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Annual Report 2022





Contents

3	Our Mission
4	Letter from the Executive Director
5	SCR's Activities
8	Advancing the Transparency of the Council
10	Our Tools
11	SCR's Monthly In Hindsight
12	What's in Blue
13	In-Depth Reporting
14	Public Engagement
15	Collaboration
16	Empowering Members
17	SCR's Outreach Tools
18	Financials
19	Our Supporters



Our Mission

Security Council Report (SCR), established in 2005, is an independent think tank with the mission of supporting the transparency, effectiveness and accountability of the UN Security Council. To do so, SCR makes accurate information and impartial analysis widely available and accessible, provides expert capacity building for elected members of the Council, and hosts and contributes to forums for in-depth discussion of the Council's work.

SCR has become the leading international voice providing balanced information and analysis on the UN Security Council. Its information and analysis of the issues on the Security Council's agenda and of the Council's procedures and practice have helped catalyse ideas and action by Council members, civil society, and other decision-makers.

SCR works from the assumption that better-informed Security Council and civil society members and more transparent decision-making processes will, over time, lead to better Council outcomes.

Letter from the Executive Director



The Security Council in 2022 was a challenging setting for the maintenance of international peace and security, particularly in the wake of Russia's full invasion of Ukraine in late February. One in six of the Council's 273 public meetings that year was devoted to the Ukraine crisis, whose polarizing impact was felt around the world, politically and through refugee flows, violations of international law, explosions targeting the Nord Stream gas pipeline, nuclear threats, and grain, fuel and fertilizer shortages.

The Council received a striking level of global attention in 2022, with some calling for it to be dissolved for its failures, and others rediscovering its fundamental value. Member states and analysts pored over the UN Charter, notably its prohibition of acts of aggression, the veto, and whether a party to a dispute may vote. The Security Council continued to renew peace operations mandates and sanctions, even establishing a new sanctions regime in respect of Haiti; it re-authorized cross border aid deliveries into Syria, and supported peace efforts in Yemen and Colombia. When one looks more deeply into these outcomes, however, it is evident that the fabric of cooperation among Council members has frayed: fully one-third of the year's 54 Council resolutions were not adopted unanimously, despite intensive negotiation and compromise. (In 2021, non-unanimous adoptions accounted for less than one-sixth of all resolutions.)

Many situations on the Council's agenda remained profoundly fragile, including Afghanistan, the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), Haiti, and Libya; the strong resistance from some Council members to the body's engagement on Tigray drew fresh attention to the appropriate interpretation of the Charter's Chapter VIII, which addresses the role of regional organisations in the peaceful settlement of disputes. In 2022, Council members did not undertake any visiting missions to the field.

Deadlocked over Ukraine, the Security Council rapidly referred the situation to the General Assembly in its first use of the "Uniting for Peace" mechanism in forty years. By the end of 2022, the GA had adopted five votes on Ukraine under its continuing Emergency Special Session, with a sixth vote in February 2023. The General Assembly also decided that it will convene to discuss every matter vetoed by the Security Council, and did so in respect of

Ukraine, Syria and the DPRK. While the substantive impact of this "veto initiative" is too fresh to gauge, the upsurge in General Assembly engagement has helped stoke energetic discussion of Security Council reform. Member state disagreements over the relative importance of the Russian invasion have also brought other reform proposals to the forefront, notably concerning the international financial institutions (IFIs).

The Security Council's trust deficit did not begin in 2022 or with the invasion of Ukraine. The world was already in a period of dangerous division and deep strategic competition, with the question of the Security Council's effectiveness very much up in the air (and some member states seeking to undermine it further). Can the Charter's authority, and the centrality of the Council—and the Secretary-General—to the maintenance of international peace and security be restored? After nearly 80 years, the Council will never again be brand new, a vessel for unlimited hopes for a world exhausted by war. On the other hand, it showed its ability to recover from disunity and torpor in the 1990s, after the Cold War. Last year's criticisms of the Council reflect expectations that the body should be better: they reflect a degree of optimism, in short.

The invasion of Ukraine has opened a door to reexamination of the terms of the Charter, and how it is used. It has allowed more people to appreciate the remarkable nature of the Charter, including the radical step states took in 1945 of signing away some of their sovereignty in decision-making and in the use of force.

In the face of growing tension among the P-5, elected Council members have continued to chalk up some successes, notably in working methods. In 2022, more elected members than ever were penholders or co-penholders on country and thematic issues, as the French, UK and US domination of the penholding practice drew deeper criticism. Elected members sustained the Women, Peace and Security "presidency initiative" through seven of the year's presidencies, with commitments to integrate the WPS agenda into the topics of the month, and in their choice of briefers. Elected members also launched an effort to revive UN staff briefings from a preventive perspective—a practice abandoned in years past.

2022 marked the tenth anniversary of Security Council Report's monthly *In Hindsight* editorials. The online publication *Just Security* published several of our *Hindsight*s, bringing to a wider audience our analytical perspectives on the response to the Russian veto over Ukraine (also published in Ukrainian), in May; the Security Council and Weapons of Mass Destruction, in September; and in October, *The Long and Winding Road to Security Council Reform*.

For the second year running, Security Council Report published more than one *What's in Blue* story for every working day of the year, a total of 258. Our small team worked hard and collaboratively to remain a trusted source of impartial, accurate and prompt analysis of Council developments. In the light of the year's developments, moreover, our colleagues have needed to track more closely the Council-related developments in the UN General Assembly. SCR also delved deeply into matters of Council reform, an issue on which the organisation takes no policy position. As always, our commitment is to a Security Council that is as transparent, effective and accountable as possible. We are deeply appreciative of the governments, foundations and individuals who support us.

