

Weekly Intelligence Brief

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Egypt's Draft Criminal Procedures Law Aimed at Reforming the Justice System

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On 4 NOV, Egypt's Minister of Justice, Adnan El-Fangary, introduced a new Draft Criminal Procedures Law aimed at reforming Egypt's criminal justice system. Key features of the law include strict regulations for pretrial detention, anti-corruption initiatives, and enhanced protections for witnesses involved in criminal proceedings. The legislation is currently under review in the Egyptian House of Representatives.

The Draft Criminal Procedures Law introduces a new legal framework aimed at implementing recommendations from Egypt's National Dialogue. In August,

this National Dialogue proposed 24 reforms focused on pretrial detention and justice procedures, with 20 of these reforms receiving unanimous support. At President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi's direction, the government incorporated these reforms into the draft law. The law comprises 540 articles into 6 sections and has received initial approval from the Egyptian parliament's Constitutional and Legislative Affairs Committee.

Despite these reforms, human rights groups have raised concerns that the law will worsen systemic issues within Egypt's justice system, particularly regarding transparency and accountability. Specific criticisms include the draft's provisions that concentrate investigative powers within Egypt's Public Prosecution and

grant immunity to judicial enforcement officers, which can limit accountability for human rights abuses. The Egyptian Commission for Rights and Freedoms also voiced objections, arguing that the draft consolidates power within the Office of Public Prosecution without proper checks and balances.

We can assess with high confidence that the law is likely to be ratified given the high level of parliamentary support and backing from President El-Sisi. However, we can also assess with high confidence that the law's implementation will face domestic and international criticism, potentially leading to escalated scrutiny and external pressure from human rights organizations.

Niger Acquires Russian Satellites

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On 1 NOV, Niger's Communications Minister Sidi Mohamed Raliou announced that Glavkosmos, a subsidiary of Russian state-owned aerospace company Rosatom, agreed to sell three satellites to Niger. This is likely to boost Niger's surveillance capabilities in the Sahel region. Mali, Niger, and Burkina Faso expressed interest in acquiring satellites from Rosatom in SEPT 2024, with the deal granting the nations' telecommunications and surveillance satellites. Niger has now spearheaded the project.

The deal includes a communications satellite, a remote sensing satellite, and a radar satellite. Construction of these satellites in Russia will take upwards of four years. In the meantime, state radio in Niger reported that Glavkosmos has agreed to loan out satellites similar to the one purchased by Niger. Raliou noted that this deal respects the sovereignty of the Sahelian nations as the three nations will have the ability to pilot and manage the satellites at the end of the project. Additionally, they have requested that the command center be placed in one of the three Sahelian nations.

We can assess with high confidence that it is likely the three junta governments will use these new satellites to monitor civilian groups they deem volatile to contain dissenting opinions and advance the fight against jihadist groups.



Classic Computing Meets Quantum in New Chinese led QCFD study

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On 6 NOV, a team of Chinese researchers demonstrated a new method for quantum computational fluid dynamics (QCFD). The new method uses a hybrid approach that combines both quantum and classical approaches. This method could revolutionize the way quantum computing is used in fluid dynamics. Although the current state of the technology being used to implement this method is still in the early testing and developmental phases, it has potential for major implications for hypersonic technology and the military sector once fully developed.

The study was published online by a team from several Chinese institutions and was backed by the same institution that owns Origin Wukong, China's most advanced third-generation quantum computer. The research described in the study shows that by using a new technique that combines quantum computing and classic computing to simulate fluid flows, specific limitations that traditional methods encounter can be directly addressed. This hybrid method would utilize quantum linear solver (QLS) algorithms that can exponentially speed up solutions to equations and are central to fluid dynamics models. The research team created a specialized method, nicknamed "Iterative-QLS," that constantly adjusts calculations to get closer to an exact answer as well as

mitigating computational errors. Using this solver, the team was able to achieve simulations of Poiseuille flow and acoustic wave propagation, two fundamental fluid dynamic scenarios. During a test of Poiseuille flow, the quantum simulation maintained an error rate below 0.2%. Although this study shows a breakthrough for QCFD, it also points out that error-free calculations have yet to be achieved in simulations due to the low qubit numbers in traditional quantum systems.

We can assess with high confidence that it is highly likely that continued breakthroughs and developments in the QCFD sector will lead to traditional systems being replaced or switched to a more quantum-traditional hybrid system, due to their advanced error correction.

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