MOZAMBIQUE News reports & clippings

678 27 November 2026 Editor: Joseph Hanlon (j.hanlon@open.ac.uk)

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This is a personal project by Dr Joseph Hanlon, with no outside funding.
J Hanlon's new book "Moçambique recolonizado através da corrupção"
free on https://bit.ly/MozRecol **(**Portuguese only)

Banning a film of people saying they are powerless stresses what they are saying

The treason trial of Venancio Mondlane is claiming to ask who is responsible for the violence in the post-election demonstrations. The answer from ordinary people filmed in demonstrations and interviews is in the banned OMR film “Isn’t this our country?” (Nao e nosso pais este aqui?). The 45 minute film is particularly good in recording both the power people felt in the demonstrations, their disempowerment facing the damage done to their lives by mining, and the powerlessness faced by young people with no jobs and no future.



The powerlessness was stressed by the 9 October 2024 general elections, with widespread fraud. (I was in Maputo reporting that election for CIP, and the fraud was so great no one knows who actually won.) Ten days later, on 19 October, Elvino Dias, the official lawyer for opposition candidate Venancio Mondlane, was gunned down in Maputo. On 21 October Mondlane held a press conference at the site of the murder, calling for protests, and he and the journalists were teargassed by the police. That propelled the

demonstrations, but in protests from 21 to 25 October police killed 24 people. That created a wave of anger, and demonstrations took on a different tone. The film shows that the response was attacks on symbols of party and state power – burning Frelimo offices and police stations.

The film makes clear how the subsequent demonstrations and actions were decided locally in cities and towns across the country. It also makes clear the anger of ordinary people at what they see being done to them, and about their lack of power to respond.

The film does not hide the reality, and shows at least two people actually being killed by police, including journalist Mano Shottas shot livestreaming a protest on Facebook in Ressano Garcia.

Showing of the film in Mozambique is blocked by a state agency saying it was filmed without a licence, when the law specifically applies only to commercial filming and not research institutes like OMR (Rural Observatory). But it is obvious why Frelimo is anxious that it not be shown during the treason trial – it tells a very different story from the one being told in the courtroom. It gives Mozambicans a voice in their own country. (I am out of Mozambique and was allowed to see this excellent film. There is a subtitled version.)

For Portuguese readers, the two OMR people responsible for the film, Joao Feijo and Rita Chiure, have also written two important research papers going into these issues more deeply, *Observador Rural* 172 and 169 https://omrmz.org/observador-rural/

Mondlane trial daily reports

In contrast to previous major trials, there is excellent English reporting of the Venancio Mondlane treason trial, which began Tuesday 17 November. Thus we are not doing our own reporting, and offer this set of links, all in English, daily, and all free.

CDD **https://bit.ly/Moz-trial-CDD** Centre for Democracy and Development, which has a journalist in the courtroom. Its reports are normally available only in its newsletter, and we are posting them on our website with permission.

LUSA (Portuguese press agency which has a journalist in the courtroom, with multiple articles daily) and its reports are posted free in English by **Club of Mozambique** – Politics **https://bit.ly/Moz-trial-Club**. Club also posts material in English from *Evidências*, TV Sucesso, and other media.

AIM (state news agency, has a journalist in the courtroom and includes a report in its daily news summary) **https://bit.ly/Moz-trial-AIM**

Mozambique Times (Independent newsletter with journalist in the courtroom) **https://bit.ly/Moz-trial-MozTimes**; **Mozambique Insights** has commentary in English **www.mozambiqueinsights.com**

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Elections

CIP Mozambique Elections Bulletin is published by Centro de Integridade Pública (CIP https://www.cipmoz.org; https://cipeleicoes.org/eng/ cip@cipmoz.org).
To subscribe or unsubscribe: https://bit.ly/MozBul-sub Past election newsletters are on https://bit.ly/CIP-El
Election study collaboration: We have detailed election data from 1999 through 2014 and are inviting scholars to use this data collaboratively. http://bit.ly/MozEIData

Important external links

Books by Joseph Hanlon can be downloaded, free: https://bit.ly/HanlonBooks
Flood, cyclone and weather: weather https://www.inam.gov.mz/
rainfall https://www.inam.gov.mz/images/DAPT_Previsoes/Manha/Previsao_Manha.pdf
Cyclone trackers, https://bit.ly/Reunion-cyclone, https://www.metoc.navy.mil/jtwc/jtwc.html
(which uses z time which is UCT - Coordinated Universal Time) and https://www.cyclocane.com/
Two LSE working papers - World Bank questions its Mozambique 'success' where oligarchs brought high inequality, poverty and corruption - https://bit.ly/Moz-LSE-208c and **How the IMF and World Bank caused a resource curse and civil war in Mozambique** - https://bit.ly/Moz-LSE-209
Minimum wage & exchange rate charts, tables 1996-2022 https://bit.ly/MozMinWage2022
Previous editions of this newsletter: https://bit.ly/MozNews2023 and https://bit.ly/MozNews2022
My Mozambique archive: http://bit.ly/Mozamb

