

UNSC

Sudan/South Sudan



**Great Knowledge
Great Responsibility**

YYMUN'25 | yeniylolmun.org

Table of Contents:

1. Letter from Secretary Generals
2. Letter From Chairboard
3. Introductions:
 - a. Introduction to the Committee
 - b. General Information about the Committee
 - c. Historical information about the Committee
4. International Humanitarian Law
5. Recent Armed Conflicts
6. Origins of the Conflict
7. South Sudan: Independence, Conflict and Fragile Peace
 - a. Immigration
 - i. Kenya
 - ii. Uganda
 - iii. Ethiopia
 - iv. Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)
 - v. Sudan
 - b. 2025 Situation
8. Challenges and Prospects for Stability
9. Independence and Early Tensions (2011-2013)
 - a. Heglig Crisis
10. Outbreak of Civil War (2013-2014)
11. Failed Peace Attempts (2015-2016)
12. Current Condition
 - a. Political and Economic Developments
 - b. Security Situation
 - c. Humanitarian State
13. Questions to Ponder
14. Bibliography

1. Letter from The Secretary Generals

Dear advisors, and futures aspiring diplomats,

We, as the Secretaries General of YYMUN'25, welcome you all to the 4th edition of Yeni Yol Model United Nations. We are thrilled to invite you to be a part of our conference which promises to be an inspiring and impactful experience.

YYMUN'25 continues our legacy of academic excellence, diplomatic engagement, and impactful dialogue. Over these three days of our conference, more than 200 delegates from across the country and beyond will come together to tackle today's most pressing global challenges, engage in thoughtful debate, and build connections that transcend borders.

For many of you, this may be your first Model United Nations experience, and to that, we are delighted to welcome you all. We strongly encourage newer delegates to carefully review the provided materials and introduce themselves to a brand new world by familiarizing the structure and flow of committee sessions. Understanding the fundamentals of procedure and debate will help you actively participate from the very first session and make the most of your MUN experience.

YYMUN'25 is more than a conference, it is a space for debate, growth, and inspiration. We hope the memories you make, the knowledge you gain, and the friendships you form will leave a lasting impression which goes far beyond our conference.

On behalf of our entire Secretariat, we are honored to welcome each and every one of you to Yeni Yol Model UN 2025.

Yours in diplomacy,

Cansu Yananer & Yağız Efe Yılmaz

Secretaries-General of Yeni Yol Model United Nations 2025

2. Letter from the Chairboard

Dear Delegates,

We are delighted to serve as your chairs for the upcoming three days. We also want to inform you that you can raise your inquiries either during the session or throughout the conference.

I am Kaan Balcı, and I will be your head chair for these three days. This will be my 8th conference. I am a senior student at Gelisim Schools. I've been interested in MUNs since my freshman year. Outside of Model UN, I would describe myself as a fan of Gaspar Noé.

My name is Duru Danişman, and I will be your vice chair of the SC for the upcoming three days. This will be my 10th experience on my Model UN journey. I am an IBDP 1 student at Gelisim Schools. In my free time, I enjoy watching series, playing the piano, and traveling.

We look forward to getting to know each one of you. If any questions arise as you prepare for the conference, or if you just want to chat, please do not hesitate to reach out to us!

Best Wishes,

Kaan Balcı – kemalkaanbalci@gmail.com

Duru Danişman – duru.d.2607@gmail.com

3. Introductions:

3.1 Introduction to the Committee

Per Article 1 of the UN Charter, the foremost responsibility of the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) is the maintenance of international peace and security. Formed in the aftermath of the Second World War, it is one of the six pivotal bodies of the UN and fundamental to achieving collective security.

Mandate

Nations are identified by their governments and bordered by international boundaries. The United Nations makes use of the Security Council to oversee other regions of the world. This responsibility entails managing and taking decisive actions with the intention of guaranteeing the welfare of world citizens. The main purposes of the Security Council include implementing the UN's core areas of focus which include:

- Global cooperation of security and safety,
- International relations,
- Issues of importance and respect of human rights,
- Every member of the United Nations agrees to accept and implement the resolutions of the UN General Assembly and the Security Council. Only the Security Council has the authority to adopt binding resolutions and member states are required to implement them by the UN Charter.