Karin Landgren
Executive Director

SCR's Activities



SCR believes that better-informed Security Council members will contribute to a more transparent, effective, and accountable UN Security Council. To this end, SCR's activities focus on providing high-quality information and analysis for Security Council members and others who have an interest in the work of the Council.

Our core work comprises:

- publications, including the Monthly Forecast, What's In Blue (WiB), and research reports, and the Security Council Handbook, all available at no charge on our website, securitycouncilreport.org;
- public engagement activities, including topical discussions on current events; and
- capacity development for candidate countries.

01

Conveying Information

Producing and disseminating timely, balanced, high-quality information about the activities of the Council and its subsidiary bodies

02

Convening

Bringing together stakeholders to deepen the analysis of issues before the Council, its working methods and performance

Encouraging engagement of the Council with all member states and civil society

03

Capacity Building

Providing professional and interactive capacity building programmes, including for incoming Council members, to develop an understanding of Council practice, issues and procedures

04

Collaborating

Working with partners to deepen the pool of knowledge of the Security Council

2022 Highlights

Briefed the Security Council twice, including its Working Methods debate for the fifth consecutive year

Published 47 stories on Ukraine following Russia's invasion in February 2022

Convened a webinar to mark ten years of the Arria-formula meeting

Launched our first podcast, Interactive Dialogues

Held a seminar on peace operations for all five incoming members

Conducted thematic seminars for two groups of incoming members

Trained incoming and prospective Council members in New York and capitals

Co-organised and rapporteured the "Hitting the Ground Running" workshop for incoming members

Co-organised annual sanctions seminar for incoming members

Partnered with other think tanks for five discussions of the prioritising and sequencing of specific peacekeeping mission mandates

Published SCR's first report on transitional justice plus research reports on Security Council elections, climate and security, and women, peace and security

Enhanced use of LinkedIn and Instagram to publicise SCR's products





Publications

12 Monthly Forecasts on the Security Council's prospective monthly programme of work

258 What's in Blue stories with day-to-day coverage of Security Council developments

Three Research Reports on key issues confronting the Security Council

52 "The Week Ahead" e-mails on the Council's activities

Public Engagement

33 briefings on the work of the Security Council for interested UN member states, UN entities, and human rights and humanitarian NGOs

Five workshops on UN peace operations co-organised by SCR, the International Peace Institute and the Stimson Center

Discussion and launch of two research reports

Capacity Building

Bespoke capacity development training for four incoming elected members, as well as joint training for two sets of incoming members on specific thematic issues

Annual sanctions workshop for the incoming elected members of the Council

Co-organised with Finland, and rapporteured, the annual "Hitting the Ground Running" workshop

Social Media

12,360 active e-mail subscribers

552,006 website users

More than 1.5 million page views total for www.securitycouncilreport.org

Approximately 28,000 Twitter followers

1,124 LinkedIn followers following a re-launch in 2021

Advancing the Transparency of the Council

2022 was a turbulent year for the Security Council, its functioning tested by Russia's invasion of Ukraine in February. The value of the UN Charter became a central theme in many members' interventions, and the Council referred a situation to the General Assembly for the first time in forty years. These events, in turn, heightened attention to questions of reform, including the relationship between the Council and other UN organs. Within the Council, the invasion exacerbated the trust deficit among members, making it harder to find common ground on many issues. While this dynamic did not paralyse the Council, it complicated the prospects for new initiatives and made strong outcomes harder to achieve.

In 2022, as the Council came under critical global scrutiny with the developments in Ukraine, SCR's impartial reporting role and knowledge of Council procedure were more in demand than ever. Our reporting on the situation in Ukraine attracted an unprecedented number of readers, requests for briefings, and participation in discussions of the impact of this crisis on the UN.

SCR's publications showed how Security Council members were able to compartmentalise the difficult dynamics surrounding Ukraine to a greater degree than many observers had predicted. Far from coming to a standstill, the Council continued to renew the mandates of peace operations and established its first sanctions regime in five years. The Council adopted 54 resolutions, only three fewer than in 2021.

Although the Council's regular work of renewing peace operations and sanctions mandates was not interrupted, negotiations were rarely smooth. One-third of resolutions were not unanimous in 2022, the highest proportion of non-unanimous resolutions in the last ten years. Achieving agreement on resolutions was often difficult and time-consuming, and even after obtaining significant compromises, some members abstained for a variety of reasons. The difficulty in obtaining agreement also contributed to the low number of presidential statements, which fell from 24 in 2021 to just seven in 2022—the fewest since the Council started using this format. SCR's WiB stories provided insights into the difficult negotiations shedding light on the underlying Council dynamics.

Few crises in recent decades have galvanised the Security Council's attention as the current Ukraine conflict. In 2022, the Council held 50 meetings on Ukraine—including 36 open briefings, six adoptions, four Arria-formula meetings, two discussions under "any other business", one meeting in closed consultations and one private meeting. Ukraine accounted for over 15 percent of the Council's public meetings. [SCR provided extensive coverage of this crucial peace and security development through its 12 Forecast briefs, 35 What's in Blue stories on Ukraine and four In Hindsight articles related to the impact of the invasion on the Security Council and wider UN.](#) SCR's coverage of other situations on the Council's agenda also showed how the Ukraine crisis had affected decisions and dynamics around these issues.

Although Ukraine dominated the Council's agenda, SCR's reporting showed that the Council did not ignore long-standing agenda items needing attention, often due to multiple crises.

