

# UN Security Council in Review

November 2023



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## November 2023 at a Glance



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

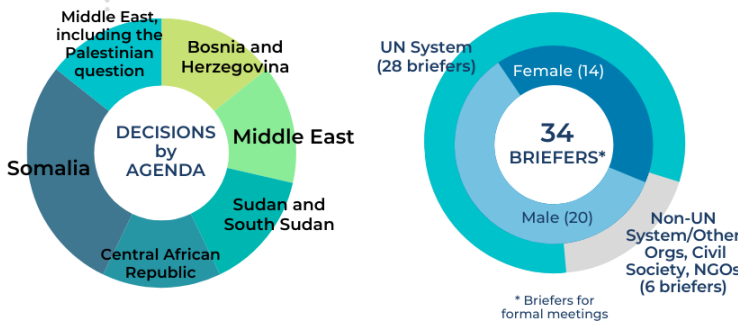
Middle East, including the Palestinian question

Ukraine

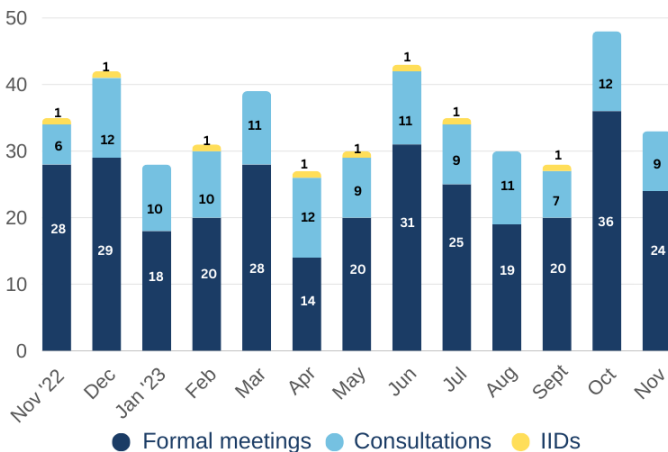
Sudan and South Sudan

Middle East

Non-proliferation/DPRK



NOVEMBER 2022 - NOVEMBER 2023



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

- An open debate on **Maintenance of international peace and security** (20 November), focused on promote sustaining peace through common development (S/2023/870).

## Key Topics

- The **Middle East, including the Palestinian question** (6, 10, 15, 22, 27 and 29 November) was the most frequently considered country- or region-specific item in open and closed discussions. The Minister of Foreign Affairs of China presided over the last meeting, on 29 November, which was held at the ministerial level and the Secretary-General briefed. The **Middle East** (8, 14, 16, 21 and 28 November), **Ukraine** (8, 17 and 21 November), **Sudan and South Sudan** (14 and 16) and **Non-proliferation/DPRK** (27 and 30 November) were also considered more than once. Other country or region-specific items considered by the Council included: **Afghanistan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Central African Republic, Libya, Peace and security in Africa and Somalia**. Under other matters (AOB), Council members discussed the **Democratic Republic of Congo**.

In addition to the above, the Council held thematic meetings on **Threats to international peace and security** (8 November), **United Nations peacekeeping operations** (14 November), and **Briefings by Chairs of subsidiary bodies of the Security Council** (15 November).

## Procedural notes

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On **9 November**, the Council and the **General Assembly** held simultaneous meetings for the election of five members of the International Court of Justice. Mr. Bogdan-Lucian Aurescu, Ms. Hilary Charlesworth, Ms. Sarah Hull Cleveland, Mr. Juan Manuel Gómez Robledo Verduzco and Mr. Dire Tladi were elected as members of the Court for a term of office of nine years, beginning on 6 February 2024 (see [S/PV.9471](#)).

On **10 November**, Council members held a **minute of silence** for all Israeli civilians and foreign nationals who lost their lives on 7 October in Israel and all Palestinian civilians who lost their lives in the Gaza Strip and in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, as well as for the United Nations staff members, health workers and journalists who lost their lives in the Gaza Strip (see [S/PV.9472](#)).

On **10 November**, further to the request from the President of the Security Council, the Chair of the Peacebuilding Commission provided written advice for the meeting on the **Central African Republic** ([S/2023/860](#)) under rule 39 of the provisional rules of procedure.

On **15 November**, an oral amendment proposed in relation to a draft resolution ([S/2023/876](#)) submitted in connection with the situation in the **Middle East, including the Palestinian Question** was not adopted due to the failure to obtain the required number of votes (see [S/PV.9479](#)).

On **17 November**, the Security Council **Informal Working Group on Documentation and other Procedural Questions (IWG)** held its fifth meeting of the year, chaired by Albania.

## Decisions and press statements

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In November, the Council adopted **seven resolutions** and issued no **presidential statement** or **press statement**.

The Council **unanimously** adopted the following **five** resolutions, all under Chapter VII of the Charter: resolution [2706 \(2023\)](#), renewing the authorization to the multinational stabilization force (**EUFOR-Althea**) for 12 months in connection with **the situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina**; resolution [2707 \(2023\)](#), renewing the sanctions regime concerning **Yemen** for 12 months and extending the mandate of the **Panel of Experts** until 15 December 2024; resolution [2708 \(2023\)](#), renewing the mandate of **UNISFA** until 15 November 2024; and resolutions [2710 \(2023\)](#) and [2711 \(2023\)](#), in connection with **the situation in Somalia**, the first of which extended **ATMIS** until 30 June 2024 and the second renewed certain provisions of the **Al-Shabaab sanctions regime** until 1 December and the mandate of the **Panel of Experts** until 31 December 2023.

The Council also adopted, **non-unanimously** the following **two resolutions**: resolution [2709 \(2023\)](#) adopted under Chapter VII, with the abstention of the Russian Federation (see [S/PV.9476](#)), extending the mandate of **MINUSCA** until 15 November 2024; and resolution [2712 \(2023\)](#), in connection with the situation in the **Middle East, including the Palestinian Question**, with three abstentions by the Russian Federation, the United Kingdom and the United States (see [S/PV.9479](#)). By this resolution, the Council called for urgent and extended **humanitarian pauses and corridors throughout the Gaza Strip** to enable humanitarian access and called for the immediate and unconditional release of all hostages held by Hamas and other groups, especially children, as well as ensuring immediate humanitarian access.

## Other activities

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In November, Council members convened **one Arria-formula meeting** on the topic: “**Combating forced separation and illegal exploitation of children**” (10 November), which was organized by the Russian Federation.

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