3.2 General Information about the Committee

The United Nations Security Council (UNSC) established under the UN Charter, the Council has the authority to convene at any time when peace is threatened. It consists of 15 members additionally five permanent members (China, France, Russia, United Kingdom, and United States.) who hold veto power and ten non-permanent countries (Albania, Brazil, Gabon, Ghana, India, Ireland, Kenya, Mexico, Norway, and the United Arab Emirates.)

Each member has only one vote. Decisions on procedural matters are made by the Council, UNSC also has a special voting status for the permanent members which is called "Right to Veto". The drafters compromised that if one of the five permanent members determines an unfavorable vote in the 15-member Security Council, the resolution will not be approved and a permanent member may abstain without

affecting the validity of the decision, thus allowing the resolution to be adopted if it obtains the required number of nine favorable votes. The construction of the committee has been a continuous matter since end of the Cold War.

3.3 Historical Information about the Committee

During the Cold War, there had practically been little functionality left at the Security Council because of continuous wrangling between the US and the USSR. The only notable exception during that time was the Soviet-led boycott against China's seating in the UN in 1950. Having US support, it passed resolutions in favor of South Korea in the Korean War. With the peace negotiations concluded in 1953 at P'anmunjŏm, casualties had mounted to over 250,000 most of whom were Koreans. The UN Command, comprising an alleged 1 million troops reportedly included forces from South Korea, the US, and 15 other nations.

4. International Humanitarian Law:

International Humanitarian Law is a group of legal norms aimed at limiting the impact of armed conflict. It regulates the conduct of both state and non-state armed groups in para military conflict and provides them with basic protections for the victims of armed conflicts. It includes:

- The rapid and unhindered delivery of humanitarian assistance into, throughout, and out of conflict zones.
- Free movement of humanitarian personnel.
- Protection of civilians, including medical and relief personnel.
- Safeguards for refugees, prisoners of war, and the wounded and sick.

These rules are indispensable for the establishment of international standards that ensure the respect for human life and dignity in time of war. Absent these standards, civilians and aid workers are left vulnerable to the very chaos created by the armed conflict. IHL formed the 1949 Fourth Geneva Convention, with further associated Protocols of 1977 and 2005. Considered by many to be customary international law, it has become a practice that states must abide by and binds them far beyond their treaty obligations. Increased occurrence of violations against its standing is of grave concern. Attacks are made on relief organizations, the hijacking of aid convoys, and others where humanitarian staff are kidnapped or murdered.

Such violations impact the lives of people and further millions are deprived of critical assistance. They immediately need aids in conflict-torn regions.

5.Recent Armed Conflicts:

Since World War II, the world is facing the highest number of conflicts and crises. The war in Gaza is devastating to civilians, while the fighting in Sudan is leading to an all-out humanitarian catastrophe. Drought and water scarcity are compounding severe challenges in many countries. In 2024, as many as 300 million people will need humanitarian assistance. Unless otherwise stated, conflicts have been on the rise since about 2012, following the decline of such armed conflicts during the 1990s to early 2000s. The Bosnian War had caused displacement and deaths of people in the early 90's, The 2011 Arab uprisings have sparked wars in Libya, Syria, and Yemen, leading the instability in Libya to fester toward the Sahel region, hence fueling a crisis. Major conflicts inkling a new wave of crises happened, like the 2020 war between Azerbaijan and Armenia over Nagorno-Karabakh, the brutal fighting later that year between Ethiopia's Tigray region and the national forces, Myanmar's 2021 military coup, to Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine in 2022. Further devastation unfolded in 2023 with the happenings in Sudan and Gaza. Wherever one looks nowadays, more people are dying in conflicts, being displaced from their homes, or otherwise requiring life-saving assistance than at any time in recent decades.

6. Origins of the Conflict:

Sudan is a nation of rich cultural diversity and historical significance, yet it is one of the poorest countries in Africa. Understanding the complexities of the Sudanese problem requires navigating its colonial heritage. Sudan was ruled jointly by the British and Egyptians from 1899 until 1956. A major fault line that emerged during the post-independence era was the conflict for resources and power between the non-Arab, primarily Christian or animist south and the Arab-Muslim north. A decades-long dispute between the peoples of southern Sudan and the government in Khartoum, Sudan, sparked the push for Southern Sudan's independence in the 1950s. Southerners, primarily Christians and Animists, rebelled against Northern control and the imposition of Arabic culture and language throughout the decades long civil war. These conflicts claimed the lives of two million individuals.

