

While misinformation about the G20 summit still circulates, 42 countries have confirmed their attendance

By Yossabel Chetty

20 November - Two weeks before the G20 summit, taking place in Johannesburg over 22 and 23 November 2025, President Donald Trump announced that he would be boycotting the event. In true Trump misinformed fashion, he took to his own social media platform “Truth Social” to say that he’s boycotting the event because “Afrikaners (People who are descended from Dutch settlers, and also French and German migrants) are being killed and slaughtered, and their land and farms are being illegally confiscated.”



Donald J. Trump  
@realDonaldTrump

It is a total disgrace that the G20 will be held in South Africa. Afrikaners (People who are descended from Dutch settlers, and also French and German immigrants) are being killed and slaughtered, and their land and farms are being illegally confiscated. No U.S. Government Official will attend as long as these Human Rights abuses continue. I look forward to hosting the 2026 G20 in Miami, Florida!

6.13k ReTruths 24.1k Likes

Nov 08, 2025, 9:01 AM

A screenshot of President Donald Trump’s post on “Truth Social” on 08 November 2025.

Many South Africans don’t appear to be buying it. In more than 2700 comments to a [SABC News Facebook post](#) on 08 November 2025, an overwhelming response from South Africans came in the form of humour and sarcasm. They made claims like “He think (sic) Malema will be there so His (sic) afraid” or “They would have taken his repatriation offer if they are in serious trouble” referring to the Afrikaners that Trump mentioned in his post. The so-called Afrikaner refugees [failed to arrive in the hoards](#) Trump’s administration has been [anticipating](#) based on their overreliance of information circulating on social media, rather than facts. Several Afrikaner journalists, academics, theologians and advocates recently [wrote an open letter saying](#) that they reject the narrative of Afrikaners as victims of racial persecution as they are not pawns in America’s culture war that is trying to frame a narrative of white victimhood in the country to support the idea that white South Africans deserve special asylum status because of their race.

Since Trump's announcement, heads of state from China, Argentina and Russia have explained that they personally won't be in attendance themselves but that they will be sending members of their cabinet in their place. It is not unusual for world leaders to not attend such events. Russia's head of state, Vladimir Putin, was also unable to attend the G20 summit in Brazil in 2024 because the International Criminal Court had issued arrest warrants for Putin.

Sadly, the lack of representation by the heads of state has filtered through to social media, by people who are not happy with South Africa's current leadership, as misleading claims that many countries won't be in attendance. A public group called [Stop Destroying RSA](#) posted on 14 November 2025 "[6 countries now not attending](#)...America/Argentina/China/Mexico/Russia just heard Italy too...". The group is clearly politically motivated as it claims in its "about" section that it is "SouthAfricans Against – ANC/EFF/MK, Corrupt Government, Farm Killings, COVID vaccinations" among other things. Members of the group who commented on the post took the opportunity that the misinformation presented to express their frustration with the country and ANC leadership. They called the country a joke, and criticised it as not being safe alongside calls for President Cyril Ramaphosa to step down. It also prompted a renaming of the summit to the "G14".

Three days after the post mentioned above, International Relations and Co-operation Minister, Ronald Lamola, [briefed the media](#) to explain that ministerial representatives from Russia, Mexico, Argentina and China will be attending the summit and that 42 countries confirmed attendance. This includes "16 guest countries and six states representing regional economic communities across Africa, the Caribbean and East Asia." It appears therefore that there is only one member state of the G20 that won't be in attendance at the summit, and that is the USA.

However, days after Lamola's briefing, people are still commenting to the post by Facebook group Stop destroying RSA to call the summit the G14. This means that those who are not paying attention to different news sources are still being misdirected to believe the positioning of the G20 summit as a failure before it has even begun.