



### MAIN STORIES

#### Frelimo Elects Presidential Candidate

#### What Future for Military Intervention in Mozambique?

## HIGHLIGHTS

- Frelimo elected Daniel Chapo, a low profile and comparatively young person, as its presidential candidate for the October 2024 elections.
- The security situation in northern Mozambique is uncertain with the withdrawal of the Southern African Development Community Mission (SAMIM).
- Mozambique is ranked 105 out of 180 countries (1=best) on the 2024 World Press Freedom Index.
- Freedom of expression, peaceful assembly, and association are repressed in Mozambique according to the state of Human Rights in the World 2023 report.
- More voters had registered than there were voting age adults with five provinces accounting for the huge number of ghost voters.
- Most kidnappings were orchestrated outside Mozambique, mostly South Africa, with the latter not responding to requests for extradition of known masterminds.
- The European Union (EU) prolonged and adapted its mission in Mozambique, renaming it to the EU Military Assistance Mission Mozambique (EUMAM-MOZ).
- The insurgency remains the main driver of food insecurity and malnutrition, exacerbating inequalities and affecting income generating opportunities.
- ExxonMobil will make a final decision on the natural gas extraction project in northern Mozambique by the end of 2025.
- TotalEnergies is satisfied with contractor costs but is still concerned with the security situation which is the responsibility of the government to resolve.
- Standard & Poor's kept Mozambique's rating at CCC+ with a positive budgetary and economic outlook, subject to the gas megaprojects beginning to provide support from 2028.

# MOZAMBIQUE



- The growth in domestic debt could threaten the reversal process and make it unsustainable.
- The World Bank is the largest creditor of Mozambique's external debt, holding 29% of the US\$10.2 billion contracted externally.
- The economy grew 5.01% in the first quarter of 2024 with the average inflation rate standing at 5.48%.
- US\$94.2 million in revenues from oil and natural gas exploitation was applied to Mozambique's new Sovereign Wealth Fund.
- Insecurity in Cabo Delgado is still a major challenge for mining companies in their preparation to increase production.
- Electronic transaction limits will be implemented to combat money laundering and terrorism.
- Mozambique holds the presidency of the UN Security Council (UNSC) for the month of May.
- Turkey is poised to approve a comprehensive military agreement with Mozambique.
- The Russian ambassador to Mozambique, Alexander Surikov, was found dead at his official residence in Maputo.

