

# UN Security Council in Review

April 2024



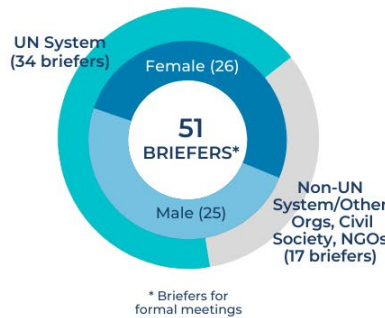
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## April 2024 at a Glance

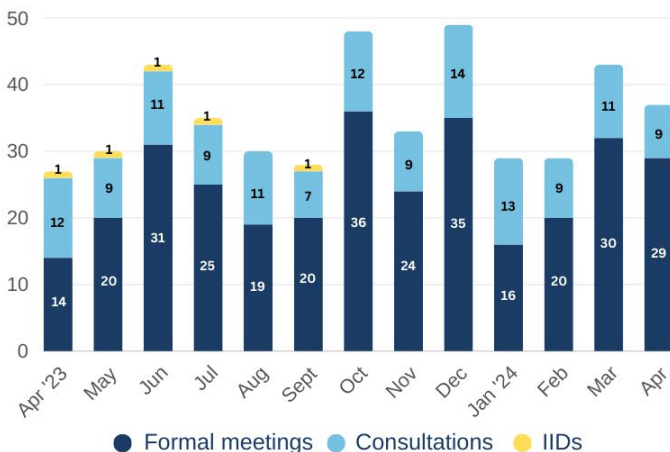


**Most frequently discussed topics (open & closed)**

- Middle East, including the Palestinian question
- Sudan and South Sudan
- Middle East
- Ukraine
- Admission of new members



APRIL 2023 - APRIL 2024



Under the **Presidency of Malta**, the Security Council held **two signature events**, both under thematic agenda items:

- A briefing on **Children and armed conflict** (3 April), focused on addressing the consequences of the denial of humanitarian access for children (S/2024/265).
- A high-level debate on **Maintenance of international peace and security** (17, 22 and 26 April), focused on the role of **young persons in addressing security challenges in the Mediterranean** (S/2024/288). The Minister for Foreign and European Affairs and Trade of Malta presided over the meeting.

## Key Topics

The **Middle East, including the Palestinian question** (1, 5, 17, 18, 24 and 25 April), **Sudan and South Sudan** (19 and twice on 29 April), the **Middle East** (14, 15 and 25 April) and **Ukraine** (11, 12 and 15 April) were the most frequently considered country- or region-specific items in open and closed discussions, followed by **Bosnia and Herzegovina** (26 and 30 April). On 14 April, at an emergency meeting held on the situation in the Middle East, the Secretary-General provided a briefing. On 18 and 24 April, the Minister for Foreign and European Affairs and Trade of Malta presided over the **quarterly open debate on the situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question**, and the Secretary-General provided a briefing. Other country or region-specific items considered by the Council included: **Colombia**, the **Great Lakes region**, **Haiti**, **Kosovo**, **Libya**, **Myanmar** and **Western Sahara**. The Council held a private meeting further to a **letter from Guyana** (S/2024/295) under the item entitled “Threats to international peace and security”. The Council also discussed **South Sudan** under other matters (AOB).

In addition to the signature events, the Council also held meetings under thematic items on **Non-proliferation, Threats to international peace and security**, including a discussion on the Nord Stream and a **briefing by the Chairperson-in-Office of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE)**. On 23 and 26 April, the Council held an **annual open debate on Women and peace and security** with a focus on **conflict-related sexual violence**, which was presided over by the Deputy Prime Minister of Malta.

## Procedural notes

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On 8 April, the Council held closed consultations and a public meeting on “**Admission of new members**” to discuss a request from the Permanent Observer of the State of Palestine (S/2024/286), for renewed consideration of its 2011 application for admission to membership in the United Nations (S/2011/592). In accordance with rule 59 of the provisional rules of procedure, the President of the Council referred the request to the standing **Committee on the Admission of New Members**, for examination and report (see S/PV.9597). On 8 and 11 April, at its 112th and 113th meetings, respectively, the Committee reconsidered the application and on 16 April, approved the report on its consideration of Palestine’s application for the United Nations membership, stating that it had concluded its work but had been unable to make a unanimous recommendation to the Council. (S/2024/313). On 18 April, the Council convened to vote on a **draft resolution submitted by Algeria** (S/2024/312), recommending the State of Palestine be admitted to membership in the United Nations, which was not adopted owing to a veto cast by the United States (see S/PV.9609).

Further, on 24 April, a **draft resolution submitted by Japan and the United States**, co-sponsored by 63 Member States (S/2024/302) on **outer space and the arms race** under **Non-proliferation**, was not adopted owing to a veto cast by the Russian Federation (see S/PV.9616). Ahead of the vote on the draft resolution, a draft amendment submitted by China and the Russian Federation (S/2024/323) was not adopted having failed to obtain the required number of votes.

Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 76/262, the Council submitted **special reports to the Assembly on the use of the veto** in the above instances (A/78/856 on 23 April and A/78/861 on 26 April).

## Decisions and press statements

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In April 2024, the Council adopted one **resolution** and did not issue any presidential statement. On 29 April, the Council, acting under Chapter VII, extended the mandate of the **United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS)** until 30 April 2025 through resolution 2729 (2024). The resolution was adopted with 13 votes in favour and two abstentions (China and the Russian Federation).

The Council also issued **five press statements** on the following topics: attacks by the M23 in North Kivu, **Democratic Republic of the Congo** (SC/15654); attacks on humanitarian personnel in **Gaza** (SC/15658); the peace process in **Colombia** (SC/15663); the situation between **Guyana and Venezuela** (SC/15665); and military operations in El Fasher, North Darfur, **Sudan** (SC/15686).

## Other activities

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In April, Council members convened one **Arria-formula meeting** on the following topic: “**Evolving cyber threat landscape and its implications for the Maintenance of International Peace and Security**” (4 April), organized by the Republic of Korea and co-hosted by Japan and the United States.

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