

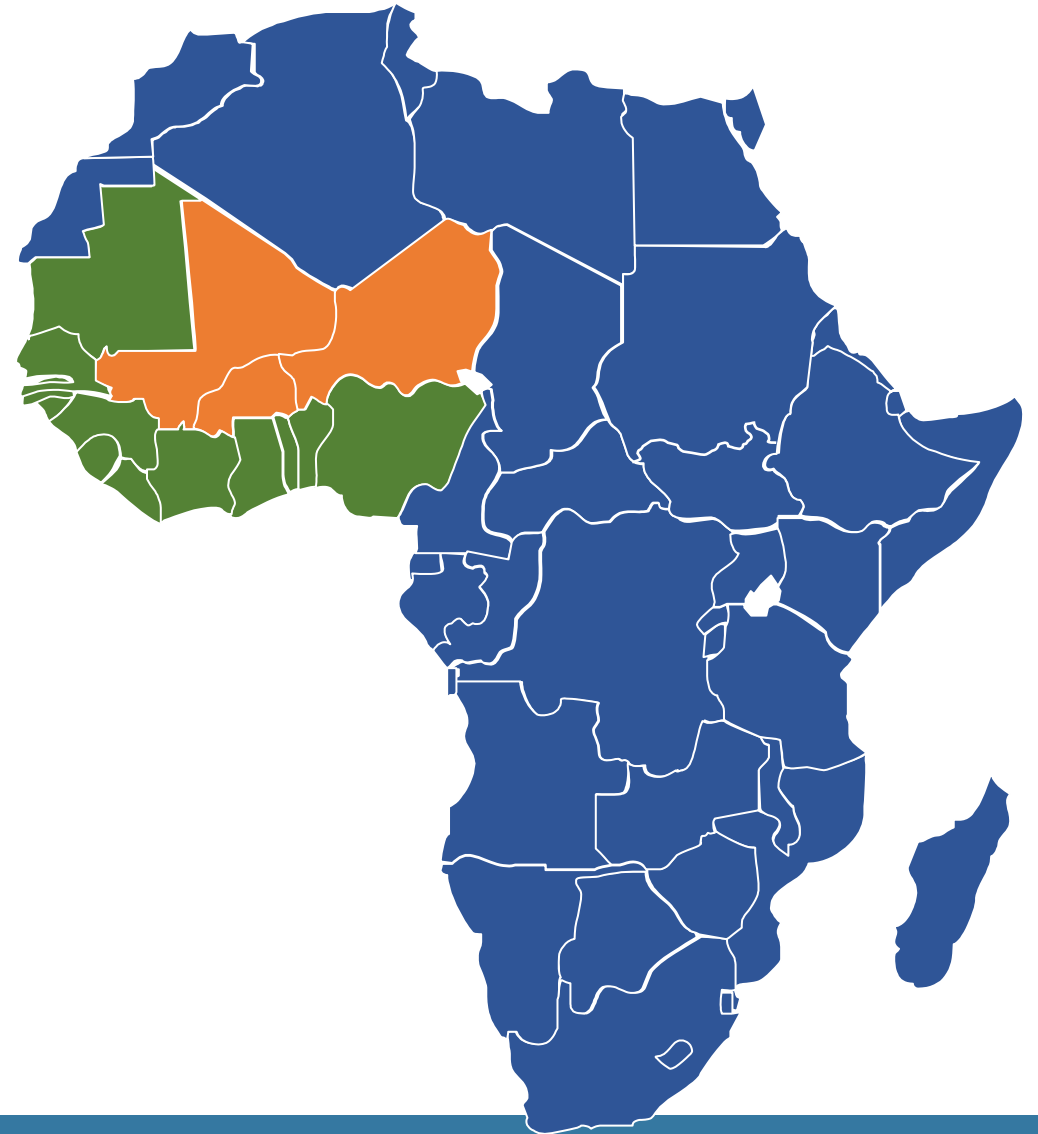


# Countering Growing Violent Extremism in West Africa

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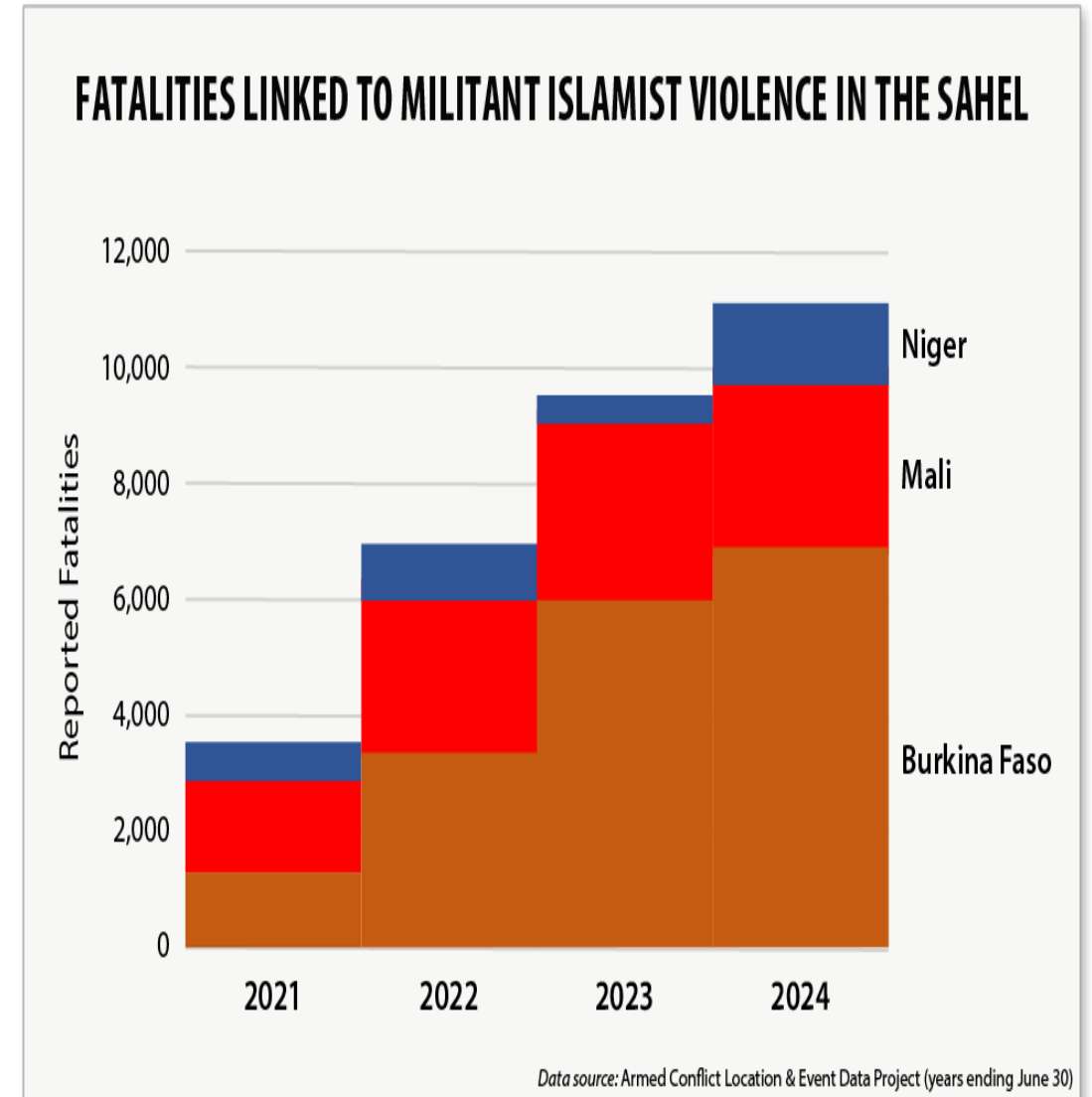
# Overview