The quarrel ended in 2005 when CPA (Comprehensive Peace Agreement) was signed between President Omar al-Bashir and John Garang (leader of the Southern side). The United States had a crucial impact on agreeing to the peace agreement. The US government had long supported southern independence and the CPA allowed citizens of South Sudan to vote on break off and become an independent country or stay a part of Sudan.

7. South Sudan: Independence, Conflict and Fragile Peace:

South Sudan gained independence in July 2011, following more than 20 years of civil war. However, when political disputes within the ruling Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) sparked a conflict in 2013, the hope that had greeted the nation's establishment was shattered. Political, interethnic, and intercommunal violence erupted from the internal power struggle. Nearly every state in the country is affected by this widespread violence. The conflict continues to be fueled by the discrimination of various groups, ethnic rivalries, and poor governance. Misinformation surrounding attacks and counterattacks motivated by ethnicity also breeds mistrust. There have been several efforts to mediate a settlement. In June 2018, increasing international pressure on the South Sudanese government led to the signing of a power-sharing agreement and a truce between rival political factions.

Two years after independence, a political crisis in the newly-formed country erupted into a large-scale civil conflict that took on an ethnic tone, as Dinka militias and supporters of South Sudan's president, Salva Kiir, battled Nuer forces loyal to former Vice President Riek Machar. The conflict ultimately involved several of the country's 64 ethnic groups. Forces on all sides targeted civilians based on their ethnic identity using murder, rape, assault, and torture among other crimes.

Five years after gaining independence, South Sudan is gripped by a civil war that has killed an estimated 50,000 and displaced 1.6 million. Civil war along ethnic lines broke out in December 2013, following President Salva Kiir's accusations that former Vice President Riek Machar was plotting a coup d'état. But the root of this war was not an ethnic conflict, says expert Alex de Waal in an interview. "The reason things turned from a political crisis to a war was not because of ethnic divisions as such, but because the army was not a professionalized, institutionalized army," he says. To move toward peace in South Sudan, "the initiative should be taken at the African level, particularly by the African Union," says de Waal.



7.1 Immigration

Nearly 2.32 million South Sudanese have fled to neighboring countries, and 2.22 million remain internally displaced in South Sudan due to violent conflict throughout the country. It is the largest refugee crisis in Africa and the third-largest refugee crisis in the world. The majority of South Sudanese refugees are living in neighboring countries such as Sudan, Uganda, Ethiopia, Kenya and the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

7.1.1 Kenya

Kenya's Kakuma refugee camp and its expansion site, Kalobeyei settlement, host more than 148,000 South Sudanese refugees, one of the largest South Sudanese refugee populations in the world. UNHCR is embracing innovation to give refugees living in Kakuma opportunities for success. For example, Kakuma hosted the world's first TED Talk in a refugee camp and a refugee-led hackathon.

7.1.2 Uganda

Uganda is home to more than 1 million South Sudanese refugees, primarily settled in the northern regions. The Bidi Bidi Refugee Settlement, one of the largest in the world, accommodates a significant portion of this population. Despite Uganda's

progressive refugee policies, the influx has strained resources, leading to challenges in providing adequate food and services.

7.1.3 Ethiopia

Ethiopia has provided refuge to approximately 321,000 South Sudanese individuals, mainly in the Gambela Region Camps such as Pugnido, Tierkidi, and Kule house the majority of these refugees. Ethiopia's efforts to accommodate this population are ongoing, with support from international organizations.

7.1.4 Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)

The DRC has welcomed around 60,000 South Sudanese refugees. While the DRC faces its own internal challenges, it continues to provide asylum to those fleeing the conflict in South Sudan.

7.1.5 Sudan

Sudan hosts a substantial number of South Sudanese refugees, with estimates suggesting over 520,000 individuals have sought refuge there. The proximity and shared history between the two nations have made Sudan a primary destination for those fleeing conflict.