Cabo Delgado

Cabo Ligado weekly report on civil war https://www.caboligado.com/
Archive with reports, detailed maps, and census data https://bit.ly/Moz-CDg

Special reports on the war

Evolution of the war: global vs local. 27 Feb 2020 http://bit.ly/CDelgadoOrigins
Religion is shaping Cabo Delgado civil war. 30 April 2020 https://bit.ly/CDelgadoReligion
Intensifying argument over roots of war. 28 June 2020 https://bit.ly/Moz-492
Are the drums of war silencing any hope of peace? 26 July 2020 http://bit.ly/Moz-496
A history of violence presages the insurgency. 13 August 2020 http://bit.ly/Moz-498
Military & economic intervention. 3 Sept 2020 https://bit.ly/CDelgadoIntervene
Cabo-Delgado-Free-for-all. 20 Apr 2022. http://bit.ly/Moz-593

Mozambique heroin transit trade

English - LSE - 2018 - http://bit.ly/Moz-heroin
Portuguese - CIP- 2018 - http://bit.ly/HeroinaPT
2001 first article- *Metical* - English and Portuguese https://bit.ly/MozHeroin2001

Gas for development?

Gas_for_development_or just_for_money?_2015 bit.ly/MozGasEng
Gás_para_desenvolvimento_ou_apenas_dinheiro?_2015 bit.ly/MozGasPt

Background reading

Special reports

Social protection report - 2017 Mozambique - http://bit.ly/MozSocPro
Special report on four poverty surveys: bit.ly/MozPoverty

$2bn secret debt - in English

Secret debt trial (Aug-Oct 2021) press reports https://bit.ly/Moz-secret-debt
Kroll - Full report on $2bn debt - http://bit.ly/Kroll-Moz
Kroll report summary - http://bit.ly/Kroll-sum
Key points of Mozambique parliament report - Nov 2016 - http://bit.ly/MozAR-debt-En
Following the donor-designed path to Mozambique's $2.2 bn debt - http://bit.ly/3WQ-hanlon

In Portuguese:

Parliamentary Report on the Secret Debt (complete) bit.ly/MozAR-debt
2018 Constitution - http://bit.ly/2KF588T

Twelve books by Joseph Hanlon can be downloaded, free: https://bit.ly/HanlonBooks
"Moçambique recolonizado através da corrupção" (2025) https://bit.ly/MozRecol **(**Portuguese only)
Zimbabwe takes back its land (2013) https://bit.ly/Zim-takes-land
Bangladesh confronts climate change (2016)

Chickens and beer: A recipe for agricultural growth in Mozambique (2014) is on https://bit.ly/Chickens-Beer
Há Mais Bicicletas – mas há desenvolvimento? (2008)
Civil War Civil Peace (2006): https://bit.ly/Civil-War-Civil-Peace
Moçambique e as grandes cheias de 2000 (2001)
Mozambique and the Great Flood of 2000 (2001)
Paz Sem Beneficio: Como o FMI Bloqueia a Reconstrução (1997)
Peace Without Profit: How the IMF Blocks Rebuilding (1996) https://bit.ly/Peace-wo-Profit
Mozambique: Who Calls the Shots (1991) https://bit.ly/Shots-Moz
Mozambique: The Revolution Under Fire (1984)

These are still available for sale:
Galinhas e cerveja: uma receita para o crescimento (2014) (free in English)
Just Give Money to the Poor: The Development Revolution from the Global South (2010)
Do bicycles equal development in Mozambique? (2008) (free in Portuguese)
Beggar Your Neighbours: Apartheid Power in Southern Africa (1986)

Mozambique media websites, English:
Club of Mozambique (free): http://clubofmozambique.com/
Zitamar (paywall): http://zitamar.com/
Mozambique media websites, Portuguese (all with partial paywall)**:**
Notícias: www.jornalnoticias.co.mz
O País: www.opais.co.mz
@Verdade: http://www.verdade.co.mz
Carta de Moçambique https://cartamz.com
Mozambique think tanks and pressure groups, Portuguese:
Centro de Integridade Pública: CIP https://cipmoz.org/
Observatório do Meio Rural: OMR https://omrmz.org/
Instituto de Estudos Sociais e Económicos: IESE https://www.iese.ac.mz/
Centro Para Democracia e Desenvolvimento CDD https://cddmoz.org/ (some CDD in English)
Also CDD now controls Fórum de Monitoria do Orçamento - FMO (main debt group) http://www.fmo.org.mz and RMDDH - Rede Moçambicana dos Defensores dos Direitos Humanos (a human rights group).
To subscribe to all CDD publications: http://eepurl.com/gO9l6v (English or Portuguese).

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