

ADVANCING POLITICAL SOLUTIONS TO CONFLICT

Ceasefire Monitoring

Leveraging the impartiality of UN peacekeeping, ceasefire monitors observe ceasefire arrangements, accurately record and report incidents and mediate among parties. Observers can be deployed to monitor a truce, cessation of hostilities or ceasefire agreements. These may involve demilitarized and temporary security zones, as well as military cantonment arrangements. Eight missions currently have ceasefire monitoring within their mandate, including UNIFIL (Israel and Lebanon), UNMOGIP (India and Pakistan) and MINURSO (Western Sahara).

Election Security and Assistance

Elections are a critical transition stage from conflict to peace and often a milestone for the strategic drawdown of international support. UN electoral assistance ensures a secure environment for credible elections and can include technical assistance to national election commissions, support to national police and authorities responsible for a security context for free and fair campaigning, panels of experts, electoral observation and operational support to international observers. Since 1991, the UN has responded to the requests of 115 countries to assist with elections.

Human Rights Advocacy

In the world's most repressive crisis zones, UN human rights reporting is often the only public source of credible information on atrocities. Monitors provide evidence of rights violations to the Security Council, support early warning mechanisms through monitoring and data collection and advise government and local actors on institutional reform to build national capacity and strengthen domestic accountability mechanisms. Current missions with human rights components include MONUSCO (Democratic Republic of Congo), MINUSCA (Central African Republic), UNMISS (South Sudan) and UNMIK (Kosovo), as well as political missions in Afghanistan, Haiti, Iraq, Libya, Somalia and Sudan.

On July 28, 2024, Venezuela held a national election in which incumbent President Nicolás Maduro was declared the winner. Results were disputed by the U.S. and broader international community. A UN Panel of Experts deployed to Venezuela to report to the Secretary-General on the election process. It concluded the election outcome "has no precedent in contemporary democratic elections" and lacked "basic transparency and integrity."

This determination helped establish the political will to withhold international recognition of the Maduro regime, including by the governments of Brazil, Colombia and Mexico.

Venezuela does not currently host a peacekeeping or political mission.

Spotlight Venezuela

