



GENERAL ASSEMBLY – RESEARCH REPORT I

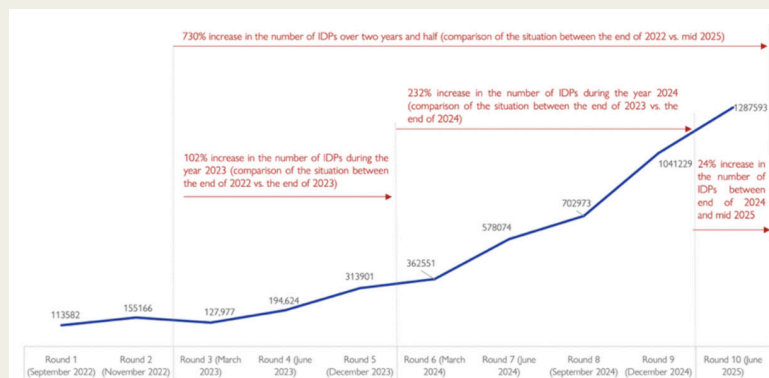
Reassessing the Future of the Multinational Security Support Mission in Haiti

Introduction to the Topic:

Haiti has experienced prolonged political instability, economic hardship, and institutional weakness, resulting in persistent insecurity and humanitarian challenges. The assassination of President Jovenel Moïse in 2021 intensified the situation, creating a power vacuum and further degrading public order. Armed gangs subsequently gained control over significant portions of the country, particularly in Port-au-Prince, engaging in kidnappings, extortion, and attacks on civilians. These developments have endangered lives and disrupted core services, humanitarian operations, and economic activity, consequently worsening the national crisis.

In response to deteriorating security conditions in Haiti, the international community authorized the Multinational Security Support (MSS) Mission to assist the Haitian National Police in restoring order. The United Nations Security Council approved the MSS Mission, with personnel contributed by multiple countries. The mission's key aims consist of supporting law enforcement, securing critical infrastructure such as ports and airports, and ensuring the safe delivery of humanitarian aid. Unlike previous United Nations peacekeeping operations in Haiti, the MSS Mission operates independently of direct UN administration, demonstrating a transition toward multinational security assistance not led by the United Nations.

According to the United Nations, gang violence has displaced hundreds of thousands of Haitians and significantly impeded access to food, healthcare, and education. The United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) has identified insecurity as a major obstacle to effective aid delivery, noting that the Haitian National Police lack sufficient personnel, equipment, and funding. Such difficulties have prompted increased appeals for international assistance, while simultaneously eliciting apprehension regarding Haiti's possible long-term dependence on external security forces.



Background information

Haiti's fragility stems from enduring structural weaknesses. Chronic revenue deficits and recurrent natural disasters have damaged infrastructure and disrupted essential services, compelling reliance on informal coping mechanisms. Accelerated urbanization and insufficient planning have resulted in expansive neighborhoods outside municipal service coverage, facilitating the emergence of illicit economies and parallel governance structures.

Economic exclusion, especially among youth, contributes to recruitment into illegal networks engaged in smuggling, extortion, and other shadow-market activities. Inadequate oversight at customs, ports, and borders, combined with a continuous influx of small arms, perpetuates these illicit economies. Simultaneously, judicial case backlogs, constrained prosecutorial resources, and diminished public trust undermine the justice system, decreasing the probability of apprehension and prosecution for violent crime.

External security interventions frequently encounter legitimacy challenges when armed units or foreign personnel lack robust community relationships or clearly defined legal mandates, resulting in limited local acceptance. Security initiatives that prioritize short-term containment over institution-building risk creating dependency rather than enhancing domestic capacity. An effective long-term strategy should integrate immediate public safety measures with comprehensive efforts to restore judicial institutions, correctional systems, municipal services, and sustainable livelihoods.

Stabilization efforts are further constrained by cross-border dynamics. Migration, informal trade, and transnational criminal networks connect Haiti to neighboring regions and global markets, allowing insecurity in Haiti to rapidly influence regional commerce, public health, and rule-of-law collaboration. Furthermore, donor fatigue and fragmented external assistance diminish overall impact, as uncoordinated projects and competing priorities impede the coherent reforms necessary for improved governance and economic resilience.

