



DRC CONGO POLITICAL KEY FACTS



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**ANNUAL EAST AFRICAN
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H.E Félix-Antoine Tshisekedi Tshilombo. The current President of DRC who assumed office in January 2019.



Jean-Michel Sama Lukonde Kyenge, DRC Prime Minister.

- DRC has a semi-presidential system of government, where the President and Prime Minister share executive powers.
- The DRC is run by a governing coalition called “Sacred Union for the Nation” (SUN) bringing together over 500 political parties that support President Tshisekedi. The main opposition leaders include former Katanga Province Governor Moise Katumbi, former Prime Minister Augustin Matata Ponyo and unsuccessful Presidential candidate Martin Fayulu, to mention but those most famous ones.
- General elections are slated to be held on December 23, 2023. Voters’ registration has been completed with over 45 million voters registered to vote countrywide.
- Of late, the Opposition has been organizing to increase street pressure in a bid to demand inter alia, fairer conditions for holding the next elections.
- M23 was formed by deserters of the DRC Armed Forces (FARDC) who had previously been members of the CNDP rebel group and claim to have been dissatisfied with the conditions of their service.



- The uprising was defeated by a joint campaign of the DRC Army and the Force Intervention Brigade of the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo MONUSCO. Following their military defeat in 2013, M23 fighters fled into Uganda and Rwanda.
- The M23 reemerged towards end 2021, reigniting tensions in the region and precipitating a diplomatic row between DRC and Rwanda, which DRC accused of supporting M23. Rwanda has denied those charges.
- This prompted the EAC to send in troops to deploy between the belligerents in order to create conditions for a political settlement of the crisis, while fostering dialogue between Kinshasa and Kigali to de-escalate tensions under the Luanda process. Other Congolese irregular armed groups are also being engaged under the so-called Nairobi process to push them to demobilize and disarm.
- The general political and security situation in DRC can be described as tense but under control by the Authorities of the Central Government in Kinshasa.



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