



Peace Operations Update

Aktuelle Informationen zu Friedenseinsätzen

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

NEW ZIF PUBLICATION

ZIF kompakt | The OSCE and the ceasefire in the Ukraine – mediating, observing, monitoring

Through the conflict in the Ukraine, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) has experienced a significant appreciation. The latest ZIF kompakt presents the instruments of political mediation and the missions the OSCE has in place. This publication also provides an overview of the ceasefire agreements and the role of the OSCE in the conflict.

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

EUROPE

Bosnia and Herzegovina

Bosnia election results seal nationalists' triumph

Bosnia's Central Electoral Commission has published the final results of the general elections held two weeks ago, confirming the victory of the main ethnic-based parties.

Read full article: [Balkan Insight](#) (10/28)

Kosovo

EU Kosovo mission 'probing internal corruption claims'

The head of the EU's Kosovo rule-of-law mission rejected one of its prosecutor's claims that it ignored internal corruption allegations and insisted it was investigating the alleged graft.

Read full article: [Balkan Insight](#) (10/30) [Reuters AlertNet](#) (10/27)

Kosovo Foreign Minister Hoxhaj makes Belgrade visit

Enver Hoxhaj is making his country's first high-level visit to Belgrade since the former Yugoslav territory proclaimed independence in 2008.

Read full article: [Deutsche Welle](#) (10/23)

Moldova

OSCE/ODIHR opens election observation mission for parliamentary elections

The mission is led by Ambassador Jan Petersen and consists of 11 experts based in Chisinau and 22 long-term observers to be deployed across the country. In addition, ODIHR will request 200 short-term observers to monitor proceedings on election day (30 November 2014).

Read full article: [OSCE](#) (10/24)

Ukraine

EU, UN condemn Ukraine rebels' election plans

The European Union and United Nations condemned plans to hold elections in rebel-held areas of eastern Ukraine on Sunday, with the EU explicitly denouncing Moscow's support for the separatists' plans.

Read full article: [Reuters AlertNet](#) (10/29)

Russia backs separatist vote in Ukraine

Moscow has announced it will recognise separatist polls in Ukraine next weekend, fuelling tensions with the country's newly elected pro-western leaders as they negotiate on forming a coalition government.

Read full article: [The Guardian](#) (10/28)

OSCE observers give Ukraine election a clean bill of health

OSCE election observers gave Sunday's parliamentary election in Ukraine a clean bill of health on Monday, saying it had offered real choice and largely upheld democratic commitments.

Read full article: [Reuters / Yahoo News](#) (10/27)

Amid uneasy ceasefire, Ukraine risks becoming 'protracted' conflict, UN officials warn

The simmering conflict in Ukraine continues to take lives and exacerbate already precarious humanitarian conditions in the country's Eastern regions, two senior United Nations officials told the Security Council today, as they warned that the situation risks turning into a "protracted low-intensity conflict."

Read full article: [UN News](#) (10/24)

CAUCASUS

Armenia

Armenian Premier rules out early elections

Armenian Prime Minister Hovik Abrahamian has dismissed opposition calls for an immediate change of government, saying that if such a change is to take place, it will not be through early elections.

Read full article: [RFE/RL](#) (10/27)

Nagorno-Karabakh

France hosts Armenia-Azerbaijan summit over Nagorno-Karabakh

Armenian and Azeri leaders have agreed to pursue talks over the disputed Nagorno-Karabakh region after resuming direct contacts at a meeting in Paris Monday (27 October), the French government said.

Read full article: [EurActiv](#) (10/28) [RFE/RL](#) (10/30)

AFRICA

Central African Republic

UN peacekeepers free 67 hostages

U.N. peacekeepers in the Central African Republic freed 67 hostages who had been seized by militia groups, a spokeswoman for the U.N. mission known as MINUSCA said on Wednesday.

Read full article: [Reuters AlertNet](#) (10/29)

Democratic Republic of the Congo

Wrong to expel top rights expert, UN envoy tells Congo

The United Nations envoy to the Democratic Republic of the Congo on Monday publicly rebuked the Kinshasa government for expelling the top UN human rights official, as the Congolese ambassador accused the official of "offensive behavior."

Read full article: [defenceWeb](#) (10/28)

Amid fresh violence, 'presence without action, undermines our credibility' – UN envoy

Amid continuing flare-ups of deadly violence and a tenuous humanitarian situation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), the head of the United Nations peacekeeping mission (MONUSCO) in the vast African nation today underlined the need for a "proactive, not reactive" response in countering the country's rebel groups and boosting protection for civilians.

Read full article: [UN News](#) (10/27)

UN, African Union urge eastern town to support operations to end rebel threat

Visiting the site of a recent flare-up of deadly violence in eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), United Nations and African Union (AU) envoys met with the Mayor of the town of Beni, Congolese military officials and local leaders, urging a united front to “put an end to the terror imposed on the population by armed groups,” including Ugandan-based rebels operating in the area.

Read full article: [UN News](#) (10/24)

Libya

Libya's armed factions may have committed war crimes - Amnesty

Human rights group Amnesty International said on Thursday it had satellite pictures indicating that rival factions in Libya had committed war crimes by shelling densely populated residential areas in the west of the oil-producing country.