Following a tumultuous 2021, Afghanistan continued to be a situation of concern for the Council as it faced a series of interlocking crises: political, humanitarian, and economic. The human rights situation, particularly for women and girls, was of great concern as the Taliban took measures imposing increasingly severe restrictions on the rights and freedoms of Afghan women and girls in the last quarter of 2022. This culminated on 24 December in a decree directing domestic and international NGOs to suspend all female employees, alleging that women were not observing a Taliban edict requiring them to wear a hijab. SCR covered the Council's responses to these developments as well as the complex negotiations around the renewal of the UN Assistance Mission in Afghanistan. [SCR published 5 Forecast briefs and 11 What's in Blue stories on Afghanistan.](#)

The Council met regularly to discuss the precarious security situation and fractured political landscape in Haiti, grappling with how to support Haitian authorities in addressing the political deadlock, gang violence, and natural disasters, which were aggravating an already dire humanitarian situation. In October, the Haitian government appealed for the immediate deployment of an "international specialised force", intended to stem the humanitarian crisis across the country by temporarily reinforcing the Haitian National Police in order to allow the distribution of fuel and water and to facilitate the free circulation of goods and people. The same month, the Council adopted a resolution establishing a sanctions regime on Haiti. [SCR reported on these major developments, publishing 4 Forecast briefs and 8 What's in Blue stories.](#)

The military takeover in Sudan in October 2021 led to a political impasse that derailed the transition and created new challenges for UNITAMS. In 2022, Sudan experienced a deteriorating humanitarian and security situation, declining economy, intercommunal clashes, and a resurgence of violence in parts of Blue Nile and West Kordofan. SCR documented the Council's monitoring of the changes in the political situation in Sudan, including mediation efforts involving UNITAMS and the Trilateral Mechanism. [SCR published 8 Forecast Briefs and 5 What's in Blue stories.](#)

The Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) required the Council's close attention as the M23 Movement, an armed group that has historically operated in the eastern DRC, became active again in 2022. The resumption of attacks by the M23 Movement led to a deteriorating security situation in eastern DRC and increased tensions in the region. With the Congolese government pushing for MONUSCO's transition plan to be reviewed, the Council needed to consider MONUSCO's mandate and transition in light of developments. SCR followed these developments closely, including the difficult negotiations on MONUSCO's mandate renewal at the end of 2022. [SCR covered the return of the M23 and deteriorating situation in DRC in its 4 Forecast briefs and 9 What's in Blue stories.](#)

In Libya, the political stalemate between incumbent Prime Minister Abdul Hamid Mohammed Dbeibah, elected in February 2021 to head the interim Government of National Unity (GNU), and former Interior Minister Fathi Bashagha, who was elected



Advancing the Transparency of the Council

interim prime minister on 10 February 2022 by the House of Representatives (the Libyan legislature based in Tobruk), negatively affected the security situation in Libya. SCR closely followed the Council's deliberations on the precarious political, economic, and security situation and the difficult dynamics around the mandate renewal of the UN Support Mission in Libya. [SCR published 12 Forecast briefs and 11 What's in Blue stories on Libya.](#)

The Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) carried out a record number of tests involving cruise or ballistic missiles in 2022, leading tensions to escalate significantly on the Korean peninsula. The Council often met following ballistic and cruise missile launches that were in clear violation of its resolutions, but the divisions in the Council in 2022 over this issue made it difficult to issue any outcome. In May, a draft resolution strengthening sanctions on DPRK failed to be adopted due to vetoes from China and Russia. The Council also discussed the human rights situation in DPRK, but only under "any other business", seemingly short of the necessary support for holding an open meeting on this issue. [SCR documented the increasing tensions on the Korean peninsula and the changing Council dynamics on DPRK in its 5 Forecast briefs and 7 What's in Blue stories.](#)

There were several major developments in Colombia, including a significant shift in the political landscape and crucial progress on transitional justice processes. On 19 June, Gustavo Petro of the "Pacto Histórico" coalition was elected president, marking the first time that the country has elected a leftist president. Francia Márquez, Petro's running mate, became the first Afro-Colombian woman to serve as Vice President in Colombian history. These developments created both opportunities and challenges to the implementation of the 2016 Final Agreement for Ending the Conflict and Building a Stable and Lasting Peace between the government of Colombia and the former rebel group Fuerzas Armadas Revolucionarias de Colombia-Ejército del Pueblo (FARC-EP). [SCR reported on the Council's responses to these developments, publishing 4 Forecast briefs and 5 What's in Blue stories.](#)

The security and human rights situation in Myanmar continued to deteriorate in 2022. Following the attention it had given to this after the 2021 military takeover, the Council convened less often on Myanmar in 2022. It met twice in the private meeting format to hear from the UN and ASEAN Special Envoys for Myanmar, and once in closed consultations. In July, the Council issued a press statement in response to the execution of opposition activists by the Myanmar military. A significant development was the adoption of the first resolution on Myanmar in December 2022. SCR contributed to the transparency of Council dynamics on Myanmar by covering all its meetings and the negotiations of the resolution. [SCR published 4 What's in Blue stories on Myanmar.](#)

The Council continued to meet monthly on Syria and Yemen, where the conflicts are in their twelfth and eighth years, respectively. In Syria, the political situation showed little sign of progress, particularly in reconvening negotiations of the Syrian Constitutional Committee tasked in 2019 to draft a new Constitution. In Yemen, a UN-brokered ceasefire in April between the government of Yemen and Houthi rebels brought hope. Although the ceasefire was not renewed after it expired

in October, hostilities did not resume, and the UN continued its mediation efforts. Both Syria and Yemen faced a dire humanitarian situation, with aid agencies struggling to provide the necessary assistance. Our coverage of the contentious Syrian cross-border aid mechanism renewal, which involved a draft vetoed by Russia, provided readers with an understanding of the complex negotiations and compromises needed to adopt a resolution that kept the crossing between Syria and Türkiye open for the delivery of aid to four million people. There was also little movement on the Syria chemical weapons track, which remained politically sensitive. [SCR produced briefs on Syria and Yemen for every Forecast and published 17 What's in Blue stories on Syria and 10 stories on Yemen.](#)

SCR continued to provide consistent, detailed coverage of other situations on the Council's agenda, including the Central African Republic, Iraq, Mali, and South Sudan.