- Violent extremism in the Sahel
- Mounting threats for CWA
- National and regional responses
- Role for security forces

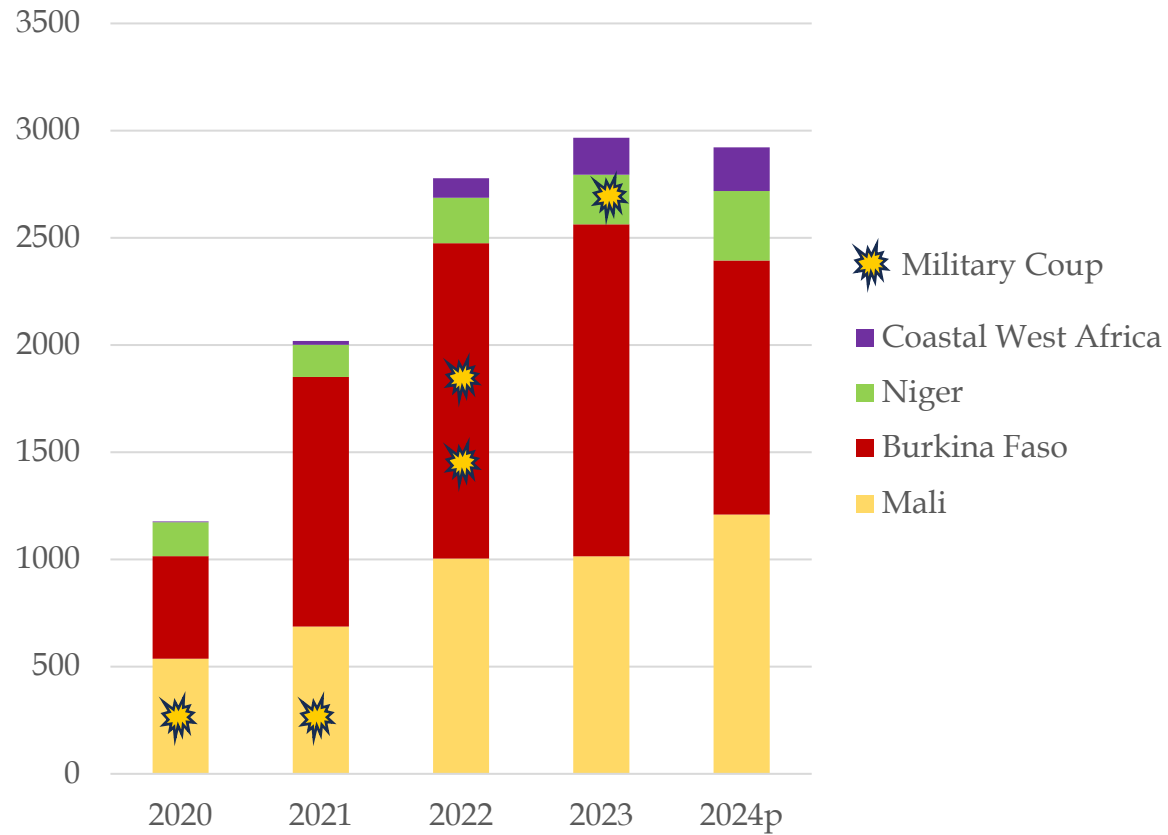


# Security Crisis in the Sahel

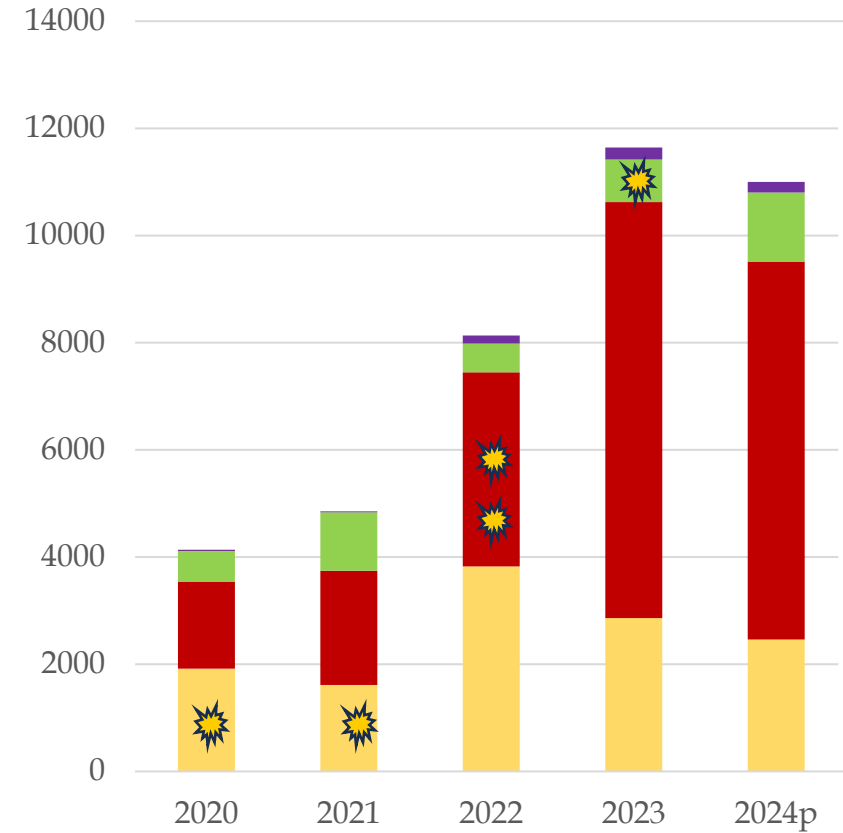
- Failure to address drivers
- Rampant abuses
- Permissive environment
- Irregular threat
- Counterproductive strategy



