



# CARDH

Centre d'analyse et de recherche en droits de l'homme

**The population is dying !!!**

The civil and political society is fighting for power post-Jovenel Moïse, the government clings to it



*Haitians in the Darién forest © Le Nouvelliste*



*Haiti has the highest kidnapping rate in the world © Haiti 24*

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## I. Acronyms and abbreviations

ANADIP	: Association nationale des distributeurs de produits pétroliers
ANAPROSS	: Association nationale de transporteurs de produits pétroliers, de stations d'essence
BMPAD	: Bureau de monétisation des programmes d'aide au développement
BRH	: Banque de la République d'Haïti
CEP	: Conseil électoral provisoire
CARDH	: Centre d'analyse et de recherche en droits de l'homme
DINASA	: Distributeurs nationaux S.A.
GARR	: Groupe d'appui aux rapatriés et réfugiés
OIM	: Organisation internationale de la migration
MEF	: Ministère de l'économie et des finances

## I. Summary

1. After the assassination of President Jovenel Moïse on July 7, causing an unprecedented crisis in the contemporary history of Haiti (dysfunction of Parliament, of the Justice and of the Executive), the civil and political society is caught up in a power struggle.
2. Each group, by its approach and even by its “ideology”, pretends to be able to better resolve the political crisis. Which of them is determined to truly tackle the evils facing the country today?
  - Gangs control on average 60% of the territory and are getting stronger, while the morale and operational level of the police is the lowest (failure of “elite” operations): Strategic alliances, cessation of fighting, territorial conquest, sophisticated weapons, enormous financial means, mass indoctrination process ...
  - Haiti has become the country with the highest kidnapping rate per capita in the world (The Washington Post): 828 kidnappings are recorded from January 1 to October 16, 2021, including 54 foreigners from four countries.
  - For months, the fuel shortage has caused social dysfunction: announced closure of hospitals and media; transport, trade... largely affected.
  - Since the assassination of the president, the prices of consumer products have risen by an average of 20%, complicating the situation of the most vulnerable.
  - A real manhunt against Haitians taking unthinkable risks to reach the American border in particular (rape, disease, animal attacks in the forests ...). From September 19 to October 19, 10,831 were repatriated, including 7,915 from the United States of America. From May to September, 170,936 from the Dominican Republic.
  - There is a denial of the right to education in vulnerable areas. School premises are transformed into bases of bandits wanting to recruit children (5 years old).
3. This report develops this bleak picture so that actors understand the urgency of resolving the socio-economic crisis, including kidnapping and the fuel shortage that will lead to mass killings.

## II. Introduction

4. The assassination of President Jovenel Moïse, during the night of July 7, 2021, in geopolitical<sup>1</sup> conditions not yet clarified, considerably worsens the fragile institutional crisis in which Haiti found itself: dysfunctional Parliament<sup>2</sup> and Justice<sup>3</sup>, unconstitutional electoral institution (CEP) and contested<sup>4</sup> ...
5. Politicians, civil society and the interim government, installed on July 20, fail to reach an inclusive agreement to provide the country with a governance framework to create the conditions conducive to the holding of democratic elections<sup>5</sup> from which legitimate elected officials will come out.
6. This situation gives rise to at least two major consequences. First, the passivity of the authorities: the interim government, believing to have no obligations of results, remained passive. Then, the accelerated deterioration of living conditions, by the increase in crime and kidnapping followed by physical and moral torture, rape, ransom of up to US \$ 1 million. The relative Haitian “middle class”, already fragile, is falling into poverty. Victims had to leave Haiti.
7. Each of these three sectors believes it is legitimate to impose its vision. As a result, they are engaged in a battle for power, while the real interests of the population, especially the most vulnerable layers (majority) in the grip of crime, misery and indignity, are not in the foreground.
8. This context leads the Center for Analysis and Research in Human Rights (CARDH) to once again<sup>6</sup> bring to the fore the glaring socio-economic reality of the population so that the actors are aware of it and give it primacy.

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<sup>1</sup> CARDH: « L'assassinat du président Jovenel Moïse dissimule-t-il des enjeux géopolitiques ? Pistes et réflexions », Rapport thématique II, 30 avril.

<sup>2</sup> CARDH: « L'assassinat du président Jovenel Moïse dissimule-t-il des enjeux géopolitiques ? Pistes et réflexions », Rapport thématique II, 30 avril.

