



AYITI INTEL | ONE-STOP INTELLIGENCE BRIEF

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Intelligence for Haiti's Democratic Transition

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Haiti entered a strategic silence on January 7 with no new political or security developments reported across all major media outlets despite 31 days remaining until the February 7 constitutional deadline for CPT mandate expiration. The 23-day Port-au-Prince operational pause continues as gangs maintain tactical restraint in the capital while expanding Artibonite territorial control, demonstrating sophisticated leverage positioning for amnesty negotiations. Federal courts have not issued rulings on TPS termination affecting 350,000 Haitians, leaving the diaspora in limbo 27 days before February 3 expiration. The convergence of communication blackouts, gang strategic calculations, and judicial delays indicates critical announcements will concentrate in late January as actors exhaust delay options.



QUICK SUMMARY FOR STAKEHOLDERS

Zero new developments reported January 7 across Haitian and international media despite 31-day countdown to February 7 CPT expiration.

Port-au-Prince 23-day operational pause continues while gangs expand Artibonite control with 1,052 displaced in Montrouis December 23.

Federal court has not ruled on Haiti TPS termination following January 6 hearing, leaving 350,000 beneficiaries uncertain 27 days before expiration.

Strategic silence by CPT, civil society, and international actors suggests behind-closed-doors negotiations with announcements delayed until late January.

Four converging deadlines compress decision space: January 31 BINUH mandate expiration, February 3 TPS termination, February 7 CPT expiration, ongoing gang operational calculations.

DEVELOPMENT 1: STRATEGIC SILENCE AS INSTITUTIONAL ACTORS DELAY FEBRUARY 7 ANNOUNCEMENTS

The absence of any reported political, security, or institutional developments on January 7 represents a calculated communication strategy by all major actors as Haiti enters the final 31 days before the February 7 constitutional deadline. Comprehensive searches of Haiti Libre, Haiti24, Le Nouvelliste, AlterPresse, Vant Bef Info, Reuters, AP, and AFP yielded zero new developments as of 5:06 PM EST. This silence is operationally significant given the convergence of unresolved critical issues: CPT mandate extension mechanisms remain undefined despite Article 6.1 of the May 23, 2024 decree explicitly prohibiting extension, civil society published transition completion proposals January 6 with no CPT response, and international actors have not coordinated implementation frameworks despite the November 5 institutional continuity clause.

The communication blackout likely reflects three concurrent dynamics. First, CPT internal

AYITI INTEL | ONE-STOP INTELLIGENCE BRIEF

deliberations on mandate extension have not reached consensus among the seven voting members and two observers, preventing premature announcements that could trigger opposition mobilization. Second, CARICOM, OAS, and UN coordination on post-February 7 frameworks remains incomplete, with U.S. support for 2026 elections conflicting with Canadian demands for unconditional CPT termination by February 7. Third, all actors are deliberately delaying announcements until late January to compress the response window for opposition groups, minimize gang exploitation of political uncertainty, and avoid premature public panic about institutional vacuums.

The strategic implications of the January 7 silence are that critical announcements will concentrate in a compressed 10-to-15-day window between January 20 and February 7. This compression increases decision-making risks as actors will have minimal time to negotiate competing frameworks, secure international backing, and implement transition mechanisms. The silence also indicates that no single actor has achieved sufficient leverage to unilaterally announce a February 7 framework, suggesting continued negotiation deadlock between CPT mandate extension advocates and civil society replacement formula proponents.

With 31 days remaining, the communication strategy reveals that late January will determine whether Haiti experiences a negotiated institutional transition or a constitutional rupture. The absence of announcements on January 7 does not indicate resolution progress but rather continued stakeholder disagreement on fundamental governance questions.



HISTORICAL CONTEXT

Haiti's April 3, 2024 Political Agreement explicitly stated the CPT mandate ends February 7 and cannot be extended, creating constitutional constraints that have not been publicly addressed by transitional authorities or international guarantors despite 31 days remaining.

TALKING POINTS

January 7 saw zero new developments across all major Haitian and international media outlets despite Haiti facing converging crises with 31 days until constitutional deadline.

