

TODAY'S MEDIA TRENDS

TELECONGO

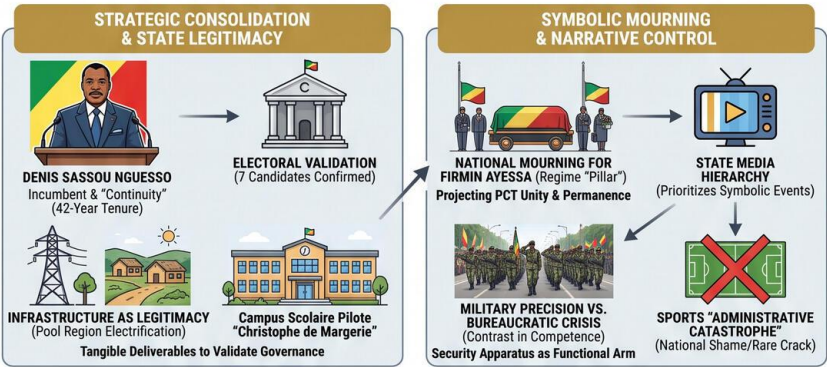
FEBRUARY 22, 2026

THE GDELT PROJECT

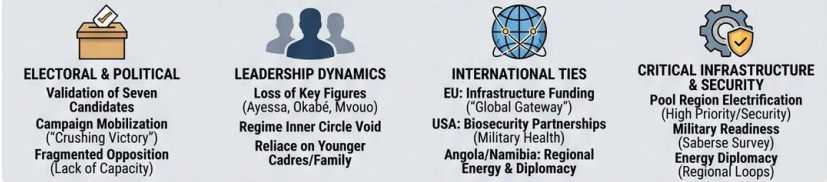
STRATEGIC CONSOLIDATION AND SYMBOLIC MOURNING DEFINE THE PRE-ELECTION LANDSCAPE IN THE REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

DAY-AT-A-GLANCE

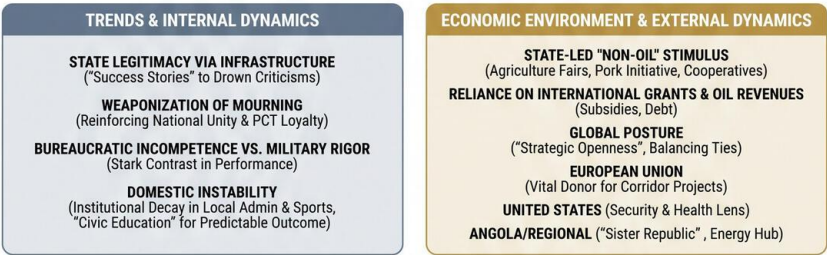
The Congo navigates a high-stakes transition towards the March 2026 presidential elections, projecting state stability amidst significant leadership deaths. The validation of seven candidates, including long-standing President Denis Sassou Nguesso, is framed by a narrative of "peace" and "continuity," bolstered by high-profile tributes to deceased loyalists like Firmin Ayessa. State media prioritizes these symbolic events and infrastructure milestones (e.g., Pool region electrification) to counter concerns over bureaucratic efficacy and economic independence. Simultaneously, the government manages public relations after a U17 sports team administrative failure, while aggressively courting international investment (EU, USA) and maintaining a tightly managed domestic political climate through "civic education."



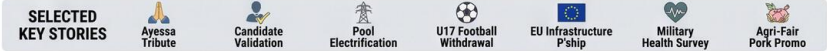
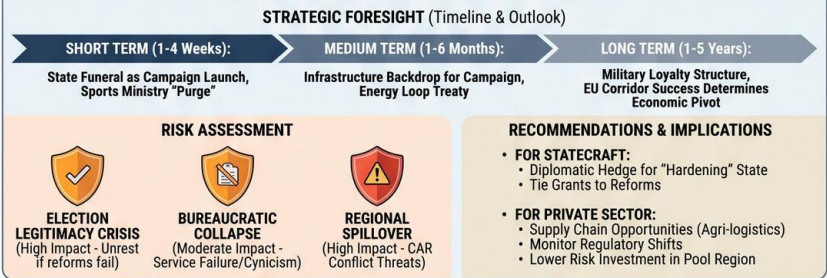
MAJOR DEVELOPMENTS & KEY GOVERNANCE TOPICS



