



Peace Operations Update

Aktuelle Informationen zu Friedenseinsätzen

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Europe | Caucasus | Africa | Middle East | Central Asia | South East Asia | South Asia | South America and Caribbean

NEW ZIF PUBLICATION

New ZIF Map “Peace Operations 2017/2018”

This map offers an overview of the peace operations deployed by the UN, EU, AU, OSCE, and other organizations. A comparison with last year’s edition shows a reduction in the number of deployed personnel. This is largely due to the closure of the UN operation in Côte d’Ivoire (UNOCI) and the downsizing of several others.

Download the map [here](#)

ZIF kompakt: The 29. Summit of the African Union

The Heads of State and Government of the AU member states met on July 3-4 in Addis Ababa. On their agenda was a range of issues, from financing AU peace support operations to strengthening African capacities for crisis prevention and tensions along the Eritrea-Djibouti border. The new *ZIF kompakt* briefly summarizes the key decisions reached at the meeting.

Download the paper [here](#) (German only)

EUROPE

Cyprus

Cyprus reunification talks collapse amid angry scenes

What had been billed as the best chance to reunify Cyprus has collapsed spectacularly, fuelling fears that the Mediterranean island is heading towards permanent partition. UN-sponsored talks held in the Swiss Alps for the past 10 days were brought to an abrupt halt on Friday after negotiations descended in the early hours into “yelling and drama,” ending the greatest hope yet of resolving the 43-year dispute.

Read full article: [The Guardian](#) (07/07)

Kosovo

Kosovo's Thaci looks for 'comprehensive' deal with war foe Serbia

President Hashim Thaci says that after years of talks, Kosovo and Serbia are entering a “new phase of dialogue” as they look to sign a comprehensive agreement to benefit both countries on the path of European integration.

Read full article: [RFE/RL](#) (07/07)

Macedonia

Macedonian Albanian party presses Zaev on language law

Macedonia's new reformist government faces its first big test after a small coalition partner, the DPA - Movement for Reforms, said it would quit the Social Democrat-led government if it fails to adopt a law extending the official use of Albanian by early September.

Read full article: [Balkan Insight](#) (07/13)

Ukraine

EU formally approves Ukraine Association Agreement

The landmark agreement was initially slated for signing in November 2013. But the Ukrainian president at the time, Viktor Yanukovich, walked away from it under pressure from Moscow, prompting massive protests that pushed him from power in February 2014.

Read full article: [RFE/RL](#) (07/11)

In Ukraine, UN chief Guterres urges full respect for ceasefire

In his remarks, the Secretary-General also highlighted the UN's support to humanitarian activities in the country and said that it would enhance its cooperation with the Government and that it will work to overcome any challenges in reaching the populations in distress.

Read full article: [UN News](#) (07/09)

CAUCASUS

Georgia

Abkhazia heads into new political crisis

As Georgia seeks to pressure the international community to respond robustly to attempts by its breakaway Republic of South Ossetia to encroach on its territory by shifting border markers, a new political crisis is building in its other breakaway region, Abkhazia, where the opposition has repeatedly called for the resignation of de facto leader Raul Khajimba.

Read full article: [RFE/RL](#) (07/10)

AFRICA

Boko Haram affected areas

Funding, suicide attacks remain challenge for African force fighting Boko Haram

Boko Haram has lost as much as 70 percent of its war equipment and fighters. That's the assessment of defense officials from the five countries involved in the joint task force fighting the militants. But the officials, who gathered in Cameroon this week to discuss the war effort, admit their own troops face challenges, mostly involving funding.

Read full article: [VOA News](#) (07/07)

Democratic Republic of the Congo

East Congo militia violence forces 80,000 to flee home, U.N. says

The latest fighting broke out in South Kivu province's Fizi territory, in the eastern part of the country. Government troops clashed with the National Coalition of the People for the Sovereignty of Congo (CNPSC), a new alliance of local self-defence militias.

Read full article: [Reuters](#) (07/11)

Vote to replace Kabila 'probably not possible' in 2017

A vote to replace President Joseph Kabila will probably not be possible this year, president of Democratic Republic of Congo's electoral commission said in a move that will violate a deal that let Kabila stay on past the end of his mandate.

Read full article: [Al Jazeera](#) (07/10)

The Gambia

Gambian gov't under active threat from Jammeh loyalists: ECOMIG commander

The Senegalese commander of a West African regional force deployed to The Gambia, has said that the Adama Barrow government still faced security challenges from loyalists of former leader, Yahya Jammeh. Colonel Magatte Ndiaye, leader of the ECOWAS Mission in The Gambia (ECOMIG) said senior officers who left with Jammeh were in contact with other serving officials in plots to destabilize the tiny West African country.

Read full article: [africanews](#) (07/08)

Libya

EU naval mission leads to more migrant drownings, says report

The EU naval operation Sophia in the Mediterranean, which aims to crack down on people smugglers, has resulted in an upsurge of deaths, according to a UK parliamentary report. The inquiry, published on Wednesday (12 July) by the cross-party House of Lords, says Sophia's sinking of boats has led to smugglers sending people on more unseaworthy vessels "resulting in more deaths at sea."