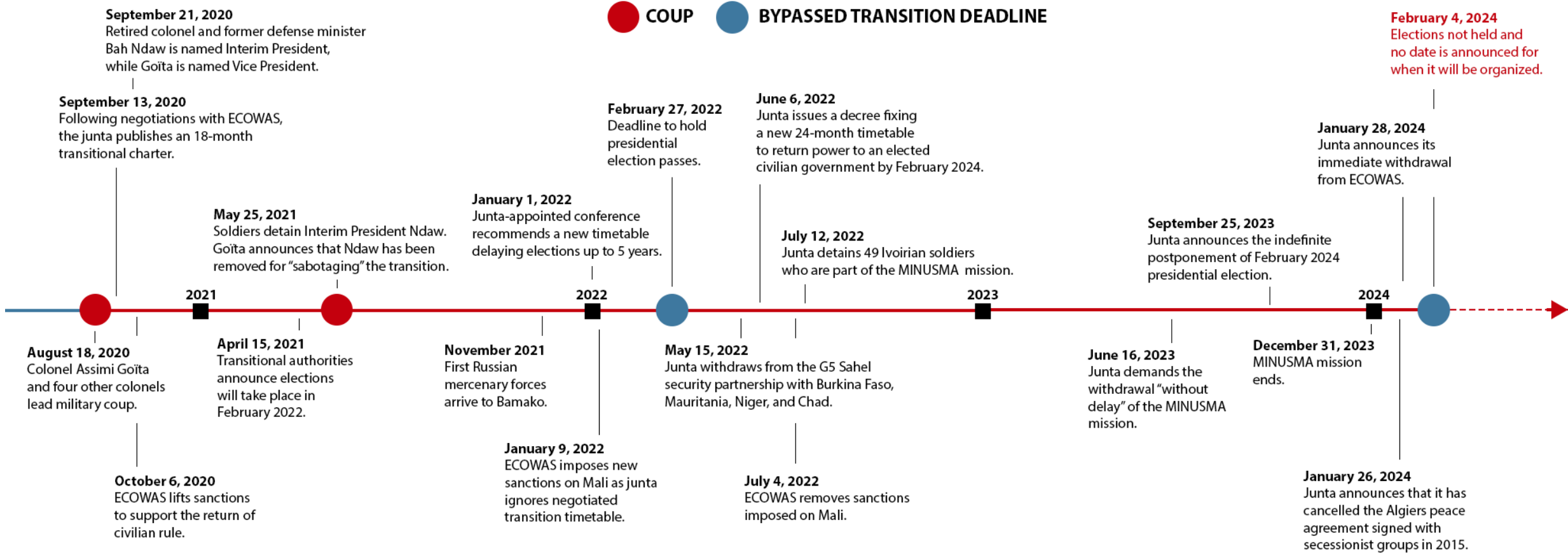
## Militant Islamist Group Events



## Militant Islamist Group Fatalities

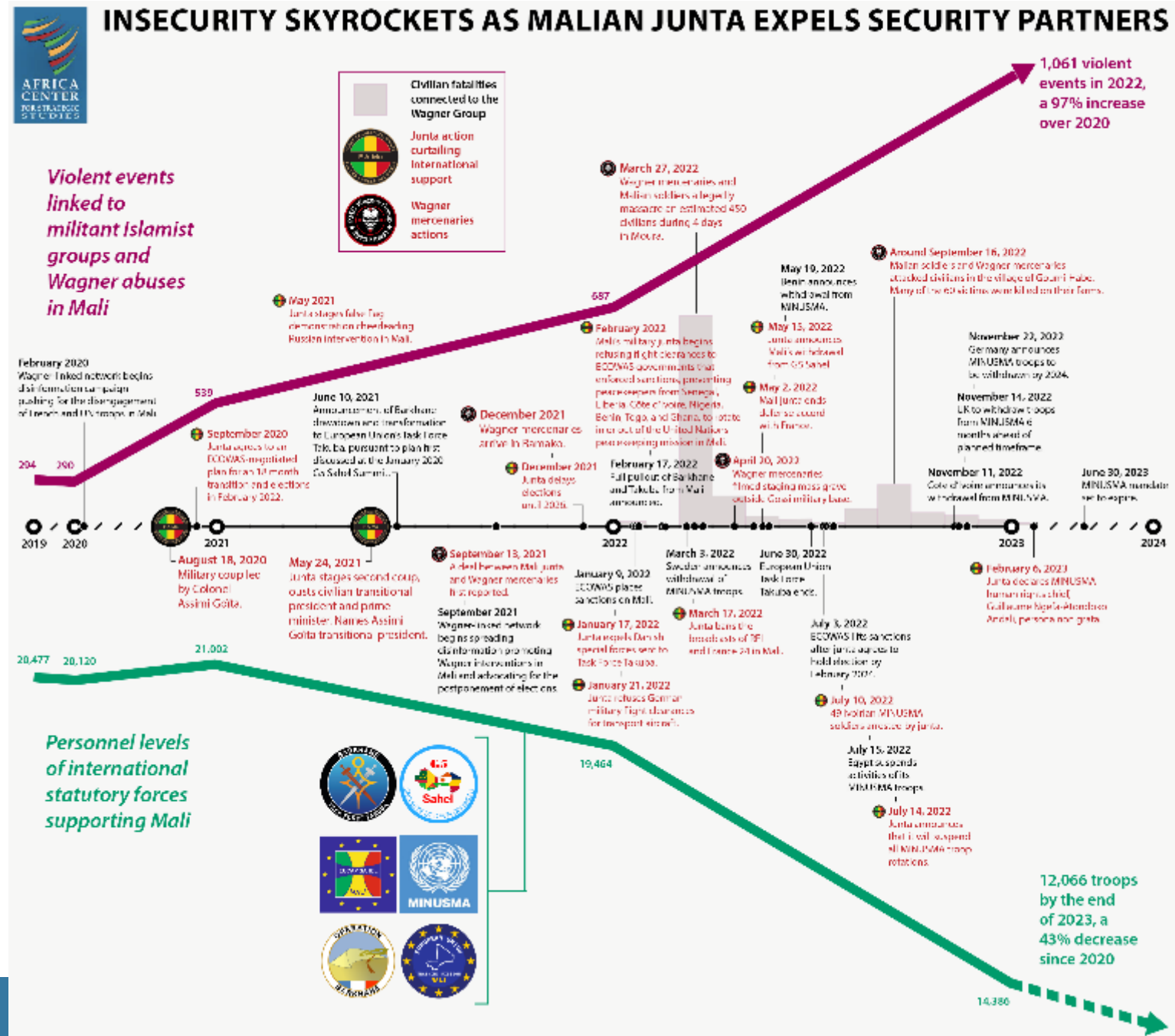


# A Transition Derailed in Mali

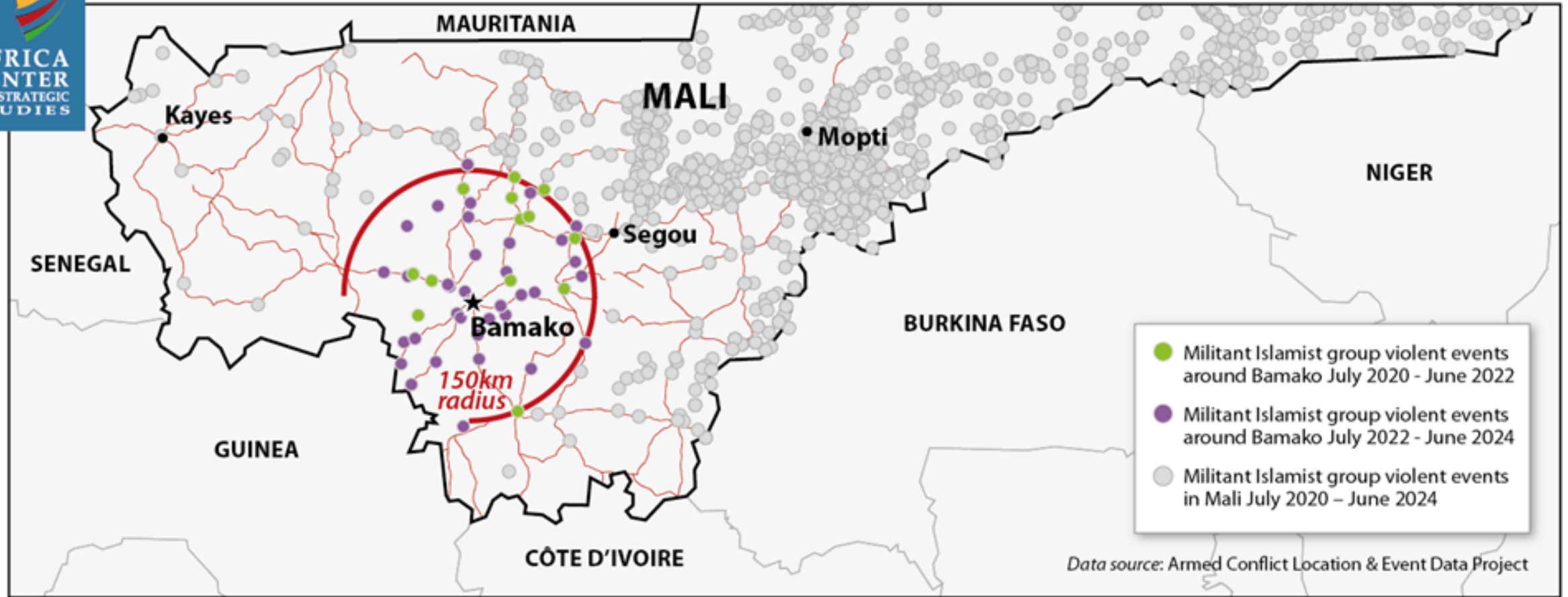


