



# THE 2016 NATIONAL MODEL UNITED NATIONS

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<b>Security Council at NMUN•NY 2016 .....</b>	<b>2</b>
Outcome Documents.....	2
Rules of Procedure.....	2
<b>Committee Overview .....</b>	<b>3</b>
Recent Developments .....	3
Annotated Bibliography.....	5
Bibliography .....	5
<b>I. Women, Peace and Security: Women as Active Agents in Peace and Security .....</b>	<b>8</b>
Recent Developments .....	8
Annotated Bibliography.....	10
Bibliography .....	11
<b>II. The Situation in the Central African Republic .....</b>	<b>12</b>
Recent Developments .....	12
Annotated Bibliography.....	14
Bibliography .....	14
<b>III. Threats to International Peace and Security Caused by Terrorist Acts .....</b>	<b>17</b>
Recent Developments .....	17
Annotated Bibliography.....	19
Bibliography .....	19

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## Security Council at NMUN•NY 2016

### *Outcome Documents*

The Security Council can adopt three types of outcome documents: resolutions, presidential statements, and press statements. The most common type of document that you will adopt as a delegate will be resolutions; however, in some cases, a presidential statement or press statement might be more appropriate, based on the topic under discussion or the dynamics of the committee. Generally, resolutions and presidential statements are adopted following formal consideration of a subject, whereas a press statement is usually adopted in immediate response to an incident. The Security Council can move between topics over the course of the conference. It is possible therefore that the committee may choose to adopt a press statement or presidential statement initially, following the rules and procedures for doing so as outlined in the [NMUN Rules of Procedure](#), and then a resolution after deliberations, should there be further developments on a situation.

### *Resolutions*

Resolutions are formal expressions of the opinion or will of United Nations organs. A resolution is the most appropriate means of applying political pressure on Member States, expressing an opinion on an important issue, or recommending action to be taken by Member States, the United Nations, or some other agency. The only body that may produce resolutions that are binding upon the Member States of the United Nations is the Security Council, though not all Security Council resolutions or parts thereof are binding. **At NMUN•NY**, the Security Council may adopt resolutions on any topic on their agenda, as well as on urgent circumstances brought to the attention of the Security Council during the conference. Multiple resolutions may be adopted on a topic, however, if the Security Council is establishing, modifying or renewing the mandate of a peacekeeping or political operation or a sanctions regime, the mandate must be contained in one resolution.

### *Presidential Statements (PRSTs)*

Presidential statements (PRSTs) do not have the same weight as a resolution, and are not legally binding. PRSTs are often adopted when the Security Council wants to take action on a subject, but cannot reach agreement on a resolution. They are action-oriented, as opposed to a Press Statement (see below), which is meant to express joint opinions. **At NMUN•NY**, a presidential statement should be drafted and adopted in replacement of a resolution, thus a PRST and a resolution cannot be adopted on the same topic. However, in the event of an “urgent circumstance” brought to the attention of the Security Council during the conference, delegates may adopt a PRST *first*, followed by a resolution, as delegates deem appropriate in the context of the situation. Two PRSTs cannot be adopted on the same topic unless they are on different aspects. For example, in 2014 the Security Council adopted two presidential statements on Afghanistan – one focused on drug trafficking and one focused on elections. PRSTs are adopted by consensus and cannot be divided. In voting procedures, the Chair will ask if there is any opposition to adopting the PRST and will not take a placard vote.

### *Press Statements*

Similar to PRSTs, press statements do not carry the same weight as resolutions, nor do they of PRSTs. They are intended to display the voice of the all Security Council members. **At NMUN•NY**, the Security Council may issue press statements in the event of an urgent circumstance brought to the attention of the Security Council during the conference. The body may issue a press statement and resolution or presidential statement on the same topic. Press statements are adopted by consensus and cannot be divided. In voting procedures, the Chair will ask if there is any opposition to adopting the press statement and will not take a placard vote.

In the Security Council, the majority required for each type of outcome document is as follows:

- **Resolutions:** Affirmative vote of nine members including the concurring votes of the permanent members;
- **Presidential Statement (PRST):** Consensus;
- **Press Statements:** Consensus.

### *Rules of Procedure*

For details regarding setting an amending the agenda, as well as procedural and substantive voting procedures at NMUN-NY, please see the [NMUN Rules of Procedure](#). It is highly recommended that delegates of the Security Council familiarize themselves with the NMUN Rules of Procedure prior to the conference.

## Committee Overview

### *Recent Developments*

In the last quarter of 2015 and into 2016, the United Nations (UN) Security Council (SC) took a number of actions in addressing persistent threats to international peace and security, most notably terrorism, non-proliferation, and the persistent conflict in Syria.<sup>1</sup> On 16 January 2016, the Council marked Implementation Day for the agreement on Iran's nuclear program; with receipt of the IAEA report on Iran's progress, the SC has initiated the process for terminating all sanctions against Iran and eventually removing the topic from the Council's agenda.<sup>2</sup> Member States also adopted a resolution on the situation in Syria on 18 December 2015, which called for UN-mediated political talks, a national ceasefire, and a two-year timeline for political transition.<sup>3</sup>

Member States devoted particular attention to the causes and consequences of armed conflict. In November 2015, the Council adopted a presidential statement on the "Protection of civilians in armed conflict," which emphasized an ongoing commitment to limiting the civilian impact of war and called for more consistent use of the updated Aide Memoire in addressing protection of civilians.<sup>4</sup> In addition, the Council requested the Secretary-General submit a report on protection of civilians in armed conflict every 12 months, rather than every 18 months, highlighting its importance as both an aspect of country situations and as a thematic agenda item.<sup>5</sup> In January 2016, the SC held an open debate on the topic to discuss the report of the High-level Independent Panel on Peace Operations.<sup>6</sup> Member States emphasized the important role of UN peacekeeping to assist in protection of civilians, but also debated the appropriate use of force under protection mandates.<sup>7</sup>

