

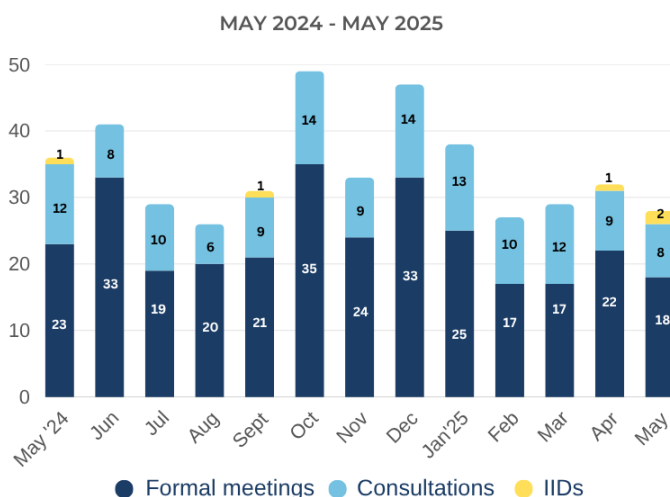
# UN Security Council in Review

May 2025



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## May 2025 at a Glance



Under the **Presidency of Greece**, the Security Council held **two signature events**:

- A high-level open debate on the **Maintenance of international peace and security** (20/21 May), focused on **strengthening maritime security through international cooperation for global stability** (S/2025/300). The Prime Minister of Greece presided over the meeting and the Secretary-General briefed.
- A high-level open debate on the **Protection of civilians in armed conflict** (22/23 May), focused on **addressing emerging threats, ensuring the safety of civilians, humanitarian and UN personnel, journalists and media professionals and enhancing accountability mechanisms** (S/2025/301). The Minister for Foreign Affairs of Greece presided over the meeting.

## Key Topics

The **Middle East** (5, 14 and 21 May), **Sudan and South Sudan** (8, 19 and 30 May) and **Libya** (15, 16 and 29 May) were the most frequently considered country- or region-specific items in open and closed discussions, followed by the **Middle East, including the Palestinian Question** (13 and 28 May), **Non-proliferation/DPRK** (7 and 29 May), and **Ukraine** (29 and 30 May). Other country- or region-specific issues considered by the Council included **Bosnia and Herzegovina, Haiti, India/Pakistan and Somalia**.

Under **thematic items**, the Council held a meeting under the **Protection of civilians**

in **armed conflict** regarding the implementation of resolution [2474 \(2019\)](#) (15 May). On **8 May**, the Council and the **General Assembly** held a **joint informal interactive dialogue** with the **Peacebuilding Commission** on the **2025 Peacebuilding Architecture Review**. The Presidents of the General Assembly and Security Council, together with the Chair of the Peacebuilding Commission, delivered opening remarks. The Co-Facilitators (Egypt and Slovenia) briefed on the elements paper for the review. On **27 May**, the Council held another **informal interactive dialogue** on **Libya** (resolution [2292 \(2016\)](#)/Operation IRINI). The Director of Peace Partnerships and Crisis Management Directorate of the European External Action Service provided a briefing.

## Procedural notes

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On **27 May**, the Council and the General Assembly held simultaneous meetings for the **election** of one member of the **International Court of Justice**, following the resignation of Judge Nawaf Salam (Lebanon) (effective 14 January 2025). The Council and the General Assembly elected **Mr. Mahmood Daifallah Hmoud (Jordan)** as a member of the Court for the remainder of the term (see [S/PV.9922](#), [S/2024/234](#), [S/2024/235](#) and [S/2024/236](#)).

On **29 May**, Council members agreed to elect the **Chairs and Vice-Chairs** of **subsidiary bodies** of the Council for the period ending 31 December 2025 (see [S/2025/2](#)).

On **30 May**, the Council adopted its **annual report to the General Assembly** ([A/79/2](#)), covering the period from 1 January to 31 December 2024 ([S/2025/336](#)). The representative of the Russian Federation, whose delegation coordinated the drafting of the report's introduction, presented the text to the Council (see [S/PV.9927](#)).

## Decisions and press statements

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In May, the Council adopted **three resolutions**.

On **8 May**, acting under Chapter VII of the Charter, the Council adopted **resolution 2779 (2025)**, with 12 votes in favor and three abstentions (see [S/PV.9913](#)), which **extended** the mandate of the **United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS)** until **30 April 2026**.

On **29 May**, acting under Chapter VII of the Charter, the Council adopted **resolution 2780 (2025)**, with 13 votes in favor and two abstentions (see [S/PV.9925](#)), which **extended for six months** the authorizations for Member States, acting nationally or through regional organizations, related to the inspections of vessels on the high seas off the coast of **Libya** for better implementation of the arms embargo.

On **30 May**, also under Chapter VII of the Charter, the Council adopted **resolution 2781 (2025)**, with 9 votes in favor and 6 abstentions (see [S/PV.9928](#)), which extended the **sanctions regime in relation to South Sudan** until **31 May 2026**.

Additionally, the Council issued two **press statements** - on the escalation of violence, including civilian casualties, in **Libya** ([SC/16064](#)) and on the terrorist attack in **Pakistan** ([SC/16069](#)).

## Other activities

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On **23 May**, Council members convened an **Arria-formula meeting** on “**Freshwater Resources and Related Infrastructure under Attack. Protecting Water in Armed Conflict – Protecting Civilian Lives**” co-organized by **Algeria, Panama** and **Sierra Leone**, and supported by nine Member States.

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