# Mali Junta's Claims

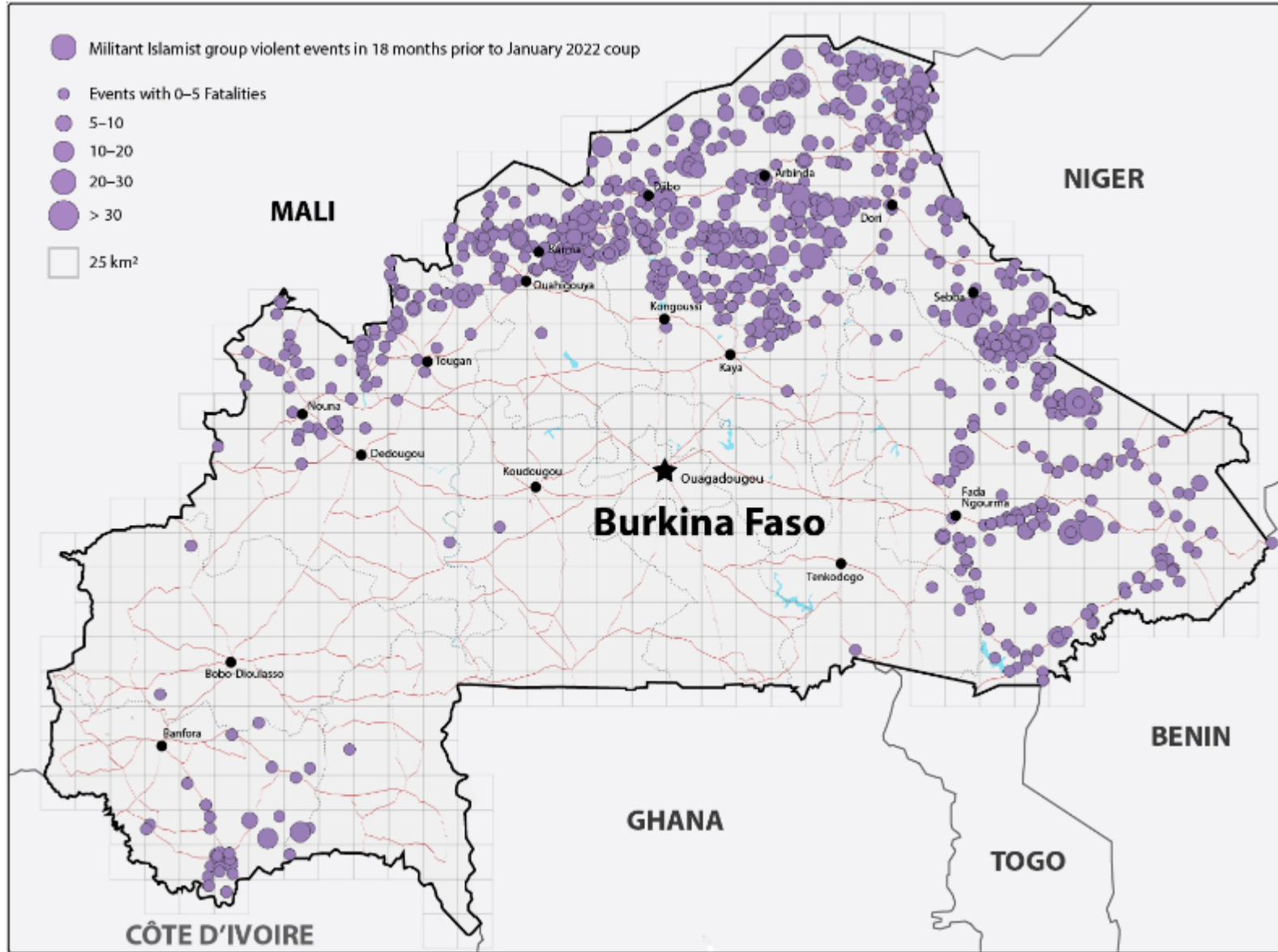
- Committed to return of civilian rule.
- Enjoys popular support of citizens
- Represents Mali's sovereign interests
- Managing the economy well
- Respects human rights
- Protecting citizens
- Security situation improving



