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# ARMED NON-STATE ACTORS AND INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS LAW: AN ANALYSIS OF THE PRACTICE OF THE U.N. SECURITY COUNCIL AND U.N. GENERAL ASSEMBLY

## Briefing Report with Annexes

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HARVARD LAW SCHOOL PROGRAM ON INTERNATIONAL LAW AND ARMED CONFLICT

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# Credits

## About HLS PILAC

The Harvard Law School Program on International Law and Armed Conflict (HLS PILAC) provides a space for research on critical challenges facing the various fields of public international law related to armed conflict, including *jus ad bellum*, *jus in bello* (international humanitarian law/the law of armed conflict), international human rights law, international criminal law, and the law of state responsibility. Its mode is critical, independent, and rigorous. HLS PILAC's methodology fuses traditional public international law research with targeted analysis of changing security environments. The Program does not engage in advocacy. While its contributors may express a range of views on contentious legal and policy debates, HLS PILAC does not take institutional positions on these matters.

## About the Authors

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The United Nations Security Council "*reiterates* that it holds the Rassemblement Congolais pour la Democratie-Goma, as the de facto authority, responsible to bring to an end all extrajudicial executions, human rights violations and arbitrary harassment of civilians in Kisangani, and all other areas under RCD-Goma's control...; [and] *calls on* the de facto authorities in [the Ituri region and South Kivu] to ensure the protection of civilians and the rule of law"

—U.N. Security Council, Resolution 1417 (2002), ¶¶ 4–5

# I. Introduction

Two interrelated trajectories are exerting pressure on a fundamental premise that has long undergirded international human rights law (IHRL). That premise—that the state is the primary entity that bears international-legal responsibility for respecting, protecting, and fulfilling human rights—stems in part from the (largely exclusive) competence of states to make, adjudicate, and enforce rules within their respective jurisdictions. Several significant legal, policy, and practical concerns are at issue in whether this foundational premise will remain intact or will be modified such that armed non-state actors (ANSAs) will ultimately be recognized—by all relevant institutions and actors—as bearing human-rights obligations in general under international law in a manner previously reserved primarily for states.

The first trajectory is that, in a number of key respects, certain entities and scholars are increasingly recognizing the possibility of non-state entities bearing *de-jure* or *de-facto* human-rights obligations or related responsibilities.[1] And the second trajectory is that, seemingly increasingly, ANSAs control access to territory and exercise control over civilian populations. This occurs, for instance, in relation to many contemporary armed conflicts waged between states and ANSAs or between ANSAs. Yet important questions surrounding potential human-rights obligations or related responsibilities of ANSAs may (also) arise in relation to situations not connected with armed conflict.

In its contemporary form, IHRL arose out of an attempt to regulate, as a matter of international law and policy, the relationship between the state—through its governmental authority—and its population.[2] Unlike the relatively narrow field of international humanitarian law (IHL), which is concerned with armed conflict, IHRL spans an ever-growing range of dealings an individual, community, or nation may have with the state. In recent decades, the connection between IHRL and IHL has been the subject of a growing interest by states, adjudicatory bodies, and international institutions. The precise links between these two branches of public international law have also merited extensive academic commentary. The debate over this relationship largely centers on three issues. The first issue is whether IHRL applies extraterritorially such that states bring all, some,

1. *See*, *e.g.*, Daragh Murray, Human rights obligations of non-state armed groups (2016); Gilles Giacca, *Human Rights Obligations of Armed Non-State Actors*, in Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights in Armed Conflict (2014).

2. The language and analysis in this paragraph are drawn extensively from Dustin A. Lewis, Gabriella Blum, and Naz K. Modirzadeh, *Indefinite War: Unsettled International Law on the End of Armed Conflict*, Harv. L. Sch. Program on Int'l L. & Armed Conflict, February 2017, p. 9 < https://pilac.law.harvard.edu/indefinite-war >.

or none of their IHRL obligations with them when they engage in armed conflicts (as defined in IHL) outside of their territories. The second issue is whether non-state actors (including organized armed groups) have *de-jure* IHRL obligations (or, at least, *de-facto* IHRL-related responsibilities). And the third issue is what is the germane interpretive procedure or principle to use when ascertaining the content of a particular right or obligation under the relevant framework(s). This last point is especially pertinent where the two bodies of law—IHL and IHRL—are thought to apply simultaneously.

