



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

Policy Briefing:

Flexible Approaches and “Stabilization Actions”: EU Crisis Management One Year After the Global Strategy

Since the adoption of the “Global Strategy” in 2016, the EU’s Common Security and Defense Policy (CSDP) has seen important changes. EU missions in the Sahel are being “regionalized” and significant structural changes are in the works in Brussels. In addition, the EU has developed a new crisis management instrument: a “stabilization action” will be deployed in Mali as the first operationalization of Article 28 of the Treaty of Lisbon. As Tobias Pietz explains in ZIF’s new *Policy Briefing*, these changes hold both opportunities and risks.

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

EUROPE

Bosnia and Herzegovina

New OSCE Mission head

The new head of the OSCE Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina, Ambassador Bruce G. Berton, assumed his duties in Sarajevo today.

Read full article: [OSCE](#) (09/04)

Kosovo

Kosovo parliament elects new speaker, opens way for new PM

[...] Three months after the June 11 election, the parliament on Thursday approved Kadri Veseli of the Democratic Party of Kosovo as the new speaker by 62 votes to 52.

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

Thaci wants US to get "directly involved" in Kosovo dialogue

Citizens will have the opportunity to declare themselves on "the final agreement between Kosovo and Serbia" in a referendum, says Kosovo President Hashim Thaci.

Read full article: [B92](#) (09/01)

Ukraine

Chief Monitor calls for safe and unhindered freedom of movement for SMM

[...] Citing the thematic report *Restrictions of SMM's freedom of movement and other impediments to fulfilment of its mandate*, just released by the OSCE SMM, the Chief Monitor pointed out that the Mission, in the first half of 2017, had encountered about 480 restrictions and impediments, 75 per cent of which occurred in areas not controlled by the Government.

Read full article: [OSCE](#) (09/06)

Does Putin's peacekeeper proposal for Ukraine have any merit?

[...] Russian President Vladimir Putin has so far voiced lukewarm support in vague terms for the idea of peacekeepers in eastern Ukraine. But his new proposal, announced on September 5, appears to be more concrete, more detailed. Reports say Russia has already circulated a draft proposal based on Putin's statement at the UN Security Council, suggesting the Kremlin is serious. Moreover, Germany has officially welcomed Putin's plan, giving it even more gravitas.

Read full article: [RFE/RL](#) (09/06)

AFRICA

Boko Haram affected areas

Report: Boko Haram attacks killed 400 since April

Amnesty International highlights role of young women and girls forced to target civilians in Nigeria and Cameroon.

Read full article: [Al Jazeera](#) (09/05)

Burundi

The Burundian army's dangerous over-reliance on peacekeeping

Burundi needs international peacekeeping missions to keep its troops paid and happy. Peacekeeping missions need Burundian troops. But for how long?

Read full article: [International Crisis Group](#) (09/07)

UN independent panel calls for ICC probe into possible crimes against humanity

Having concluded that serious human rights violations, including executions and sexual violence, are continuing in Burundi with impunity, a United Nations-appointed expert panel will ask the International Criminal Court (ICC) to open an investigation into possible crimes against humanity.

Read full article: [UN News](#) (09/05)

Liberia

AU deploys observers in Liberia

The African Union (AU), has begun deploying its election observers here ahead of the October 10 Presidential and legislative elections.

Read full article: [allAfrica](#) (09/06)

Libya

“Positive” signs after Libya peace talks

France's foreign minister said there were “positive elements” that may help end the Libyan crisis, after meeting warring parties in the country earlier.

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

Libyan forces attack Islamic State near former stronghold

East Libyan forces said they launched air strikes on Islamic State fighters after the militants made incursions south and east of their former coastal stronghold of Sirte. The jihadist group has grown bolder in recent weeks,

Read full article: [Reuters Africa](#) (09/04)

Mali

Imposing sanctions on Mali, Security Council targets those undermining peace process

The Security Council today established a sanctions regime on Mali, introducing a travel ban and assets freeze that will apply to individuals and entities engaged in actions or policies that threaten the peace, security, or stability of the conflict-torn African country.

Read full article: [UN News](#) (09/05)

Security Council, UN chief condemn latest attack on peacekeepers

The United Nations Security Council and Secretary-General António Guterres have condemned an attack against a United Nations convoy in the Kidal region of Mali that left two Chadian peacekeepers dead and two others seriously injured.

Read full article: [UN News](#) (09/06)

France turns to armed drones in fight against Sahel militants

France has decided to arm its surveillance drones in West Africa as part of counter-terrorism operations against Islamist militants, Defense Minister Florence Parly said on Tuesday. ... France currently has five unarmed Reaper reconnaissance drones positioned in Niger's capital Niamey to support its 4,000-strong Barkhane counter-terrorism operation in Africa, and one in France.

Read full article: [VOA News](#) (09/05)

Somalia

AU to appoint team to oversee troop exit from Somalia

The African Union has resolved to form a team of experts including troop contributing countries to map out ways in which forces will exit Somalia by May 2018, officials said on Wednesday. ... The exit strategy formulated by the AU's Peace and Security Council calls for the staggered withdrawal of 22,000 AMISOM troops.

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

U.S. vows to intensify pressure against Al-Shabaab

The United States has vowed to continue supporting Somalia and East African countries in dealing with the threat of terror posed by Al-Shabaab terrorists.

