

# Burundi Media Presentation

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By Rhett Ryan

# Introduction/Background

- The country of Burundi is situated in the Great Lakes Region of Africa.
- Burundi borders Tanzania, Democratic Republic of Congo, and Rwanda.
- The Nile River runs through the southern region of Burundi.
- Burundi is known for its abundance of national parks, lakes, reserves, as well as its instability and civil unrest.
- Current President is Évariste Ndayishimiye.



# Brief History

- Burundi claimed its independence from Belgium on July 1st, 1962.
- The leader of Burundi was Mwami Mwambutsa IV.
- Ethnic conflict between the Hutus and Tutsis has caused civil wars, coups, corruption in government, and rapid regime changes.
- The Burundi Civil War (1993-2005) resulted in the deaths of over 250,000.



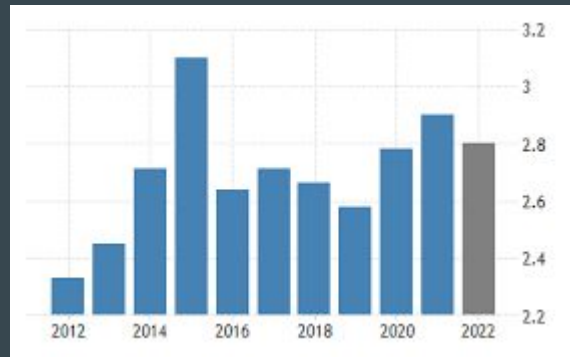
# Government

- The government that exists in Burundi is a Democracy to that of a multi-party state.
- Constitution was constructed in 1992 by the Tutsi leader Pierre Buyoya.
- A bicameral assembly is instituted.
- The assembly consists of the Transitional National Assembly and the Transitional National Senate. Each position is voted on through the popular vote. In addition, the constitution mandates a 60/40 percentage split between the populations of Hutus and Tutsis, as well as needing to have a female population percentage of 30 %.



# Economy

- Burundi has an agriculture-based economy.
- One of the poorest countries in the world.
- DP reported in 2021 was 2.092 billion USD.
- Agriculture accounted for around 50 % of the GDP.
- Burundi's primary exports are gold, coffee, and tea at a combined 157.7 million.
- The primary imports are refined petroleum, packaged medicaments, and phosphatic fertilizers at a collective 204.7 million.
- The most vital trade partners currently trading with Burundi are the United Arab Emirates and Tanzania.



# Culture: National Religion(s) and Language(s)

- Most common religion in Burundi is Christianity, with Roman Catholicism being the most common denomination.
- The minority religions include Islam (Sunni) and traditional indigenous beliefs.
- The official languages of Burundi are Kirundi (Bantu), French, and English.
- Music and crafting are different and vital parts of the culture that exists in Burundi.





# National Media

- It is not a free press. The government owns the press, and much silencing occurs to stifle whistleblowers. . These issues include corruption, murder, and racketeering.
- Burundi requires that all journalists be fully licensed by the government to limit the amount of negative press that occurs.
- Detainments and trials of journalist Jean-Claude Kavumbagu were deemed unlawful by Amnesty International.
- Most citizens in Burundi will receive their news through television, the internet, radio, or printed newspapers and magazines. The only television service offered in Burundi is Télévision Nationale du Burundi. Burundi's most prominent online news websites are AllAfrica, Radio-Télé Isanganiro, Bonesha FM, and the Iwacu press group.



# National Media Continued





# Comparison of Media between Burundi, Germany, and U.S.

- AllAfrica, Yahoo News, and Deutsche Welle were all news websites that I saw that covered a similar story.
- “Dozens of Burundi Rebels killed in the eastern Democratic Republic of Congo.”
- AllAfrica covered the story from the perspective of being a news source for Burundi and all of Africa.
- Yahoo News took the air of the United States, and Deutsche Welle serves as a news source for primarily Germany and other European Countries.
- Collectively, the news organizations covered the stories very accurately and fairly.
- The main differences I see are that yahoo news reports the death toll at exactly 40 Burundi rebels, whereas AllAfrica and Deutsche Welle reported that the casualties are “dozens” or “over 40.” In addition, the dates of all the articles match.
- The pieces are dated November 27th, 2022.



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