Democratic Republic of Congo

In all of its situation …

The Democratic Republic of Congo is a country in Central Africa. It is the fourth most populated country in Africa and the most populated French-speaking country. Wikipedia

Capital City: Kinshasa
Independence date: June 30, 1960
Total area: 2.345 million km²
President: Joseph Kabila
Population: 78.74 million (2016) (According to the World Bank)
Currency: Congolese Franc, Zaire

- A careless political elite that does not mind about the country's development, misappropriation and corruption characterise most of the leaders.

- The last three presidents
  - Mobutu Sese Seko
    President of Congo from 1965 to 1997
    Driven from power by armed troupes (Uganda, Rwanda, AFDL)
  - Laurent Désiré Kabila
    President of Congo from 1997 to 2001
Took over from Mobutu  
He was assassinated in January 2001

**Joseph Kabila Kabange**  
President of Congo from 2001 to today.  
Put in the place of his father; then elected in 2006.  
His 2\textsuperscript{nd} and last term ended in December 2016... but he has "slipped" and forces "extensions" ...  
His collaborators, "political wonderers" of all kinds support his "over-term"... Up to when?  

**The Opponents "disturbing the regime in place"**

**Etienne Tshisekedi wa Mulumba,**  
A historical opponent, died on February 1, 2017; not yet buried.

**Moïse Katumbi Chapwe**  
Former Governor of Katanga  
Declared Candidate to the presidency of the republic.  
Exiled in Europe under trial for a common law case

**Félix Tshisekedi Tshilombo**  
Son of Etienne Tshisekedi  
Replaces his father as chair leader of UDPS  
He is the chair person of the Opposition Rally  
He has presidential ambitions

**The Church**  
The Church, a prophetic voice that reacts and disturbs; often misunderstood and sometimes fooled ...
Prayers were made…
Countless dialogues and talks …
Finally... Exit, with the feeling of having been fooled...

Nevertheless, she continues to bear the voice of all those who are marginalised ... socially and economically …
Even if they want to impose to her a fixed position "in the middle of the village"

The civil society

Multifaceted and sometimes discordant …
It tries, as best as it can, to push concerns of the Congolese people on the national and international agendas.

Awareness of the youth… She has chosen a nonviolent struggle…
Results are listless, but it is the right option over time.

« The Fighters », some in Diaspora; fierce opponents to some dictatorships… they sometimes use very controversial struggle methods

"Wavering" women, very committed, fight for the cause of women and children …they are political elites, journalists, psychologists, religious nuns; all of them committed for the cause of the disadvantaged, of the victims of social and security violence

Dr. Mukwege, a voice for the voiceless …
He repairs atrocious consequences of insecurity (violence, rape, etc.) that women are suffering from in South Kivu and elsewhere …
Will he carry out political responsibilities?

Security
The RDC is also: an insecurity that has lasted too long...

United Nations Forces: It's billions of dollars since more than twenty years... for which results?
Shameful counting of about 7 million of deaths since 1994, victims of an unending insecurity.

Until recently, dozens of mass graves...
Who are really responsible?

Harmful rebellions, with unclear agenda .... countless victims ...
People are called to defend themselves... can they do it without a minimum of organisation?
Repression of protesters continues... even in the churches!

Yet, the DRC is first of all:
human resources disseminated all over the world,
an under exploited potential,
a cultural wealth,
an abundant talented youth...
In short, all that is needed to build a more beautiful country!

Are there reasons for hope?... There are!
Congolese want change ...
Many of them believe in it and are committed to it.
Initiatives by individuals and non-governmental organisations prove that a better future is possible!

DRC is also a huge territory, a paradise of fauna and flora...
a Paradise of Bonobos...
a rare and unique fauna .... but threatened...
the flora is simply wonderful!
By God's grace, the DRC is also: a reservoir of immense natural wealth envied by powerful countries and by multinationals that are blind and deaf to the misfortunes of its people today...

There are forests, freshwater reserves, 
The whole country is a huge reservoir of minerals, some of which are highly strategic.

Gold, diamonds, Coltan and so many other minerals, they are everywhere... But, what have these brought to the Congolese people? Happiness? Or rather desolation?

In the DRC, people can live happily and peacefully; what is needed is competent patriotic leaders well intentioned neighbors; a fair and sincere international community! Peace and development in Congo will benefit neighbors as well as the whole world. We can still hope!