

UN Security Council in Review

April 2023



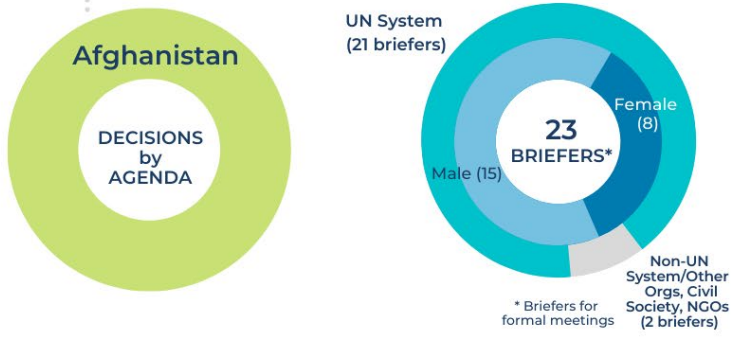
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April 2023 at a Glance



Most frequently discussed topics (open & closed)

- Middle East, including the Palestinian question
- Afghanistan
- Middle East
- Sudan



Under the **Presidency of the Russian Federation**, the Security Council held **two signature events**, both under thematic agenda items:

- An open debate on **Threats to international peace and security** (10 April), focused on risks stemming from violations of the agreements regulating the export of weapons and military equipment (S/2023/243).
- A ministerial-level open debate on **Maintenance of international peace and security** (24 April), focused on effective multilateralism through the defence of the principles of the Charter of the United Nations (S/2023/244). The Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation presided over the meeting and the Secretary-General provided a briefing.

Key Topics

The **Middle East, including the Palestinian question** (6 and 25 April), **Afghanistan** (6 and 27 April), **Sudan** (17 and 25 April) and the **Middle East** (17 and 27 April) were the most frequently considered country- or region-specific items in open and closed discussions.

Other country or region-specific items considered by the Council included: **Colombia, Great Lakes region, Haiti, Kosovo, Libya, Mali, Non-proliferation/Democratic People's Republic of Korea and Western Sahara.**

Under other matters (AOB), Council members discussed **Myanmar** and **Sudan.**

Procedural notes

On 26 April, the Council convened the second **informal interactive dialogue** further to paragraph 6 of resolution [2672 \(2023\)](#) concerning the humanitarian situation in **Syria**. This was the fifth **informal interactive dialogue** since resolution [2642 \(2022\)](#), which introduced this format for the first time.

On 28 April, the **Informal Working Group on Documentation and other Procedural Questions (IWG)** held its second meeting of the year, chaired by Albania.

Decisions and press statements

In April 2023, the Council adopted one **resolution**. The Council did not issue any **presidential statement** during the month.

On 27 April, the Council unanimously adopted resolution [2681 \(2023\)](#) on the situation in **Afghanistan**, submitted by Japan and the United Arab Emirates, and co-sponsored by a total of 91 Member States.

By the resolution, the Council **condemned the decision by the Taliban to ban Afghan women from working for the United Nations in Afghanistan**, called for the full, equal, meaningful and safe participation of women and girls in Afghanistan and called upon the Taliban to swiftly reverse the policies and practices that restricted the enjoyment by women and girls of their human rights and fundamental freedoms.

The Council issued **four press statements** on the following topics: two on **Yemen** ([SC/15251](#) and [SC/15272](#)), one on **clashes in Sudan** ([SC/15257](#)) and one on the **peace process in Colombia** ([SC/15259](#)).

Other activities

The Council members convened **two Arria-formula meetings** on the following topics: “**Children and armed conflict: Ukrainian Crisis. Evacuating children from conflict zone**” (5 April), organized by the Russian Federation; and “**Addressing the abduction and deportation of children during armed conflict: concrete steps for accountability and prevention**” (28 April), co-organized by Albania, France and the United States, and co-sponsored by Ukraine.

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Dashboards pertaining to Field Missions, Women and Peace and Security, Children and Armed Conflict, Protection of Civilians in Armed Conflict, Women at the Security Council are updated quarterly (monthly for Arria-formula meetings). Dashboards on Security Council Membership and the Subsidiary Organs Chairs and Vice-Chairs are updated annually. For more information about the Council’s working methods, see our [updates on procedural developments](#).