Besides issues that are regularly on the Council's agenda, SCR covered Council briefings on a number of new or rarely discussed issues, including Armenia.

SCR continued to provide extensive coverage of traditional thematic issues, such as human rights, children and armed conflict, sanctions and women, peace and security, highlighting these issues in stand-alone sections of the Monthly Forecast. Women, peace and security was also a priority of many members in 2022. [SCR followed the issue of Women, Peace and Security closely, publishing 5 Forecast briefs and 6 What's in Blue stories, as well as a research report.](#)

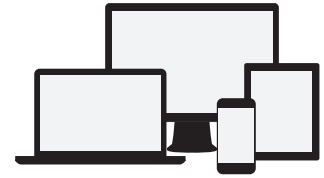
Other thematic issues that SCR highlighted in 2022 included the relationship between the UN and regional organisations, peacekeeping, and protection of civilians. We also provided detailed coverage on the development and negotiations on a piracy and armed robbery resolution and a resolution providing a standing humanitarian exemption to the asset freeze measures that are imposed by United Nations sanctions regimes.

Beyond matters on the Council's programme of work, SCR tracks the Council's Arria-formula meetings—informal gatherings convened at the initiative of a Council member or members to hear from individuals or organisations with knowledge of developments on the ground. As informal meetings, they do not appear on the Council's programme of work, making them hard for non-Council members to follow. In 2022, Council members convened 21 such meetings. SCR published What's in Blue stories on 20 of these meetings, and maintains on our website an updated list of all Arria-formula meetings held since 1992 (with their topics, the organisers, the briefers, and the symbols of relevant documents).

The Security Council held five Informal Interactive Dialogue (IID) meetings in 2022. Three were on the Syria humanitarian situation, a stipulation in the resolution renewing the Syria cross-border authorisation. This was a new use of the IID format, an evolution SCR documented in an In Hindsight, along with What's in Blue stories on four of the meetings.

SCR also reports consistently on the work of the Council's sanctions committees and working groups in What's in Blue and the Monthly Forecast.

Our Tools



Conveying Information

SCR's regular products include the Monthly Forecast providing in-depth coverage of the Council's upcoming programme of work and What's in Blue, an online publication with up-to-the-moment reporting on briefings and outcomes expected from the Council.

Publications

Our online analytical publications provide a comprehensive overview of the work of the Council and a valuable repository of institutional memory, including behind-the-scenes material not reported elsewhere. This material is also indispensable for incoming elected Council members. A unique SCR feature among UN-focused actors (including civil society and official entities) is forecasting Security Council meetings and setting out options for action, without advocating for specific outcomes. Civil society organisations and member states can consider these options in seeking the best possible outcomes from the Security Council and its subsidiary bodies through informed, targeted and effective diplomacy or advocacy

Regular Publications

The Monthly Forecast provides a prospective analysis of the upcoming monthly programme of work of the Security Council, with sections on recent developments; information on sanctions, human rights, peacebuilding, and women, peace and security; and key issues, potential options, and dynamics within the Council. Its lead In Hindsight article analyses a Council decision or development from the perspective of Council performance.

