



Peace Operations Update

Aktuelle Informationen zu Friedenseinsätzen

27.2018

June 29–July 05

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

NEW ZIF PUBLICATION

ZIF Policy Briefing | Blue Helmets for Ukraine: Benefits and Likelihood

In the latest *ZIF Policy Briefing*, Andreas Wittkowsky discusses the proposal(s) to deploy blue helmets to Ukraine. A UN mission could indeed contribute to resolving the conflict, in particular if equipped with a broader mandate that supports the political process. In the short run, this seems rather unlikely. It makes still sense, though, to continue discussing the option with the conflict parties – to be prepared once the window of opportunity opens.

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

EUROPE

Macedonia

Macedonia ratifies Greek deal for second time

Amid opposition MPs' absence and with the President still refusing to sign it, Macedonia's parliament on Thursday again ratified the landmark agreement with Greece on its name.

Read full article: [Balkan Insight](#) (07/05)

Montenegro

Montenegro backs Balkan Truth Commission RECOM

Montenegro's authorities said they will join Serbia and Kosovo in supporting the establishment of the RECOM fact-finding commission on the 1990s wars in the Balkans.

Read full article: [Balkan Insight](#) (07/02)

AFRICA

Central African Republic

UN: Truth and Reconciliation Commission is pathway to peace in CAR

A UN human rights official is urging the government of the Central African Republic to establish, without delay, a truth and reconciliation commission as a pathway to peace. Marie-Therese Keita-Bocoum welcomes progress made in institutional reforms this year. But, she says authorities in the Central African Republic have to do much, much more to repair the country's chronically troubled security and political situation.

Read full article: [VOA News](#) (07/04)

Democratic Republic of the Congo

Conflict in Kasai could be prelude to genocide, UN expert warns

Mutilation, gang rape and killing documented in Congo's Kasai region could be a harbinger of genocide, the U.N. torture investigator told Reuters on Wednesday, calling for action to prevent another Rwanda or Srebrenica. Nils Melzer, UN special rapporteur on torture worldwide, said he was alarmed by a report issued by UN human rights experts on Tuesday which said Congolese rebels and government troops have committed atrocities including mass rape, cannibalism and the dismemberment of civilians.

Read full article: [Reuters AlertNet](#) (07/04)

Libya

ICC issues second warrant for Libyan commander over killings

The Libyan National Army commander is accused of executing dozens of prisoners in eight incidents.

Read full article: [Reuters AlertNet](#) (07/05)

Mali

Mali facing 'alarming' rise in rights violations, warns UN expert

In Mali, a senior United Nations rights expert on Wednesday described an "alarming" deterioration of the security, human rights and humanitarian situation in northern and eastern areas of the country.

Read full article: [UN News](#) (07/04)

Mali election organisers strike

Election workers in Mali extended a strike, a union representative said, casting further doubt on an election meant to chart a way out of six years of political unrest and jihadist violence.

Read full article: [defenceWeb](#) (07/04)

UN chief condemns attack targeting international forces in northern Mali

United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres has condemned an attack in Gao, northern Mali, targeting international forces that left at least two civilians dead and over fifteen injured.

Read full article: [UN News](#) (07/01)

UN condemns deadly attack against G5 Sahel force headquarters

United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres has strongly condemned the attack against the G5 Sahel joint force Headquarters in Mali's restive Mopti region.

Read full article: [UN News](#) (06/30)

Related coverage: Attack on Sahel counterterror force puts jihadists in focus [DW](#) (07/03)

Related coverage: G5 Sahel force faces harder start after attack [DW](#) (07/03)

South Sudan

South Sudan lawmakers consider keeping President Kiir until 2021

Nearly seven years to the day that South Sudan was born, it wants to extend the term of President Salva Kiir and the transitional parliament by three years. Some see the plan as a ploy in a faltering peace process.

