

**Flygtningenævnets baggrundsmateriale**

|                                 |                                                                       |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Bilagsnr.:</b>               | <b>961</b>                                                            |
| Land:                           | Den Demokratiske Republik Congo                                       |
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## RESEARCHED AND COMPILED BY THE REFUGEE DOCUMENTATION CENTRE OF IRELAND ON 27 DECEMBER 2024

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### DISCLAIMER

This response was prepared after researching publicly accessible information currently available to the Refugee Documentation Centre within time constraints. All COI Query Responses are compiled in line with the Common EU Guidelines (2008) and the EUAA Methodology (2023). This response is not and does not purport to be conclusive as to the merit of any particular claim to international protection. Please refer to all documents cited.

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### COI QUERY RESPONSE

#### DRC – SECURITY SITUATION IN GOMA

A report issued in October 2024 by the *Conversation* points out that “The violence wrought by the Rwandan-backed rebel group M23 Movement is often narrowly framed as intended to control eastern Democratic Republic of Congo's resource-rich mining sites. The rebel group launched its most recent offensive in 2021 and currently controls vast territories in the south-east of North Kivu province, surrounding and cutting off the main city of Goma.”<sup>1</sup>

In November 2024 *United Nations News* states that: “Between June and October, aid partners documented more than 100 attacks against people in displacement sites in Goma, Nyiragongo and Masisi. At least 18 people were killed.”<sup>2</sup>

In November 2024 *Agence France Presse* states that: “Security forces in the DRC have since 2021 been battling the M23, a largely Tutsi militia that has seized large swathes of territory in the country's east. Goma, the provincial capital of North Kivu, is virtually surrounded by the armed rebellion.”<sup>3</sup>

The *International Committee of the Red Cross* in November 2024 states that: “Despite the relative calm on the outskirts of Goma, fighting continues among various armed groups in several of North Kivu's territories.”<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Conversation (24 October 2024) Congo-Kinshasa: Rwandan-Backed M23 Rebel Group Seeks Local Power in DRC, Not Just Control Over Mining Operations, p.1

<sup>2</sup> United Nations News (6 November 2024) Congo-Kinshasa: World News in Brief - UN-US Cooperation, an 'Essential Pillar', DR Congo Update, Another Major Storm to Hit Cuba

<sup>3</sup> Agence France Presse (14 November 2024) DR Congo festival for peace called off for security reasons

<sup>4</sup> International Committee of the Red Cross (21 November 2024) Amid a worsening crisis, conflict-affected communities in North Kivu are facing growing economic distress)

A report issued in November 2024 by the *United Nations Security Council* states that: “In Goma, North Kivu, the presence of armed groups, widespread availability of weapons, and overcrowded sites for internally displaced persons contributed to heightened insecurity, criminal activity, civilian casualties...”<sup>5</sup>

The *International Organization for Migration* in December 2024 comments on: “...the expansion of the M23 group’s zone of influence and the activity of other armed groups in and around the city of Goma (capital of North Kivu province) have increased both security and humanitarian challenges.”<sup>6</sup>

*Agence France Presse* in December 2024 states that: “The capital of DRC's North Kivu province Goma, home to about one million people and another million displaced by war, is now nearly surrounded by M23 rebels and the Rwandan army.”<sup>7</sup>

*Deutsche Welle* in December 2024 points out that: “The capital of DRC's North Kivu province Goma is now nearly surrounded by M23 rebels and the Rwandan army.”<sup>8</sup>

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<sup>5</sup> United Nations Security Council (29 November 2024) United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Report of the Secretary-General, p.9

<sup>6</sup> International Organization for Migration (5 December 2024) M23 Crisis Analysis - Report #23, North Kivu province

<sup>7</sup> Agence France Presse (13 December 2024) DR Congo, Rwanda leaders to hold peace talks in Angola

<sup>8</sup> Deutsche Welle (15 December 2024) Congo and Rwanda say Angola peace talks canceled

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UNDP

UNHCR Refworld

UN Treaty Body Database

United States Department of State

World Bank

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