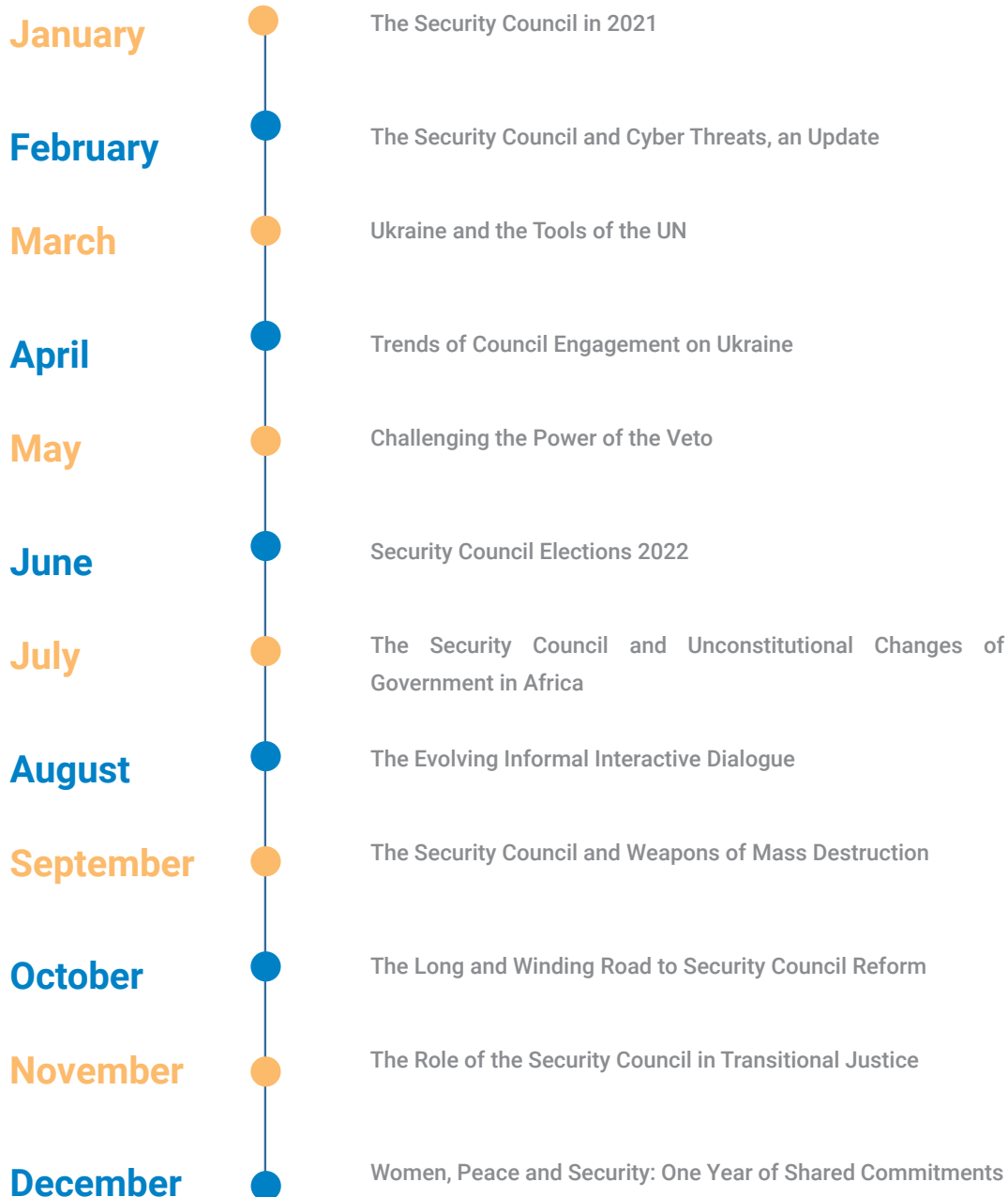


SCR's Monthly In Hindsight

In January 2012, SCR began publishing articles under the “In Hindsight” (IH) heading in the Monthly Forecast. These pieces often provided a historical reflection overview or explanation of a particular Council practice or issue. For the first five years, the frequency varied, but in 2017, the IH became a regular feature of each Forecast, for a total of 108 In Hindsight by the end of

2022. Responding to readers interested in understanding the dynamics around the negotiations of a resolution, we occasionally publish a What's in Blue In Hindsight with a retrospective analysis of negotiations. The IH stories cover a range of topics, including working methods, peace operations, and the trends in the Council. We published these IH stories in 2022:

In Hindsight Stories Timeline 2022



January	The Security Council in 2021
February	The Security Council and Cyber Threats, an Update
March	Ukraine and the Tools of the UN
April	Trends of Council Engagement on Ukraine
May	Challenging the Power of the Veto
June	Security Council Elections 2022
July	The Security Council and Unconstitutional Changes of Government in Africa
August	The Evolving Informal Interactive Dialogue
September	The Security Council and Weapons of Mass Destruction
October	The Long and Winding Road to Security Council Reform
November	The Role of the Security Council in Transitional Justice
December	Women, Peace and Security: One Year of Shared Commitments

What's in Blue

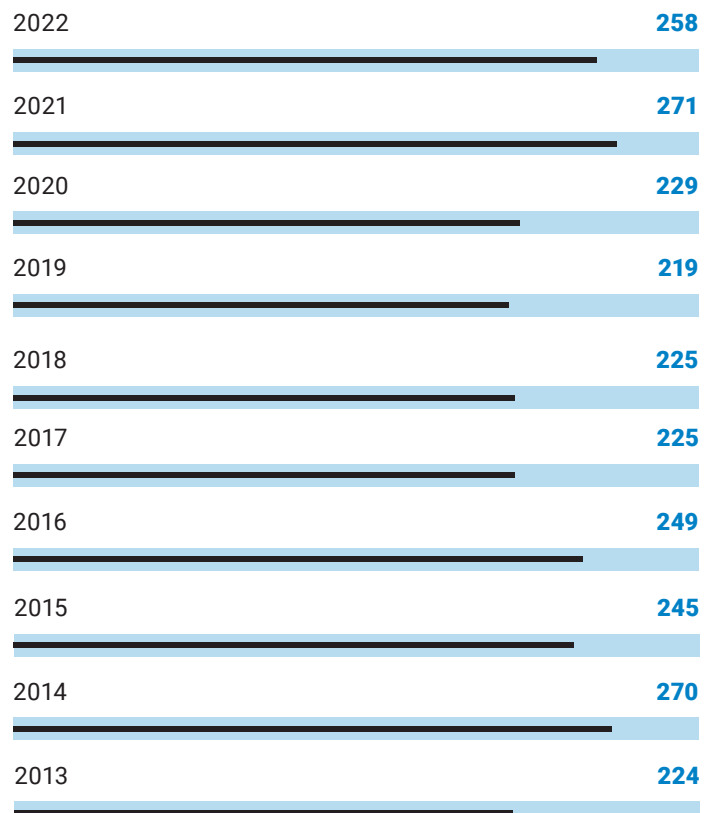
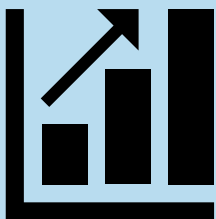


What's in Blue (WiB) analyses the latest developments in the Security Council on a near-daily basis. (The name refers to the final stage of the negotiations of a Council resolution when the text is printed in blue ahead of a vote.) It offers insights on meetings,

draft resolutions and status of negotiations, as well as on the activities of subsidiary Council bodies such as sanctions committees and working groups.

What's in Blue Stats

Number of What's in Blue stories published per year since 2013.



In-Depth Reporting

SCR's research reports provide deeper analysis of issues determined to be of particular interest to Council members and others. These reports, which typically give a succinct historical overview and assessment of previous Council involvement and suggest options for future work, are timed to be available as a resource ahead of major Council debates and decisions. They also track the performance of the Security Council in following through on thematic issues on its agenda and implementing previous commitments. In 2022, SCR published four such reports.



Security Council Elections 2022

SCR's annual elections report provides information on the candidate countries ahead of the Security Council's election of five new non-permanent Council members in June. In 2022, five member states—Ecuador, Japan, Mal-ta, Mozambique, and Switzerland—ran for the five available seats. SCR's report presented the candidates, and possible issues with regard to the composition of the Council. This annual research report also gives an overview of relevant UN Charter provisions and rules of procedure for these elections, as well as historical background and established practices.



