Security Council (SC)

Committee Staff

Director Davina Basse
Chair/Rapporteur Patrick Lorrig

Agenda

I. Youth, Peace, and Security
II. The Situation in Venezuela
III. Threats to International Peace and Security Caused by Terrorist Acts
IV. The Situation in Myanmar

Documents adopted by the Committee

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The Security Council held its annual session to consider the following items:

I. Youth, Peace, and Security
II. Threats to International Peace and Security Caused by Terrorist Acts
III. The Situation in Myanmar

The session was attended by representatives of 15 Member States.

On Sunday, the committee defaulted to the agenda of I, II, III, beginning discussion on the topic of “Youth, Peace, and Security.” By Monday afternoon, the Dais had received five proposals covering a wide range of issues affecting youth in relation to peace and security, including the radicalization of youth, ethnic minority youth in peacekeeping and security, youth-government cooperation, and the role of young women in maintaining peace and security. However, the delegates began deliberations on the topic of Venezuela on Monday afternoon after considering the rapidly deteriorating situation on the ground. Over the course of Tuesday’s sessions, the dais discussed providing humanitarian assistance for Venezuela, the legal implications of a possible UN intervention, and providing support to the Venezuelan people. The dais also received a presidential statement on Tuesday evening, recognizing the impact the current situation in Venezuela has had on its population and surrounding Member States. The committee adopted the presidential statement by acclamation.

On Wednesday morning, the committee unanimously adopted a press statement in response to crisis updates on the worsening situation on the Venezuelan/Colombian border. The dais received a total of four working papers before voting on four draft resolutions on the topic of the crisis in Venezuela. One draft resolution was adopted by acclamation, which clarified the legal situation surrounding the crisis in Venezuela, and the remaining three draft resolutions were vetoed. The Council then adjourned debate on the crisis in Venezuela and resumed discussion on “Youth, Peace, and Security.” The delegates then adjourned debate on the topic and moved to briefly discuss “Threats to International Peace and Security Caused by Terrorist Acts.” Throughout the entire session, delegates worked diligently, engaged in passionate and well-researched debates, and were eager to collaborate effectively.
At the meeting of the Security Council, held on 26 March 2019, in connection with the Council’s consideration of the item entitled “The Crisis in Venezuela” the President of the Security Council made the following statement on behalf of the Council:

“The Security Council recognizes the 30 million civilians affected, including the 3.4 million Venezuelan refugees, as stated by the Statement of the Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator at the Briefing to the Security Council on the Humanitarian Crisis in Venezuela, 26 March 2019 (26 March 2019),

“The Security Council notes the Argentine Republic, the Federative Republic of Brazil, Canada, the Republic of Chile, the Republic of Colombia, the Dominican Republic, the Republic of Ecuador, the United Mexican States, the Republic of Panama, the Republic of Peru, the Oriental Republic of Uruguay, and the United States of America being affected by the current refugee situation and furthermore bares in mind its impact on the whole American continent,

“The Security Council acknowledges the cooperation of neighboring Member States and furthermore stresses the need of international assistance, particularly from developed Member States in supporting agencies such as the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR),

“The Security Council recognizes the creation of reports of human rights violations within and surrounding the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela while highlighting the interest of many Member States to resolve the threats to human rights such as displacement, increasing fatality rates, and the violation of basic democratic principles, as per Security Council press release 13680 of 26 January 2019,

“The Security Council highly commends the work being done by the Human Rights Council and UNHCR, such as the establishment of reception centers which offer support to displaced Venezuelans in the border city of Maicao in the La Guajira region in March 2019,

“The Security Council acknowledges the statement made on 26 March 2019 by the representative of the UNHCR, stating the need to ensure the protection of UN personnel at all organization levels in every mission it fulfills,

“The Security Council reiterates the importance of all Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the mutual commitment of all Member States to achieve them, especially SDG 16 “Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions,”

“The Security Council reaffirms its support for the sovereignty, political independence, territorial integrity, and the unity of all Member States, as established by Article 2 of the Charter of the United Nations (1945),

“The Security Council remains determined to continue to closely follow the situation in the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela and calls upon all parties involved in the conflict to remain committed to resolving the issue without using violence and imposing imperialism.”
Security Council Press Statement on the Situation in Venezuela

The Security Council strongly condemns the attack on the Simón Bolívar International Bridge on 26 March 2019 where thousands of Venezuelan citizens seeking to enter Colombia were impacted and several hundred Venezuelan and Colombian civilians were injured or killed.

This Council expresses its deepest condolences to the families and friends of all victims, including the UN aid workers believed to be from Belgium, Poland, Kuwait, South Africa, and Equatorial Guinea who have been killed in the blast. The Security Council reaffirms the importance of the safety of all UN personnel, as stated in PRST/2/1 (2019).

The Security Council agrees with the Secretary-General’s statement that those responsible for this killing must be apprehended and prosecuted immediately in order to maintain accountability for acts of violence.

The Security Council stresses the importance of continued UN efforts at the Venezuelan-Colombian border and the necessity of resilience in the face of this targeted attack.

The members of the Security Council remain committed to international peace and security.
The Security Council,

Guided by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations (1945),

Concerned about the violations of Article 2.4 of the Charter of the United Nations (1945) in connection to the threats of military use posed by Member States,

Reaffirming the principle enacted under Article 2.3 of the Charter of the United Nations (1945), which ensures the peaceful settlement of any international disputes,

Deeply concerned by the breach of Article 2.7 of the Charter of the United Nations (1945), induced by attempts to intervene in the internal legal system of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela,

Acknowledging the explicitly expressed opposition to the elected government of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela as outside interference and intervention,

Further believing that the Security Council and the international community shall respect the principles of territorial integrity, Member State sovereignty, and political independence,

1. Disapproves of all forms of unrequested interference in the national politics of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela without consent of the Security Council;

2. Declares that any intervention and supply of aid can be provided within the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela if it is requested legally by the Member State itself;

3. Strongly condemns the use of military force against the territory of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela without the consent of the Security Council;

4. Calls upon Member States to respect the sovereignty of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela;

5. Recognizes the importance of respecting the political process of all Member States, including the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela and highlighting that no new elections should be enforced by other Member States or any institution without consent of the Security Council;

6. Decides to remain actively seized of the matter.