

31. Briefings

As with previous supplements, briefings by different speakers not explicitly connected to a specific item on the agenda of the Security Council are featured in this section. In 2022, the Council held five such meetings, four of which were public.¹¹³¹ More information on the meetings, including on participants and speakers, is provided in the tables below.¹¹³²

In 2022, the Council held one meeting under the item “Briefing by the Chairperson-in-Office of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe”. On 14 March, the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Poland, in his capacity as Chairperson-in-Office of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), provided a briefing to the Council focusing on the developments in Ukraine.¹¹³³ In this regard, he said that he addressed the Council with a sense of urgency and moral imperative to make every possible effort to stop the military aggression of the Russian Federation against Ukraine, noting that close cooperation between the OSCE and the United Nations was even more needed when the basic principles of the Charter and international law were being flagrantly violated in the very heart of Europe.¹¹³⁴ The Chairperson-in-Office stated that the international community had rightly condemned Russia’s invasion and called on Moscow to withdraw its forces from Ukraine, adding that it was hard to ignore 141 countries assembled in the General Assembly asking the President of the Russian Federation to stop the war. He further noted that any sustainable, political solution had to fully respect the sovereignty, territorial integrity and independence of Ukraine within its internationally recognized borders. Turning to the broader implications of the developments in Ukraine, the Chairperson-in-Office affirmed that Russia’s aggression threatened the very existence of the OSCE and that its non-compliance with the OSCE principles and commitments was forcing the Organization to put on hold or delay some of the issues that were important for its daily operation. Furthermore, the changing situation on the ground would probably determine the scope and character of the future engagement of the Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine. The Chairperson-in-Office also stated

¹¹³¹ For more information on the format of meetings, see part II.

¹¹³² For more information, see [A/77/2](#), part II, chap. 18, 19, 20 and 23.

¹¹³³ For more information about discussions relating to Ukraine, see also part I, sects. 19.A, B and C and 36.

¹¹³⁴ See [S/PV.8992](#).

that the OSCE would continue to call on all sides to military conflicts to abide by humanitarian law and refrain from activities directed against the civilian population and civilian infrastructure. Concluding, he asserted that it was true that the OSCE might evolve as a result of the current experience and that the celebrations of the 50th anniversary of the Helsinki Final Act could turn out to be dedicated to finding a solution to the deep crisis of multilateralism. At the same meeting, the Council also heard a briefing by the Under-Secretary-General for Political and Peacebuilding Affairs in which she reflected on the complementarity and cooperation between the United Nations and the OSCE in line with Chapter VIII of the Charter, citing the examples of joint work in Central Asia, the Western Balkans, the Caucasus, as well as Nagorno-Karabakh and Moldova. Regarding the war in Ukraine, the Under-Secretary-General noted that it was the most severe test that the OSCE and related regional frameworks had faced since their creation and added that the Russian invasion had shaken the foundations of the European security architecture. She held the view that any questioning of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Ukraine within its internationally recognized borders would be inconsistent with the Charter of the United Nations and the relevant Council and General Assembly resolutions.

During the discussion, Council members took note of the commitment of the Polish chairmanship of the OSCE to finding peaceful solutions to protracted conflicts in the OSCE area, and recalled the importance of the principles of the prohibition of the use or threat of the use of force,¹¹³⁵ the peaceful settlement of disputes and the respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity.¹¹³⁶ In response to some of the comments expressed by Council members, the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office took the floor for a second time.¹¹³⁷

In accordance with previously established practice, the Council heard one briefing by the President of the International Court of Justice at a private (closed) meeting held on 26 October.¹¹³⁸

¹¹³⁵ For more information on the prohibition of the threat or the use of force, see part III.

¹¹³⁶ For more information on the peaceful settlement of disputes, see part and VI.

¹¹³⁷ For more information about invitees under rule 39 and their interventions, see part II.

