

Haiti Asylum Information Project

1. 72-hours of strike suspension at the Ministry of Commerce

On strike since April 22, employees of the Ministry of Trade and Industry (MCI) have decided to suspend their strike. This decision comes after an agreement that would have been reached with the Ministry and employees on their many demands (better working conditions, end of favoritism, computers and other equipment for offices...) However, the strikers give 72 hours to the Ministry to implement this agreement, otherwise they threaten to resume their blocking movement.

<https://www.haitilibre.com/en/news-27741-haiti-economy-72-hours-of-strike-suspension-at-the-ministry-of-commerce.html>

2. Haiti police on La Saline massacre: ‘Even young children were not spared’

(Article attached)

It is one of Haiti’s most violent and impoverished neighborhoods, a no-go zone next to the Haitian Parliament that has become ground zero in a resurgence of gang-related and possibly politically motivated violence.

<https://www.miamiherald.com/news/nation-world/world/americas/haiti/article230380739.html>

3. President Cantave apologizes for «the hideous spectacle» in the Senate

Wednesday, Senator Carl Murat Cantave, Speaker of the Upper House, in a press conference in Parliament, apologized for the disorder and violence caused by his colleagues

Tuesday <https://www.haitilibre.com/en/news-27730-haiti-flash-violence-in-the-senate-the-opposition-wins-a-2nd-victory-the-pm-ratification-postponed.html> to block the process of ratification of the Prime Minister and his cabinet "I present an apology to all those who have been struck by this hideous spectacle that the Senate has presented [...] It is inadmissible and unacceptable for the Senate to offer such a spectacle."

<https://www.haitilibre.com/en/news-27738-haiti-flash-president-cantave-apologizes-for-the-hideous-spectacle-in-the-senate.html>

4. Haiti-Politics-Ratification: Allied with power, Senator Joseph Lambert offers a bad show to the population

<http://www.hpnhaiti.com/nouvelles/index.php/politique/34-security/5532-haiti-politique-ratification-allie-du-pouvoir-le-senateur-joseph-lambert-offre-un-mauvais-spectacle-a-la-population>

5. Violence in the Senate, the opposition wins a 2nd victory, the PM ratification postponed

<https://www.haitilibre.com/en/news-27730-haiti-flash-violence-in-the-senate-the-opposition-wins-a-2nd-victory-the-pm-ratification-postponed.html>

6. Haiti: the gangsterization of politics or the policy of gangsterisation?

<https://rtvc.radiotelevisioncaraibes.com/opinions/haiti-la-gangsterisation-la-politique-la-politique-gangsterisation.html>

7. Declaration of Heritage, a law violated and flouted for 10 years

This Tuesday, May 14, the "Fondasyon Je Klere" (FJKL) will launch the first national campaign (May 14 to June 30) on the declaration of Heritage in Haiti around the concept of citizen engagement...

<https://www.haitilibre.com/en/news-27728-haiti-flash-declaration-of-heritage-a-law-violated-and-flouted-for-10-years.html>

8. The opposition minority forces the Senate to postpone the ratification meeting of the PM

<https://www.haitilibre.com/en/news-27715-haiti-politic-the-opposition-minority-forces-the-senate-to-postpone-the-ratification-meeting-of-the-pm.html>

9. Acting Haiti Prime Minister Tapped For Permanent Post

<https://haitiantimes.com/2019/05/13/acting-haiti-prime-minister-tapped-for-permanent-post/>

10. Massacre La Saline: The DCPJ demands the prosecution of Port-au-Prince the arrest of several senior officials of the State

<http://www.hphaiti.com/nouvelles/index.php/politique/36-space/5506-massacre-la-saline-la-dcpj-exige-du-parquet-de-port-au-prince-l-arrestation-de-plusieurs-hauts-responsables-de-l-etat>

11. RNDDH presents its assessment of the chaotic situation of human rights in Haiti

A new report published by the National Network for the Defense of Human Rights, a human rights organization in Haiti, described the environment in Haiti as a “chaotic human rights situation.” According to the report, between January and March 2019, 101 people have been killed by injuries sustained by gunshots or stabbing, thirteen of which are police officers.