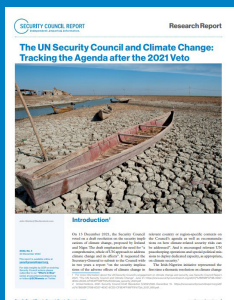
Transitional Justice: What Role for the UN Security Council?

SCR's first report on transitional justice aims to contribute to a better understanding of how the Security Council has positioned itself on transitional justice issues. It outlines the elements that are at play in Council decisions on transitional justice, notably its understanding and perception of country-specific situations and the timing and sequencing of its actions. It emphasises the powerful political considerations at work when the Council grapples with this issue. Drawing principally on five country situations (Burundi, Colombia, Central African Republic, Sierra Leone, and South Sudan) and two expert seminars, the report discusses examples of how the Security Council has approached transitional justice and sets out recommendations on optimising its engagement on this issue.



Golden Threads and Persisting Challenges: The Security Council Women, Peace and Security Presidencies Initiative

The report focuses on the initiative started by Ireland, Kenya, and Mexico to make women, peace and security (WPS) "a top priority" of their respective presidencies in September, October, and November 2021. Between December 2021 and September 2022, eight more countries—Albania, Brazil, France, Gabon, Niger, Norway, the United Arab Emirates, and the UK—signed on to a 1 December 2021 Statement of Shared Commitments on WPS, which built on the presidency trio initiative and committed these members, too, to making WPS a "top priority" during their presidencies. Focusing on the period from September 2021 to September 2022, the report analyses the WPS presidencies initiative, situating it against the backdrop of difficult Council dynamics on WPS. The report, which is the first to analyse this elected member-led initiative, considers aspects such as Council meetings, products, and women civil society briefers, including measures supporting their safe participation, and provides some recommendations for participating members to take this initiative forward.



The UN Security Council and Climate Change: Tracking the Agenda After the 2021 Veto

The report reviews how the Council engaged with the climate change, peace and security dossier following the December 2021 veto of a draft resolution on this issue. It examines the thematic meetings that the Council convened on climate change, peace and security, its efforts to integrate climate change language into country- and region-specific outcomes, and the work of the Informal Expert Group on Climate and Security. The report also gives an update on the activities of two entities—the Group of Friends on Climate and Security and the UN Climate-Security Mechanism—whose efforts complement and support the Council's work on this file, and analyses potential Council dynamics on climate change, peace and security in 2023.

Public Engagement

SCR conducts extensive briefings and discussions with stakeholders, including Council members, UN missions, the UN Secretariat, foreign policy and security institutes, non-governmental organisations (NGOs), academic institutions, and the media.

Our outreach includes three regular monthly briefings on Security Council issues to NGOs, UN entities, and a select group of member states that have shown a special interest in our work and the Security Council, including recent former elected Council members and candidate countries for a Security Council seat. Pandemic restrictions meant that SCR continued to hold these meetings online or in a hybrid format for the first quarter of the year. We then moved to in-person meetings for two of the three monthly briefings, continuing with one group in a virtual format. Over the year, 33 briefings were held, providing participants with crucial information and analysis.

In 2022, SCR was invited for the fifth consecutive year to brief the Security Council during its annual debate on Working Methods during Albania's presidency in June, and also briefed at the open debate on peacekeeping in November.

The Executive Director spoke on numerous panels related to peace operations and a workshop on sanctions. The Chief Operating Officer and other staff also spoke at roundtables, conferences, and panel discussions. Staff members were also invited to participate in meetings organised by Council members, including a retreat of the African Council members, the annual E10 workshop with incoming members, and the retreat of the Informal Working Group on Documentation and Other Procedural Matters. Staff members contributed to workshops on counter-terrorism and children and armed conflict. SCR also briefed at the Forum of Small States' annual year-end dialogue assessing the work of the Security Council.



Podcasts and Webinars

SCR launched its first podcast, Interactive Dialogues, in February 2022. The podcast, hosted by SCR's Executive Director, Karin Landgren, focuses on issues relevant to the Security Council and the larger UN system. The first series of interviews featured recent elected members who shared their reflections of their time on the Council and lessons learnt. In 2023 we plan to continue with occasional podcasts on relevant topics.

In March 2022, SCR held a webinar to commemorate 30 years of the Arria-formula format, featuring Ambassador Diego Arria, the creator of the format and a panel of current and former Council members. We foresee further webinars to broaden our reach and to engage those interested in the Security Council and multilateral issues.



Collaboration



Since 2016, SCR has co-organised over two dozen closed-door reviews of UN peace operations' mandate implementation with the International Peace Institute and the Stimson Center. These workshops bring together member states, UN actors, and independent experts ahead of mandate renewals to share their assessments of the situations facing UN peacekeeping missions, and are followed by a publication summarising the discussion. The discussion is intended to help the Security Council make more informed decisions with respect to the strategic orientation, prioritisation, and sequencing of a mission's mandate and actions on the ground, in line with long-standing reform recommendations. The meeting notes, drafted together with IPI and Stimson, summarise the main points raised during the meetings. These meetings are consistent with SCR's belief that better-informed Council members can lead to more effective decision-making. These workshops have allowed Council members to have strategic discussions with key actors in the un-

derstandings of the situation. In 2022, SCR co-facilitated workshops on mandates of the UN missions in the Central African Republic, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Libya, Mali, and Sudan.

SCR's Executive Director joined the presidents of IPI and of the Open Societies Foundations to discuss the challenges and dilemmas faced by the UN as a result of the invasion of Ukraine.

SCR contributed in reviewing the UAE's Anwar Gargash Diplomatic Academy's Conflict Management Handbook.

SCR staff also served as guest lecturers at Columbia University and NYU on Security Council-related issues.

