



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

ZIF kompakt | Journey to Extremism in Africa

In the latest *ZIF kompakt* Andreas Wittkowsky reviews a new UNDP Report which looks at the motives for extremist radicalization in Africa. It is particularly government failure and lacking employment that foster recruitment into violent extremist groups. And it is mainly government action – often by security organs – that triggers radicalization. Therefore, when countering violent extremism, it is essential to hold the state security sector firmly accountable to human rights and the rule of law.

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

EUROPE

Cyprus

Strategic review of UNFICYP: report of the Secretary-General

[...] “In conclusion, I recommend maintaining the preventive and deterrence capabilities of UNFICYP, with minor reductions, while at the same time expanding its observation, liaison and engagement capabilities. UNFICYP would therefore remain, for the time being, an infantry-based peacekeeping operation, but it would have a strengthened observation and liaison component.”

Read full report: [S/2017/1008](#) (11/28)

Kosovo

NATO "not considering withdrawing KFOR from Kosovo"

NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg said in Brussels that NATO is not considering withdrawing KFOR from Kosovo due to the current situation on the ground.

Read full article: [B92](#) (12/05)

Moldova

EUBAM announces new mandate and Head of Mission

On 1 December 2017, the European Union Border Assistance Mission to the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine (EUBAM) announced the appointment of a new Head of Mission, Slawomir Pichor of Poland, and the adoption of a new mandate. In its new phase, the EUBAM will further target its efforts to monitor and evaluate border and customs control measures and procedures in Moldova and Ukraine and to provide advice to the relevant authorities.

Read full article: [EU Neighbours East](#) (12/06)

Serbia

Army to set up new special units; Kosovo biggest risk

Serbia's biggest security risk is the unresolved status of the southern province and its unilaterally declared independence, warns army chief Ljubisa Dikovic.

Read full article: [B92](#) (12/06)

AFRICA

Boko Haram affected areas

Nigeria puts fortress towns at heart of new Boko Haram strategy

Nigeria's government has a plan for the northeast, torn apart by eight years of conflict with Boko Haram: displaced people will be housed in fortified garrison towns, ringed by farms, with the rest of the countryside effectively left to fend for itself.

Read full article: [Reuters Africa](#) (12/03)

Central African Republic

UN chief condemns killing of 'blue helmet' in country's east

Secretary-General António Guterres has condemned the killing today of a Mauritanian peacekeeper and the wounding of three others of the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the Central African Republic (MINUSCA) by anti-Balaka militia in Bria in the country's east.

Read full article: [UN News](#) (12/04)

Cote d'Ivoire

Ivory Coast to retire 1,000 soldiers to slim down military

Ivory Coast will cut its armed forces by about 1,000 troops by the end of the year, a government spokesman said Wednesday, in a bid to rationalize a costly and sometimes unruly military.

Read full article: [VOA News](#) (12/06)

Democratic Republic of the Congo

DRC displacement crisis 'worse than Middle East'

Conflict has forced 1.7 million people to flee their homes in the Democratic Republic of Congo this year, causing "a mega-crisis", aid agencies say. This means that for the second consecutive year, DR Congo is worst-affected by conflict displacement in the world, the agencies add.

Read full article: [BBC](#) (12/06)

HRW: DRC recruited M23 to crush anti-Kabila protests

At least 62 people were killed as security forces in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) recruited former rebel fighters to quash protests against President Joseph Kabila last year, a rights group claims.

Read full article: [Al Jazeera](#) (12/04)

Time for concerted action in DRC – ICG report

President Kabila's delaying tactics are holding hostage DR Congo's political transition, while internal strife and government repression are weakening the opposition. Western and African actors need to coordinate their approach to the deepening crisis, support the advancement of democratic elections and encourage the opening of political space.

Read full report: [International Crisis Group](#) (12/04)

Libya

Transitional period must finish by end of 2018, says Salamé

Libya's transitional period must be completed before the end of 2018, UN envoy to Libya Ghassan Salamé has said. Speaking at a question-and-answer session with Libyan journalists at the old royal palace in Tripoli today, he said that he had come to Libya to share in building institutions.

Read full article: [Libya Herald](#) (12/06)

Libya launches voter registration with election date unclear

Libyan electoral officials announced Wednesday the opening of a two-month voter registration period, though it is unclear when elections will next be held in the divided nation. The United Nations is supporting the voter registration process as it seeks to reconcile rival factions and relaunch a political transition that would lead to new polls.