Against this backdrop, several concerns are at stake in whether ANSAs are seen by all relevant institutions and actors as bearing human-rights obligations in general under international law. Those stakes include the effective protection and promotion of human rights, perhaps especially for individuals and populations in territories under the *de-facto* control of ANSAs. They also include, more broadly, the discernibility, coherence, and comprehensiveness of the international-legal framework governing human rights and connected normative regimes.

In considering this set of issues, it is important to clarify what obligations, if any, the United Nations (U.N.) Security Council and the U.N. General Assembly recognize ANSAs as possessing under IHRL.[3] This briefing report provides an overview of research conducted by the Harvard Law School Program on International Law and Armed Conflict (HLS PILAC) concerning modalities in which the U.N. Security Council and the U.N. General Assembly have addressed ANSAs with respect to human rights; ways in which these U.N. principal organs have distinguished between different types of ANSAs; and the consequences of these organs possibly establishing responsibility of ANSAs in relation to the protection and fulfillment—or, at least, the non-abuse—of human rights. This briefing report begins by examining possible characteristics of ANSAs, and outlines the methodology that HLS PILAC used to conduct the research. It then discusses the findings, including the geographic, temporal, material, and personal scope of the various documents HLS PILAC identified from the U.N. Security Council and U.N. General Assembly. It explores possible legal implications of the language and documents of these U.N. principal organs. And the briefing concludes by noting issues that states might consider in deciding whether to support further normative developments by the U.N. Security Council and by detailing some possible questions for future research.

3. For an examination of related issues with respect to the U.N. Human Rights Council, *see* Geneva Academy, *Human Rights Obligations of Armed Non-State Actors: An Exploration of the Practice of the UN Human Rights Council*, Briefing No. 7, December 2016 < https://www.geneva-academy.ch/joomlatools-files/docman-files/InBrief7_web.pdf >.

# II. Defining ANSAs

No specific definition of ANSAs has been adopted by either the U.N. Security Council or the U.N. General Assembly. Nonetheless, a starting point for the analysis arises in U.N. Security Council Resolution 1540 and subsequent related resolutions, which address non-proliferation of nuclear, chemical, and biological weapons. For purposes of these resolutions only, the U.N. Security Council defines "non-state actor" as "an individual or entity, not acting under the lawful authority of any State in conducting activities which come within the scope of [the relevant] resolution."[4] However, for two reasons, HLS PILAC elected not to use this definition as the primary definition of ANSAs in its research: first, because the U.N. Security Council limited its definition of "non-state actor" to these resolutions only; and, second, because the definition does not comprehensively address the *armed* element.

HLS PILAC also considered a concept contained in Article 1.1 of the Protocol Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, and relating to the Protection of Victims of Non-International Armed Conflicts (Protocol II), 8 June 1977:

> "[D]issident armed forces or other organized armed groups which, under responsible command, exercise such control over a part of its [the High Contracting Party's] territory as to enable them to carry out sustained and concerted military operations and to implement this Protocol."

However, based on its preliminary findings, which indicated a broad range of terms used to describe ANSAs, HLS PILAC considered that it would be beneficial to expand its search beyond the definition contained in Protocol II to include those groups that may or may not be considered to act—as a party or otherwise—in relation to armed conflict as well as groups whose control over territory may be tenuous or in dispute.

Ultimately, in the absence of a stand-alone definition of "ANSAs" by the U.N. Security Council or the U.N. General Assembly, HLS PILAC developed an initial list of search parameters based on various terms used by those U.N. organs to refer to ANSAs.[5]

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4. UNSCR 1540 (2004), Preamble footnote.

5. *See* Annex I. For additional guidance, HLS PILAC consulted, among other things, the publication *Humanitarian Negotiations with Armed Groups*, developed by the U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) and referenced in secondary sources discussing various characteristics of ANSAs. *See*, *e.g.*, Medecins Sans Frontieres, *The Practical Guide to Humanitarian Law, Non-State Armed Groups* < http://guide-humanitarian-law.org/content/article/3/non-state-armed-groups/ >.