Focus of the debate:

Debate should assess whether the Multinational Security Support Mission, in its current form, is sufficient to address Haiti's worsening security situation. Delegates should consider the mission's mandate, capacity, and sustainability, while balancing international support with respect for Haitian sovereignty and long-term institutional strengthening.

Significant Parties

Kenya — Operational lead and primary troop contributor on the ground; Nairobi has supplied policing contingents and command leadership for the multinational security effort in Haiti.

United States - a major provider of financial, logistical, and training support to enhance the effectiveness of partner contingents and Haitian security institutions. Additionally, the United States has played a significant role in diplomatic coordination and fundraising for the mission.

Canada - among the largest bilateral funders, contributing to the mission trust fund and related capacity-building programs. Canadian support has focused on stabilization financing and police assistance.

Regional contributors, including Guatemala, El Salvador, Jamaica, Belize, the Bahamas, and similar states - have deployed small contingents, command teams, or specialist units to support the multinational effort, providing security personnel and regional expertise.



Brazil — Although not a primary contributor to the current deployment, Brasília's past leadership of large peace operations in Haiti shapes its diplomatic stance and regional influence on how international security assistance should be structured and financed.

Past UN Actions

United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH): Established through Security Council Resolution 1542 (2004), MINUSTAH was mandated to restore a secure and stable environment, support the political process, and strengthen the Haitian National Police. The mission operated until 2017 and played a central role in security operations and institutional support.

United Nations Mission for Justice Support in Haiti (MINUJUSTH): Created under Security Council Resolution 2350 (2017), MINUJUSTH succeeded MINUSTAH with a reduced mandate focused on strengthening the rule of law, judicial institutions, and police capacity-building.

United Nations Integrated Office in Haiti (BINUH): Established by Security Council Resolution 2476 (2019), BINUH provides advisory support to the Haitian government on political dialogue, governance, human rights, and security sector reform. It remains active today.

Security Council Resolution 2653 (2022): Imposed targeted sanctions, including an arms embargo, travel bans, and asset freezes, against individuals and entities involved in gang violence and destabilization in Haiti.

Security Council Resolution 2699 (2023): Authorized the deployment of the Multinational Security Support Mission (MSS) to assist the Haitian National Police in countering armed gangs and restoring public order, operating under UN authorization but outside traditional UN peacekeeping structures.

Bibliography and Useful Links-

United Nations Peacekeeping. (n.d.). MINUSTAH: United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti (Fact Sheet). <https://peacekeeping.un.org/en/mission/minustah>

United Nations Peacekeeping. (n.d.). MINUJUSTH: United Nations Mission for Justice Support in Haiti (Fact Sheet). <https://peacekeeping.un.org/en/mission/minujsth>

United Nations. (n.d.). Mission completes mandate and announces transition to BINUH. <https://minujsth.unmissions.org/en>

United Nations Security Council. (2019, June 25). Resolution 2476 (2019) establishing the United Nations Integrated Office in Haiti. <https://press.un.org/en/2019/sc13856.doc.htm>

ReliefWeb. (n.d.). United Nations Integrated Office in Haiti (BINUH). <https://reliefweb.int/organization/binuh>

United Nations Office at Geneva. (2025, July 14). Security Council renews UN's Haiti mission amid spiralling crises (BINUH). <https://www.ungeneva.org/en/news-media/news/2025/07/108448/security-council-renews-uns-haiti-mission-amid-spiralling-crises>

United Nations. (2023, October 2). Security Council authorizes Multinational Security Support Mission to Haiti - Resolution 2699 (2023). <https://press.un.org/en/2023/sc15432.doc.htm>

United Nations Security Council. (2023). Resolution 2699 (2023) on Haiti (MSS authorization). [https://docs.un.org/en/s/res/2699\(2023\)](https://docs.un.org/en/s/res/2699(2023))



