



Peace Operations Update

Aktuelle Informationen zu Friedenseinsätzen

23.2018

June 01–07

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

NEW ZIF PUBLICATIONS

Three new ZIF kompakt: EUNAVFOR Med, KFOR and UNIFIL

Next week, the German Parliament will discuss a cabinet decision to extend Germany's contribution to the EU operation in the Mediterranean (EUNAVFOR Med), NATO's Kosovo Force (KFOR) and the UN mission in Lebanon (UNIFIL). 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: [EUNAVFOR Med](#) | [KFOR](#) | [UNIFIL](#)

Please note that they are available in German only.

EUROPE

Ukraine

UN Security Council condemns 'continuous' ceasefire violations in Ukraine

Expressing grave concern over the recent deterioration of the security situation in eastern Ukraine and its "severe impact" on civilians, the United Nations Security Council on Wednesday underlined the need to scale up efforts to support the civilian population affected by the conflict.

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

Ukraine peace talks to restart June 11, German FM says

Envoys from Germany, France, Ukraine, and Russia will gather in Berlin on June 11 to try to revive a stalled peace process in eastern Ukraine, German Foreign Minister Heiko Maas has said.

Read full article: [RFE/RL](#) (06/01)

AFRICA

Burundi

Burundi's president will not contest presidency in 2020: report

Burundi's President Pierre Nkurunziza promised on Thursday not to seek re-election when his term ends in 2020, easing fears of fresh violence in the impoverished country. Nkurunziza had been widely expected to take advantage of recent changes to the constitution to stand for two more terms - raising concerns Burundi could see a repeat of the unrest that erupted after he stood for a third time in 2015.

Read full article: [Reuters Africa](#) (06/07)

Central African Republic

Guterres strongly denounces latest attack on peacekeepers

United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres has strongly condemned Sunday's attack that killed a UN peacekeeper from Tanzania and injured seven others while they were patrolling in the west of the Central African Republic (CAR).

Read full article: [UN News](#) (06/04)

Libya

UN backs elections in December

The UN Security Council gave strong backing Wednesday to holding presidential and parliamentary elections in Libya, which could be a significant step in bringing stability to a country where lawlessness has fed Islamist militancy, human trafficking and instability.

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

Report of the Secretary-General on UNMIL

Read full report: [S/2018/429](#) (05/07)

Mali

'Favour dialogue' over violence, UN chief urges all parties following clashes in Mali's capital

According to news reports, police used tear gas to break up opposition supporters who had planned to march through the capital, calling for more transparency, ahead of presidential elections due to take place next month. The UN chief was in Mali earlier in the week for a two-day visit, to recognize the determination and sacrifice of UN peacekeepers in what is currently the most dangerous mission to serve as a 'blue helmet'.

Read full article: [UN News](#) (06/02)

Report of the Secretary-General on the Joint Force of the Group of Five for the Sahel

Read full report: [S/2018/432](#) (05/08)

Somalia

Somalia and the Gulf Crisis – new ICG report

The quarrel between Gulf monarchies has spilled into Somalia, with the fragile state now caught between the rival interests of Qatar and the United Arab Emirates. The competition has already aggravated intra-Somali disputes.

Read full report: [International Crisis Group](#) (06/05)

AU says AMISOM lacks resources to defeat Al-Shabaab

Logistical problems and military deficiencies are handicapping the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) in its decade-long fight against al-Shabaab, an AU official acknowledged in a wide-ranging and generally pessimistic assessment published Thursday.

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

Related coverage: *Armed groups in Somalia* [Al Jazeera](#) (06/06)

Somalia (Gulf of Aden) /Horn of Africa

Piracy grew off East Africa in 2017

Pirate activity off East Africa doubled in 2017 compared to the previous year, according to a new report, indicating that Somali criminal networks are still capable of sophisticated attacks.

Read full article: [defenceWeb](#) (05/29)

South Sudan

Why another power-sharing deal in South Sudan has collapsed

The parties to the conflict in South Sudan again failed to reach an agreement at the recently concluded High-Level Revitalization Forum in Addis Ababa.

Read full article: [ISS Peace and Security Council Report](#) (06/07)

South Sudan suffering on ‘almost unimaginable scale’, warns UN relief chief

People are suffering “on an almost unimaginable scale” in South Sudan, the United Nations emergency relief chief said on Monday, adding that he welcomed the announcement by the United States that it is to review the amount of assistance it provides to the war-torn country.

Read full article: [UN News](#) (06/04)

UN Security Council extends South Sudan sanctions through mid-July

The UN Security Council voted on Thursday to renew some sanctions on South Sudan through mid-July and to consider imposing travel bans and asset freezes on six South Sudanese leaders if the country’s conflict does not stop by June 30.

