

UN Security Council in Review

November 2021



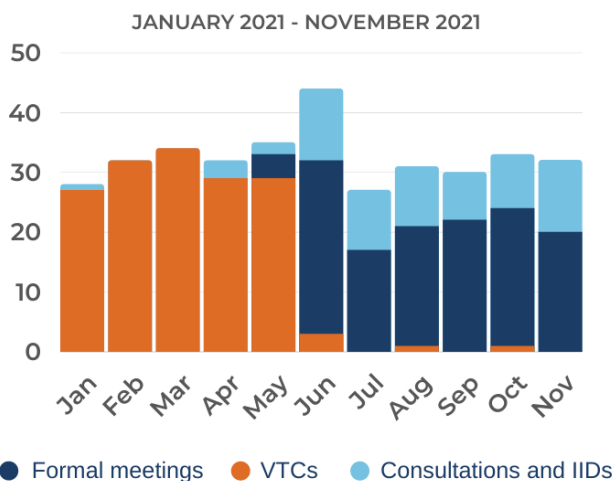
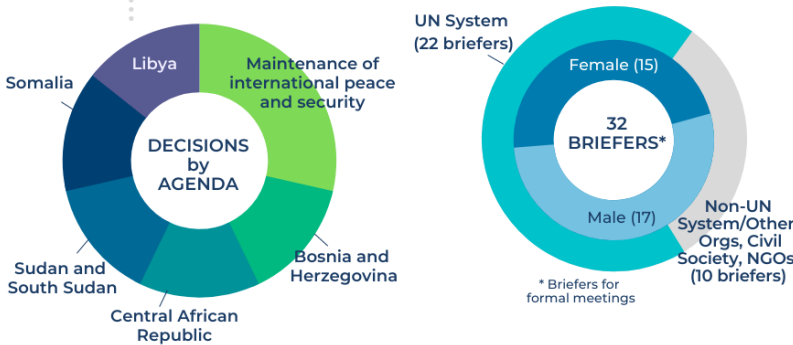
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November 2021 at a Glance



Most frequently discussed topics (open & closed) in November 2021

- Sudan and South Sudan
- Peace and security in Africa
- Libya
- Middle East
- Somalia
- Central African Republic
- Maintenance of international peace and security



In November, under the **Presidency of Mexico**, the Security Council held the following **3 signature events**:

- An open debate under **Maintenance of international peace and security (MIPS)** focused on **exclusion, inequality and conflict** (9 November). The **President of Mexico** presided over the meeting.
- An open debate under **MIPS** and focused on **peace and security through preventive diplomacy: a common objective to all the principal organs of the UN** (16 November) at which the **Secretary-General** as well as the **Presidents of the General Assembly**, the **Economic and Social Council** and the **International Court of Justice (ICJ)** briefed the Council.
- An open debate under **Small arms** focused on the **impact of diversion and trafficking of arms for peace and security** (22 November). The **Secretary for Foreign Affairs of Mexico** presided over the meeting.

Key Topics

The **Middle East** was the most frequently considered country- or region-specific item in open and closed discussions (specifically **Syria** on 11 and 15 November, and **Yemen** on 11 November, all in **closed consultations**). The following items were discussed more than once: the **Central African Republic** (3 and 12 November, including a private meeting with troop-contributing countries to **MINUSCA**), **Libya** (23 and 24 November), **Peace and security in Africa** (8 and 12 November), **Somalia** (15 and 17 November), and **Sudan and South Sudan** (11 and 15 November).

Other country or region-specific items considered by the Council in November included: **Afghanistan**, **Bosnia and**

Herzegovina, the **Democratic People’s Republic of Korea (1718 Committee)**, **Iraq**, **Lebanon (1701 report)**, the **Middle East, including the Palestinian question** and **Myanmar**. The **Middle East, including the Palestinian question** was also discussed under **other matters (AOB)** as well as **Belarus**.

Concerning thematic items, in addition to **MIPS** and **Small arms**, the Council discussed **United Nations peacekeeping operations**, during its **annual briefing of Police Commissioners** (10 November). The Council also held a **private meeting** to hear a briefing by the **President** of the **ICJ** (2 November).

Procedural notes

The **Council** and the **General Assembly** held a simultaneous **election of a member of the ICJ** (5 November). **Hilary Charlesworth** from Australia was **elected judge of the ICJ**.

For the first time since the onset of the pandemic, all three open debates held in November allowed for unrestricted in-person participation of Member States invited under **rule 37** of the provisional rules of procedure (**27 Member States** participated on 9 November, **35 Member States** on 16 November and **34 Member States** on 22 November).

The Security Council **Informal Working Group on Documentation and other Procedural Questions** held its sixth meeting of the year (12 November).

Decisions and press statements

In November 2021, the Council adopted **4 resolutions** and issued **3 presidential statements**.

2 of the 4 resolutions were adopted **unanimously**, namely, resolution **2604 (2021)** (3 November) renewing the authorization of the **European Union force-Althea in Bosnia and Herzegovina** for a period of 12 months and resolution **2606 (2021)** (15 November) extending the mandate of **UNISFA** until 15 December 2021. The remaining **2** resolutions were adopted non-unanimously, **with two abstentions in each case** (both China and the Russian Federation abstained in both cases), namely, resolution **2605 (2021)** (12 November) extending the mandate of **MINUSCA** until 15 November 2022 and resolution **2607 (2021)** (15 November) renewing and expanding the measures concerning the **Somalia sanctions regime** until 15 November 2022, and also renewing the **mandate of the Panel of Experts** until 15 December 2022.

2 of the 3 presidential statements were adopted under **MIPS, S/PRST/2021/22** (9 November) focused on **exclusion, inequality, and conflict** and **S/PRST/2021/23** (16 November) on **peace and security through preventive diplomacy**. In the statement concerning **Libya (S/PRST/2021/24** of 24 November), the Council welcomed the October Libya Stabilisation Conference as well as the November Paris International Conference for Libya and **expressed its support for the parliamentary and presidential elections on 24 December 2021**.

The Council issued **8 press statements** on the following topics: terrorist attack in **Kabul in Afghanistan (SC/14686)**, **visit to Mali and Niger (SC/14687)** **Ethiopia (SC/14691)**, **Assassination Attempt against Iraqi Prime Minister (SC/14692)**, **Myanmar (SC/14697)**, Secretary-General’s Report on **Iraq’s Electoral Process (SC/14701)**, **Yemen (SC/14707)**, and **Colombia (SC/14713)**.

Other activities

Council members held **2 Arria-formula** meetings on the topics of “**Closing the Protection Gap for Widows in Conflict and Post-Conflict Settings**” (15 November via videoconference) and “**Accountability in the Syrian Arab Republic**” (29 November in-person).

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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, the Security Council Membership and the Subsidiary Organs Chairs and Vice-Chairs are updated with the latest data for 2021. For more information about the Council’s working methods during the COVID-19 pandemic, please consult the newly launched 23rd Supplement (2020) [Part II](#) on procedural developments.