

Call for contributions: Member States

Member States are invited to respond to the guiding questions below relating to the review on the future of all forms of United Nations peace operations. Several questions are addressed specifically to current and former Host Countries and Troop- and Police-Contributing Countries to United Nations peace operations.

Questions for all Member States

1. What are the main challenges confronting peace operations today and what challenges are expected to be faced by peace operations in the future?

The main challenges confronting peace operations today include political diversions among member states and key international actors, complex conflict environments shaped by asymmetric threats, overstretched political mandates, limited resources, operational inefficiencies and eroding host-nation consent.

These challenges specifically include the necessity for UN peace operations to operate not only in inter-state conflicts but also in multi-actor environments involving terrorist organizations, separatist armed groups, and organized crime networks. The absence of a political agreement among the conflicting parties further diminishes the effectiveness of the UN in protecting civilians in mission areas.

The challenges anticipated for UN peace operations in the future include the further spread of conflicts into larger urban areas, which make the planning and execution of peacekeeping operations more complex. The advancement of technology also poses a challenge by causing armed groups to be more flexible and dispersed, further complicating efforts to ensure civilian safety.

Peace operations are also expected to face additional challenges in the future such as cyber threats, disinformation campaigns and mass migration.

2. How can United Nations peace operations adapt in response to current and future challenges (e.g., in terms of political and substantive work, mandates, operational and administrative requirements, capacities)?

- Enhance political strategies and diplomacy.
- Promote stronger political engagement by the UN Security Council and regional organizations.
- Support national ownership by aligning peace operations with host state's priorities.
- Set clear, realistic, and prioritized mandates tailored to the conflict.
- Include flexible and adaptive frameworks.
- Strengthen protection of civilians and human rights.
- Improve mission planning and coordination.
- Enhance rapid deployment capacity.
- Invest in training, technology, and interoperability.
- Promote multilingual and culturally aware personnel.
- Strengthen cybersecurity, StratCom and information operations.
- Deepen coordination with other International Organizations (such as NATO, African Union etc.)

- Integrate climate risk assessment, gender sensitive programming and youth engagement into mission planning.
- Develop transition and exit strategies for sustainable peace.

In the context of police operations:

- Updating the mandates of UN peace operations and aligning with the host country's domestic legislation in a manner that facilitates the implementation of Community-oriented Policing (COP), Intelligence-led Policing (ILP), Monitoring, Mentoring and Advising (MMA) and Protection of Civilians (POC) practices would enable UNPOL to perform their duties more effectively.
- Conducting training courses in order to develop specialized personnel in the areas of Community-oriented Policing (COP), Intelligence-led Policing (ILP), Monitoring, Mentoring and Advising (MMA) and Protection of Civilians (POC) would be more effective so that Specialized Police Teams can be deployed to mission areas rapidly when their expertise is required.
- Increasing the number of personnel and patrol vehicles in UN missions would enhance the visibility of UN police in high-crime areas, which could have a deterrent effect and contribute to crime reduction.

3. What could United Nations peace operations be expected and mandated to do in the future? Under what conditions are United Nations peace operations least likely to be effective in achieving their objectives? Under what conditions are United Nations peace operations most likely to achieve their objectives?

UN Peace Operations can only be effective when a trio of political unity, adequate resources and local legitimacy is provided. Without this, improvements at the technical/tactical level will be limited.

In addition to traditional peacekeeping methods, mandates such as supporting the host government in building democratic institutions, protecting human rights, establishing transitional justice and strengthening civil society could be expected to take a bigger role in peace operations, if so requested. In order to ensure sustainable peace, greater integration and cooperation with local communities will also be required.

Operating in contexts where the parties are not genuinely committed to peace, lack of adequate personnel, financial and logistical support and resistance from host country populations are factors that may hinder the success of UN peace operations.

Furthermore, UN peace operations are likely to be more successful when they are supported unanimously by the Security Council which provides strong international backing through broader country representation and when they are accepted and supported by both the host country government and its citizens.

UN peace operations are least effective when;

- There is no political will or peace to keep,

- Cooperation with the host government cannot be duly established,
- The Security Council is divided,
- Missions are under-resourced or poorly equipped,
- There is mission overstretch with broad or unrealistic mandates,
- Local populations distrust the mission,
- The operational environment includes asymmetric threats, terrorism or organized crime groups that undermine the peacekeeping efforts.

