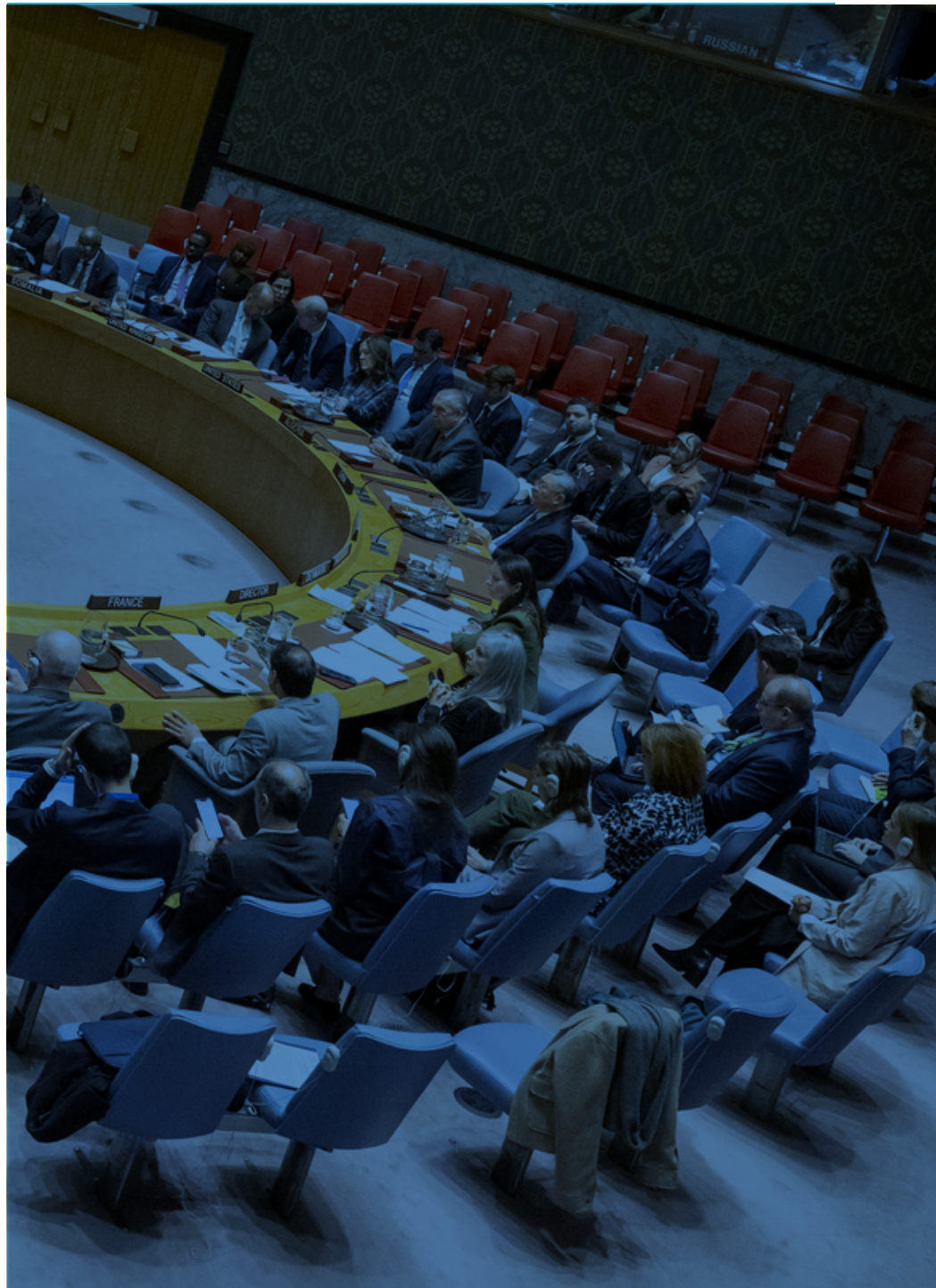


Annual Report

2025



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Our Mission

Advancing transparency, effectiveness, and accountability at the UN Security Council

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 presents accurate information, with scrupulous fact-checking; applies its own impartial analysis; and makes its products publicly available and accessible. SCR also provides bespoke capacity building for elected members of the Council, and convenes and contributes to forums for in-depth discussion of the Council's work.

SCR is the leading international voice providing balanced information and analysis on the UN Security Council. Its scrutiny of issues on the Security Council's agenda, and of the Council's procedures and practice, has helped catalyse ideas and action by Council members, civil society, and other decision-makers. By convening stakeholders, SCR has been able to deepen the analysis of issues before the Council and its working methods and performance.

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 Chair of the Board

As Security Council Report (SCR) enters its third decade, it is an opportune moment to reflect on the organisation's evolution and enduring purpose. Since its inception, SCR has established itself as a trusted source of independent analysis, supporting more informed engagement with the work of the UN Security Council. Over time, its role has become not only more established, but more essential.

This is in large part a reflection of the environment in which the Council now operates.

The international system is confronting a convergence of crises at a scale and complexity not seen in decades. Deepening geopolitical divisions, growing strain on multilateral institutions, and an expanding gap between global needs and collective capacity to respond are placing unprecedented pressure on the established framework for multilateral cooperation.

In this environment, the UN Security Council faces a number of challenges. It has had to address an unusually wide range of emerging and unexpected conflicts, further stretching its capacity. At the same time, diverging interests among major powers have made consensus more difficult, narrowed the scope for collective action, and complicated efforts to respond effectively to some of the most pressing crises on its agenda.

It is precisely in this more turbulent geopolitical context that the relevance—and urgency—of Security Council Report's work has become even clearer.

As divisions continue to constrain collective action, and as agreement on outcomes becomes harder to achieve, the need for SCR's independent, rigorous analysis and practical support has grown significantly. SCR's publications are used daily by diplomats, civil society actors, and researchers, providing a

shared factual basis for engagement, strengthening transparency around Council dynamics, and enabling a wider range of stakeholders to assess decisions and hold members to account.

While demand for this work continues to grow, the funding environment is becoming more constrained. SCR has consistently sought to do more with less, maintaining its core outputs and adapting to evolving needs. However, this model is not sustainable, and more predictable funding is required for SCR to maintain its current level of quality and output.

With increased multiyear support, SCR can scale its work at a critical moment—equipping stakeholders with the tools, analysis, and platforms needed to engage more effectively and help shape outcomes. Without such investment, there is a real risk that this capacity will diminish precisely when it is most needed.

On behalf of the Board, I would like to express our sincere appreciation to all those who have supported Security Council Report over the years. Your commitment has enabled SCR to play a vital role in strengthening the effectiveness and transparency of the Security Council. We also wish to recognise the exceptional contribution of SCR's staff, whose consistent professionalism, expertise, and dedication are the foundation of the organisation's credibility and impact.

We invite our supporters and partners to continue to strengthen this partnership at a time when it matters most.

Allan Rock

Chair of the Board
Security Council Report



Letter from the Executive Director

2025 was the year that Security Council turned 20 and the UN turned 80. It was a year marked by profound geopolitical shifts and continued strain on the multilateral system.

The Council's work in 2025 unfolded against a backdrop of these deepening geopolitical divisions. Entrenched positions among permanent members continued to affect the Council's ability to respond to several long-standing conflicts, at times resulting in protracted negotiations, delayed outcomes, or limited action. At the same time Council members had to respond to an unusually high number of unexpected crises.

This led to a significant increase in the number of unscheduled meetings in 2025, pointing to a more reactive and compressed decision-making environment. While the overall number of meetings dropped, intense informal negotiations behind closed doors increased. Only 61% of resolutions were adopted unanimously, reflecting a deeply divided Council. SCR was at the forefront of capturing these developments to help diplomats and other stakeholders anticipate developments, prepare positions, and engage effectively with the Council's work.

The evolving geopolitical landscape in 2025 further underscored the move towards a more multipolar system, with regional actors playing an increasingly prominent role in conflict mediation and crisis management. SCR reported on these trends, examining their implications for the Council's work and for the broader multilateral architecture.

SCR also responded to the developments in 2025 by intensifying our support to Council members, including incoming elected members, and expand-

ed our engagement with the broader UN membership, regional organisations, and civil society. We also expanded our outreach beyond New York, engaging more systematically with member states, regional organisations, and civil society actors in order to reflect a broader range of perspectives in our reporting.

Elected members remained active in shaping the Council's agenda and contributed to advancing discussions on a range of thematic and country-specific issues. SCR captured these efforts through detailed reporting on elected member initiatives to break deadlocks in the Council.

A significant factor affecting the Council's effectiveness during the year was the ongoing liquidity crisis facing the UN, which has had a particularly pronounced impact on peace operations. Financial constraints affected mission planning and implementation, contributed to delays in reimbursements to troop- and police-contributing countries, and required missions to adjust operational priorities. These challenges had implications for the delivery of mandated tasks, including the protection of civilians and support for political processes. SCR's reporting and analysis paid increased attention to these issues and their implications for mandate implementation and Council decision-making. We participated actively in discussions on the future of peace operations, including on the financing of AU-led peace support operations.

The year also saw continued concerns regarding compliance with international humanitarian law and the protection of civilians. SCR maintained its focus on these issues, highlighting gaps between Council decisions and developments on the ground.

Letter from the Executive Director

We learnt in 2025 that in a more fragmented and fast-moving political environment, enhanced clarity on Council dynamics, positions, and options has become not just valuable, but essential.

Throughout the year, SCR remained focused on its core objective of supporting a more effective, transparent, and accountable Security Council. SCR continued to deliver timely, fact-based analysis through its Monthly Forecasts, What's in Blue updates, and thematic research reports. Through our What's in Blue reporting we tracked developments as they unfolded, including rapidly convened meetings and evolving negotiations. Our Monthly Forecasts provided structured, forward-looking analysis to support preparation and engagement in an increasingly fluid environment. SCR's in-depth research reports focused on peacebuilding, children and armed conflict, the 2025 Security Council elections, and the evolving role of the African members or A3.

In addition to these core publications, SCR provided complementary outputs to help users keep pace with the Council's work. Weekly updates, shared by email and on social media, signalled developments and distilled key outcomes, while regular podcasts offered accessible, analyst-led insights.

Across its work in 2025, SCR adapted to an increasingly volatile operating environment by maintaining consistency in its core outputs while strengthening its capacity for real-time analysis. Developments in early 2026 suggest that this volatility is likely to persist. As the Council's work becomes less predictable and its outcomes more constrained, the need for timely, reliable, and independent analysis is more critical than ever.

I remain grateful to our partners, supporters, and audience, who make it possible for us to keep enhancing transparency in the Council's work, shedding light on its processes, dynamics, and decisions, and supporting more informed and inclusive engagement by the wider UN membership.

Shamala Kandiah Thompson
Executive Director
Security Council Report

Executive Summary

Throughout the year, SCR continued to promote the transparency, effectiveness and accountability of the UN Security Council. It further consolidated its role as a primary provider of independent analysis, producing regular Monthly Forecast briefs and timely “What’s In Blue” stories to keep stakeholders informed of the Council’s activities. These core products were complemented by a series of podcasts and in-depth research reports examining key thematic issues.

In addition to its analytical output, SCR expanded its capacity-building initiatives in 2025 by delivering tailored training to all five incoming members of the Security Council, as well as to member states preparing to run for Council seats or seeking to remain engaged between terms, including by supporting

the training of the next generation of diplomats. SCR also broadened its public engagement and outreach, responding to sustained demand for its expertise through specialised briefings for UN member states, as well as for academic and civil society audiences in New York and globally.

