#### **Tramosia**

# **History:**

First colonized by Portugal in the early 16th century. It was historically used as an important waypoint and a trading outpost (including slave trade) connecting Portugal with Brazil and Africa. Majority of the population is descendants of former colonists from Europe and slaves brought from Africa.

It was formally decolonized in 1974 and a ruthless Portuguese-dominated authoritarian regime followed. Low intensity insurgency by APP (Army of Peace and Prosperity) erupted in 1994 as resistance from the African- and non-Portuguese population mounted while the external support for the regime dwindled in the post-cold war climate. Government collapsed in 1997 after a major earthquake caused mass devastation, plunging the country into chaos. First democratic election took place in 1999 with an overwhelming victory for the Peace and Prosperity party.

In 2003 the popular president Vincent Lamosu died in mysterious circumstances during a trip on his yacht. Vice-president Juan Kodula stepped in and a quick investigation pointed at an assassination by TUL (Tramosian Unity League) which has been leading a low-level resistance ever since 1999. Violence escalated and further elections have been delayed indefinitely, citing security risks. Some supporters of APP have been disillusioned with the new government, citing rising corruption, repression and godlessness.

A violent civil war erupted in 2006, mostly along the lines of APP (southeast, African) vs TUL (northwest, European). Kodula died of an aneurysm in 2009, during a rousing speech from his balcony and the island has once again descended into violanet chaos amidst allegations of meddling by foreign powers who may be supporting local factions. Situation seemed hopeless and tens of thousands have died. Civil war raged in cities and mountains alike.

After intensive negotiations and mediation by Brazil, Peace Accords were signed in 2015. Ceasefire ensued and has mostly held. Most importantly the peace brought a Brazil-led peacekeeping mission and a commitment to hold a referendum on the future of the island in March 2025.

Situation has calmed down since 2015 with the island under a mixed interim government. And although violence, corruption and political conflict are still common it seems like the island might be on the right track at the moment and some people are looking forward to the referendum with hope. Others are expecting trouble...

### **Economy:**

Primarily fishing and agriculture. Quickly growing tourism industry (esp. since the Peace Accords brought relative "peace") focused on the smaller islands in the east and south. Recently discovered rich deposits of lithium in the eastern part of the island (the Lautio region) are attracting a lot of attention from Australian mining companies with prospecting already taking place.

# Military:

The island has hosted a relatively important and strategically located Portuguese naval base (part of NATO, built in the bay in the east, Baia do Sol) and a radar station during the Cold War. The base has since been mostly reduced and then abandoned during the 90s. It was partially reactivated for the UN peacekeeping mission and currently hosts a small detachment of about 150 sailors and marines (mostly from Brazil and Portugal) and two small patrol boats.

## **Demographics:**

Total population 3 million:

- 2 million of African descent (primarily speaking Portuguese and English), mostly living in the south and east
- 1 million European descent (primarily speaking Portuguese and French), mostly living in the north and west

Religion is nearly uniformly catholic, but the separation of state and church is hotly debated. Some parts of the population are deeply religious and conservative, mostly the Portuguese speakers and the more rural north-eastern part of the island. This is creating problems with some attempts at reforms, increasing tourism and potential mining operations.

| region name     | population | european | spoken port. | conservative | notes                     |
|-----------------|------------|----------|--------------|--------------|---------------------------|
| Murtago         | 0.4 mil    | 50%      | 90%          | 50%          | rural, major fishing      |
| Valle do Diabo  | 0.2 mil    | 80%      | 90%          | 90%          | rural, very isolated      |
| Lautio          | 0.2 mil    | 40%      | 60%          | 95%          | rural, lithium discovered |
| Porto Salato    | 1 mil      | 10%      | 70%          | 30%          | urban, capital city       |
| Costa de Aranha | 0.3 mil    | 10%      | 50%          | 20%          | rural, quickly developing |
| Ilhas de Polvo  | 0.3 mil    | 40%      | 60%          | 10%          | rural, very touristy      |
| Baia do Sol     | 0.6 mil    | 50%      | 70%          | 10%          | urban, richest region     |



