

Meetings: briefings by the Chairperson-in-Office of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe

<i>Meeting record and date</i>	<i>Sub-item</i>	<i>Other documents</i>	<i>Rule 37 invitations</i>	<i>Rule 39 and other invitations</i>	<i>Speakers</i>	<i>Decisions and vote (for-against-abstaining)</i>
S/PV.8479 7 March 2019				Chairperson-in-Office of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and Minister for Foreign and European Affairs of Slovakia	All Council Members, invitee	

Meetings: briefings by the President of the International Court of Justice

<i>Meeting record and date</i>	<i>Sub-item</i>	<i>Other documents</i>	<i>Rule 37 invitations</i>	<i>Rule 39 and other invitations</i>	<i>Speakers</i>	<i>Decisions and vote (for-against-abstaining)</i>
S/PV.8653 31 October 2019 (closed)				President of the International Court of Justice	Council members, President of the International Court of Justice	

Meetings: briefings by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

<i>Meeting record and date</i>	<i>Sub-item</i>	<i>Other documents</i>	<i>Rule 37 invitations</i>	<i>Rule 39 and other invitations</i>	<i>Speakers</i>	<i>Decisions and vote (for-against-abstaining)</i>
S/PV.8504 9 April 2019				United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees	13 Council members, ^a invitee	

^a The representative of Equatorial Guinea spoke also on behalf of Côte d'Ivoire and South Africa.

33. Security Council mission

During the period under review, the Security Council dispatched five missions to the field: (a) West Africa (Côte d'Ivoire and Guinea Bissau); (b) the Sahel (Mali and Burkina Faso); (c) Iraq and Kuwait; (d) Colombia; and (e) South Sudan and Ethiopia. The missions were composed of representatives of all members of the Council. Following the missions, the Council held four meetings under the item entitled "Security Council mission", at which it heard briefings by the representatives of the Council members leading or co-leading the missions. The Council did not convene a meeting or issue a report on its mission to

South Sudan. More information on the meetings, including on participants and speakers, is given in the table below.⁶²²

During the missions, as reported during the briefings, Council members met with Government

⁶²² For more information on the composition and reports of the missions, see part VI, sect. II.A.

officials,⁶²³ members of parliament,⁶²⁴ representatives of political parties,⁶²⁵ including, in some cases, the political opposition,⁶²⁶ and civil society organizations,⁶²⁷ including women's non-governmental organizations.⁶²⁸ In addition, during the mission to West Africa, Council members met with representatives of the partner organizations involved in the peacebuilding process in Guinea-Bissau, the diplomatic corps and the group of five regional and international partners, which was composed of the African Union, the European Union, the Economic Community of West African States, the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries and the United Nations.⁶²⁹ During the mission to the Sahel, Council members held a working session with the Permanent Secretary of the Group of Five for the Sahel and the Force Commander of the Joint Force on the security aspects of the activities of the Group of Five for the

Sahel.⁶³⁰ During its mission to Colombia, Council members met with representatives of the private sector and academia.⁶³¹ During the briefing on the mission to Iraq and Kuwait, both co-leads of the mission drew attention to the fact that it was the first time that the members of the Council had visited Iraq.⁶³² At the same meeting, the representatives of the Russian Federation and Iraq also made statements in regard to the situation in Iraq.

During its mission to South Sudan, the Council met with the signatories to the Revitalized Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in the Republic of South Sudan, including the Government of South Sudan, representatives of opposition political parties and key stakeholder groups.⁶³³ During the second part of the mission, to Ethiopia, Council members participated in the thirteenth annual joint consultative meeting with the Peace and Security Council of the African Union on developments related to the situations in Libya, South Sudan and the Central African Republic, as well as the Sahel region. Council members and members of the Peace and Security Council also met in the context of the fourth informal seminar to engage and exchange views on topical issues relevant to the work and mandates of both institutions.⁶³⁴

⁶²³ See [S/PV.8470](#) (West Africa: Côte d'Ivoire and Guinea-Bissau); [S/PV.8492](#) (Sahel: Mali and Burkina Faso); [S/PV.8571](#) (Iraq and Kuwait); [S/PV.8580](#) (Colombia); and [S/2020/192](#) (South Sudan).

⁶²⁴ See [S/PV.8470](#) (Guinea-Bissau) and [S/PV.8571](#) (Iraq).

⁶²⁵ See [S/PV.8470](#) (Guinea-Bissau); [S/PV.8492](#) (Mali); [S/PV.8580](#) (Colombia); and [S/2020/192](#) (South Sudan).

⁶²⁶ See [S/PV.8492](#) (Mali); [S/PV.8580](#) (Colombia); and [S/2020/192](#) (South Sudan).

