

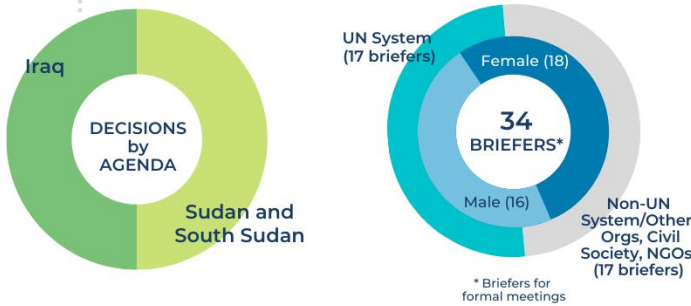
UN Security Council in Review

May 2023



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May 2023 at a Glance



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

- An open debate on **Peacebuilding and sustaining peace** (3 May), focused on Futureproofing trust for sustaining peace (S/2023/283). The Federal Councillor and Head of the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs presided over the meeting.
- A high-level open debate on **Protection of civilians in armed conflict** (23 May), focused on Ensuring the security and dignity of civilians in conflict: Addressing food insecurity and protecting essential services (S/2023/307). The President of Switzerland presided over the meeting and the Secretary-General provided a briefing.

Key Topics

Sudan and South Sudan (9, 11, 22, 30 and 31 May), the **Middle East** (8, 17 and 30 May) and **Ukraine** (15, 18 and 30 May) 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: **Bosnia and Herzegovina, Iraq, Libya, the Middle East, including the Palestinian question, Non-proliferation/DPRK and Peace and security in Africa.**

Under other matters (AOB), Council members discussed **Non-proliferation/DPRK and Sudan**. On 17 May, the Council held an **informal interactive dialogue** on **Libya** and the Director of the Integrated Approach for Security and Peace Directorate of the European External Action Service provided a briefing.

In addition to the signature events, the Council also held a **briefing by the Chairperson-in-Office of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE)**.

Procedural notes

In May, the Peacebuilding Commission submitted written advice to the Council on the following topics: **Futureproofing trust for sustaining peace** (S/2023/306) and **G5 Sahel** (S/2023/352).

On 30 May, the Council adopted its **annual report to the General Assembly** (A/77/2), covering the period from 1 January to 31 December 2022 (S/2023/369). The Permanent Representative of Brazil whose delegation coordinated the drafting of the report's introduction, presented the text to the Council (see S/PV.9330).

On 31 May, the Council held closed consultations to hear a briefing from the Secretary-General on **Sudan**, at his request.

Decisions and press statements

In May 2023, the Council adopted **two resolutions**. The Council did not issue any **presidential statement** during the month.

On 30 May, the Council unanimously adopted resolution **2682 (2023)**, extending the mandate of the **United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq** for one year until 31 May 2024. The Council also adopted resolution **2683 (2023)** with five abstentions (see S/PV.9332), renewing the **sanctions measures on South Sudan** for one year until 31 May 2024 and extending the mandate of the **Panel of Experts** until 1 July 2024.

The Council issued **one press statement** on the deteriorating security and humanitarian situation in **Haiti** (SC/15277).

Other activities

In May, Council members convened **four Arria-formula meetings** on the following topics: “**Protection of cultural heritage in armed conflicts**” (2 May), co-organized by France and the United Arab Emirates and co-sponsored by Cyprus and Italy; “**Situation with freedom of religion and belief in Ukraine: persecution of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church**” (12 May), organized by the Russian Federation; “**The situation in Myanmar**” (19 May) organized by the United Kingdom; and “**The responsibility and responsiveness of States to cyberattacks on critical infrastructure**” (25 May), co-organized by Albania and the United States and co-sponsored by Ecuador and Estonia.

On 15 and 16 May, the World Federation of United Nations Associations hosted the **UN Security Council Election Briefing Series** for candidate Member States seeking election to the Security Council for the 2024-2025 term: the **2023 UNSC Election Briefing Series** for **Algeria, Sierra Leone, the Republic of Korea and Guyana** (African, Asia-Pacific, and Latin American and Caribbean Groups) and **UNSC Election Debate** for **Belarus and Slovenia** (Eastern European Group).

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