



# Peace Operations Update

Aktuelle Informationen zu Friedenseinsätzen

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March 02–08

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

## NEW ZIF PUBLICATIONS

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### Three new ZIF kompakt: UNMISS, UNAMID and Resolute Support

Next week, the German Parliament will discuss a cabinet decision to extend Germany's contribution to the UN missions in South Sudan (UNMISS) and Darfur (UNAMID) as well as the NATO-led Resolute Support Mission (RSM) in Afghanistan. To contribute to an informed debate, ZIF had prepared a *ZIF kompakt* for each mission, briefly describing its background, mandate, development and current internal and external challenges.

You can download the papers here: [UNMISS](#) | [UNAMID](#) | [Resolute Support Mission](#)

Please note that they are available in German only.

## EUROPE

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### Bosnia and Herzegovina

#### Leaders of Bosnia, Croatia, Serbia hold talks

Leaders of Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia, and Serbia have held their first trilateral meeting in six years to discuss borders, security, and other issues that have undermined relations since the breakup of Yugoslavia in the 1990s.

Read full article: [RFE/RL](#) (03/06)

## Ukraine

### EU Assistance Mission opens one more regional presence

The European Union Advisory Mission Ukraine (EUAM) has today opened a new regional presence in Odesa. This is the third time EUAM has created an additional regional presence since forming at the end of 2014. EUAM's other two regional presences, outside its headquarters in Kyiv, were created in Kharkiv and Lviv in 2016. According to EUAM, this has been a key part of the EU's response to public demand for systemic civilian security sector reform in the country.

*Read full article: [EU Neighbours east](#) (03/07)*

### Peacekeeping in Ukraine's Donbas: opportunities and risks

The prospect of a UN peacekeeping force in Ukraine's Donbas offers a rare opening to discuss how to resolve the conflict. But Moscow's diplomatic overtures also risk fueling political infighting in Kyiv in the run-up to next year's presidential and parliamentary elections.

*Read full article: [International Crisis Group](#) (03/06)*

### New Ukraine cease-fire 'violated almost immediately'

The Ukrainian military has accused Russia-backed separatists in the eastern region known as the Donbas of violating a new cease-fire agreement shortly after it went into force. The cease-fire, agreed by in talks including representatives of Russia, Ukraine, and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, took effect on March 5 just after midnight.

*Read full article: [RFE/RL](#) (03/05)*

### Could UN peacekeepers help end the war in Ukraine?

In an article for The Washington Post's "Monkey Cage" blog, Richard Gowan sets out five criteria for a successful peace operation in Ukraine.

*Read full article: [Washington Post](#) (03/01)*

*Related analysis: Nordic peacekeepers for Ukraine: back in blue? [NUPI](#) (02/16)*

## AFRICA

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### Boko Haram affected areas

#### Suspected Boko Haram militants kill 11 including three aid workers in Nigeria

Suspected Boko Haram militants killed at least 11 people including three aid workers in an attack on a military barracks in Nigeria's northeastern Borno state late on Thursday, according to two security reports seen by Reuters.

*Read full article: [Reuters Africa](#) (03/02)*

## Central African Republic

### Interview: UN must stand by CAR **as long ‘as it needs support,’ says UN envoy**

The international community should continue to assist the Central African Republic (CAR) to restore stability, the Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General, Parfait Onanga-Anyanga, has said, stressing that it is too early for the UN to withdraw its peacekeeping operation from the crisis-gripped country.

*Read full article: [UN News](#) (03/02)*

## Democratic Republic of the Congo

### DR Congo presidential election on track – Prime Minister

An election in the Democratic Republic of Congo to replace President Joseph Kabila remains on course for late December Prime Minister, Bruno Tshibala, said.

*Read full article: [defenceWeb](#) (03/08)*

### **Flaring tensions could ‘plunge Kasai region into new violence,’ UN warns**

The United Nations refugee agency warned Tuesday that ongoing instability in the Kasai region of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) poses a grave risk to civilian safety, including for several hundred refugees recently returned there from Angola.

*Read full article: [UN News](#) (03/06)*

### Ethnic clashes in northeastern Congo kill more than 40 people

Ethnic clashes between Hema herders and Lendu farmers in northeastern Democratic Republic of Congo’s Ituri province have killed more than 40 people, local officials said on Friday, in the second such incident in a month.

*Read full article: [Reuters Africa](#) (03/05)*

### UN inquiry blames Congo’s ADF rebels for deadly attack on peacekeepers

A Congo-based Ugandan rebel group is to blame for three attacks on United Nations peacekeepers, including one in December that killed 15 Tanzanian troops, the United Nations said on Friday.