<sup>3</sup> CARDH « 7 février 2021 Fin du mandat constitutionnel présidentiel, version complétée », 30 mai 2021.

<sup>4</sup> CARDH et al. « Lettre aux membres de la Cour de cassation: Renouvellement de la requête s'opposant à la prestation de serment des membres du CEP nommes », 2 octobre 2021.

<sup>5</sup> According to the Constitution, « la souveraineté réside dans l'universalité des citoyens qui en délègue l'exercice aux représentants des pouvoirs exécutif, législatif et judiciaire, à travers des élections. »

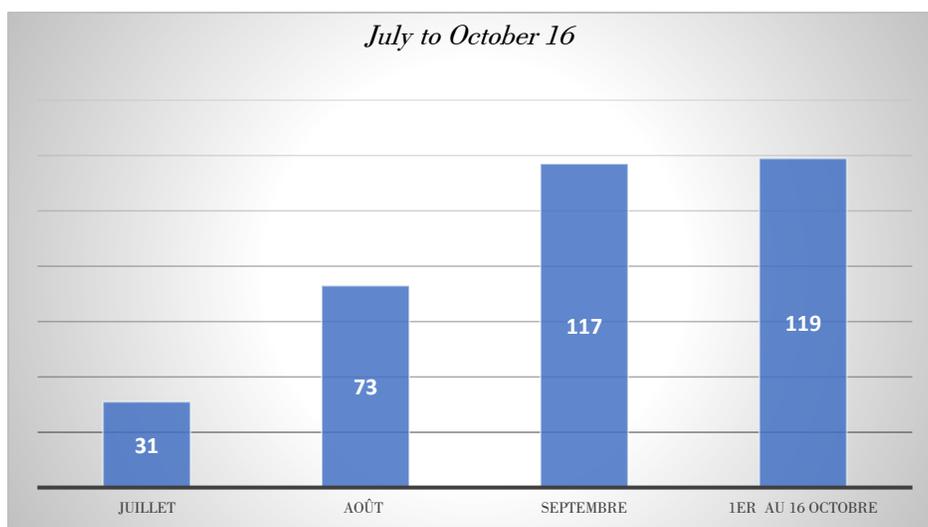
<sup>6</sup> CARDH : « Quinquennat de Jovenel Moïse. Droits sociaux et économiques : un massacre imminent au-delà des tueries par balle dans des quartiers populaires », 24 juillet 2020.

### III. Accelerated deterioration of living conditions

9. Many factors can explain the accelerated deterioration of living conditions in Haiti. This analysis takes into account: kidnapping; the fuel crisis; the average price increase of 25%; the denial of the right to education in Martissant, in the Town Center, at the lower Delmas and in Cité Soleil; the massive refoulement of Haitians from abroad; the collapse of public finances.

#### 1. Increase in kidnapping

10. The first problem facing the Haitian population is the increase in crime including kidnapping. From July to September 2021, kidnappings increased by almost 300%, totaling 221, of which: 31 for the month of July, 73 for the month of August and 117 for the month of September<sup>7</sup>.
11. For the first half of October (1 to 16), 119 kidnappings<sup>8</sup> were recorded, totaling 340 from July 1 to October 16.



*Evolution of kidnappings from July to October 16*

12. Most of the kidnapped women are raped and endured extreme violence. After their release, they fall into an "exaggerated" trauma.

<sup>7</sup> CARDH: « Kidnapping : Bulletin trimestriel juillet-août- septembre 2021 (# 5) », 7 octobre 2021  
<https://cardh.org/archives/2647>

<sup>8</sup> CARDH: « Cellule d'observation de la criminalité Bulletin # 6 (mi-octobre) », 19 octobre.  
<https://cardh.org/archives/2862>



13. The church, a mechanism for socialization, is in the eye of the storm. Members are kidnapped or killed on the church grounds. Haiti tends towards isolation<sup>9</sup>. Over 40 kidnappings from January to October 16.
14. 14. Crime has reached a dramatic level: we live in fear on a daily basis, life hardly exists, especially in Port-au-Prince ... This situation has been reinforced for months by a fuel crisis.

