



Peace Operations Update

Aktuelle Informationen zu Friedenseinsätzen

05.2015

January 23–29

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

NEW ZIF PUBLICATIONS

New “ZIF kompakt” | Peace, Development & Security: An Inventory of the Toolbox

Fifteen years after the last comprehensive report on UN peace operations (the so-called *Brahimi Report*) a new review of UN Peacekeeping and Special Political Missions is on its way. Various other processes also take a look at other instruments of international crisis management. A new ZIF kompakt provides a comprehensive overview of these ongoing efforts.

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

New “ZIF In Mission“ | Stress Management in Peace Operations

How do German civilian experts deal with everyday stress factors they are faced with during deployment in international peace operations and what kind of psychological support is offered by UN, EU and OSCE to civilian experts as part of a “Duty of Care” strategy? In a new “In Mission” publication, ZIF presents the results of qualitative interviews with ZIF-experts from the field and human resources experts at UN, EU, and OSCE.

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

EUROPE

Bosnia and Herzegovina

Bosnian Serbs mull 'reply' to EU reform plan

The new EU initiative for Bosnia has encountered further problems after the Republika Srpska leader expressed reservations and his government pushed ahead with its own reform plans.

Read full article: [Balkan Insight](#) (01/29)

Cyprus

Security Council approves extension for UN peacekeeping force

The Security Council today extended the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP) – one of the longest running UN missions still in operation – until 31 July 2015, noting that despite some progress made in negotiations between the Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot sides, a “comprehensive and durable settlement” is still lacking.

Read full article: [UN News](#) (01/29)

Kosovo

Kosovo unrest leaves 37 injured

Police fired tear gas and water cannon to disperse several thousand anti-government protesters demanding the resignation of a Serb Cabinet minister accused of insulting the ethnic Albanian majority.

Read full article: [VOA News](#) (01/27)

Ukraine

EU consensus on Russia sanctions stalled by Greek objections

EU diplomats say ambassadors of the 28-nation bloc have failed to reach consensus on new sanctions targeting Russia for its role in the Ukraine crisis and the extension of current sanctions due to objections from Greece.

Read full article: [RFE/RL](#) (01/29)

CAUCASUS

Georgia

NATO says training center in Georgia to open soon

NATO Deputy Secretary-General Alexander Vershbow said in an interview with Georgia's Channel One in Brussels broadcast on January 26 that he hopes the center will start operations in Georgia by the end of 2015.

Read full article: [RFE/RL](#) (01/26)

Nagorno-Karabakh

Armenian President warns of 'preventive' strikes on Azerbaijan

Armenian President Serzh Sarkisian said his country is prepared for any eventuality in the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict and warned Azerbaijan he would use "asymmetrical" responses to any military threats.

Read full article: [RFE/RL](#) (01/27)

AFRICA

Burundi

Burundian army accused of murdering rebels

Burundian soldiers shot dead 17 rebels at point-blank range after they surrendered in January, witnesses have told the BBC. ... Burundi's army denied the allegation, saying 95 rebels were killed in a five-day battle in the remote north-west.

Read full article: [BBC](#) (01/27)

Central African Republic

CAR government says rejects ceasefire deal

The government of Central African Republic said on Thursday it rejected a ceasefire deal made in Kenya between two militia groups aimed at ending more than a year of clashes and attacks in which thousands have died.

Read full article: [defenceWeb](#) (01/29)

Opposing CAR forces agree tentative initial truce

Warring forces in the Central African Republic have agreed to an initial ceasefire agreement, the top mediator at Kenyan-based peace talks has said.

Read full article: [Al Jazeera](#) (01/28)

CAR minister kidnapped 'for rebel chief

The militia group which abducted Central African Republic's sports minister has demanded the release of its detained commander, the minister's spokeswoman has said. ... UN troops arrested Mr Nagibona, known as General Andjilo, earlier this month.

Read full article: [BBC](#) (01/26)

Democratic Republic of the Congo

Congo declares start of campaign against Rwandan Hutu rebels

Democratic Republic of Congo's army on Thursday declared the official start of operations against Rwandan Hutu rebels, but a senior army official said combat had not yet begun. ... An attack on the group by the FARDC and the U.N. peacekeeping mission in Congo (MONUSCO) has been expected since the rebels missed a Jan. 2 deadline set by regional leaders to disarm.