Read full article: [Reuters AlertNet](#) (10/30)

Libyan PM says ready for talks with parallel government rivals

Libya's internationally-recognised Prime Minister Abdullah al-Thinni said on Wednesday he was ready for peace talks with rivals controlling the capital Tripoli and questioning his legitimacy if all sides made concessions.

Read full article: [Reuters AlertNet](#) (10/29)

UN envoy: Libya nearing 'point of no return'

Factional warfare in Libya is pushing the oil-producing nation "very close to the point of no return," the U.N. special envoy to the country said on Tuesday, commenting on flagging efforts to bring about a ceasefire and political dialogue.

Read full article: [VOA News](#) (10/28)

Mali

France to send troops back to north Mali as insurgent activity revives

France is to send troops redeployed to neighbouring countries back to the Mali because UN forces have failed to turn up in the troubled north of the country as planned, French Defence Minister Jean-Yves Le Drian has told RFI. Insurgent activity has risen again in the area, he admitted.

Read full article: [RFI](#) (10/28) [Reuters AlertNet](#) (10/29)

Somalia

In Somalia, Ban lauds country's progress towards stability, urges 'continuity'

Somalia has made “remarkable progress” as it continues down the road towards economic and political stability, United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon said today as he arrived in the capital city of Mogadishu – the third stop in a tour of the Horn of Africa aimed at promoting development and consolidating peace and security across the wider region.

Read full article: [UN News](#) (10/29)

Somali President extends amnesty to al-Shabab fighters

The president of Somalia says his country will again offer amnesty to al-Shabab fighters who denounce the terrorist organization and its ideology.

Read full article: [VOA News](#) (10/28)

UN authorizes ship inspections near Somalia for arms, charcoal

The resolution, adopted by the 15-member council with 13 votes in favor, approves the use of "all necessary measures" ... to carry out such inspections.

Read full article: [defenceWeb](#) (10/27)

Al-Shabab terrorists pushed from last Somali stronghold

The terrorist group al-Shabab has been pushed out of its last stronghold in Somalia, the coastal city of Barawe. African Union forces and Somali soldiers liberated it in their latest military victory.

Read full article: [VOA News](#) (10/27)

South Sudan

Fighting erupts again in South Sudan; each side blames the other

South Sudan government forces and rebel troops clashed in oil-rich Unity State on Monday, President Salva Kiir said, days before the two sides are to hold talks to end a 10-month conflict that has ravaged the world's youngest nation.

Read full article: [defenceWeb](#) (10/28)

One killed in clashes at UN camp in South Sudan

One person was killed and eight others were wounded when machete-wielding youths clashed inside the United Nations camp in Malakal, where thousands of displaced South Sudanese have sought shelter, a U.N. official said Tuesday.

Read full article: [VOA News](#) (10/28)

Sudan (Darfur)

UN says Darfur mission withheld details of attacks on civilians

The UN-African Union peacekeeping mission in Sudan's western Darfur region failed to provide U.N. headquarters with full reports on attacks against civilians and peacekeepers in the conflict-torn territory, the United Nations said on Wednesday.

Read full article: [Reuters AlertNet](#) (10/29)

MIDDLE EAST

Egypt / Israel

Egypt clears Gaza border area to create security buffer

Egypt began clearing residents from its border with the Gaza Strip on Wednesday to create a buffer zone following some of the worst anti-state violence since President Mohamed Mursi was overthrown last year.

Read full article: [Reuters AlertNet](#) (10/29)

Egypt declares state of emergency on parts of Sinai

Egypt has declared a three-month state of emergency in parts of northern Sinai. The move comes after two attacks in Sinai killed 33 security personnel on October 24.

Read full article: [RFE/RL](#) (10/25)

Iraq

Iraqi forces seize four villages after victory near Baghdad

Iraqi government forces retook four villages on Sunday near a mountain ridge overlooking Islamic State supply lines, security officials said, in a campaign which has struggled to make advances against the Sunni Islamist insurgents.

Read full article: [Reuters AlertNet](#) (10/26)

Israel / Palestine

UN holds emergency meeting on Israel tensions

A U.N. official warned in an emergency meeting of the Security Council on Wednesday that Israel's plans for further settlements in east Jerusalem threaten the viability of the future Palestinian state. Close ally the United States also warned against Israel's plans.

Read full article: [AP / Yahoo News](#) (10/30)

Lebanon

Army restores order, militant leaders on the run

The Army's campaign against terrorist groups has put an end to four days of fierce clashes with militants inspired by ISIS and the Nusra Front. The clashes left 42 people dead and some 150 wounded.

Read full article: [The Daily Star](#) (10/28)

Afghanistan

Last international forces airlifted from key base in Afghanistan

A fleet of planes and helicopters airlifted the last U.S. and British forces from a key base in southern Afghanistan on Monday, a day after the international coalition closed the massive facility and handed it over to the Afghan military.

Read full article: [Reuters / Yahoo News](#) (10/27)