## 2. Fuel crisis

### 2.1. Situation

15. *Rarity due to gangs' warfare.* The official clashes between the gangs in Martissant (Gran Ravin / Village-de-Dieu / Ti Bwa), since June 1, and those in Cité Soleil have caused a scarcity of fuel. For at least six (6) days, from June 1 to 6, the blocking of national road # 2 prevented the Thor terminal (Carrefour) from supplying stations in the metropolitan area of Port-au-Prince and provincial towns (it is the same for that of Varreux).
16. *Deterioration of the situation.* Lacking the mission and expertise in this matter, BMPAD is one of the causes of the problem. Without a call for bids and in the dark (corruption), it would have used West Indies Petroleum, a small company without financial capacity, to supply the market whose monthly requirement is 250,000 barrels (60 million US dollars). The market is now supplied by 30,000 barrels, 17,000, 47,000 ... Since 2018, there has been a conflict between BMPAD and oil importing companies.



*When a pump randomly spills fuel. © Le Filet Infos*

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<sup>9</sup> [ANOMIE - Encyclopædia Universalis](#)



17. Insufficient importation and on an irregular basis is also a source of insecurity facing the country, lamented David Turnier, president of the National Association of Petroleum Distributors.
18. Since June, the State has not paid the companies their due relating to the price subsidy: NOVUM (29 million); RUBIES (32 million); PREBLE RISH HAITI (29 million).
19. Integration of the oil market. Gangs are systematically diverting gasoline trucks to their sites of operation: Wharf Jérémie; Haiti Steel Plant Zones; Drouillard. On October 5, three trucks were hijacked, two more the following day. The diverted gasoline is sold on the black market. Sometimes the bandits negotiate a price to recover the cargo, the truck and the drivers, underlined Marc André Dériphonse, head of the National Association of Transporters of Petroleum Products and Gas Stations (ANAPROSS).

## 2.2. Consequences

20. *Social dysfunction.* Being a transversal product, the fuel shortage has considerably affected the functioning of society: hospitals, schools, universities, work, public transportation, communication, media ...
21. From Monday, October 25, hospital services will be dysfunctional (Association of Private Hospitals of Haiti). The hospitals of St Luc and Saint Damien (Tabarre / Port-au-Prince), the Baptist Convention of Haiti (Cap-Haitien) and La Providence (Gonaïves / Artibonite) have announced their closure. Hospitals have no oxygen, some no longer receive patients ... Children in pediatric, women in maternity hospitals, adults, Covid-19 patients, patients admitted to intensive care will be the first to be affected.
22. In a note published this Thursday, October 21, Digicel informed that more than 15% of its sites were dysfunctional (150 antennas out of diesel out of 1,500). By Monday 25, nearly 40% will be affected. Radio television broadcasts interrupted, offices do not function for days, taxi drivers making a living on a daily basis are in disarray ...
23. *Destruction of lives and property, creation of a market where the cost of a gallon of gasoline is over 500% ...* After hours, even a day, in the queue, the situation turns in vinegar: chaos, killings... On October 22, a citizen was shot in a petrol pump in Delmas 43.
24. A gallon of gasoline sells on the black market for up to 1,500 gourdes (over 700%). Storage houses caught fire, causing deaths: In Petit-Goâve four houses and the seller burnt (September 21); in Cap-Haitian several houses, 200 motorcycles and two people, including a child, charred (September 25 and 27); in Debussy (Port-au-Prince) a house (September 17); in Limonade (North) seven houses (October 23) ...



25. *Strikes and demonstrations followed by violence.* At the call of the transport unions, several days of strike were followed in Port-au-Prince and in provincial towns to denounce the situation, particularly those of October 4, 18 and 19. Motorcycle drivers blocked several areas of the capital and provincial towns. At the same time, consumer products have increased.

### 3 Average price increases of 30%, some products almost doubled

26. Since the assassination of President Jovenel Moïse, the prices of consumer products have increased by an average of 30%. This further complicates the socioeconomic fragility in which the most vulnerable strata found themselves. Thus, CARDH sent investigators to the field to obtain a sample of prices (indicators). In the provinces, the costs are higher.

