Maintenance of international PEACE AND SECURITY

Doves, the symbols of peace, fly freely in the grounds of the historic Hazrat-i-Ali mosque in the city of Mazar-i-Sharif, Afghanistan. This photo has graced thousands of locations across Afghanistan since its adoption as UNAMA’s Peace Day poster.
KEY PROGRAMMES

- Support to global policymaking organs
- Prevention, management and resolution of conflicts
- Peacebuilding support
- Policy, evaluation and training
- Protection of civilians
- Rule of law and security institutions
- Electoral assistance

INDICATIVE RESOURCES

$8.2B

$797M regular assessed, $7.1B peacekeeping assessed (2017-2018) and $275M voluntary contributions

SELECT MANDATES

- Peacebuilding and sustaining peace, GA resolution 72/276 and SC resolution 2282 (2016)
- Restructuring of the United Nations peace and security pillar, GA resolutions 72/199 and 72/262 C
- Action for peacekeeping, S/PRST/2018/10
- Comprehensive review of peacekeeping operations, GA resolution 73/293
- Comprehensive review of special political missions, GA resolution 73/101
- Children in armed conflict, SC resolutions 1612 (2005) and 2427 (2018)

SELECT ENTITIES

- Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs
- Department of Peace Operations
- Peacekeeping Missions, Political Missions and Offices
Secretary-General António Guterres addresses the Security Council meeting on the maintenance of international peace and security, focusing on a comprehensive review of the situation in the Middle East and North Africa.
MAINTENANCE OF INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY

CONTEXT

During 2018, challenging global trends underscored the need for multilateral action to prevent conflict and to keep and sustain peace. After decades of decline, the resurgence of conflict continued. Wars, violence and persecution uprooted nearly 71 million people. An increased number of locations experienced violence, and the number of conflict actors proliferated, with dire implications for civilians. Conflicts were often regional and, despite some progress, terrorism and violent extremism persisted.

More generally, poor governance and unequal access to opportunity continued to fuel discontent in societies. Hard-earned governance gains are put at risk and the space for inclusive politics continues to shrink, creating the potential for instability. Elections, if not inclusive and peaceful, sometimes served as triggers for violence. While technological progress brought about benefits, it also created disruptions.

The year also marked the seventieth anniversary of United Nations peacekeeping. The context in which peacekeeping operates today has changed dramatically since 1948. Many locations in which the Security Council now mandates peacekeeping missions face protracted crises with multiple adversaries, stalled peace processes, organized crime and attacks from violent extremists or terrorists.

71M PEOPLE HAVE BEEN FORCIBLY DISPLACED

To successfully respond to such complex trends, the world needs inclusive political processes, coordinated global responses and effective multilateral institutions.

In the challenging environment of 2018, the global community also made progress. The rapprochement between Eritrea and Ethiopia transformed political dynamics in the Horn of Africa. The ceasefire agreement for Hudaydah port gave new impetus to ending the crisis in Yemen. A peace agreement brought renewed hope to South Sudan and the Central African Republic. Iraq and its partners completed operations against Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL). Many electoral processes, from Madagascar to Maldives, resulted in peaceful transfers of power. The agreement between Greece and North Macedonia reaffirmed optimism that protracted conflicts and disputes can be resolved.

In support of multilateral action, Member States also agreed to reform the Secretariat’s peace and security pillar. And more than 150 States endorsed the Declaration of Shared Commitments on United Nations Peacekeeping Operations as part of the Initiative on Action for Peacekeeping. This multi-year initiative now constitutes the United Nations core agenda for fostering peacekeeping as one of the most effective tools for maintaining international peace and security.
The illustrative location indicators on this map are intended to show geographical areas of responsibility or mandates of peace operations. They do not necessarily show where these entities are based. This infographic does not show United Nations-supported sanctions panels and experts or New York-based special political missions.

The depiction and use of boundaries, geographic names and related data shown on maps are not guaranteed to be error free, nor do they necessarily imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

* All references to Kosovo in this document should be understood to be in the context of United Nations Security Council resolution 1244 (1999).