The communication blackout suggests CPT internal deliberations have not reached consensus on mandate extension mechanisms despite Article 6.1 prohibition.

CARICOM, OAS, and UN have not announced coordinated frameworks for post-February 7 governance despite November 5 institutional continuity commitments.

Strategic delay by all actors indicates announcements will concentrate in late January 20-31 window, compressing decision space and increasing transition risks.

Civil society published transition completion proposals January 6 with no CPT response, indicating continued disagreement on February 7 frameworks.

RECOMMENDED DECISIONS

International Community: Accelerate CARICOM, OAS, and UN coordination meetings to finalize post-February 7 framework before January 20 to allow adequate implementation time.

Private Sector: Prepare contingency plans for three scenarios - CPT mandate extension, civil society replacement formula, or institutional vacuum - with decisions by January 31.

Political Actors: Opposition groups should formalize alternative governance proposals by January 15 to influence late January negotiations before frameworks solidify.

Diaspora Organizations: Monitor late January 20-31 period for critical announcements on CPT mandate extension or replacement mechanisms affecting community stability.

Researchers: Track CPT internal communications and CARICOM diplomatic activity January 10-20 to identify emerging consensus positions before public announcements.



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Moderate confidence based on partial institutional reporting.

DEVELOPMENT 2: 23-DAY PORT-AU-PRINCE OPERATIONAL PAUSE REVEALS GANG STRATEGIC LEVERAGE FOR AMNESTY NEGOTIATIONS

The continuation of the Port-au-Prince operational pause through January 7 extends the violence-free period to 23 consecutive days from December 21, representing the longest sustained period without major gang violence in 2025. This pause occurs despite gangs controlling 80-90 percent of Port-au-Prince according to MOPAL January 4 reporting, indicating the violence suspension is a strategic choice rather than operational incapacity. Simultaneously, OCHA January 6 reporting confirmed that gangs displaced 1,052 people in Montrouis, Artibonite during the December 23 attack, demonstrating continued offensive operations in peripheral regions while maintaining capital restraint.

The geographic selectivity of gang violence patterns reveals sophisticated strategic calculations. By withholding Port-au-Prince violence for 23 days, gangs signal operational control capacity to activate or suspend violence at will, contradicting GSF December 31 claims of retaking gang-controlled territories. The Crisis Group December 15 warning that gangs seek amnesty as part of February 7 transition negotiations provides the most credible explanation for the pause duration. Gangs appear to be creating an implicit bargaining position where capital violence remains suspended if the government signals willingness to negotiate amnesty, but resumes if the CPT maintains the Prime Minister's December 28 no-negotiations doctrine.

AYITI INTEL | ONE-STOP INTELLIGENCE BRIEF

The Artibonite expansion during the Port-au-Prince pause indicates gangs are using capital restraint to consolidate agricultural corridor control without attracting PNH or GSF counteroffensives. The 1,052 Montrouis displacements demonstrate that gang territorial ambitions extend beyond Port-au-Prince into regions connecting the capital to northern Haiti. This dual strategy of capital restraint plus peripheral expansion maximizes gang leverage for February 7 negotiations while minimizing security force response intensity.

With 31 days until February 7, the 23-day pause faces two likely trajectories. Scenario A involves the CPT or government signaling openness to amnesty negotiations in late January, extending the pause through February 7 and enabling a smooth transition. Scenario B involves the CPT announcing mandate extension with maintained no-negotiations doctrine, triggering gang violence resumption in late January and creating February 7 transition chaos. The January 7 violence absence suggests gangs are awaiting late January government signals before determining operational direction.



HISTORICAL CONTEXT

The 23-day Port-au-Prince operational pause from December 21 through January 7 represents the longest consecutive period without major gang violence in Port-au-Prince throughout 2025, indicating unprecedented strategic restraint capacity.

TALKING POINTS

Port-au-Prince has experienced 23 consecutive days without major gang violence from December 21 through January 7, the longest pause in 2025.

Gangs displaced 1,052 people in Montrouis, Artibonite on December 23 during the Port-au-Prince pause, demonstrating continued peripheral offensive operations.

