Security Media Trends
Central African Republic
Trends and insights from social media monitoring

As COVID-19 cases continue to **increase rapidly** across Africa, rising hostility towards international aid organisations underline a wide range of challenges to contain the pandemic.

Please note that social media monitoring in the DRC has ended. To consult past documents, please see **Bulletin 1** and **Bulletin 2**.

Key Trends

Misinformation Targeting International Organisations

- Facebook posts were circulating alleging that an international health organisation benefits financially from the sick, and that vaccines are being used in order to "destroy" rather than to help patients.
- This sort of misinformation has clearly fed into exploding negativity towards UN and INGO representatives: threats, accusations, and statements have increased by 22.6% in the last 7 days alone.

Calls to Oust Foreign Aid Organisations Gain Traction

- Local civilians are increasingly vocal about banning international organisations from the CAF amidst rumours of collusion with government to obtain international funding.

Spread of Hostility Towards Covid-19 Response

- In the Bangui autonomous commune, over 50% of COVID-19 coverage is negative.

Dominant Regional Narratives Play Crucial Role in Conditioning Local Mistrust

- Rumours in the DRC of economic profiteering and corruption by aid organisations, as well as widely circulated videos of protests targeting UN peacekeeping missions, have influenced the narrative in the CAR.

As was the case during the Ebola epidemic, these developments in social media indicate that international aid organisations will need to focus on **building trust with local communities** to avoid that what starts as opinions turns into **violence against health providers**.

Insecurity Insight

Coming Soon - **Delivering Health Responses During Public Health Emergencies**

In this 10-min mobile guide, learn how to implement appropriate security risk management measures to enable public health emergency actors and healthcare workers to effectively address security challenges during a public health emergency response or outbreak.

Join our **Attacks on Healthcare** mailing list to find out when the guide goes live.