

UN Security Council in Review

January 2023



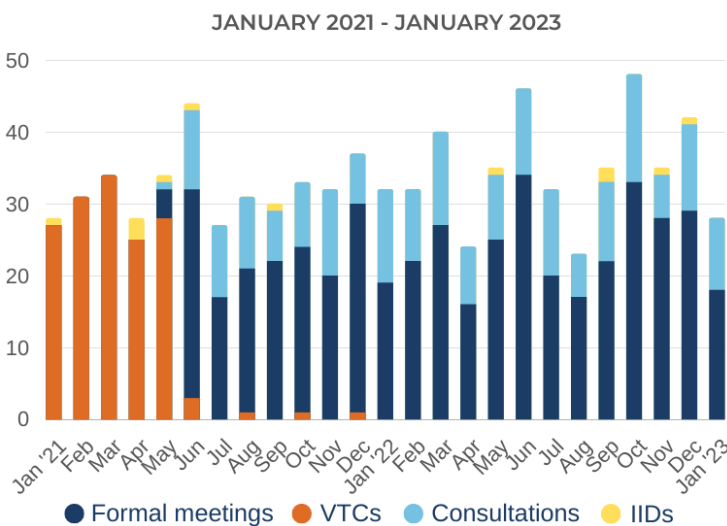
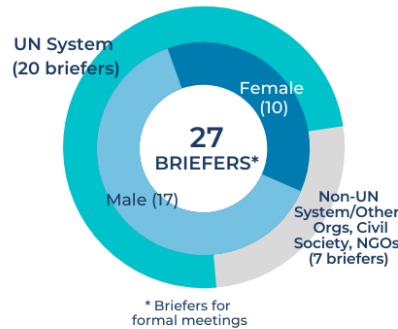
This monthly newsletter is produced by SCPCRB/SCAD. Not an official document.

January 2023 at a Glance



Most frequently discussed topics (open & closed)

- Middle East, including the Palestinian question
- Afghanistan
- Cyprus
- Middle East
- Ukraine



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

- A high-level open debate on the **promotion and strengthening of the rule of law in the maintenance of international peace and security** (12 January), focused on the rule of law among nations (S/2023/1). The Minister of External Affairs of Japan presided over the meeting. The Council heard briefings by the Secretary-General and the President of the International Court of Justice.
- An open debate on **Peacebuilding and sustaining peace** (26 January), focused on investment in people to enhance resilience against complex challenges (S/2023/19). The Council heard a briefing by the Deputy Secretary-General.

Key Topics

The **Middle East** was the most frequently considered country- or region-specific item in open and closed discussions (5, 9, 16 and 25 January), followed by **the situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question** (5, 18 and 27 January) and **Cyprus** (11, 17 and 30 January), including a private meeting with troop-contributing countries to **UNFICYP**. **Afghanistan** (13 and 27 January), and **Ukraine** (13 and 17 January) were discussed more than once.

Other country- or region-specific items considered by the Council included: **Colombia, Haiti, Mali, Peace consolidation in West Africa, and Sudan and South Sudan**.

Council members held their biannual consultations on the **United Nations Regional Centre for Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia** and also

discussed, under other matters (AOB), the **Democratic Republic of the Congo**, **working methods** and **Non-proliferation/DPRK**.

Procedural notes

On 3 January, the annual flag installation ceremony was held to honour the five incoming elected members of the Council, **Ecuador**, **Japan**, **Malta**, **Mozambique** and **Switzerland** as they began their two-year term on the Council.

On 30 January, the note by the President on the list of **Chairs and Vice-Chairs of subsidiary bodies** of the Security Council for the period ending 31 December 2023 was issued (see [S/2023/2](#)).

Decisions and press statements

In January 2023, the Council unanimously adopted **three resolutions**. The Council did not issue any **presidential statement** during the month.

On 9 January, the Council adopted resolution [2672 \(2023\)](#) renewing the **cross-border humanitarian aid mechanism** in **Syria** for a period of six months, until 10 July 2023, and requesting the Secretary-General to provide a special report on the humanitarian needs in Syria no later than 10 June 2023. On 11 January, the Council adopted resolution [2673 \(2023\)](#), expanding the mandate of the **United Nations Verification Mission in Colombia** to include the verification of the provisions of the Final Agreement related to comprehensive rural reform and ethnic perspectives. On 30 January, the Council adopted resolution [2674 \(2023\)](#), extending the mandate of **UNFICYP** until 31 January 2024.

By the exchange of letters between the Secretary-General ([S/2023/70](#)) and the President of the Security Council ([S/2023/71](#)), dated 20 and 27 January, respectively, the mandate of **UNOWAS** was extended for a period of three years, from 1 February 2023 until 31 January 2026.

The Council issued three press statements on the following topics: **Afghanistan** ([SC/15173](#)), **Colombia** ([SC/15175](#)) and the terrorist attack in **Peshawar, Pakistan** ([SC/15188](#)).

Other activities

On 20 January, Council members convened an **Arria-formula meeting** on the topic: **“The systematic war of Ukraine against the residents of Donbass: 2014 and onwards”** convened by the Russian Federation, at the ECOSOC Chamber.

Explore the [Repertoire](#) and our [Research Tools](#) | Follow [#UNSCAD updates on Twitter](#)

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](#).