Despite the constrained funding environment and shifting donor priorities, SCR demonstrated resilience and continuity, maintaining its core outputs and services without interruption. However, predictable and timely commitments are essential to ensure that SCR can continue to sustain its work and adopt its research and outreach to emerging needs and priorities within the Security Council landscape.



Enhancing Knowledge-Based Decision-Making

SCR remains a trusted resource for diplomats and civil society, offering independent analysis that contributes to more informed and effective engagement with the Security Council. By providing real-time insights and forward-looking research, we bridge key information gaps for policymakers and stakeholders. Our 2025 metrics highlight the scale of this engagement.

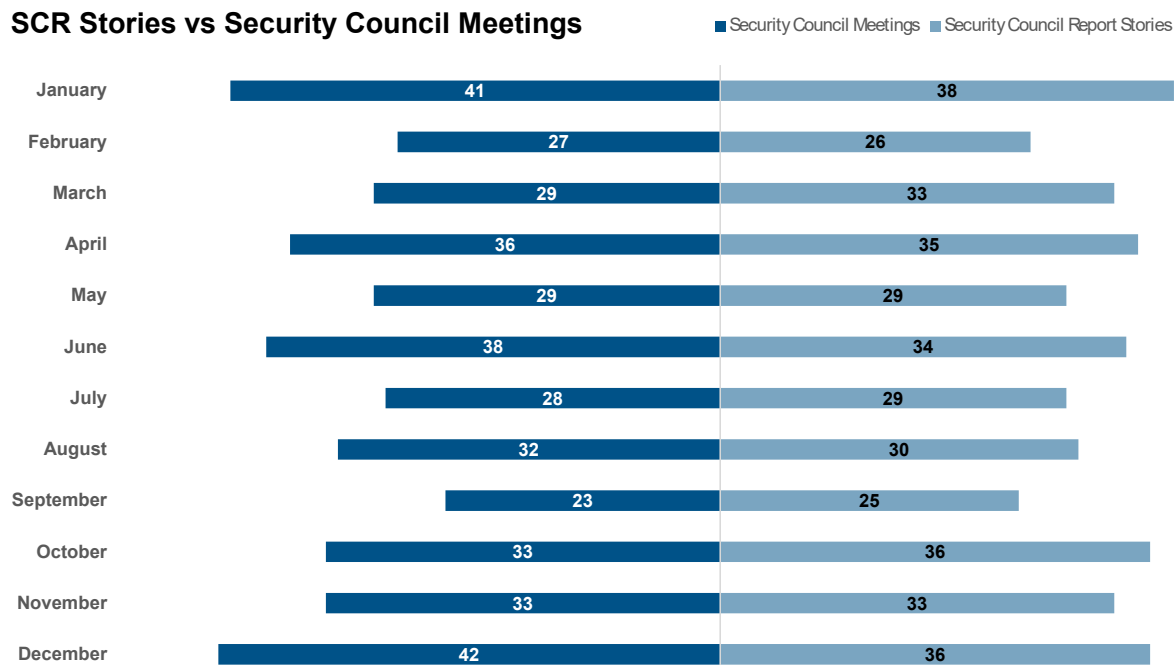
As illustrated in Graph 1 (below), SCR's output in 2025 closely tracked the overall volume of Security Council activity. SCR published 384 Forecast and WiB stories against 391 Council meetings, demonstrating near-complete alignment between reporting and Council engagement. Monthly comparisons further highlight this consistency: in several months, SCR's output matched or exceeded the number of meetings, while even during periods of heightened activity—such as January and December—coverage remained proportionate and sustained.

This consistency is particularly noteworthy given that the number of previously unscheduled meetings remained high, accounting for approximately 27% of the Council's meetings during the year, over half of which concerned Ukraine, the Middle East (Middle East and the Palestinian Question), Sudan, the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), and Iran-related/non-proliferation issues. SCR ensured comprehensive and timely coverage even as the Council's agenda was increasingly shaped by rapidly evolving crises and reactive responses. The organisation's ability to sustain this level of coverage amid heightened volatility underscores both the breadth of its monitoring and the adaptability of its reporting methodology.

384

Forecast and WiB stories published

SCR Stories vs Security Council Meetings



*These include public and private meetings as well as informal consultations, informal interactive dialogues, and Arria-Formula meetings

SCR's What's In Blue

23.5%

Increase in WiB page views

239

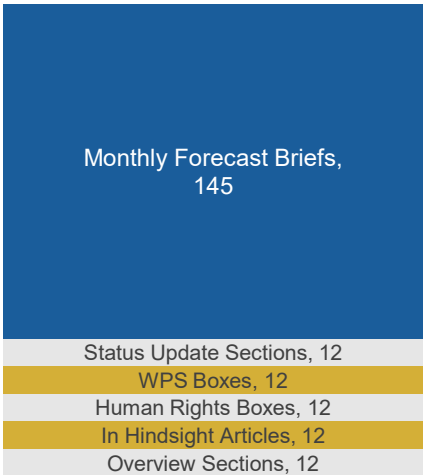
What's in Blue Stories

Through What's in Blue (WiB), an online publication that provides analysis of the latest developments in the Security Council on a near-daily basis, SCR offers insights on upcoming meetings, draft resolutions and the status of negotiations, as well as on the activities of Council subsidiary bodies. WiB is an indispensable resource for all those involved in or following the day-to-day work of the Council. As shown in Graph 2 (below), SCR produced 239 WiB stories, or an average of 20 per month, in 2025. These 239 stories included coverage of the UNSC visiting mission to Addis Ababa in October 2025.

SCR was invited to participate in the 10th Informal Joint Seminar and the 19th Annual Joint Consultative Meeting between members of the UN Security Council (UNSC) and the African Union Peace and Security Council (AUPSC), held on 16–17 October in Addis Ababa, to produce WiB stories on critical discussions and dynamics. SCR's participation enabled the production of three What's in Blue stories.

WiB page views increased by 23.5 percent, rising from 526,248 in 2024 to 649,983 in 2025.

Monthly Forecast



What's in Blue



SCR's Monthly Forecast

41.8%

Monthly Forecast
page views increase

Through the Monthly Forecast, published online on the first day of the month, SCR provides detailed briefs on issues on the Security Council's programme of work for the month ahead, including expected Council action; recent developments, including on sanctions, human rights-related matters and women, peace and security; key issues and options for action; and the prevailing dynamics in the Council and beyond. The Forecast includes convenient links to relevant UN documents, in addition to our well-organised and easily searchable archive.

As shown in Graph 2, SCR published 12 Monthly Forecast issues, comprising 145 briefs, and 12 status updates, Human Rights Boxes, Women Peace and Security (WPS) Boxes, and Sanctions Boxes. Every issue of the Forecast also contained overview sections on the programme of work, as well

as the monthly In Hindsight column, which provides analysis of key thematic and country-specific issues. Together, these components ensure comprehensive, timely, and forward-looking coverage of Council practice and evolving situations.

The Monthly Forecast page views increased by 41.8 percent, rising from 248,945 in 2024 to 353,056 in 2025.

Complementing the WiB and Monthly Forecast coverage, SCR also issued 52 "week-ahead" e-mail notifications, providing a reliable weekly roadmap of the Council's upcoming activities for diplomats and civil society alike. In parallel, SCR shared 52 "Week in Review" updates across its social media platforms, distilling the week's key Council developments and decisions for a wide and diverse audience.

Security Council Report's (SCR) In Hindsight in 2025

JAN	The Security Council in 2024 and Looking Ahead to 2025
FEB	The 2025 Peacebuilding Review
MAR	The US Pivot on Ukraine and Shifting Security Council Dynamics
APR	Ensuring Effective Peace Operations in an Uncertain World
MAY	Impact of a Delay in Subsidiary Body Chairs Appointments
JUN	Security Council Elections 2025
JUL	Moving Towards a Second Era of Application of the Tools of the Children and Armed Conflict Agenda
AUG	A Council in Waiting
SEP	The Security Council and the UN80 Initiative—What Lies Ahead?
OCT	The Increasing Use of Article 51 of the UN Charter and the Security Council
NOV	The Rise of the African Members of the Security Council
DEC	The Search for the Next UN Secretary-General Begins

Regional and thematic focus of WiB and the Monthly Forecast

The regional and thematic focus of WiB and the Monthly Forecast followed that of the Security Council. As shown in Figure 2, 22% of SCR's stories had a thematic focus, a drop from 28% in 2024. These meetings included , as seen in Figure 5, peacekeeping and peacebuilding; the protection of civilians; children and armed conflict; women, peace, and security; the state of multilateralism, maritime security; and emerging technologies in security, among others.

As shown in Figure 3, Africa and the Middle East dominated the geographic coverage, accounting for 37 and 36 percent, respectively, of regionally focused stories. As depicted in Figure 4 (series a to e), this reflects the Council's concentration on a limited number of high-intensity crises within each region. In Africa, over half of SCR's coverage

focused on Sudan, the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), Libya, and the Central African Republic (CAR). In the Middle East, attention to the war between Israel and Hamas remained high, alongside a persistent focus on Syria, Yemen, and Lebanon. Europe ranked third with 12% of the coverage, largely due to the war in Ukraine, followed by the Americas and the Caribbean (8%), with Haiti and Colombia receiving the most focus, and Asia and the Pacific (7%), with Afghanistan being the main focus.

Figure 5 illustrates the distribution of SCR reporting across Council agenda items. The next section highlights SCR's coverage of the most reported files, reflecting the Council's engagement with the year's key issues.

Figure 2

2025 Thematic and Regional What's in Blue and Monthly Forecast Coverage

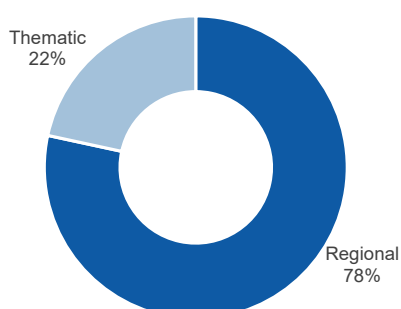
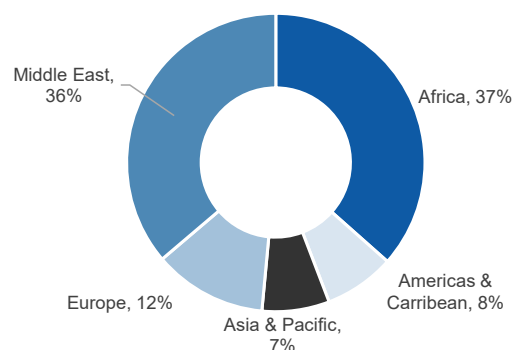


Figure 3

2025 Regional Distribution of What's in Blue and Monthly Forecast Coverage



Regional and thematic focus of WiB and the Monthly Forecast

Figure 4(a)