**ACRONYM**

- **CNMC** United Nations support for the Cameroon-Nigeria Mixed Commission
- **MINURSO** United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara
- **MINUSCA** United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the Central African Republic
- **MINUSMA** United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali
- **MONUSCO** United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo
- **UNAMA** United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan
- **UNAMI** United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq
- **UNAMID** African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur
- **UNDOF** United Nations Disengagement Observer Force
- **UNFICYP** United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus
- **UNIFIL** United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon
- **UNIOGBIS** United Nations Integrated Peacebuilding Office in Guinea-Bissau
- **UNISFA** United Nations Interim Security Force for Abyei
- **UNITAD** United Nations Investigative Team to Promote Accountability for Crimes Committed by Da’esh/Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant
KEY OBJECTIVES

Based on the principles of the Charter of the United Nations and the mandates of the Security Council and General Assembly, the United Nations supports Member States through major programmes on international peace and security. Through its political affairs, peacebuilding and peacekeeping programmes, the United Nations assists in the prevention, management and peaceful resolution of conflicts. Following recent reforms, those programmes are now more closely integrated to deliver an effective “whole-of-pillar” approach. In partnership with national stakeholders, regional organizations and contributors, the Organization also provides a range of other solutions to help foster international peace and security.

In addition, the United Nations pursues dedicated programmes to tackle violence against children, address sexual violence in conflict, protect children in armed conflict and prevent sexual exploitation and abuse in the Organization. It also maintains a programme on the prevention of genocide.

KEY RESULTS

Prevention, management and resolution of conflicts

In several situations during the year, the United Nations helped to prevent conflict or defuse tension. In Madagascar, for example, it worked in coordination with the African Union and other partners to help resolve disagreements ahead of the presidential election. Collective engagement contributed to the formation of a consensus Government and a largely peaceful presidential election and subsequent handover of power. In Somalia, the United Nations and the Intergovernmental Authority on Development worked to contain tensions between Puntland and “Somaliland”. In Mali, United Nations good offices – in collaboration with the African Union and the Economic Community of West African States – were instrumental in preventing escalation during the first presidential election held since the signing of the 2015 peace agreement. To help resolve the protracted situation in Western Sahara, the United Nations helped to convene the first meeting of the parties in six years. In the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the stabilizing

AFRICAN UNION AND UNITED NATIONS COOPERATION IN PEACE AND SECURITY

In December 2018, the African Union and the United Nations signed a joint declaration* outlining the guiding principles for their cooperation in responding to conflict and crisis situations in Africa, including collaboration with African Union peace support operations. The agreement is part of increasing collaboration between the two organizations.


Secretary-General António Guterres and African Union Commission Chairperson, Moussa Faki Mahamat, sign the Joint Declaration.
Young South Sudanese citizens commemorate the International Day of Peace in the capital, Juba. In 2018, the signing of a new peace agreement in South Sudan brought renewed hope to the country.
The influence of the peacekeeping mission contributed to presidential elections that led to the country’s first peaceful transfer of power.

The United Nations helped to broker several other agreements to foster peace. In Yemen, United Nations-led talks resulted in a ceasefire agreement for Hudaydah port, which created hope for alleviating the world’s worst humanitarian crisis. Following long-standing United Nations mediation, Greece and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia signed a historic agreement to resolve a dispute on the name of the latter country, which is now known as North Macedonia. In the Central African Republic, the leadership of the African Union and the support of the United Nations mission were essential for a peace agreement with armed groups. In South Sudan, the peacekeeping mission provided critical support in the conclusion of a revitalized peace agreement between the parties. In the Syrian Arab Republic, the United Nations continued to call for the implementation of the September 2018 memorandum of understanding on Idlib to protect civilians and facilitate a credible political process.

In all of those settings, the United Nations political presence on the ground has been instrumental in gaining hard-won progress. The Organization deployed more than 30 special political missions, offices or envoys in countries and regions of concern during the year, including large political missions in Afghanistan, Colombia, Iraq, Libya, Somalia, the Syrian Arab Republic, Yemen and the Middle East. In total, the United Nations engaged in more than 90 situations with early warning, analysis, good offices and mediation services to support Member States in preventing conflict and consolidating peace.
In support of Security Council mandates, the United Nations also maintained 14 peacekeeping operations in 2018/19, in addition to its support office in Somalia. In total, Member States asked the United Nations to deploy or support 118,000 uniformed and 17,000 civilian personnel (A/73/776), a 10 per cent reduction from 2017/18 following the completion of the mission in Liberia and the transition to new configurations in the Darfur region of the Sudan and in Haiti.

Peacekeeping continued to represent the Organization’s largest investment of resources. In 2018/19, peacekeeping operations accounted for $7 billion in expenditure (or about half of the United Nations Secretariat’s total spending), nearly $1 billion less than in 2016/17. Every second civilian staff member served in peacekeeping operations, including in some of the world’s most difficult environments, such as the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Mali and South Sudan. Nearly 100 peacekeepers gave their lives in the line of duty in 2018.