DEEP DIVE: TRENDS, THEMES & ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT



STRATEGIC FORESIGHT, RISKS & RECOMMENDATIONS



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STRATEGIC CONSOLIDATION AND
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DAY-AT-A-GLANCE

The Republic of the Congo is currently navigating a high-stakes transition period as it prepares for the March 2026 presidential elections, a process characterized by intense efforts to project state stability amidst a series of significant leadership deaths. The validation of **seven candidates** by the Constitutional Court, including incumbent President Denis Sassou Nguesso, sets the stage for a contest where the administration is leveraging its 42-year tenure as a guarantee of "peace" and "continuity." This narrative is bolstered by high-profile tributes to recently deceased loyalists, most notably Minister of State **Firmin Ayessa**, whose death in Istanbul has triggered national mourning and served as a focal point for displays of ruling party (PCT) unity. The state media hierarchy prioritizes these symbolic events and infrastructure milestones—such as the electrification of the Pool region—to counter underlying concerns about

bureaucratic efficacy and economic independence.

Simultaneously, the government is engaging in defensive public relations following a major administrative failure in the sports sector, where the national U17 football team was unable to compete due to "procedural deficiencies." This rare crack in the facade of state competence is being managed by shifting blame between the Ministry of Sports and the national football federation. On the international front, the Congo is aggressively courting external investment and technical support, ranging from **European Union** infrastructure funding to **United States** biosecurity partnerships for the military. This outward-facing posture aims to diversify the economy through agricultural fairs and regional energy loops, even as the domestic political climate remains tightly managed through "civic education" campaigns aimed at ensuring a predictable electoral outcome.

MAJOR DEVELOPMENTS

The day's news is dominated by the formalization of the electoral process and the

state's response to the loss of key veteran figures.

- **Electoral Validation and Campaign**

Mobilization: The Constitutional Court has [validated seven candidates](#) for the March 12 and 15, 2026, presidential elections. While incumbent Denis Sassou Nguesso is presented as the candidate of "continuity" and "stability," six challengers, including perennial candidates like Joseph Kignoumbi Kia Mboungou, are attempting to [bar his path](#) to a third consecutive term under the 2015 constitution. Local campaign offices are already [mobilizing in districts like Wenzé](#) to ensure a "crushing victory."

- **National Mourning for Firmin Ayessa:**

The arrival of the remains of Minister of State Firmin Ayessa from Turkey has become a [major state event](#). President Sassou Nguesso declared a day of [national mourning](#), with flags at half-mast and public gatherings prohibited, underscoring Ayessa's role as a "pillar" of the regime and a key intermediary for the President.

- **Strategic Infrastructure Expansion in the Pool Region:**

Following years of conflict-related delays, the government is highlighting the [electrification of districts](#) such as Luingi, Boko, and Loumo. This project is framed not just as a utility expansion but as a [revitalization of villages](#) that were previously abandoned, serving as a physical proof of the state's return to the region.

- **Bureaucratic Crisis in Congolese**

Sports: A significant controversy has erupted over the [non-participation of the U17 national team](#) in a regional tournament. The incident has exposed deep friction between the Ministry of Sports and the Congolese Football Federation (Fecofoot), with officials describing it as a [national shame](#) and an "administrative catastrophe."

- **Strengthening International Energy and Agricultural Ties:**

The government is promoting the [Grande Foire Agricole du Congo](#) as a means to reduce dependence on food imports. This coincides with high-level [cooperation with the EU](#) to fund the Brazzaville-Kinkala-Mindouli road axis and establish a regional [energy friendship loop](#) connecting Congo to DRC and Angola.

KEY GOVERNANCE TOPICS

Leadership Dynamics & Governance

- The sudden death of three major figures—Firmin Ayessa, Saturnin Okabé, and Philippe Mvouo—within a single month has created a [void in the regime's inner circle](#) during a critical election year. This loss is being framed as a ["grave pain"](#) for the President, who must now rely on younger, less experienced cadres or consolidate power further among his immediate family.

Diplomacy & Statecraft

- Congo is positioning itself as a regional hub through "energy diplomacy," specifically proposing an [interconnection of high-voltage lines](#) with Angola's Cabinda enclave. This is paired with new [agreements with Namibia](#) signed by Denis Christel Sassou Nguesso, focusing on political consultations and technical vocational training.

