



Peace Operations Update

Aktuelle Informationen zu Friedenseinsätzen

19.2019

May 03–09

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

NEW ZIF PUBLICATIONS

Three new ZIF kompakt: MINUSMA, EUTM Mali and EU NAVFOR Atalanta

Today, the German Parliament will discuss a cabinet decision to extend Germany's contribution to the UN mission in Mali (MINUSMA) as well as the EU missions in Mali (EUTM Mali) and in the Gulf of Aden (EU NAVFOR Atalanta). 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: [MINUSMA](#) | [EUTM Mali](#) | [EU NAVFOR Atalanta](#)

Please note that they are available in German only.

EUROPE

Bosnia and Herzegovina

Report of the High Representative for implementation of the peace agreement on Bosnia

Read full report: [S/2019/364](#) (05/02)

Cyprus

Turkey drills for gas in Cyprus' waters, prompting EU outcry

The EU and US have urged Turkey to stop drilling for gas in Cyprus' maritime zone - but Ankara has told its allies it would do so anyway.

Read full article: [EU Observer](#) (05/06)

Kosovo

"We are now years away from Kosovo solution"

Serbian President Aleksandar Vucic stressed on Thursday that Belgrade and Pristina are years away from any possible solution for the Kosovo problem.

Read full article: [B92](#) (05/09)

Kosovo MPs draft resolution accusing Serbia of genocide

A Kosovo parliamentary commission approved a draft resolution accusing Serbia of committing genocide against ethnic Albanians during the 1998-99 war, although experts questioned whether it has any practical purpose.

Read full article: [Balkan Insight](#) (05/08)

AFRICA

Burundi

Free press should be barred from 2020 poll: Burundi commissioner

A senior Burundi election official has called for independent media to be barred from covering the country's presidential polls in 2020, local press and witnesses reported Wednesday.

Read full article: [The East African](#) (05/08)

Democratic Republic of the Congo

Three suspects in UN experts' killing escape jail in Congo

Three suspects in the killing of two U.N. investigators in Democratic Republic of Congo escaped from prison overnight, a defence lawyer in the case said on Tuesday.

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

Libya

UN finds likely use of armed drone in Libya by Haftar or 'third party'

United Nations sanctions monitors are investigating the likely use of an armed drone by eastern Libyan National Army (LNA) forces, or a supporting "third party", in an attack last month on troops affiliated with Libya's internationally recognised government, according to a confidential report to the UN Security Council.

Read full article: [Middle East Eye](#) (05/08)

UN: 443 dead, 2.110 injured in Tripoli offensive

The U.N. health agency says 443 people have died and 2,110 have been wounded in violence in Libya's capital since the head of the self-styled Libyan National Army launched an offensive against Tripoli last month.

Read full article: [VOA News](#) (05/08)

France calls for unconditional ceasefire in Libya

France on Wednesday called for an unconditional ceasefire in the Libya conflict under international supervision after a meeting between President Emmanuel Macron and U.N.-backed Libyan Prime Minister Fayeze al-Serraj.

Read full article: [Reuters Africa](#) (05/08)

Haftar forces shoot down Tripoli government warplane

Forces loyal to eastern commander Khalifa Haftar shot down a Tripoli government warplane purportedly flown by a foreign mercenary south of the Libyan capital on Tuesday, the Libyan National Army (LNA) said. ... The escalation is a setback for efforts by the United Nations and Western states to end the chaos and political division in Libya

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

Mali

Sahel crisis reaching unprecedented levels, warn top UN humanitarian officials

Repeated and increasingly sophisticated armed attacks in the Sahel and food shortages linked to last year's severe drought, have reached unprecedented levels, putting the future of a "whole generation" at stake, three top UN humanitarian officials said on Wednesday.

Read full article: [UN News](#) (05/08)

Ethnic attacks in Mali killed 18 civilians this week - peacekeeping mission

At least 18 civilians were killed in two related attacks this week in central Mali, the United Nations MINUSMA peacekeeping mission said on Saturday, as the death toll from fighting between local hunters and herders continues to climb.

Read full article: [Reuters Africa](#) (05/04)

South Sudan

South Sudan's Kiir: more time needed to form interim government

South Sudan's warring parties will need more than a six-month extension approved last week before they can form a transitional government, says the country's president, Salva Kiir. In his first public remarks since the parties agreed to the extension last week, the president also accused rebel leader Riek Machar's SPLM-IO (Sudan People's Liberation Movement-in-Opposition) of recruiting new fighters.

Read full article: [VOA News](#) (05/08)

Amid criticism, South Sudan signs new deal with U.S. lobbyists

South Sudan has signed a contract with a U.S. lobbying firm, after cancelling an earlier deal with the same company that drew criticism from rights groups over its aims, documents showed.

Read full article: [Reuters Africa](#) (05/08)

MIDDLE EAST

Iraq

Report of the Secretary-General on Iraq

Read full report: [S/2019/365](#) (05/02)

Israel / Palestine

Deadly violence at Israel-Gaza border escalates dangerously: UN chief condemns in strongest terms

The United Nations Secretary-General, António Guterres, is following with “deep concern” the latest developments across the Gaza-Israeli border and urges all parties to exercise maximum restraint. Over the weekend, hundreds of rockets were launched from the Occupied Palestinian Territory into southern Israel, and Israel retaliated with hundreds of airstrikes and tank fire.

Read full article: [UN News](#) (05/07)

Gaza conflict: 'ceasefire' after days of violence

There has been a lull in hostilities in the Gaza Strip after Palestinian militants said that a ceasefire with Israel had been agreed. It comes after a weekend during which Palestinian militants launched hundreds of rockets into Israel prompting retaliatory air and artillery strikes. At least four Israelis and 25 Palestinians were killed. Israel has not confirmed the truce, but its military has lifted emergency measures in place in southern Israel.

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

CENTRAL ASIA

Afghanistan

Taliban attack aid group office in Kabul, in setback to U.S. peace talks

Taliban militants attacked the compound of an American-run contractor in the Afghan capital on Wednesday, killing at least five people and sending a stinging message to the United States as it engages in peace talks with the group. ... The attackers targeted a compound operated by Counterpart International, which is primarily funded by the United States Agency for International Development.

Read full article: [New York Times](#) (05/08) [BBC](#) (05/08)

Violence continues in Afghanistan after Loya Jirga urges truce

At least seven Afghan policemen were killed when suspected Taliban militants stormed checkpoints overnight in western Badghis Province, officials said. ... The reports of fresh violence come a day after an Afghan grand council convened by President Ashraf Ghani ended with a demand for an immediate ceasefire.

Read full article: [RFE/RL](#) (05/04)

Colombia

UN urges action after 1600 displaced by turf war in northwest Colombia

The United Nations urged Colombia on Tuesday to take immediate action against ongoing violence in the northwest of the country. According to figures of the UN's refugee agency UNHCR, over 1600 members of five different indigenous communities have been displaced as a result of armed conflict between illegal armed groups over the past two weeks in Jurado, a municipality in Choco.

Read full article: [Colombia Reports](#) (05/08)

OTHER PEACEKEEPING RELEVANT NEWS

Better training 'a necessary and strategic investment' in peacekeeping: Guterres

Better training for peacekeepers being deployed to increasingly hostile environments is a “necessary and strategic” investment which can also save lives, the UN Secretary-General told Security Council members on Tuesday. Addressing an open debate on training and capacity building for UN peacekeeping missions, António Guterres said that “notable progress” had been made in training ‘blue helmets’ and others who serve in some of the most dangerous places on earth, but “much still needs to be done”.

Read full article: [UN News](#) (05/07)