



press release

Thursday 10 November 2022

## The Observers

« Haiti: in the grip of the gangs »

Friday 11 November at 7.15 pm\*



Format: 12 minutes

Report by: Maëva Poulet et Chloé Lauvergnier

Coming up on the [France 24 Observers](#): a 12-minute special programme on the criminal gangs that have taken over much of Haiti, **with chilling videos posted by the gangs themselves, and first-person accounts from residents caught up in the deadly fighting.**

For several months, Haiti has been facing an unprecedented wave of violence. More than 150 gangs are active in the country, imposing their law on a powerless state. Most of them are based in Port-au-Prince, controlling large parts of the country's capital.

Massacres, kidnappings for ransom, clashes, stray bullets: **everyday Haitians are the first victims.**

To produce this digital investigation, journalists **Chloé Lauvergnier and Maëva Poulet reconstructed key events in the gangs' takeover of the city**, using open-source investigation techniques (OSINT) to **identify and geolocate amateur videos** posted on social networks by gangs and residents, **as well as images directly sent by their Observers in Haiti.**



In collaboration with production company Upian, the [France 24 Observers](#) are airing in the 2022-23 season six exclusive digital investigations, available in four languages (French, English, Arabic and Spanish).

To produce these investigations, the France 24 Observers team in Paris uses **open-source digital investigation methods**, known as "OSINT" (geolocation, cartography, etc.), along with human intelligence from a worldwide network of 5,000 amateur contributors. The system offers a different perspective on current events and often provides access to information that is inaccessible to journalists on the ground.

In 2020, the investigative documentary Iran's Hidden Slaughter won France's **Diplomatic Press Award**.

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**Press Contacts:**

Monica Ramses

+33 1 84 22 95 22 • + 33 7 60 15 57 27 • [monica.ramses@francemm.com](mailto:monica.ramses@francemm.com)

Estelle Torgue

+33 1 84 22 95 21 • +33 6 72 04 68 61 • [estelle.torgue@france24.com](mailto:estelle.torgue@france24.com)

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