



Peace Operations Update

Aktuelle Informationen zu Friedenseinsätzen

18.2018

April 26–May 03

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

NEW ZIF PUBLICATION

ZIF kompakt | MINUSMA 2018: Elections, Stabilization, and Security Challenges

The latest ZIF *kompakt* takes a look at MINUSMA. The UN operation still plays a pivotal role in the stabilization of Mali – but it faces numerous challenges. Implementation of the June 2015 peace agreement has stalled. The disarmament and reintegration of ex-combatants have made little progress. The security situation continues to deteriorate with already over 100 attacks against UN personnel, Malian security forces and civilians in 2018. In this situation it is uncertain whether the July 29 presidential elections can be held safely and fairly in all parts of the country.

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

AFRICA

Burundi

U.S. denounces Burundi political violence ahead of vote

The U.S. State Department on Tuesday denounced recent political violence in Burundi ahead of the country's May 17 referendum to amend its constitution and expressed concerns that the vote to extend its president's term in office could hurt its democratic institutions.

Read full article: [Reuters Africa](#) (05/01)

Central African Republic

At least 15 dead after church attack

At least 15 people including a priest were killed and scores wounded in Central African Republic's capital Bangui on Tuesday when unidentified gunmen attacked a church, a morgue official and rights groups said. The attack occurred on the border of the predominantly Muslim PK 5 neighbourhood where 21 people were killed last month when a joint mission by U.N. peacekeepers and local security forces to disarm criminal gangs descended into open fighting.

Read full article: [Reuters AlertNet](#) (05/01) [UN News](#) (05/02)

Democratic Republic of the Congo

UN experts say Congo obstructs probe of U.N. monitors' killings - note

Congolese security officials are interfering with the investigation into the killings of two U.N. sanctions monitors last year in central Democratic Republic of Congo, U.N. experts deployed to assist the investigation said. The charge came in a confidential note by the United Nations' Department of Political Affairs that was dated April 18 and circulated among Security Council members on the progress of a team of experts sent to Congo in November by U.N. Secretary-General Antonio Guterres to support Congolese officials' investigation into the killings.

Read full article: [Reuters AlertNet](#) (05/02)

Motive for mass killings in Congo is mystery

Attackers who have burned scores of villages killing, raping and looting, too – seem to have powerful backers, but no one is certain who they are.

Read full article: [New York Times](#) (04/28)

Liberia

Final progress report of the Secretary-General on the UN Mission in Liberia

Read full report: [S/2018/344](#) (04/13)

Libya

HSC ready to meet HoR in Tobruk

The High State Council (HSC), under its new leader Khaled Mishri, has issued a reconciliatory statement to the House of Representatives (HoR) offering to meet in Tobruk in order to break Libya's current political stalemate.

Read full article: [Libya Herald](#) (05/02)

Twelve killed in Tripoli election HQ attack

At least 12 people have been killed and several injured in an attack on Libya's electoral commission headquarters by the Islamic State group (IS). ... IS was once a powerful force in Libya, operating from its stronghold city of Sirte. The group was driven from the city in late 2016. But it is believed to have maintained sleeper cells in the coastal cities.

Read full article: [BBC](#) (05/02)

Mali

'Mali rebel fighters' kill 17 Tuareg civilians

Suspected rebels have killed at least 17 civilians belonging to the Tuareg ethnic community in northern Mali, just days after 40 Tuaregs were killed during a similar raid on nearby villages, authorities say. Latest death comes days after armed fighters killed at least 40 members of the Tuareg community in the
Read full article: [Al Jazeera](#) (05/03)

Somalia

How will the Somalia-UAE diplomatic row affect AMISOM?

In early April, the United Arab Emirates (UAE) stopped its capacity building support for security institutions and humanitarian aid to Somalia. This was due to growing diplomatic disputes between the two countries. The move comes at a time when the international community, in the form of the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM), is considering its exit by 2020/21.

Read full article: [ISS](#) (05/02)

South Sudan

UN Mission chief urges warring parties to abide by truce agreement

The surge of violence in South Sudan's Unity region "looks set" to continue despite the ceasefire accord signed last year by warring parties, the top United Nations official in the African country said on Wednesday.

Read full article: [UN News](#) (05/02) [UN News](#) (04/27)

Western Sahara

Iran denies Morocco accusation of arming secessionists

Iran's Foreign Ministry on May 2 denied it was arming a rebel group seeking independence for Western Sahara after Morocco severed diplomatic ties with Tehran over the allegations.

Read full article: [RFE/RL](#) (05/02)

Security Council renews UN mission in Western Sahara

The Security Council on Friday extended the mandate of the United Nations peacekeeping mission in Western Sahara until 31 October 2018, calling for a "realistic, practicable and enduring" political solution to end the decades-old conflict.

Read full article: [UN News](#) (04/27)

Iraq

Iraqi political candidates have ‘real appetite’ to work together – UN official

Politicians in Iraq are working constructively with each other ahead of this month’s parliamentary elections, a senior United Nations official said.

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

Major combat operations against ISIS in Iraq have ended. What happens now?

With the furling of a flag, top U.S. military leaders marked the “end of major combat operations against ISIS in Iraq” and a change to the U.S.-led coalition’s mission in the country. But experts say while it’s likely that troop numbers in Iraq will decrease, those resources will likely spread out to assist nearby missions in the region – from the Arabian Peninsula to Afghanistan and missions in Africa.

Read full article: [Military Times](#) (05/01)

Report of the Secretary-General on UNAMI

Read full report: [S/2018/359](#) (04/17)

Israel / Palestine

Israel must address excessive use of force and deaths in Gaza protests – UN rights chief

With over 40 Palestinians killed and more than 5,500 injured during protests in Gaza over the past month – many by live ammunition – the top United Nations human rights official on Friday called on Israel to ensure that its security forces do not resort to use of excessive force amid the ongoing demonstrations.

Read full article: [UN News](#) (04/27) [UN News](#) (04/26)

Lebanon

Lebanon vote under new rules likely to keep old guard in power

Lebanese will have a first opportunity in nine years to vote in a general election on May 6 under new rules, expected to bring some changes to parliament but preserve a unity government combining its main political blocs.

Read full article: [Reuters](#) (04/26)

Afghanistan

UN 'outraged' by suicide attacks in Afghanistan

Strongly condemning terrorist attacks in the Afghan capital, Kabul, and in Kandahar, senior United Nations officials, including Secretary-General António Guterres, underscored the need to bring those behind the attacks to justice.

Read full article: [UN News](#) (04/30)

Afghan security forces see drop in numbers as security deteriorates

The U.S. government's watchdog on Afghanistan says the number of Afghan security forces has decreased by nearly 11 percent during the past year as security in the country has deteriorated.

Read full article: [RFE/RL](#) (05/01)

OTHER PEACEKEEPING RELEVANT NEWS

UN received 54 sexual abuse allegations since beginning of 2018

More than 50 allegations of sexual exploitation and abuse involving personnel serving with the United Nations and its partners in the field were received in the first three months of this year, the global organization said on Tuesday. The allegations have not all been verified and many are in the preliminary assessment phase.

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