Read full article: [EUObserver](#) (07/12); read the report: [House of Lords](#)

UK parliament says 'Sophia' saves lives, but has not stopped migrant smuggling

Lawmakers from a parliamentary committee focused on EU affairs, which released the report after an inquiry into the naval operation, said Sophia was costly and has not deterred migrants from risking their lives at sea.

Read full article: [EurActiv](#) (07/12)

Mali

Tuareg separatists seize north Mali town in battle

Tuareg separatists have seized a town in Mali's desert north from a pro-government ethnic Tuareg militia after days of fighting. ... The rebel Coordination of Azawad Movements (CMA) and the pro-government GATIA are locked in a bitter power struggle in northern Mali, despite the return of state authority to its cities in March for the first time since a 2012 Tuareg uprising.

Read full article: [VOA News](#) (07/12)

Somalia

Somalia gets back university used as AMISOM military base for 10 years

The African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) on Tuesday handed back to the Federal Government, a university which it used as a military base over the last decade. ... The Head of AMISOM, Ambassador Francisco Caetano Madeira, confirmed that the facility will begin admitting students after the government gives the green light.

Read full article: [africanews](#) (07/12)

South Sudan

UN in South Sudan concerned about civilians fleeing clashes in Upper Nile

Thousands of South Sudanese civilians are fleeing to neighbouring Ethiopia as Government troops advance on a rebel stronghold in the Upper Nile region, a senior United Nations official today said, expressing grave concern about what is already the world's fastest growing refugee crisis.

Read full article: [UN News](#) (07/12)

South Sudan asks donors to pay for a third of national budget

War-ravaged South Sudan needs donors to fund more than a third of its next budget, the finance minister said, but countries are reluctant due to corruption and conflict.

Read full article: [Reuters](#) (07/07)

CENTRAL ASIA

Afghanistan

Afghan officials send high-profile sexual assault case to court

Authorities in Afghanistan confirmed Wednesday that an alleged torture and sexual assault case against the country's first-vice president, Abdul Rashid Dostum, has been sent to court for further action.

Read full article: [VOA News](#) (07/12)

Kazakhstan

Nazarbaev signs law barring 'ordinary' Kazakhs from seeking presidency

Kazakh President Nursultan Nazarbaev has signed into law a measure that bars people without previous government experience from running for president.

Read full article: [RFE/RL](#) (07/11)

SOUTH AMERICA AND CARIBBEAN

Colombia

Security Council authorizes UN mission to monitor reintegration of FARC-EP

The Security Council today decided to establish a new UN political mission in Colombia that will succeed the current one and will shift from monitoring the disarmament of former combatants to verifying their political, economic and social reintegration. According to a unanimously adopted resolution, the United Nations Verification Mission in Colombia will, on 26 September 2017, replace the current mission.

Read full article: [UN News](#) (07/10)

Haiti

Haiti to reform army after 20 years without

Haiti's government has launched a campaign to re-establish its army, dissolved more than 20 years ago. It wants to recruit about 500 men and women to help deal with natural disasters and to patrol borders. The recruitment drive follows the announcement by the UN mission that it would be leaving Haiti in October.

Read full article: [BBC](#) (07/11)

OTHER PEACEKEEPING RELEVANT NEWS

A.U. defers Eritrea-Djibouti peace mission on request of Asmara

About a week ago, Djibouti's foreign affairs minister formally requested the A.U. to deploy observers along its disputed border with Eritrea after Qatar withdrew its peace-keeping troops two weeks ago.

Read full article: [africanews](#) (07/11)

Armed forces chiefs talk UN peacekeeping in New York

In the ongoing effort to improve the overall performance of United Nations peacekeeping missions, the heads of the armed forces of around 100 countries met at UN Headquarters in New York to discuss issues including rapid deployment, training, increasing female peacekeepers, conduct and discipline.

Read full article: [defenceWeb](#) (07/10)

Terrorism deaths in Africa falling after hitting record highs

In the past five years, terrorist attacks have killed nearly 20,000 people across Africa. Two groups, Boko Haram and al-Shabab, accounted for 71 percent of reported incidents and 91 percent of fatalities. But, while these and other militant groups remain active, fatal terrorist attacks across the continent are on pace to fall for a second straight year, and the total number of attacks is running far below 2012 highs.

Read full article: [VOA News](#) (07/09)

Challenges and opportunities for the G5 Sahel force

The FC-G5S [G5 Sahel force] is to be composed of 5 000 troops, mainly military, from member states. They will be deployed along the Mali-Mauritania border; the Liptako Gourma, which is the cross-border region between Burkina Faso, Mali and Niger; and the Niger-Chad border.

Read full article: [Institute for Security Studies - Peace and Security Council Report](#) (07/07)