¹¹³⁸ See [S/PV.9166](#). For further information on the relations with the International Court of Justice, see part IV.

In addition, on 2 November, the Council heard the yearly briefing by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.¹¹³⁹ At the meeting, the High Commissioner reflected on the impact of growing conflicts, the climate emergency, pandemics, energy and food crises on more than 103 million refugees and displaced people. With regard to Ukraine, he noted that the Russian invasion had driven the fastest and largest displacement witnessed in decades with some 14 million people forced from their homes since 24 February. In addition to Ukraine, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees had responded to 37 emergencies around the world in the past 12 months, including in Ethiopia, Myanmar, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Afghanistan and the Syrian Arab Republic. Further, the High Commissioner highlighted the intersection between climate change and displacement, which in many situations included a clear connection with conflict as well. In that regard, he cited the examples of Somalia and the Sahel. The High Commissioner concluded by drawing the attention of the Council to four areas: (i) the need for more resources for humanitarian aid; (ii) strengthening peacebuilding by reinforcing the capacity of the police, the judiciary, local government and overall rule of law in fragile countries; (iii) safeguarding humanitarian action including by ensuring that international humanitarian law was upheld and by contributing to preserving the civilian character of refugee settings; and (iv) the need for the international community, starting with Council members, to overcome its divisions and disagreements, at least on humanitarian issues.

Following the briefing, Council members underscored the importance of addressing the root causes of forced displacement, in particular armed conflicts, with many speakers raising the issue of climate change as a contributing factor in this regard.¹¹⁴⁰ In response to some of the questions raised by Council members, the High Commissioner took the floor for a second time.¹¹⁴¹

In 2022, the Council held two meetings under the item entitled “Briefings by Chairs of subsidiary bodies of the Security Council”. On 23 November, the Council heard a joint briefing by the Chairs of the three committees related to counterterrorism and non-proliferation, namely,

¹¹³⁹ See [S/PV.9178](#). The previous briefing by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to the Council was held on 7 December 2021, see [S/PV.8919](#). See also *Repertoire, Supplement 2021*, part I, sect. 29.

¹¹⁴⁰ See [S/PV.9178](#), Kenya, France, Brazil, Ireland, Gabon, Albania, United Arab Emirates, Mexico, Norway, United Kingdom and Ghana.

¹¹⁴¹ For more information about invitees under rule 39 and their interventions, see part II.

the Committee established pursuant to resolutions [1267 \(1999\)](#), [1989 \(2011\)](#) and [2253 \(2015\)](#), the Committee established pursuant to resolution [1373 \(2001\)](#) and the Committee established pursuant to resolution [1540 \(2004\)](#). At the meeting, the Chairs provided an overview of the work of the three committees, noting that the three subsidiary bodies had continued to cooperate and coordinate their work to ensure an effective and efficient approach to counter terrorism and to prevent the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery by non-State actors.¹¹⁴² The representative of Norway, speaking on behalf of the three committees, and the representative of India, in her capacity as Chair of the Counter-Terrorism Committee, further reported that the Counter-Terrorism Committee had convened a special meeting on 28 and 29 October in Mumbai and New Delhi on countering the use of new and emerging technologies for terrorist purposes, at which it adopted the Delhi declaration.¹¹⁴³ In addition, Council members underscored the value of field visits, including joint ones,¹¹⁴⁴ as well as the sharing of information among the committees.¹¹⁴⁵ Council members also raised the issue of the evolving nature of the threat of terrorism in several parts of Africa, Asia and the Middle East,¹¹⁴⁶ and discussed the conclusion of the comprehensive review of the status of the implementation of resolution [1540 \(2004\)](#).¹¹⁴⁷

In line with the established practice, on 12 December, the Council heard the end-of-year briefing by the outgoing Chairs of the various subsidiary bodies who were concluding their terms at the end of 2022.¹¹⁴⁸ At the briefing, they presented the key activities undertaken during their

¹¹⁴² See [S/PV.9201](#).

