



Peace Operations Update

Aktuelle Informationen zu Friedenseinsätzen

25.2019

June 14 – 22

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

NEW ZIF PUBLICATION

ZIF kompakt | Kosovo Force (KFOR): Robuste Rückversicherung weiter wichtig

Im 20. Jahr des KFOR-Einsatzes verzeichnet Andreas Wittkowsky im aktuellen *ZIF kompakt*, dass die Spannungen zwischen Kosovo und Serbien zugenommen haben. Auslöser war die Gebietstauschdebatte im Rahmen eines Abkommens, das die nachbarschaftlichen Beziehungen abschließend regeln soll. Ein glaubwürdiges Zeichen, dass die Friedenstruppe im Ernstfall eingriffsfähig ist, ist deshalb weiter wichtig – um diesen Ernstfall zu vermeiden. Das weitere Engagement Deutschlands in der KFOR ist ebenso notwendig wie das konsequente Engagement, den politischen Prozess zu einem Abschluss zu bringen, der den Frieden nachhaltig sichert.

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

EUROPE

Albania

Albanian PM vows to hold elections in face of boycott, protests

Albanian Prime Minister Edi Rama says he will press on with local elections planned at the end of the month, setting up a clash with President Ilir Meta, who canceled the vote amid security concerns.

Read full article: [RFE/RL](#) (06/21)

Parliament starts procedure to oust President

Albania's parliament has started the procedure to oust President Ilir Meta for violating the constitution with his attempt to cancel upcoming municipal elections.

Read full article: [VOA News](#) (06/17)

Bosnia and Herzegovina

Bosnian **prosecution** 'failing on complex war crime cases': OSCE

Final convictions have been significantly lower in the past two years, and the Bosnian prosecution has not been investing time and resources in investigating the most complex cases, said an OSCE report.

Read full article: [Balkan Insight](#) (06/17)

Cyprus

EU warns Turkey of sanctions for Cyprus drilling

The EU has threatened to impose sanctions on Turkey if it continues "illegal drilling" in waters near Cyprus in the eastern Mediterranean. ... The European Council - the EU government leaders - called on Turkey to "show restraint, respect the sovereign rights of Cyprus and refrain from any such actions".

Read full article: [BBC](#) (06/21)

Republic of Moldova

New Moldovan government vows stronger ties with EU

Stronger ties with the European Union and bringing to justice those who abused power, including a controversial tycoon, are top priorities of Moldova's **new government**.

Read full article: [RFE/RL](#) (06/15)

Democrat-led government resigns in Moldova

The former ruling party has abandoned its attempt to cling onto power in Moldova and has gone into opposition - while still refusing to recognise the new government led by pro-EU and pro-Russian forces.

Read full article: [Balkan Insight](#) (06/14)

Ukraine

Ukrainian Constitutional Court ok's parliament's dissolution, early elections

Ukraine's Constitutional Court has ruled that President Volodymyr Zelenskyy's order to dissolve parliament and call early elections is legal. ... Zelenskyy issued a decree on May 21 -- a day after his inauguration -- to dissolve parliament and declared that a new chamber will be elected on July 21.

Read full article: [RFE/RL](#) (06/20)

EU extends sanctions on Russia over war in Ukraine

[...] Russia sanctions are unanimously extended for another six months because of a lack of Minsk Agreements implementation," an EU spokesman said Thursday.

Read full article: [VOA News](#) (06/20)

CAUCASUS

Georgia

Georgia protesters return to streets despite speaker resignation

Thousands took to the streets of Georgia's capital once again after anti-Russia protests the night before left hundreds injured. Russia's Vladimir Putin has also suspended flights to Georgia over the situation. For a second night in a row, thousands of people protested outside Georgia's parliament on Friday, demanding early parliamentary elections.

Read full article: [DW](#) (06/21)

Georgia's Russia protests benefit Mikheil Saakashvili

A visit by Russian parliamentarians to Georgia has sparked mass protests, injuring hundreds. Relations between the countries have been tense since before the 2008 war – and now old wounds are being reopened.

Read full article: [DW](#) (06/21)

AFRICA

Burundi

Running out of options in Burundi – new ICG report

Talks about ending Burundi's crisis – sparked by the president's decision to seek a third term – have fizzled out. With elections nearing in 2020, tensions could flare. Strong regional pressure is needed to begin opening up the country's political space before the balloting.