# III. Methodology and Data Collection

HLS PILAC developed an initial research plan with the assistance of its dedicated research librarian. HLS PILAC conducted research through the U.N. Official Document System (ODS), an online database that contains official, searchable U.N. documents from 1946 to the present. ODS includes all resolutions of the U.N. principle organs, including all U.N. Security Council documents and U.N. General Assembly official records. HLS PILAC developed an initial list of search parameters based on the various terms used by relevant U.N. organs to refer to ANSAs, and HLS PILAC expanded the list as additional terms were identified. In addition, HLS PILAC conducted an initial (non-exhaustive) review of secondary sources that discuss possible human-rights obligations or related responsibilities of ANSAs in relation to relevant U.N. practice. HLS PILAC also used these sources to help identify the search terms used to locate U.N. documents.

HLS PILAC compiled its detailed findings in an online searchable database and in Annexes II.A–C.[6] That database and those annexes excerpt germane portions of relevant U.N. documents and include other information, such as document number, year, and geographical and/or thematic context.

# IV. Findings

HLS PILAC's research focused on U.N. Security Council and U.N. General Assembly resolutions, as well as statements by the President of the U.N. Security Council, using the various terms and phrases identified in Annex I. HLS PILAC identified over 125 U.N. Security Council resolutions, approximately 65 U.N. General Assembly resolutions, and over 50 U.N. Security Council Presidential Statements that pertain to what might be conceptualized as possible human-rights obligations or other related responsibilities of (certain) ANSAs. This section outlines HLS PILAC's findings in each of these areas, with a particular focus on the practices of the U.N. Security Council through its resolutions and Presidential Statements as compared with possibly relevant U.N. General Assembly resolutions.

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That OCHA guidance—while not necessarily definitive—may be helpful in identifying some possible characteristics of ANSAs (e.g., the potential to employ arms in the use of force for political, ideological, or economic objectives; possessing a group identity and acting in pursuit of their objectives as a group; not operating within the formal military structures of states, alliances of states, or intergovernmental organizations; and not operating under the command or control of the state(s) in which they operate). *See* U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, *Humanitarian Negotiations with Armed Groups: A Manual for Practitioners* (January 2006), at 14–16.

6. For the online database, *see* HLS PILAC, *Database concerning ANSAs, IHRL, and UNSC and UNGA Practice*, June 2017, < https://pilac.law.harvard.edu/ansas >.

## A. U.N. Security Council Resolutions

HLS PILAC's research identified several relevant trends in U.N. Security Council practice, including trends related to the geographic, temporal, personal, and material character of the resolutions addressing potential human-rights obligations or other responsibilities of ANSAs, as well as the language used to describe such obligations or other responsibilities.

### i. Geographic scope

The geographic scope of relevant U.N. Security Council practice may concern at least two interlinked sets of issues: first, the various pertinent geographic areas (including territories where ANSAs exercise certain forms of *de-facto* control) addressed by the Council; and, second, the geographic parameters concerning where a human-rights obligation or related responsibility (if any) of an ANSA may be considered to be applicable. This sub-section focuses on the first set of issues.

Ninety of the 127 U.N. Security Council resolutions HLS PILAC identified in its research, or approximately 71 percent, address the activities of ANSAs in African states, particularly those in the Central African Republic, the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), Mali, Somalia, South Sudan, and Sudan.[7] Over one-third of these 90 resolutions (32) address ANSAs in the DRC. Eleven resolutions involve ANSAs in Sudan. Eight resolutions address ANSAs in South Sudan. And nine resolutions concern ANSAs in Somalia.

HLS PILAC also identified 16 U.N. Security Council resolutions addressing (possible) human-rights obligations or related responsibilities of certain ANSAs in relation to Afghanistan. Other identified states addressed by the U.N. Security Council in relation to such issues include East Timor, Georgia, Haiti, Iraq, Syria, and Yemen.

