

Draft Annotated Agenda

for the UN Peacekeeping Ministerial 2025 in Berlin

As of 12 May 2025. Please note that this draft annotated agenda is subject to change.

Tuesday – 13 May 2025 | Day 1

- from 11.00 am** **Arrival at the Federal Foreign Office**
- Press doorstep
- Light lunch reception
- 12.30 pm** **Opening by Masters of Ceremony**
- 12.35 pm** **Opening Remarks**
- Dr. Johann Wadephul, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Federal Republic of Germany
 - Boris Pistorius, Minister of Defence of the Federal Republic of Germany
- 12.55 pm** **Keynote Address by António Guterres, United Nations Secretary-General**
- 1.15 pm** **Family Photo**
- 1.30– 3.00 pm** **High-Level Session I – *The Future of Peacekeeping***
- High-level panel discussion followed by ministerial interventions.
- Panelists:
- Dr. Johann Wadephul, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Federal Republic of Germany
 - Md. Touhid Hossain, Adviser for Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
 - Sara Beysolow Nyanti, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Liberia
 - Jean-Pierre Lacroix, United Nations Under-Secretary-General for Peace Operations
- Moderation: Dr. Comfort Ero, President & CEO, International Crisis Group

For more than 75 years, UN Peacekeeping has been at the heart of international efforts to maintain international peace and security. Today, it finds itself at a critical juncture: While remaining a vital and comparatively cost-effective tool for preventing, managing and resolving armed conflict, current and emerging challenges are testing its limits. This calls for forward-looking, innovative thinking to make

this instrument fit for the future. In September 2024, UN Member States requested the UN Secretary-General to conduct a review on the future of all forms of peace operations in the “Pact for the Future”.

This high-level session will focus on the political parameters and adaptation needed to enable UN peace operations to become more effective, efficient, responsive and accountable, meet evolving needs on the ground and ensure strategic consensus for UN Peacekeeping.

The panel discussion and subsequent ministerial interventions will focus, inter alia, on the following questions:

- *What should be the purpose of UN Peacekeeping in the future? What tasks should be mandated?*
- *How can the necessary political support for UN Peacekeeping be ensured?*
- *How can UN Peacekeeping be adapted to the current peace and security environment? Are there any new approaches and mission models that could help address these current and emerging challenges?*
- *How can the UN Security Council and the international community ensure that mandates of UN Peacekeeping missions are focused and tailored to the evolving context, supported by political strategies and matched by the necessary resources?*
- *How should UN Peacekeeping adapt in light of shrinking budgetary means?*
- *How can the UN and its Member States better leverage all instruments across the peace continuum in a more integrated way to achieve sustained peace?*
- *How can sustainable support from host countries be ensured, particularly in light of shifting geopolitical dynamics and sovereignty concerns?*
- *How can UN Peacekeeping better respond to the needs of the communities it seeks to serve and protect, in particular women, youth and marginalized groups? How can UN Peacekeeping advance the Women, Peace and Security agenda?*

3.00 – 3.30 pm *Coffee break*

3.30 – 5.00 pm **High-Level Session II – Peacekeeping Reform: More Effective and Safer Peacekeeping**

High-level panel discussion followed by ministerial interventions.

Panelists:

- Nils Hilmer, State Secretary of the Ministry of Defence of the Federal Republic of Germany
- Soipan Tuya, Cabinet Secretary for Defence of the Republic of Kenya
- General Birame Diop, Minister of Armed Forces of the Republic of Senegal
- Atul Khare, United Nations Under-Secretary-General for Operational Support
- Lieutenant General Aroldo Lázaro Sáenz, Head of Mission and Force Commander of UNIFIL

Moderation: Dr. Jana Puglierin, Head of Berlin Office and Senior Policy Fellow, European Council on Foreign Relations

The future of peacekeeping not only lies in new models and new mandates, but also in strengthening and reforming existing processes and structures. A plethora of Member States adopted the UN Secretary-General's Declaration of Shared Commitments in the Action for Peacekeeping (A4P) reform initiative. While the A4P/A4P+ priority areas are still valid, Member States have called for a renewed implementation strategy. The Secretariat has also launched a strategic approach to strengthening a culture of efficiency in its field operations. Building on experiences by Member States and from the field, this high-level session will explore how UN Peacekeeping reform can be reinvigorated, and what concrete reform aspects should be included in the UN Secretary-General's review on all forms of UN Peace Operations. The session will also take a look at the role of technology, operational resilience and environmental management, as well as commitments to women in peacekeeping.