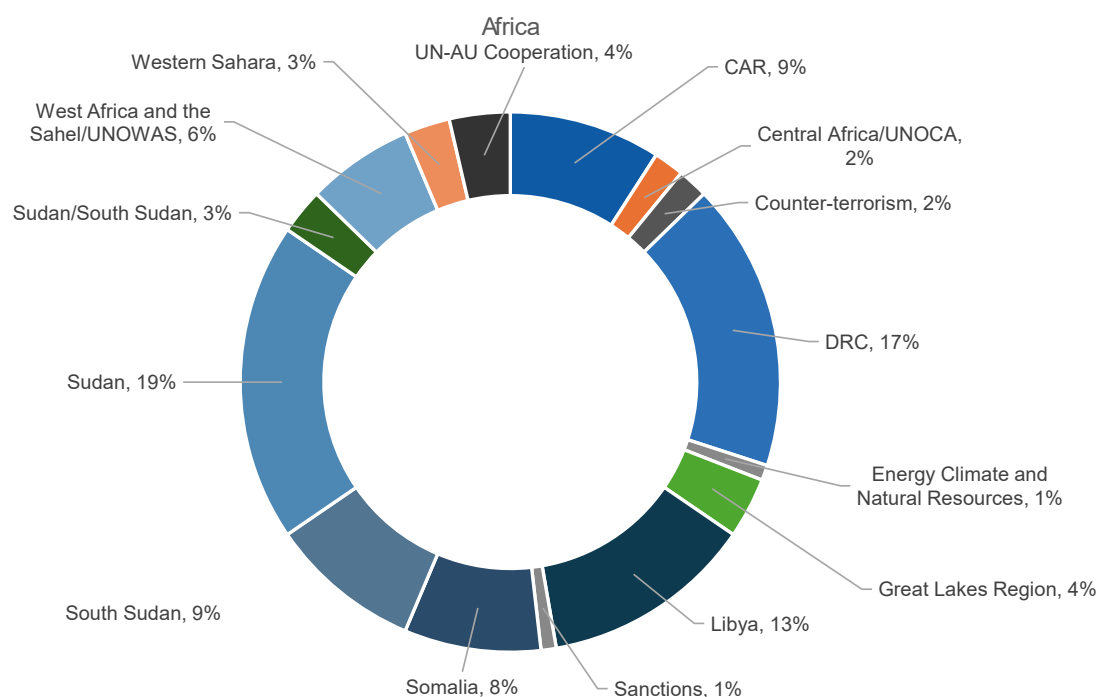
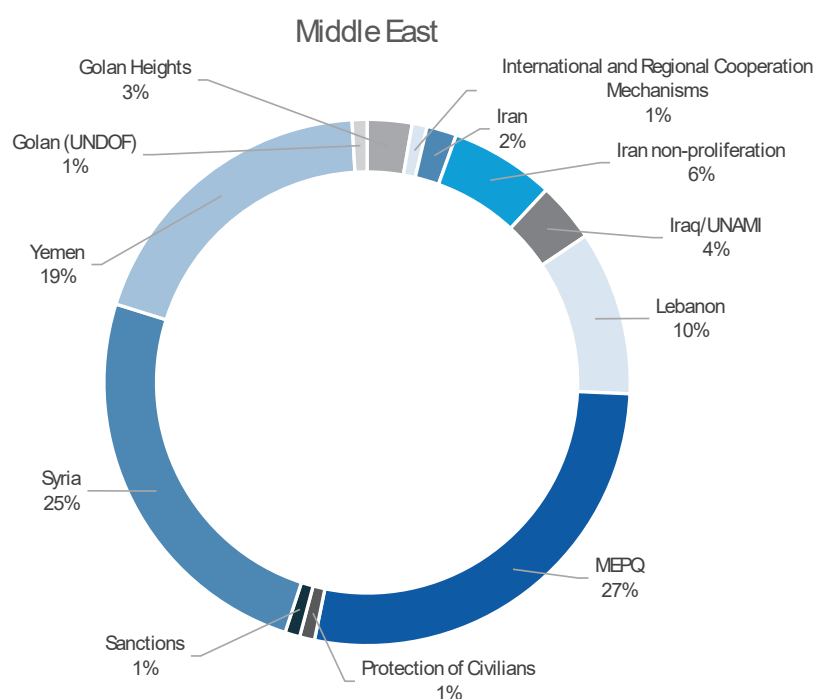


Figure 4(b)



Regional and thematic focus of WiB and the Monthly Forecast

Figure 4(c)

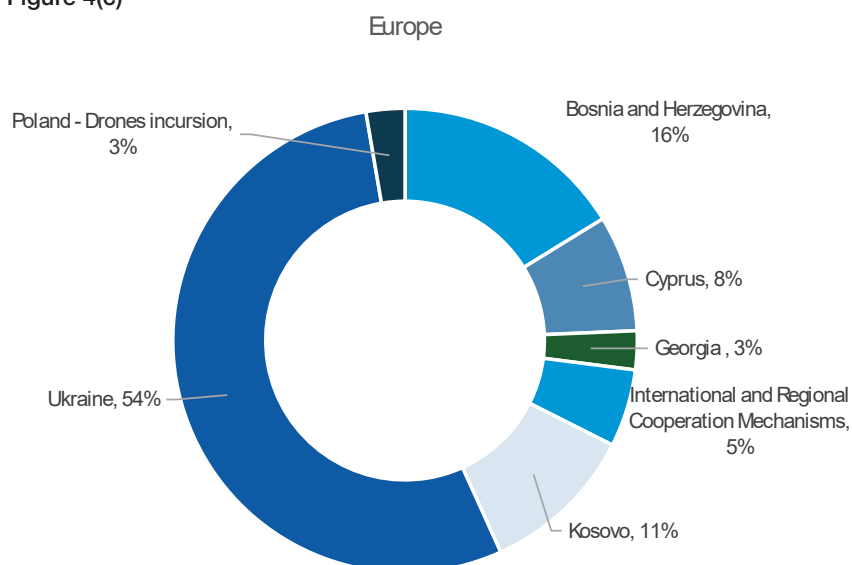


Figure 4(d)

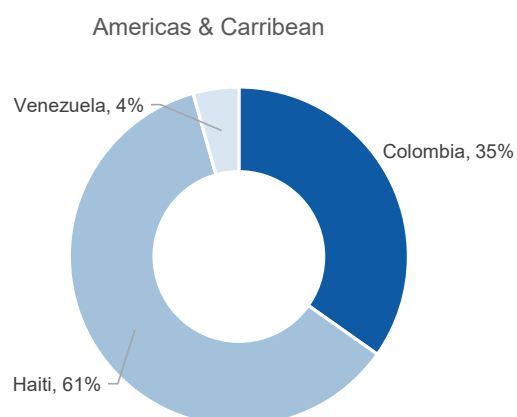
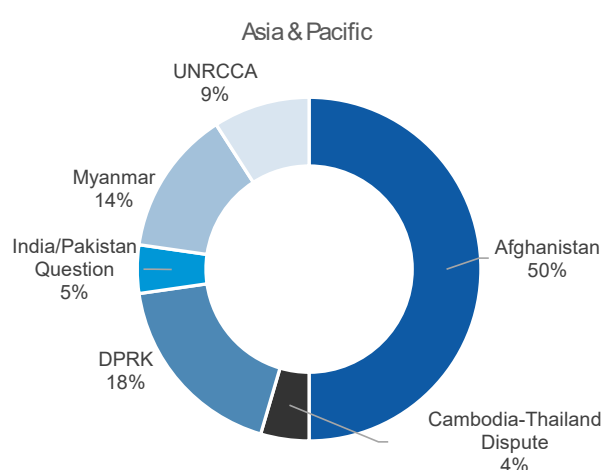
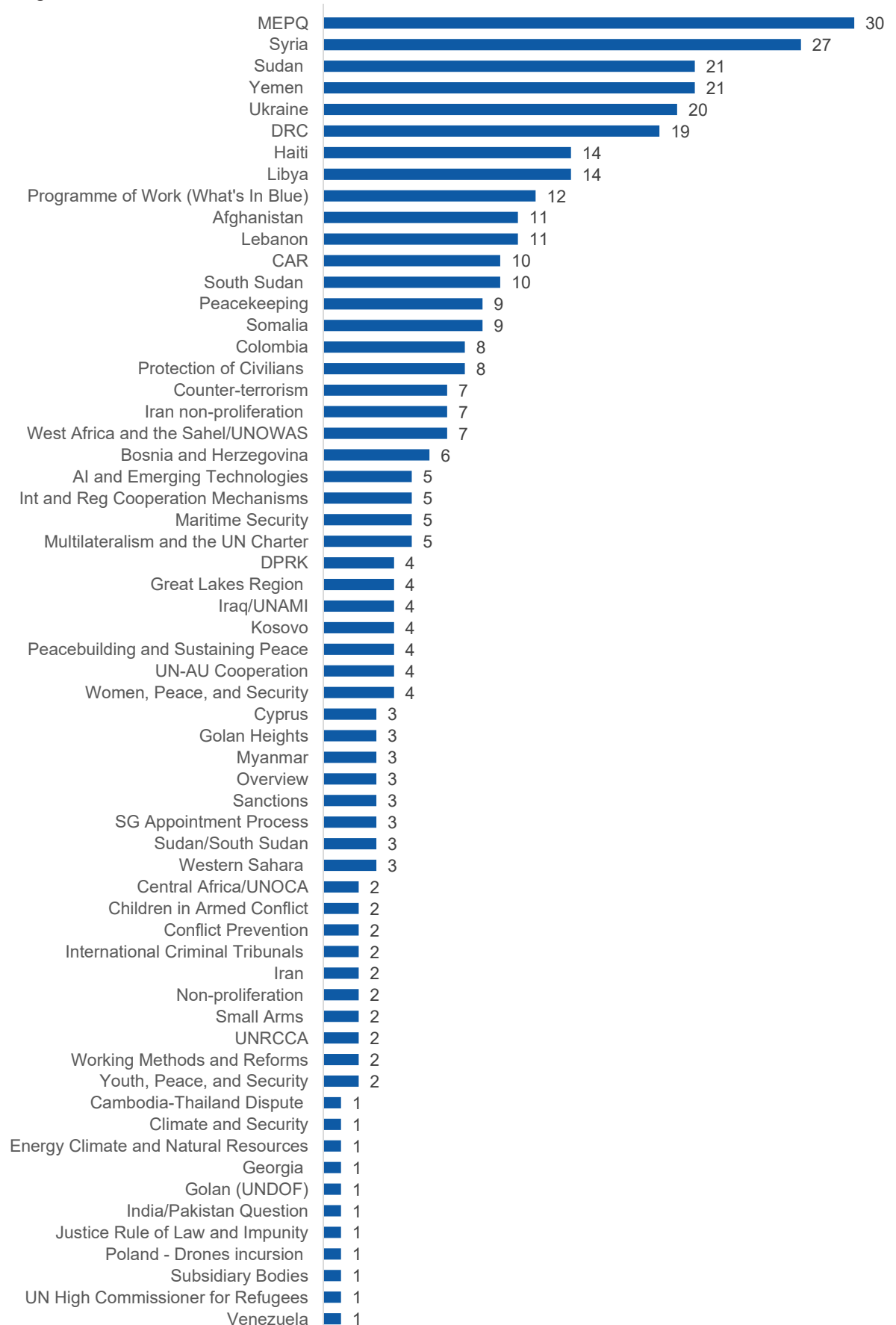


Figure 4(e)



Regional and thematic focus of WiB and the Monthly Forecast

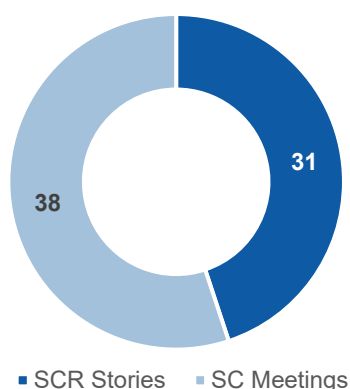
Figure 5



Most Covered Country and Regional Situations

In 2025, the Security Council considered a wide range of country and regional situations marked by active conflict, political transitions, humanitarian crises, and shifting geopolitical dynamics. This section highlights those country and regional situations that featured most prominently in the Council's activities and consequently were extensively covered by SCR. Across these files, SCR's reporting focused on the Council's response to developments on the ground, its outcomes and negotiation processes.