	27. Products	28. Price (July 2021)	29. Price (October 2021)
1	Rice (small pot « doum »)	65 gourdes	90 gourdes
2	Oil (small pot « doum »)	30 gourdes	45 gourdes
3	Spaghetti (1 pack)	35 gourdes	65 gourdes
4	Milk (small can)	30 gourdes	55 gourdes
6	Egg (packet of three)	35 gourdes	60 gourdes
7	Corn-Mill (small pot « doum »)	70 gourdes	90 gourdes
8	Flour (small pot « doum »)	40 gourdes	60 gourdes
9	Maggi (unit)	10 gourdes	15 gourdes
10	Sugar (small pot « doum »)	70 gourdes	90 gourdes

*Price table from July 15 to October 23, 2021*



#### 4. Denial of the right to education in Martissant, downtown in Cité Soleil ...

27. Clashes in the metropolitan area have caused around 10,000 displaced people, including 2,000 from Martissant (1,500 installed at the Carrefour sports center), and a need for humanitarian assistance for 60,000 people<sup>10</sup>. The gangs of Grand-Ravin, Ti Bwa and Village-de-Dieu, from June 1 to 6 killed more than sixty people, including about fifty on June 3<sup>11</sup>.
28. The school year officially started on September 21, 2021. However, Martissant, bas de Delmas, Center-Ville and Cité Soleil are still under gang control. Some schools serve as their bases: Emérante Papailier national school in Martissant 23 (base of the Gran Ravin gang); Tertullien Guilbaud National School, downtown (base of krache dife)<sup>12</sup>.
29. The bandits oppose the relocation of schools (the Republic of Peru national school, for example) and want to enlist children in crime. A viral video showed a bandit forcing a five (5) year old to pick up a gun (hold the gun!). The child cried out, “No! Manman mwen pa vle mwen den nan chimè (gang), lap bat mwen... “(No! My mom doesn't want me to become a bandit, she's going to beat me up...)<sup>13</sup>.
30. The Carrefour Sports Center, housing more than 1,500 displaced people from Martissant, has 300 school-age children who have still not been brought back to school.
31. From 4th avenue Bolosse to Fontamara 27, there are approximately 90 private schools and nine (9) public schools. From the bottom of Delmas to the rue des Miracles, via La Saline, there are at least 27 public schools. The municipality of Cite Soleil has several<sup>14</sup>.
32. To this dehumanizing picture can be added tens of thousands of Haitians fleeing the hell of Haiti to take refuge all over America, deported, repatriated in the most extreme inhuman conditions.

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<sup>10</sup> CARDH : « Droit à l'éducation : Martissant, bas de Delmas et Cité Soleil jetés aux oubliettes » sept 2021

<sup>11</sup> At least 7 on the main road (from Saint Bernadette Church to Fontamara 48); 15 in Martissant 2A; 10 at Martissant 2B; five at Impasse Tempête; 15 from Martissant 1 to 23, via the Ravine Bréyard bridge. Médecins Sans Frontières (Hospital ) (located in Martissant 25) had to close its doors (CARDH, op. Cit.).

<sup>12</sup> Ibid

<sup>13</sup> Ibid

<sup>14</sup> Ibid

## 5. Massive repression of Haitians living abroad

### 5.1. United States of America

33. Shocking images of Haitians being hunted down by border guards on horseback from Texas (Rio Grande Bridge), a situation akin to a "manhunt", have toured the world<sup>15</sup>. Thousands of refugees were there, including 15,000 Haitians<sup>16</sup>. On September 19 alone, 272 Haitians were repatriated. Some said they were treated with utter indignity at the border and in jail in Texas<sup>17</sup>.



*Haitians hunted by border guards on horseback from Texas to Rio Grande*

34. According to the International Organization for Migration (IOM), 10,831 Haitians were repatriated from September 19 to October 19, of which 7,915 came from the United States of America, or 73%<sup>18</sup>.
35. US Democratic President Joe Biden took office on January 20, 2021, stepping up the deportation process<sup>19</sup>. In the name of the "right of peoples to self-determination"<sup>20</sup>, each

<sup>15</sup> CARDH : « Déportation massive des Haïtiens par l'administration Joe Biden, La politique migratoire doit respecter la dignité humaine », 21 septembre 2021.

<sup>16</sup> Journal Libération.