7.2 2025 Situation

The South Sudan situation remains one of Africa's most significant refugee crises, with 2.3 million refugees and asylum-seekers in neighbouring countries and a further 2 million South Sudanese internally displaced within their own country by conflict or natural disasters. Protracted displacement has been fuelled by a prolonged civil war, compounded by food insecurity, climate change and large return movements from the crisis in Sudan, with 640,000 South Sudanese returning between April 2023 and October 2024. This influx of returns has strained an already overstretched humanitarian response. UNHCR's operation in South Sudan will require sustained support to facilitate logistics and reintegration of returnees who have been forced to return prematurely. Due to the protracted crisis, people have also continued to flee South Sudan. In the first six months of 2024, close to 32,000 South Sudanese arrived in neighbouring countries.

8. Challenges and Prospects for Stability:

Even with a long transitional period, South Sudan is facing a significant level of difficulties in establishing sustainable peace. There are political factions in opposition to one another, there is a delay in the security sector reform, and there is a slow pace in the unification of the national army, all of which are factors leading to instability. Alongside this, there are ethnic conflicts locally and resource conflicts creating violence, and poverty-issues problematic as implementation of the 2018 peace agreement continues on a bicycle. The humanitarian crisis is grim. An unstable economy due to financial mismanagement and rampant corruption has continued to erode the economy, which is heavily reliant on oil revenues. Inflation, food shortages, and a host of climate-related issues - such as floods and droughts - have continuously led to horrific living standards. Millions remain dependent on humanitarian aid added to the return of South Sudanese refugees from Sudan is increasingly dire. While the African Union and the United Nations have pushed international actors to promote multi party democracy, and the threatened repeated delay of elections raise an eyebrow to be certain of the government to convert toward some form of democratic transition. It may render an anticipation of violence or power concentration. For South Sudan to move along a pathway toward stability, its leaders will need to make priorities for governing reforms, reconciliation, and the safeguard of credible election. The 2026 elections will be the most serious test to see if South Sudan would somehow move along the phases of leaning toward a peaceful transitional government vs. further conflict and instability.

9. Independence and Early Tensions (2011-2013):

On July 9th, 2011, after years of conflict, South Sudan was separated from Sudan, an event that many celebrated as a historic victory. However the tensions remained high between the two countries, especially in regard to oil. While most oil fields were located in South Sudan, the area to export oil was located in Sudan. Disputes surrounding the oil transit fees were then raised on both sides which forced South Sudan to suspend oil production as a result in January 2012, affecting both economies. The unresolved conflict over the border also continued to build tension between the two countries as the Heglig Crisis occurred in April 2012 when South Sudanese forces momentarily took control of the oil producing area of Heglig and prompted clashes with Sudan.

While a peace agreement was signed later that year, within South Sudan, divisions

grew within the SPLM, South Sudan's ruling party. Political rivalries and ethnic tensions grew, setting the stage for the civil war which erupted in December 2013.

9.1 Heglig Crisis

The Heglig Crisis is represented as a short but intense military conflict between Sudan and South Sudan over the oil-producing territory of Heglig, which sits along their disputed border. In April 2012, South Sudanese troops occupied Heglig and declared it to be a territorial dispute. In response, Sudan used military force to reclaim Heglig, even launching airstrikes to enforce its claim. After ten days of very intense conflict, South Sudan expelled the troops from Heglig after significant international pressure from the African Union and the United Nations. The crisis damaged relations between the two countries and cut oil production in the area, negatively impacting each country's already struggling economy. While a peace agreement was negotiated and signed in September 2012, the South and North continued to disagree over the countries' border and access to the resources in the area. The conflict served as a reminder of the weakness of South Sudan's precarious independence and those problems would contribute to instability and civil war in the years to come.

