

Review on the future of all forms of UN peace operations

Open call for contributions

1. The United Nations Secretariat has the honor to refer to the “Pact for the Future” (A/RES/79/1), adopted by the United Nations General Assembly during the Summit of the Future on 22 September 2024.

2. In its Action 21, paragraph 42 (2), the Pact requests the Secretary-General to “undertake a review on the future of all forms of United Nations peace operations, taking into account lessons learned from previous and ongoing reform processes, and provide strategic and action-oriented recommendations for the consideration of Member States on how the United Nations toolbox can be adapted to meet evolving needs, to allow for more agile, tailored responses to existing, emerging, and future challenges”.

3. In this connection, the Secretariat would like to invite contributions of views, priorities and potential recommendations for the “review on the future of all forms of UN peace operations”. This encompasses special political missions (SPMs) as well as peacekeeping operations (PKOs). The Secretariat has provided guiding questions (see annex 1) for consideration.

4. The United Nations Secretariat would be grateful if written submissions could be provided by 15 August 2025. Please send submissions to unpeaceoperationsreview@un.org, jointly overseen by the Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs (DPPA), and the Department of Peace Operations (DPO), UN Secretariat. Selected contributions may be made publicly available on a United Nations website; please indicate in case you would not agree to a public release.

Annex 1: Guiding questions for the open call for contributions

1. What are the main challenges confronting peace operations today and what challenges are expected to be faced by peace operations in the future?
2. How could UN peace operations adapt in response to current and future challenges (e.g. in terms of political and substantive work, mandates, operational and administrative requirements, and capacities)?
3. What could UN peace operations be expected and mandated to do in the future? Under what conditions are UN peace operations least likely to be effective in achieving their objectives?
4. What could be the role of partnerships, with regional organizations, international financial institutions, or other actors, in future UN peace operations? What are the opportunities and challenges presented by tpartnerships, and what principles should underpin them?
5. Please share any additional observations that may benefit the Review.