Read full article: [Reuters Africa](#) (06/01)

MIDDLE EAST

Iraq

Iraqi parliament orders manual election recount

Iraq's parliament has voted to carry out a manual recount of votes cast in last month's legislative elections, amid allegations of widespread fraud. MPs also replaced the leadership of the election commission and annulled the votes of overseas and displaced Iraqis.

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

Iraqi leaders must form 'truly national' government, urges UN envoy

The low voter turnout for Iraq's recent national elections was a "strong signal" to the country's ruling political elites that they must work harder to ease sectarian divides and promote democratic accountability over nepotism and patronage, the United Nations envoy to the country said on Wednesday.

Read full article: [UN News](#) (05/30)

CENTRAL ASIA

Afghanistan

Afghan President announces ceasefire with Taliban

Afghan President Ashraf Ghani announced a ceasefire with Taliban insurgents Thursday until June 20, coinciding with the end of the Islamic fasting season, but said fighting against other militant groups such as Islamic State will continue.

Read full article: [VOA News](#) (06/07)

UAE and Qatar to send military forces to Afghanistan

The National Security Council (NSC) has said it has approved the UAE and Qatar proposal for forces to be deployed to Afghanistan. In a statement released by the Afghanistan National Security Council (NSC) late Tuesday the council confirmed the UAE proposal to send special forces to Afghanistan under the Resolute Support mission to train, consult and support Afghan forces under the Afghan-NATO Security Agreement.

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

SOUTH ASIA

India / Pakistan

Pakistani military says 'no space for war' with India

Pakistan's military urges neighbouring India to respect ceasefire commitment in disputed region of Kashmir.

Read full article: [Al Jazeera](#) (06/05)

India, Pakistan trade fire In Kashmir

India and Pakistan exchanged fire across the Line of Control (LoC) that divides the disputed region of Kashmir, Indian officials say, days after the two neighbors agreed to uphold a 2003 cease-fire agreement.

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

SOUTH AMERICA AND CARIBBEAN

Colombia

Colombian election throws future of peace deal into doubt

Billed as the first peacetime Colombian election in more than half a century, the presidential run-off on 17 June has become a referendum on peace itself, or at least on whether the sluggishly implemented 2016 accords that officially ended 52 years of conflict between the state and Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) guerrillas require another look.

Read full article: [Irinnews](#) (06/06)

NATO can benefit from Columbia's expertise in Afghan peace

NATO's Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg has said the alliance can benefit from Columbia's expertise in the Afghan peace process as the Latin American country became a new ally to the organization.

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

OTHER PEACEKEEPING RELEVANT NEWS

Merkel suggests 'Europeanised' presence at UN

Europe should "Europeanise" its presence on the UN security council with a rotating group of about 10 member states working with veto-power France, and the European Commission, to "speak with one European voice," German chancellor Angela Merkel proposed to fellow EPP parties in Munich on Wednesday preparing next year's European parliament elections.

Read full article: [EU Observer](#) (06/07)

US weighs deep cuts to special operations forces in Africa

Tentative plans to draw down the number of U.S. special operations commandos deployed in Africa are drawing mixed reactions from American military experts. *The New York Times* [first reported the plan this week](#), saying the reduction could decrease the number of commandos on the continent from about 1,200 to 700 over the next three years.

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

UN court fully assumes remaining functions of tribunals for Rwanda and former Yugoslavia, officials tell Security Council

Despite challenges and resource constraints, the International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals is operating without the support of its two predecessors – criminal tribunals for the former Yugoslavia and Rwanda – and has thus assumed the full scope of their residual functions, the legal body’s President told the Security Council on Wednesday.

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

‘They are always in our hearts’ says Guterres, leading remembrance of UN peacekeepers
who made the ultimate sacrifice

Commemorating the International Day of United Nations Peacekeepers at the Organization’s headquarters, in New York, Secretary-General António Guterres paid tribute to the service and sacrifice made by UN “blue helmets” for the cause of peace around the world. Since the first peacekeeping mission deployed 70 years ago, more than 3,700 military, police and civilians who chose to serve, have lost their lives.

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

Strengthening civilian CSDP: Council adopts conclusions

On 28 May 2018, the Council adopted conclusions on strengthening civilian Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP). ... The next steps are to present a civilian capability development plan by summer 2018 and to agree a civilian CSDP compact by November 2018.

Read full article: [EU Press Release](#) (05/28)

Protection of civilians in armed conflict: Report of the Secretary General

Read full report: [S/2018/462](#) (05/14)