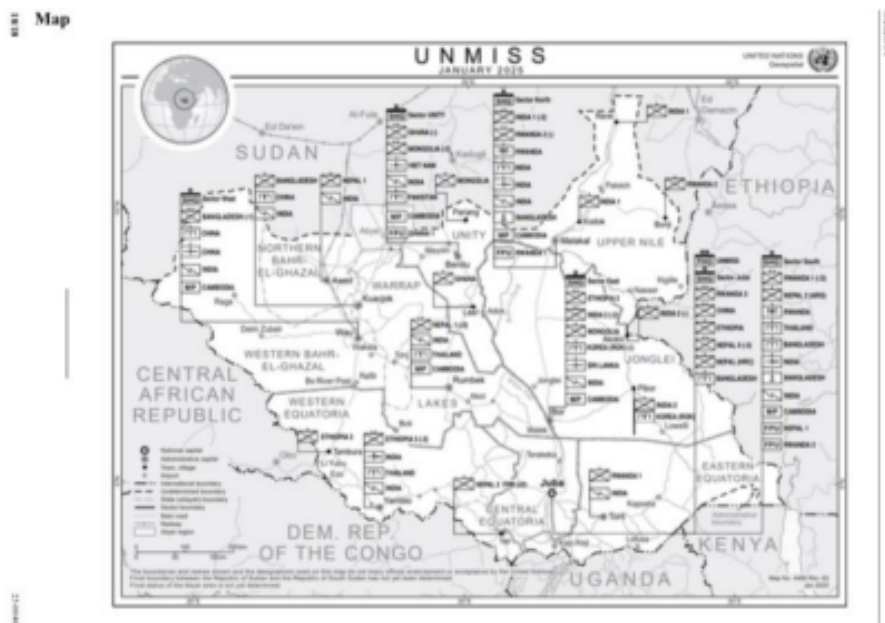
10. Outbreak of Civil War (2013-2014):

On December 15, 2013, internal political hostilities in South Sudan's ruling Sudan People's Liberation Movement (SPLM) erupted into an armed conflict. Emerging from suspicion over former Vice President Riek Machar, an ethnic Nuer, having plotted a coup against President Salva Kiir, an ethnic Dinka; fighting broke out in Juba between government forces and soldiers aligned with Machar and the situation quickly escalated into a civil war defined by ethnic conflict. Dinka tribal militias targeted Nuer civilians along ethnic lines, while Machar's forces retaliated with ethnic attacks. By early 2014, the civil war rapidly spread across the country displacing hundreds of thousands of civilians. One of the most horrific incidents of violence occurred in April 2014 when Nuer rebels launched a massacre targeting Dinka civilians in the town of Bentiu, highlighting the degree of ethnic violence and intolerance in an already divided society. Although, IGAD (Intergovernmental Authority on Development) put forward an initiative to provide a ceasefire agreement for peace efforts on behalf of the international community. The political dynamics of the civil war continued to spiral out of control as the parties struggled over the balance of power, and the war and humanitarian crisis continued.

11. Failed Peace Attempts (2015-2016):

In August 2015, under international pressure, President Salva Kiir and opposition leader Riek Machar signed a peace agreement to end the civil war. The deal included power-sharing arrangements and the integration of opposition forces into the national army. However, tensions remained high, and implementation was slow. In April 2016, Machar returned to Juba to assume his role as Vice President, but just three months later, fighting erupted again between government troops and opposition forces.

In July 2016, violent clashes in Juba forced Machar to flee, effectively collapsing the peace deal. Government forces launched offensives against opposition strongholds, intensifying the humanitarian crisis. The failure of this agreement has thrown South Sudan into chaos despite repeated peace efforts, deep political insecurity, lack of security reforms, and ethnic divisions.