Islamization in the South under Abboud, and the sheer differences in culture, ethnicity and religion between both sides. This civil war ended in the unification of the south and more autonomy given to it with the creation of the Southern Sudan Autonomous Region with its own regional legislature and degree of self-governing although not fully solving the dispute. After this there remained a short period of peace before another coup by Jaafar Nimeiri, who would rule the nation from 1969 until 1985, when he was removed from office by a military coup, partly due to his strong policies enforcing Islamizes after 1983. These policies along with the dictatorships responsibility in reducing the South's autonomy resulted in a second civil war between the South and North from 1983 to 2005 finally resulting in South Sudan's split in 2011. Following this and up until 1989 there was another brief period of democracy until Omar al-Bashir seized power with Islamist support in 1989 which lasted around 30 years until 2021. It is important to note that many of the causes behind the tensions between South and North Sudan, especially those of political exclusion, unequal development and demographic differences, are also present in many areas such as Darfur and Kordofan and serve to add depth and reason behind the modern conflict

Knowledge of Bashir's dictatorship probably the most key to understanding the modern conflict due to its main involvement worsening tensions and the creation of the RSF and the SAF. Under Bashir, Sudan increasingly turned to managing political threats and issues, such as protests rebellions and separate political movements, through coercion and militarized control rather than inclusive state building. During al-Bashir's tenure, the Sudanese Armed Forces were heavily politicized and expanded, resulting in the creation of separate militias that were sponsored by and were loyal to the regime. One of the most relevant examples occurred in Darfur area, where the government funded mostly Arab-led allied militias, the Janjaweed, and relied on them to crush rebellions and intimidate civilians. At times, the paramilitary organisations were accused of severe genocide. Overtime, the tension escalated, and the state's response to the rebellion was to formalize the militias, turning them into the Rapid Support Forces (RSF). While initially justified as a rapid counter-insurgency force for Darfur and other conflict areas, under the command of Hemedti, the RSF grew beyond this role into a national power broker with its own recruitment, financing, and chain of command. Consequently, Sudan suddenly developed two rival armed power forces which polarised the country into two different forces after al-Bashir fell from power.

The transition following al-Bashir's removal from power, following a coup d'état, revealed the state's inability to resolve the conflict of interest between the RSF and the SAF. After months of mass protests, Bashir was removed in April 2019, and Sudan entered a civilian-military transition intended to lead to elections and civilian governance. Yet further tensions grew the RSF and SAF's leaders sought to preserve their control and autonomy while the civilians wanted a full reform towards democracy. In October of 2021 the military, including the RSF and SAF took control and weakened democratic institutions further. Having collaborated in ousting al-Bashir and concentrating power in their organisations, the divergences between the SAF and the RSF plunged the country into another conflict. Most notably the SAF sought to merge the RSF into itself, but the RSF, demanding autonomy, disagreed. These disputes led to increasing tensions between both sides until, in April of 2023, starting in the capital Khartoum, they escalated into the conflict we witness today with widespread humanitarian crisis, severe hunger, mass displacement and heavy accusations of war crimes.

Overall, throughout almost the entirety of its history, the area of Sudan has experienced a multitude events leading up to the current conflict. Sudan, from the onset, was an area of unique ethnical, religious and cultural diversity, causing competition over land and resources that were only sharpened by centuries of colonial rule into deep tensions. Post independence instability and a series of authoritarian dictatorships, mostly Muslim, prevent a full national identity and opportunities to overcome the legacy of division and marginalization but instead only lead to worsen the deeply rooted inequalities and communal tensions in Sudan leading to decades of Civil war and conflict.



Furthermore, al-Bashir's later dictatorship only worsened divides while also heavily relying on armed non-state actors and coercion which prioritized force and control over legitimacy and fairness. All these factors help to explain the modern conflict Sudan is now facing and show how any real solution must take Sudan's rich history, culture and demographics into mind before reaching lasting peace.

