

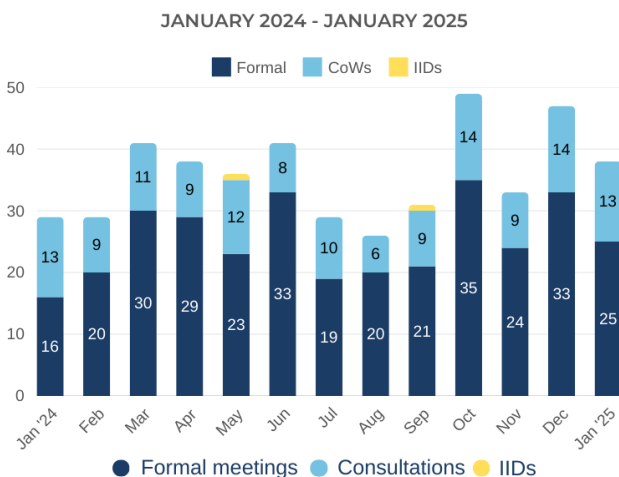
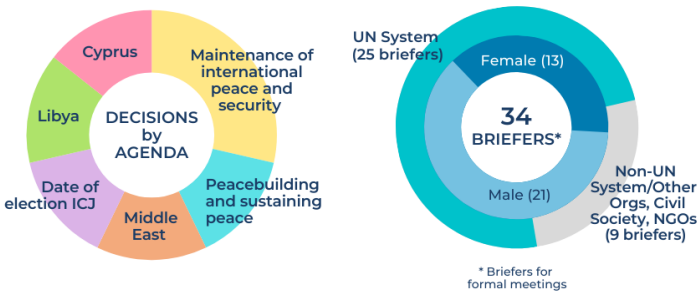
UN Security Council in Review

January 2025



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January 2025 at a Glance



Under the **Presidency of Algeria**, the Security Council held **one signature event**:

- A high-level open debate on **Maintenance of international peace and security** (21 January), focused on **African-led and development-focused counterterrorism** (S/2025/23). The Minister of Foreign Affairs of Algeria presided over the meeting and the Deputy Secretary-General briefed.

In addition to the signature event, the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Algeria presided over a high-level quarterly open debate on **The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question** (20 January) in which the Secretary-General briefed. The Minister of Foreign Affairs of Algeria also presided over a briefing on **Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and subregional organizations in maintaining international peace and security** (23 January), focused on cooperation between the Security Council and the **League of Arab States** (S/2025/39), in which the Secretary-General of the League of Arab States briefed.

Key Topics

The **Middle East** (8, 13, 15, 16, 17 and 30 January) was the most frequently discussed country or region-specific item in open and closed discussions followed by the **Middle East, including the Palestinian Question** (3, 17, 20, 23 and 28 January), and the **situation in the Democratic Republic of Congo** (13, 26 and 28 January). Other country or region-specific items considered by the Council included: **Colombia, Cyprus, Haiti, Libya, Myanmar, Non-Proliferation/DPRK, Sudan and South Sudan, and Ukraine**. The Council also discussed **Press Elements** welcoming the election of the new President of Lebanon, as well as a potential **Council visit to Lebanon** in closed consultations (9 January) under other matters (AOB).

Under thematic items, the Council held meetings on

Maintenance of international peace and security (15, 21 and 24 January), **Cooperation with regional and subregional organizations** (17 and 23 January), **Protection of civilians in armed conflict** (6 January), **Date of election to fill a vacancy in the International Court of Justice** (24 January), and **Peacebuilding and Sustaining Peace** (27 January). The Council held one private meeting with **troop-contributing countries** on the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus (**UNFICYP**) (14 January).

Procedural notes

On 2 January, the annual flag installation ceremony was held to honour the five incoming elected members of the Council - **Denmark, Greece, Pakistan, Panama** and **Somalia**.

On 7 January, the President of the Security Council addressed a letter to the Secretary-General ([S/2025/13](#)) informing that the Council agreed on the selection of **Algeria** and **Panama** as the two elected members of the Council to participate in the **Organizational Committee** of the **Peacebuilding Commission** for one year.

Decisions and press statements

In January, the Council adopted **four resolutions, three presidential statements**, and issued **three press statements**.

On 15 January, the Council adopted resolution [2768 \(2025\)](#), with 12 votes in favour and three abstentions, reiterating its demand for an immediate cessation of **Houthi attacks on merchant and commercial vessels in the Red Sea** and extended its request to the Secretary-General to provide monthly reports until 15 July 2025. On 16 January, the Council adopted resolution [2769 \(2025\)](#), acting under Chapter VII, with 14 votes in favour and one abstention, which renewed the **sanctions regime on Libya** until 1 May 2026, including the arms embargo, travel ban and assets freeze, and extended the mandate of the **Panel of Experts** for a period of 16 months. On 24 January, the Council unanimously adopted resolution [2770 \(2025\)](#), deciding that the **election to fill the vacancy in the International Court of Justice** shall take place on **27 May 2025**. On 31 January, the Council unanimously adopted resolution [2771 \(2025\)](#), extending the mandate of **UNFICYP** until **31 January 2026**.

On 16 January, the Council adopted a presidential statement ([S/PRST/2025/1](#)) welcoming the **election of the President of the Republic of Lebanon** and designation of a Prime Minister. On 24 January, following the high-level briefing on **African-led and development-focused counterterrorism**, the Council adopted a presidential statement ([S/PRST/2025/2](#)) which expressed deep concern over the alarming **increase in terrorist attacks**, particularly in the Sahel and West Africa, acknowledged the efforts deployed towards strengthening the African Union's institutional counterterrorism architecture, and requested that the Secretary-General provide annual updates to the Council on joint AU-UN efforts to combat terrorism in Africa as necessary. On 27 January, the Council adopted a presidential statement ([S/PRST/2025/3](#)) welcoming the progress made in the **implementation of the resolutions on peacebuilding and sustaining peace**. The Council also issued three press statements on terrorist attacks in **Benin** ([SC/15980](#)), on the situation in the **Democratic Republic of Congo** ([SC/15981](#)) and on the escalating violence around **El Fasher, North Darfur, in Sudan** ([SC/15988](#)).

Other activities

On 13, 14 and 24 January, Council members convened three Arria-formula meetings respectively on: **“Violations of international humanitarian law against Ukrainian prisoners of war and civilian detainees”**, organized by the United Kingdom, with co-sponsorship from the United States and four other Member States; **“Commercial Spyware and the Maintenance of International Peace and Security”**, organized by the United States, with co-sponsorship from France, the Republic of Korea, and the United Kingdom, together with twelve other Member States; and **“Beyond the Battlefield: Atrocities of the Armed Forces of Ukraine Against Civilians”**, organized by the Russian Federation.

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