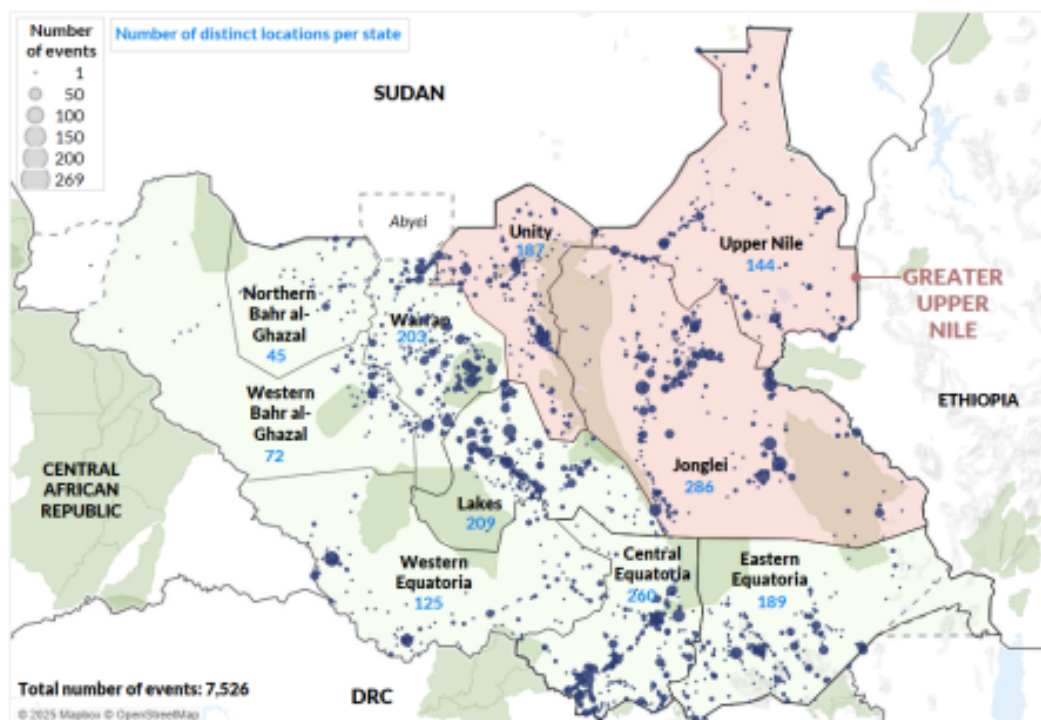
12. Current Condition:

The latest report is submitted under the Security Council resolution by which the Council extended the mandate of the United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS) to 30 April 2025 and requested the Secretary-General to report on

implementing the Mission's mandate every 90 days. The report covers political and security developments, the humanitarian and human rights situation and progress towards implementing the Mission's mandate between 16 October 2024 and 15 January 2025. Also, (to refer to the past) in 2020, an interim government had been established. This provisional government structure has extended this process for 2 years in 2022 and the elections have been postponed to 2026. In conclusion, political instability has continued.

Political violence in South Sudan

13 September 2018 - 17 January 2025



12.1 Political and Economic Developments EU and IGAD Policies:

The European Union largely supports the South Sudanese refugees in host countries through financial assistance for humanitarian assistance, food security programs and emergency response through the UNHCR and the WFP. In addition, it has also provided financial support to countries receiving South Sudanese refugees, including Uganda, Sudan, Ethiopia and Kenya. Politically, the EU is supportive of the peace process under IGAD and imposes targeted sanctions (i.e. visa bans and asset freezes) on those obstructing peace in South Sudan, it also calls for human rights investigations

through the UN Human Rights Council and AU Commission of Inquiry for South Sudan. IGAD's mediation has included regional governments in order to address the sheltering of refugees, asylum seekers policies, and humanitarian access for refugees in to the region. IGAD has also pressed the leadership in South Sudan to make commitments to power sharing and governance reform to prevent further displacement and destabilization of the region.

Peace Talks and Political Progress:

The Tumaini Initiative has made minimal progress, with the peace talks collapsing in December 2024 due to the disagreements. Kenyan President Ruto and South Sudanese President Kiir both decided to utilize IGAD in an attempt to secure support, although the talks were postponed until January 2025. The opposition forces aligned themselves to create the United People's Alliance to complement their bargaining power.

Despite a two-year transition extension, December 2026 election preparations still trail behind. The National Elections Commission issued key regulations, but delayed funds threaten constitutional processes. Security reforms also lag behind, with only 7,000 of the 53,000 combined forces deployed.

Regional Engagement and Economic Crisis:

Sudan gradually resumed exporting oil on January 4, 2025, after lifting its blockade. There have been agreements between the DRC, Uganda, Kenya, and South Sudan that were designed to mend regional relations. However, the economy is in deplorable condition—its inflation skyrocketed, its currency fell by 342%, and the 2024/25 budget had a 46% deficit.

Regional Engagement and Economic Crisis:

Sudan gradually resumed exporting oil on January 4, 2025, after lifting its blockade. There have been agreements between the DRC, Uganda, Kenya, and South Sudan that were designed to mend regional relations. However, the economy is in deplorable condition—its inflation skyrocketed, its currency fell by 342%, and the 2024/25 budget had a 46% deficit.