The SC also took innovative measures under the agenda item "Maintenance of international peace and security," embracing a broader concept of human security. In November, the SC held its first open debate on "Security, development and the root causes of conflict," which encouraged greater cooperation within the UN system and recognized the role of inequality, development, climate change, and human rights violations as possible drivers of conflict.<sup>8</sup> In December 2015, the SC adopted its first-ever resolution on "Youth, peace and security," seeking to recognize the importance of youth participation in combating violent extremism and promoting peace.<sup>9</sup> The Council also debated the links between human rights and security in a session on the situation in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK), which was fiercely contested by some Member States.<sup>10</sup> Briefing on the topic, Jeffrey Feltman, Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs, argued for the importance of SC engagement on the matter, stating, "History has shown that serious violations of human rights often serve as a warning sign of instability and conflict, especially in the absence of accountability."<sup>11</sup>

The SC additionally considered how to strengthen their working methods through improved transparency and fairness. In December 2015, the SC adopted a presidential statement on "United Nations peacekeeping operations," recognizing the need for more effective consultations between the SC, the Secretariat, and troop- and police-contributing countries to address operational mandates, but also broader concerns such as security of peacekeepers and conduct and discipline concerns, including sexual exploitation and abuse.<sup>12</sup> In February 2016, the SC held a

<sup>1</sup> UN DPI, *During Busy 2015, Security Council Breaks New Ground in Fighting Terrorism, Endorses Landmark Agreement on Iran's Nuclear Programme (SC/12206)*, 2016.

<sup>2</sup> UN Security Council, *Resolution 2231 (2015)*, 2016; UN Security Council, *Nonproliferation (S/RES/2231 (2015))*, 2015.

<sup>3</sup> UN Security Council, *Middle East (Syria) (S/RES/2254 (2015))*, 2015.

<sup>4</sup> UN DPI, *Security Council Presidential Statement Expresses Outrage that Civilians Continue to Account for Vast Majority of Casualties in Armed Conflict Situations (SC/12138)*, 2015.

<sup>5</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>6</sup> UN DPI, *Concrete Action Critical to Alleviating Human Suffering, Speakers Say, at Security Council Debate on Protection of Civilians (SC/12210)*, 2016.

<sup>7</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>8</sup> UN DPI, *Prevention Should Be Integral to All United Nations Efforts, Secretary-General Tells Security Council in First Open Debate on Root Causes of Conflict (SC/12124)*, 2015.

<sup>9</sup> UN Security Council, *Maintenance of international peace and security (S/RES/2250 (2015))*, 2015.

<sup>10</sup> UN DPI, *Institutional Human Rights Violations in Democratic People's Republic of Korea Pose Threat to International Peace, Security, Security Council Told (SC/12151)*, 2015.

<sup>11</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>12</sup> UN DPI, *Security Council Presidential Statement Underlines Importance of Triangular Consultations in Improving Peacekeeping Operations (SC/12189)*, 2015.

general debate on working methods, which focused on the role of sanctions committees and subsidiary bodies.<sup>13</sup> Member States emphasized the usefulness of such sanctions in addressing terrorism funding and non-proliferation, but also raised concerns of unintended consequences, such as driving further instability and impact on civilian populations.<sup>14</sup> The debate called for greater transparency to ensure the process is inclusive, fair, and public reporting, as well as better engagement with the affected States.<sup>15</sup> Concerns over transparency in SC working methods are also likely to be at the center of the upcoming open debates on the UN charter and review of the peacekeeping architecture.<sup>16</sup>

In January 2016, SC Member States held a visiting mission to Burundi and Ethiopia, where they were briefed on the deteriorating political and human rights situation, as well as the possibility of deploying an AU protection mission, though the government of Burundi maintained that the situation remains calm and opposed the deployment of international or regional forces.<sup>17</sup> The SC also established a political mission to monitor the agreed cessation of hostilities in Colombia, which aims to support a sustainable peace in the country.<sup>18</sup> In the coming months, the SC is likely to focus on these emerging situations, as well as developments in Yemen and DPRK, in addition to their thematic concerns.<sup>19</sup>

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<sup>13</sup> UN DPI, *Speakers Differ over Use of Sanctions as Security Council Considers Working Methods of Its Subsidiary Bodies (SC/12238)*, 2016.

<sup>14</sup> Ibid.

<sup>15</sup> Ibid.

<sup>16</sup> Security Council Report, *Monthly Forecast: February 2016*, 2016.

<sup>17</sup> UN Security Council, *Briefing by the Security Council mission to Africa (S/PV.7615)*, 2016.

<sup>18</sup> UN Security Council, *Identical letters dated 19 January 2016 from the Permanent Representative of Colombia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council (S/RES/2261 (2016))*, 2016.

<sup>19</sup> Security Council Report, *Monthly Forecast: February 2016*, 2016.