The panel discussion and subsequent ministerial interventions will focus, inter alia, on the following questions:

- *How can Member States and the UN Secretariat invigorate UN peacekeeping through reforms beyond A4P/A4P+, in order to enhance current and future mission effectiveness, efficiency and safety and security? What mandates and initiatives need to be prioritized and what cost-effective measures need to be considered? What should a follow-up initiative to A4P/+ look like?*
- *What aspects of peacekeeping reform should be emphasized in the review on all forms of UN Peace Operations to be prepared by the UN Secretary-General, and which reforms could already be undertaken now?*
- *How can a culture of efficiency in peacekeeping be fostered to enable more effective mandate delivery?*
- *What have we learned from previous UN Peace Operations to inform thinking of new models and to reform existing processes and structures?*
- *How can training, capacity-building, and partnerships strengthen capacities and boost performance and impact? What changes are needed for future training requirements?*
- *How can the use of technology improve peacekeepers' safety and security and mandate implementation?*
- *How can UN missions take better care of people and the environment? How to increase operational resilience?*
- *How can UN Peacekeeping reform and Women, Peace and Security are mutually reinforcing?*

5.00 – 5.30 pm

High-Level Session III – *Global Perspectives on the Future of Peacekeeping*

High-level panel, including insights from the UN Peacekeeping Ministerial Preparatory Meetings.

Moderation: Catherine Pollard, United Nations Under-Secretary-General for Management Strategy, Policy and Compliance

5.30 pm

End of First Conference Day at the Federal Foreign Office

Transfer to the Federal Ministry of Defence

From 6.00 pm

Evening at the Federal Ministry of Defence

Wednesday – 14 May 2025 | Day 2

From 8.00 am **Arrival at the Federal Foreign Office**

Press doorstep

9.00 am **Plenary: High-level Opening of the Second Conference Day**

Opening remarks by Boris Pistorius, Minister of Defence of the Federal Republic of Germany

**9.05 am –
12.15 pm**

Plenary: Pledging Session I - Training and Capacity Building, Partnerships, Cross-Cutting issues

High-Level Breakout Session I (Europasaal)

The Power of Partnership: Enhancing the cooperation between the UN and regional organizations

Civil society input: Kholood Khair, Founder and Director, Confluence Advisory, Republic of Sudan

- Feridun H. Sinirlioğlu, Secretary General of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe
- Amb. Bankole Adeoye, Commissioner for Political Affairs, Peace and Security, African Union Commission
- Jean-Pierre Lacroix, United Nations Under-Secretary-General for Peace Operations
- Olof Skoog, Deputy Secretary General for Political Affairs, European External Action Service

**9.30 – 10.45
am**

Moderation: Shamala Kandiah Thompson, Executive Director, Security Council Report

Rapporteur: Dr. Solomon A. Dersso, Founding Director, Amani Africa

The UN Charter attributes an important role to regional organizations in the maintenance of international peace and security. In the “Pact for the Future”, Member States reaffirmed the significance of enhanced collaboration between the United Nations and regional and subregional organizations, in particular the African Union, including their peace support operations and peace enforcement authorized by the Security Council. UN Security Council Resolution 2719 was a crucial step towards putting AU peace support operations on a more sustainable financial footing. However, discussions among the international community are still ongoing regarding its implementation. The UN also cooperates with and delegates tasks to groups of individual UN member states, which operate under a UN Security Council mandate, as seen in the Multinational Security Support Mission in Haiti.

The high-level breakout session will address questions such as:

- How can regional and subregional organizations more effectively assist political and peacebuilding processes in UN Peacekeeping mission contexts?

- How can the UN and regional and subregional organizations better align their mandates and priorities to ensure complementarity?
- What are the next steps to operationalize UN Security Council resolution 2719? How can the international community support such efforts?
- What roles does the international community envisage for the UN in settings in which regional or subregional organizations or coalitions of individual Member States are mandated by the UN Security Council to take the lead in the maintenance and restoration of peace and security?
- How can the international community ensure the maintenance of UN standards in UN-mandated and financed missions by regional and subregional organizations?
- What role can UN troop- and police-contributing countries play in support of UN-mandated missions by regional and subregional organizations, for example in training, capacity building and knowledge transfer?

