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Welcome to Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung's Nigeria Weekly Press Review

The weekly press review seeks to explore and keep you informed on selected issues relating to politics, business and economy, insecurity, infrastructure and development, health related issues, new trends and matters bothering on COVID-19 and the situation in Nigeria.

Content

NASS Pass Electoral Bill, House Suspends Social Media Bill

FG to Allocate N4 Billion to Regulate Media, Telecom Operations, British Government Concerned About Nigeria's Democracy, Former Head of State Says Bandits Have Setback Education

Insecurity: Fulani Group Threatens with Unrest in States that Ban Open Grazing, Royal Ruler and 13 of His Family Members Kidnapped, Biafra Reveals Plan to Attack Nigeria, Kaduna State Releases Death and Kidnapping Toll

NASS Pass Electoral Bill, House Suspends Social Media Bill

In new reports, the House of Representatives, has passed the Electoral Amendment Bill, consisting of 158 clauses. However, clause 52 (2), which provides that the National Electronic Commission, INEC, shall determine the mode of voting/transmission of election results caused controversy and debate, attempts by lawmakers to amend the clause, led to heated debates and rowdiness at plenary. [Channels News \(July 18th\)](#) reports.

Similarly, the Senate, has passed the Electoral Amendment Bill. The bill repealed the 2010 Electoral Act and resolves the issues regarding the introduction of modern technologies in the electoral process. The Senate, made provisions for the electronic transmission of results, electronic voting, diaspora voting and a limit on spending by political parties and candidates. QueenEsther Iroanusi, [Premium Times News \(July 15th\)](#) reports.

The House of Representatives on Tuesday 13, has agreed to suspend the Nigeria Press Council and the Nigeria Broadcasting Commission amendment bills. Citizens resisted the two bills, describing them as an extension of an existing censorship on broadcast stations, after there was a media solidarity call, for the bills to be thrown out. Furthermore, they described the bills as the government's plan stop airing programmer's they feel displeased with. Yusuf Akinpelu, [Premium Times \(July 14th\)](#) reports.

FG to Allocate N4 Billion to Regulate Media, Telecom Operations, British Government Concerned About Nigeria's Democracy, Former Head of State Says Bandits Have Setback Education

Meanwhile, the federal government has earmarked a total of 4.8 billion naira to the National Intelligence Agency, NIA, to monitor phone calls, text messages and WhatsApp messages. Thuraya Interception Solutions, a communication system used for monitoring voice calls or call related information, data traffic was drafted for in the budget. This move is coming against the outcry of citizens, who have described President Buhari's government as "gag" to the media. QueenEsther Inuansi, [Premium Times News \(July 12th\)](#) reports.

Meanwhile, the British government has identified the rising conflicts in the country as being destabilizing to democracy in the run-up to the 2023 elections. Chris Beecroft, the Development Director, Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office, FCDO, blamed the frequent crisis in the country to injustice and impunity and weak justice institutions. Beecroft also explained that, the use of police and army would only be part of the solution and called for greater emphasis on reconciliation, mediation, arbitration and access to justice. Raphael, [The Sun News \(July 9th\)](#) reports.

Former military head of state, General Abdulsalami Abubakar, has described the state of kidnapping and banditry across the northern states, as taking education back by 20 years. He described the kidnapping of children from their schools as "wicked and godless" and a setback to educational and socio-economic development of the north. Abu Nmodu, [Leadership News \(July 15th\)](#) reports.

Insecurity: Fulani Group Threatens with Unrest in States that Ban Open Grazing, Royal Ruler and 13 of His Family Members Kidnapped, Biafra Reveals Plan to Attack Nigeria, Kaduna State Releases Death and Kidnapping Toll

A Fulani group, known as the Gan Allah Fulani Development Association, GAFDAN, has threatened breakdown of peace in southern states, that ban open grazing. GAFDAN, released a statement on Sunday 11, that described the open grazing ban as a "call to anarchy." Ibrahim Abdullahi, the National Secretary of the group, said, "the position of the forum is very unfortunate because you don't stop a system unless you have provided an alternate." Dachen Isaac, [Ripples Nigeria News \(July 11th\)](#) reports.

Meanwhile, armed bandits in Kaduna state have abducted the Emir of Kajuru, and 13 members of his family. A cabinet member of the ruler's council, confirmed to journalist, that "the Emir had summoned a security meeting about a ploy to kidnap him, but the security agents didn't act on it." The Emir, who was 85 years old, was kidnapped with three women, two grand-children and three aides, taken to an unknown location. Amos Tauna, [Daily Post News \(July 11th\)](#) reports.

The Biafra group, has released a statement, threatening cause mayhem in the south-eastern part of the country. The National Leader of the

group, Prince will Chimezie Richard, said that its members have lost patience and are angered by the comments of President Muhammadu Buhari during a courtesy call by the Paul Biya, the Cameroonian President. He revealed that, the Biafra members are already making moves, to return to the creeks and show "this government pepper." John Owen Nwachukwu, [Daily Post News \(July 14th\)](#) reports.

In new reports, the state commissioner for internal Security and Home Affairs in Kaduna state,

Samuel Aruwan, has presented security incidents report for the second quarter of 2021. The report revealed that, seven hundred and seventy-four people have been kidnapped in the state, and two hundred and twenty-two people have been killed from April to June. Aruwan, described the number of deaths to kidnappings, banditry, communal clashes and criminal activities in the state. Amos Tauna, [Daily Post News \(July 14th\)](#) reports.

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