*Read full article: [Reuters Africa](#) (03/05)*

### Report of the Secretary-General on MONUSCO

*Read full report: [S/2018/174](#) (03/01)*

## Somalia

### The impact of new funding uncertainties on AMISOM

A new report by the Institute for Security Studies reveals how funding uncertainties in the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) have heightened the debate on external support for the mission; raised concerns over AMISOM’s achievements after 10 years of operations and spurred the development of concrete plans for AMISOM’s tentative withdrawal by 2020/21.

*Read full article: [ISS](#) (03/07)*

## AMISOM heads of state call on UN to reverse troop drawdown in Somalia

The five East African nations contributing troops to the AMISOM peacekeeping mission in Somalia have called on the U.N. Security Council to keep troops slated for removal by 2020. The withdrawal of the more than 20,000 AMISOM peacekeepers from Uganda, Kenya, Burundi, Ethiopia and Djibouti is slated to begin this year.

*Read full article:* [VOA News](#) (03/02)

## South Sudan

### European Union ready to impose South Sudan arms ban

The European Union (EU) is ready to impose an arms embargo on South Sudan if the parties to the conflict disregard the peace deal, an official said. German ambassador Jan Hendrik van Thiel told the press in Juba that the EU would join other concerned states in imposing targeted sanctions and arms ban on South Sudan.

*Read full article:* [The East African](#) (03/08)

*Related coverage:*

US pushes UN to consider arms embargo on South Sudan [The East African](#) (03/08)

## CENTRAL ASIA

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## Afghanistan

### Security Council renews UN mission

The Security Council on Thursday renewed the mandate of the United Nations political mission in Afghanistan for another year to continue providing assistance to the Government and the people of the conflict-plagued country.

*Read full article:* [UN News](#) (03/08)

### German cabinet approves troop increase for Afghanistan

The German government on March 7 approved plans to extend the country's overseas military missions, including in Afghanistan. The defense bill, which must still be approved by parliament, would raise the maximum number of German troops deployed in Afghanistan as **part of NATO's Resolute Support mission** by one-third to 1,300.

*Read full article:* [RFE/RL](#) (03/07)

### Once-feared Afghan warlord is still causing trouble, but talking peace

After reconciling with the Afghan government, the former insurgent Gulbuddin Hekmatyar is still deeply divisive. But he insists he can broker a Taliban deal.

*Read full article:* [New York Times](#) (03/04)

## SOUTH ASIA

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### India / Pakistan

#### Protests rock Kashmir after deadly shooting by Indian troops

More than a dozen protests erupted across Kashmir on Monday, with government forces firing tear gas and demonstrators hurling rocks as tens of thousands of protesters poured into the streets of the disputed Himalayan region after soldiers killed four civilians and two suspected militants.

*Read full article: [VOA News](#) (03/05)*

## SOUTH AMERICA AND CARIBBEAN

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### Colombia

#### Colombia election: Farc's Timochenko pulls out of race

The Farc former rebel group says its candidate for the presidential election in May is withdrawing from the race because of ill-health.

*Read full article: [BBC](#) (03/08)*

#### **Santos' dilemma:** peace talks or perpetual conflict with ELN guerrillas

Colombia President Juan Manuel Santos on Wednesday said he was considering to end peace talks with the ELN, the country's last-standing guerrilla group. "I am in a dilemma about what to do with the ELN: Do I insist or do I adhere to the public opinion? Because the entire public opinion is in favor of ending the talks," Santos said. According to the president, the ELN is incoherent for resuming hostilities after the end of a temporary ceasefire and a resumption of violence on January 9.

*Read full article: [Colombia Reports](#) (03/01)*

## OTHER PEACEKEEPING RELEVANT NEWS

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#### Germany to expand global military missions

The German government wants to extend six military missions, including in Iraq, Afghanistan and Mali. Defense Minister Ursula von der Leyen pushed for more Bundeswehr interventions, but not everyone backs the move.

*Read full article: [DW](#) (03/07)*

#### **'Instead of responding to crises, we need to invest far more in prevention,' says UN chief**

[...] "Two years ago, the General Assembly and the Security Council came together to send a clear joint message: while Member States have primary responsibility for building and maintaining peace, we can all do more to strengthen the foundations of stability, wellbeing and cohesion," he told an informal gathering of the Assembly where he presented his report on [Peacebuilding and Sustaining Peace](#).

*Read full article: [UN News](#) (03/05)*

## Elections

### Sierra Leone picks president in shifting political climate

Sierra Leone holds a general election on Wednesday to pick a new president in a climate of voter frustration with the two parties that have ruled since independence. ... Observers from the African Union (AU), Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), European Union (EU) and British Commonwealth will all oversee voting, which will also include the election of a new parliament and local councils.

*Read full article: [The East African](#) (03/07)*