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Peace Operations Review Week 05-07 November 2025

Lunch Discussion Strengthening and Preserving UN Peace Operations: Perspectives from the Global Alliance for Peace Operations -Draft-

05 November 2025, 12:30-14:30

Hosted by the Permanent Mission of Germany to the United Nations jointly with Sierra Leone and Indonesia

The future of peace operations is at a crucial inflection point. Since their first deployments in 1948, over 120 UN peace operations have been launched, and have proven to be a relevant, flexible and effective tool adapting as the nature of conflict evolved. Attended by more than 130 delegations of which over 70 made concrete pledges, the Berlin Peacekeeping Ministerial (PKM) in May this year, hosted by the German Federal Ministry of Defence and Federal Foreign Office, demonstrated the collective support of Member States for peace operations.

At the time, a Global Alliance for Peace Operations (GAPO) was founded by the Global Governance Institute, the Center for International Peace Operations (ZIF) and Amani Africa in order to provide collective and concrete civil society views and analyses to complement the intergovernmental discussions at the PKM. The Alliance now includes over 60 think tanks, universities, civil society organizations, training institutes, networks, former and current practitioners as well as more than 120 experts working on peace operations with a global perspective. Since the PKM, it has continued to foster synergies between communities of researchers, think tank experts and civil society representatives to advance cooperation and joint knowledge on opportunities, challenges and future avenues for UN peace operations.

However, since May 2025 political, financial and institutional challenges have deepened the sense of urgency with which member states, the United Nations and key stakeholders must address the future of peace operations. This event brings together member state representatives, UN experts and representatives of the Global Alliance for Peace Operations to examine major issue areas and topics related to the future of UN peace operations. The event will draw on the GAPO recommendations in the run-up to the UN Peacekeeping Ministerial in Berlin in May 2025, will identify remaining challenges and outline core opportunities for strengthening UN Peace Operations in an increasingly challenging environment.









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Guiding questions to be addressed during the event include:

- In light of recent contingency planning and cost reduction announcements: How do GAPO findings originally prepared for the Berlin Ministerial still apply in this current environment?
- How can we continue to focus on required peacekeeping reforms? Which GAPO findings allow us to pursue cost-efficient and more effective missions?
- Which partnerships should be pursued in times of peacekeeping retrenchment?
- How can GAPO contribute to T/PCC and UNHQ peacekeeping preparedness for potential future missions or support structures?
- Way ahead for GAPO's work: How to accompany ongoing processes (Review of all forms of Peace Operations etc.)?

DRAFT AGENDA

- 12:30 Arrival and light lunch
- 12:45 Welcome address German and Sierra Leone Missions
- 12:55 Panel and Open Discussion on Strengthening and Preserving UN Peace Operations Moderator: **Joachim Koops**, Global Governance Institute/University of Leiden
 - Take-aways from the Berlin Ministerial and assessment of current peacekeeping situation
 Adam Smith, Team Leader, Strategic Force Generation and Capability Planning Cell, Policy,
 Evaluation and Training Division, Department of Peace Operations
 - Insights from the Global Alliance for Peace Operations:
 Hybrid Threats and Technology: Annika Hansen, Center for International Peace Operations
 Protection of Civilians: Lisa Sharland, Stimson Center
 Leadership: Catharina Nickel, United Nations University-CPR
 Partnerships: Cedric de Coning, Norwegian Institute of International Affairs
- 13:30 Discussion
- 14:10 Concluding remarks, representative Indonesian mission
- 14:15 End

Kindly RSVP by 4 November 2025 (10AM) by registering here.

For more information, please contact Joachim Koops (<u>j.koops@globalgovernance.eu</u>) or Annika Hansen (<u>an.hansen@zif-berlin.org</u>).









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The Peace Operations Review Week

Building on the positive synergies created through interdisciplinary, global collaborations, such as the Challenges Forum, the Effectiveness of Peace Operations Network, the Global Alliance for Peace Operations and other partners, Peace Operations Review Week brings together the expert community working on issues related to peace operations and global crisis management. This critical mass of expertise aims to support and inform the Review on the Future of All Forms of Peace Operations – tasked in the 2024 Pact for the Future.

Peace Operations Review Week will consist of a series of workshops (ranging from 1 to 3 hours, some public, some closed) on a host of issues related to peace operations, rounded off by a closing discussion with the Department of Peacebuilding and Political Affairs and the Department of Peace Operations. The discussions during the week also set the stage for further deliberations at the annual conference of the International Association of Peacekeeping Training Centres (IAPTC) taking place the following week (10-14 November) in Vicenza, Italy.

On the Global Alliance for Peace Operations (GAPO)

The Global Alliance for Peace Operations has been launched in the run-up to the Peacekeeping Ministerial Meeting in Berlin 2025 to provide timely and policy-oriented analyses and civil society input on major issues related to peace operations. It is coordinated by the Global Governance Institute (GGI) and the Center for International Peace Operations (ZIF) and currently brings together more than 60 organisations and more than 120 experts. For further information on the alliance and the policy input papers, please visit https://www.peaceoperations.net