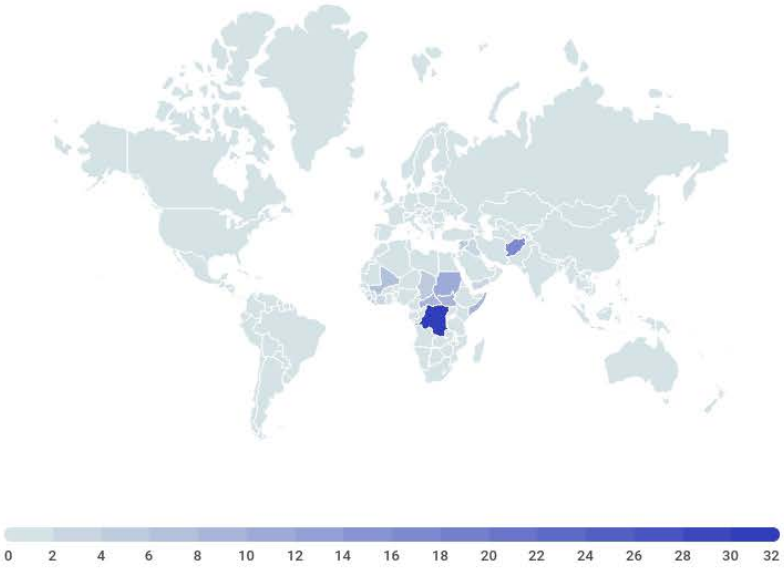
### ii. Temporal scope

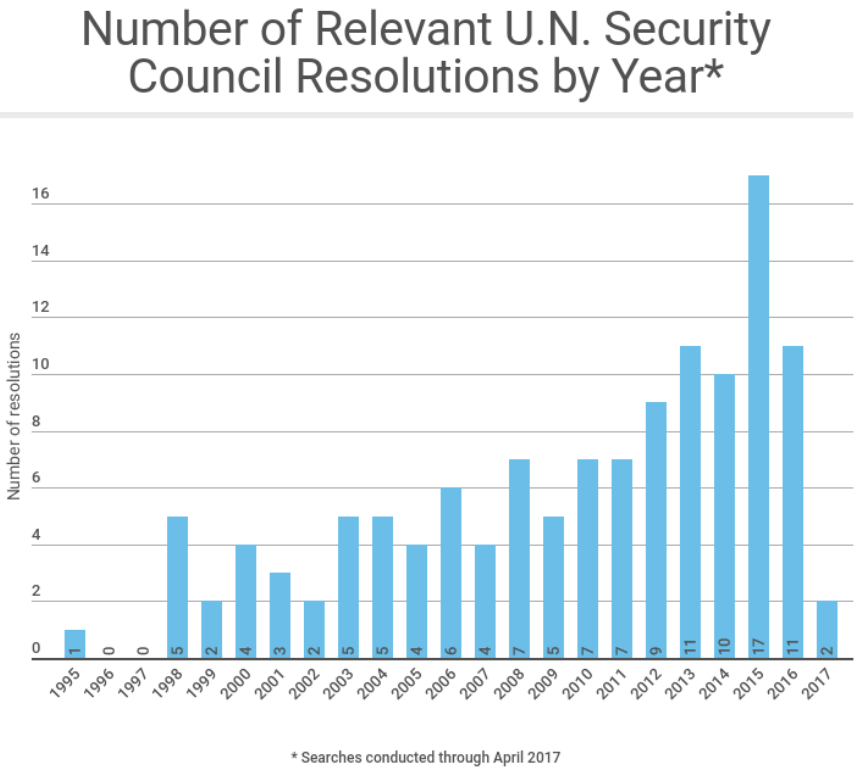
The temporal scope of relevant U.N. Security Council practice may concern at least two sets of issues: first, the time period(s) during which that practice has occurred; and, second, when a human-rights obligation or related responsibility (if any) of an ANSA was initiated and when (if ever) it ceased. This sub-section focuses on the first set of issues.

Of the 127 possibly relevant U.N. Security Council resolutions HLS PILAC identified in its research, 119 of the resolutions, or 94 percent, date from 2000 through the present. The remaining eight resolutions date from the 1995–

7. Several resolutions address multiple countries or regions, such as certain resolutions on the Central African Republic and Chad, or others addressing conflicts in the Great Lakes Region of Africa. *See, e.g.*, UNSCR 1778 (2007) and UNSCR 1653 (2006).

## Geographic Areas of Focus of Relevant U.N. Security Council Resolutions by Number of Resolutions






1999 period and address (possible) ANSAs operating in Afghanistan, Angola, East Timor, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, or Sierra Leone.[8] The year containing the greatest number of resolutions addressing potential human-rights obligations of ANSAs was 2015, with 17 resolutions dating from that year. Eleven of the 17 resolutions that HLS PILAC identified from 2015 addressed African nations, in keeping with the broader geographic focus of U.N. Security Council resolutions pertaining to possible human-rights obligations of ANSAs. In earlier years, particularly from 2000 to 2010, resolutions addressing African nations remained a significant portion of HLS PILAC's findings, punctuated by resolutions on Afghanistan