United Nations police officer greets a woman and her baby while on patrol in Timbuktu, Mali, to secure the city against threats of terrorism and banditry.
THE NUMBER OF UNITED NATIONS PEACEKEEPERS HAS BEGUN TO DECLINE

- United Nations Assistance Mission for Rwanda established
- United Nations Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo established
- United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone established
- United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo established
- United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti established
- African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur established
- United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon increases number of peacekeepers

123 PARTNER COUNTRIES IN PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS

PEACEKEEPING EXPENDITURE HAS DECLINED

FEWER PEACEKEEPERS DIED IN THE PURSUIT OF PEACE IN 2018

Number of countries

Millions of US dollars

Number of peacekeeping fatalities

Source: Department of Peace Operations
Peacebuilding support

Following the adoption of two landmark resolutions in 2016, the United Nations has focused on better serving nations in the goal of sustaining peace. In that context, it assists the Peacebuilding Commission and manages the Peacebuilding Fund to foster support for national efforts and enhance system-wide partnerships, including with the World Bank and other international financial institutions.

For example, the United Nations worked with the Peacebuilding Commission to advance a revised strategy for addressing the root causes of the Sahel crisis, where terrorism and violent extremism have made it difficult to focus international attention on such core conflict drivers as weak development indicators, conflict over land and climate change. The Peacebuilding Fund invested more than $60 million to kick-start the strategy’s implementation. In total, the Fund approved $183 million in 2018 for projects in 40 countries to foster stability and sustain peace.

Protection of civilians

The protection of civilians is at the heart of many United Nations mandates. In 2018/19, eight peacekeeping missions had a specific civilian protection task. To that end, civilian, military and police personnel collaborated, based on integrated strategies. In South Sudan, for example, they provided physical protection to 190,000 women, children and men at United Nations protection sites. Peacekeepers also helped to establish protective environments for many people elsewhere, including through the provision of assistance to authorities in Mali. In the eastern region of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, United Nations support

“...We need a quantum leap towards a $500 million Peacebuilding Fund to strengthen conflict prevention and address its root causes.”

Oscar Fernández-Taranco, Assistant Secretary-General for Peacebuilding Support

In 2018, the United Nations collaborated with the Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue on a toolkit for digital technologies and mediation in armed conflict, which helps United Nations teams to explore the risks and benefits of digital technologies in conflict analysis, engagement with the parties, inclusivity and strategic communications.

Afghan youth participating in a 4-day hackathon in Kabul to create innovative solutions to curbing corruption.
led to a sustained reduction in threats against civilians. There, peacekeepers helped to capture 57 commanders of armed groups, hold 287 perpetrators of violence accountable and confirm more than 5,400 human rights violations. The United Nations mission also supported health workers in containing the spread of the Ebola virus.

To help fill protection gaps across its missions, the United Nations worked with Member States to increase the pool of military personnel and equipment available for deployment. By the end of 2018, 270 pledges had been registered for more than 20 types of such capabilities from 86 Member States. For the first time, nine military units from five contributing countries reached the highest level of rapid deployment. Up to 2,300 of their troops are now available to deploy within 60 days.

**Electoral assistance**

About 70 national elections and referendums were held across the globe in 2018. The United Nations provided
Staff member of the Electoral Affairs Division, United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (MINUSMA) at a polling station in Mopti, Mali, during the 2018 presidential election.
MAINTENANCE OF INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY

Report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Organization

Policy, evaluation and training

In the past year, the United Nations put significant effort into policy development, evaluation and training. Since late 2017, for example, the Organization completed eight independent and externally led reviews of peacekeeping missions. Those top-to-bottom reviews examined all aspects of field operations and focused on ways to better deliver on mandates. Together with the report of Lieutenant General (Retired) Carlos Alberto dos Santos Cruz, who was tasked with inspecting peacekeeping fatalities and injuries due to violent acts, the reviews helped to advance action. For example, United Nations teams developed and piloted a comprehensive performance assessment system, which will be fully rolled out by 2020.

Rule of law and security sector institutions

United Nations support for rule of law and security institutions was integral to the mandates of 20 peacekeeping or political missions and in non-mission settings. A disarmament, demobilization and reintegration programme in the Republic of the Congo, for example, contributed to a successful ceasefire agreement. In Burkina Faso and the Gambia, the United Nations provided advice on how to develop national security policies. In 18 countries and territories, United Nations support for the removal of mines and other explosive hazards helped to increase safety and facilitate aid efforts. In the Central African Republic and the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the United Nations also continued to support national authorities in investigating and prosecuting perpetrators of serious crimes. Across all field missions, more than 10,000 United Nations police officers helped to protect civilians, prevent crime and build local policing capacity with community-oriented approaches.