9.30 – 10.45

am

High-Level Breakout Session II (Library)

Innovation Era: The Role of Technologies in Safety and Security, Effectiveness and Promoting Information Integrity

- Abdul Hafiz, Chief Adviser's Special Assistant for Defence and National Solidarity Development, People's Republic of Bangladesh
- Bintou Keita, Special Representative of the Secretary-General in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Head of MONUSCO
- Major General Wolfgang Ohl, Deputy Branch Head of Military Strategy, Deployment and Operations at the Federal Ministry of Defence of the Federal Republic of Germany
- Naomi Miyashita, Team Leader, United Nations Department of Peace Operations, Information Integrity Unit

Moderator: Eugene Chen, Senior Fellow at New York University's Center on International Cooperation

Technology can leverage data and innovation to enhance operational effectiveness, strengthen peacekeepers' safety and security, and improve mandate implementation across UN Peace Operations. At the same time, the hostile use of modern technology can constitute a risk for missions and the populations they aim to protect, including in the realm of mis-, disinformation and information manipulation. This breakout session explores avenues for a stronger integration of modern technologies into peacekeeping missions, in line with the Digital Transformation Strategy (DTS) including greater investment, training programs, and guidance. It presents good practices and demonstrates use cases to promote information integrity, improve mandate implementation and the safety and security of peacekeepers. As the Partnership for Technology in Peace Operations Symposium has not been held since 2023, the breakout-session can serve in presenting the UN Secretariat's, UN Missions' and Member States' advancements.

This high-level breakout session will address questions such as:

- *How can the use of technologies, including AI, contribute to enhanced safety and security of UN Peacekeeping and more effective mandate implementation?*
- *How can digital technology support the management of strategic and operational risks such as mis/disinformation, hate speech and other information threats?*
- *Which desired effects do we pursue when digitally transforming UN Peacekeeping to enhance mandate implementation? What additional investments are required to achieve these results?*
- *What strategies can be employed to strengthen Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS)/ Counter-Unmanned Aerial Systems (C-UAS) capabilities in UN missions?*
- *How can the use of UAS contribute to more effective and sustainable mandate implementation (e.g. protection of civilians, human rights monitoring) as well as to improving the safety and security of peacekeepers?*
- *In what ways can telemedicine be utilized to improve healthcare delivery for peacekeepers stationed in remote or high-risk areas?*
- *How can technological solutions such as the UN Mind's Companion App contribute to support the mental health and well-being of peacekeepers?*
- *How would training and capacity-building programs need to be designed to ensure peacekeepers are proficient in using technologies and are able to adapt to evolving security challenges?*

High-Level Breakout Session III (Europasaal)

Part of a Puzzle: Integrating Peacekeeping,
Peacebuilding and Conflict Prevention

Civil society input: Martine Kessy Ekomo-Soignet, Founder and CEO, Peace and Development Watch, Central African Republic

- Mohamed Ali Nafti, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Migration and Tunisians Abroad of the Republic of Tunisia
- Amb. Antje Leendertse, Chair of the UN Peacebuilding Commission and Permanent Representative of the Federal Republic of Germany to the United Nations
- Amb. Carlos Márcio Cozendey, Secretary for Multilateral Political Affairs in the Ministry of External Affairs of the Federative Republic of Brazil
- Elizabeth Spehar, United Nations Assistant Secretary-General for Peacebuilding Support

Moderation: Dr. Almut Wieland-Karimi, Member of the Eighth Advisory Group of the UN Peacebuilding Fund and former Executive Director of the Center for International Peace Operations

Rapporteur: Dr. Annika Hansen, Deputy Head of the Policy, Partnerships & Innovation Team, Center for International Peace Operations (ZIF)

**11.00 am –
12.15 pm**

Peacekeeping efforts are most impactful and sustainable when aligned with the UN's broader preventive and peacebuilding activities throughout the entire lifecycle of UN peace operations. In the "Pact for the Future", Member States emphasized the need for an integrated and coherent approach that strengthens synergies between various efforts across the peace continuum. Recent mission drawdowns have underlined the importance of timely transition planning and adequate financing to consolidate peace gains and minimize the risk of relapse into conflict after a mission's departure. The 2025 Peacebuilding Architecture Review provides an opportunity for the international community to take stock of the work done by the United Nations, including UN Peacekeeping, on peacebuilding and sustaining peace and develop forward-looking solutions aimed at supporting national and regional efforts to prevent the outbreak, escalation, continuation and recurrence of conflict.