Middle East, including the Palestinian Question (MEPQ)



The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian Question (MEPQ), remained one of the more prominent and divisive files on the Council's agenda. Council engagement was dominated by developments in Gaza following the collapse of the January–March ceasefire and the subsequent expansion of Israel's military campaign.

SCR closely followed the Council's response to rapidly deteriorating conditions on the ground, including escalating humanitarian needs, widespread displacement, and warnings of famine in parts of the enclave. Deep political divisions among Council members persisted throughout the year, particularly regarding calls for ceasefire and accountability measures. This was evident from the US veto of two draft resolutions jointly authored by the ten elected members (E10) on 4 June and 18 September, respectively.

SCR provided detailed reporting on negotiations over multiple draft resolution texts addressing humanitarian access, protection of civilians, and the role of international actors in Gaza. Coverage also examined attacks on humanitarian and UN personnel and the constraints these placed on relief operations. A significant development was the Council's adoption on 18 November of resolution 2803, authored by the US, endorsing an October ceasefire and welcoming the establishment of a Board of Peace (BoP) as a transitional governance administration in Gaza.

SCR's analysis highlighted debates surrounding the authorisation of a temporary International Stabilization Force (ISF) under resolution 2803, as well as concerns raised by several members about implementation and oversight. Overall, SCR's reporting underscored how entrenched divisions continued to shape—and limit—the Council's response to this crisis.

Outcomes Adopted

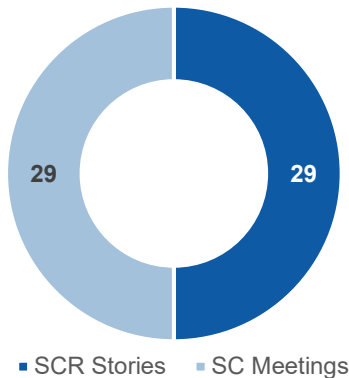
- 1 Security Council resolution
- 1 Security Council press statement

Not Adopted

- 2 Draft resolutions

Most Covered Country and Regional Situations

Syria



The ouster of former president Bashar al-Assad in December 2024 prompted a recalibration of Council members' positions in 2025. While divisions persisted, members showed some—albeit uneven—convergence in shifting their focus from isolating the former regime to engaging with Syria's interim authorities and assessing how to support the country's political transition. This evolving approach was reflected in the Council's historic visit to Damascus in December.

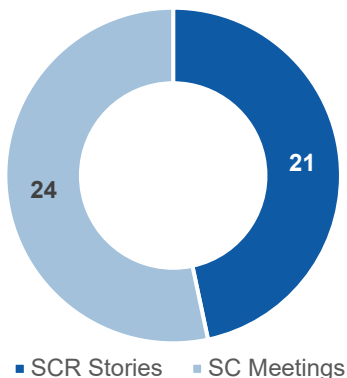
SCR's coverage examined the complex challenges facing Syria's transition, including outbreaks of intercommunal violence, Israeli military operations in southern Syria, attempts to integrate the Kurdish-controlled northeast, and a resurgence of ISIL/Da'esh attacks. Reporting also tracked efforts to advance transitional justice and accountability, alongside cautious progress on the chemical weapons file. Humanitarian concerns remained central, particularly as mass returns of displaced people strained already limited resources amid gradual sanctions easing.

Outcomes Adopted

- 1 Security Council resolution
- 2 Presidential statement
- 1 Security Council press statement

In 2025, SCR covered negotiations leading to the adoption of one resolution and two presidential statements on Syria. Resolution 2799 removed Syria's interim president and interior minister from the ISIL/Da'esh sanctions list, while two presidential statements (PRST) condemned intercommunal violence and called for unhindered humanitarian access. SCR's analysis highlighted the opportunities and risks inherent in the Council's evolving engagement with a post-Assad Syria.

Ukraine



Security Council engagement on Ukraine in 2025 reflected shifting political dynamics, even as long-standing constraints on Council action persisted. While the Council convened fewer formal meetings than in 2024, its discussions were increasingly intersected with renewed diplomatic efforts aimed at ending the war.

SCR published extensive coverage of these developments, including a dedicated In Hindsight article examining changes in US policy and their implications for Council dynamics. A key moment was the adoption of resolution 2774 on 24 February 2025, the first substantive resolution on Ukraine since the start of the full-scale invasion in 2022. Authored by the US, the text called for a swift end to the war and urged the pursuit of a lasting peace.

SCR's analysis of the negotiations and vote on resolution 2774 highlighted emerging divergences within the P3, alongside deeper disagreements among Council members over ceasefire sequencing, territorial issues, security guarantees, and accountability. Reporting also examined how US-led diplomatic initiatives and the resumption of direct Russia-Ukraine talks shaped Council deliberations.

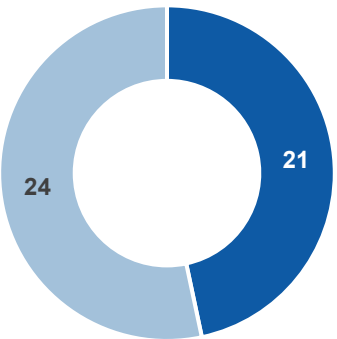
Outcomes Adopted

- 1 Security Council resolution

Throughout the year, SCR documented the tension between renewed diplomatic activity and the Council's limited ability to influence the conflict's trajectory. Its coverage underscored how unresolved political differences continued to constrain meaningful Council action on Ukraine.

Most Covered Country and Regional Situations

Yemen



■ SCR Stories ■ SC Meetings

Security Council engagement on Yemen in 2025 continued against the backdrop of a protracted conflict marked by rising internal fragmentation and destabilising regional dynamics. Prospects for a negotiated settlement remained remote amid escalating insecurity and political fragility.

SCR reported on how developments beyond Yemen’s borders increasingly shaped the file. US military action against the Houthi militia, combined with Houthi attacks on commercial shipping in the Red Sea and against Israel, contributed to heightened regional tensions and renewed Council focus on maritime security. At the domestic level, advances by southern secessionist factions in December underscored the weakness of Yemen’s internationally recognised government and resulted in shifts in territorial control.

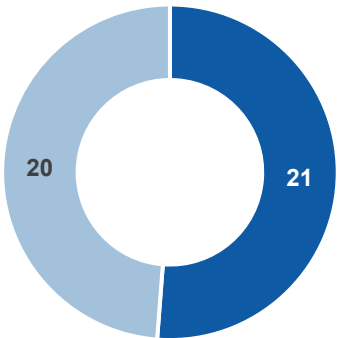
SCR closely followed negotiations leading to the adoption of four resolutions on Yemen over 2024 and 2025. These included resolutions 2768 and 2787, which extended the Secretary-General’s monthly reporting requirement on Houthi attacks on commercial vessels in the Red Sea, as well as resolution 2786 renewing the mandate of the UN Mission to Support the Hudeidah Agreement (UNMHA). In November, the Council adopted resolution 2801, extending the Yemen sanctions regime and the mandate of the Panel of Experts for another year.

Outcomes Adopted

- 4 Security Council resolutions
- 3 Security Council press statements

Throughout the year, SCR’s coverage emphasised Yemen’s worsening humanitarian crisis, as food insecurity deepened, health systems collapsed, and access constraints intensified. Reporting also examined the continued detention of more than 70 UN and humanitarian workers by Houthi authorities, highlighting the severe operational and protection challenges facing international actors in the country.

Sudan



■ SCR Stories ■ SC Meetings

The conflict in Sudan remained a major focus of the Security Council’s work in 2025 as fighting between the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) and the Rapid Support Forces (RSF) entered its third year and expanded across multiple fronts. SCR provided sustained coverage of Council engagement as violence intensified and humanitarian conditions deteriorated further.

SCR reported extensively on Council deliberations concerning the 1591 Sudan sanctions regime. In March, resolution 2772 extended the mandate of the Panel of Experts, while resolution 2791, adopted in September, renewed sanctions measures—including targeted sanctions and the Darfur arms embargo—and further extended the Panel’s mandate. SCR’s analysis examined divisions among Council members over sanctions implementation, enforcement, and the composition of the Panel of Experts.

Beyond formal outcomes, SCR closely followed negotiations on six press statements agreed during the year, alongside discussions on potential additional Council action. SCR’s reporting also explored allegations of external support to both parties to the conflict, including weapons transfers, ammunition supplies, and mercenary involvement, as well as debates over expanding the geographic scope of sanctions beyond Darfur.

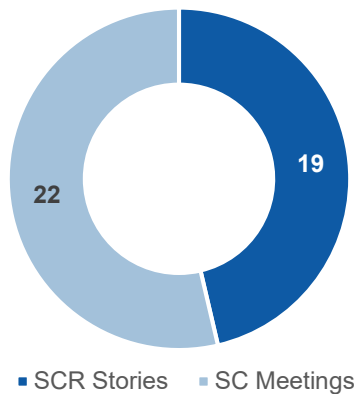
Outcomes Adopted

- 2 Security Council resolutions
- 6 Security Council press statements

Humanitarian conditions featured prominently in SCR’s coverage. Reporting highlighted mass displacement, worsening food insecurity, including famine in parts of the country, and severe access constraints facing humanitarian actors. SCR also covered resolution 2802 renewing the mandate of the UN Interim Security Force for Abyei (UNISFA), which introduced significant substantive changes to the mission’s mandate amid the broader instability.

Most Covered Country and Regional Situations

Democratic Republic of the Congo



Security Council engagement on the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) in 2025 was dominated by the sharp deterioration of security conditions in the country's eastern provinces. SCR closely followed developments as the resurgence of the M23 armed group significantly altered dynamics on the ground and heightened regional tensions.

SCR reported on dramatic territorial gains by M23 in North Kivu and South Kivu, including the capture of Goma and Bukavu, the provincial capitals. These developments intensified strains between the DRC and Rwanda, with both countries accusing each other of supporting proxy forces. SCR's coverage examined the implications of these accusations for regional stability and Council dynamics.

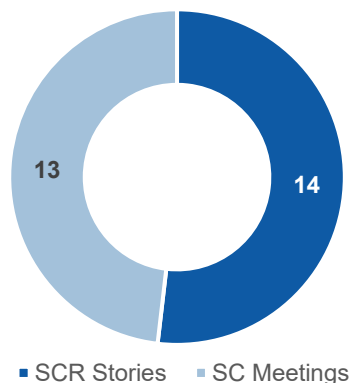
In its coverage, SCR provided analysis on mediation efforts aimed at addressing the crisis, including the Doha and Washington processes, which produced agreements between the DRC and M23 and between the DRC and Rwanda. SCR's reporting tracked the shift from negotiation toward implementation of these commitments, while highlighting the challenges ahead.

The evolving role of MONUSCO was another focus of SCR's work. As security conditions worsened, the mission's disengagement process was suspended, and MONUSCO was authorised to support the implementation of a permanent ceasefire. SCR covered negotiations leading to the adoption of three resolutions in 2025: resolution 2773 condemning the M23's offensive, resolution 2783 extending the sanctions regime and the mandate of the Group of Experts, and resolution 2808 renewing MONUSCO's mandate for a final year, set to expire in December 2026.

Outcomes Adopted

- 3 Security Council resolutions
- 5 Security Council press statements

Haiti



Security Council engagement on Haiti in 2025 centred on deteriorating security conditions and debates over the appropriate international response to escalating gang violence. SCR maintained extensive coverage of Council deliberations as members grappled with the limits of existing tools and the urgency of stabilising the situation on the ground.