8. In conducting its research, HLS PILAC did not generally place time restraints on its searches in the U.N. online database system, based on initial research indicating that the United Nations had not addressed the potential human-rights obligations of ANSAs until the mid-1990s. *See* Aristotle Constantinides, *Human Rights Obligations and Accountability of Armed Opposition Groups: The Practice of the U.N. Security Council*, 4 Human Rights and International Legal Discourse 89 (2010), at 98–99 ("In the early 1990s the [U.N. Security] Council did not address [armed opposition groups] in human rights terms… It was in 1995 that it first 'call[ed] on the Liberian factions, especially the combatants, to respect the human rights of the civilian population and to respect international humanitarian law'" [citing UNSCR 1001 (1995), Preamble].) This comports with HLS PILAC's findings regarding the time period in which the U.N. Security Council (and as discussed later in this briefing report, the U.N. General Assembly) began addressing potential human-rights obligations of ANSAs.

and Haiti, and thematic resolutions on the protection of civilians in armed conflict. From 2011 to the present day, HLS PILAC identified resolutions that addressed these issues in respect of other geographic areas, particularly Iraq, Syria, and Yemen, as well as thematic resolutions relating to designated-terrorist ANSAs.

The clear majority of relevant U.N. Security Council resolutions date from 2000 to the present. During this period, the majority of armed conflicts were of a non-international character. That may help explain part of the relatively recent increase in attention by U.N. organs, including the Security Council, to armed conflicts involving ANSAs. Moreover, at least one commentator has argued that, since the early 1990s, the intensity and frequency of state collapse coupled with changing perceptions of security, state sovereignty, and international responsibility may have contributed to the U.N. Security Council more frequently addressing possible human-rights obligations or related responsibilities of ANSAs.[9]

### iii. Personal scope

The personal scope of relevant U.N. Security Council practice may concern at least two sets of persons: first, those who may be considered ANSAs; and, second, the individuals and populations whose human rights may be implicated. This sub-section focuses on the first set of persons.

U.N. Security Council practice has not adopted a uniform definition of ANSAs. HLS PILAC's research uncovered a vast range of terms describing actors (or activities of actors) that may—depending on the situation and context—be considered ANSAs (at least in theory):

- Armed group
- Armed actor
- Armed elements
- Armed rebel group
- Armed activities
- Armed movement
- Armed unit
- Armed terrorist group

9. *See*, *e.g.*, *id*. at 90 ("Armed conflicts involving such groups are nothing new. The novelty lies in the changing character(istics) of the conflicts [armed organized groups] are involved in—many of them in weak, failing or failed states—coupled with changing perceptions of the international community regarding, *inter alia*, (human) security, state sovereignty and international (state, individual and group) responsibility. Even though there have always been unstable states, the intensity and frequency of state collapse since the early 1990s has been unprecedented.")

- Armed opposition group
- Belligerents
- Dissident armed forces
- Factions
- Foreign elements
- Guerillas
- Illegal armed group
- Insurgents
- Organized armed group
- Rebel group and
- Terrorist group.[10]

Resolutions of the U.N. Security Council under examination do not explicitly define many of these terms. Nor do those resolutions tend to adopt particular terms uniformly. U.N. Security Council resolutions concerning the DRC are particularly illustrative of the varied terms used by the Security Council to address certain ANSAs, ranging from "all parties to the conflict,"[11] "armed groups,"[12] "rebel groups,"[13] "militias,"[14] "illegal armed groups,"[15] and armed "elements,"[16] to specifically named groups such as the Lord's Resistance Army[17] and M23.[18]

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10. In conducting its research, HLS PILAC also attempted to find relevant documents related to potential human-rights obligations of specific so-called "state-like" ANSAs, such as Hamas and Hezbollah. While HLS PILAC did not find evidence that the U.N. Security Council has addressed potential human-rights obligations or related responsibilities of these or other similar actors, it did find relevant statements by various U.N. Special Rapporteurs, which expressed the view that these actors did have human-rights obligations vis-à-vis the (relevant) civilian population. For a discussion of these various findings, *see* Giacca, *supra* note 1, at 254–55 (regarding Hamas: "non-State actors that exercise government-like functions and control over a territory are obliged to respect human rights norms when their conduct affects the human rights of the individuals under their control" and regarding Hezbollah: "It is especially appropriate and feasible to call for an armed group to respect human rights norms when it exercises significant control over territory and population and has an identifiable political structure" [internal citations omitted]).
11. UNSCR 1291 (2000), ¶ 17.
12. UNSCR 1332 (2000), ¶ 13.
13. UNSCR 1376 (2001), ¶ 5.
14. UNSCR 1592 (2005), Preamble.
15. UNSCR 1991 (2011), ¶ 18.
16. UNSCR 1756 (2007), Preamble.
17. UNSCR 1925 (2010), ¶ 18.
18. UNSCR 2076 (2012), ¶ 3.