[https://www.liberation.fr/international/amerique/a-la-frontiere-americano-mexicaine-15-000-haitiens-refugies-sous-un-pont-20210919\\_5JK2SVGD35AVXBSGQTFTGNINRQ/](https://www.liberation.fr/international/amerique/a-la-frontiere-americano-mexicaine-15-000-haitiens-refugies-sous-un-pont-20210919_5JK2SVGD35AVXBSGQTFTGNINRQ/)

<sup>17</sup> Days in a small room (in jail), without a bed cover, being able to change, bathe, brush teeth ...

<sup>18</sup> Cuba 11%, Bahamas 10% et le Mexique 2%, 4% des Iles Turk-and-Caïcos

UN MIGRATION : « SITUATIONAL REPORT RETURNS OF MIGRANTS AND RECEPTION ASSISTANCE IN HAITI, 19 September to 19 October 2021 », No 1.

<sup>19</sup> Du 1<sup>er</sup> au 15 février 2021, l'Agence de police douanière et de contrôle des frontières du département de la sécurité intérieure des États-Unis (DHS) a organisé 71 déportations, par avion, à destination de 10 pays d'Amérique latine et des Caraïbes, dont 12 vers Haïti.

Journal Le Nouvelliste.

<https://lenouvelliste.com/article/226425/etats-unis-12-vols-de-deportation-vers-haiti-entre-le-1er-et-le-15-fevrier-2021>

<sup>20</sup> Charter of United Nations.

country is free to define its migration and internal security policy. However, this policy must respect human dignity, the principles underlying human rights (equality, non-discrimination, etc.) and international morality.

### 5.2. From the Dominican Republic

36. All eyes are fixed on the wave of migrants, mostly Haitians, under the Del Grande Bridge on the Mexican American border. However, the deportation and expulsion of Haitians in inhuman and degrading conditions (manhunt) takes place all day long in the Dominican Republic. From May to September, 170,936 Haitians were repatriated and 262,678 returned voluntarily, or 433,614, for the month of September, 27,792 expelled<sup>21</sup>.

### 5.3. Hell of refugees and the indifference of the Haitian authorities and civil society

37. Haitians explained that they had crossed up to ten (10) countries to reach the Mexican American border. They faced Darien, a tropical forest between Colombia and Panama, at the risk of their lives, climbed mountains for long hours, faced sexual assailants, armed thieves, wild animals<sup>22</sup> ... Some died: hunger, animal attacks, diseases... (at least five among 15 migrants found in Darién)<sup>23</sup>.



*Haitians in the Darién forest between Colombia and Panama ©Le Nouvelliste*

<sup>21</sup> Groupe d'appui aux rapatriés et réfugiés : « Rapport des rapatriés et retours spontané », sept. 2021.

<sup>22</sup> Le Nouvelliste : « *Parcours d'une famille haïtienne pour vivre son rêve américain* », 8 oct. 2021.

<sup>23</sup> Associate Press mentioned by le facteur : <https://lefacteurhaiti.com/2021/10/05/migration-des-migrants-haitiens-retrouves-morts-dans-la-foret-el-darien-enterres-en-debut-de-semaine/>



## 6. Collapse of public finances

### 6.1. Budget deficit

38. From October 2020 to June 2021, revenue totaled 69.7 billion gourdes and expenditure 174.8 billion. This deficit led to monetary financing of 40.2 billion gourdes from the Bank of the Republic of Haiti (BRH)<sup>24</sup>, while the funding ceiling was set at 39.3 billion in the signed economic and financial governance pact between the Ministry of the Economy and Finance (MEF) and the BRH.

### 6.2. Loss in gasoline subsidy

39. The state lost more than 30 billion gourdes in the previous fiscal year in subsidizing petroleum products<sup>25</sup>. This deficit will be increased for the current fiscal year due to rising costs on the international market.

### 6.3. Trade balance deficit

40. Imports reached US \$ 3.4 billion compared to US \$ 700 million for exports<sup>26</sup>.

### 6.4. Relative fragile stability of the gourde

41. 41. U.S. dollars injections of the BRH into the foreign exchange market this year totaled US \$ 348 million<sup>27</sup>.

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<sup>24</sup> Michel Patrick Boisvert, Minister of Economy and Finance, « travaux d'élaboration du budget 2021-2022 », 18 oct. 2021.

<sup>25</sup> Ibid.

<sup>26</sup> Jean Baden Dubois, Governor of the Central Bank, « conférence de presse », Centre de convention et de documentation de la BRH, 29 août 2021.