¹¹⁴³ For more information about the Committees, see part IX, sect. I.

¹¹⁴⁴ See [S/PV.9201](#), Norway, India, Mexico, United States, China, Russian Federation, Brazil and Ireland.

¹¹⁴⁵ *Ibid.*, Mexico, United States, China, Gabon and Ireland.

¹¹⁴⁶ *Ibid.*, Norway, India, Russian Federation (p. 10), France, Ireland and Ghana.

¹¹⁴⁷ *Ibid.*, Mexico, China, United Arab Emirates, Norway, Brazil, United Kingdom and Ireland. For more information about the comprehensive review of the status of the implementation of resolution [1540 \(2004\)](#), see part I, sect. 34.A.

¹¹⁴⁸ See [S/PV.9218](#). The Chairs of the following subsidiary organs provided briefings: Committee established pursuant to resolution [751 \(1992\)](#) concerning Al-Shabaab, Committee established pursuant to resolution [1718 \(2006\)](#) concerning the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Working Group on Children and Armed Conflict, Committee established pursuant to resolution [1373 \(2001\)](#) concerning counter-terrorism, Committee established pursuant to resolution [1988 \(2011\)](#), Committee established pursuant to resolution [1970 \(2011\)](#) concerning Libya, Ad Hoc Working Group on Conflict Prevention and Resolution in Africa, Committee established pursuant to resolution [1540 \(2004\)](#), Committee established pursuant to resolution [2374 \(2017\)](#) concerning Mali, and Committee established pursuant to resolutions [1267 \(1999\)](#), [1989 \(2011\)](#) and [2253 \(2015\)](#) concerning the Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (Da'esh), Al-Qaida and associated individuals, groups, undertakings and entities.

tenure and offered their recommendations for the incoming elected members of the Council. Several Chairs reflected on the need for effective implementation of sanctions regimes and underscored the importance of the humanitarian carveout to minimize the unintended consequences of sanctions measures.¹¹⁴⁹ The representative of Ireland, speaking in his capacity as Chair of the Committee established pursuant to resolution [751 \(1992\)](#) concerning Al-Shabaab, outlined the innovative elements Ireland had introduced, including the broadening of the scope of Committee discussions by inviting new briefers and holding joint meetings with other sanctions committees. In her capacity as Chair of the Working Group on Children and Armed Conflict, the representative of Norway stated, *inter alia*, that it had been important to her as Chair to consistently strive for conclusions that were fit for purpose, practical and instruments for real action. She further stated that the Working Group had received and reviewed regular global horizontal notes to stay alert of recent developments and urged the Council to continue to mainstream child protection throughout its work. The representative of India, speaking in her capacity as Chair of several committees, noted that it was important that the five permanent members of the Council respected the consensus of the 10 elected members and took their preferences seriously for chairing a particular subsidiary body. Further, the representative of India held the view that the function or dysfunction of a subsidiary body depended on the cooperation of its members, pointed to the need to bring predictability to the scheduling of Committee meetings and to enhance the transparency of their functioning, and added that the credibility of a Committee also depended on how objective and fair its decisions were perceived to be.¹¹⁵⁰ The representative of Kenya, speaking on behalf of the Chair of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Conflict Prevention and Resolution in Africa, noted that the Working Group was a good platform that could be utilized for horizon-scanning briefings on emerging global issues that impinged on peace and security in Africa. He added that the Working Group should consider utilizing field visits, including with other committees, to enrich its deliberations. Speaking in his capacity as Chair of the Committee established pursuant to resolution [1540 \(2004\)](#) on the non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, the representative of Mexico stated that the Committee had undertaken a review of the lessons learned over the past five years and had

¹¹⁴⁹ See [S/PV.9218](#), Ireland, Norway and Mexico.