Critical Infrastructure Security

- The electrification of the Pool region is being treated as a high-security priority. Technicians are deploying [rural-type electrical substations](#) and replacing metallic poles with wood to prevent [electrical arcing](#) in densely vegetated areas. The goal is to reconnect abandoned territories to the national grid [before the end of March](#).

Global Health & Biosecurity

- The Congolese military, with support from the **U.S. Department of Defense**, has completed the **Saberse 2024-2025** survey to monitor HIV/AIDS prevalence within the forces. This partnership is viewed as essential for [operational readiness](#), ensuring the health of troops engaged in regional peacekeeping missions [like the MINUSCA in CAR](#).

Energy & Critical Minerals

- Congo's Minister of Hydrocarbons is being highlighted in regional news for his role in the **APPO** (African Petroleum Producers' Organization) and efforts to manage [oil revenues](#) amidst shifting global market conditions. The state remains heavily reliant on these revenues to fund the [31 million CFA](#) in subsidies for local cooperatives.

DEEP DIVE: TRENDS AND THEMES

State Legitimacy via Infrastructure and "Success Stories"

A consistent theme throughout the broadcasts is the use of infrastructure—roads, electricity, and schools—to validate the government's continued existence. Projects like the **Campus Scolaire Pilote "Christophe de Margerie"** are presented as symbols of "silent revolution" and modernity [built upon the efforts of five years](#). By focusing on visible, tangible deliverables in the weeks before the election, the administration aims to drown out criticisms regarding the 42-year duration of the President's rule.

The Weaponization of Mourning

The extensive coverage of Firmin Ayessa's funeral is not merely an act of remembrance but a strategic narrative tool. By declaring [national mourning](#) and highlighting his "loyalty to the ideas of the President," the state media is reinforcing the concept of the PCT as a permanent, family-like institution. This provides a backdrop of **national unity** during a period that would otherwise be dominated by partisan debate.

Bureaucratic Incompetence vs. Military Precision

There is a stark contrast between the reports on the "professionalism" of the gendarmerie and military—who are [planning election security with "rigor"](#)—and the "chaos" reported in civilian-run sectors like football. The [Fecofoot scandal](#) is described as a "national shame," suggesting a trend where civilian institutions struggle with basic administration while the security apparatus remains the most functional arm of the state.

INTERNAL DYNAMICS & DOMESTIC INSTABILITY

The domestic landscape is increasingly focused on the March 2026 election, with the state media acting as a force multiplier for the incumbent. The Constitutional Court's [validation of candidates](#) is presented as a routine technical success, yet the mention of **three candidates who failed to file dossiers** and one who withdrew due to lack of support [suggests a fragmented opposition](#) that lacks the organizational capacity to mount a serious challenge. The "concertation politique" in Djambala [yielded recommendations](#) for biometric voting and funding caps, but these appear to be concessions to give the process a veneer of reform rather than structural changes to the power dynamic.

Institutional decay is visible in the sports sector and certain local administrations. The [Pokola municipal budget session](#) reveals that basic services like "cemetery management" and "taxi-moto regulation" are the primary concerns of local governance, indicating that away from the grand infrastructure projects in the capital, state capacity remains highly localized and rudimentary. The [financial crisis](#)

[facing football clubs](#) like Athletic Club de Wenzé, which has had to suspend training and send players back to their villages, reflects a broader economic malaise affecting the non-oil sectors of society.

EXTERNAL DYNAMICS & GLOBAL POSTURE

Congo's global posture is one of "strategic openness," where it balances its historical ties to France and the Soviet Union with pragmatic modern partnerships. The state makes frequent references to its [historical role in Angola's independence](#) to bolster its current diplomatic standing in the African Union. This is reinforced by its [long-term military commitment](#) to the Central African Republic, positioning Congo as a "provider of peace" in the region.

The relationship with the **European Union** is particularly vital, as the government seeks to secure funding for the "Global Gateway" corridor projects [linking Pointe-Noire to Bangui and N'Djamena](#). By presenting itself as a "stable partner" in a volatile region, Congo is attempting to secure long-term capital flows. However, the mention of [Basirou Diomaye Faye](#) of Senegal and his "African consciousness" speech at Thiaroye suggests that Congo is also sensitive to the shifting pan-Africanist winds that demand more "truth and dignity" in relations with former colonial powers.