⁶²⁷ See [S/PV.8470](#) (Guinea-Bissau); [S/PV.8492](#) (Sahel: Mali and Burkina Faso); [S/PV.8571](#) (Iraq); [S/PV.8580](#) (Colombia); and [S/2020/192](#) (South Sudan).

⁶²⁸ See [S/PV.8470](#) (Guinea-Bissau); [S/PV.8492](#) (Mali); [S/PV.8580](#) (Colombia); and [S/2020/192](#) (South Sudan).

⁶²⁹ See [S/PV.8470](#) (West Africa: Côte d'Ivoire and Guinea-Bissau).

⁶³⁰ See [S/PV.8492](#) (Sahel: Mali and Burkina Faso).

⁶³¹ See [S/PV.8580](#) (Colombia).

⁶³² See [S/PV.8571](#) (Kuwait and United States).

⁶³³ See [S/2019/825](#) and [S/2020/192](#).

⁶³⁴ See [S/2020/192](#).

Meetings: Security Council mission

<i>Meeting record and date</i>	<i>Sub-item</i>	<i>Documents</i>	<i>Rule 37 invitations</i>	<i>Speakers</i>
S/PV.8470 26 February 2019	Briefing by Security Council mission to West Africa (13 to 17 February 2019)	Letter dated 8 February 2019 from the President of the Security Council addressed to the Secretary-General (S/2019/123) Report of the Security Council mission to Côte d'Ivoire and Guinea-Bissau (S/2019/303)		Two Council members (Côte d'Ivoire, Equatorial Guinea)
S/PV.8492 27 March 2019	Briefing by Security Council mission to the Sahel (21 to 25 March 2019)	Letter dated 20 March 2019 from the President of the Security Council addressed to the Secretary-General (S/2019/252) (No report issued)		Four Council members (Côte d'Ivoire, France, Germany, Russian Federation)

<i>Meeting record and date</i>	<i>Sub-item</i>	<i>Documents</i>	<i>Rule 37 invitations</i>	<i>Speakers</i>
S/PV.8571 11 July 2019	Briefing by Security Council mission to Iraq and Kuwait (27 to 30 June 2019)	Letter dated 27 June 2019 from the President of the Security Council addressed to the Secretary-General (S/2019/533) (No report issued)	Iraq	Three Council members (Kuwait, Russian Federation, United States), invitee
S/PV.8580 19 July 2019	Briefing by Security Council mission to Colombia (11 to 14 July 2019)	Letter dated 10 July 2019 from the President of the Security Council addressed to the Secretary-General (S/2019/557) Report of the Security Council mission to the Republic of Colombia, 11–14 July 2019 (S/2019/827)		Two Council members (Peru, United Kingdom)
S/2019/825	Security Council mission to Ethiopia and South Sudan (19 to 23 October 2019)	(No meeting was held and no report issued)		

34. The promotion and strengthening of the rule of law in the maintenance of international peace and security

During the period under review, the Council held three meetings, including two high-level meetings, and issued one presidential statement in connection with the item entitled “The promotion and strengthening of the rule of law in the maintenance of international peace and security”. Two of the meetings took the form of briefings under the sub-item entitled “International humanitarian law”, while the third meeting was convened for the adoption of a decision.⁶³⁵ More information about the meetings, including on participants, speakers and outcomes, is given in the table below.

Deliberations in the Council in 2019 under this item were focused on the connection between the implementation of international humanitarian law and the safeguarding of the humanitarian space in conflict situations, as well as on how to ensure the implementation of and respect for international humanitarian law in contemporary protracted and complex conflicts, on the occasion of the seventieth anniversary of the signing of the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949. In that regard, Council members emphasized the role of the Council in ensuring compliance with and preventing violations of international humanitarian law, the need to strengthen the law to address the challenges in modern conflict,

and the importance of building capacity and awareness among State and non-State actors to ensure implementation and accountability. With respect to humanitarian action, speakers noted the need to avoid the politicization of assistance and its delivery in accordance with humanitarian principles and respect for national sovereignty.

On 1 April 2019, the Council held its first meeting under the item since 21 February 2014 and heard briefings by the Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator, the President of the International Committee of the Red Cross and a Professor of Practice at Harvard Law School.⁶³⁶ The Under-Secretary-General stated that ensuring greater respect for international humanitarian law was one of the most effective ways to safeguard the humanitarian space and called for the promotion of policies and practices to strengthen adherence to the law and ensure the broadening and deepening of understanding and acceptance of existing rules. He noted that Council members and Member States should enable humanitarian and medical activities through coordination and advocacy for humanitarian access, the protection of medical care, and by minimizing the

⁶³⁵ For more information on the format of meetings, see part II, sect. I.

⁶³⁶ See [S/PV.8499](#). For more information on the meetings held in 2014, see [S/PV.7113](#); [S/PV.7115](#); and *Repertoire, Supplement 2014–2015*, part I, sect. 36.