A major highlight of SCR's reporting and analysis was our coverage of the negotiations on resolution 2793 of 30 September 2025, which authorised the transition of the Multinational Security Support (MSS) mission into a "Gang Suppression Force" (GSF) for an initial 12-month period. SCR analysed the complex political dynamics surrounding the decision, including divisions among Council members over the scope and implications of the new mandate. The resolution also requested the Secretary-General to establish a UN Support Office in Haiti (UNSOH) to provide logistical and operational support to the GSF, BINUH, and the Haitian National Police.

SCR also closely followed Council engagement on sanctions. Resolution 2794 of 17 October 2025 renewed the 2653 Haiti sanctions regime for one year, designated two additional individuals, and extended the mandate of the Panel of Experts for 13 months. SCR's coverage highlighted differing views among Council members regarding the effectiveness of sanctions, concerns about impunity, and calls for stronger enforcement of the arms embargo.

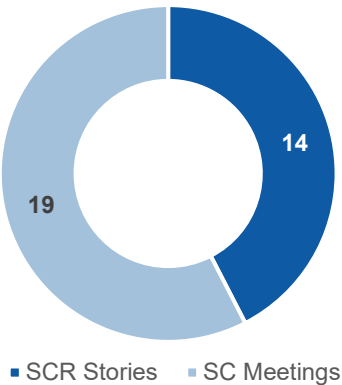
Outcomes Adopted

- 3 Security Council resolutions

Through sustained reporting, SCR documented how new Council-authorised security arrangements, political divisions, and worsening conditions on the ground continued to define Council engagement on Haiti.

Most Covered Country and Regional Situations

Libya



Despite the gradual rollout of municipal elections in 2025, Libya remained mired in political deadlock, with no agreement on the formation of a unified government or the holding of national elections. SCR provided comprehensive coverage of Security Council engagement as the UN sought to reinvigorate the political process.

SCR followed closely the work of the UN Support Mission in Libya (UNSMIL) under the leadership of the new Special Representative of the Secretary-General, Hanna Tetteh. In August, Tetteh presented a roadmap to the Council aimed at advancing national elections and institutional unification. In December, UNSMIL facilitated the first formal session of the Structured Dialogue in Tripoli, one of the roadmap’s three core pillars designed to build political consensus and develop technical proposals for Libya’s electoral framework.

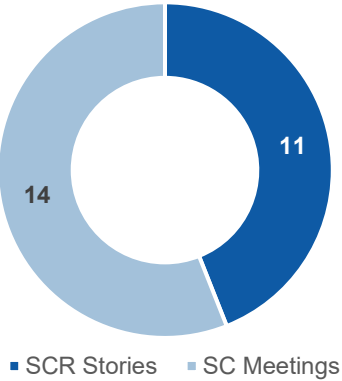
At the Council level, SCR reported on the unanimous renewal of UNSMIL’s mandate through resolution 2796, which incorporated recommendations from the strategic review to streamline the mission’s work and prioritise support for a political solution. SCR also covered negotiations on two resolutions renewing, for six months, the authorisation to inspect vessels off Libya suspected of violating the arms embargo.

In addition, SCR reported on resolution 2769, which renewed the mandate of the Panel of Experts assisting the 1970 Libya Sanctions Committee and extended authorisations related to the illicit export of petroleum. Overall, SCR’s coverage highlighted the persistence of political fragmentation despite renewed diplomatic efforts.

Outcomes Adopted

- 4 Security Council resolutions
- 2 Security Council press statements

Lebanon



Security Council engagement on Lebanon in 2025 was shaped by growing concerns over stability and the future of the UN’s long-standing peacekeeping presence in the country. SCR closely followed Council deliberations as members confronted the implications of an eventual UN Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) withdrawal.

A central focus of SCR’s reporting was the negotiation and adoption of resolution 2790 of 28 August 2025, which extended the mandate of UNIFIL for a final time, until 31 December 2026. The resolution directed UNIFIL to begin an “orderly and safe drawdown and withdrawal” from that date and within one year. SCR analysed the difficult dynamics underlying this decision, including differing assessments among Council members of UNIFIL’s role and effectiveness.

Beyond mandate negotiations, SCR covered political and security developments in Lebanon, including challenges related to the implementation of resolutions 1559 (2004) and 1701 (2006). Reporting also examined the implications of the 26 November 2024 cessation-of-hostilities arrangement between Israel and Lebanon, particularly in the context of continued tensions along the Blue Line.

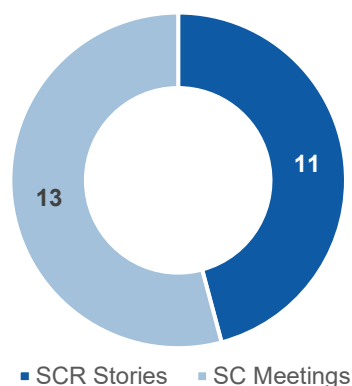
SCR’s reporting highlighted the strategic and operational questions raised by UNIFIL’s impending withdrawal and the potential consequences for Lebanon’s security environment.

Outcomes Adopted

- 1 Security Council resolution
- 1 Presidential statement
- 1 Security Council press statement

Most Covered Country and Regional Situations

South Sudan



Security Council engagement on South Sudan in 2025 unfolded against a backdrop of deepening political and security instability. SCR maintained comprehensive coverage as conditions on the ground deteriorated markedly over the course of the year.

From early 2025, SCR reported on escalating tensions and armed confrontations that contributed to worsening humanitarian conditions. As instability spread, humanitarian needs increased significantly, while access constraints tightened and attacks on critical infrastructure, including humanitarian assets and personnel, became more frequent. SCR also reported on challenging conditions placed on the UN Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS), which operated under growing operational pressure while implementing a contingency plan linked to the UN-wide financial crisis and the Secretary-General's cost-cutting measures.

SCR closely followed negotiations on resolution 2779, which renewed UNMISS' mandate until 30 April 2026. SCR's reporting analysed difficult Council dynamics surrounding the text, particularly disagreements over thematic language and the extent to which the Council should exert political pressure on South Sudanese leadership.

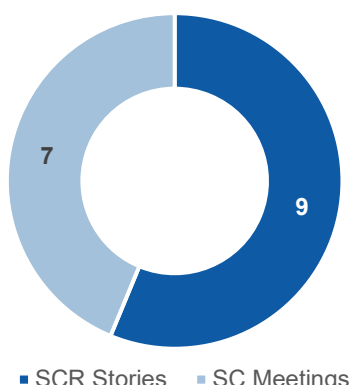
Council divisions were further evident during negotiations on resolution 2781, which extended the South Sudan sanctions regime until 31 May 2026 and the mandate of the Panel of Experts until 1 July 2026. The resolution was adopted narrowly, with nine votes in favour and six abstentions, reflecting sharp differences among members regarding the role and utility of sanctions.

SCR sustained analysis highlighted how political fragmentation, insecurity, and budgetary pressures continued to constrain both national stability and international engagement in South Sudan.

Outcomes Adopted

- 3 Security Council resolutions
- 1 Security Council press statement

Afghanistan



Security Council engagement on Afghanistan in 2025 remained focused on a complex mix of human rights concerns, humanitarian pressures, and security risks. SCR closely followed Council deliberations as the international community grappled with the implications of continued Taliban rule.

SCR's reporting highlighted the Taliban's increasing repression of women's and girls' rights, alongside a worsening humanitarian crisis and persistent threats from terrorist groups operating from Afghan soil. Coverage also examined the stalled implementation of recommendations stemming from the Afghanistan independent assessment requested by resolution 2679 (2023).

A central focus of SCR's analysis was the negotiation of resolution 2777 of 17 March 2025, which extended the mandate of the UN Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA) until March 2026. SCR reported in detail on the penholder dispute that emerged during negotiations, with China and Pakistan vying with the Republic of Korea and the US to be co-penholders, and examined how these tensions shaped the final text.

Beyond mandate renewal, SCR documented deteriorating relations between Pakistan and the Taliban, following terrorist attacks on Pakistani territory that escalated into violent clashes in October. Reporting also tracked the Taliban's growing engagement with select international actors, highlighting the fragmented nature of external approaches to Afghanistan.

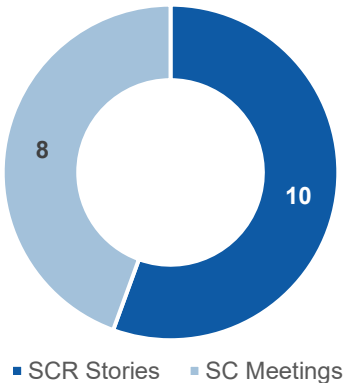
Overall, SCR's coverage underscored how deeply entrenched political divisions and policy disagreements continued to limit meaningful progress on the Afghanistan file.

Outcomes Adopted

- 1 Security Council resolution
- 1 Security Council press statement

Most Covered Country and Regional Situations

Central African Republic



Security Council engagement on the CAR in 2025 took place amid a fragile but comparatively improved security environment. SCR closely followed Council action as stabilization efforts continued alongside persistent political and security risks.

SCR reported on the security situation in the CAR, which benefitted from the presence of the UN Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the Central African Republic (MINUSCA), even as clashes between government forces and armed groups persisted. Coverage also examined progress and challenges related to implementation of the 2019 Political Agreement for Peace and Reconciliation in the CAR (APPR-RCA), which marked its sixth anniversary.

SCR tracked developments involving armed groups, including commitments by the leaders of Retour, Réclamation et Réhabilitation (3R) and Unité pour la Paix en Centrafrique (UPC) to cease hostilities and rejoin the peace agreement. Reporting also followed preparations for presidential, legislative, and local elections held on 28 December 2025.

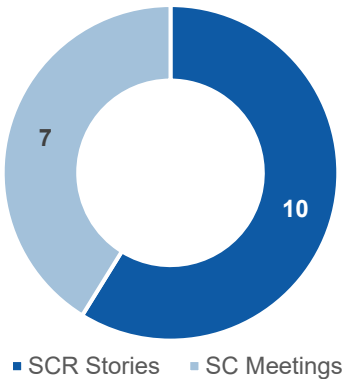
At the Council level, SCR provided detailed analysis of negotiations leading to the adoption of two resolutions. Resolution 2789 extended sanctions measures against armed groups and the mandate of the Panel of Experts, while resolution 2800 renewed MINUSCA's mandate until November 2026.

SCR coverage highlighted the tension between incremental political progress and the structural fragility that continued to define the CAR's transition.

Outcomes Adopted

- 2 Security Council resolutions
- 3 Presidential statements

Somalia



Security Council engagement on Somalia in 2025 focused on the country's security transition amid persistent threats, financial uncertainty, and complex operational challenges. SCR closely followed Council deliberations as members navigated the evolving role of international support to Somali and AU forces.

A central theme of SCR's reporting was the transition to the AU Support and Stabilisation Mission in Somalia (AUSSOM). Coverage examined the mission's deployment amid severe financial constraints and contentious Council dynamics surrounding the implementation of resolution 2719, which provides for the use of UN assessed contributions for AU-led peace support operations. SCR analysed how disagreements over financing and burden-sharing shaped Council engagement on the file.

SCR also reported extensively on political and security developments, including continued attacks by Al-Shabaab despite sustained military pressure. Coverage highlighted the group's ability to sustain attacks and the implications for Somalia's broader stabilisation efforts. Humanitarian needs remained acute, with ongoing violence and political transition compounding vulnerabilities among the civilian population.