This high-level breakout session will therefore address questions such as:

- *How can the UN leverage synergies between peacekeeping, peacebuilding and conflict prevention efforts on the ground more effectively?*
- *How can the UN and the international community advance sustainable and forward-looking transition planning? How can the UN support continuity of protection after the withdrawal of peacekeeping operations?*
- *How can peacebuilding efforts in mission contexts better respond to local needs and involve local actors, in particular women, youth, and marginalized groups?*
- *How can the international community strengthen national ownership and capacities and strengthen local stakeholders to sustain peace in transitions?*
- *How can the international community ensure adequate financing for peacebuilding during and after transitions?*
- *How can the Peacebuilding Commission (PBC) best contribute to integrated transition planning, implementation and financial and political accompaniment following transitions? How can the cooperation between the UN Security Council and the PBC be further strengthened?*

**11.00 am –
12.15 pm**

High-Level Breakout Session IV (Library)

Fueling Greener Footprints: Operational Resilience and Environmental Management

- Introductory speaker before opening for fishbowl discussion: Atul Khare, United Nations Under-Secretary-General for Operational Support

Moderator: Prof. Dr. Joachim Koops, Global Governance Institute (GGI)

This high-level breakout session will collect good practices and actionable recommendations to improve operational resilience of UN Peace Operations and mission's environmental management. This will enable (I) Member States to present and take away concrete ideas on how to form partnerships or introduce renewable energy systems and environmental management to respective national Peacekeeping contingents, (II) UN Peace Operations to become more resilient, more agile, less dependent on fuel and to increase better environmental management practices in missions, as well as to create positive legacies by Field Missions. It will be held as a highly interactive 'fishbowl' session and can be used by Member State representatives to announce own initiatives.

This high-level breakout session will address questions such as:

- *How can renewable energy and sustainable resource use enhance operational resilience of peacekeeping missions, greater efficiency, and improve the safety and security of peacekeepers?*
- *What strategies can reduce the ecological footprint and logistical dependencies of missions?*
- *What partnerships are needed to strengthen the operational capacity of peacekeeping missions in environmental management and to leave a positive legacy?*
- *How to best enhance trust of troop and police contributing countries in the reliability and operational advantages of renewable energy systems in the field?*
- *What sustainable resource management practices can be implemented to reduce reliance on traditional fuel supplies and minimize environmental impact?*
- *What innovative technologies (such as Field Remote Infrastructure Monitoring, Smart Camps and others) can be employed to decrease the ecological footprint of peacekeeping operations?*
- *How can peacekeeping ensure long-term environmental sustainability for host communities?*
- *How can troop and police contributing countries support the DOS Environment Strategy 2030 and contribute to positive legacies of UN Peace Operations?*

**12.15 – 1.00
pm**

Break (lunch will be available from 11.30 am – 1.30 pm)

1.00 – 4.30 pm

Plenary: Pledging Session II – Capabilities for current and new mission models

1.45 – 3.00 pm

High-Level Breakout Session V (Europasaal)

Enhancing Enabling Environments: Women in Peacekeeping

- Monica Bolaños Pérez, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, Guatemala
- Member State representative (TBC)
- Representative of the Ministry of the Interior of the Federal Republic of Germany (TBD)
- Gen. Mohan Subramanian, Force Commander, UNMISS

Moderators: Dr. med. Sonja Fischer, Head of Medical Center Berlin, Bundeswehr, and Ines Zeitner, Advisor to UN Women

