed up the disbursement of funds. 19.07.2026

Congo Brazzaville: Good relations with Russia

The Republic of the Congo has officially recognised the Russian Orthodox Church within its territory. This marks a further expansion of the Russian Orthodox Church (ROC) across the African continent. It was only at the start of this year that it received official recognition in neighbouring Cameroon. Through this expansion, the ROC is defying the rules of Orthodoxy. The African

continent traditionally falls under the jurisdiction of the Greek Orthodox Patriarchate of Alexandria. 20.07. 2026

Kingo DRC: USA citizen from the Congo no return journey

The Trump administration is preventing US citizens in the Democratic Republic of the Congo from travelling to the US on scheduled flights. The order, issued under a transport-related authority known as 'Title 49', stipulates that US citizens in the Congo or those who have recently left the country will be placed on a 'do-not-board' list until they have spent at least 21 days in a third country. The new restrictions are being imposed in the face of a spreading Ebola outbreak, which has already spread to several provinces in the Congo. 20.07.2026

Nigeria: "God helped us, AI will too!"

A report published by Cambridge describes how the jihadist group has been using artificial intelligence since 2023 to enhance its ability to carry out terrorist attacks. The jihadists began using AI as early as 2023, just a few months after the release of ChatGPT in November 2022. Various factions of Boko Haram quickly set up their own units specialising in AI. Equipped with their own AI subscriptions, it was these units that responded to enquiries from various fighters. Through these units, fighters sought – and received – AI-generated advice on how to use new weapons captured during their attacks, improve explosive devices dropped by drones, or even plan upcoming raids more effectively. AI chatbots are not only a propaganda tool for violent extremists but also assist in bomb-making and attack planning, as new research findings show. 21.07.2026

Crowds in front of the Malawian consulate

Every day, between 100 and 300 people arrive at the Malawian Consulate in Johannesburg, hoping to be repatriated to their home country after fleeing anti-immigrant violence in South Africa. The crowd has now grown to around 1,000. Although the Malawian government has announced that it will assist with the repatriation, the operation is largely being supported by volunteers and private donors. The provision of food, water and medical care is also being provided almost exclusively by organisations and local volunteers. A representative of the Malawian Consulate stated that they would continue to work with the South African government and local organisations to facilitate the repatriation. 21.07.2026

Ghana: Digital verification of ID cards

All Ghanaian citizens and foreign nationals resident in the country must carry a biometric plastic identity card, the 'Ghana Card'. Under new regulations, all businesses and other organisations must now use a biometric app scanner to verify national identity cards. It is now a criminal offence to photocopy or visually inspect a Ghana Card for the purposes of a transaction. Organisations that continue to use photocopies or visual ID checks risk fines of up to 24,000 Ghanaian cedi (approximately 2,100 US dollars). Individuals face fines of up to 6,000 Ghanaian cedi (approximately 525 US dollars). 22.07.2026

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U.S. Imposes New Sanctions on Sudan Over Chemical Weapons Claims