4. What could be the role of partnerships, with regional organizations, international financial institutions, or other actors, in future United Nations peace operations? What are the opportunities and challenges presented by partnerships, and what principles should underpin them?

Partnerships with regional organizations, international financial institutions, or other actors are crucial for future UN peace operations to enhance their effectiveness, legitimacy, and sustainability. Such multilateral cooperation can foster a perception of mutual oversight among institutions in the eyes of host countries and their citizens, thereby increasing trust in the UN peace operations. However, such partnerships require careful coordination, mutual respect, and adherence to shared principles like complementarity, transparency and accountability.

The advantages of the partnerships established include sharing the cost and personnel burden, facilitating access to local knowledge, facilitating the transfer of technology and expertise in understanding the cultural and political dynamics of the region concerned, while problems such as dissonances between numerous actors, uncertainty of responsibility, and conflicts of interest are among its disadvantages.

Consent and impartiality, flexibility and harmony, mutual accountability, integrated approach principles should form the basis of these partnerships.

5. Please share any other observations that may benefit the review.

Questions for Member States that are hosting United Nations peace operations or have hosted them in the past (N/A)

6. From your national perspective, having hosted one or more United Nations peace operations, what are the most critical considerations and conditions for success?

7. Based on your country's experience, what lessons learned should inform future United Nations peace operations?

8. What positive and/or negative examples can you share in terms of how current or past United Nations peace operations have implemented their mandates in, or related to, your country/context?

Questions for current and former Troop- and Police-Contributing Countries

9. What factors shaped your country's decision to become a T/PCC to United Nations peace operations? What factors and considerations will determine whether your country will remain an active T/PCCs in future United Nations peace operations?

Türkiye's participation in the UN peace operations is grounded in its commitment to global peace and its strategic geography. Türkiye views international peace and security as a shared responsibility and as such is a longstanding contributor to UN peacekeeping operations that supports the role of the UN in maintaining global stability. As part of Türkiye's broader foreign policy vision, Türkiye approaches UN peacekeeping operations as a key tool for preventing conflict, fostering political dialogue, and ensuring humanitarian protection. Türkiye will continue to support UN peacekeeping operations in accordance with the aforementioned principles of international law, mission legacy, mandate clarity, and UN personnel security in the field.

Türkiye's contribution of military and police personnel to UN peacekeeping operations reflects its understanding of international responsibility and national security priorities. Türkiye is committed to continuing its support not only through personnel deployment but also by organizing training courses and capacity-building activities in the field of peacekeeping, thereby sustaining its contribution to peace and stability.

10. How would you assess the degree to which your views as a T/PCC were, or are, taken into consideration with regard to the mandates of United Nations peace operations and their implementation?

Mostly, the views of the UN Security Council permanent members shape the UN peace operations and their implementation. This approach undermines the credibility of the UN decision-making process and needs to be reviewed to prevent conflicts, foster political dialogue, and ensure humanitarian protection.

11. From your perspective as a T/PCC, what are the most pressing challenges confronting the United Nations peace operations that you are involved in?

From our point of view, if the mission is time sensitive and require immediate action, host nation's or bordering nations' support are vital for operational effectiveness. Gaining the civil population's trust is also of utmost importance for the success of the operation and maintaining peace in the long-term.

Additionally, from the beginning of establishment of UN peace operations, it is vital to maintain adequate consultation with and participation of T/PCC, in fundamental processes such as strategic planning and personnel deployment. More involvement of contributing countries in these processes will help to ensure that tasks are realistic, feasible and jointly owned. Türkiye, which supports the highest standards of ethics, discipline and accountability in the implementation of peacekeeping operations, continues its commitment to these shared efforts through its experience and sense of responsibility in peacekeeping.

12. Based on your experience deploying peacekeepers, what capabilities and support would be needed for deployments in the future?

In future UN peacekeeping operations, ensuring the effective and safe performance of peacekeeping personnel will increasingly require more support elements and specialized capabilities (e.g. Specialized Police Teams), especially in high-risk and/or low-infrastructure

mission areas. Turkiye supports the early inclusion of contributing countries' field experience in the planning processes and advocates for strengthening capacity in this area.

In addition to this, the following capabilities and support would also be needed:

- Rapid deployment and mobility,
- Specialized and skilled personnel,
- Enhanced intelligence and situational awareness,
- Flexible Command and Control structures,
- Strong logistical and medical support,
- Technology integration,
- Effective StratCom and strong public engagement,
- Effective partnership,
- Adherence to International Law and respect to national sensitivities.