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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.

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COVID-19: FG Introduces Sunday Vaccination for Christians at Worship Places, Edo State Bans Civil Servants Without Vaccination Cards Entry into Offices, Cholera Cases Hit 69,925

The Executive Director of the National Primary Health Care Development Agency (NPHCDA), Faisal Shuaib, has disclosed the introduction of Sunday vaccination to ensure members of the Christian Community receive vaccination at worship centres. Shuaib said that Christian leaders across the country have been a strong support in health care indentures and the government was committed to providing safe, effective and free vaccines to ensure the virus was contained. Nkechi Onyedika-Ugoeze, [Guardian News \(September 15th\)](#) reports.

The Government of Edo state on Tuesday 14 began enforcement of “no-vaccination-no-work” policy, the governor of the state, Godwin Obaseki had described speculations of a compulsory vaccination for residents as “obvious misconception.” However, after recording the second highest death toll in the country, residents of the state have been warned of being barred from public spaces like banks, and worship places if they fail to get the vaccine. [Channels News \(September 15th\)](#) reports.

The Nigeria Centre for Disease Control (NCDC) has reported an increase in cholera outbreak in 25 states in the country including the FCT, which resulted to 2,323 deaths in the situation report of week 35 (30 August-05 September). According to the report Bauchi (566), Katsina (282) and Sokoto (258) accounts for 66.3% of 1,667 suspected cases. However, there was a 58% decrease in the number of suspected cases in week 35 (1,667) compared with week 34 (3,992). Patience Ivie Ihejirika, [Leadership News \(September 14th\)](#) reports

President Buhari Seeks National Assembly Approval for External Loans, Senate President Advocates More Military Funding, House Speaker Describes IPOB, Yoruba Nation Agitators as Terrorists, Reps Commit to Prioritize National Security Bills

In new reports, President Muhammadu Buhari has requested an approval of 710 million Euros by the National Assembly. He sent a letter addressing the Senate and House of Representatives Chambers which sought a borrowing plan for the consideration and concurrent approval of the senate.

The projects listed in the external borrowing plan are to be financed through sovereign loans from the World Bank, French Development Agency, EXIM Bank and IFAD. Sunday Aborisade, [Punch News \(September 14th\)](#) reports.

Meanwhile, the President of the Senate, Ahmed Lawan, has said the biggest challenge of the Federal Government was constraint in its engagement with the legislature. He applauded the Armed Forces in the recent success recorded in the fight against insurgency and banditry in the country. he added that a trajectory of increase in funds and resources to the security sector should be sustained, also, that defence and intelligence committees must step p their oversight on the agencies. Sunday Aborisade, [Punch News \(September 14th\)](#) reports.

The Speaker of the House of Representatives, Femi Gbajabiamila has described separatists' groups in the southern region as terrorists. Gbajabiamla said the movements by separatists in the south would drag the country towards the path of destruction., adding that their refusal to accommodate opposing opinions makes them the same as Boko Haram and ISAWAP terrorists. Bakare Mojeed, [Punch News \(September 15th\)](#) reports.

Similarly, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, Femi Gbajabiamila while addressing lawmakers on Wednesday 15, disclosed that insecurity and matters of national concern would be given priority in the parliament. Gbajabiamila added that the House of Representatives is committed to defeating those who have caused devastating grief on citizens, he addressed the conflicting stance of members on the Electoral Amendment Act saying it could be revisited for perfection. James Kwen, [Business Day News \(September 15th\)](#) reports.

Southern Governors Back VAT Collection by States, Negotiations Between Resident Doctors Association and FG Fall Apart

A communique released by the meeting of the Southern Governors Forum have revealed the support for the collection of Value Added Tax (VAT) by state governments. Chairman of the forum, Governor Rotimi Akeredolu of Ondo State said they resolved to support the position that the collection of VAT falls within the powers of the state. he added that amendment of anti-open grazing

law aligns with the uniform template and aspiration of governors in the south, encouraging states that are yet to enact the law to do so expeditiously. [Premium Times \(September 16th\)](#) reports.

Meanwhile, the National Industrial Court (NICJ), in a short ruling by Justice Bashir Alkali has ordered the federal government to move its application which sought to mandate the Resident Doctors Association to suspend their strike. The federal government's counsel told the court that the resident doctors were not disputing any issue in the memorandum of understanding, also, that entirely new settlements not included in the original settlement were introduced by the resident doctor's association. [Channels News \(September 17th\)](#) reports.

Insecurity: Kidnappings in the Country Reach Crisis Level, Military on Red Alert in Border Communities, UNICEF Reports Another One Million Children Out-of-School

Gunmen have reportedly kidnapped 140 students in the north-western region of the country, the kidnapers opened fire overpowering security guards before abducting 165 students at a Bethel High school in Kaduna overnight. Although the Governor of Kaduna state, Nasir Ahmad El-Rufai remains vocal insisting he will not pay ransom,

bandits go as far as killing the kidnaped victims to make a staring statement, especially to the governor. Fred Muvunyi, [DW News Reports](#).

Meanwhile, security sources have disclosed to Leadership news the operational plans by the military to heighten checks in border communities to check fleeing bandits from escaping. In Niger state, a joint security camp the saw the killing of 40 bandits was set up to track fleeing bandits from infiltrating the state, similarly, Kaduna, Katsina and Zamfara states set up an inter-state cooperation to fight banditry. The police command in Zamfara state has asked citizens to be watchful of their surroundings and report suspicious persons and movements. Tarkaa David et al, [Leadership News \(September 13th\)](#) reports.

The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) has reported that more than 37 million children who started new school year has seen one million left behind and afraid to return to school due to insecurity. UNICEF also disclosed that education provides vital benefits to families and communities, however, parents are fearful of sending children back to school due to the spate of school attacks and abductions over the last several months. Auwal Ahmad, [Blue Print News \(September 16th\)](#) reports.

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