# BAMAKO FACES MOUNTING MILITANT ISLAMIST GROUP THREAT



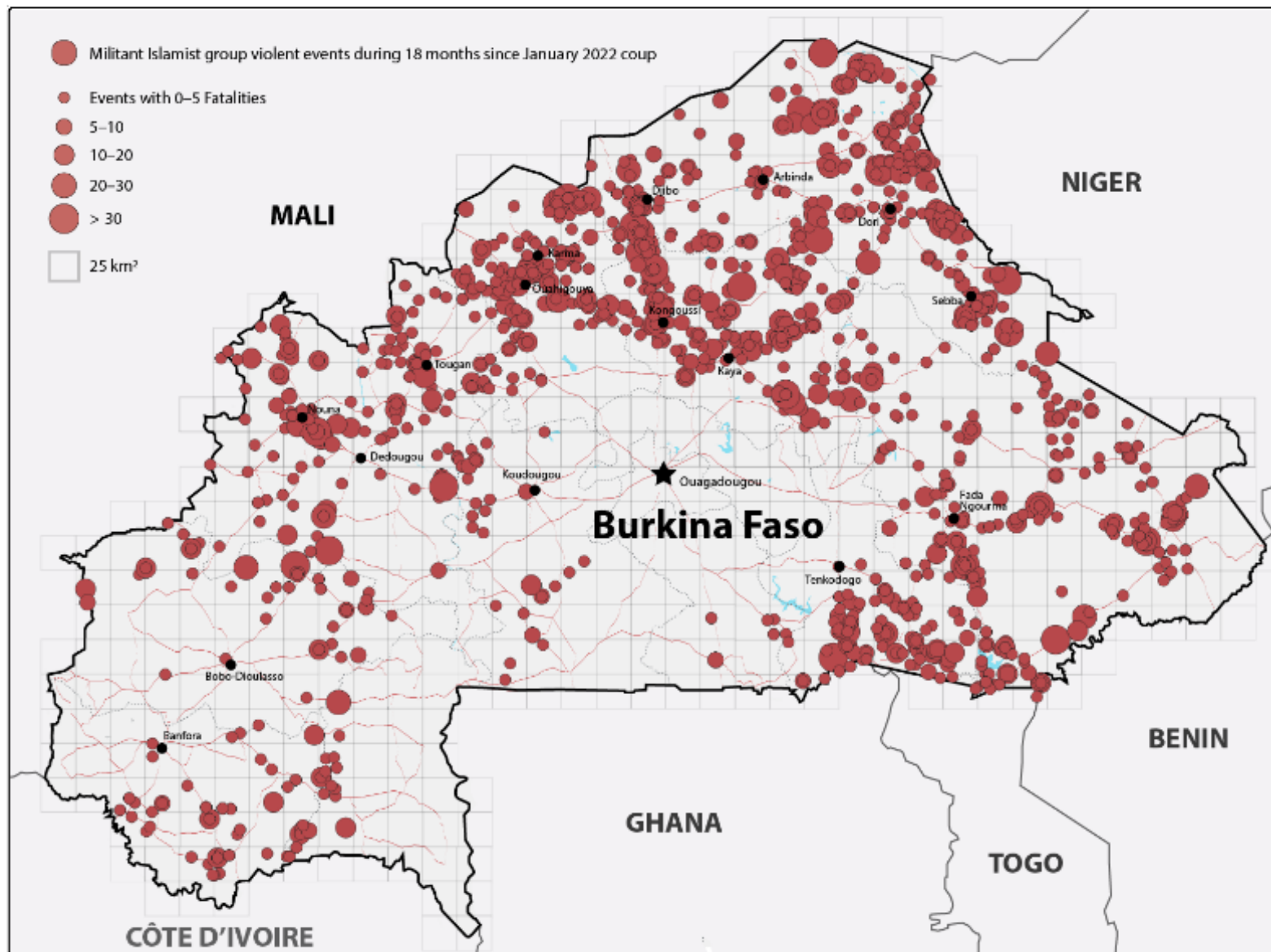
## MILITANT ISLAMIST GROUP EVENTS AND FATALITIES PRIOR TO FIRST BURKINA FASO COUP