Past UN Actions

UN-Secretary General- In February 2025, Secretary-General of the United Nations, António Guterres, urged countries to take immediate diplomatic action and increase funding, to alleviate the suffering of millions of Sudanese which have been undergoing mass-displacement and starvation, due to ongoing power-driven conflict between military parties in Sudan. Moreover, the Secretary-General emphasized the need for immediate and prolonged action, making sure that both the rights of civilians and humanitarians are being assisted to, ensuring that no resources are being detained from reaching those in need. Guterres also reinforced the dire necessity to stop the flow of arms and ammunition into Sudan as "This flow is enabling the continuation of tremendous civilian destruction and bloodshed". The UN chief believes that a full implementation of the Jeddah Declaration could propel the achievement of a ceasefire, ensuring civilian protection.

Supporting the development and enforcement of the Jeddah Declaration (2023)- This 'Declaration of Commitment', propelled by the United States and Saudi Arabia, and signed by both the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) and the Rapid Support Forces (RSF), highlights the legislative obligation of both military parties to respect and ensure the protection of Sudanese civilians by facilitating humanitarian assistance. The policy should guide the conduct of both parties to propagate safe delivery of humanitarian aid, reestablish critical services, remove either side's forces from clinical and/or hospital environments and enable a dignified burial of the dead. Furthermore, the declaration should also serve as a potentiator for discussion and mediation between the opposing parties, with the aim to reach a consensus and announce a ceasefire. A U.S-Saudi and internationally backed ceasefire monitoring mechanism will be employed as a security measure to enable this. Later on, a permanent cessation of hostilities between the two forces, following talks, will be set, where both Sudanese civilians, local and international partners will be present, allowing for a more deeply rooted, comprehensive overview of the steps required for peace-making.

WHO (World Health Organization)- WHO has declared that they condemn killings of patients and civilians amid escalating violence in El Fasher, Sudan. As conflict escalates in El Fasher, North Darfur, the WHO teams are continuously working to deliver essential humanitarian aid in this region, despite rising insecurity. For instance, over twenty tons of supplies, particularly medicines and emergency kits, with an emphasis on resources to manage severe malnutrition as well as disease outbreaks, like cholera, are being moved from Nyala to Tawila to respond to the rapidly growing needs of the massively displaced population. Moreover, the WHO and its partners are strategically coordinating with one another at reception sites situated in Korma, to stabilise severely injured and ill people and safely transport them to Tawila.

Significant Parties

United Arab Emirates (UAE): The UAE remains a party frequently accused of backing the RSF through financing and supply channels, which it denies. However, it is also part of a group known as the Quad, responsible for diplomatic efforts striving for a pause to war.

Egypt: Egypt is pivotal due to its shared border, refugee flows, and diplomatic weight. It is often seen as leaning toward Sudan's army-aligned authorities while also managing major humanitarian pressures from people fleeing the war. It is often accused of supplying arms to the SAF.



Saudi Arabia: Saudi Arabia has been a key convenor of negotiations throughout the conflict, helping host major ceasefire and humanitarian talks. Despite not reaching a solution yet, Saudi influence remains important for maintaining diplomatic talks, striving for humanitarian access, and coordinating with other powers

United States: The US has also been a significant high-profile diplomatic actor helping to shape ceasefire proposals, coordinate talks and support humanitarian efforts it also plays a key role in mediating backing and influencing policies implemented through its large sphere of influence.

Chad: Chad is critical as a frontline host state receiving large refugee inflows from Darfur and surrounding regions. Its capacity to register refugees, protect vulnerable groups, and sustain host communities is essential to preventing exploitation and stabilizing border areas.

Southern Sudan: South Sudan is important, as it is fragile itself while taking in a great number of refugees fleeing Sudan. Its proximity to Sudan and ability for burden sharing make it near essential in easing pressure.

Ethiopia: Ethiopia also remains a major state taking the burden of displaced individuals from Sudan and its policies concerning this play a great impact on the conflict and humanitarian crisis.