Read full report: [International Crisis Group](#) (06/20)

Ahead of 2020 elections, situation in Burundi shows encouraging signs but remains fragile

A UN Security Council meeting on the security and political situation in Burundi was held on Friday, as the country continues to grapple with a four-year-long crisis and is gearing up for new elections in 2020.

Read full article: [UN News](#) (06/14)

Central African Republic

Despite peace deal, population faces daily acts of violence, UN envoy warns

Although the Government of the Central African Republic (CAR), armed groups and civil society representatives are all taking part in the process that followed the signing of a deal signed in February, civilians continue to suffer daily acts of violence, the top UN official in the country told the Security Council on Thursday.

Read full article: [UN News](#) (06/20)

Making the **Central African Republic's** latest peace agreement stick – new ICG report

A deal to end six years of war in the Central African Republic could come unglued if not strengthened. The government should hold signatory armed groups accountable to criteria for improved behaviour and back local peace initiatives. Neighbours should push armed groups to cease provocations.

Read full report: [International Crisis Group](#) (06/18)

Democratic Republic of the Congo

300,000 flee flare-up of ethnic violence in north-eastern DR Congo

More than 300,000 people have been forced to flee resurgent inter-ethnic violence in north-east Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) just this month, the UN refugee agency, UNHCR, said on Tuesday. Citing multiple attacks and counter-attacks between Hema herders and Lendu farmers, UNHCR spokesperson Babar Baloch told journalists in Geneva that the situation had worsened in recent days.

Read full article: [UN News](#) (06/18)

At least 161 dead in northeast Congo in apparent ethnic clashes

At least 161 people have been killed in a northeastern province of Democratic Republic of Congo in the past week, local officials said on Monday, in an apparent resurgence of ethnic clashes between farming and herding communities.

Read full article: [Reuters](#) (06/17)

Libya

Libya parliament chief allied to Haftar rules out talks before Tripoli captured

The head of the Libyan parliament aligned with eastern forces trying to seize the capital from the internationally-backed government said on Thursday there could be no peace talks until they had captured the city.

Read full article: [Reuters](#) (06/13)

Mali

Gunmen kill 41 in central Mali

Unidentified gunmen on motorcycles attacked two villages in central Mali, killing at least 41 people in a part of the country where ethnic reprisal attacks surged in recent months, a local mayor said.

Read full article: [defenceWeb](#) (06/19)

Anger over G5 Sahel headquarters transfer to Bamako

The G5 Sahel force includes Burkina Faso, Chad, Mauritania, Niger as well as Mali, and people in Bamako do not want its headquarters based there.

Read full article: [Al Jazeera](#) (06/17)

South Sudan

South Sudan offers to mediate Sudan conflict

South Sudan's government is offering to mediate between Sudan's ruling military council and the opposition, in return for Sudan's role mediating South Sudanese peace talks last year. ... Kiir expects to host talks between the Sudanese military and opposition in Juba in the coming days, [South Sudan presidential minister Mayiik] Deng told VOA.

Read full article: [VOA News](#) (06/21)

Sudan (Darfur)

UN slams Sudan protesters for attacks on Darfur NGO premises

UN peacekeepers said Friday that a group of protesters looted and destroyed several properties of the World Food Programme and aid agency World Vision in Darfur, Sudan, this week. The "dangerous attacks" were carried out on June 19 and 20 in the town of Graidia in the state of South Darfur, the joint African Union and UN peacekeeping mission, also known as UNAMID, said in a statement.

Read full article: [The East African](#) (06/22)

ICC prosecutor: Omar al-Bashir must answer for Darfur abuses now

Sudan's Transitional Military Council (TMC) should hand over overthrown President Omar al-Bashir to the International Criminal Court (ICC) to face justice for masterminding atrocities in the western Darfur region, the court's prosecutor has said.

Read full article: [AL Jazeera](#) (06/19)

UN suspending handover of camps in Darfur, peacekeeping chief tells Security Council

The joint African Union-UN Mission in Darfur (UNAMID), is suspending the handover of any more camps for displaced civilians to the Sudanese military, against a backdrop of worsening violence and insecurity across the country. Briefing the Security Council on Friday, UN Peacekeeping chief, Jean Pierre Lacroix, said that the bloody 3 June military crackdown in the capital Khartoum, had highlighted the central role of the Darfur-linked Rapid Support Forces (RSF), which are reportedly made up largely of former Janjaweed militia, which has been accused of serious human rights abuses.