Data source: Armed Conflict Location & Event Data Project

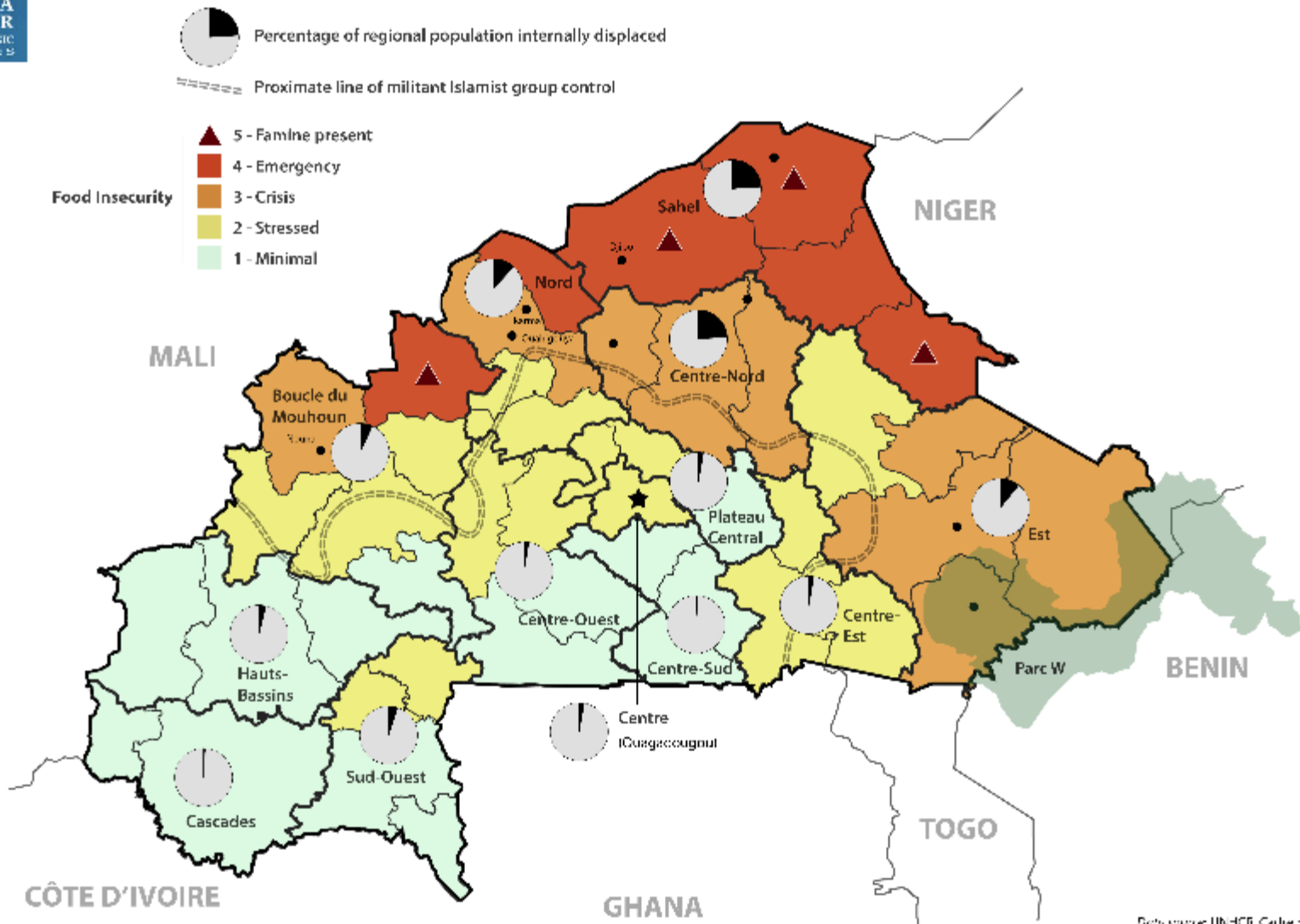


## MILITANT ISLAMIST GROUP EVENTS AND FATALITIES SINCE FIRST BURKINA FASO COUP



Data source: Armed Conflict Location & Event Data Project

# MILITANT ISLAMIST GROUP VIOLENCE ENGULFS BURKINA FASO

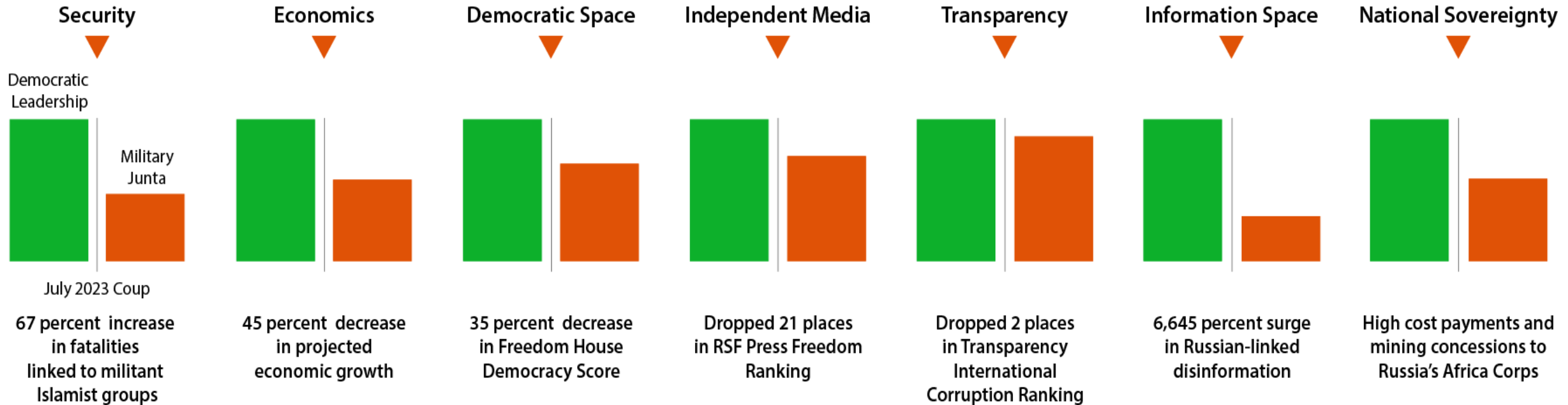


Data source: UN-ICR, Centre Harmonisé/IPC

# Military Coups in the Sahel

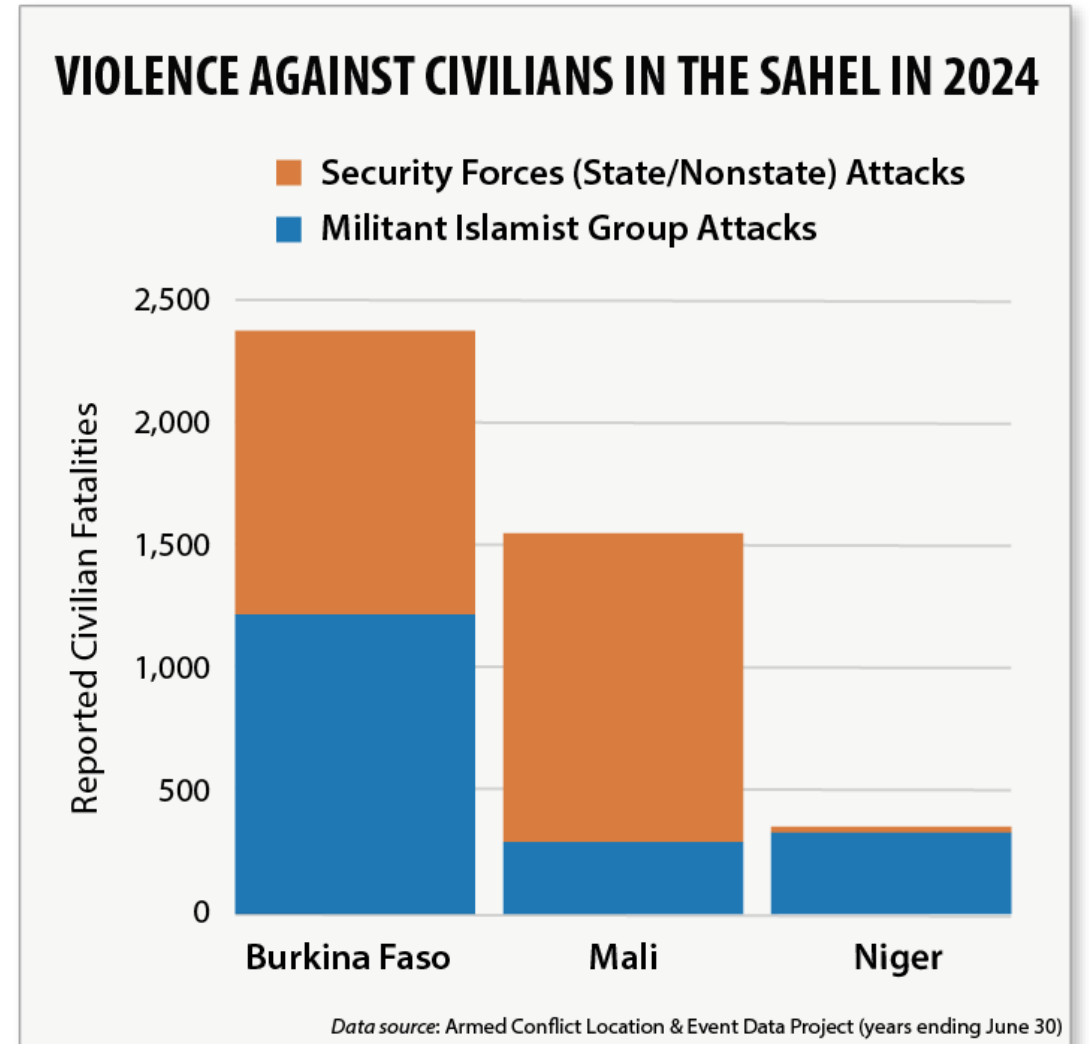
## Power and Politics, Non-transitions, and Suppressing Dissent