Read full article: [Reuters AlertNet](#) (01/29)

DR Congo parliament passes amended census law

The Democratic Republic of Congo parliament has passed an amended census bill following four days of violent nationwide protests. ... The original version of the bill said a census was needed before elections, effectively delaying next year's polls. The opposition said this was an attempt to extend President Joseph Kabila's time in office. Under the new bill, the election can proceed as planned.

Read full article: [BBC](#) (01/26)

Peacekeeping chief backs gradual drawdown of UN mission

Amid the deteriorating situation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), where the capital, Kinshasa, is gripped by clashes between demonstrators and security forces, Secretary General Ban Ki-moon today urged maximum restraint on all sides, while the head of United Nations peacekeeping operations briefed the Security Council on broader efforts to help stabilize the vast country.

Read full article: [UN News](#) (01/22) [Security Council Meetings Coverage](#) (01/22)

Libya

Parties agree 'in principle' to move UN-mediated political talks to Libya

Participants in the United Nations-facilitated Libyan political dialogue in discussions in Geneva this week have agreed "on the principle" of convening future dialogue sessions in Libya, provided that logistical and security conditions are available.

Read full article: [UN News](#) (01/29)

What next for Libya?

In a 27 January attack claimed by IS, gunmen stormed a luxury Tripoli hotel popular with UN officials and diplomats, killing at least nine people, among them five foreigners. It was the deadliest in a series of incidents, which suggest that IS supporters in Libya are growing more assertive as the country's political crisis continues.

Read full article: [Irinnews](#) (01/29) [IPI Global Observatory](#) (01/28)

Amnesty calls for UN sanctions, war crimes probe in Libya

Rights group Amnesty International called on Wednesday for targeted UN sanctions and investigations into possible war crimes in Libya to end a cycle of abductions and summary killings by rival armed factions.

Read full article: [defenceWeb](#) (01/29)

Mali

EUTM Mali: Kabinett beschließt Mandatsverlängerung

Deutsche Soldaten nehmen weiter an der EU-geführten Ausbildungsmission in Mali teil. Der Kabinettsbeschluss sieht vor, die Mandatsobergrenze auf 350 Soldaten anzuheben. Im August 2015 übernimmt Deutschland die Führung bei EUTM Mali.

Read full article: [Bundesministerium der Verteidigung](#) (01/28)

UN: 3 killed, 13 hurt in northern Mali protest

UN peacekeepers said they fired tear gas and warning shots on Tuesday to disperse a protest that had degenerated into violence outside one of their bases in northern Mali. Three people were killed and several wounded, including some by gunfire, the force said.

Read full article: [AP / Yahoo News](#) (01/27) [UN News](#) (01/28)

UN strikes back as conflict escalates in Mali

Last week in Mali, northern rebels clashed with each other; rebels attacked peacekeepers; United Nations forces responded with air strikes; and pro-rebel protesters drove UN troops out of an airport in the northern city of Kidal. Two years after a French-led military intervention began, northern Mali has become a battleground between Tuareg and Arab rebels, loyalist militias, regional jihadists, and the Malian government and the UN peacekeepers supporting it.

Read full article: [IPI Global Observatory](#) (01/26)

Somalia

Somali political crisis delaying state rebuilding - UN envoy

A political crisis that has produced Somalia's third prime minister in just over a year has delayed work to draw up a new constitution and steps needed to prepare for a referendum and election in 2016, UN envoy Nick Kay said on Wednesday.

Read full article: [Reuters AlertNet](#) (01/28)

Somali president renews amnesty offer for Al-Shabab members

The comments follow the defection of al-Shabab's former intelligence chief, Zakariya Ismail Hersi, and what the government said is a steady flow of "foot soldiers" abandoning the militants.

Read full article: [VOA News](#) (01/28)

South Sudan

Sudan and South Sudan's merging conflicts – new ICG report

The conflicts in Sudan and South Sudan are increasingly merged. Halting drift toward a Uganda-Sudan proxy war on the Sudan-South Sudan border requires better coordination by regional organisations and more engagement by influential outside powers, notably China and the U.S., including via the UN Security Council.