Read full article: [UN News](#) (06/14)

UN says it confirms 17 deaths in Darfur

The United Nations said on Thursday it had confirmed the killing of 17 people and the burning of more than 100 houses in Deleij village in the Darfur region of Sudan earlier this week. The United Nations-African Union Mission in Darfur also said 15 people were injured and the violence "occurred during heated clashes between nomads and residents apparently angered by the increase in commodity prices at the local market".

Read full article: [Reuters Africa](#) (06/14)

MIDDLE EAST

Yemen

WFP **begins 'last resort' partial withdrawal of aid to opposition-held Yemeni capital**

The World Food Programme (WFP), the UN's emergency food relief agency, confirmed on Friday in a statement that it has started a "partial suspension" of aid to areas of Yemen controlled by Houthi opposition forces, including the capital, Sana'a. Spokesperson Hervé Verhoosel briefed journalists in Geneva that the agency took the decision after efforts failed to prevent aid being diverted from those who need it most, despite repeated warnings.

Read full article: [UN News](#) (06/21)

CENTRAL ASIA

Afghanistan

Dozens of Afghan politicians at Pakistan meeting to bolster peace efforts with Taliban

Dozens of senior Afghan political figures are attending a peace conference in neighboring Pakistan aimed at paving the way for an intra-Afghan dialogue to end almost two decades of war with the Taliban. The June 22 conference came ahead of a new round of peace talks between the United States and the Taliban in Qatar that is scheduled for June 29.

Read full article: [RFE/RL](#) (06/22)

Presidential election: 'Key moment' to reaffirm Afghanistan's democratic political structure, UN mission chief tells Security Council

The presidential election scheduled for 28 September will be a "key moment to reaffirm the legitimacy of Afghanistan's democratic political structure", the United Nations mission chief in the country told the Security Council on Wednesday.

Read full article: [UN News](#) (06/19)

US: Seeking peace not troop withdrawal agreement with Taliban

The United States explicitly stated Tuesday it is seeking a comprehensive peace agreement with the Taliban that would cover counterterrorism assurances, withdrawal of American troops from Afghanistan, intra-Afghan talks to find a political settlement to the war and a permanent cease-fire.

Read full article: [VOA News](#) (06/18)

Kazakhstan

Kazakhstan updates tally of protest arrests to nearly 4,000

Police in Kazakhstan arrested nearly 4,000 people during protests before and after a June 9 presidential election, and 700 were detained for several days, the country's interior minister reported Tuesday.

Read full article: [VOA News](#) (06/18)

Colombia

ELN guerrillas hopeful Duque will resume peace talks

Colombia's last-standing guerrilla group ELN on Thursday reiterated its hopes that peace talks that were suspended by the government in February can be resumed.

Read full article: [Colombia Reports](#) (06/22)

Colombia urged to do more to protect ex-Farc rebels after killings

The leader of Colombia's former Farc rebels has called on the government to stop the "systematic murder" of ex-fighters following two killings. In an open letter to President Iván Duque, Rodrigo Londoño said the cases highlighted the lack of protection of Farc members by authorities.

Read full article: [BBC](#) (06/19)

Colombia continues to have highest number of internally displaced people in the world: UN

Colombia continues to have the most internally displaced persons in the world, according to the UN. ... Since 2015, the number of displaced Colombians has exceeded all other nations with internal conflicts, according to a report by the United Nations High Commission for Refugees.

Read full article: [Colombia Reports](#) (06/19)

OTHER PEACEKEEPING RELEVANT NEWS

Number of people fleeing conflict is highest since World War II, UN says

The number of people fleeing violence is the highest recorded since World War II, according to figures released Wednesday by the United Nations refugee agency, as old conflicts dragged on and new ones erupted. The global population of people displaced by conflict reached 70.8 million last year, up from a little over 43 million a decade ago, the report said.

Read full article: [New York Times](#) (06/19) Read full report: [UNHCR](#)

Hate speech 'on notice' as UN chief launches new plan to 'identify, prevent and confront' growing scourge

A United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres has declared war on hate speech, telling Member States on Tuesday, that we all need to "do better at looking out for each other". "Hate speech may have gained a foothold, but it is now on notice", Mr. Guterres said, launching the UN Strategy and Plan of Action on Hate Speech. "We will never stop confronting it".

Read full article: [UN News](#) (06/18)

Strengthening multilateralism: Council of the EU adopts conclusions

EU foreign ministers and defence ministers today discussed the EU Global Strategy. Following the discussion, the Council adopted conclusions on EU action to strengthen rules-based multilateralism. In the conclusions, the Council underlines that the need to promote multilateral solutions is more urgent than ever.

Read full article: [EU Press Release](#) (06/17)