[Le Nouvelliste | La BRH a puisé près de 900 million de dollars dans ses réserves pour l'importation des produits pétroliers et stabiliser la gourde](#)

<sup>27</sup> Ibid.



## 6.5. Payment of petroleum products

42. To enable the country to foot the bill for petroleum products this year, the BRH disbursed \$ 550 million, up from \$ 194 million last year. To calm the pressures on the foreign exchange market and make possible the importation of petroleum products, this year the Bank of the Republic of Haiti (BRH) has drawn on its reserves nearly 900 million dollars<sup>28</sup>.
43. However, these actions do not in reality solve the problem that is gaining ground. Indeed, as pointed out above, Haiti has been in a fuel crisis for nearly three months<sup>29</sup>.

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<sup>28</sup> Ibid.

<sup>29</sup> Ibid.

## IV. Conclusion

44. **Gangs on the verge of a proto state.** Controlling an average of 60% of the territory and armed with modern weapons and a lot of money<sup>30</sup>, the gangs are getting stronger and trying to rally the vulnerable population to their "cause". With their own online media, they broadcast their message on time, expose the poverty of the population live<sup>31</sup>, produce musical hits ...<sup>32</sup>
45. Accompanied by his troop (400 Mawozo), Lanmò 100 jou, in a video published on October 21, announced that the 17 hostages, (16 American and 1 Canadian) each had a weapon aimed at their heads and would be executed if his requirement was not met (17 million US dollars / 1 million per hostage). Between the lines, he also said the hostages would be executed, if captured by the FBI. Lanmò 100 jou also threatened the interim Prime Minister and the director of the PNH (replaced): "you will shed tears of blood! "
46. The US government has called 400 Mawozo a terrorist: "the government does not negotiate with terrorists." This could explain the video of Jimmy Chérisier, alias Barbecue, with his troop, on October 22, reaffirming that the revolutionary group G9 is not involved in kidnapping.
47. This new public discourse by 400 Mawozo is similar to that of so-called terrorist groups in the world. Many international factors should be taken into account in the development of crime in Haiti, including the spread of gangs and kidnappings with ransom demanded up to US \$ 1 million.
48. Where are the millions of US dollars from kidnapping going? How do they integrate the economy? Which sector has the capacity? What about the next elections?
49. **The fuel crisis will cause a massacre.** Officially, hospitals are starting to shut down their services (lack of oxygen, etc.). Deaths are already recorded. A massacre is coming! In addition, this state of affairs causes social dysfunction and, at the same time, an increase in prices (on average 25%) in a context of great precariousness and misery.

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<sup>30</sup> 1) directly from the Power (funds sent periodically); 2) indirectly from the appointments imposed in the public administration (Ministry of Social Affairs and Labor / Social assistance fund, for example); 3) by private sector companies (some for their security); 4) indirectly from NGOs to realize projects (gang leaders have businesses: foundation, business ...); 5) kidnapping ; 6) political and other assassinations; 7) daily and weekly fees imposed on small and medium-sized traders; 8) taxes (electricity, water, bus stations, exploitation of natural resources, etc.).

<sup>31</sup> On several occasions, Jimmy Chérisier, makes live videos of the Croix-des-Bossales market where they expose the poverty and attributes the responsibility to the State.

<sup>32</sup> IZO 5 second, head of gang of Village-de-Dieu, has just released a music (rap) in which he accuses the state of being responsible.



50. Lack of political leadership. The interim government shows its incapacity in the face of the deterioration of the living conditions of the citizens. While we must admit that he does not yet have an inclusive agreement, however, he has an obligation to act. Moreover, it is recognized by the international society.
  
51. **Urgency of an agreement on security and the fuel crisis.** The interim government and civil and political society must immediately agree on a security plan and resolve the fuel crisis. Both of these issues need to be depoliticized, otherwise utter chaos will serve as the spoils of war with invisible hands.



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### 8. Journal Le Nouvelliste

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[Le Nouvelliste | La BRH a puisé près de 900 millions de dollars dans ses réserves pour l'importation des produits pétroliers et stabiliser la gourde](#)

## D. Other

### 9. Encyclopædia Universalis

- [ANOMIE - Encyclopædia Universalis](#)