News from Uganda – Oct/Nov 2015


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Opinion

Even Without External Aid, We Can Now Transform Our Country
The NRM is a revolutionary Movement. It started as part of the Student Movement in the 1960s as a reaction against the sectarian politics of religion and tribe of those days. We were also contemptuous of gender chauvinism (marginalising women, the youth, the disabled, etc). We evolved the ideology of patriotism (Mwoyo gwa Uganda) and Pan-Africanism (Mwoyo gwa Afrika). Read more »

Politics

Eight Cleared for 2016 Presidential Election
Dr. Kizza Besigye will vie for next year’s presidential election alongside seven others following clearance from the Electoral Commission (EC) yesterday. Read more »

Uganda’s Presidential Candidates Turn to Social Media
The 2016 presidential candidates seem to have shifted their campaigns to popular social networking sites to mobilise support in nearly the same way they resorted to cellphones and popular music in 2011. Read more »

Does Museveni Need Militias to Retain Power in 2016?
Although the armed forces and police are firmly in Museveni’s control and have always served him loyally, he seems unsatisfied. The police have been massively recruiting and training unemployed youth called ‘crime preventers.’ But opposition parties have repeatedly complained that this militia is meant to harass them and bolster the ruling party ahead of the February 2016 elections. Read more »
Economy

**Oil Cash - How Long Shall We Wait?**
Former Total E&P general manager, Loic Laurandel, was an interesting man, who in a self-assured fervour and calm, and yet controlled voice, would say he does not see Uganda start oil production - at least before 2019. Read more »

**OECD: Uganda signed convention against tax evasion**
Uganda becomes the 90th jurisdiction to join the most powerful multilateral instrument against offshore tax evasion and avoidance … Read more

Regional Affairs

**Ugandans Not Bothered About Amisom, Says Media Activist**
A leading Somali media entrepreneur and activist has scoffed at Ugandans for being indifferent to the work of the UPDF under the auspices of the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) and keeping a blind eye to the plight of troops in the Horn of Africa, with the media doing little to tell the ‘other side’ of Somalia. Read more »

**Refugee Children Too Have Rights - We Must Protect Them**
Today is Universal Children’s Day. The event is used as a platform to raise awareness about the various forms of abuse and discrimination that children experience. Many refugee children, like their adult counterparts, are forced to flee their countries of origin due to armed conflict, social strife, poverty, political turmoil, environmental factors, and economic hardships. Read more »

Local Affairs

**When the Rains Came in Dokolo and Karamoja**
Households in Northern Uganda are recovering from a prolonged dry spell which has devastated harvests and led to food shortages. Long-awaited rains are expected to replenish pastures, and communities are being encouraged to plant short-term crops. But those that can, fear losing their produce again, when the rains stop. Read more »

**Now That Pope Francis Is Gone, Is It Time to Talk About Religion, Faith and Identity?**
Pope Francis has brought freshness and humility to the Vatican and the Catholic Church. He is as comfortable speaking in a mosque in the Central African Republic as he is on the balcony of St. Peter's Basilica in Rome. Read more »

Social Affairs & Human Rights

**Working for LGBTI Rights in Uganda**
Originally an accountant by profession, Kasha Jacqueline Nabagesera changed careers by acquiring a human rights advocacy diploma from Human Rights Education Associates in Massachusetts, USA….Read more

**Case Study Shows the Law Alone Will Not Eradicate FGM By 2030 Deadline**
Until November 2014, Patricia and Anthony Alinyo and their two children were an ordinary family living in eastern Uganda, in the district of Kapchorwa, in a small grass-thatched house built on a two-acre piece of land. Read more »

**HIV Stigma in Uganda Puts Mothers and Babies At Risk**
When Juliet Nalumu, overjoyed at her first pregnancy, visited her local hospital in eastern Uganda for a check-up, it turned into one of the worst days of her life. Read more »
Culture and Sport

Ugandan artists’ political campaign song faces backlash
On a global scale, artists endorsing candidates running for political office is not a new thing. For Uganda however, the move by leading artists to support the incumbent President Museveni in the upcoming 2016 elections has irked both fans and fellow artists, who feel they have been betrayed. ... Read more

The Night Kansiime Left Zim in Stitches
She came, she cracked jokes and she thrilled. Ugandan comedian Anne Kansiime proved why her comic video clips have millions of views on YouTube when she brought loads of laughter ... Read more »

Book review: Leaving Joseph Kony
Evelyn Amony’s poignant and fascinating memoir reveals the inner workings of the LRA, how she left the group, and escaped the label of being ‘Kony’s wife’. Read more »

Zambia, DRC and Uganda In With Chance to Reach World Cup
Five nations will represent Africa at the 2018 World Cup in Russia. Zambia, Uganda and Gabon and DRC have made it through to the group stages following victories over the weekend. Read more »