The geographic selectivity of violence indicates gangs are withholding capital violence as leverage for February 7 amnesty negotiations per Crisis Group December 15 analysis.

Gangs control 80-90 percent of Port-au-Prince per MOPAL January 4, meaning the 23-day pause represents strategic choice not operational incapacity.

Expect pause to end in late January 20-31 period depending on whether government signals amnesty negotiation openness or maintains no-negotiations doctrine.

RECOMMENDED DECISIONS

International Community: Privately communicate to CPT that gang violence resumption in late January will complicate February 7 transition, encouraging consideration of security-transition coordination mechanisms.

AYITI INTEL | ONE-STOP INTELLIGENCE BRIEF

Private Sector: Prepare for two security scenarios - continued pause if amnesty negotiations emerge, or violence escalation if CPT announces mandate extension with no-negotiations doctrine.

Political Actors: Opposition groups should avoid premature denouncement of potential amnesty discussions to prevent triggering gang violence resumption before February 7.

Security Forces: GSF and PNH should position resources for potential late January violence resumption in Port-au-Prince while maintaining Artibonite presence.

Humanitarian Organizations: Pre-position displacement response capacity for potential late January violence escalation in Port-au-Prince and continued Artibonite attacks.



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High confidence based on official institutional reporting.

DEVELOPMENT 3: FEDERAL COURT TPS RULING DELAY LEAVES 350,000 HAITIANS IN LIMBO AS FEBRUARY 3 EXPIRATION APPROACHES

Federal courts have not issued rulings on the legality of Haiti TPS termination as of January 7, one day after the January 6 emergency hearing, leaving more than 350,000 Haitian beneficiaries uncertain about deportation status with 27 days remaining until the February 3 expiration date. Federal courts typically issue emergency rulings within days to weeks of hearings, indicating the delay likely reflects either judicial deliberation complexity, requests for additional briefings, or strategic timing to issue rulings closer to the expiration deadline. The Trump administration DHS has already sent notifications warning TPS beneficiaries to prepare to leave U.S. territory within approximately one month after February 3, suggesting deportations will proceed regardless of court intervention.

Vant Bef Info January 6 analysis argued that court judgments could demonstrate security conditions in Haiti do not permit the return of more than 350,000 TPS beneficiaries, citing gang control of 80-90 percent of Port-au-Prince, 1.4 million internally displaced persons, and the February 7 CPT expiration creating no functioning government to receive deportees. This legal argument has operational merit given Haiti's security deterioration and institutional uncertainty. However, the DHS pre-deportation notifications indicate the administration intends to proceed with termination regardless of court findings, creating a scenario where beneficiaries face deportation to an ungoverned state four days before the CPT mandate expires.

The ruling delay creates three possible trajectories. Possibility A involves courts issuing rulings by mid-January 10-15, giving beneficiaries approximately 20 days to respond before February 3

AYITI INTEL | ONE-STOP INTELLIGENCE BRIEF

expiration. Possibility B involves courts delaying rulings until late January 20-31, compressing response timelines to one week or less. Possibility C involves courts issuing rulings after February 3 expiration, retroactively determining legality but creating a period where beneficiaries exist in legal limbo. Each trajectory carries distinct implications for diaspora community stability and Haiti's capacity to absorb potential mass deportations.

The convergence of the February 3 TPS expiration and February 7 CPT mandate expiration creates a compressed four-day window where diaspora deportations could coincide with constitutional crisis. This timeline compounds both crises as Haiti would face simultaneous challenges of institutional vacuum and diaspora return absorption without functioning governance structures. The January 7 ruling absence indicates courts are likely waiting until late January to issue decisions, maximizing judicial deliberation time while minimizing beneficiary response options.



HISTORICAL CONTEXT

Haiti TPS was granted following the January 12, 2010 earthquake and has been continuously renewed for 14 years, protecting more than 350,000 Haitians from deportation based on country conditions that make safe return impossible.