25 years after the adoption of UN Security Council Resolution 1325, and as reiterated in the Pact for the Future, ensuring the full, equal, safe and meaningful participation of women in peace operations, remains a strategic imperative when shaping the future of UN Peacekeeping. Therefore, environments in Peacekeeping need to ensure professional and conducive conditions for all peacekeepers. The session aims to produce a comprehensive set of actionable recommendations to enhance women's

participation and access to all roles and positions (incl. leadership roles) in UN Peacekeeping. This includes identifying effective strategies to create enabling environments, strengthening leadership's engagement and action, supporting women's career development and access to training, assessing and addressing remaining barriers as well as implementing sustainable training and capacity-building programs in support of these objectives. Member States shall present practical steps, initiatives and commitments in how they implement existing obligations from Resolution 1325 (2000) and 2538 (2020), and in support of the Uniformed Gender Parity Strategy (2018-2028).

The high-level breakout session will address questions such as:

- *Why is it important to ensure women peacekeepers, full, equal, safe and meaningful participation and create enabling environments in current and future missions?*
- *How can Member States best implement UN Security Council Resolution 1325? How should this be reflected in Security Council mandates, including for future models?*
- *What are some of the best practices and successful strategies in Member States/UN that have helped to create enabling environments and women's access to all roles at all levels in UN peace operations? How can these identified practices be adapted and implemented across different missions and national contexts?*
- *What specific actions should leaders take to create and foster enabling environments?*
- *Which roles can networks play in enhancing women's deployment experiences?*
- *What can be done to ensure that the uniformed component of United Nations peacekeeping is diverse and inclusive of women, including through nationally-led security sector reform?*

High-Level Breakout Session VI (Library)

Protecting the Vulnerable, Securing Trust: Achieving More Responsive and Accountable Peace Operations

Civil society input: Fred Bauma, Executive Secretary, Ebuteli, Democratic Republic of Congo

- Member State representative (TBC)
- Catherine Pollard, United Nations Under-Secretary-General for Management Strategy, Policy and Compliance
- Pierre Krähenbühl, Director General of the International Committee of the Red Cross
- Najla Nassif Palma, UN Victims' Rights Advocate

1.45 – 3.00 pm

Moderation: Dr. Almut Wieland-Karimi, Member of the Eighth Advisory Group of the UN Peacebuilding Fund and former Executive Director of the Center for International Peace Operations

Rapporteur: Dr. Jenna Russo, Director of Research and Head of the Brian Urquhart Center for Peace Operations, International Peace Institute

With the number of conflicts across the world at record highs, millions of civilians bear the brunt of armed violence. UN Peacekeeping remains a beacon of hope to vulnerable populations, including by protecting civilians and their human rights, two core mandate areas that go hand in hand. To be more effective, UN Peacekeeping operations must be more closely aligned with the needs and priorities of local populations. This requires a nuanced understanding of the specific contexts, cultures, and challenges faced by communities, in order to provide tailored and sustainable protection strategies. While the vast majority of UN troops and personnel serve with pride, dignity and respect for the people they assist and protect, very often in challenging circumstances and at great personal sacrifice, UN Peacekeeping missions continue to grapple with sexual exploitation and abuse. While important advancements have been made, critical challenges remain in enforcing the UN's 'zero tolerance' policy and strengthening victims' rights.

This high-level breakout session will address questions such as:

- How can UN Peacekeeping become more responsive to the needs of local communities and accountable for the conduct of peacekeepers?*
- What have been the most significant achievements of protection of civilians mandates? What key challenges have persisted or emerged and how can peacekeeping actors work together to address them?*
- How can UN Peacekeeping operations respond more effectively to the different protection concerns and needs of different parts of the population, including women, children and marginalized groups?*
- How can community engagement and support to localized protection efforts be strengthened?*
- How can prevention of conflict-related sexual violence (CRSV) and support to CRSV survivors be enhanced as part of UN Peacekeeping operations?*
- How can the UN, troop and police contributing countries and the international community advance the UN's zero tolerance policy on sexual exploitation and abuse? How can best practices to prevent sexual exploitation and abuse and advance a speak-up culture be made more systematic?*
- How can the international community better support victims and survivors of sexual exploitation and abuse and provide timely, sustained and adequate victim-centred assistance?*
- How can financial support for victims be adequately supported during and after the withdrawal of a peacekeeping mission?*

4.30 – 5.00 pm Plenary: Closing Ceremony

5.00 pm End of Conference