UN’s Special Envoy to Haiti, former US president Bill Clinton. While Conille’s confirmation represents a significant step forward, the new government will be tasked with responding to a number of political controversies, including corruption allegations against the Provisional Electoral Council in the elections and discrepancies over constitutional amendments promulgated under former president Préval.

The political environment could be further undermined by the October arrest and overnight detention of Arnel Bélizaire, a member of parliament whose name appeared on a list of post-earthquake prison escapees. Bélizaire has been a vocal critic of Martelly since taking office, and his arrest could reignite tensions between the president and parliament.

Security

While the security situation in Haiti remained largely calm throughout 2011, there were increases in incidents of civil unrest and major crimes, including murder, rape, and kidnapping. There were more than 400 protests and demonstrations in the first half of 2011, many of which were related to the release of post-earthquake prisoners.