TALKING POINTS

Federal courts have not issued rulings on Haiti TPS termination legality despite January 6 emergency hearing, leaving 350,000 beneficiaries uncertain with 27 days until expiration. Trump administration DHS has sent pre-deportation notifications warning beneficiaries to prepare to leave U.S. territory after February 3, indicating deportations will proceed regardless of court intervention.

February 3 TPS expiration occurs four days before February 7 CPT mandate expiration, compressing timeline where diaspora deportations coincide with constitutional crisis.

Court ruling delay suggests decision will emerge in late January 20-31 period, minimizing beneficiary response time before February 3 deadline.

Haiti security conditions including gang control of 80-90 percent of Port-au-Prince and 1.4 million IDPs support legal arguments against deportation feasibility.

RECOMMENDED DECISIONS

Diaspora Organizations: Accelerate emergency planning for three scenarios - court blocks termination, court allows termination with delayed implementation, or termination proceeds February 3 as scheduled.

International Community: Coordinate with U.S. State Department and DHS to ensure deportation

AYITI INTEL | ONE-STOP INTELLIGENCE BRIEF

timelines do not coincide with February 7 institutional transition complications.

Legal Advocates: Prepare emergency injunction filings for late January if court rulings fail to block TPS termination before February 3 deadline.

Haitian Government: CPT should formally communicate to U.S. authorities that deportations cannot be safely processed during February 3-7 window given institutional transition uncertainty.

Humanitarian Organizations: Pre-position diaspora return reception capacity in Haiti for potential February post-3 deportations despite security and governance constraints.



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Moderate confidence based on partial institutional reporting.

DEVELOPMENT 4: CONVERGING DEADLINES CREATE COMPRESSED DECISION SPACE FOR HAITI TRANSITION FRAMEWORKS

Haiti faces four converging institutional deadlines between January 31 and February 7 that compress decision-making space for all actors. January 31 marks BINUH mandate expiration requiring UN Security Council renewal vote, February 3 marks TPS termination affecting 350,000 diaspora members, and February 7 marks CPT constitutional mandate expiration. Additionally, the ongoing 23-day gang operational pause creates an implicit security deadline where violence resumption timing depends on government amnesty negotiation signals. This deadline convergence eliminates sequential decision-making options and forces simultaneous crisis management across diplomatic, security, governance, and diaspora dimensions.

The BINUH mandate renewal scheduled for January 31 requires Security Council coordination on whether the resolution will address post-February 7 CPT transition support or maintain silence on governance frameworks. If the resolution includes language supporting CPT mandate extension, it provides international legitimacy for the Council to remain in power past February 7. If the resolution remains silent on post-February 7 arrangements, it signals international uncertainty about Haiti's governance trajectory. The January 7 communication silence suggests BINUH renewal negotiations are ongoing without public preview of final language.

The compressed timeline between January 31 BINUH renewal and February 7 CPT expiration provides only seven days for actors to implement any transition mechanisms approved by the Security Council. This compression makes gradual transition planning impossible and forces binary choices between CPT mandate extension, immediate replacement formula implementation, or acceptance of institutional vacuum. Civil society proposals published January 6 for transition completion have received no CPT response, indicating continued disagreement on

AYITI INTEL | ONE-STOP INTELLIGENCE BRIEF

whether Article 6.1 prohibition on mandate extension can be circumvented through constitutional interpretation or international guarantor support.

The deadline convergence also creates cascading failure risks where problems in one domain compound others. If courts allow TPS termination to proceed February 3, diaspora deportations could begin during the same week the CPT mandate expires and BINUH renewal language becomes operational. If gangs resume Port-au-Prince violence in late January sensing no amnesty negotiations forthcoming, the security crisis could prevent orderly February 7 transition implementation. The January 7 strategic silence indicates all actors recognize these cascading risks but have not achieved consensus on mitigation frameworks.



HISTORICAL CONTEXT

Haiti's transitional governance period from April 3, 2024 through February 7, 2026 represents the first attempt to combine presidential council governance with internationally-backed security force deployment, creating institutional arrangements without constitutional precedent.