¹¹⁵⁰ For more information about the Committees, see part IX, sect. I.

formulated proposals for its future mandate. In his capacity as Chair of the Committee established pursuant to resolution [2374 \(2017\)](#) concerning Mali, the representative of Mexico noted that greater support was needed from the Committee and the Secretariat in order to ensure that the countries of the region had the technical tools to fully implement sanctions. He further reported on the better coordination of activities with the Government authorities, including through the provision of access to the final reports of the Group of Experts prior to their publication.

Table 1
Meetings: briefings by the Chairperson-in-Office of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe

<i>Meeting record and date</i>	<i>Sub-item</i>	<i>Other documents</i>	<i>Rule 37 invitations</i>	<i>Rule 39 and other invitations</i>	<i>Speakers</i>	<i>Decisions and vote (for-against-abstaining)</i>
S/PV.8992 14 March 2022			Ukraine	Chairperson-in-Office of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) and Minister of Foreign Affairs of Poland, Under-Secretary-General for Political and Peacebuilding Affairs	All Council members, all invitees	

Table 2
Meetings: briefings by the President of the International Court of Justice

<i>Meeting record and date</i>	<i>Sub-item</i>	<i>Other documents</i>	<i>Rule 37 invitations</i>	<i>Rule 39 and other invitations</i>	<i>Speakers</i>	<i>Decisions and vote (for-against-abstaining)</i>
S/PV.9166 26 October 2022 (closed)				President of the International Court of Justice	Council members, invitee	

Table 3
Meetings: briefings by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

<i>Meeting record and date</i>	<i>Sub-item</i>	<i>Other documents</i>	<i>Rule 37 invitations</i>	<i>Rule 39 and other invitations</i>	<i>Speakers</i>	<i>Decisions and vote (for-against-abstaining)</i>
S/PV.9178 2 November 2022				United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees	All Council members, invitee	

Table 4
Meetings: briefings by Chairs of subsidiary bodies of the Security Council

<i>Meeting record and date</i>	<i>Sub-item</i>	<i>Other documents</i>	<i>Rule 37 invitations</i>	<i>Rule 39 and other invitations</i>	<i>Speakers</i>	<i>Decisions and vote (for-against-abstaining)</i>
S/PV.9201 23 November 2022					Chair of the Committee established pursuant to resolutions 1267 (1999) , 1989 (2011) and 2253 (2015) concerning the Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (Da'esh), Al-Qaida and associated individuals, groups, undertakings and entities, Chair of the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1373 (2001) , and Chair of the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004) , ^a all Council members	
S/PV.9218 12 December 2022					Chairs of eight Committees and two Working Groups ^b	

^a Before his briefing as Chair of the Committee established pursuant to resolutions [1267 \(1999\)](#), [1989 \(2011\)](#) and [2253 \(2015\)](#) concerning the Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (Da'esh), Al-Qaida and associated individuals, groups, undertakings and entities, the representative of Norway delivered a joint statement on behalf of that Committee and the Committee established pursuant to resolution [1540 \(2004\)](#), and the Committee established pursuant to resolution [1373 \(2001\)](#).

^b Chair of the Committee established pursuant to resolution [751 \(1992\)](#) concerning Al-Shabaab; Chair of the Committee established pursuant to resolution [1718 \(2006\)](#) concerning the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Working Group on Children and Armed Conflict; Chair of the Committee established pursuant to resolution [1373 \(2001\)](#) concerning counter-terrorism, the Committee established pursuant to resolution [1988 \(2011\)](#) and the Committee established pursuant to resolution [1970 \(2011\)](#) concerning Libya; Chair of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Conflict Prevention and Resolution in Africa; Chair of the Committee established pursuant to resolution [1540 \(2004\)](#) and the Committee established pursuant to resolution [2374 \(2017\)](#) concerning Mali; and Chair of the Committee established pursuant to resolutions [1267 \(1999\)](#), [1989 \(2011\)](#) and [2253 \(2015\)](#) concerning the Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (Da'esh), Al-Qaida and associated individuals, groups, undertakings and entities.