THE ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT

The economic climate is marked by state-led interventions to stimulate the "non-oil" sector, primarily agriculture and small-scale

cooperatives, while relying on international grants for large-scale development.

- **Cooperatives and Microcredits:** The **FIGA** (Fund for the Impulse of Guarantee and Support) has released [31 million CFA](#) to support 97 cooperatives in the Bouenza department, focusing on agriculture and sewing.
- **Agricultural Diversification:** The state is heavily promoting a [pork consumption initiative](#), with 31 restaurants mobilized to sell local pork at **1500 francs per plate** to demonstrate self-sufficiency.
- **Infrastructure Investment:** The EU is funding [four large cranes](#) at the port of Brazzaville and conducting feasibility studies for a **drainage project** to combat urban flooding in Brazzaville and Pointe-Noire.
- **Cost of Living Concerns:** Despite the talk of infrastructure, the "pincements au cœur" (heartaches) mentioned by local residents regarding the [high cost of operating businesses](#) and the lack of funding for youth activities suggest ongoing inflationary pressures on the average citizen.

LEADERSHIP CHANGES

Personnel shifts today are concentrated in the military and diplomatic spheres, ensuring that

loyalist control is maintained over key institutions.

- **Colonel Désiré Bienvenu Mondelingolo:** Appointed as the [Commandant of the Marien Ngouabi Military Academy](#), replacing Colonel Major Cir Lee Longangier. This is a strategic appointment, as the academy is the primary training ground for the nation's elite officers [ahead of the election](#).
- **David Maduka:** Formally took his post as the [new Ambassador to Angola](#), a critical diplomatic position given the two nations' deep history and shared energy interests.
- **Capitaine de Corvette Vidier Herman Ngier:** Named as the new head of the [321st Flotilla](#) in the naval forces, part of a broader refresh of command in the Pointe-Noire military zone.
- **Maccael Lizi Hilda:** Highlighted as an [Officer of Finance in Bangi \(CAR\)](#), signaling a rise in the profile of women within the military hierarchy.

EDITORIAL POSTURE & STORY HIERARCHY

The network's editorial hierarchy is strictly **regime-centric** and **ceremonial**. The lead story for the entire day was the [return of Firmin Ayessa's body](#) and the subsequent mourning decree. This is a classic diversionary tactic used to foster national empathy and unity. The second-tier priority is "Election Preparation," but only through the lens of [civic education](#) and institutional validation, with almost no airtime given to the specific platforms of opposition candidates. The network adopts a **reassuring and nationalistic** tone, framing the President as a "man of peace" [figé dans le bronze](#) (frozen in bronze). **Conspicuous Omissions** include

any critical discussion of the economy's heavy debt load, the specific grievances of the strikers or "retired people" mentioned briefly in passing, and the lack of any footage or interviews from the opposition camp beyond their names on a validation list.

GEOPOLITICAL FRAMING

The broadcast frames the world through a lens of regional leadership and strategic dependence on traditional powers.

- **Angola:** Portrayed as a "sister republic" and a [strategic ally](#) whose independence was enabled by Congolese support. The framing is one of mutual respect and shared energy goals.
- **The European Union:** Framed as a **competent and essential donor** that validates Congo's development path. The EU Ambassador is given extensive time to explain [multimodal corridor projects](#) that "de-isolate" landlocked countries.
- **The United States:** Viewed specifically through the **security and health lens**. The U.S. is portrayed as a [necessary partner](#) for maintaining the biosecurity of the Congolese military, though the framing is transactional rather than ideological.
- **France:** Portrayed with **ambivalence**. While road projects are co-funded by the AFD, the coverage of the [Thiaroye Massacre](#) and the use of the term "colonial army" when discussing the 1944 killings shows a readiness to use historical grievances to fuel modern nationalism.
- **DRC (Tshisekedi):** Portrayed as a **friend and neighbor** whose president seeks the counsel of Sassou Nguesso at the [Oyo presidential retreat](#).