In comparison, the majority of the relevant Afghanistan resolutions contain language recognizing some form of human-rights obligations of the Taliban,[19] al-Qaeda,[20] or other entities, including "Afghan factions,"[21] "violent and extremist groups,"[22] "extremist groups,"[23] and "illegal armed groups."[24] Other terms used to describe possible ANSAs—whether particular activities of ANSAs, specific ANSAs, or general categories in which ANSAs might fit—include "armed activities and banditry,"[25] "ISIL [the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant], associated armed groups, and militias,"[26] "terrorist groups,"[27] and "all parties and armed groups."[28] These examples constitute an illustrative, but not exhaustive, list of terms describing possible ANSAs that HLS PILAC identified in its research.

### iv. Material scope

The material scope of relevant U.N. Security Council practice may concern the content or the character—or both—of a pertinent human-rights obligation or related responsibility (if any) of an ANSA.

In its resolutions containing possible human-rights obligations or related responsibilities of ANSAs, the U.N. Security Council has taken a varied approach to describing and enumerating these (potential) obligations. These resolutions often refer to acts of ANSAs, in diverse contexts, as either "abuses" or "violations" of human rights—or, in some instances, both "abuses" and "violations."[29] Yet no clear pattern or practice emerges with respect to the use of these terms. As one example,

19. UNSCR 1333 (2000), Preamble. Particular mentions of the Taliban may be relevant only insofar as it was considered, at the time the resolution was adopted, an ANSA and was thus not considered to represent the State or government of Afghanistan, which may be considered a contested issue.
20. UNSCR 1833 (2008), Preamble.
21. UNSCR 1193 (1998), ¶ 14.
22. UNSCR 2011 (2011), Preamble.
23. UNSCR 1917 (2010), Preamble.
24. UNSCR 2096 (2013), Preamble.
25. UNSCR 1861 (2009), Preamble (regarding Chad).
26. UNSCR 2233 (2015), Preamble (regarding Iraq).
27. UNSCR 2227 (2015), Preamble (regarding Mali and also referring to "Al-Qaida in the Islamic Maghreb (AQIM), Ansar Eddine, the Movement for Unity and Jihad in West Africa (MUJAO)").
28. UNSCR 1814 (2008), ¶ 17 (regarding Somalia).
29. *See, e.g.*, UNSCR 2340 (2017), Preamble (regarding Sudan) ("Emphasizing the imperative for all armed actors to refrain from all acts of violence against civilians, in particular members of vulnerable groups such as women and children, and to end all violations and abuses of human rights and violations of international humanitarian law…").

resolutions regarding ANSAs in the DRC demonstrate the U.N. Security Council's varying practice of referring to acts by ANSAs as both human rights "abuses" and "violations," with each term being invoked over time.[30] These abuses or violations are often noted in conjunction with references to (other) legal violations, primarily those of IHL. In at least one instance pertaining to ANSAs, the U.N. Security Council has indicated that certain (unspecified) acts constitute "grave violations" of human rights.[31]

The U.N. Security Council has not explicitly defined what constitutes an "abuse" or "violation" of human rights concerning ANSAs. Nor are these terms uniformly defined as such in IHRL instruments. Nonetheless, guidance in interpreting the use of these terms by the U.N. Security Council might be sought by reference to general international human rights law as well as in common-usage definitions. In general, obligations and duties assumed by states under IHRL treaties are often characterized as obligations to respect, to protect, and to fulfill human rights. According at least to the Office of the U.N. High Commissioner for Human Rights, for instance, the obligation to *respect* requires refraining from interfering with or curtailing the enjoyment of human rights; the obligation to *protect* requires protecting individuals and groups against human-rights abuses; and the obligation to *fulfill* means that positive action must be taken to facilitate the enjoyment of basic human rights.[32] Moreover, concerning common usage, the *Oxford English Dictionary* (*OED*) defines "abuse," in one possibly relevant sense, as a "wrong or improper use (of something),"

30. *See, e.g.*, UNSCR 1565 (2004), ¶ 19 ("Strongly condemns violence and other *violations* of international humanitarian law and human rights, in particular those perpetrated against civilians, in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and demands that all parties and Governments concerned in the region…take without delay all necessary steps to bring to justice those responsible for these violations and to ensure respect for human rights and international humanitarian law [emphasis added]") and UNSCR 1925 (2010), ¶ 18 ("Demands that all armed groups, in particular FDLR and the LRA, immediately cease all forms of violence and human rights *abuse* against the civilian population in the Democratic Republic of the Congo [emphasis added]").