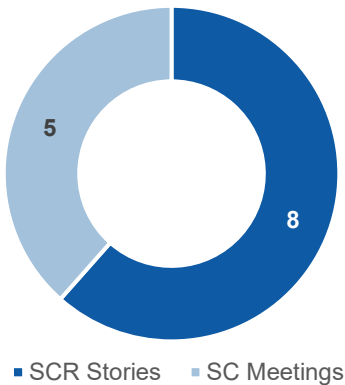
In parallel, SCR tracked the implementation and drawdown of the UN Transition Mission in Somalia (UNTMIS), analysing the impact of the UN-wide financial crisis and peacekeeping budget pressures on the UN's footprint in the country, including the UN Support Office in Somalia (UNSOS). SCR also provided in-depth reporting on sanctions-related negotiations, including resolution 2806, which extended the mandate of the Panel of Experts and the maritime interdiction authorisation, as well as resolution 2809, which renewed AUSSOM's authorisation and provided for UNTMIS to cease operations by October 2026.

Outcomes Adopted

- 4 Security Council resolutions

Most Covered Country and Regional Situations

Colombia



Security Council engagement on Colombia in 2025 remained centred on implementation of the 2016 Final Agreement for Ending the Conflict and Building a Stable and Lasting Peace. SCR continued to document Council involvement amid a complex political environment shaped by electoral dynamics and persistent regional violence.

SCR reported on challenges facing implementation of the peace agreement, including continued insecurity across several regions and threats to former combatants and civilian populations. A notable focus of coverage was the sharp deterioration of security conditions in January 2025 in the north-eastern region of Catatumbo, which the UN characterised as the gravest escalation of violence since the signing of the 2016 agreement.

At the Council level, SCR provided detailed analysis of negotiations leading to the adoption of resolution 2798 of 31 October 2025, which renewed the mandate of the UN Verification Mission in Colombia. Reporting examined the significant difficulties surrounding the mandate renewal, stemming in part from strained bilateral relations between Colombia and the US following President Donald Trump's return to office in January 2025.

SCR's coverage highlighted disagreements over the scope of the mission's tasks, particularly the US-driven removal of responsibilities related to verification of restorative sentences issued by the Special Jurisdiction for Peace and monitoring implementation of the ethnic chapter of the agreement. These negotiations underscored the growing challenges facing sustained Council engagement on the Colombia file.

Outcomes Adopted

- 1 Security Council resolution



SCR's Podcasts

To make Security Council analysis more accessible and engaging, SCR launched its podcast, Interactive Dialogues. In 2022 and steadily expanded its audio offerings, including audio versions of the In Hindsight articles and analyst interviews on recent publications. Despite funding constraints, SCR continued to maintain this platform in 2025, enabling policymakers, diplomats, researchers, and the wider public to engage with Council developments in a more flexible and accessible format.

In 2025, average downloads per episode increased by 14.6 percent compared to 2024, reflecting stronger audience engagement with SCR's podcast content.



SCR's Research Reports

Through its research reports and policy papers, SCR provides comprehensive analysis on issues of relevance to the Security Council agenda and its procedures. These reports typically provide a historical overview and assessment of previous Council involvement and suggest options for future action on the issue.

In 2025, SCR published four research reports on peacebuilding; Security Council Elections 2025; Children in Armed Conflict; and the evolution of the role of the A3, supporting a deeper understanding of both thematic and procedural developments.



Lead author: Katerina Limenopoulou

Launched on 27 March during an informal PBC-Security Council dialogue hosted by the Republic of Korea.

The Peacebuilding Commission at 20: Progress, Challenges, and the Road Ahead

The report was published on 13 March 2025, coinciding with the formal phase of the 2025 Peacebuilding Architecture Review (PBAR). It examines the two-decade trajectory of the Peacebuilding Commission (PBC), highlighting its evolution from a nascent advisory body to a significant platform for supporting national peacebuilding priorities. The report offers practical recommendations to strengthen the PBC's advisory and bridging roles, particularly in enhancing synergies with the Peacebuilding Fund (PBF) and supporting countries undergoing UN transitions. The report provides actionable recommendations for the PBC, the Security Council, and UN member states more broadly, as well as for the UN Secretariat. It serves as a strategic roadmap for improving the PBC's operational effectiveness amid heightened global instability.



Lead author: Vladimir Sesar

Launched on 28 May 2025 at SCR.

Security Council Elections 2025

The report was published on 27 May 2025, ahead of the elections for non-permanent membership of the Security Council held during the 79th session of the UN General Assembly. It provided a comprehensive overview of the five seats available for election in 2025, distributed among the African Group, the Asia-Pacific Group, the Latin American and Caribbean Group (GRULAC), and the Eastern European Group. The report analysed the candidates' previous Council experience and their stated priorities, as well as potential Council dynamics in 2026. It also provided detailed explanations of the elections' procedures, the campaign process and the role of regional groups in this process. The report served as an essential guide for UN member states, civil society and academia to understand the potential composition and future direction of the Council for the 2026-2027 term.

SCR's Research Reports



Lead author: Dawit Yirga

Launched jointly with Open Society Foundations on 24 November at SCR.

From the Margins to the Center: The Rise of the A3 in the UN Security Council

Published on 19 November 2025, the report provides the first comprehensive analysis of the A3's evolution since 2013. It details the internal mechanisms supporting A3 cohesion, the group's engagement with the AU in Addis Ababa, and the emergence of the "A3 Plus" format with Caribbean partners. By identifying lessons from the past decade, the report serves as a roadmap for incoming African members to build on the work of their predecessors and for all Council members to understand the role of the A3 in the Council's activities.



Lead author: Alina Entelis

Launched jointly with Luxembourg and Malta on 16 June 2025 at SCR.

Children and Armed Conflict: Progression, Regression or Maintenance of the Agenda?

Published on 12 June 2025, the report examines whether the children and armed conflict agenda is regressing, progressing, or being maintained, focusing specifically on Council and subsidiary body engagement between 2020 and 2024. Ahead of the 20th anniversary of landmark resolution 1612, the report assesses the performance of the Working Group on Children and Armed Conflict, the factors causing significant delays in the adoption of conclusions, and the mainstreaming of the agenda into country-specific work, particularly during the withdrawal of UN peace operations. While concluding that the agenda has generally been maintained despite difficult Council dynamics, the report stresses that the alarming global rise in grave violations and diminishing resources mean a "business as usual" approach is no longer possible. It offers several recommendations for Council members, the UN system, and civil society to take concrete steps to prevent the agenda from regressing.

SCR's 20th Anniversary

On 28 October 2025, Security Council Report (SCR) marked the twentieth anniversary of its establishment, reflecting on two decades of independent reporting on the work of the Security Council. SCR was launched with the publication of the November 2005 Monthly Forecast on 28 October, responding to the need for consistent, evidence based analysis of Council dynamics at a time when such coverage was limited. Over the subsequent 20 years, SCR published 240 Monthly Forecasts and expanded its work to include daily reporting through What's

in Blue, in depth research on thematic and country specific issues, capacity building programmes for incoming elected members, briefings for key stakeholders, and regular podcasts.

The milestone was marked by an anniversary event held on 28 October 2025 at the Permanent Mission of Canada to the UN, which brought together a high-level panel to reflect on SCR's history, impact, and future trajectory.



SCR's 20th Anniversary

The programme opened with welcome remarks by Allan Rock, Chair of SCR's Board, who also moderated the panel discussion. Colin Keating, SCR's Founding Executive Director, reflected on the organisation's origins and early institutional challenges; Jonathan F. Fanton, founding Chair of SCR's Board, discussed the original vision for the organisation and the role of philanthropic support in advancing transparency and accountability at the UN; Pascale Baeriswyl, Permanent Representative of Switzerland to the UN and an SCR Board member, offered insights from both her experience on the Security Council and within SCR's governance on how its analysis is used in practice; Renzo M. Pomi of Amnesty International, highlighted the value of SCR's work for civil society; and Shamala Kandiah Thompson, SCR's Executive Director, reflected on the organisation's evolution and future priorities. The event ended with closing remarks by Merete Fjeld Brattested, Permanent Representative of Norway, and reflections by Bob Rae, Permanent Representative of Canada, followed by a reception.

Panelists and participants highlighted how SCR's coverage of meetings, negotiations, and Council visiting missions has helped make the Council's work more accessible, while its analytical research reports have examined key issues on the Council's agenda and outlined policy options under consideration. Particular emphasis was placed on SCR's

capacity-building initiatives, which have supported elected members in preparing for their Council terms by strengthening their understanding of procedures, working methods, and negotiating dynamics. The discussion also noted the significance of SCR's extensive public archive—developed over two decades and informed by sustained engagement with member states, UN officials, multilateral institutions, and civil society actors—as a unique resource for understanding the evolution of Council practice.

Colin Keating acknowledged that “while improving access to information does not necessarily translate into better decision-making, the absence of SCR's reporting would likely lead to a diminished understanding of the Council's performance over time”. This reflection framed a broader discussion on the continuing relevance of SCR's mission in a challenging global context. As the multilateral system faces increasing strain and becomes more saturated and susceptible to disinformation, participants emphasised that the demand for independent, reliable analysis of international peace and security issues remains high. In this context, SCR reaffirmed its commitment to providing accurate, fact-based reporting that supports informed engagement with the work of the Security Council and helps sustain meaningful assessment of its activities.

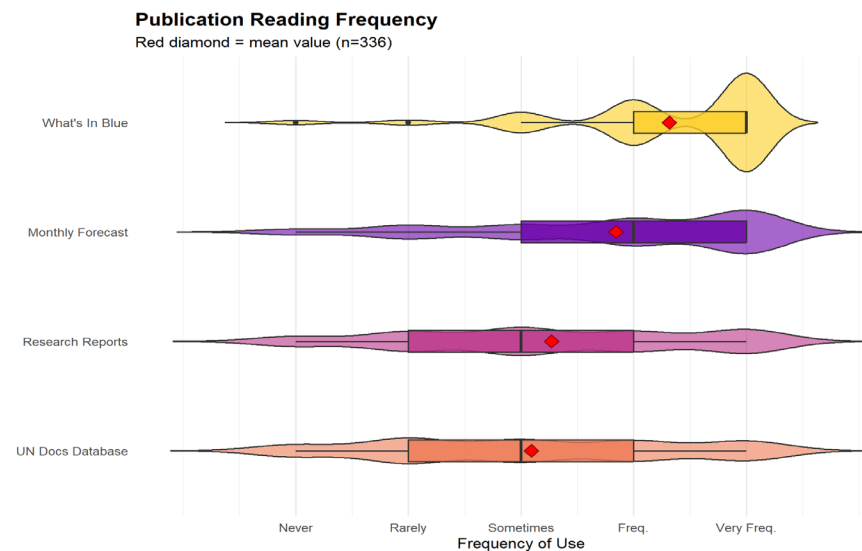


Readership Survey

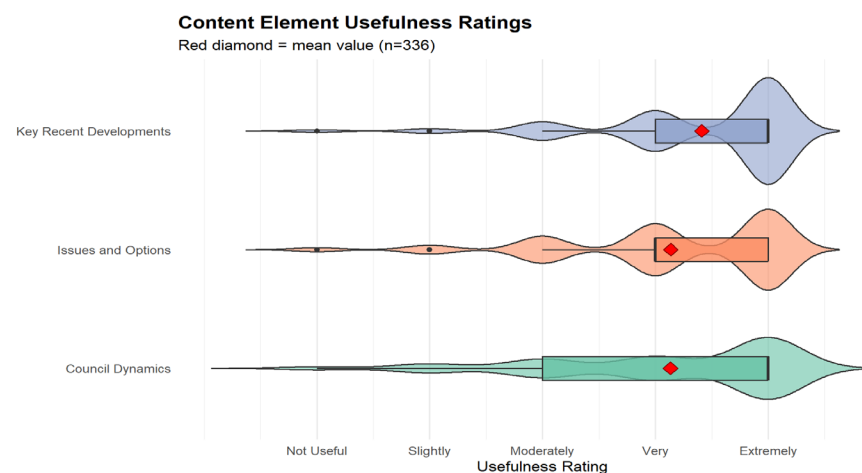
SCR conducted a readership survey in 2025, the findings of which demonstrate exceptionally high levels of engagement, satisfaction, and institutional relevance among SCR's users. A total of 336 respondents completed the survey, and all submitted surveys were completed in full, with open-ended engagement ranging from 81–92%, indicating deep user investment. Satisfaction with timeliness reached 96.4%, while 83.9% of respondents affirmed that SCR's writing is clear and accessible. Audience composition analysis identified four primary user groups—Practitioners (53%), Scholars (23%), Advocates (24%), and Amplifiers (19%)—underscoring SCR's cross-sector impact across diplomatic, academic, civil society, and media communities.

