



ONG en statut consultatif (catégorie 1) auprès du Conseil Économique et Social des Nations Unies.
Résolution de la Commission d'Attribution du Conseil Économique et Social de l'Organisation des Nations Unies du 03 Juillet 1995.



PEACEKEEPERS NEWS UPDATE



Week 4

1. GLOBAL SECURITY AND PEACEKEEPING STATUS BRIEFING: FEBRUARY 2026

As of early February 2026, the international security landscape is defined by high-stakes stabilization efforts in Gaza, a major geopolitical shift in Venezuela, and the implementation of new ceasefire monitoring mechanisms in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC). Critical takeaways include:

- **Gaza Stabilization:** The Middle East peace process has entered the second phase of a 20-point stabilization plan. While diplomatic progress is noted, the humanitarian situation remains dire, and the West Bank continues to deteriorate.
- **Venezuelan Political Shift:** A United States military operation on January 3, 2026, resulted in the removal of President Nicolás Maduro and Cilia Flores from Venezuela, prompting emergency UN Security Council sessions.
- **DRC Ceasefire Operationalization:** The DRC government and AFC/M23 rebels have signed a mandate in Doha to allow MONUSCO-led verification teams to monitor a ceasefire, specifically targeting the strategic city of Uvira.
- **Regional Instability:** Tensions are rising in Ethiopia's Tigray region and South Sudan's Jonglei State, threatening to undo previous peace agreements. Meanwhile, UN peacekeeping mandates have been renewed for missions in Cyprus (UNFICYP) and Haiti (BINUH).

MIDDLE EAST: STABILIZATION AND CONFLICT MANAGEMENT:

Gaza Peace Plan and Phase II Implementation:

United Nations envoys report a potential turning point for Gaza as President Donald Trump's 20-point Comprehensive Plan enters its second phase. This phase aims to consolidate the ceasefire and establish transitional governance.

→ National Committee for the Administration of Gaza = | New transitional body created to manage the enclave's recovery.

→ Office of the High Representative for Gaza = Established to oversee the stabilization process.

→ Security council resolution 2803 = Framework for UN support in restoring public services and reconstruction.

→ Rafah crossing = Recently reopened for pedestrian movement both directions.

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KEY CONCERNS:

- **Humanitarian Crisis:** Over 1.5 million displaced persons face extreme winter conditions. Insecurity and access restrictions continue to hinder large-scale aid operations.
- **West Bank Instability:** Increasing violence, settlement expansion, and demolitions in the West Bank are described as “unravelling,” posing a direct risk to the Gaza ceasefire.
- **Security Arrangements:** Demilitarization of the Gaza Strip remains a fundamental requirement for the success of the next phase.

LEBANON: UNIFIL PATROL SUSPENSIONS AND SAFETY INITIATIVES:

UN peacekeepers (UNIFIL) temporarily suspended activities along parts of the “Blue Line” on February 1-2, 2026. This followed an Israeli military announcement regarding the release of a “non-toxic chemical substance” north of the frontier.

- **Toxicology Reports:** Peacekeepers assisted the Lebanese army in collecting samples of the substance for testing; results are currently pending.
- **Flight Violations:** The UN reiterated that unauthorized flight movements across the Blue Line violate Resolution 1701.
- **Risk Education:** UNIFIL has launched an explosive ordnance risk education (EORE) campaign in 17 southern Lebanese towns to protect children and IDPs from unexploded remnants of conflict.

SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA: CEASEFIRE MONITORING AND ESCALATION RISKS:

Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC):

On February 2, 2026, the AFC/M23 rebel group and the Kinshasa government signed a mandate in Doha to operationalize the ceasefire monitoring mechanism.

- **Monitoring Mechanism:** MONUSCO will lead monitoring teams in coordination with the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR).
- **Uvira Deployment:** The first monitoring mission is tasked to deploy to Uvira, a strategic city rebels withdrew from in December.
- **Communication Obstacles:** M23 has criticized the Kinshasa government for cutting telecommunication networks, which they claim hinders effective verification on the ground.

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REGIONAL CONFLICT ALERTS:

- **Ethiopia (Tigray):** Secretary-general Antonio Guterres has warned of “renewed tensions and reported clashes” in Tigray. He urged all parties to adhere to the 2022 Pretoria Permanent Cessation of Hostilities Agreement to prevent a return to wider conflict.
- **South Sudan:** UNMISS reports “looming massive military operations” in Jonglei State. Escalating hate speech and ethnic tensions are heightening the risk of a “human catastrophe”, with government forces and opposition militias in active conflict.

THE AMERICAS: REGIME CHANGE AND MANDATE RENEWALS:

Venezuela: US Military Intervention.

The UN Security Council held an emergency briefing on January 5, 2026, following a US military operation on January 3 that removed President Níolas Maduro from the country.

- **Diplomatic Response:** The meeting was requested by Colombia, with support from China and Russia.
- **Briefings:** Under-Secretary-General-Rosemary DiCarlo delivered a statement from the Secretary-General, while various civil society members provided perspectives on the political transition.

HAITI AND COLOMBIA:

Haiti (BINUH): The Security Council unanimously adopted Resolution 2814 on January 29, renewing the mandate of the UN Integrated Office in Haiti until January 31, 2027. Briefings highlighted ongoing illicit arms flows and financial instability.

Colombia: The UN Verification Mission continues to monitor the peace process, with the latest 90-day report delivered to the Council in late January.

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EUROPE AND EURASIA:

Cyprus (UNFICYP): The Security Council adopted Resolution 2815, extending the UNFICYP mandate to January 31, 2027.

- Voting: 13 members in favor; Pakistan and Somalia abstained.
- Key Mandates: The Council urged the opening of new crossing points to assist the 30,000 workers and students crossing the Green Line monthly and warned that the status quo is "unsustainable".
- Negotiation Friction: Diplomatic reports indicate difficulty in reaching consensus due to language regarding Varosha and buffer-zone violations.

Ukraine:

In late January, the Security Council received briefings on the humanitarian impact of the ongoing conflict. Massive drone and missile strikes have targeted energy infrastructure, leaving civilians without heating in temperatures as low as -20° Celsius. The UN has established "Invincibility Points" to provide warmth and assistance to vulnerable populations.

THEMATIC AND MULTILATERAL DEVELOPMENTS:

International Rule of Law.

The Council held a high-level open debate on January 26-27 titled "Reaffirming international rule of law: Pathways to reinvigorating peace, justice, and multilateralism" Over 80 delegations participated, emphasizing the role of the African Union and the International Court of Justice in maintaining global order.

GLOBAL SECURITY INCIDENTS

- **Afghanistan:** The Security Council condemned a January 19 terrorist attack in Kabul that killed six Afghans and one Chinese national.
- **Iran:** Open briefings were held regarding recent protests and the "bloodshed" associated with the Iranian regime's repression of demonstrators.
- **Multilateral Treaties:** An Arria-formula meeting on January 30 focused on "Upholding the Sanctity of Treaties" emphasizing legal frameworks as essential for international peace.

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