### Declining Stability under Nigerien Military Junta



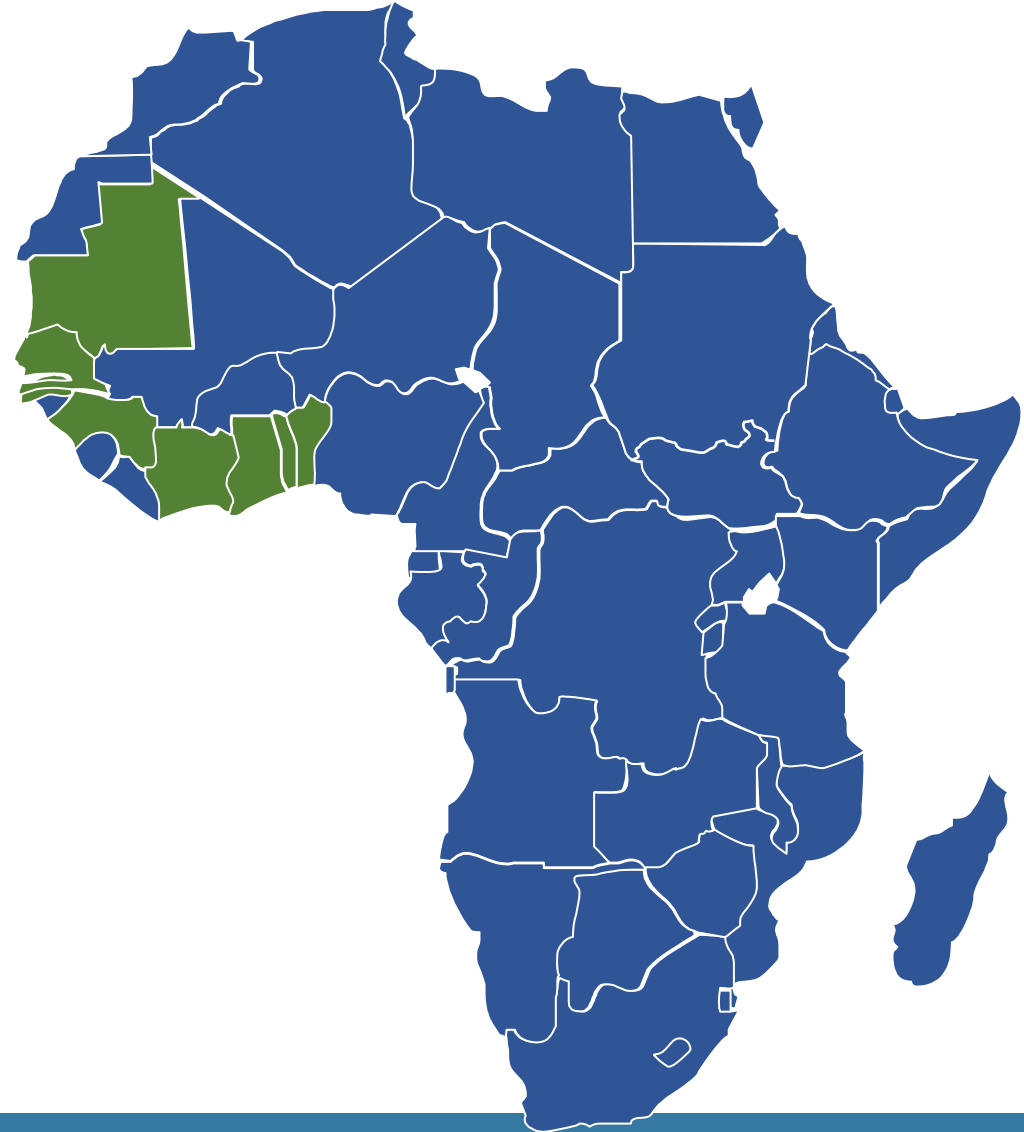
# Crisis in the Sahel

- Missing a greater understanding of JNIM and ISGS objectives
- Hopes for restoring civilian leadership
- Worrying trajectories