<https://lenouvelliste.com/article/201332/le-rnddh-presente-son-bilan-de-la-situation-chaotique-des-droits-humains-en-haiti>

12. Press Freedom Remains Elusive for Haiti's Journalists

PORT-AU-PRINCE / WASHINGTON—Haiti’s social and economic crisis has taken a toll on the country’s journalists. Senator Youri Latortue, a member of the Senate Ethics Committee of Parliament who represents the Artibonite agricultural region, says privately-owned media and the government should work together to allow the press to fulfill its mission without constraints.

<https://www.voanews.com/a/press-freedom-remains-elusive-for-haiti-s-journalists-4905586.html>

13. Haiti-Politics: Jean Michel Lapin is struggling to form the new ministerial cabinet

According to concordant sources, the Haitian Party Tèt Kale (PHTK) has claimed some key positions and has no intention of backing down. The executive is struggling to form the opening Government.

<http://www.hphaiti.com/nouvelles/index.php/politique/5490-haiti-politique-jean-michel-lapin-a-du-mal-a-constituer-le-nouveau-cabinet-ministeriel>

14. Assassination by Ridchy CAYO, employed at the Primature

The Ministry of Culture and Communication is appalled by the shooting of youngster Ridchy CAYO during the night of 5 to 6 May 2019 in Carrefour. Mr. Ridchy CAYO, former student at the Institute of African Studies and Research of Haiti (IERAH-ISERSS) and the Faculty of Ethnology, is a civil servant of the State, assigned to the Direction of Communication of the Primature since 2013.

<https://www.hpnhaiti.com/nouvelles/index.php/societe/99-securite/5489-haiti-deces-assassinat-par-balles-de-ridchy-cayo-employe-a-la-primature>

15. President Moïse reiterates his promise to fight against insecurity

<https://www.haitilibre.com/en/news-27624-haiti-politic-president-moise-reiterates-his-promise-to-fight-against-insecurity.html>

16. Haitians Mark May Day with Calls for Living Wages, Ouster of President Moïse

https://www.democracynow.org/2019/5/2/headlines/haitians_mark_may_day_with_calls_for_living_wages_ouster_of_president_moise

17. The gang leader Arnel Joseph wounded

<https://www.haitilibre.com/en/news-27604-haiti-flash-the-gang-leader-arnel-joseph-wounded.html>

18. Haiti's Walking Dead

<http://blogs.pjstar.com/haiti/2019/04/29/haitis-walking-dead/>

19. Haiti Protesters Call For Final Audit Of Petrocaribe Report

<https://haitiantimes.com/2019/04/30/haiti-protesters-call-for-final-audit-of-petrocaribe-report/>

20. Executive Director of the National Network for the Defense of Human Rights is being Targeted

Alterpresse reports that death threats against Pierre Espérance, executive director of the National Network for the Defense of Human Rights are serious. Espérance reported that suspicious individuals riding motorcycles were noticed near the institution's premises. The International Federation of Human Rights, of which the National Network is a member, has already been alerted on this issue.

<http://www.alterpresse.org/spip.php?article24267#.XMce7pNKjOQ>

21. Police: 5 killed, 7 injured in gang shooting in Haiti

<https://www.thestar.com/news/world/americas/2019/04/25/police-5-killed-7-injured-in-gang-shooting-in-haiti.html>

22. Sénatus reveals the existence of relations between the Senator Delva and the Head of Gang Arnel

Tuesday afternoon in the Senate, Senator Jean Renel Sénatus President of the Commission "Justice, Security and National Defense" in a press conference, which often spoke in the past of hidden hands behind the acts of Gangs without ever naming one directly, revealed this time, that the Senator of Artibonite Garcia Delva (Ayiti An Aksyon - AAA) maintained strong relations with the dangerous and much sought after Gang Leader Arnel.