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*This report offers analysis of the Security Council's engagement with human rights concerns through their thematic and country-specific work. At present, this issue is hotly debated amongst Council members, most notably with regards to DPRK, with some members expressing strong opposition to expanding the Council's purview to areas traditionally covered by the Human Rights Council and the Economic and Social Council. Delegates will find this report useful in understanding the linkages between human rights and security considerations, as well as in considering the role of the Council in addressing violations of human rights and international humanitarian law.*

Security Council Report. (2016). *Monthly Forecast: February 2016*. Retrieved 7 February 2016 from: [http://www.securitycouncilreport.org/atf/cf/%7B65BFCF9B-6D27-4E9C-8CD3-CF6E4FF96FF9%7D/2016\\_02\\_forecast.pdf](http://www.securitycouncilreport.org/atf/cf/%7B65BFCF9B-6D27-4E9C-8CD3-CF6E4FF96FF9%7D/2016_02_forecast.pdf)

*Published monthly by Security Council Report, the Monthly Forecasts provides a detailed overview of developments in the Council, as well as upcoming agenda items. These documents serve as a useful starting point for research on previous actions by the Security Council, as well as analyzing potential considerations for upcoming debates. The Forecast will prove particularly useful for delegates in understanding the underlying political considerations that influence the Council's work and their working methods. In particular, delegates should review the forthcoming forecast for March 2016 for insight into the Council's activities.*

United Nations, Department of Public Information. (2016, January 15). *During Busy 2015, Security Council Breaks New Ground in Fighting Terrorism, Endorses Landmark Agreement on Iran's Nuclear Programme (SC/12206)* [Press Release]. Retrieved 11 February 2016 from: <http://www.un.org/press/en/2016/sc12206.doc.htm>

*This Round-up Release offers a thorough overview of Security Council developments in 2015, including links to the relevant documents, meetings coverage, and reports. Divided by agenda item, this paints a complete picture of all actions taken by the Council over the past year, as well as the geopolitical considerations underlying the Council's work. Delegates should utilize this source to build their knowledge of current trends and considerations within the Council's activities, as well as to guide their research into key topics.*

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Security Council Report. (2016). *Monthly Forecast: February 2016*. Retrieved 7 February 2016 from: [http://www.securitycouncilreport.org/atf/cf/%7B65BFCF9B-6D27-4E9C-8CD3-CF6E4FF96FF9%7D/2016\\_02\\_forecast.pdf](http://www.securitycouncilreport.org/atf/cf/%7B65BFCF9B-6D27-4E9C-8CD3-CF6E4FF96FF9%7D/2016_02_forecast.pdf)

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## I. Women, Peace and Security: Women as Active Agents in Peace and Security

### *Recent Developments*

Since the adoption of Security Council (SC) resolution 2242 (2015), the international community has been working diligently to advance the Women, Peace and Security (WPS) agenda. On 24 November 2015, the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, United Nations (UN) Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon issued a statement highlighting the current work the UN system is doing to eradicate violence against women.<sup>20</sup> The UN Secretary-General said that the empowerment of women is integral in the campaign against sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV).<sup>21</sup> There have been significant reviews of WPS initiatives within the UN system, specifically the need for women's equal and full participation in political processes.<sup>22</sup> Also, the UN Secretary-General announced the "start of the 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence Campaign", aimed at motivating people to end violence against women and girls.<sup>23</sup> The campaign, which ran from 25 November to 10 December 2015, showcased different Member States' "Orange the World" events and outcomes.<sup>24</sup>

On 16 December, the SC held a meeting on the topic of trafficking of persons in situations of conflict led by UN Deputy Secretary-General Jan Eliasson and UN Office of Drugs and Crime (UNODC) Executive Director Yury Fedotov.<sup>25</sup> The UN Deputy Secretary-General cited the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 5, 8, and 16 in respect to human trafficking.<sup>26</sup> As there is a global push for increased funding for WPS initiatives, the UN Deputy Secretary-General called on all Member States to contribute to the UN Voluntary Trust Fund for Victims of Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children.<sup>27</sup> Following the meeting, the SC published a presidential statement recognizing SC resolution 2242 (2015) in relation to sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) as a tactic of terrorist organizations.<sup>28</sup> In the presidential statement, the SC President noted that women and children are particularly more vulnerable to trafficking, and that the actions of terrorist groups perpetuate this vulnerability.<sup>29</sup> The SC President also urged all Member States to ratify the UN Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and its Protocols, one of which is the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress, and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children.<sup>30</sup>

The SC adopted resolution 2259 (2015) on the topic of Libya, in light of the country's recent agreement on a national unified government.<sup>31</sup> The SC advised Libyan leaders to guarantee the full and equal participation of women in upcoming political processes, and ensure the protection of women and children's human rights.<sup>32</sup> The SC also advised Libyan leaders to cooperate with the UN Support Mission in Libya (UNSMIL), whose mandate includes women's participation and empowerment.<sup>33</sup> Most recently, Libyan women's activists gathered in Tunis, the capital of Tunisia, to discuss the participation of women in Libyan peace and security.<sup>34</sup> Mr. Martin Kobler, the UN Special Representative of the Secretary-General (SRSG) for Libya reinforced the need for women to be able to participate in Libya's peace process; he suggested four action points to the interim government for increased participation of women.<sup>35</sup> In terms of civil society, the NGO Working Group on Women, Peace and Security (NGOWG) published their Monthly Action Points (MAPs) for December 2015, which included country-specific recommendations on WPS such as awareness campaigns for women human rights workers in Afghanistan, complete

<sup>20</sup> UN DPI, *As World Confronts Violent Extremism, Protection of Women 'Must Be a Key Consideration'*, Secretary-General Says in Message for International Day (SG/SM/17352), 2015.

<sup>21</sup> Ibid.

<sup>22</sup> Ibid.