OUR ELECTORAL ASSISTANCE

We provided capacity development support to

50+ Member States on electoral processes and institutions…

… and conducted

90+ needs assessment and advisory missions…

We also directly assisted in the conduct of

18 elections…

… including those in Iraq, Madagascar, Cameroon and Armenia

Source: Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs

capacity-development support to more than 50 Member States and 5 regional organizations on electoral processes and institutions. United Nations teams conducted more than 90 needs assessment and advisory missions. The Organization also directly assisted in the conduct of 18 elections. In Iraq, for example, it supported election preparations and provided advice on the recounting of votes. In Madagascar, United Nations and international engagement was instrumental in supporting electoral institutions. In Cameroon, the Organization assisted national institutions in organizing presidential elections, and in Armenia it supported the conduct of parliamentary elections.

49 UNITED NATIONS PEACE AND DEVELOPMENT ADVISERS DEPLOYED GLOBALLY

Source: Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs
ENDORSEMENTS OF THE A4P INITIATIVE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Commitment</th>
<th>Member States</th>
<th>Secretary-General</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Support effective performance and accountability</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advance political solutions and enhance political impact</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strengthen the impact of peacekeeping on sustaining peace</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strengthen peacekeeping and personnel conduct</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improve peacekeeping partnerships</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strengthen the protection provided by peacekeeping</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Implement the women, peace and security agenda</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improve safety and security of peacekeepers</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: DPO

45 COMMITMENTS FROM ALL PARTNERS TO STRENGTHEN PEACEKEEPING IN 8 AREAS

In 2018, the Secretary-General launched the Action for Peacekeeping (A4P) initiative. As a multi-year agenda for better peacekeeping, it aims to spur stronger collective action by all stakeholders, including Member States, the Security Council, the General Assembly, financial contributors, troop and police contributing countries, host countries, intergovernmental and regional organizations and the United Nations Secretariat. Across 8 areas of action, the A4P declaration delivered 45 mutually-agreed commitments that were endorsed by more than 150 Member States and 4 inter-governmental organizations.


Secretary-General António Guterres, Under-Secretary-General for Peace Operations, Jean-Pierre Lacroix, and Under-Secretary-General for Operational Support, Atul Khare, during the launch of A4P.
Security Council affairs

The Security Council held more than 400 meetings and consultations, considered 1,200 documents and adopted 54 resolutions and more than 200 decisions in 2018. United Nations teams provided Secretariat services for the Council, supported its subsidiary bodies (including 14 sanctions committees) and contributed research and training. The Organization also began tracking women’s participation in Council meetings to help advance female voices in global decision-making.

Violence against children, children and armed conflict, sexual violence in conflict and victims’ rights

To drive global action on human rights violations often associated with conflict, the United Nations has three high-level representatives and advocates who in 2018 continued to build awareness, provide leadership, pursue advocacy, collect data and work with partners to facilitate action. In Côte d’Ivoire, for example, the Special Representative on Sexual Violence in Conflict worked with authorities on a zero-tolerance policy for sexual violence in the armed forces. In South Sudan, more than 900 children were released from armed groups, following advocacy on the part of the Special Representative for Children and Armed Conflict and system-wide collaboration. In support of children’s rights, the Special Representative on Violence against Children prepared a new report on protecting children from bullying to create a unique global platform for children’s voices. Furthermore, the Victims’ Rights Advocate helped to unite the leaders of more than 70 United Nations system entities and Governments in reaffirming measures to combat sexual exploitation and abuse in the Organization.

OUTLOOK

In 2020, the ambitious reform of the United Nations peace and security pillar will enter its second year. The creation of a single regional structure at Headquarters for better internal collaboration on strategy and operations, as well as the Action for Peacekeeping agenda, are already bearing fruit. In the year ahead, the United Nations expects to address the full spectrum of peace and security matters, from conflict prevention to conflict resolution, peacekeeping and peacebuilding, in an even more coordinated, coherent and effective way.
The issuance of “The missing peace: independent progress study on youth and peace and security” (see A/72/761-S/2018/86) marked a milestone for the youth, peace and security agenda. Underscoring the positive contribution of youth to sustaining peace, the study led to the adoption by the Security Council of resolution 2419 (2018). A dedicated team will coordinate the inclusion of youth in policies and programmes across the United Nations system.