Performance metrics of SCR's publications reinforce the organisation's strategic strengths. As shown in Graph 1, What's In Blue achieved the highest frequency of use (mean score 4.32; 82.7% high use).

As depicted in Graph 2, Key Recent Developments was rated the most useful content (mean score 4.41; 85.1% high value). Strong performance was also observed for Issues and Options (76.8% high value) and Council Dynamics (73.5% high value).



Graph 1: Publication Reading Frequency (1=Never, 5=Very Frequently)



Graph 2: Content Usefulness (1=Not Useful, 5=Extremely Useful)

Enhancing the Impact of Security Council Members

SCR's capacity-building programmes have become an essential element of incoming Council members' preparation. Through targeted capacity-building programmes, SCR ensures that elected members gain the procedural knowledge and strategic insights needed to engage more effectively in Council discussions and decision-making. Strengthened capacity allows elected members to assert their positions, shape debates, and lead initiatives, ultimately contributing to a more balanced and effective Security Council. Additionally, SCR fosters long-term institutional learning by facilitating knowledge transfer between past, present, and incoming elected members, ensuring that best practices and lessons learned continue to inform future Council terms. To date, 53 countries have participated in SCR's capacity building programmes, including eight of the current ten elected members.¹

In 2025, in addition to training all incoming (15) members of the Council, SCR provided an introductory session on the Security Council in Helsinki for the Finnish foreign ministry in advance of its bid for 2029-2030 Council term. In addition, SCR delivered a training programme for young diplomats from Kuwait.

SCR also conducted a specialised workshop in 2025 for Council experts on Children and Armed Conflict.



SCR Capacity Development training with the Democratic Republic of the Congo Security Council team.



SCR Capacity Development training with the Colombia's Security Council team.



SCR Capacity Development training with the Latvia's Security Council team.



Deputy Managing Editor Dawit Yirga presenting at the capacity development session with Bahrain Security Council team.

¹ Members trained include Albania, Angola, Bahrain, Belgium, Bolivia, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Ecuador, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guyana, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kuwait, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Latvia, Liberia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Mexico, Malta, Mozambique, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Republic of Korea, Peru, Poland, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Slovenia, Somalia, Spain, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, United Arab Emirates, and Vietnam.

Strengthening Public Engagement on Security Council Issues

SCR's commitment to public engagement is rooted in the belief that better-informed stakeholders contribute to a more effective and accountable Security Council. In 2025, SCR advanced this objective through a range of outreach activities anchored in its publications and research. These included regular, off-the-record briefings for NGOs and UN missions based on its Monthly Forecast, as well as events

linked to SCR's longer research reports. In addition, SCR shared its expertise by co-organising, providing briefings, and moderating events with the UN and other stakeholders, including academic institutions and civil society, on Security Council and broader multilateral issues. These efforts helped deepen understanding of Council dynamics and foster informed, policy-relevant dialogue.

Monthly Outreach

SCR conducts regular outreach to two key constituencies—NGOs and UN missions—providing detailed briefings and candid discussions on Security Council affairs. Drawing on the analysis and forward-looking insights of its Monthly Forecast, these off-the-record sessions provide timely, policy-relevant context

on issues before the Council, allowing participants to engage in frank exchanges and fostering greater understanding, deeper analysis, and cross-sector interaction. In 2025, SCR convened 22 such briefings, evenly split between NGOs and UN missions.

Outreach Linked to SCR Research Reports

SCR's research reports provide important opportunities to extend public engagement beyond its monthly outreach. At each launch, SCR partners with member states or foundations to convene Council members, UN officials, civil society representatives, and other stakeholders for discussion of key findings and recommendations. These jointly hosted events enable direct interaction with SCR's authors and foster substantive exchanges on policy-relevant issues. Through this collaborative model, the research not only informs debate but also creates space for broader policy engagement and dialogue.

On 27 March, SCR's report on "The Peacebuilding Commission at 20: Progress, Challenges, and the Road Ahead" served as input for a closed, informal dialogue hosted by the ROK in its capacity as Informal Coordinator between the Peacebuilding

Commission (PBC) and the Security Council, in coordination with Germany, PBC Chair at the time. Ambassadors Joonkook Hwang (ROK) and Antje Leendertse (Germany) delivered opening remarks, followed by a presentation of the report by Katerina Limenopolou, SCR's Chief Operating Officer and lead author. Elizabeth Spehar (Assistant Secretary-General for Peacebuilding Support) and David Haeri (Director for Policy, Evaluation and Training, DPO) delivered keynote remarks. Executive Director Shamala Kandiah Thompson moderated a discussion, which explored ways for the PBC to enhance its complementarity and advice to the Council. The session concluded with remarks from the 2025 Peacebuilding Architecture Review co-facilitators, Ambassadors Samuel Žbogar (Slovenia) and Osama Abdel Khalek (Egypt).

Strengthening Public Engagement on Security Council Issues

On 28 May, SCR hosted the launch of the 2025 Elections Report. In a notable show of engagement, all five incoming members—each running unopposed for their respective regional seats—joined SCR for the dialogue: DRC, Liberia, Bahrain, Colombia, and Latvia. SCR’s Development and Outreach Manager, Vladimir Sesar, presented the report. The meeting provided an informal venue and a unique opportunity for these future members to share views and foster dialogue on how to “survive and thrive” as an elected member of the Security Council.

On 16 June, SCR, together with the Permanent Missions of Malta and Luxembourg, hosted a roundtable discussion to launch SCR’s research report titled “Children and Armed Conflict: Progression, Regression or Maintenance of the Agenda”. Alina Entelis, SCR’s Deputy Managing Editor (WiB) and lead author presented key findings and observations from the report. The launch brought together Council members, UN experts, and civil society representatives. Among other issues, participants discussed ways to increase the effectiveness of the Working Group on Children and Armed Conflict and to further advance the CAAC agenda, including through strategic engagement at the Security Council and other international forums.

On 24 November, SCR, in partnership with Open Society Foundations (OSF), launched its research report “From the Margins to the Center: The Rise of the A3 in the UN Security Council”. Executive Director Shamala Kandiah Thompson; Ambassador Amar Bendjama (Permanent Representative of Algeria and A3 Coordinator) and Ambassador Mohamed Edrees (Permanent Observer of the African Union to the UN) delivered opening remarks at the launch. Dawit Yirga, SCR’s Deputy Manager and lead author, presented the report’s key findings. Participants, including representatives of member states and the UN Secretariat, engaged in a discussion on the A3’s evolution into a coherent negotiating bloc at the Security Council. Jacqueline Seck (Chief of the AU Partnership Unit, DPPA-DPO) delivered concluding remarks highlighting the critical role of SCR’s analysis on this important topic.

On 2 December, SCR, in partnership with Singapore, convened a roundtable discussion on the Security Council’s engagement with cyber threats and new technologies. During the session, SCR Policy Analyst Rodrigo Saad briefed participants on preliminary findings from a research report then under preparation, which helped inform the discussion and refine SCR’s analysis. The roundtable brought together a diverse group of stakeholders including Council members, civil society, and UN entities. The roundtable provided an opportunity to reflect on emerging challenges and to identify practical options to strengthen the Council’s role. It also explored how the Council’s work can complement the newly established Global Mechanism on ICTs, advancing a coordinated approach to international security and responsible state behavior in the digital domain.



SCR’s report on “The Peacebuilding Commission at 20: Progress, Challenges, and the Road Ahead” serves as input for a closed, informal Peacebuilding Commission/Security Council dialogue (27 March).

Other SCR-led events and Collaborative Engagements

Beyond its regular outreach and research report-related activities, SCR convened and co-convened high-level events and policy dialogues throughout the year that brought together Council members and key stakeholders to address emerging challenges and strengthen the effectiveness of the Security Council.

On 22 September 2025, SCR was one of the co-hosts of the second E10-I5 Ministerial Dinner, alongside Greece, Kuwait and Slovenia, building on its role as co-host of the inaugural meeting in 2024 and further demonstrating the confidence placed in its expertise. The discussion focused on the state of multilateralism and the work of the Council, including specific situations that merit informal discussion within the world's most important body for the maintenance of international peace and security.

On 7-9 November, SCR co-organised the twenty-third annual “Hitting the Ground Running” workshop for newly elected Council members, alongside Finland and the UN Security Council Affairs Division (SCAD) on 6–7 November at the Greentree Foundation. This annual workshop serves as a forum for the transfer of critical institutional knowledge from current Council members to their incoming counterparts. Since 2020, SCR's role as a co-organiser has contributed to the workshop's substantive focus

by drafting the background papers and guiding questions, organising the panels, and producing the summary report of the proceedings.

In 2025, SCR partnered with others to co-organise two events focused on the implementation of Security Council resolution 2719. The first, held on 25 August in partnership with the Permanent Mission of Switzerland and Open Society Foundations, took the form of an informal roundtable examining lessons learned from the Somalia experience. The discussion brought together current and incoming Council members, the AU Mission to the UN, the UN Secretariat, and various think tanks. The roundtable provided a timely space for stakeholders to explore the practical application of Resolution 2719 in a complex transition environment.

The second event, a roundtable co-organised by SCR and Germany on 5 December 2025 at Germany's Permanent Mission to the UN in New York, focused on the operationalisation of resolution 2719, including the framework for financing AU-led peace support operations through UN assessed contributions. Building on the earlier discussion, it examined key aspects of planning, decision-making, authorisation, and reporting processes envisaged under the resolution.



Policy Engagement and Expert Contributions

In 2025, SCR's expertise continued to be called upon in both formal UN settings and broader policy forums.

Between 2018 and 2025, SCR briefed the Security Council seven times at the annual open debate on working methods and once at an open debate on peacekeeping, reflecting sustained recognition of its analytical contributions. During her 14 November statement to the Council, Executive Director Shamala Kandiah Thompson provided practical pathways for enhancing the Council's operational capacity. Her remarks focused on three critical areas: the appointment of subsidiary body chairs, informal

meeting formats, and the upcoming Secretary-General selection process. She emphasized that while geopolitics are a primary driver of outcomes, refined working methods provide the essential framework for creative diplomacy. Her address concluded by noting that "investing in improving this body's working methods can help inspire creative solutions for maintaining international peace and security in these difficult times."



SCR Executive Director Shamala Kandiah Thompson briefs the Security Council meeting on working methods of the Security Council (14 November).

All Other Outreach Activities

At major international forums—including the Aswan Forum in Egypt, the Challenges Annual Forum in Ghana (CAF25), and the Alpbach 2025 Retreat—SCR contributed to strategic discussions on the future of multilateralism, the evolution of peace operations, and the role of regional organizations in addressing emerging security challenges.