<sup>23</sup> UN-Women, *16 Days of Activism*, 2015.

<sup>24</sup> UN-Women, *Orange the World to End Violence Against Women*, 2015.

<sup>25</sup> UN Security Council, *Verbatim record of 7585<sup>th</sup> meeting (S/PV.7585)*, 2015.

<sup>26</sup> Ibid.

<sup>27</sup> Ibid.; UN Security Council, *Women, peace and security (S/RES/2242 (2015))*, 2015.

<sup>28</sup> UN Security Council, *Maintenance of international peace and security (S/PRST/2015/25)*, 2015.

<sup>29</sup> Ibid.

<sup>30</sup> Ibid.

<sup>31</sup> UN Security Council, *Libya (S/RES/2259 (2015))*, 2015; UN DPI, *Hailing political accord, Security Council urges international aid against terrorist groups in Libya*, 2015.

<sup>32</sup> UN Security Council, *Libya (S/RES/2259 (2015))*, 2015.

<sup>33</sup> Ibid.; UNSMIL, *Women's Empowerment*.

<sup>34</sup> UN DPKO, *Kobler declares support for prominent role for Libyan women; advocate 30% representation on GNA*, 2016.

<sup>35</sup> Ibid.



inclusion of civil society in the security situation in Burundi, and women's roles in the political situation in Yemen.<sup>36</sup> The MAPs include suggestions to the SC on specific actions that can be taken to improve the implementation of WPS elements, such as: the renewal of the UN Interim Security Force for Abyei Mission and the inclusion of WPS initiatives in the mandate of the UN Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali since its extension in SC resolution 2227 (2015).<sup>37</sup>

With the adoption of SC resolution 2242 (2015) and the subsequent elements to be implemented, the SC remains active at the forefront of advancing women in international peace and security. To accomplish the goals that SC resolution 2242 (2015) has set, the international community, from grassroots organizations to the UN, should commit to raising awareness about WPS, acquiring proper funding for WPS initiatives, and enforce laws that end the impunity for SGBV perpetrators.<sup>38</sup>

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<sup>36</sup> NGO Working Group on Women, Peace and Security, *Monthly Action Points: Women, Peace and Security (December 2015)*, 2015, pp.1-2.

<sup>37</sup> Ibid.

<sup>38</sup> UN-Women, *Statement by UN Women on the adoption of Security Council resolution 2242 on women, peace and security*, 2015.

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*These Monthly Action Points from December 2015 give insight into civil society's expectations on the Security Council on WPS topics. This particular report lists suggestions for six different Member States and their specific WPS situations. Some of the issues mentioned in this source are: sexual and gender-based violence, renewal of and reports on United Nations' missions, and changing security situations. Delegates will find this source helpful in determining WPS issue within their Member States and developing strategies to solve them.*

United Nations, Department of Peacekeeping Operations. (2016, January 11). *Kobler declares support for prominent role for Libyan women, advocate 30% representation on GNA* [News Article]. Retrieved 26 January 2016 from: <http://unsmil.unmissions.org/Default.aspx?tabid=3543&ctl=Details&mid=6187&ItemID=2099447&language=en-US>

*This event is important in fulfilling the implementation of WPS in current situations. With Libya working through a peace process, the inclusion of local women's activists for the participation of women is crucial. The Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Libya gives four specific action points that he will recommend to the interim government that will ensure women's participation in the peace process. Holding forums such as this gives more opportunities for local involvement in government. Delegates should regard this source as an example of specific actions that can be taken in current situations to further WPS initiatives and increase women's participation in political processes.*

United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women. (2015, November 2). *Orange the World to End Violence Against Women* [News Article]. Retrieved 5 January 2016 from: <http://www.unwomen.org/en/news/stories/2015/11/orange-the-world-2015>

*This 16-day campaign is an example of the United Nations system working with civil society to raise awareness of violence against women. Different events were held worldwide which engaged the public in joining the fight to end sexual and gender-based violence. Sporting events, musical performances, and assemblies all used the color orange in a way to spread awareness of this campaign. Delegates should regard this source as an example of engaging with civil society and grassroots programs to facilitate change.*

United Nations, Security Council, 7585<sup>th</sup> Meeting. (2015). *Maintenance of international peace and security (S/PRST/2015/25)* [Presidential Statement]. Retrieved 5 January 2016 from: <http://undocs.org/S/PRST/2015/25>

*This presidential statement brings the UN Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime and its Protocols to the forefront of the WPS agenda. Foundational steps in the advancement of WPS are missing since not all Member States have ratified the Convention and its Protocols and women and children are more vulnerable to trafficking. The Security Council denounces offenses by groups such as the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL), Boko Haram, and the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA). Delegates should keep the UN Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime and its Protocols in mind as it has been discussed recently by the Security Council.*

United Nations, Security Council, 7585<sup>th</sup> Meeting. (2015). *Verbatim record of 7585<sup>th</sup> Meeting (S/PV.7585)* Retrieved 5 January 2016 from: <http://undocs.org/S/PV.7585>

*This document is the record of speeches given at the 7585<sup>th</sup> meeting, the meeting from which the above presidential document originated. This verbatim record gives more detail from the United Nations Deputy Secretary-General and United Nations Office of Crime and Drugs Executive Director's speeches, as well as other speakers. Yury Fedotov explains that even those Member States who are states parties to the United Nations Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime and its Protocols do not always enforce the relevant laws, which leads to impunity. Delegates are encouraged to research the different terrorist groups discussed at this meeting and their roles in preventing advancement in WPS.*