<https://www.haitilibre.com/en/news-27541-haiti-flash-senatus-reveals-the-existence-of-relations-between-the-senator-delva-and-the-head-of-gang-arnel.html>

23. The PNH will deploy in all Gang territories

<https://www.haitilibre.com/en/news-27516-haiti-flash-the-pnh-will-deploy-in-all-gang-territories.html>

24. Haiti-Corruption: Sit-in, April 26, 2019, to demand a full report on the management of PetroCaribe funds

A sit-in is announced for Friday, April 26 before the Superior Court of Accounts and Administrative Disputes (Cs-csa) to ask it to publish the final report on the management of PetroCaribe funds. The rally also aims to continue to pressure state institutions to demand accountability.

<http://www.alterpresse.org/spip.php?article24248#.XLnzsZNKjOS>

25. Haiti Allocates Funds To Non-Existential Gov't Offices: Report

A report by the Citizen's Observatory for the Institutionalization of Democracy in Haiti (OCID) revealed that currently more than seven million gourdes (about US\$87,500) are being allocated to non-existent parliamentary offices.

<https://haitiantimes.com/2019/04/18/haiti-allocates-funds-to-non-existent-govt-offices-report/>

26. The private sector regrets that the Head of State does not listen to advice

Friday, the businessman Frantz Bernard Craan, President of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Haiti (CCIH) and Coordinator of the economic forum of the private business sector, said on a TV channel of the capital, that the private sector had to break with the system responsible for poverty and insecurity, before the worsening of the socio-economic situation of the country.

<https://www.haitilibre.com/en/news-27478-haiti-economy-the-private-sector-regrets-that-the-head-of-state-does-not-listen-advises.html>

27. Haitian Foundation Voices Regret over Increased Insecurity in Haiti

<https://www.plenglish.com/index.php?o=mn&id=40965&SEO=haitian-foundation-voices-regret-over-increased-insecurity-in-haiti>

28. Violence ignites Cité Soleil, the inhabitants remain cloistered at home

Since Saturday, the security climate has deteriorated in Cité Soleil and La Saline where sporadic shots of automatic weapons sow terror day and night, forcing residents to stay hidden at home, fearing for their lives, while rival gangs clash continuously and several houses burnt have been reported. Medical staff and patients at the Isaie Jeanty maternity have been evacuated due to the risks posed by the situation.

<https://www.haitilibre.com/en/news-27475-haiti-security-violence-ignites-cite-soleil-the-inhabitants-remain-cloistered-at-home.html>

29. Violence against journalists and impunity a constant in Haiti

<https://www.ifex.org/haiti/2019/04/15/violencia-impunidad-periodismo/>

30. The Public Ministry pleads acquittal of Godson Orélus

Yves Martial, the Chief Prosecutor of the Court of Appeal of Gonaïves, this week in his oral argument, required the reversal of the order of closure made by the investigating judge Dieunel Luméran in the case of the important seizure of weapons in Saint-Marc in September 2016. <https://www.haitilibre.com/en/news-18569-haiti-flash-worrying-seizure-of-weapons-from-the-usa.html>

31. Dispute with U.S. energy trader worsens Haiti's fuel crisis

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-haiti-fuel/dispute-with-u-s-energy-trader-worsens-haitis-fuel-crisis-idUSKCN1RQ0MD>

UN sets stage for end of peacekeeping in Haiti. A worried Dominican Republic objects

(Article Attached)

The United Nations Security Council on Friday renewed its justice-support peacekeeping mission in Haiti for a final six months, after which it will maintain only a special political mission in the crisis-ridden nation after Oct. 15. Council members voted 13-0 in favor of the final six-month renewal, with the Russian Federation and Dominican Republic both abstaining. The Dominican Republic, which shares the island of Hispaniola with Haiti, called the withdrawal of peacekeepers in six months — as Haiti continues to face an ongoing political and economic crisis, deteriorating humanitarian conditions and State Department travel warning — premature. “For the Dominican Republic [the peacekeeping mission] will come to an end at the same time we are expecting to see elections held in Haiti, a moment that can always fall into instability,” Ambassador José Singer Weisinger said. “We believe that we should weigh the moment and the conditions for this ... The work of this Security Council is to ensure that there is... international peace.”