TALKING POINTS

Four deadlines converge between January 31 and February 7 including BINUH mandate expiration, TPS termination, CPT constitutional deadline, and potential gang violence resumption timing.

Seven-day window between January 31 BINUH renewal and February 7 CPT expiration eliminates gradual transition planning and forces binary framework choices.

BINUH Security Council resolution language will signal whether international community supports CPT mandate extension or remains neutral on post-February 7 governance.

Deadline compression creates cascading failure risks where diaspora deportations, institutional vacuum, and security escalation could coincide in early February.

Civil society transition completion proposals published January 6 have received no CPT response, indicating continued disagreement on constitutional interpretation of mandate extension prohibition.

RECOMMENDED DECISIONS

International Community: CARICOM, OAS, and UN should coordinate BINUH resolution language by January 15 to allow two weeks for implementation planning before January 31 Security Council vote.

Private Sector: Develop scenario planning for simultaneous institutional, security, and diaspora crises during February 3-7 window including liquidity management and supply chain contingencies.

AYITI INTEL | ONE-STOP INTELLIGENCE BRIEF

Political Actors: CPT should publicly address mandate extension questions by January 20 to allow 18 days for stakeholder consultation and implementation planning before February 7.

Security Forces: GSF and PNH should prepare for scenario where gang violence resumes during February 3-7 window when institutional and diaspora crises compound security challenges.

Researchers: Track BINUH Security Council resolution drafting process and P5 member positions on post-February 7 governance support to assess international consensus development.



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WHAT TO WATCH NEXT

NEXT 24 TO 48 HOURS

Federal court TPS ruling issuance - Monitor for emergency decisions blocking or allowing February 3 termination that would determine diaspora deportation trajectory and create or eliminate one of four converging February deadlines.

CPT communication resumption - Track whether transitional authorities end strategic silence with statements on mandate extension mechanisms, civil society proposal responses, or February 7 governance frameworks.

Port-au-Prince security status - Verify whether the 23-day operational pause extends to 24-25 days or whether gang violence resumes signaling end of strategic restraint period.

THIS WEEK

BINUH mandate renewal negotiations - Monitor Security Council P5 member positions on whether January 31 resolution will include language supporting CPT post-February 7 arrangements or remain silent on governance frameworks.

International actor coordination - Track CARICOM, OAS, and UN diplomatic activity for signals of emerging consensus on institutional continuity implementation mechanisms promised in November 5 statements.

Civil society mobilization - Verify whether opposition groups respond to CPT strategic silence by publishing alternative February 7 transition proposals or mobilizing public pressure campaigns.

AYITI INTEL | ONE-STOP INTELLIGENCE BRIEF

STRATEGIC HORIZON

Late January announcement concentration - Prepare for compressed January 20-31 window when CPT, civil society, international actors, and potentially gangs will announce positions as February 7 deadline eliminates further delay options.

Cascading crisis convergence - Monitor for interactions between TPS deportations beginning February 3, potential gang violence resumption in late January, and February 7 institutional transition that could create simultaneous governance, security, and diaspora emergencies.

Post-February 7 legitimacy contests - Assess scenarios where multiple actors claim governing authority after February 7 including CPT mandate extension advocates, civil society replacement formula proponents, or opposition group alternative frameworks.

PRIMARY SOURCES

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Haiti24 national reporting coverage, January 7, 2026

Le Nouvelliste daily political and security reporting, January 7, 2026

AlterPresse independent journalism network coverage, January 7, 2026

Vant Bef Info analysis and investigative reporting, January 7, 2026

Reuters international wire service Haiti coverage, January 7, 2026

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Agence France-Presse Haiti correspondent reporting, January 7, 2026

UN OCHA Haiti displacement reporting, January 6, 2026

International Crisis Group Haiti transition analysis, December 15, 2025

MOPAL gang territorial control assessment, January 4, 2026

UN BINUH mandate documentation and Security Council records

Haiti CPT official statements and decree archives including May 23, 2024 Article 6.1

CARICOM official communications on Haiti institutional continuity, November 5, 2025

UNICEF Haiti internally displaced persons statistics, December 10, 2025