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United Nations, Security Council, 7585<sup>th</sup> Meeting. (2015). *Maintenance of international peace and security (S/PRST/2015/25)* [Presidential Statement]. Retrieved 5 January 2016 from: <http://undocs.org/S/PRST/2015/25>

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United Nations, Security Council, 7585<sup>th</sup> Meeting. (2015). *Verbatim record of 7585<sup>th</sup> Meeting (S/PV.7585)*. Retrieved 5 January 2016 from: <http://undocs.org/S/PV.7585>

United Nations Support Mission in Libya. (n.d.) *Women's Empowerment* [Website]. Retrieved 5 January 2016 from: <http://unsmil.unmissions.org/Default.aspx?tabid=5291&language=en-US>

## II. The Situation in the Central African Republic

### *Recent Developments*

The situation in the Central African Republic (CAR) remains complex, driven by a combination of political, social, and economic issues.<sup>39</sup> The international community is actively addressing the diverse range of issues that are furthering the current situation and those that result from the escalating violence and instability. In the past several months, the United Nations (UN) Security Council (SC) has discussed the situation in the CAR significantly, focusing on the 2016 presidential elections and the recent allegations of sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA) against the EU and UN peacekeepers present on behalf of the Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the CAR (MINUSCA).<sup>40</sup> On 14 December 2015, the former Séléka movement declared the Republic of Logone as an autonomous state.<sup>41</sup> The actions by the Muslim majority rebels bring into question international law and the validity of their argument to self-determination.<sup>42</sup> While the African Union (AU) and the UN do not presently recognize the sovereignty of the new state, this may bring changes to the nature of this complex civil war.<sup>43</sup>

In November 2015, the SC reviewed the report of the Secretary-General on “the situation in the Central African Republic,” which concentrated on political developments, election preparations, and a deteriorating security situation.<sup>44</sup> The report of the Secretary-General outlined the necessity of increased cooperation and coordination of the efforts of MINUSCA, international partners, and Central African stakeholders to effectively ensure disarmament, demobilization, reintegration, and repatriation as well as to resolve issues regarding the rule of law in the CAR during the transition period.<sup>45</sup> The report ultimately emphasized the importance of the national elections to ensure the rebuild of the CAR and called for the relevant stakeholders to uphold the recommendations of the Bangui Forum on National Reconciliation as the CAR undergoes its transition phase.<sup>46</sup> In addition, the report expressed particular concern for the protection of civilians and human rights violations, including attacks against two camps for internally displaced persons (IDPs) and allegations of conflict-related sexual violence committed by members of armed groups.<sup>47</sup> Further, the UN continues to investigate allegations of sexual exploitation and abuse by EU and UN peacekeepers in 2014, which will be detailed in an upcoming report.<sup>48</sup>

The CAR successfully held a constitutional referendum on 13 and 14 December 2015, followed by combined presidential and legislative elections on 30 December 2015.<sup>49</sup> To support peaceful elections, the SC approved a request by Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations, Hervé Ladsous, for the temporary deployment of 300 personnel for an eight-week mission.<sup>50</sup> Despite violence and voter intimidation during referendum voting, the new constitution was adopted, calling for the creation of the Senate and a National Election Authority (ANE).<sup>51</sup> The Assembly also approval decisions made by the Prime Minister and President, in addition to discussions regarding natural resource contracts.<sup>52</sup> However the international community, including the AU, has expressed fears that implementation of the policy and the transitional processes will remain incomplete because of continued violence in

<sup>39</sup> International Rescue Committee, *Too Soon to Turn Away: Security, Governance and Humanitarian Need in the Central African Republic*, 2015, p. 2.

<sup>40</sup> UN DPI, *Fresh allegations of sexual abuse made against UN peacekeepers in Central African Republic*, 2016.

<sup>41</sup> Ori, *The Republic of Logone: Self-determination and CAR’s territorial integrity*, 2015.

<sup>42</sup> Ibid.

<sup>43</sup> African Union Peace and Security Council, *The African Union welcomes the successful holding of the constitutional referendum in the Central African Republic and warns that actors who seek to hinder the completion of the transition*, 2015.

<sup>44</sup> UN Security Council, *Report of the Secretary-General on the situation in the Central African Republic (S/2015/918)*, 2015.

<sup>45</sup> Ibid.

<sup>46</sup> Ibid.

<sup>47</sup> What’s In Blue, *Briefing on the Central African Republic by UN Peacekeeping and Humanitarian Heads*, 2015.

<sup>48</sup> UN DPI, *UN officials name countries whose troops are accused of sexually abusing minors in Central African Republic*, 2016.

<sup>49</sup> UN DPI, *Referendum held in much of Central African Republic despite disruptions – UN peacekeeping chief*, 2016.

<sup>50</sup> UN Office of the Spokesperson for the Secretary-General, *Highlights of the Noon Briefing by Stéphane Dujarric, Spokesperson for the Secretary-General Ban Ki-Moon: Monday 16 November 2015*, 2015.

<sup>51</sup> eNews Channel Africa, *Central African Republic-council adopts new constitution*, 2015.