Read full report: [International Crisis Group](#) (01/29)

PSC summit-level meeting crucial for South Sudan

The future of South Sudan's peace talks now lies with the African Union (AU) Peace and Security Council (PSC), scheduled to meet on Thursday, 29 January, in Addis Ababa. Pressure is mounting for the PSC to release the findings of the AU-led inquiry into the conflict, which could lead to sanctions against key individuals. The expected tabling of the report in this meeting has given new impetus to the peace talks.

Read full article: [ISS Peace and Security Council Report](#) (01/27)

UN welcomes demobilization of child soldiers amid signs of peace

The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) is celebrating the release of some 3,000 South Sudanese child soldiers today in what is being hailed as one of the largest ever demobilizations of children in a zone of conflict.

Read full article: [UN News](#) (01/27)

South Sudan / Sudan (Abyei)

Secretary-General appoints new head of mission for Abyei

United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon today announced the appointment of Haile Tilahun Gebremariam of Ethiopia as the Head of Mission of the United Nations Interim Security Force for Abyei (UNISFA).

Read full article: [UN Press Release](#) (01/28)

Sudan (Darfur)

MSF in Sudan to pull out of war-torn Blue Nile, parts of Darfur

The group said that total denial of access to Blue Nile state, forced closure of activities in East Darfur and administrative obstacles in South Darfur had made its work in those conflict-hit areas impossible.

Read full article: [Reuters AlertNet](#) (01/29)

MIDDLE EAST

Lebanon

Hezbollah 'sends anti-escalation message' to Israel

Israel says it has received a message from Lebanese militant group Hezbollah saying it does not want a further escalation after border clashes on Wednesday that killed three people.

Read full article: [BBC](#) (01/29)

UN 'blue helmet' killed near site of Lebanon-Israel cross-fire

Amid what Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon has described as a "serious deterioration of the security situation in Southern Lebanon," the United Nations Interim Force there (UNIFIL) has launched an investigation into the death of a peacekeeper today near the border with Israel, according to a statement released by the Mission.

Read full article: [UN News](#) (01/28)

SOUTH AMERICA AND CARIBBEAN

Haiti

UN council calls for vote, inclusive governance in Haiti

... Justice Minister Pierre-Richard Casimir asked the UN delegation not to make the planned troop reductions until Haiti's elections were over. Besides the long-overdue legislative vote, Haiti is due to hold presidential elections this year.

Read full article: [AP / Yahoo News](#) (01/25)

OTHER PEACEKEEPING RELEVANT NEWS

Africa urged to act over Boko Haram

African states should act quickly and collectively to curb the growing threat posed by Nigeria's militant Islamists, the African Union chief has said. ... Nigeria has rejected AU or UN intervention, saying regional armies are capable of dealing with the threat.

Read full article: [BBC](#) (01/26)

Boko Haram - Nigerian peacekeeping troops may be recalled

Federal Government, yesterday, expressed the possibility of recalling soldiers in the country's peace keeping mission abroad to enhance the operational capability of the military against insurgency in the North East.

Read full article: [allAfrica](#) (01/23)

Ban nominates experts to review peacebuilding architecture

United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon today nominated an Advisory Group of Experts to conduct a policy and institutional review of the peacebuilding architecture and then to develop recommendations based on this work.

Read full article: [UN News](#) (01/22)

EU deploys election observation mission in Nigeria

A core team of eight election analysts arrived on 6 January in Abuja. On 12 January, they were joined by 30 long-term observers who will be deployed across the country. A delegation of the European Parliament and Nigeria-based EU diplomats will reinforce the mission on election day (14 and 28 February).

Read full article: [EU Press Release](#) (01/22)

LRA affected areas

From jungle to justice: LRA at The Hague

Almost 10 years after the International Criminal Court issued an arrest warrant against him, a senior member of the Uganda's Lord's Resistance Army rebel group appeared before the tribunal's judges in The Hague today.

Read full article: [Irinnews](#) (01/26)