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SECURITY COUNCIL REPORT
STIMSON

Prioritization and Sequencing of Security Council Mandates: The Case of MINUSCA

NOVEMBER 2022

Introduction

The UN Security Council is expected to renew the mandate of the United Nations Mission in the Central African Republic (MINUSCA) in November 2022. The upcoming negotiations among Council members will address the future of the mission, including its mandate, its structure, and its financing. This report provides an overview of the current situation and offers recommendations for the Council's next steps.

Background

MINUSCA was established in 2014 to support the implementation of the 2013 Peace Agreement in the Central African Republic. The mission has faced significant challenges, including a lack of political will from the host government and a complex security environment.

Key Findings

- The mission's mandate is outdated and does not reflect the current situation on the ground.
- The mission's structure is inefficient and needs to be reformed.
- The mission's financing is unsustainable and needs to be addressed.

Recommendations

- The Council should prioritize the reform of the mission's mandate.
- The Council should sequence the reform of the mission's structure and financing.
- The Council should engage with the host government and other stakeholders.

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MINUSCA was established in 2014 to support the implementation of the 2013 Peace Agreement in the Central African Republic. The mission has faced significant challenges, including a lack of political will from the host government and a complex security environment.

Key Findings

- The mission's mandate is outdated and does not reflect the current situation on the ground.
- The mission's structure is inefficient and needs to be reformed.
- The mission's financing is unsustainable and needs to be addressed.

Recommendations

- The Council should prioritize the reform of the mission's mandate.
- The Council should sequence the reform of the mission's structure and financing.
- The Council should engage with the host government and other stakeholders.

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The Situation in Libya: Reflections on Challenges and Ways Forward

JUNE 2022

Introduction

The UN Security Council is expected to renew the mandate of the UN Support Mission in Libya (UNSMIL) in June 2022. The current mandate expires on 31 October 2022. This report provides an overview of the current situation in Libya and offers recommendations for the Council's next steps.

Background

UNSMIL was established in 2011 to support the implementation of the 2011 UN Security Council Resolution 1973. The mission has faced significant challenges, including a lack of political will from the host government and a complex security environment.

Key Findings

- The mission's mandate is outdated and does not reflect the current situation on the ground.
- The mission's structure is inefficient and needs to be reformed.
- The mission's financing is unsustainable and needs to be addressed.

Recommendations

- The Council should prioritize the reform of the mission's mandate.
- The Council should sequence the reform of the mission's structure and financing.
- The Council should engage with the host government and other stakeholders.

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Prioritization and Sequencing of Security Council Mandates: The Case of MINUSMA

MAY 2022

Introduction

The UN Security Council is expected to renew the mandate of the United Nations Mission in Mali (MINUSMA) in May 2022. The current mandate expires on 31 October 2022. This report provides an overview of the current situation in Mali and offers recommendations for the Council's next steps.

Background

MINUSMA was established in 2013 to support the implementation of the 2013 Peace Agreement in Mali. The mission has faced significant challenges, including a lack of political will from the host government and a complex security environment.

Key Findings

- The mission's mandate is outdated and does not reflect the current situation on the ground.
- The mission's structure is inefficient and needs to be reformed.
- The mission's financing is unsustainable and needs to be addressed.

Recommendations

- The Council should prioritize the reform of the mission's mandate.
- The Council should sequence the reform of the mission's structure and financing.
- The Council should engage with the host government and other stakeholders.

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Prioritization and Sequencing of Security Council Mandates: The Case of UNMISS

FEBRUARY 2022

Introduction

The UN Security Council is expected to renew the mandate of the United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS) in February 2022. The current mandate expires on 31 October 2022. This report provides an overview of the current situation in South Sudan and offers recommendations for the Council's next steps.

Background

UNMISS was established in 2011 to support the implementation of the 2011 Peace Agreement in South Sudan. The mission has faced significant challenges, including a lack of political will from the host government and a complex security environment.

Key Findings

- The mission's mandate is outdated and does not reflect the current situation on the ground.
- The mission's structure is inefficient and needs to be reformed.
- The mission's financing is unsustainable and needs to be addressed.

Recommendations

- The Council should prioritize the reform of the mission's mandate.
- The Council should sequence the reform of the mission's structure and financing.
- The Council should engage with the host government and other stakeholders.

Empowering Members

SCR encourages incoming and candidate Council members to maximise their Council tenures by being as prepared as possible. SCR launched its capacity development programme in 2012 to enhance the technical and procedural understanding of elected members. These are intensive exercises mixing lectures, case studies, and interactive breakout sessions—to which SCR brings deep knowledge of Council practices and procedures, familiarity with current Council dynamics, and comprehensive assessments. SCR carefully tailors sessions to the specific needs and interests of each participating country, as well as constantly updating our material.

SCR's capacity building programmes have become an essential element of incoming Council members' preparation. By supporting their preparation, SCR helps to strengthen elected members' understanding of how to operate in the Council, giving them the tools to help enhance the performance of the Security Council as a whole. Demand for SCR's bespoke training is driven by positive feedback from other members, by the value of SCR's publications for incoming Council countries, and by SCR's engagement in capacity building events undertaken by SCAD and by other Council member states.

SCR offers its tailored capacity development programme to all interested candidate countries and elected Council members, and conduct it in New York, in capitals, or both. By the end of 2022, almost 50 countries had participated in the programme, including eight of the current ten elected members.¹

In 2022, SCR provided specially tailored training for four incoming members and one candidate country. In one case SCR also conducted an in-depth seminar on peace operations for the five incoming members taking their seats on 1 January 2023. We conducted joint seminars for two different sets of incoming Council members on thematic issues including hybrid sessions for embassies across the world.

For the 12th year, SCR continued its cooperation with the Security Council Affairs Division of the UN Secretariat on an annual seminar on Security Council sanctions for the newly elected Council members. The 2022 seminar, held in a hybrid format on 31 October 2022, allowed the five incoming members to familiarise themselves with the various sanctions regimes as part of their preparations to join the Council.

