

Challenges Annual Forum 2024



Challenges Annual Forum

Shaping the next generation of Peace Operations

Berlin, 3-4 December 2024

PROGRAMME

3 Dec

08:30 *Coffee and Registration*

09:00 *Opening Remarks: **Welcome to CAF24***

High-Level Representative | German Federal Foreign Office/
Ministry of Defence (TBC)

High-level Representative | Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Sweden (TBC)

Astrid Irrgang | Executive Director, Center for International Peace
Operations (ZIF)

Benoît Pilyser | Director, Challenges Forum International Secretariat
(CFIS)

09:15 *Keynote: **A World in Turmoil and Prospects for Peace***

Against a backdrop of untold human suffering and growing distrust in multilateralism, this keynote address will delve into the complexities of maintaining international peace and security amidst geopolitical rivalry. We will outline critical political and conflict trends and discuss how these will shape the next generation of peace operations.

Itonde Kakoma | President, Interpeace (TBC)

Commentator:

Mats Berdal | Professor of Security & Development, King's College,
London

10:00 *Coffee*

10:30 *High-level panel: **Ensuring Political and Strategic Prerequisites for Successful Peace Operations***

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The Pact for the Future has highlighted a renewed commitment by Member States to UN peace operations requesting a review of all forms of peace operations. However, it is important to underline that peace operations alone cannot achieve the desired strategic objectives, and that accountability should to a higher degree be shared between the UN Security Council, host countries and peace operations. This session will focus on the most critical political and strategic prerequisites to achieve these objectives and continue building support for peace operations.

Jean-Pierre Lacroix | Under-Secretary-General for Peace Operations, United Nations

Kenyah Barlay | Chair of g7+, Minister of Planning and Economic Development, Sierra Leone

Rosemary A. DiCarlo | Under-Secretary-General for Political and Peacebuilding Affairs, United Nations (TBC)

Bankole Adeoye | Commissioner for Political Affairs, Peace and Security, African Union Commission (TBC)

Member state perspective (TBC)

Moderator:

Per Olsson Fridh | Chair, Challenges Forum Partner Meeting and Director-General, Folke Bernadotte Academy

12:00

Lunch

13:30

It Takes a Village: Exploring Partnerships for Sustaining Peace

To sustain peace in today's complex global landscape, peace operations need to work in an integrated manner with different actors at international, regional, national and local levels. This session sets out to explore how to leverage the comparative advantage of different key stakeholders, as well as how to forge essential and inclusive partnerships to successfully work towards sustainable peace.

Achim Steiner | Administrator, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) (TBC)

Bintou Keita | Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of the UN Stabilisation Mission in the Democratic Republic of Congo (MONUSCO) (TBC)

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Sanam Naraghi Anderlini | CEO and Founder, Civil Society Action Network (ICAN)

Charles Fries | Deputy Secretary General for Peace, Security and Defence, European External Action Service, European Union (TBC)

Ahmed Abdel Latif | Director General, Cairo International Center for Conflict Resolution, Peacekeeping and Peacebuilding (CCCPA)

Moderator:

Wendy MacClinchy | Director of the United Nations program at Center for Civilians in Conflict (CIVIC)

14:30

(incl. coffee break)

Innovation Labs: Overcoming Barriers

Over the past decades, various reports have provided recommendations on how to make peace operations more integrated, effective and adaptable. However, many proposed changes have yet to be implemented. The innovation labs, focusing on three critical areas for peace operations, will pinpoint barriers to implementing the changes and discuss ways to overcome them.

To kick off the discussions, innovative ways and concrete models for future peace operations will be presented.

Paul D. Williams | Professor, Elliott School of International Affairs, George Washington University

Elisabeth Spehar | Assistant Secretary-General for Peacebuilding Support, United Nations (TBC)

Sustainable Political Solutions for Successful Peace Operations



Chair: Adrian Johnson | Head of the Multilateral Research Group, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO) (TBC)

Ignite Speaker: Fiifi Edu-Afful | Senior Researcher Conventional Arms and Ammunition Programme, UNIDIR

The primacy of politics remains a central tenet of peace operations, yet peace operations often fail to advance political solutions to conflict. This session will explore what barriers prevent peace operations from crafting political strategies and discuss how to increase their political impact.