INFORMATION WARFARE ENVIRONMENT

- **Narrative Seeding:** The government is seeding the term ["Citoyenneté Active" \(Active Citizenship\)](#) to redefine voting not as a choice but as a civic duty to the state. This is designed to drive high turnout, which is historically used as a metric of regime legitimacy.
- **Propaganda:** The use of nature documentaries (specifically regarding ants) immediately followed by news about the "Queen Mother" and "new queens" in the village context acts as a subtle psychological operation to normalize the concept of dynastic or long-term matriarchal/patriarchal rule as "natural."
- **Censorship by Omission:** By focusing the football crisis solely on **administrative paperwork at Fecofoot**, the network obscures any potential political reasons for the closure of stadiums or the lack of funding for youth sports.

HYPOTHESES AND FUTURE OUTLOOK

- **Consolidation via Crisis:** The deaths of Ayessa and Mvouo will likely lead to a **reshuffle of the PCT leadership** in the next 4-8 weeks. The President will likely appoint more "younger generation" loyalists to mirror the "dynamic" image projected by the new schools and digital fiber infrastructure.

- **Electoral Flashpoints:** While the state projects peace, the [recommendations from Djambala](#) regarding biometric voting suggest that if these are not implemented, the opposition will have a ready-made narrative of fraud, potentially leading to **localized unrest in March**.
- **Energy Pivot:** The push for a [regional energy loop](#) with DRC and Angola will likely see a formal treaty signed before the end of the year, as Congo seeks to hedge against fluctuating oil prices by becoming a regional electricity transit hub.

STRATEGIC FORESIGHT

Short Term (1-4 Weeks): Expect a massive **state funeral** for Firmin Ayessa that will be used as a platform for the President's unofficial campaign launch. Anticipate reactionary shifts in the Ministry of Sports to "purge" those responsible for the U17 football scandal [to appease public anger](#).

Medium Term (1-6 Months): The completion of the [Luingi-Boco electricity corridor](#) will be used as the primary campaign backdrop for the President. Budget impacts from the [Foire Agricole](#) will be assessed to see if food import costs have actually decreased, which is unlikely in the near term.

Long Term (1-5 Years): Structural changes in military command [like the new commandant at the academy](#) suggest a long-term plan to ensure the army remains a loyalist bastion if the transition of power eventually moves to a successor (likely a Sassou family member). The [corridor projects with the EU](#) will determine whether Congo can successfully pivot to a service/logistics economy.

RISK ASSESSMENT

- **Election Legitimacy Crisis:** The exclusion of candidates or failure to adopt biometric reforms could trigger mass protests. **Triggers:** Rejection of key opposition appeals or visible fraud in card distribution. **Likelihood:** Medium-High. **Impact:** High (civil unrest, international sanctions). **Mitigations:** Inclusion of international observers and immediate implementation of the [Djambala recommendations](#).
- **Bureaucratic Collapse in Critical Sectors:** The Fecofoot crisis indicates that [inter-institutional communication](#) is broken. **Triggers:** A similar failure in health or energy logistics. **Likelihood:** Medium. **Impact:** Moderate (public cynicism, loss of service). **Mitigations:** Digitalization of administrative tracking and direct oversight from the Prime Minister's office.
- **Regional Spillover from CAR Conflict:** Congo's deep involvement in [UN peacekeeping in CAR](#) exposes it to retaliatory asymmetric threats. **Triggers:** A major uptick in rebel activity near the northern border. **Likelihood:** Low-Medium. **Impact:** High (border security costs, refugee influx). **Mitigations:** Enhanced intelligence sharing with the [U.S. and regional partners](#).
- **Urban Infrastructure Failure:** Flooding remains a persistent threat to economic hubs. **Triggers:** Record rains before the [EU drainage projects](#) are completed. **Likelihood:** High. **Impact:** Moderate (property damage, cholera outbreaks). **Mitigations:** Rapid deployment of [civil protection assets](#) and clearing of existing canals.

- **Leadership Succession Uncertainty:** The death of veteran advisors increases the risk of a **power struggle** if the President's health declines. **Triggers:** Public health rumors or additional deaths in the inner circle. **Likelihood:** Low in short term, High in long term. **Impact:** Severe (regime instability). **Mitigations:** Formalizing a clear, constitutional succession hierarchy [through the PCT party organs](#).

