



Peace Operations Update

Aktuelle Informationen zu Friedenseinsätzen

48.2018

November 23–29

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

NEW ZIF PUBLICATIONS

SWP „Point of View“ on Civilian CSDP Compact

In their *Point of View* comment for the German Institute for International and Security Affairs (SWP), Judith Vorrath and Tobias Pietz argue that even though the process as such was a necessary step, the Compact falls short of putting EU civilian crisis management on a new footing.

Download the paper [here](#)

ZIF Policy Briefing “Der Nahe Osten - das globale Krisenlabor“

In the newest *ZIF Policy Briefing*, Andrea Böhm, correspondent of DIE ZEIT for the Middle East, argues that crises in foreign countries are often depicted as irrational and distant – especially when engaging with the Arab World. Instead of describing Maghreb and Mashreq as historic, religious or cultural special cases, Andrea Böhm defines them as the scene of four global, interconnected crises: the crises of the nation state, global capitalism, changing gender roles and climate change.

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

Kosovo

Kosovo president: defining borders will help solve disputes with Serbia

Kosovo President Hashim Thaci says defining the borders between Kosovo and Serbia is a key step toward easing tensions between the two nations. Border talks come 10 years after Kosovo declared independence from Serbia. ... He added that teams from Kosovo and Serbia, as well as representatives from the United States, NATO and the European Union, will work together to "clearly define the border between Kosovo and Serbia."

Read full article: [VOA News](#) (11/28)

Serb mayors in north resign, cut communication with Pristina

The mayors of the four Serb municipalities in northern Kosovo have signed a four-point declaration, after which they resigned all their functions.

Read full article: [B92](#) (11/27) [B92](#) (11/28)

Macedonia

Thousands protest Macedonian name change deal in Skopje

Several thousand protesters from Macedonia's right-wing opposition have marched through the capital, Skopje, to protest against Prime Minister Zoran Zaev's deal with Greece to change the country's name. ... If the change is finalized in parliament, Athens has promised to lift its veto on Skopje's attempts to join NATO and the European Union. ... Macedonian critics of the deal have argued that Zaev allowed the country to be bullied into the agreement by Greece.

Read full article: [RFE/RL](#) (11/29)

Ukraine

Ukrainian presidential election set for March 31, 2019

Ukraine has formally scheduled a presidential election for March 31, 2019. A resolution setting the date was signed by parliament speaker Andriy Parubiy on November 28, the website of the single-chamber Verkhovna Rada said. It came after President Petro Poroshenko vowed that the imposition of martial law in 10 regions for a 30-day period would not mean a postponement of the vote.

Read full article: [RFE/RL](#) (11/28)

CAUCASUS

Georgia

Georgia elects Salome Zurbashvili as first woman president

Salome Zurbashvili has won Georgia's presidential election, becoming the first woman to hold the office. With nearly all votes counted, the French-born ex-diplomat had 59% of the vote with rival Grigol Vashadze on 40%. Ms Zurbashvili was backed by the ruling Georgian Dream party while Mr Vashadze was a united opposition candidate.

Read full article: [BBC](#) (11/29)

AFRICA

Democratic Republic of the Congo

'Possible terrorist threat' closes US embassy in DR Congo for fourth day

The US embassy in Kinshasa will on Thursday be closed to the public for a fourth day following "credible and precise information" about a possible terrorist threat, a month ahead of the Democratic Republic of Congo's presidential election.

Read full article: [The East African](#) (11/29)

DRC's Tshisekedi returns to kick off presidential bid

Congolese opposition scion Felix Tshisekedi returned home to Kinshasa on Tuesday greeted by tens of thousands of supporters as he kicked off his campaign to replace longtime president and foe Joseph Kabila in December elections.

Read full article: [VOA News](#) (11/27) [Reuters Africa](#) (11/24)

Mali

New violence eclipses Mali's plans for peace

The central Mopti Region faces "a bottom-up jihadist revolution". ... The unprecedented scale of violence in a previously peaceful part of the country has many wondering whether the 2015 peace agreement, signed between the Malian government and armed groups, is still fit for purpose.

Read full article: [Irinnews](#) (11/26)

Senior member of JNIM Amadou Koufa killed in French raid

A senior Malian member of the Jama'at Nusrat al-Islam wal-Muslimin (JNIM) armed group has been killed in a raid led by French forces, according to the Malian army. ... France's army had said on Friday that Koufa may have been killed in the operation in the central Mopti region that "put out of action" about 30 of his group's fighters.

Read full article: [AL Jazeera](#) (11/25)

Somalia (Gulf of Aden) /Horn of Africa

Conference warns against complacency over Somali piracy

Delegates at the recent Shared Awareness and De-confliction (SHADE) conference have warned that complacency will see a rapid resurgence in the scourge of piracy, especially off the Horn of Africa. ... Co-chaired by EU Naval Forces (EU NAVFOR) and the Combined Maritime Forces (CMF), the main aim of SHADE is to coordinate counter-piracy efforts of all stakeholders involved and to increase the common understanding of maritime security issues affecting the Southern Red Sea, the Gulf of Aden and the Western Indian Ocean.

