

## Referendum marred by violent protests

Guinea has held a constitutional referendum despite the threat of Covid-19 and an opposition boycott. Opponents of President Alpha Conde say the vote could clear the way for him to govern for 12 more years. A report on the [allAfrica](#) site notes that several people were killed in clashes between police and protesters over the weekend. The FNDC, an umbrella opposition group, said anti-government forces came under fire by security forces who 'carried out massive arrests, fired blindly, cruelly molested (and) killed at least 10 people'. **Opposition supporters allegedly attacked several polling stations in the capital Conakry.** As previously reported in [Legalbrief Today](#), the country was placed on the Civicus Monitor human rights watch list ahead of the referendum. The constitution limits presidential tenures to two five-year terms and can only be changed via a referendum. The list draws attention to countries where there has been a rapid decline in civic and democratic freedoms.