SCR, since 2006 part of Finland's "Hitting the Ground Running" annual workshop, has co-organised and rapporteured this workshop since 2020. The report of this workshop is published as a UN document. This workshop brings together current members with the incoming five members to discuss the working methods of the Council and share experiences.

SCR held an in-depth capacity training seminar on peace operations for incoming Council members in December 2022. The seminar covered the future of peace operations, the financing of AU-led peace operations as well as a discussion of key trends and an analysis of a draft resolution on the financing of AU-led peace operations.



¹ Members trained include Albania, Angola, Belgium, Bolivia, Canada, Chile, Ecuador, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Ghana, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kuwait, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Mexico, Malta, Mozambique, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Republic of Korea, Peru, Poland, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Spain, St Vincent and the Grenadines, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, UAE, Viet Nam, and Uruguay.

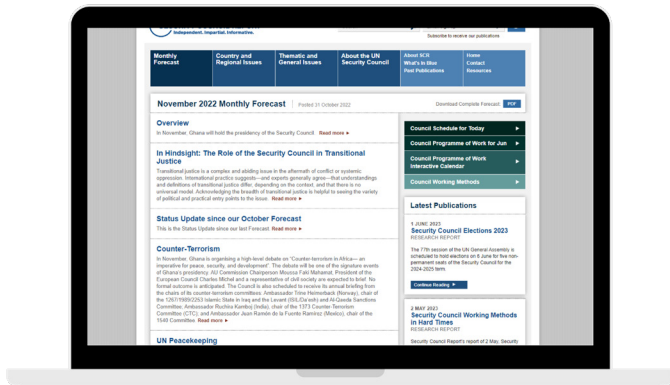
SCR's Outreach Tools

SCR publications have a broad and impactful readership. In April 2020, the Monthly Forecast went to an online-only format, with approximately 1,000 hard copies of research materials disseminated annually to targeted stakeholders. SCR's website (www.securitycouncilreport.org) provides free access to all of our organisation's publications. SCR maintains an active digital subscriber base of approximately 12,000 individuals, spanning the majority of UN member states, including senior government officials, UN staff, NGOs, academics, journalists, as well as members of the general public. In 2022, SCR's main website received traffic from roughly 552,000 users.

Throughout the year, SCR maintained a stable Twitter presence with almost 28,000 followers on @SCRtweets. Ukraine, Libya, Nagorno-Karabakh, Tigray, and the General Assembly's Emergency Special Session garnered consistent attention on both Twitter and LinkedIn. Additionally, our tweets covering "The Week Ahead at the Security Council" and "The Week in Review" sustained high levels of engagement.

After the relaunch in 2021, SCR continued its reach towards more academia-focused audiences through LinkedIn, ending 2022 with 1,124 followers, a 34% increase. LinkedIn, overall, saw exceptional growth in 2022, with 231% growth in impressions and 445% growth in engagements.

In 2022, SCR continued implementing a more comprehensive digital strategy aimed at expanding its readership. To that end, SCR launched an Instagram page in addition to relaunching a Facebook page.



12,000

digital subscribers

552,000

website users



28,000

followers on Twitter

1,124

followers on LinkedIn, a 34% increase

Financials

FINANCIAL SITUATION (STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION, STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES)

STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION (YEARS ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022 AND 31 DECEMBER 2021)

	2022	2021
ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$621,299	\$1,124,226
Grants receivable, net	1,673,527	1,119,541
Security deposit	166,012	166,012
Prepaid expenses and other assets	95,751	38,696
Right-of-use asset	1,060,719	0
Total Assets	\$3,617,308	\$2,448,475
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	\$168,971	\$160,934
Line-of-credit	15,971	16,522
Deferred rent obligation	0	151,092
Lease liability	1,204,790	0
Total Liabilities	1,389,732	328,548
NET ASSETS		
Without donor restrictions (including cumulative foreign currency losses of \$140,226 and \$68,806 in 2022 and 2021, respectively)	455,390	975,771
With donor restrictions :		
Time restricted for future periods	564,629	128,000
Purpose restrictions	1,207,557	1,016,156
Total net assets with donor restrictions	1,772,186	1,144,156
Total net assets	2,227,576	2,119,927
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$3,617,308	\$2,448,475

STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES (YEARS ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022 AND 31 DECEMBER 2021)

	2022	2021
REVENUE AND SUPPORT		
Grants and contributions	\$2,625,238	\$2,761,026
Other Income	62,997	8,972
Total revenue and support	2,688,235	2,769,998
EXPENSES		
Program services	2,037,203	2,018,595
Management and general	274,683	427,885
Fundraising	197,280	223,928
Total expenses	2,509,166	2,670,408
Change in net assets	107,649	362,671
Net assets, beginning of the year	2,119,927	1,757,256
Net assets, end of year	2,227,576	\$2,119,927

Our Supporters

SCR is grateful to its generous donors for the support we need to continue to extend most products and services to UN member states and other stakeholders at no cost. In 2022, SCR received funding from the following governments and foundations:

Governments

Albania	Finland	Luxembourg	Singapore
Australia	Germany	The Netherlands	Spain
Austria	Iceland	New Zealand	Sweden
Canada	Indonesia	Norway	Switzerland
Denmark	Ireland	Portugal	Turkey
Estonia	Liechtenstein	Republic of Korea	United Arab Emirates

Foundations

The Carnegie Corporation

Our Board (2022)

Diego Arria

Former Permanent Representative of Venezuela to the United Nations

Joshua Mintz

Vice President, Secretary and General Counsel, MacArthur Foundation (in personal capacity)

Nani Jansen Reventlow

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Former Permanent Representative of Canada to the United Nations

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Former Director of Human Rights & International Justice, MacArthur Foundation

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