This engagement extended to high-level intergovernmental processes, including the UN Peacekeeping Ministerial in Berlin, where SCR contributed to dialogue on adapting peace operations and strengthening partnerships in an increasingly complex global landscape. It also included a high-level event organised by the Open Society Foundations on the sidelines of the UN General Assembly, where SCR shared insights on the role of African members of the Security Council, contributing to ongoing policy exchanges on Council dynamics.

In a year marked by the Peacebuilding Architecture Review (PBAR), SCR's analysis contributed to key policy discussions on peacebuilding. At the ambassadorial-level retreat of the Peacebuilding Commission (PBC), SCR shared findings from its report *The Peacebuilding Commission at 20*, informing reflections on strengthening the UN's peacebuilding architecture and advancing more integrated approaches to prevention and sustaining peace.



SCR Executive Director Shamala Kandiah Thompson moderating a session on revitalising peace and security tools at the Aswan Forum in Egypt (24 October 2025).



SCR Executive Director Shamala Kandiah Thompson moderating a high-level panel on the future of peace operations at the Challenges Annual Forum (CAF25) in Accra, Ghana (20 October).



SCR Executive Director Shamala Kandiah Thompson at the Alpbach Retreat (26 August).

All Other Outreach Activities



SCR Executive Director Shamala Kandiah Thompson at the 2025 UN Peacekeeping Ministerial in Berlin (15 May).



SCR Chief Operating Officer Katerina Limenopoulou shares insights from SCR research report on peacebuilding during the annual retreat of the PBC at Greentree (2 May).

In a year marked by the Peacebuilding Architecture Review (PBAR), SCR's analysis contributed to key policy discussions on peacebuilding. At the ambassadorial-level retreat of the Peacebuilding Commission (PBC), SCR shared findings from its report *The Peacebuilding Commission at 20*, informing reflections on strengthening the UN's peacebuilding architecture and advancing more integrated approaches to prevention and sustaining peace.

SCR also contributed its expertise to intergovernmental discussions on children and armed conflict, engaging with Security Council experts and member state representatives on strengthening the implementation of the Council's protection mandates.

SCR also supported efforts to strengthen the effectiveness of the Security Council's elected membership by sharing its expertise in discussions on

E10 coordination and working methods, including contributions to expert dialogues such as the annual E10–I5 Dialogue and discussions surrounding the revised E10 Handbook.

At UN Headquarters and in key diplomatic settings, SCR provided analytical support to member states and partners navigating complex Security Council dynamics. This engagement included briefings to European Union political coordinators on evolving Council dynamics, as well as ongoing support to UN partners through on-demand analytical briefings, including five sessions for the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR).

SCR continued to extend its impact beyond the diplomatic and policy communities, engaging with civil society, parliamentarians, and research and academic institutions.

All Other Outreach Activities



SCR Executive Director Shamala Kandiah Thompson participated in the eighth annual E10-I5 Dialogue in Ljubljana and Bled, hosted by the Government of Slovenia (1-3 September).



SCR Managing Editor Paul Romita briefed at the event hosted by the Permanent Missions of Denmark and Ecuador to launch the revised E10 Handbook.



SCR's Executive Director Shamala Kandiah (rear left), Managing Editor Paul Romita, and Deputy Managing Editor Dawit Yirga (front, center) briefing students from New York University's School of Professional Studies on 24 March 2025

SCR Executive Director Shamala Kandiah Thompson and Deputy Managing Editor Alina Entelis at the CAAC retreat at Greentree, NY (21 February)



On 3 September, SCR met with a delegation of parliamentarians from Namibia, Sri Lanka, Greece, and Uruguay, as part of a dialogue program hosted by the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung (KAS) on "The Role of Small- and Medium-Sized States in Shaping the Future of Multilateralism"

Financials

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

STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES (YEARS ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025 AND 31 DECEMBER 2024)

	2025	2024
ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents	507,279	293,936
Grants receivable, net	1,065,284	1,066,568
Security deposit	110,674	110,674
Prepaid expenses and other assets	45,021	44,463
Right-of-use asset	29,357	378,564
Total Assets	1,757,615	1,894,205
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	193,840	201,115
Line-of-credit	2,793	6,033
Lease liability	35,228	447,194
Total Liabilities	231,861	654,342
NET ASSETS		
Without donor restrictions	251,044	102,299
With donor restrictions:		
Time restricted for future periods	531,088	84,998
Purpose restrictions	743,622	1,052,566
Total net assets with donor restrictions	1,274,710	1,137,564
Total net assets	1,525,754	1,239,863
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	1,757,615	1,894,205

STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES (YEARS ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025 AND 31 DECEMBER 2024)

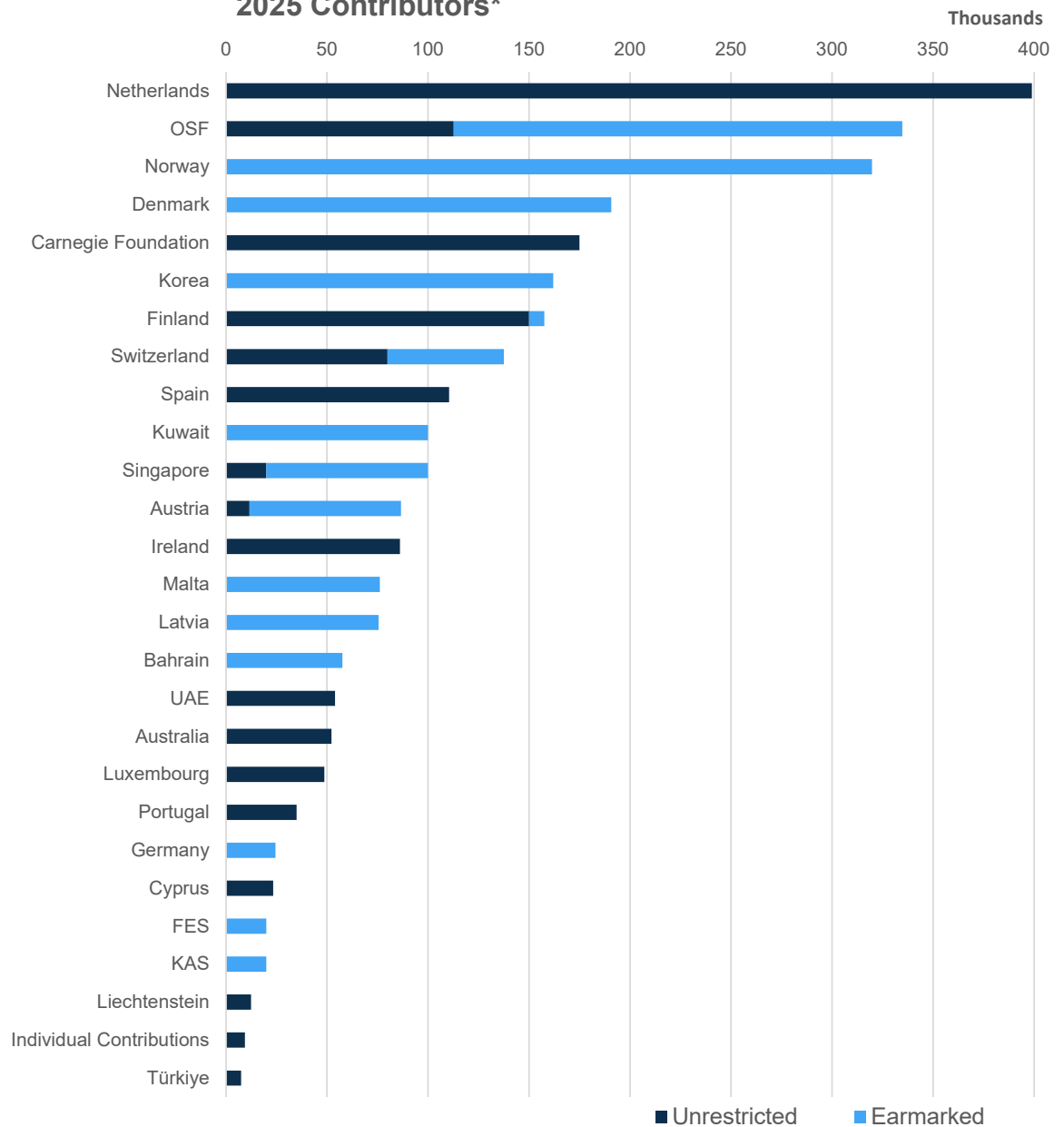
	2025	2024
REVENUE AND SUPPORT		
Grants and contributions	2,853,003	1,999,973
Other income	24,128	11,415
Total revenue and support	2,877,131	2,011,388
EXPENSES		
Program services	2,393,615	2,208,761
Management and general	220,737	341,272
Fundraising	63,900	169,237
Total expenses	2,678,252	2,712,441
Change in net assets*	285,891	(756,423)
Net assets, beginning of year	1,239,863	1,996,286
Net assets, end of year	1,525,754	1,239,863

*including foreign currency gains of 87,012 in 2025 and losses of (55,370) in 2024

Financials

Figure 1

2025 Contributors*



*excludes due from 2024 and only includes parts of multi-year appeals that were allocated for 2025

Financials

Figure 2
Unrestricted vs Earmarked

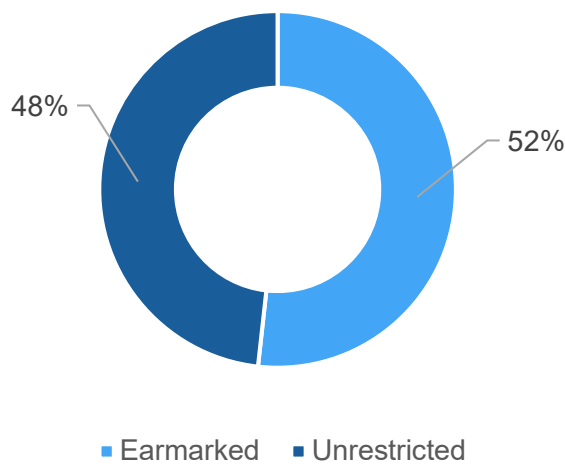


Figure 1 shows a high concentration of funding among a relatively small number of donors, increasing SCR’s exposure to shifts in individual funding priorities. Figure 2 shows that earmarked contributions in 2025 represent a slight majority of total funding. SCR is grateful for these contributions, which support important projects that expand the scope of our work; at the same time, the diminishing pool of unrestricted support may limit the organisation’s ability to sustain its core functions over time. In 2025, SCR continued to deliver comprehensive coverage and expand its work despite a more volatile environment, but this has relied on stretching limited unrestricted resources—a model that is not sustainable. As an organisation fully dependent on voluntary contributions, SCR cannot maintain the quality, coherence, and independence of its work without sufficient, predictable, and unrestricted funding.

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Ambassador Olivier Maes

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Andrew Azzopardi

Policy Analyst

Ways to Support SCR's Mission

We rely on supporters like you to sustain our mission.

Your Impact

Your donation helps us:

- Maintain daily coverage of the Security Council action
- Publish timely, independent analysis for global audiences
- Support transparency and accountability in multilateral diplomacy

Ways to Give

SCR is ODA-eligible with an estimated 80% of our work, some \$2,092,000 of our 2026 budget, falling within ODA-eligible categories.

SCR also accepts individual donations through its Benevity profile:

Security Council Report

EIN 86-1133337

<https://causes.benevity.org/user?destination=causesapp/dashboard/840-861133337>

Causes ID: 840-861133337

You can also support SCR through your Donor-Advised Fund (DAF).