GAPS & BLIND SPOTS

- The broadcast fails to address the **actual financial status** of the country's oil wealth; while revenues are managed, there is no transparency on how much is diverted to service debt vs. development.
- There is a total lack of **opposition perspective**; the "seven candidates" are presented as a list without their specific platforms or criticisms of the administration.
- The "success" of the Agricultural Fair is measured in **exhibitor counts** [rather than production output](#) or price decreases for consumers, which are the true metrics of food security.
- The "SAB" survey on military health [omits actual data](#) on HIV/AIDS prevalence, preventing an objective assessment of the military's combat effectiveness.

CONTRARIAN NARRATIVE SCENARIOS

- **The "Potemkin Infrastructure" Hypothesis:** The grand projects like the "Christophe de Margerie" campus and Pool electrification may be "Potemkin" efforts—partially functional displays built quickly for election optics [to distract from failing national metrics](#) in the interior. If they fail shortly after the vote, a secondary wave of unrest is likely.
- **The Fecofoot Scandal as a Controlled Leak:** The regime may be intentionally allowing the sports controversy to go public [to scapegoat specific officials](#) and distance the President from broader youth dissatisfaction, making the subsequent "cleanup" look like a decisive action of a "principled" leader.
- **Black Swan Event:** A sudden **withdrawal of EU or U.S. funding** due to electoral irregularities would bankrupt the "Global Gateway" vision, leading to a rapid pivot toward **Chinese or Russian security and infrastructure deals**, fundamentally altering the region's geopolitical alignment overnight.

RECOMMENDATIONS & IMPLICATIONS

For Statecraft/Public Sector:

- **Diplomatic Hedge:** Regional states should prepare for a post-election "hardening" of the Congolese state as it manages the loss of veteran advisors [like Ayessa](#).

- **Security Readiness:** Neighbors (DRC/Angola) must coordinate on the [proposed energy loop](#) to ensure it remains a neutral economic project rather than a political tool for election leverage.
- **Reform Pressure:** International partners should tie future infrastructure grants [like the drainage project](#) to the implementation of the biometric reforms requested in Djambala.

For Private Sector/Investors:

- **Supply Chain Opportunity:** The **Agricultural Fair** and pork initiative suggest a growing demand for [cold chain logistics](#) and food processing technology in Brazzaville.
- **Regulatory Compliance:** Companies involved in mining or energy must monitor the [electoral candidate list](#) for shifts in "Right-leaning" vs. "Socialist" economic orientations among challengers.
- **Capital Allocation:** Investment in the Pool region is now **lower risk** due to the [completed electrification](#), making it a prime target for new agropastoral ventures.

LEGISLATIVE ROUNDUP

Legislative activity centered on the executive decree of mourning and the validation of election procedures. Parliamentary sessions focused on setting the agenda for the

upcoming administrative terms for both the Senate and the Assembly.

• **BILLS DISCUSSED/DEBATED:**

- **Decree No. 2026/426:** A Presidential [emergency decree](#) declaring a day of national mourning for Firmin Ayessa, suspending manifestations and ordering flags at half-mast to ensure public order.
- **Convention Collective for Dirry General Hospital:** A newly [ratified labor agreement](#) aimed at clarifying the rights and obligations of healthcare workers to stabilize the clinical environment.
- **2026 Budget Exercise for Pokola:** A [municipal budget bill](#) focused on local connectivity, taxi-moto tariffs, and cemetery development.

• **HEARINGS & PRESS EVENTS:**

- **Constitutional Court Candidate Validation:** The final list of seven presidential candidates [was announced](#), signaling the close of the appeal period.
- **Congo-Namibia Commission:** A press conference detailing the signing of [two bilateral treaties](#) on diplomacy and vocational training.
- **Fecofoot Point of Press:** A [crisis briefing](#) explaining the "procedural failure" that grounded the U17 national team.

KEY STORIES

- **Death and Tributes for Firmin Ayessa:** National mourning declared for the Minister of State [following his death in Istanbul](#). President and First Lady attended the repatriation of his remains [at Maya-Maya airport](#).