United Kingdom: The UK remains significant as it often advocates for strong accountability measures and supports targeted measures such as sanctions, diplomatic pressure and investigations making it a key driver in accountability. It is worth noting that Sudan used to be a British colony, and that certain policies implemented by the British at the time, such as the Southern Policy, have led to significant ethnic and development divisions between the country, which have in turn, contributed to the political and economic dominance of the North, fuelling much of the conflict and post-independency civil wars faced years later by the country.

Glossary and Key Terms:

Paramilitary- A group or organization that operates outside a country's formal military structure. Paramilitaries are typically modelled after military organizations and may have similar training and equipment. These groups often have political or ideological aims and may be involved in activities such as counterinsurgency, anti-terrorism, or internal security. They are often associated with governments but can also be used by non-state actors such as extremist groups or criminal organizations.

Forced Displacement- An involuntary or coerced movement of a person or people away from their home or home region. The UNHCR defines "forced displacement" as follows: displaced "as a result of persecution, conflict, generalized violence or human rights violations"

Civil War- A violent conflict between a state and one or more organized non-state actors in the state's territory.

UNHCR (United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees)- A United Nations agency mandated to aid and protect refugees, forcibly displaced communities, and stateless people, and to assist in their voluntary repatriation, local integration or resettlement to a third country.

UNICEF (United Nations Children's Fund)- An agency of the United Nations responsible for providing humanitarian and developmental aid to children worldwide.



Food Insecurity- The condition of not having access to sufficient food, or food of an adequate quality, to meet one's basic needs.

WFP (World Food Programme)- One of the world's largest humanitarian organizations, saving lives in emergencies and combatting food insecurity and malnutrition in conflict characterised zones, through food assistance, to meet the demands of vulnerable populations.

UN Human Rights Council's Independent International Fact-Finding Mission (FFM)- A United Nations Agency whose purpose is to investigate and establish the facts, circumstances and root causes of alleged human rights violations and international crimes.

Quad- A diplomatic organization composed of the United States, Saudi Arabia, Egypt, and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) with the objective of delineating a framework for peace and a potential ceasefire to the ongoing Sudanese conflict. This project aims to provide humanitarian aid to vulnerable groups in need and design a political strategy plan to alleviate tensions between the opposing parties, although some of its political suggestions have already been rejected by the SAF, accusing the UAE of partiality to the counter party.

Dictatorship- A government or a social situation where one person makes all the rules and decisions without input from anyone else.

Political Militarization- The process where military values, methods, and influence expand into civilian life and governance, making military solutions seem normal or preferable to political ones.

Democracy- A system of government by the whole population or all the eligible members of a state, typically through elected representatives. **Authoritarianism-** The enforcement or advocacy of strict obedience to authority at the expense of personal freedom. **Coup/Coup d'état -** A sudden, violent, and unlawful seizure of power of a government.

Bibliography and Useful Links-

Application of the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide in Sudan (Sudan v. United Arab Emirates) (2025). <https://www.icj-cij.org/case/197?>

· A, E. S. N. (n.d.). WHO condemns killings of patients and civilians amid escalating violence in El Fasher, Sudan. <https://www.emro.who.int/media/news/who-condemns-killings-of-patients-and-civilians-amid-escalating-violence-in-el-fasher-sudan.html>

· Eu, I. I. T. (2024, August 13). Fighting in Sudan: What you need to know about the crisis. Fighting in Sudan: What You Need to Know About the Crisis. <https://www.rescue.org/eu/article/fighting-sudan-what-you-need-know-about-crisis>

· Government of Saudi Arabia & US Department of State. (2023, May 12). Jeddah Declaration of commitment to protect the civilians of Sudan. ReliefWeb. <https://reliefweb.int/report/sudan/jeddah-declaration-commitment-protect-civilians-sudan>

Paths to justice: accountability for atrocities in the Sudan (2025). <https://www.ohchr.org/sites/default/files/documents/hrbodies/hrcouncil/ffm-sudan/a-hrc-60-crp.7-en.pdf?> <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2025/dec/12/uk-sanctions-four-rsf-commanders-heinous-violence-against-sudan-civilians?>

