



Peace Operations Update

Aktuelle Informationen zu Friedenseinsätzen

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January 05–11

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

EUROPE

Kosovo

Kosovo President vows to sign legislation scrapping war crimes court

Kosovo President Hashim Thaci is insisting that he will sign legislation to abolish a special court set up to try former Kosovo Liberation Army (KLA) members for war and postwar crimes if parliament passes such a measure.

Read full article: [VOA News](#) (01/10) [EU Observer](#) (01/05)

Ukraine

New OSCE chairman vows to 'intensify' efforts to end Ukraine conflict

Italy's foreign minister says he will visit Ukraine and Russia in the coming weeks to "intensify" efforts to end the conflict in eastern Ukraine, as he took up the post of chairperson-in-office of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE).

Read full article: [RFE/RL](#) (01/11)

AFRICA

Cote d'Ivoire

Rival army factions clash in Ivory Coast city

Gunshots and heavy weapons fire erupted between rival factions in Ivory Coast's army at military bases in its second largest city, Bouake, residents and soldiers said.

Read full article: [defenceWeb](#) (01/10)

Democratic Republic of the Congo

UN announces special probe into attacks on peacekeepers in eastern DR Congo

The United Nations is launching a special investigation into attacks on peacekeepers in restive eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), one month after 15 'blue helmets' were killed and dozens wounded in the deadliest single assault on a UN mission in nearly a quarter century.

Read full article: [UN News](#) (01/06)

UN rights office warns DRC authorities against use of excessive force when policing protests

Amid ongoing political tension in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), violent actions by the security forces during recent protests in Kinshasa and other cities suggest "deliberate intention to suppress civil and political rights," the United Nations human rights office reported on Friday.

Read full article: [UN News](#) (01/05)

Libya

UN committed to helping Libya hold elections in 2018

The United Nations is committed to helping Libya organise elections by the end of this year, encouraged by the rate at which Libyans have been registering to vote, a top UN official said on Wednesday.

Read full article: [middle east online](#) (01/10)

Libya not ready for democracy, says eastern warlord Haftar

The commander of the self-styled Libyan army in eastern Libya, Khalifa Haftar, said "Libya is not ready yet for democracy," adding in a statement to Jeune Afrique magazine that elections are now priority in the country, saying "if they failed, then our forces will seize control of the entire country."

Read full article: [The Libya Observer](#) (01/09)

Mali

A dozen shades of khaki: counter-insurgency operations in the Sahel

The region has never been so militarised. Here's an overview of the international players in uniform.

Read full article: [Irinnews](#) (01/11)

Al Qaeda maintains operational tempo in West Africa in 2017

According to data compiled by *FDD's Long War Journal*, al Qaeda and its many allies and affiliates launched at least 276 attacks in Mali and the wider West Africa region in 2017. That means the al Qaeda has largely kept its operational tempo in West Africa consistent when compared to last year.

Read full article: [FDD's Long War Journal](#) (01/05)

Report of the Secretary-General on the situation in Mali

Read full report: [S/2017/1105](#) (12/26)

Somalia

Somalia launches digital counter-extremism center

Somalia's government has launched a digital counter-extremism center that aims to dissuade young Somalis from supporting militant groups such as al-Shabab and Islamic State.

Read full article: [VOA News](#) (01/10)

South Sudan

President al-Bashir extends Sudan's unilateral truce for three month

The Sudanese President extended the unilateral cessation of hostilities for three months, says a short statement released on the first hours of Thursday.

Read full article: [Sudan Tribune](#) (01/04)

Sudan (Darfur)

UN official calls to fund peacebuilding efforts in Darfur

UN peacekeeping chief has urged the Security Council to allocate funds for the consolidate peacebuilding process in Darfur as he admitted a tangible improvement in the security situation on the ground. Jean-Pierre Lacroix, Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations, briefed the Security Council about the joint African Union-United Nations assessment of the UNAMID's phase one reconfiguration conducted during the period from 7 to 17 November 2017.

Read full article: [Sudan Tribune](#) (01/10)

Displacement slows but returns remain difficult, warns UN peacekeeping chief

Despite some recent voluntary returns among those displaced in Sudan's Darfur region, lack of security, services and sustainable livelihoods in return areas have become major impediments to returns, the top United Nations peacekeeping official told the Security Council Wednesday.

Read full article: [UN News](#) (01/10)

UNAMID is still waiting land for Jebel Marra base: UN chief

In a recent report to the Security Council issued by the end of 2017, the UN chief said that Darfur hybrid peacekeeping mission has achieved progress in the implementation of phase one of the UNAMID reconfiguration process, but the Sudanese government still has to give the last for the Jebel Marra base.

Read full article: [Sudan Tribune](#) (01/06)

Report of the Secretary-General on UNAMID

Read full report: [S/2017/1113](#) (12/27)

Western Sahara

UN chief urges easing of tensions in Guerguerat area

Deeply concerned over rising tensions near Guerguerat in the buffer strip in southern Western Sahara between the Moroccan berm and the Mauritanian border, United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres on Saturday called for maximum restraint in the area.

Read full article: [UN News](#) (01/06)

SOUTH AMERICA AND CARIBBEAN

Colombia

Colombia recalls peace negotiators after ELN attacks

Colombian President Juan Manuel Santos has recalled the head of his negotiating team from peace talks with the National Liberation Army (ELN). A fresh round of peace negotiations was due to start on Wednesday in the Ecuadorean capital, Quito. But after the rebels carried out attacks on an oil pipeline and a navy base, Mr Santos said the talks should be halted. The attacks came hours after a temporary ceasefire expired.

Read full article: [BBC](#) (01/11)

UN chief Guterres headed to Colombia as peace talks falter

The UN has announced that Antonio Guterres will travel to Colombia this weekend to discuss the state of peace talks. These have been temporarily broken off after ELN rebels staged attacks when a ceasefire expired.

Read full article: [DW](#) (01/10)

Reintegrating 14,000 ex-combatants remains a challenge, Security Council told

Colombia's peace efforts remain challenged by the task of reintegrating 14,000 former rebel combatants, the top United Nations official in the country said Wednesday as he also reported to the Security Council that the UN will 'closely follow' reports of a just-broken ceasefire between the National Liberation Army (ELN) and the Colombian Government.

Read full article: [UN News](#) (01/10)

OTHER PEACEKEEPING RELEVANT NEWS

Top UN peacekeepers on 2018 challenges

[...] Looking ahead to 2018 [Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations Jean-Pierre] Lacroix wants to see “the ambitious reforms that 2017 brought, implemented”, particularly in the field, where colleagues have to be informed and empowered. [Atul] Khare, [head of the UN Department of Field Support] echoes this adding the goal is to “ensure we are stronger in prevention, more agile in mediation and more nimble, efficient and cost-effective in our operations”.

Read full article: [defenceWeb](#) (01/11)

Elections

EU observers: Kenya's 2017 election process undermined democracy

The European Union's chief observer for Kenya's 2017 elections says the process was far from perfect, singling out, in particular, the country's politicians. The EU mission is calling for Kenya to undertake reforms that will strengthen democracy.

Read full article: [VOA News](#) (01/10)