31. UNSCR 1592 (2005), Preamble.

32. Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, International Human Rights Law, < http://www.ohchr.org/EN/ProfessionalInterest/Pages/InternationalLaw.aspx > (arguing that "[i]nternational human rights law lays down obligations which States are bound to respect. By becoming parties to international treaties, States assume obligations and duties under international law to respect, to protect and to fulfil human rights. The obligation to respect means that States must refrain from interfering with or curtailing the enjoyment of human rights. The obligation to protect requires States to protect individuals and groups against human rights abuses. The obligation to fulfil means that States must take positive action to facilitate the enjoyment of basic human rights.").

a "misuse," a "misapplication," or a "perversion."[33] "Violation," on the other hand, may be considered, according to a possibly relevant definition in the *OED*, an "infringement, breach, or contravention of a rule, code, [or] principle."[34] That common-usage definition presumes that for a "violation" to occur, the pertinent rule must be binding on the relevant actor (otherwise no "infringement" or "breach" of the rule could arise).

With those considerations in mind, the use by the U.N. Security Council of "abuse" to describe conduct of certain ANSAs might suggest that the Council considers the relevant ANSAs to have at least failed to *respect* human rights (in the sense that the Council might consider those ANSAs to have interfered with or curtailed the enjoyment of human rights or otherwise misused human rights). And the use by the U.N. Security Council of "violation" to describe conduct of certain ANSAs might suggest that the Council considers that those ANSAs have not conformed to a binding human-rights rule in their respective failure(s) either to *protect* human rights (in the sense of not protecting individuals and groups against human-rights abuses) or to *fulfill* human rights (in the sense of not taking sufficient positive action to facilitate the enjoyment of human rights)—or in those ANSAs' failure *both* to so protect *and* fulfill human rights.

In practice, the U.N. Security Council has taken a varied approach to identifying human-rights abuses or violations purportedly committed by ANSAs. In some resolutions, the U.N. Security Council has directed or called upon a particular set, or sets, of ANSAs to merely "respect" human rights, without clarifying what it considers to constitute the particular "human right[s]" to be respected.[35] In several instances, the U.N. Security Council has specifically stated the potential human-rights abuses and violations committed by various ANSAs, including in a wide range of geographic contexts, with some of the acts described possibly implicating *jus-cogens* norms[36] and some other acts possibly implicating

33. Abuse n., Oxford English Dictionary (online ed., 2017).

34. Violation n., Oxford English Dictionary (online ed., 2017).

35. *See*, *e.g.*, UNSCR 1181 (1998), ¶ 12 ("The Security Council…demands that all factions and forces in Sierra Leone…respect human rights and abide by applicable rules of international humanitarian law…") and UNSCR 1574 (2004), Preamble ("The Security Council…recalling in this regard that all parties, including the Sudanese rebel groups such as the Justice and Equality Movement and the Sudanese Liberation Army, must respect human rights and international humanitarian law…").

36. *See*, *e.g.*, UNSCR 1478 (2003), ¶ 8 (regarding Liberia) ("Calls upon…all parties, particularly the LURD and other armed rebel groups…to prevent sexual violence and torture").

certain (other) prohibitions under IHRL or IHL, or both. For instance, in a resolution concerning the Central African Republic, the U.N. Security Council "condemned continued violations of international humanitarian law and human rights law, including the recruitment and use of children, killing and maiming, rape, sexual slavery and other sexual violence and abductions perpetrated by armed groups."[37] In a resolution concerning the DRC, the U.N. Security Council particularly condemned "the targeted attacks against the civilian population, sexual violence, recruitment of child soldiers and summary executions" committed by various ANSAs, including "militias" and other "armed groups."[38] Many resolutions explicitly mention sexual or gender-based violence committed by ANSAs,[39] or "extrajudicial and summary executions."[40] The U.N. Security Council has also laid down language "condemning,"[41] "strongly condemning,"[42] or "deploring"[43] human-rights abuses or violations pertaining to ANSAs—or "expressing"[44] concern over such abuses or violations. Other resolutions have called on various ANSAs to "prevent human rights abuses and violations of international humanitarian law"[45] or to "protect human rights and respect international humanitarian law."[46] Seemingly fueled by context-dependent (and often private) political assessments, the uneven approach of the U.N. Security Council in these respects thwarts legal uniformity. It also frustrates attempts to predict whether the Council will identify human-rights obligations—and, if so, the content and character of those obligations—concerning a particular set of ANSAs.