<sup>52</sup> Ibid.

the area.<sup>53</sup> On 7 January 2016, the ANE announced the results of the initial round of presidential elections: Anicent Georges Dologuélé and Faustin Archange Touadéra will be the candidates in a run-off poll scheduled for February 2016.<sup>54</sup> MINUSCA, the United Nations Development Programme, and other UN specialized agencies provided guidance and support to ensure that the elections were conducted in a fair manner in accordance with the mandate of the mission and the recommendations of the Bangui Forum.<sup>55</sup> The elections were conducted with widespread voter participation, including supporting IDPs and refugees from the CAR who were ultimately able to vote.<sup>56</sup>

Additionally, the 2127 CAR Sanctions Committee met with its Panel of Experts on 20 November to discuss their annual report, in which the UN Children’s Fund conveyed that at least 1.2 million children required immediate humanitarian assistance.<sup>57</sup> In December 2015, the Sanctions Committee and the Working Group on Children and Armed Conflict (CAAC) conducted a joint consultation regarding the effects of conflict on children in the CAR, with a featured briefing from the Special Representative to the Secretary-General for CAAC, Leila Zerrougui.<sup>58</sup> The joint briefing was promoted to improve the collaboration between the two bodies and to promote the protection of children in the volatile CAR.<sup>59</sup> Considering the report of the Sanctions Committee, and in light of the violence that was prevalent during the first round, the SC adopted resolution 2262 (2016), which calls for the stakeholders to cease the use of force, particularly during the remainder of the elections.<sup>60</sup> The current sanctions were extended and recommendations to prevent the direct and indirect sale, supply, or transfer of paramilitary equipment were addressed in the resolution particularly because the state continues to be destabilized by the actions of the armed groups that use such equipment.<sup>61</sup>

The aim of the SC is to support the government in holding free and transparent legislative elections and the second round of the presidential elections so as to end the transition by 31 March 2016.<sup>62</sup> However, as violence continues to prevail and human rights violations from all stakeholders persist, it will be important to further address the implementation of existing mechanisms, as well as monitor the ongoing situation, to ensure sustainable peace in the CAR.<sup>63</sup>

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<sup>53</sup> African Union Peace and Security Council, *The African Union welcomes the successful holding of the constitutional referendum in the Central African Republic and warns that actors who seek to hinder the completion of the transition*, 2015.

<sup>54</sup> UN DPI, *Central African Republic: UN envoy hails first-round election results, urges calm as process continues*, 2016.

<sup>55</sup> UN DPI, *UN peacekeepers help provide security as Central African Republic holds election*, 2015.

<sup>56</sup> UN DPI, *UN envoy in Central African Republic meets with the presidential candidates following first election round*, 2016.

<sup>57</sup> UN DPI, *More than a million children need urgent assistance in conflict-torn Central African Republic – UNICEF*, 2015.

<sup>58</sup> UN DPI, *Refugees, Special Representatives for Children and Armed Conflict Briefs on Plight of Children in Central African Republic*, 2015.

<sup>59</sup> Ibid.

<sup>60</sup> UN Security Council, *Central African Republic (S/RES/2262 (2016))*, 2016.

<sup>61</sup> Ibid.

<sup>62</sup> Security Council Report, *January 2016 Monthly Forecast: Central African Republic*, 2015.

<sup>63</sup> UN Security Council, *Letter dated 21 December 2015 from the Panel of Experts on the Central African Republic extended pursuant to Security Council resolution 2196 (2015) addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2015/936)*, 2015.

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*The AU collaborated and coordinated their efforts with MINUSCA and local agencies to ensure that the constitutional referendum and first round of elections in December 2015 were run efficiently and fair. The article explores the hurdles that voters had to endure in order to practice their right and the AU's position on the new Republic of Logone. The article will be useful in understanding how regional actors are attempting to address the situation in the CAR.*

Ori, K. (2015). The Republic of Logone: Self-determination and CAR's territorial integrity. *The Africa Report*. Retrieved 2 January 2016 from: <http://www.theafricareport.com/Soapbox/the-republic-of-logone-self-determination-and-cars-territorial-integrity.html>

*This article provides insight into the legal validity of the newly autonomous state, the Republic of Logone, and how the UN Security Council and the international community should address this action in contrast to similar situations in Africa. It provides useful information on the key legal implications that need to be considered as the Council progresses on its decisions regarding sanctions and MINUSCA. Furthermore, it is a useful learning tool for addressing the coordination of efforts by foreign stakeholders.*

Security Council Report. (2015). *January 2016 Monthly Forecast: Central African Republic*. Retrieved 2 January 2016 from: [http://www.securitycouncilreport.org/monthly-forecast/2016-01/central\\_african\\_republic\\_14.php](http://www.securitycouncilreport.org/monthly-forecast/2016-01/central_african_republic_14.php)

*Every month, the Security Council Report publishes a monthly forecast on specific UN Member States, reviewing the key developments, potential objectives for the SC's agenda, issues that take precedence in the situation, and the platform of SC Member States on the issues. This report provides in-depth analysis of the human rights and sanctions-related developments in the CAR in January 2016. The statistical data from UN agencies and the contributions made by other UN agencies will enable the delegates to understand the updated context of the situation.*

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*This press release provides a summary and insight into the joint discussions between the 2127 CAR Sanctions Committee and the Working Group on Children and Armed Conflict. It is clear that the discussions emphasized the need for improved collaboration and coordination between the relevant UN agencies and knowledge bases to better understand the situation and the issues resulting from it. The insight will help delegates understand the accommodation and consideration of children in the implementation of MINUSCA's mechanisms in ensuring a sustainable transition.*

United Nations, Security Council. (2015). *Report of the Secretary-General on the situation in Central African Republic (S/2015/918)*. Retrieved 26 January 2016 from: <http://undocs.org/S/2015/918>

*This report by the Secretary-General addresses an update on the situation in the CAR and the implementation of the mandate of MINUSCA since August 2015. The report addresses the humanitarian situation and how it affects the expected outcomes of the elections. Delegates will find this is a useful resource in understanding how the situation has escalated within four months and the importance of the presidential and legislative elections in helping the state transition sustainably.*