12.2 Security Situation

Despite the rainy season and floods, which limited mobility, violence, cattle raids, and crime continued across South Sudan. In Upper Nile, fighting between the South Sudan People's Defence Forces (SSPDF) and Nuer youth in October resulted in civilian

deaths, injuries, and displacement of thousands of individuals. On 15 January, the SSPDF attacked a humanitarian convoy in Nasir. There was an escalation of cattle raids and abductions by the Murle in Jonglei as the dry season began, with mobilizations by the Lou Nuer and Dinka Bor, but no major attacks occurred. Between October and December, clashes resulted in fatalities and injuries, and over 3,000 cattle were raided. De-escalation involves state and community peace processes.

In Greater Equatoria, the National Salvation Front (NAS) presence in Central and Western Equatoria brought about protracted military operations by the SSPDF and increased violence. The actions of various NAS splinter factions added complexity to the conflict. Civilians were exposed to harassment, arbitrary arrests, and displacement. Despite the presence of security forces, access to UNMISS and humanitarian actors remained challenging.

In Western Equatoria, security continued to be fragile, with intermittent violence between Azande and Balanda communities. Reprisal attacks resulted in deaths and injuries to civilians. On 28 December, SSPDF forces redeployed to conduct a disarmament exercise, but fighting persisted. Incursions by armed groups from across the border and rumors of fighting along the Central African Republic border prompted further civilian displacement, including those near the UNMISS base.

In Greater Bahr el-Ghazal, intercommunal clashes continued in Tonj, Warrap, between the Dinka Akook and other Dinka subgroups. Despite November peace negotiations, the clashes continued. In Warrap, tensions between the Dinka Pan-Kuei and Dinka Pan-Ariik resulted in deaths and injuries. Theft along business paths in Ajakuac Payam and Abyei also disrupted local security and commerce.

12.3 Humanitarian State

South Sudan remains one of the most insecure locations for aid workers, with 111 security incidents between October 2024 and January 2025. Aid workers and facilities have been attacked, and access to vulnerable populations has been denied. On 1 November, humanitarian activities were suspended by local authorities in Renk County denying aid agencies access to new arrivals from Sudan. Armed personnel also diverted a UN-contracted plane carrying polio vaccines on 14 November. Despite urgent needs, the 2024 humanitarian response plan (\$1.8 billion) was only 64.6% funded by December 31, 2024, forcing aid agencies to prioritize the most vulnerable areas. The 2025 plan, launched on 16 December, seeks \$1.7 billion to assist 5.4 million people, but funding gaps threaten essential aid delivery.

13. Questions to Ponder:

- How can South Sudan ensure a stable and inclusive government that represents all ethnic and political groups?
- How can effective campaigns be organised when there are already so many affairs today?
- How can community-based peace attempts help reduce ethnic tensions?
- How can the refugee problem be solved in bordering countries (such as Kenya, Uganda, Ethiopia)?
- How can the international community, including the EU and IGAD, enforce compliance with peace agreements in South Sudan more effectively, given the repeated failures of past efforts?

Bibliography:

<https://www.ushmm.org/genocide-prevention/countries/south-sudan/case-study>

<https://reporting.unhcr.org/operational/situations/south-sudan-situation>

<https://www.rescue.org/en/article/war-sudan-over-500000-displaced-renewed-clashes>

<https://www.cfr.org/interview/understanding-roots-conflict-south-sudan>

<https://www.c-r.org/programme/east-and-central-africa/south-sudan-conflict-focus>

<https://kroc.nd.edu/policy-practice/mediation-program/research/south-sudan-peace-process/> <https://sapa-usa.org/sudan-civil-war/>

<https://www.unrefugees.org/news/south-sudan-refugee-crisis-explained/>

https://unmiss.unmissions.org/sites/default/files/secretary-generals_report_on_the_situation_in_south_sudan_24_january_2025.pdf

<https://unmiss.unmissions.org/secretary-general-reports-and-security-council-resolutions>

<https://www.unrefugees.org/news/south-sudan-refugee-crisis-explained/#Living>

<https://apnews.com/article/uganda-refugees-food-funding-shortage-un-815d40273ef2ceca808138e6515ff3be>

<https://humanitarianaction.info/plan/1215/article/south-sudan-rrp-1>

https://www.eeas.europa.eu/node/2217_en