UN Security Council in Review

May 2024

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May 2024 at a Glance



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Under the **Presidency of Mozambique**, the Security Council held three signature events:

• An open debate on Protection of civilians in armed conflict (21 May), focused on the 25th anniversary of resolution 1265 (1999) (S/2024/359).

• An open debate on Maintenance of international peace and security (23 May), focused on strengthening the role of the African States in addressing global security and development challenges (S/2024/327/Rev.1). The Secretary-General provided a briefing.

• A debate on Maintenance of international peace and security (28 May), focused on the role of women and young people (S/2024/328/Rev.1). The Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation of Mozambique presided over the meeting.

Key Topics

The Middle East, including the Palestinian question (6, 7, 9, 20, 28 and 29 May), the Middle East (8, 13 and 30 May) and Sudan and South Sudan (7, 24 and 30 May) were the most frequently considered country- or regionspecific items in open and closed discussions. Libya (14 and 31 May), Ukraine (14 and 20 May), Iraq (16 and 31 May) and Nonproliferation/DPRK (22 and 31 May) were also discussed more than once.

Other country or region-specific items considered by the Council included: Bosnia and Herzegovina, Peace and security in Africa and Peace consolidation in West Africa. Under other matters (AOB), Council members discussed the press statement on mass graves in Gaza, the protection of UN humanitarian staff and UNOWAS. On 13 May, the Council held an informal interactive dialogue on Operation IRINI, at the request of France and

In addition to the signature events, the Council also held meetings under thematic items on **Nonproliferation**, **Protection of civilians in armed conflict** and a **briefing by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees**.

Procedural notes

On 16 May, the Council adopted its **annual report to the General Assembly** (A/78/2), covering the period from 1 January to 31 December 2023 (S/2024/387). The representative of the United Kingdom whose delegation coordinated the drafting of the report's introduction, presented the text to the Council (see S/PV.9627).

On 17 May, the **Informal Working Group on Documentation and Other Procedural Questions** held its second meeting of the year, chaired by Japan.

On 20 May, a draft resolution submitted by Belarus, China, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Nicaragua, the Russian Federation and the Syrian Arab Republic ($\frac{2024}{383}$) on the prevention of an **arms** race in outer space under Non-proliferation, was not adopted, having failed to obtain the required number of votes (see $\frac{2}{PV.9630}$).

Decisions and press statements

In May 2024, the Council adopted four resolutions and issued two presidential statements.

On 23 May, the Council issued a presidential statement (S/PRST/2024/2), recalling that **cooperation with regional and subregional organizations** in matters relating to the maintenance of international peace and security consistent with Chapter VIII of the Charter can improve collective security. On 24 May, the Council issued a presidential statement (S/PRST/2024/3) in connection with the Council's consideration of the item entitled "Peace consolidation in West Africa".

On 24 May, the Council adopted resolution 2730 (2024) with 14 votes in favour and one abstention (see S/PV.9634). Co-sponsored by 98 Member States, the resolution called upon all States to respect and **protect humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel**. On 30 May, the Council adopted resolution 2731 (2024), under Chapter VII of the Charter, with nine votes in favour and six abstentions (see S/PV.9639), renewing the **sanctions measures on South Sudan** for one year until 31 May 2025 and extending the mandate of the **Panel of Experts** until 1 July 2025. On 31 May, the Council unanimously adopted resolution 2732 (2024), extending **UNAMI**'s mandate for a final 19 month-period. On the same day, the Council also adopted resolution 2733 (2024), under Chapter VII, with nine votes in favour and six abstentions (see S/PV.9644), renewing for one year the authorization to **inspect vessels on the high seas off the coast of Libya**.

The Council issued **two press statements** on the following topics: Libya (SC/15690) and mass graves in Gaza (SC/15692).

Other activities

In May, Council members convened three Arria-formula meetings on the following topics: "Condemning Hostage-Taking in Israel on October 7 as a Psychological Tool of Terrorism" (16 May), organized by the United States and co-sponsored by Albania, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Croatia, Czechia, France, Germany, Hungary, Israel, Italy, Malta, Netherlands, New Zealand, Romania and the United Kingdom; "Unlocking the Potential of Science for Peace and Security" (17 May), organized by Switzerland; and "Myanmar Crisis: The Impact on Youth and Children" (29 May), organized by the United Kingdom. On 13 May, the World Federation of United Nations Associations hosted the UN Security Council Election Briefing Series for candidate Member States seeking election to the Council for the 2025-26 term: the 2024 UNSC Election Briefing Series for Denmark, Greece, Pakistan, Panama, Somalia (Western European and Others, Asia-Pacific, Latin American and Caribbean and African Groups).

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