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

South Sudan

South Sudan rejects unilateral renewal of UNMISS mandate

South Sudan said Tuesday it will not accept any unilateral decision to renew the mandate of the United Nations in South Sudan without seeking her consent and approval.

Read full article: [Sudan Tribune](#) (09/05)

Sudan (Darfur)

Report of the Secretary-General on UNAMID

Read full report: [S/2017/746](#) (08/30)

CENTRAL ASIA

Afghanistan

Mattis signs orders to send more troops to Afghanistan

Pentagon chief declines to comment on number of additional troops but reports say the figure could be as high as 4,000.

Read full article: [Al Jazeera](#) (08/31)

Kyrgyzstan

OSCE/ODIHR opens observation mission for presidential election

The OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR) today formally opened an election observation mission for the 15 October presidential election in Kyrgyzstan. The mission's deployment follows an official invitation from the Kyrgyzstan authorities.

Read full article: [OSCE](#) (09/05)

SOUTH AMERICA AND CARIBBEAN

Colombia

Colombia's Gulf Clan says it is ready to surrender

One of Colombia's most powerful drug gangs, the Gulf Clan, has said it wishes to submit itself to justice. President Juan Manuel Santos said that he had authorised justice officials to look at the request. Mr Santos said more than 1,500 members of the gang had been arrested in the last few months and its second-in-command had been killed.

Read full article: [BBC](#) (09/06)

Rebel faction in Colombia reaches peace deal ahead of Pope Francis's visit

Ahead of a historic visit by Pope Francis, Colombian officials signed a temporary cease-fire deal Monday with the leftist rebels of the ELN, potentially putting the long-troubled nation on track for a broader era of peace.

Read full article: [Washington Post](#) (09/04)

EPL attacks UN officials removing FARC weapons caches

For the second time since the United Nations began removing weapons caches belonging to the FARC, officials were attacked, this time by EPL dissidents in the northeast of Colombia. The Colombian government on Thursday extended the UN's mandate to remove the weapons caches with another two weeks, allowing the international organization to continue removing and destroying weapons caches until September 15.

Read full article: [Colombia Reports](#) (09/04)

Farc former rebels choose new political party name and logo

Colombia's former armed rebel group Farc has announced its new name and logo as it makes its transition to a civilian political party. The group will retain the acronym Farc - which will now stand for the Alternative Revolutionary Force for the Common People - and adopt a red rose as its symbol.

Read full article: [BBC](#) (09/01)

OTHER PEACEKEEPING RELEVANT NEWS

UN-Ausbildung: Erster Auftrag für mobile Trainingseinheit der Bundeswehr

In Ägypten wurde zum ersten Mal ein Mobile Training Team der Bundeswehr im Auftrag der Vereinten Nationen eingesetzt. Das Team hat Anfang Juli 2017 zwei Wochen lang ägyptische Soldaten für UN-Friedensmissionen im Bereich Patrouillentätigkeit unter IED (Improvised Explosive Device)-Bedrohung ausgebildet.

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

Double-edged sword: vigilantes in African counter-insurgencies

Vigilante groups have been successful in providing local security. But subcontracting security functions to vigilante groups for counter-insurgency purposes is a dangerous option for fragile African states. African leaders should set clear objectives and mandates when enlisting vigilantes and invest in disarmament, demobilisation and reintegration programs.

Read full article: [International Crisis Group](#) (09/07)

Preparatory meetings to the UN Peacekeeping Defence Ministerial

[...] In a two-day preparatory meetings to the UN Peacekeeping Defence Ministerial meeting due to take place in Vancouver, Canada from November 14 to 15, countries gathering in Kigali brainstormed on how to overcome logistical and capability challenges that impede current missions.

Read full article: [The East African](#) (09/06)

World needs to move beyond 'conceptual debate' and improve protection from atrocities, urges Guterres

[...] Referring to his [report on responsibility to protect](#), the UN chief also stressed that the Organization must give far greater attention to address the challenges before they spiral out of control.

Read full article: [UN News](#) (09/06)

Does drone technology hold promise for the UN?

Drone technology appears to be taking off at the United Nations, with unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) being used for various purposes, including in humanitarian, development and peacekeeping operations. Although this technology is not a magic solution, "the promise of drones is really tremendous," said Christopher Fabian, principal advisor on innovation at the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF), in an interview with *UN News*.

Read full article: [UN News](#) (09/06)

Trump to host September 18 meeting of world leaders on UN reform

U.S. President Donald Trump, a frequent critic of the United Nations, will seek to gather global support for reforming the world body when he hosts an event at U.N. headquarters in New York on Sept. 18, a day before he formally addresses the 193-member organization.

Read full article: [Reuters Africa](#) (09/02)

Security Council debate on HIPPO report implementation

More than two years ago, the High-Level Independent Panel on Peace Operations (HIPPO) issued its report, with recommendations to ensure better design and delivery of UN peace operations. Since then, there has been little discussion by the Council of the overall approach of the panel's report and the implication of its recommendations for the Council's own practice. The summit-level open debate organised by Ethiopia during its presidency in September provides a timely opportunity for the Council to discuss the way it mandates and oversees peace operations

Read full article: [Security Council Report](#) (09/01)

Elections

Kenya's election body appoints key personnel for presidential vote re-run

[...] The Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission (IEBC) chairperson, Mr Wafula Chebukati, Tuesday announced a new six-man team that will manage the October 17 fresh presidential election.

Read full article: [The East African](#) (09/06)