<https://www.miamiherald.com/news/nation-world/world/americas/haiti/article229164759.html>

32. Dispatches from Haiti: Cite Soleil—April 8, 2019

I went into Cite Soleil today for the first time in a while. Soleil has been “closed for business” the last couple of weeks. Two gangs have been shooting it out and innocent people have been caught in the middle. Why gangs in two parts of the slum have been unhappy with each other is not for me to say. I have heard different reasons but have no first-hand knowledge. I do know the gangs get their guns and ammo from somewhere. I will let others speculate why fighting happens between neighbors.

<http://blogs.pjstar.com/haiti/2019/04/08/cite-soleil-april-8-2019/>

33. Haiti stands ‘at the crossroads’ between peacekeeping, development – Bachelet urges strengthened ‘human rights protection’

UN-Haiti partnership ‘must evolve’ says Peacekeeping chief As the second leg of the March-April “joint presidencies” of France and Germany continues, Security Council President and Germany’s Ambassador Christoph Heusgen, invited the UN peacekeeping chief to take the floor. Jean Pierre Lacroix, pointed out that no violent demonstrations have occurred since “the ten days of unrest” from 7 to 15 February, when 41 people were killed, another 100 injured, and human rights largely abused.

Loune Viaud, Executive Director of NGO Zanmi Lasante, Partners in Health’s sister organization in Haiti and a recipient of a "Women of the Year" award from Ms. Magazine, also

briefed the Council. She spoke of gender-based violence and the lack of access to women's health care as "one of the country's greatest challenges to development", encouraging the Council to view it as part of "reinforcing the relationship between sustainable development and peace and security". Moreover, Ms. Viaud urged the Council during the UN's Mission reconfiguration, to support "the urgent humanitarian needs of women and girls"; and call for Haiti to create "greater legal protection" for them, including "a comprehensive law on gender-based violence".

<https://news.un.org/en/story/2019/04/1036011>

34. Washington Post article:

U.N. human rights chief Michelle Bachelet told the Security Council that "social grievances, corruption and weak institutions constitute major obstacles for the realization of human rights in Haiti."

https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/the_americas/peacekeeping-chief-un-backs-desire-for-end-to-haiti-mission/2019/04/03/8db8b8aa-566f-11e9-aa83-504f086bf5d6_story.html?utm_term=.b21ef0374bbd

35. Haiti - FLASH : War between Gangs, the blood flows again to Cité Soleil

<https://www.haitilibre.com/en/news-27356-haiti-flash-war-between-gangs-the-blood-flows-again-to-cite-soleil.html>

36. U.N. is set to end peacekeeping in Haiti. Can the country's police force do the job?

By all accounts, Haiti's fledgling national police force is considered to be the United Nations' one success story in the country following 15 years of peacekeeping. Barely 2,500 officers when the U.N. returned in 2004 after an armed revolt led to the president's ouster, the force today is 15,051 officers working out of 376 police stations, with a presence in every major municipality. But as the U.N. Security Council prepares to be briefed Wednesday on the situation in Haiti, ahead of its decision to finally end the country's peacekeeping mission, one question remains: Can a volatile Haiti, which has seen over 200 demonstrations since December — including 10 days of violence in February — finally take responsibility for its own security?

<https://www.miamiherald.com/news/nation-world/world/americas/haiti/article228678394.html>

37. The AIDH draws a grim record of the situation in Haiti

The International Action for Human Rights (AIDH) drew a grim record of the human rights situation in Haiti for the year 2018.

<https://www.haitilibre.com/en/news-27744-haiti-justice-the-aidh-draws-a-grim-record-of-the-situation-in-haiti.html>