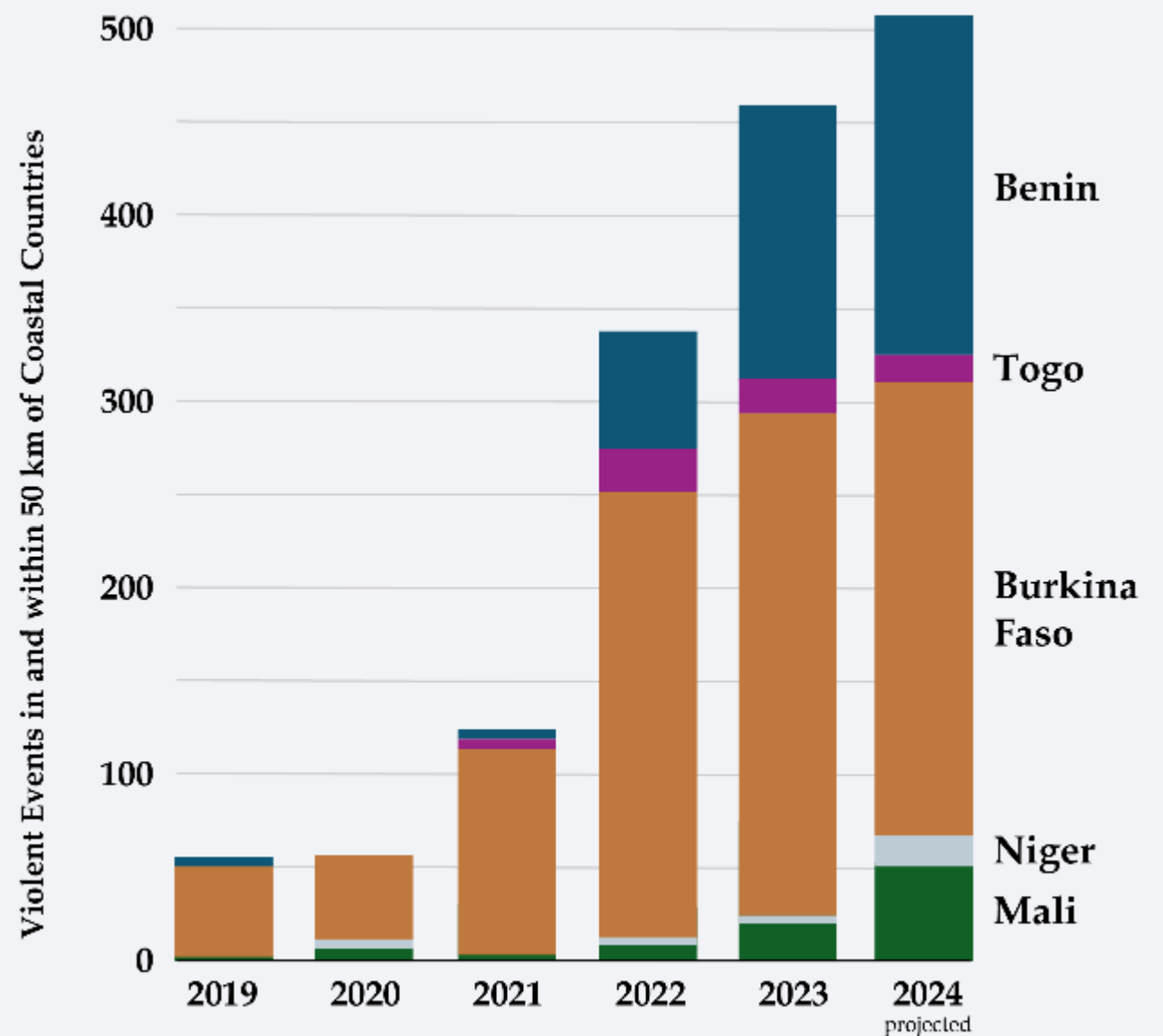
# Coastal West Africa Overview

- Mounting threats for CWA
- National responses
- Role for regional actors



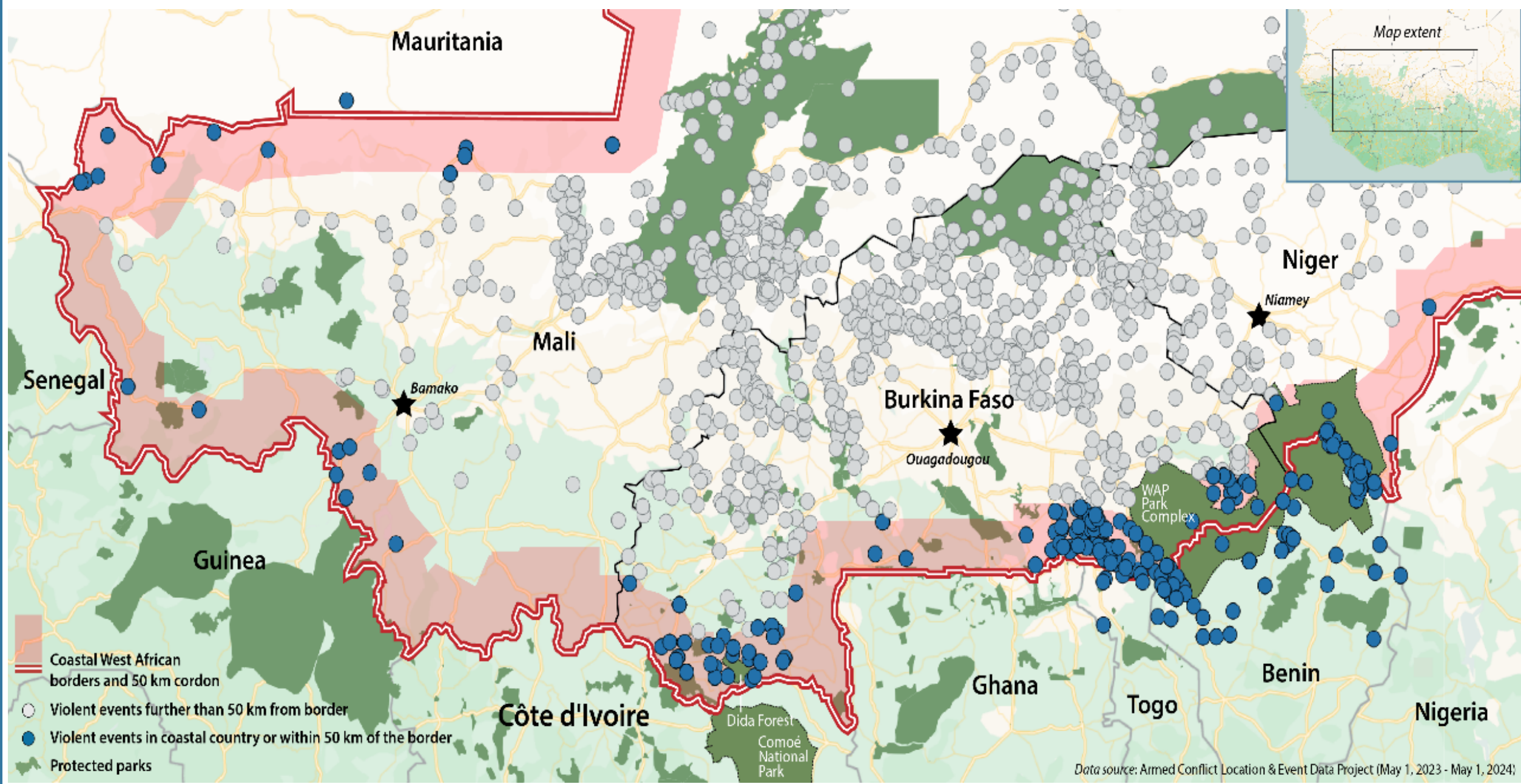
# Militant Islamist Groups

- Spillover threat
- Exploiting local grievances
- Borders and protected spaces



Note: Côte d'Ivoire has had 18 total violent events and Mauritania has had 4 since 2019.

Data Source: Armed Conflict Location & Event Data Project



# Implications and Stabilization

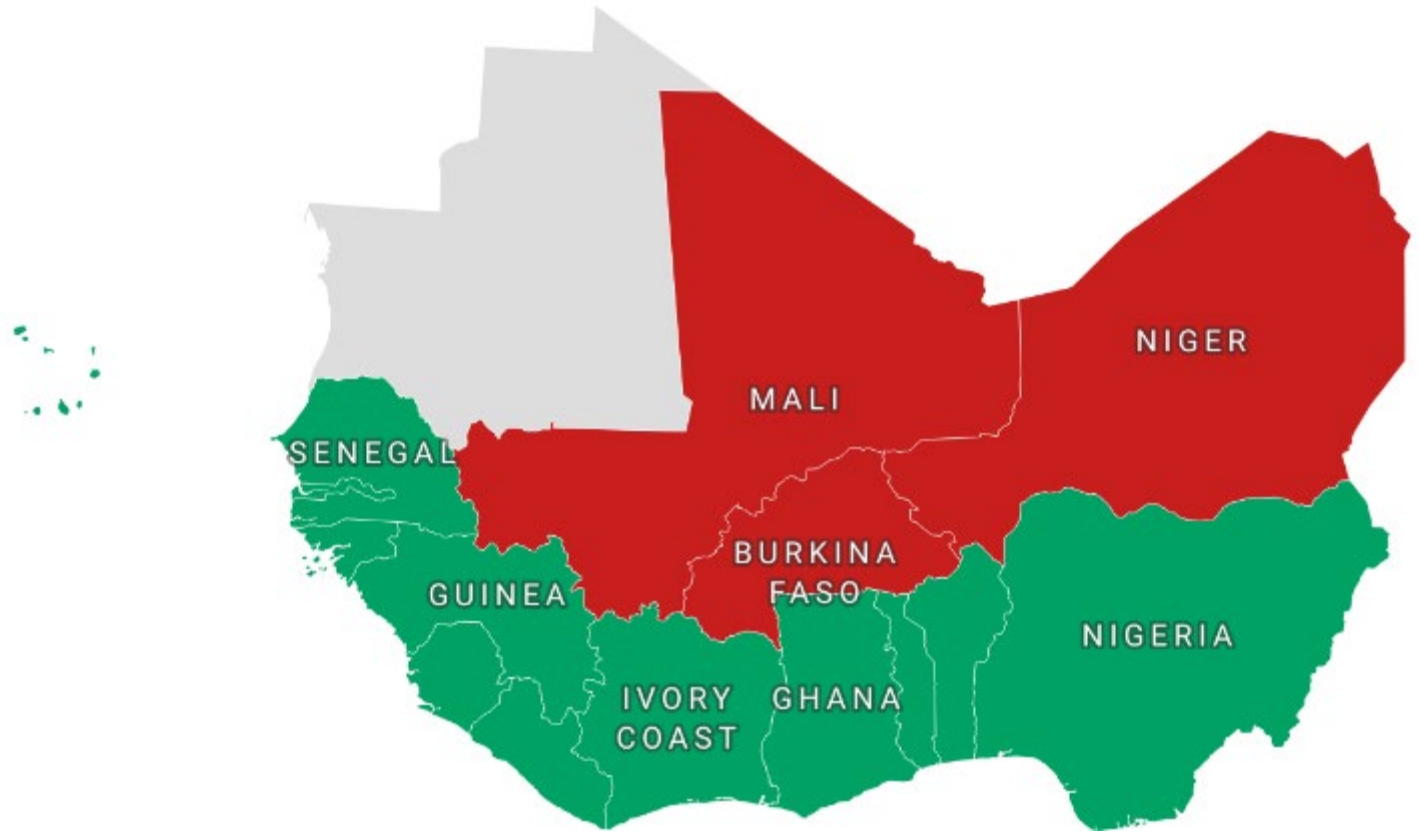
- Promising Initiatives
  - Stabilization programs
  - Focus on youth and employment
- Role of Security Forces
  - Building trust through professionalism
  - Sustain security presence w/in communities
- [Recalibrating CWA's Response to Violent Extremism](#)





# Implications and Stabilization

- Regional Organizations
  - Accra Initiative
  - ECOWAS
  - Sahelian States Alliance
- Role for the int'l community
  - African Union (AU)
  - United Nations
  - Bilateral partnerships





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