

**Security Council**

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Letter dated 27 August 2024 from the Representative of Slovenia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the pleasure to inform you that Slovenia, in its capacity as President of the Security Council for the month of September 2024, will hold an open debate under the agenda item “United Nations peacekeeping operations”, pursuant to resolution [2378 \(2017\)](#). The open debate will take place on Monday, 9 September, at 10 a.m. in the Security Council Chamber.

In order to guide the discussions on this topic, Slovenia has prepared a concept note (see annex).

I would be grateful if the present letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Samuel **Žbogar**
Ambassador

Representative of the Republic of Slovenia to the Security Council

* Reissued for technical reasons on 10 September 2024.



Annex to the letter dated 27 August 2024 from the Representative of Slovenia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Concept note for the Security Council open debate on the theme “Strengthening United Nations peacekeeping: reflections for the future”, Monday, 9 September 2024

Briefers

- Under-Secretary-General for Peace Operations
- President and Chief Executive Officer of the International Crisis Group (by video teleconference), Comfort Ero
- President and Chief Executive Officer of the International Peace Institute, Zeid Ra’ad Al Hussein

Background

Since 1948, United Nations peacekeeping has been a cornerstone of our collective efforts to maintain international peace and security. It has remained a dynamic mechanism that has evolved and adapted to the changing nature of conflicts. With many new and emerging challenges, the United Nations peace operations must continue to adapt to new realities and ensure their own effectiveness and ability to implement their mandated task, including the protection of civilians. This cannot be achieved without the full, equal and meaningful participation of women and a gender-responsive approach at all stages of peacekeeping.

Collective efforts under the Action for Peacekeeping (A4P) initiative reflect a global commitment to strengthen peacekeeping and to make it more effective, inclusive and safer. Meanwhile, the adoption of Security Council resolutions [2719 \(2023\)](#) on the financing of African Union-led peace support operations and [2699 \(2023\)](#) on the Security Council-mandated Multinational Security Support Mission in Haiti have added important complementary tools alongside United Nations peacekeeping in the toolbox of effective, networked multilateralism.

In his New Agenda for Peace, the Secretary-General called on the Security Council to reflect on the limits and future of peacekeeping to make it more effective and ready to face the challenges in the ever-changing conflict environment. With the Summit of the Future and the anticipated adoption of a Pact for the Future, Member States’ discussions in September will focus on how the international community can better deliver in the present and prepare for the future, including by adapting peace operations to better respond to existing challenges and new realities.

Nonetheless, there is only so much that United Nations peace operations can do on their own. Peacekeeping is a partnership – it hinges on the consistent commitment of all stakeholders, including the Security Council. To ensure that missions can effectively perform their mandated tasks and work to foster conditions towards a political solution to armed conflict, it is also critical that the Council ensures full and consistent political support to peace operations and the political solutions that they are designed to support.

However, an increasing absence of unity in the Security Council in approving or extending peacekeeping mandates in recent years has amplified impressions of weakened Council support for United Nations missions. This can erode their authority in the theatre, thus affecting missions’ effectiveness, and undermine the confidence of host States and parties in the conflict, as well as that of the civilian population.

Purpose

The aim of the debate is to explore how the Security Council can do better to provide unified political support to peace operations in delivering on their mandates and to ensure that they operate safely. The discussion provides an opportunity for the Security Council to reflect on how to foster trust and rally support for United Nations peace operations. The Security Council reflection would add to the broader discussions on the future of peacekeeping.

Guiding questions

- What can the Security Council do to make United Nations peace operations more fit for purpose?
- How can the Security Council engage Member States, including host countries, neighbouring countries and troop- and police-contributing countries, more effectively and systematically rally behind United Nations peacekeeping and the political solutions that they are designed to support? What can the role of the regional organizations be in helping ensure a conducive political environment for peace operations?
- What concrete steps can be taken to foster greater political unity within the Security Council as the basis for consistent political support for peace operations?
- Recognizing the progress made thus far, how can the Security Council do more to define strategic objectives and to prioritize and sequence peacekeeping mission mandates?
- In devising peacekeeping mandates, how can we reach an optimal balance between upholding the Council's prerogatives under the Charter while appropriately taking into account both the views of the host countries and the expectations of the civilian population?
- How can it become more people-centred and ensure that it continues to support inclusive peace and political processes, with the participation of women and youth?

Modalities

The meeting will be held in an open debate format, chaired by Samuel Žbogar, Representative of Slovenia to the Security Council.

Member States wishing to participate should inscribe their names on the list of speakers through the e-Speakers module of e-deleGATE+. A letter addressed to the President of the Security Council, duly signed by the Permanent Representative or the Chargé d'affaires, a.i. requesting to participate in accordance with rule 37 of the Council's provisional rules of procedure, must be uploaded at the time of inscription. Inscription for the meeting will open on Wednesday, 4 September 2024, at 9.30 a.m.

To facilitate participation by as many delegations as possible, interventions should not exceed three minutes. Time management will be closely observed.