



### **European Union, China declare support for South Africa amid dispute with Trump**

The European Union member countries which includes France, Germany, Italy, expressed their shared commitment to multilateralism, the rule of law, non-racialism, and non-sexism in South Africa. The US sanctions were imposed after a disagreement with South Africa's land reform policies. President Donald Trump signed an executive order cutting aid to the country, accusing South Africa of enabling 'racist' laws that forcefully took land from white owners. The European Union and other supporting countries have emphasized their commitment to South Africa's sovereignty and territorial integrity, as well as their support for the country's efforts to promote social justice and equality. Business Insider.

### **DR Congo's problems: Time to try China's global security initiative?**

For a country known as the cradle of wealth, it has also been known for a wealth of wars. Imagine, some of the world's largest deposits of copper, diamond, gold, tantalum; and natural forests. Interventions have been proposed in the past. Responses too, ; but it never seems enough. Such is what comes of a war-torn community—disunity in the same fashion. The present pain in DR Congo cannot be looked at through a mere present-day lens. Its origin is from way back. Some historians and academics of the Congo basin have even gone ahead to argue that the woes are so harshly dated to the days of old before the European colonialists entered this rich basin. Today, DR Congo is in the United Nations headlines as it was in the 1990s during the Mobutu heat. MSN.

### **How South Africa and China are transforming economic growth together**

South Africa's economic landscape is undergoing a notable transformation, largely propelled by the country's deepening partnership with China. For 16 consecutive years, China has remained South Africa's largest trading partner, illustrating the sustained vigor of the bilateral relationship. Meanwhile, South Africa has consistently held the title of China's top trading partner in Africa for 15 years—a clear reflection of how vital these ties have become for both nations. As of 2024, the latest customs statistics from China indicate that bilateral trade volumes have reached new heights, totaling USD 52.46 billion. This figure alone underscores just how central China is to South Africa's economic aspirations and how integral South Africa has become to China's engagement on the African continent. Independent Online.

### **Fair and Square? Chinese retail chain's expansion rankles Kenyan rivals**

On a cool Friday morning in an expansive mall in Nairobi, dozens of people thronged outside a retail store covered in colourful banners, balloons and flowers. When the shutter doors finally rolled up a few hours later, fireworks were let off and music blared through speakers, the crowd now swollen to more than 100. It was the official opening of the sixth Kenyan branch of China Square, a Chinese-owned retail chain that mainly sells Chinese-made products, at Two Rivers Mall in northern Nairobi. Launched in Kenya two years ago, the chain has grown rapidly due to strong demand for its low-priced items. "They're bringing us really unique products and at very fair prices," said Sheila Wangari, a 33-year-old product manager, at the Nairobi branch opening. "It's a gamechanger." Guardian News.

### Three suspects arrested following armed robbery of three Chinese nationals in Zimbabwe

Three suspects have been arrested after three Chinese nationals working at a Chinese-invested enterprise in Zimbabwe were robbed at gunpoint by multiple assailants in November 2024, the Chinese Embassy in Zimbabwe said in a post late Tuesday night, citing information from Zimbabwean police. On November 10, 2024, the three victims were shot and injured, also suffering economic losses. They were immediately taken to the hospital for treatment, the embassy said. Upon receiving the report, the Chinese Embassy in Zimbabwe promptly arranged for a Chinese medical aid team to assist with medical care. Once the injured individuals were in stable condition, their company arranged for them to return to China for further treatment. Global Times.