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United Nations, Department of Public Information. (2015, December 11). *Refugees, Special Representatives for Children and Armed Conflict Briefs on Plight of Children in Central African Republic* [Press Release]. Retrieved 2 January 2016 from: <http://www.un.org/press/en/2015/sc12157.doc.htm>

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### III. Threats to International Peace and Security Caused by Terrorist Acts

#### *Recent Developments*

The international community has recently discussed, researched, and developed programs related to “threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts.” This covered a wide variety of themes, including the destruction of funding and financing of terrorist organizations, the utilization of internet and social media to broadcast ideology, and the fight against abuses of human rights.<sup>64</sup> Many counter-terrorism subsidiary bodies such as the United Nations (UN) Security Council (SC) Counter-Terrorism Committee (CTC) or the 1566 Working Group work closely together with the SC to combat terrorism.<sup>65</sup> Furthermore, the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force (CTITF) coordinates several working groups to support victims of terrorism or to frame the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy.<sup>66</sup>

On 31 October 2015, the Russian Metrojet Flight 9268 crashed in northern Sinai. After the crash, authorities suspected that a bomb was on board of the aircraft and the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) claimed responsibility for the death of the 224 victims.<sup>67</sup> Shortly after the attack, on 12 November 2015, two ISIL suicide bombers killed 43 civilians in Beirut, Lebanon.<sup>68</sup> Terrorist attacks in Paris, France, happened one day later, on the evening of 13 November, during which ISIL coordinated several mass shootings and suicide bombings that ultimately killed 129 people.<sup>69</sup>

On 20 November 2015, the SC passed resolution 2249 (2015), condemning the terroristic attacks of ISIL in Sousse, Ankara, Sinai, Beirut, and Paris.<sup>70</sup> The SC expressed its condolences and emphasized terrorist organizations such as ISIL and Al-Qaida are “an ‘unprecedented’ threat international to peace and security.”<sup>71</sup> Furthermore, the resolution highlighted the importance of suppressing the financing of terrorism and urged all Member States “to redouble and coordinate” programs to suppress terrorist acts by “all necessary measures.”<sup>72</sup> Resolution 2254 (2015) relates to the situation in Syria and refers back to Resolution 2249 (2015) in order to reiterate the importance of the eradication of the safe haven ISIL has established in Syria.<sup>73</sup> Furthermore, the resolution is the foundation of the peace process in Syria, due to the fact that it is the first document that gives a concrete timeframe for peace talks and negotiations.<sup>74</sup> The resolution further states the Member States are to cease any attacks against civilians but explicitly excludes terrorist organizations from this commitment.<sup>75</sup>

The CTC held a special meeting on 17 December 2015 to discuss the prevention of terrorist internet exploitation.<sup>76</sup> The meeting was divided into two major sessions whose agenda addressed “the threat and challenges relating to the use of the Internet and social media for terrorist purposes,” and the “collaboration between the public and private sector to promote safety and positive speech.”<sup>77</sup> Panelists from UN entities such as the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights attended the meeting alongside representatives of Microsoft, Twitter, and Facebook.<sup>78</sup> The experts discussed how terrorists use the internet and social media platforms to recruit supporters and plan attacks.<sup>79</sup> Fighting terrorism while respecting human rights were core elements of the discussions held

<sup>64</sup> UNODC, *The use of the Internet for terrorist purposes*, 2012.

<sup>65</sup> UN DPI, *Counter-terrorism and related bodies*, 2016.

<sup>66</sup> UN DPI, *Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force*, 2016.

<sup>67</sup> CNN, *U.S. officials express growing confidence bomb downed Russian plane*, 2015.

<sup>68</sup> CNN, *Beirut suicide bombings kill 43; suspect claims ISIS sent attackers*, 2015.

<sup>69</sup> CNN, *Paris suicide bomber identified; ISIS claims responsibility for 129 dead*, 2015.

<sup>70</sup> UN Security Council, *Threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts (S/RES/2249 (2015))*, 2015.

<sup>71</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>72</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>73</sup> UN Security Council, *Middle East (Syria) (S/RES/2254 (2015))*, 2015.

<sup>74</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>75</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>76</sup> UN Security Council Counter Terrorism Committee, *Special meeting of the Counter-Terrorism Committee and technical sessions of the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate on preventing and combatting abuse of ICT for terrorist purposes, New York, 16-17 December 2015*, 2015.

<sup>77</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>78</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>79</sup> *Ibid.*

during the meeting.<sup>80</sup> According to the CTC, it is important to establish collaboration between the public and private sector in order to promote safety and security.<sup>81</sup>

During a meeting on 17 December 2015, the Members of the SC were represented by the ministers of finance for the first time in history.<sup>82</sup> The Council invited the experts to determine which sanctions may best serve to isolate ISIL from the international financial system.<sup>83</sup> As a result of this meeting, the SC unanimously adopted resolution 2253 (2015).<sup>84</sup> The SC decided the 1267/1989 Al-Qaida Sanctions Committee should now be called the “1267/1989/2253 ISIL and Al-Qaida Sanctions Committee.”<sup>85</sup> The Committee manages a list of individuals and entities who are associated with Al-Qaida or ISIL from which they are able to freeze assets, implement travel bans, and enact arms embargos.<sup>86</sup> Previously, this list was labeled as the Al-Qaida Sanctions list but was renamed “ISIL and Al-Qaida Sanctions List.”<sup>87</sup>