Read full article: [VOA News](#) (12/06)

Niger

Niger approves armed U.S. drone flights, **expanding Pentagon's** role in Africa

The government of Niger has given the Defense Department permission to fly armed drones out of the Nigerien capital, Niamey, Pentagon officials said Thursday, in a major expansion of the American military's footprint in Africa. Pentagon officials want to start the flights within days.

Read full article: [New York Times](#) (11/30)

Somalia

Uganda begins Somalia troop withdrawal

Uganda's military says it has begun the withdrawal of 281 troops serving in the African Union peacekeeping mission in Somalia. This is part of a UN plan that will see African Union (AU) soldiers' numbers reduced by 1,000 by the end of this year. At the moment there are more than 20,000 soldiers serving in the AU mission (AMISOM).

Read full article: [The East African](#) (12/06)

Mission Chief: AMISOM could be hurt by cut in force size

The African Union's plan to trim its Somalia peacekeeping force (AMISOM) will hurt the mission unless extra equipment is found to offset the troop decrease, the mission's leader told Reuters on Monday.

Read full article: [VOA News](#) (12/04)

UN voices support for Somali Government's efforts at first-ever security conference

At Somalia's first-ever security conference, hosted by the country's Federal President Mohamed Abdullahi Mohamed "Farmaajo" in the capital, Mogadishu, participants agreed to speed up security sector reform and develop a plan to transfer primary responsibility for the country's security from the United Nations-backed African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) to its own security forces.

Read full article: [UN News](#) (12/04)

Sudan (Darfur)

Three armed groups extend unilateral cessation of hostility in Darfur

Three armed groups extended for two months a unilateral cessation of hostilities in Darfur region and reiterated their commitment to the African Union-brokered Roadmap Agreement for peace in Sudan. In a joint declaration including for the first time the Sudan Liberation Movement - Transitional Council (SLM-TC), the Justice and Equality Movement (JEM) and the SLM-Minni Minnawi extended the humanitarian truce from 30 November 2017 to 31 January 2018.

Read full article: [Sudan Tribune](#) (11/30)

MIDDLE EAST

Israel / Palestine

UN Security Council to hold emergency session on Jerusalem

[...] Bolivia, Britain, Egypt, France, Italy, Senegal, Sweden and Uruguay requested the talks. They have also asked UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres to open the meeting with remarks.

Read full article: [Middle East online](#) (12/07)

Hamas: US decision on Jerusalem is a war declaration

Hamas leader Ismail Haniya has said the US decision on recognising Jerusalem as the capital of Israel is a "war declaration against Palestinians", and called for a new "Intifada", or uprising. Haniya said in a speech in Gaza City on Thursday that US President Donald Trump's recognition "killed" the Israeli-Palestinian peace process.

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

SOUTH AMERICA AND CARIBBEAN

Colombia

Security Council hails 'remarkable achievements' one year after peace accord

[...] "The members of the Security Council applauded the leadership and commitment of the parties to implementing the agreement over the past 12 months, which has brought to an end over 50 years of conflict," the Council said in a statement.

Read full article: [UN News](#) (11/30)

OTHER PEACEKEEPING RELEVANT NEWS

Contributing to global stability and peace:

Council adopts improvements to the EU's assistance instrument

[...] The revised instrument introduces the possibility for the EU to finance measures in support of capacity building for security and development (CBSD) of military actors in partner countries, with the objective of contributing to sustainable development and in particular the achievement of peaceful and inclusive societies.

Read full article: [EU Press Release](#) (12/07)

'Mission accomplished,' president of UN tribunal for Former Yugoslavia tells Security Council

After more than 24 years of operations, the United Nations tribunal set up to prosecute crimes committed during conflicts in the Balkans in the 1990s, has now completed all judicial work, the court's President told the UN Security Council on Wednesday.

Read full article: [UN News](#) (12/06)

UN chief proposes 'sweeping' management reform to budget committee

United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres on Monday proposed sweeping management reform to Member States in the General Assembly's main administrative and budgetary body, including the adoption of an annual budget cycle, the granting of the power for him to redeploy resources within the approved budget, and the elimination of duplicate functions currently undertaken by different departments.

Read full article: [UN News](#) (12/04)