

UN Security Council in Review

August 2021



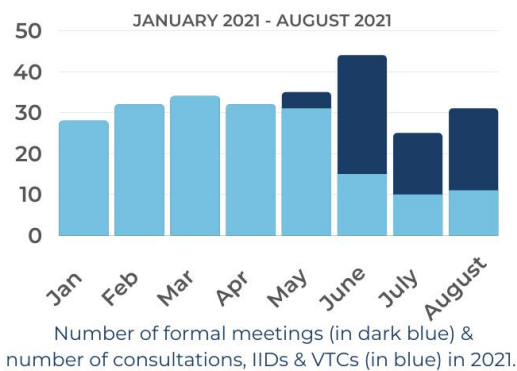
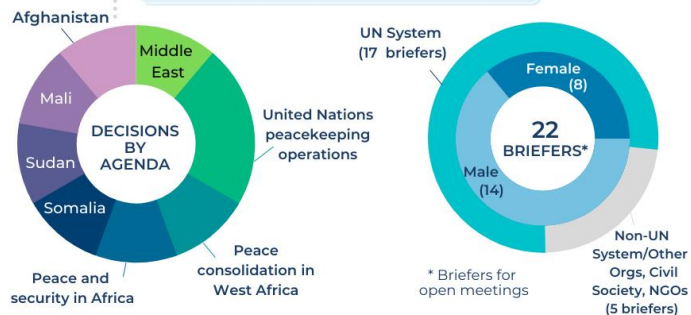
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August 2021 at a Glance



Most frequently discussed topics (open & closed) in August 2021

Middle East
Afghanistan



In August, under the **Presidency of India**, the Security Council conducted all of its business in-person, with the exception of one videoconference. The Council held three signature events at ministerial level:

- An open videoconference focused on the **Maintenance of international peace and security**, concerning **maritime security** (9 August). The **Prime Minister of India** presided over the meeting.
- An open debate concerning **United Nations peacekeeping operations**, specifically focused on **Protecting the protectors: technology and peacekeeping** (18 August). The **Minister for External Affairs of India** presided over the meeting.
- A thematic briefing on **Threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts**, focused on the thirteenth report of the Secretary-General on the **threat posed by ISIL/Da'esh** (19 August). The **Minister for External Affairs of India** presided over the meeting.

Key Topics

The situation in the **Middle East** was the most frequently considered country- or region-specific item in open and closed discussions (4, 23, 24 and 30 August), followed by **Afghanistan** (6, 16 and 30 August). **Somalia** was also discussed more than once during the month. Council members discussed under other matters (AOB): **Georgia**, maritime incident in **the Gulf of Oman**, and **Haiti**.

Other country- and region-specific items considered by the Council in August included: **DPRK (1718 Sanctions Committee)**, **Iraq**, **Mali**,

the **Middle East, including the Palestinian question, Sudan and South Sudan**, as well as **Peace consolidation in West Africa** and **Peace and security in Africa**.

The Council held a private meeting on **Myanmar** (17 August). One private meeting was also held with troop-contributing countries to **UNIFIL** (6 August).

Procedural notes

On 13 August 2021, the **Security Council Informal Working Group on Documentation and other Procedural Questions (IWG)** held its fourth meeting of the year chaired by H.E. Ms. Inga Rhonda King, Permanent Representative of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines.

Decisions and press statements

In August 2021, the Council adopted **5 resolutions** and issued **4 presidential statements**.

The Council unanimously adopted resolution [2589 \(2021\)](#) on 18 August, concerning **safety and security of UN peacekeepers**; resolution [2590 \(2021\)](#) on 30 August, **renewing the sanctions measures and extending the mandate of the Panel of Experts** concerning Mali; and resolutions [2591 \(2021\)](#) and [2592 \(2021\)](#) on 30 August, **extending the mandates of UNIFIL and UNSOM**, respectively. On 30 August, the Council also adopted resolution [2593 \(2021\)](#) **condemning the attacks of 26 August near Hamid Karzai International Airport in Kabul, Afghanistan**. The resolution was adopted with 13 votes in favour and two abstentions (China and the Russian Federation).

The Council issued presidential statements on the **completion of the drawdown of UNAMID** ([S/PRST/2021/14](#) of 2 August); **Maritime Security** ([S/PRST/2021/15](#) of 9 August); **Peace consolidation in West Africa**, concerning security, political and humanitarian situations in the region, as well as regional organizations and mechanisms ([S/PRST/2021/16](#) of 17 August); and **UN peacekeeping operations**, specifically on safety and security of UN peacekeepers ([S/PRST/2021/17](#) of 18 August).

By the exchange of letters between the Secretary-General ([S/2021/719](#)) and the President of the Security Council ([S/2021/720](#)) dated 3 and 6 August, respectively, **the mandate of UNOCA was extended** for three years.

The Council issued **five press statements**, of which three concerned **Afghanistan** ([SC/14592](#), [SC/14604](#) and [SC/14615](#)). The remaining two statements related to the terrorist attack in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, **Pakistan** ([SC/14597](#)), and following the ministerial-level briefing of 19 August on the threat posed by **ISIL/Da'esh** ([SC/14609](#)).

Other activities

During the month of August, Council members held one virtual Arria-formula meeting. On 11 August, Kenya organized a discussion on “**Threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts: overcoming challenges in situations of armed conflict and counter-terrorism operations**”.

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Dashboards pertaining to Field Missions, Women and Peace and Security, Children and Armed Conflict, Protection of Civilians in Armed Conflict, and Women at the Security Council are updated with the latest data as of 31 March 2021. The Security Council Membership Dashboard is updated with the latest information as of 11 June 2021 and the Subsidiary Organs Chairs and Vice-Chairs Dashboard contains the latest data for 2021.