The SC held its 7590<sup>th</sup> meeting on 21 December 2015.<sup>88</sup> During this meeting, the SC adopted resolution 2255 (2015), which specified and extended the regime of sanctions against Al-Qaida and strongly condemned the terrorist attacks near the city of Bagram.<sup>89</sup> The resolution focused on the support of peace in Afghanistan and also gave its support for the Afghan government while also expressing concern about the illicit flow of light weapons into the country.<sup>90</sup> It further recognized the changing role of the Taliban in the conflict, acknowledging some members have since reconciled with the Afghan regime and actively support peace in the country.<sup>91</sup> Finally, this resolution furthered the list of valid exemptions submitted to the National Focal Point established in 2006.<sup>92</sup>

Threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts are important current issues for the UN, its Member States, and especially the SC.<sup>93</sup> Together with various UN committees, such as the CTC, and various non-governmental organizations, the SC will need to continue to find effective ways to combat terrorism and to ensure international peace and security. These recent developments in the field of international peace and security demonstrate the SC’s path for the year 2016.

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<sup>80</sup> UN Security Council Counter Terrorism Committee, *Special meeting of the Counter-Terrorism Committee and technical sessions of the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate on preventing and combatting abuse of ICT for terrorist purposes, New York, 16-17 December 2015*, 2015.

<sup>81</sup> UN Security Council Counter Terrorism Committee, *Our Mandate*, 2016.

<sup>82</sup> UN DPI, *Unanimously Adopting Resolution 2253 (2015), Security Council Expands Sanctions Framework to Include Islamic State in Iraq and Levant*, 2015.

<sup>83</sup> UN DPI, *Security Council moves to cut off all funding sources for ISIL and other terrorist groups*, 2015.

<sup>84</sup> UN Security Council, *Threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts (S/RES/2253 (2015))*, 2015.

<sup>85</sup> Ibid.

<sup>86</sup> Ibid.

<sup>87</sup> Ibid.

<sup>88</sup> Ibid..

<sup>89</sup> UN DPI, *Security Council strongly condemns deadly terrorist attack near Bagram Air Field in Afghanistan*, 2015.

<sup>90</sup> UN Security Council, *Threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts (S/RES/2255 (2015))*, 2015.

<sup>91</sup> Ibid.

<sup>92</sup> Ibid.

<sup>93</sup> UN DPI, *United Nations Action to Counter, Terrorism Security Council Actions to Counter Terrorism*, 2016.

## Annotated Bibliography

United Nations, Security Council, Counter Terrorism Committee. (2016). *Our Mandate* [Website]. Retrieved 5 January 2016 from: <http://www.un.org/en/sc/ctc/index.html>

*This noteworthy website informs about the work of the Counter Terrorism Committee of the Security Council. It gives a brief overview of the Committees mandate, its working methods and several human rights topics relating to peace and security. The CTC was established after the 11 September terrorist attacks in the United States and it supports the Member States to counter terrorism.*

United Nations, Security Council, 7588<sup>th</sup> Meeting. (2015). *Middle East (Syria) (S/RES/2254)*. Retrieved 5 January 2016 from: [http://undocs.org/S/RES/2254\(2015\)](http://undocs.org/S/RES/2254(2015))

*Delegates may consider this resolution useful because it was adopted unanimously and called for a ceasefire and political settlement in Syria. The document is linked to SC resolution 2249 (2015) and demands all Member States to immediately cease any attacks against civilian targets. Terrorist organizations are explicitly excluded from this commitment. Moreover, the document is unique because it gives a concrete timetable for peace talks in the case of Syria.*

United Nations, Security Council, 7565<sup>th</sup> Meeting. (2015). *Threats to International Peace and Security caused by Terrorist Attacks (S/RES/2249) (2015)*. Retrieved 5 January 2016 from: [http://undocs.org/S/RES/2249\(2015\)](http://undocs.org/S/RES/2249(2015))

*SC resolution 2249 (2015) is a relevant source for delegates because it can be seen as a response to the worldwide terrorist attacks of the year 2015. The Member States of the Council expressed their deepest condolences to the victims and their families, as well as to the people and Governments of Tunisia, Turkey, Russian Federation, Lebanon and France. The Resolution considers the threat of ISIL as “unprecedented.”*

United Nations, Security Council, 7587<sup>th</sup> Meeting. (2015). *Threats to International Peace and Security caused by Terrorist Attacks (S/RES/2253) (2015)*. Retrieved 5 January 2016 from: [http://undocs.org/S/RES/2253\(2015\)](http://undocs.org/S/RES/2253(2015))

*This resource has a very unique character: For the first time in history, the Member States sent their finance ministers to meet and work on a resolution that includes financial barriers for terrorist organizations. The resolution enables the 1267/1989/2253 ISIL and Al-Qaida Sanctions Committee to freeze assets and implement travel bans and arms embargos. The idea of the document is to isolate ISIL financially.*

United Nations, Security Council, 7590<sup>th</sup> Meeting. (2015). *Threats to International Peace and Security caused by Terrorist Attacks (S/RES/2255)*. Retrieved 5 January 2016 from: [http://undocs.org/S/RES/2255\(2015\)](http://undocs.org/S/RES/2255(2015))

*This document serves as a good example for the working methods of the SC. The Council extended its sanctions regime in Afghanistan and in order to assure the country’s security, the resolution calls for information sharing, the creation of partnerships and national strategies, as well as to develop the capabilities needed to counter devices that are supporting these acts. It also expresses its backing for talks between the Afghan government and the Taliban.*

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