

Inside Nigeria's decision to ban Twitter | Rest of World

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The last week has been a rollercoaster at the highest levels of the Nigerian government, as key figures grapple internally with a brazen attempt by some senior officials to enforce control of social media in the country.

On June 4, the government announced the “indefinite suspension” of Twitter after the social media platform deleted a post from President Muhammadu Buhari’s account for violating its policy on abusive behavior.

The decision to suspend Twitter was swift, according to two highly placed sources in the presidency, who spoke to *Rest of World* on condition of anonymity because they are not speaking on the government’s behalf. Both suggested that the current clampdown is being engineered by Lai Mohammed, the country’s minister of Information and Culture. Despite his mandate to promote better delivery of information to the public, Mohammed has been a keen proponent of social media restrictions in the country.

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