- **Validation of Seven Presidential Candidates:** The Constitutional Court [finalized the ballot](#) for the March 2026 elections, including Sassou Nguesso, Joseph Kignoumbi Kia Mboundou, and Dave Mafoula.
- **Electrification of the Pool Region:** High-voltage lines and [substations deployed](#) to Kikala, Luingi, and Boko to support the return of populations [after years of displacement](#).
- **U17 National Football Team Withdrawal:** Congo's U17 team [misses the UNIFAC tournament](#) in Kinshasa due to administrative failures, sparking public outcry [against the Ministry of Sports](#).
- **EU Infrastructure Partnership:** EU Ambassador outlines [multi-million dollar funding](#) for the Brazzaville-Kinkala-Mindouli road and [port crane upgrades](#).
- **Campus Scolaire Pilote Christophe de Margerie:** The President [inaugurates a 15-hectare modern school](#) combining academic and traditional agricultural training for 630 students.
- **Military SAB/Saberse HIV Survey:** Results of a [five-year health study](#) within the Congolese Armed Forces, supported by the **U.S. Embassy**, were released to ensure troop readiness.
- **Death of Former Minister Saturnin Okabé:** Tributes held at the Palais des Congrès for the [former Minister of Finance](#) who died in France.
- **Congo-Namibia Cooperation Agreements:** Denis Christel Sassou Nguesso signs [two key protocols](#) for diplomatic consultations and teaching training in Windhoek.
- **FIGA Microcredits in Bouenza:** Release of [31 million CFA](#) to 97 entrepreneurs and cooperatives in Mfoati and Louté.
- **Gendarmerie Academy Appointment:** Colonel Désiré Bienvenu Mondelingolo [takes command](#) of the Marien Ngouabi military school during the pre-election buildup.
- **Pokola Municipal Budget Session:** 25 municipal counselors [deliberate on cemetery access](#), taxi tariffs, and "commune connectée" projects.
- **Thiaroye Massacre Commemoration:** Minister of Defense Charles Richard Mondjo represents the President at the [81st anniversary](#) in Dakar, Senegal.
- **Ramadan 2026 Coverage:** Interview with Saïd Ahmad of the [Ahmadiyya community](#) regarding the religious observance and its impact on [social cohesion](#).
- **Mvouti Agropastoral Workshop:** Deputy Paul Valis Matombé [organizes a seminar](#) for women on high-yield banana production and [donates supplies to schools](#).
- **Pork Consumption Campaign:** Government initiates a [promotion of local pork](#) at the Grande Foire Agricole to reduce food imports.
- **Book Review of 'A Week in Kinango':** A literary discussion on the allegories of [nature taking revenge](#) on corrupt urban societies.
- **Civic Education Campaign:** Hugo Ngouelondélé [meets with neighborhood leaders](#) and religious figures to encourage "responsible voting."
- **New Commandant for the 321st Flotilla:** Ceremonial takeover by [Capitaine de Corvette Vidier Herman Ngier](#) at the Pointe-Noire naval base.

- **Maison du Partage Inauguration:** A new [philanthropic restaurant](#) (Resto du Cœur) opened in Pointe-Noire to feed the poor.
- **Road Infrastructure in Inquéle-Lessanga:** Deputy Fortuné Mundelengolo [inspects 30km of roads](#) to ensure they are "practicable" for local farmers and merchants.
- **25th Military Staff Course Graduation:** Officers [complete intensive training](#) in operational planning and joint operations management.
- **Digital Inclusion via Fasus Antennas:** Minister Léon Juste Ibombo [deploys new telecom infrastructure](#) to improve rural connectivity and E-economy access.
- **Cuilou Conclave for Election Funding:** Daughters and sons of the Cuilou region [held a meeting](#) to organize fund collection for the President's campaign.

ABOUT THIS REPORT

Today's Media Trends is a public interest experiment in applying deep thematic trend analysis to television news coverage from around the world to explore how responsibly applied advanced AI can help journalists and scholars better understand the overarching trends, themes and patterns of our global world.

No data is used to train or tune any AI model.

Each morning, in collaboration with the Internet Archive's TV News Archive, we apply Google's Gemini 3 to deeply examine yesterday's coverage from each television news channel to tease out the overarching themes and trends of its news coverage into a richly annotated thematic analysis. Each high-level insight is connected back to the original broadcast, allowing journalists and scholars to understand the dominate themes and trends and instantly click out to the underlying sources for details.

By helping journalists and scholars see the broader trends and patterns of global news coverage, this analysis helps them identify relevant stories and coverage they might not otherwise have encountered and uncover connections, emphases and narrative shifts that enable more comprehensive reporting and deeper, evidence-based research.

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