Read full article: [DW](#) (07/04)

South Sudan cease-fire violated within hours

South Sudan government troops **violated the country's latest cease-fire** just hours after it began at midnight, the armed opposition claimed Saturday, while a government spokesman accused the rebels of attacking instead.

Read full article: [New York Times](#) (06/30)

Sudan (Darfur)

Security Council renews mandate of UNAMID

[...] In a separate resolution 2425 (2018), also adopted unanimously on Friday, the Security Council extended, until 13 July 2018, the mandate of the AU-UN Hybrid Operation in Darfur (UNAMID). By the text, the Council also decided – acting under Chapter VII of the United Nations Charter, which deals with threats to peace and acts of aggression – to extend its authorization for UNAMID to act as needed to protect civilians and facilitate humanitarian assistance.

Read full article: [UN News](#) (06/30)

MIDDLE EAST

Iraq

Iraqi election officials begin manual recount of May vote

Iraqi election officials have begun a manual recount of ballots from the May parliamentary elections, an effort aimed at ending tensions over alleged fraud and irregularities.

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

Israel / Palestine

Palestine: EU police mission and EU border assistance mission extended for 12 months

The Council has extended the mandate of the EU co-ordinating office for Palestinian police support (EUPOL COPPS), as well as the mandate of the EU border assistance mission for the Rafah crossing point (EU BAM Rafah), until 30 June 2019.

Read full article: [EU Press Release](#) (06/29)

Israel / Syria

Security Council renews mandate of UNDOF

Unanimously adopting resolution 2426 (2018), on Friday, the 15-member Security Council renewed, until 31 December, the mandate of UNDOF, adding that there should be “no military activity” of any kind in the area of separation between Israel and Syria, including Syrian military operations and those conducted by armed opposition groups.

Read full article: [UN News](#) (06/30)

CENTRAL ASIA

Afghanistan

US increases push for negotiated settlement in Afghanistan

The United States is pushing hard to take advantage of the momentum for peace talks generated in Afghanistan due to a brief cease-fire during the Muslim holy festival of Eid last month.

Read full article: [VOA News](#) (07/04)

Ghani orders resumption of anti-Taliban operations

Afghan President Ashraf Ghani announced a formal end to his government's ceasefire with the Taliban and ordered security forces to resume operations against the group. In a press conference on Saturday in Kabul, Ghani repeated an appeal to the Taliban to join a peace process after declaring an end to the 18-day government ceasefire.

Read full article: [Al Jazeera](#) (06/30)

Colombia

How Colombia's new government plans to strangle the country's peace process

The party of Colombia's President-elect Ivan Duque wants to severely reduce victims rights in an attempt to undo much of the country's peace process. The changes in the 2016 peace deal would reduce the rights to political representation of 8.5 million victims and remove the leadership of the FARC, the group that demobilized 14,000 people last year, from Congress.

Read full article: [Colombia Reports](#) (06/28)

OTHER PEACEKEEPING RELEVANT NEWS

African Union summit opens amid new Mali attack

The 31st African Union (AU) summit opened in the Mauritanian capital, Nouakchott, on Sunday focusing on ways to tackle corruption and extremism on the continent. Mauritanian President Mohamed Ould Abdel Aziz urged for a comprehensive approach to dealing with extremist attacks, as well as addressing the root causes of the violence.

Read full article: [DW](#) (07/02)

Related coverage:

UN launches plan to promote peace, inclusive growth in Africa's Sahel [UN News](#) (06/30)

Averting war in northern Somalia – ICG briefing

A dispute between Puntland and Somaliland over the contested areas of Sool and Sanaag risks escalating into open war.

Read full briefing: [International Crisis Group](#) (06/27)

EU defence capability development – Plans, priorities, projects

[...] Despite the publication of an Implementation Plan on Security and Defence (IPSD), the development of a Coordinated Annual Review on Defence (CARD), a European Defence Fund (EDF) and PESCO, there are challenges related to defence capability development in a Union of 28 – soon to be 27 – member states.

Read full briefing: [EUISS](#) (06/25)