Read full article: [defenceWeb](#) (11/29)

South Sudan

Despite sanctions, South Sudan armed for war

Despite long-standing restrictions, new weapons have continued to reach South Sudan's battlefields, often via neighbouring countries, a detailed report by an arms monitoring group said Thursday. A four-year investigation, by London-based Conflict Armament Research (CAR), into the supply of weapons that have helped keep South Sudan's civil war alive since December 2013, has revealed the important role played by neighbouring countries, particularly Uganda, in circumventing arms embargoes.

Read full article: [Middle East Online](#) (11/29) [DW](#) (11/29)

IGAD military leaders decide to deploy over 1600 troops in South Sudan

The IGAD chiefs of staff decided to dispatch over 1600 troops from five countries to take part in the Regional Protection Force (RPF) deployed in South Sudan. ... "The contributions to be as follows, four hundred ninety-nine (499) each from Kenya, Uganda, and Sudan, and ninety-nine (99) each from Somalia and Djibouti."

Read full article: [Sudan Tribune](#) (11/22)

Sudan (Darfur)

South Darfur confirms clashes with SLM-AW in Jebel Marra

[...] The rebel group rejects to take part in the peace process and demands that the government disbands its militias, protect civilians and pay financial compensations before to engage in a peace process to address the root causes of the 15-year conflict.

Read full article: [Sudan Tribune](#) (11/27)

Armed groups initial draft pre-negotiation agreement on talks for peace in Darfur

The Sudan Liberation Movement led by Minni Minawi (SLM-MM), and the Justice and Equality Movement (JEM) led by Gibril Ibrahim initialled a pre-negotiation draft agreement to show their willingness to engage in talks for a lasting peace agreement, said the Peace and Security Council.

Read full article: [Sudan Tribune](#) (11/26)

Afghanistan

Afghan President announces team for peace talks with Taliban

Afghanistan's President, Ashraf Ghani, says his government has "formulated a road map" for prospective peace negotiations with Taliban insurgents to end the 17-year war in the country. Ghani told an international conference on Afghanistan Wednesday in Geneva all the required bodies and mechanisms have been constituted after intensive national consultations.

Read full article: [VOA News](#) (11/28)

Afghanistan can rely on international support along harrowing road to peace, and beyond [...] Speaking to journalists on Wednesday at the end of the Geneva Conference on Afghanistan, Mr. Tadamichi Yamamoto, head of the UNAMA Assistance Mission and UN Special Representative in the country, confirmed that the issue of an end to extremist violence had been discussed in depth. "Perhaps this was the first ministerial meeting when the issue of peace has been taken up with so much weight in addition to the regular issues which are development, growth, social issues and reforms," he said.

Read full article: [UN News](#) (11/28)

Afghanistan considers delaying April presidential election

Afghanistan's election authorities are considering delaying a presidential election scheduled for April 2019, officials said, as they struggle to count votes cast in recent parliamentary elections. ... The Afghan Constitution requires the presidential election to take place no later than April 22. ... President Ashraf Ghani and Chief Executive Abdullah Abdullah are among the officials who have declared that the date should not be changed.

Read full article: [RFE/RL](#) (11/26)

Uzbekistan

Long-closed Uzbekistan opens up to the world

For the first time in a generation, Tashkent has an outward-looking foreign policy.

Read full article: [VOA News](#) (11/25)

SOUTH ASIA

India / Pakistan

Nine killed as Kashmir reels from its deadliest year since 2009

At least nine people have been killed in violence in India-administered Kashmir, capping off one of this year's deadliest weeks in the disputed region already suffering its worst bloodshed in a decade.

Read full article: [AL Jazeera](#) (11/25)

Colombia

Colombia asks Cuba to arrest ELN chief as peace talks remain on hold

Colombia's government has asked Cuba to arrest "Gabino" on Tuesday on unconfirmed claims the [ELN](#)'s top commander is in the country, according to the foreign ministry. Cuba is the temporary host of peace talks between the country's last-standing guerrilla group and the Colombian government that suspended negotiations when President Ivan Duque took office in August.

Read full article: [Colombia Reports](#) (11/21)

Haiti

Haitians furious at their government protest in a week of unrest

Thousands of Haitians took to the streets of Port-au-Prince on Friday in the latest display of public fury at the government over rampant corruption, economic malaise and other grievances.

Read full article: [New York Times](#) (11/23)

OTHER PEACEKEEPING RELEVANT NEWS

UN chief commends African Union on adoption of institutional reforms

[...] The 11th Extraordinary Summit of the AU Assembly of Heads of State and Government was held in Addis Adaba, Ethiopia on 17 and 18 November, bringing to the forefront new commission structure, election of senior leadership and chairpersons, among other key financial and administrative reforms for the regional Union's 55 member countries.

Read full article: [UN News](#) (11/23)