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Operationalising Adaptable and Effective Peace Operations



Chair: **Julien Levet** | Head UN and Global Issues, Directorate for International Relations and Strategy, Ministry of Defence, France

Ignite Speaker: **Eugene Chen** | Senior Fellow, Center on International Cooperation (CIC), New York University

For peace operations to be more adaptable and effective it is essential to address the structural and operational barriers to more modular and fluid approaches across the spectrum. This session will discuss incentives for organisational change, the role of leadership, and the space for innovative approaches as essential steps towards overcoming barriers for more responsive peace operations.

Enhancing Integration and Strategic Coherence in Peacebuilding



Chair: **Challenges Forum Partner** (TBC)

Ignite Speaker: **Wibke Hansen** | Senior Advisor to the Management Board, Center for International Peace Operations (ZIF)

Peacebuilding requires peace operations to strengthen national ownership and capacity through greater integration and coherence with host countries, UN Country Teams and partners. Yet peacebuilding gains can often not be sustained after the departure of peace operations. This session will explore barriers to effective integration and discuss how peace operations can better support nationally owned peacebuilding efforts, whilst maximising the benefits of a stronger Humanitarian-Development-Peace Nexus.

17:15

Fireside Chat: **Local Expectations on Peace Operations**

This fireside chat will explore how peace operations can better navigate national and local expectations, to improve the trust with host countries.

Christoph Heusgen | Chairman of the Munich Security Conference (TBC)
Voice from Sudan (TBC)

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Kenyah Barlay | Chair of g7+, Minister of Planning and Economic Development, Sierra Leone

18:30

Reception hosted by Sweden

4 Dec

09:00

Mandating Future Peace Operations: Innovation in Authorisation, Advice and Governance

In light of the evolving international landscape, the Pact for the Future sets out a course for reform on how peace operations could be governed in the future. This includes a reform of the UN Security Council but also a bigger role for the General Assembly and the Peacebuilding Commission. This session seeks to understand these potential shifts and their impact on future peace operations and crisis management.

Prince Zeid Ra'ad Al Hussein | President and CEO of the International Peace Institute (TBC)

Erica Gaston | Head of the Conflict Prevention and Sustaining Peace Programme, UN University Centre for Policy Research

Fonteh Akum | Executive Director, Institute of Security Studies (TBC)

Representative of India (TBC)

Representative of Germany (TBC)

Representative of the United States (TBC)

Moderator: Shamala Kandiah Thompson | Executive Director of Security Council Report (TBC)

10:30

Coffee

11:00

Summary and Reflection: Innovation Labs United

This session will gather the innovation labs and reflect on the key takeaways and recommendations from the discussions.

12:00

Lunch

13:30

Blue Skies: Envisioning the Next Generation of Peace Operations

The Pact for the Future calls for enhanced futures thinking and foresight. This interactive session will explore creative ideas about new contexts,

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configurations and solutions, that are not reined in by practical limitations. The aim of this session is to move beyond existing approaches and identify innovative strategies and approaches for more effective peace operations, that can meet the challenges of tomorrow.

15:30

Coffee

16:00

Closing Conversation: Towards the 2025 Peacekeeping Ministerial and Implementing the Pact for the Future

This session will revisit the essential insights from CAF24 and look ahead towards the upcoming Peacekeeping Ministerial and the review of all forms of UN peace operations. We will explore how the Challenges Forum Partnership can collectively play a pivotal role and identify new pathways for collaboration to leverage the key takeaways and shape the next generation of peace operations.

Moderator:

Per Olsson Fridh | Chair, Challenges Forum Partner Meeting and Director General, Folke Bernadotte Academy

Conversation between:

High-Level Representative | German Federal Foreign Office/ Ministry of Defence (TBC)

Jean-Pierre Lacroix | Under-Secretary-General for Peace Operations, United Nations

Rosemary A. DiCarlo | Under-Secretary-General for Political and Peacebuilding Affairs, United Nations (TBC)

Astrid Irrgang | Executive Director, Center for International Peace Operations (ZIF)

Benoît Pyllyser | Director, Challenges Forum International Secretariat (CFIS)

17:00

Festive Mingle

After the Forum, there will be an informal mingle. For those who wish, we will continue with a visit to a traditional German Christmas Market.