37. UNSCR 2031 (2011), ¶ 14.

38. UNSCR 1856 (2008), Preamble.

39. *See*, *e.g.*, UNSCR 2149 (2014), Preamble (regarding the DRC).

40. *See*, *e.g.*, UNSCR 2295 (2016), Preamble (regarding Mali).

41. *See, e.g.*, UNSCR 2071 (2012), Preamble (regarding Mali) ("Condemning strongly the abuses of human rights committed in the north of Mali by armed rebels, terrorist and other extremist groups").

42. *See, e.g.*, UNSCR 2248 (2015), Preamble (regarding Burundi) ("Strongly condemning the increased cases of human rights violations and abuses…and all violations and abuses of human rights committed in Burundi both by security forces and by militias and other illegal armed groups").

43. *See, e.g.*, UNSCR 1649 (2005), Preamble (regarding the Democratic Republic of the Congo) ("Deploring the violations of human rights and international humanitarian law committed by these [foreign armed] groups and militias").

44. *See, e.g.*, UNSCR 1906 (2009), Preamble (regarding the Democratic Republic of the Congo) ("Expressing its extreme concern at the deteriorating humanitarian and human rights situation and the continued impunity of those [armed groups] responsible for human rights abuses and other atrocities").

45. UNSCR 1332 (2000), ¶ 13.

46. UNSCR 1291 (2000), ¶ 17.

Notably, in some of the DRC resolutions, the U.N. Security Council stated that it holds accountable certain named and unnamed groups maintaining control over territory throughout the DRC for "ensur[ing] protections for civilians."[47] In one such resolution, the U.N. Security Council specifically emphasized that "it holds the Rassemblement Congolais pour la Democratie-Goma [RCD Goma], as the *de facto* authority, responsible to bring an end to all extrajudicial executions, human rights violations and arbitrary harassment of civilians in Kisangani, and all other areas under RCD Goma's control…and calls on the *de facto* authorities in [the Ituri region and South Kivu] to ensure the protection of civilians and the rule of law."[48] In discussing U.N. Security Council resolutions regarding potential human-rights obligations of ANSAs with control over territory, one legal scholar argued that the DRC resolutions are illustrative of the emergence of the extension of human-rights obligations, in customary international law, to those ANSAs that control territory.[49]

Similarly, in respect of Georgia, the U.N. Security Council stated in one resolution that the "Abkhaz side [referring to the Abkhaz side of the civil war in Georgia, composed of armed groups and militias that exercised some governmental functions[50]] bears a particular responsibility to protect the returnees and to facilitate the return of the remaining displaced population,"[51] and, in another, it urged the "Abkhaz leadership to address seriously the need for a dignified return of [internally displaced persons] and refugees, including their security and human rights concerns."[52]

In certain sets of thematic resolutions—such as those addressing acts of Al-Qaida and associated terrorist groups; protection of civilians in armed conflict; protection of children in armed conflict; and use of small arms and light weapons—the U.N. Security Council has implied that at least ANSAs that are parties to armed conflict are capable of violating (certain aspects of) human rights law. These resolutions expressly refer to particular ANSAs, such as ISIL, Boko Haram, and al-Shabaab,[53] and/or to more general categories of possible ANSAs, such as "parties to armed

47. *See, e.g.*, UNSCR 1445 (2002), ¶ 15.
48. UNSCR 1417 (2002), ¶¶ 4–5.
49. Constantinides, *supra* note 8, at 102–103.
50. *Id.* at 95.
51. UNSCR 1494 (2003), ¶ 15.
52. UNSCR 1716 (2006), ¶ 9. While some of these obligations may (also) be laid down in IHL, some legal scholars have interpreted this language as also reflective of possible human-rights obligations of particular ANSAs. *See* Constantinides, *supra* note 8, at 101.
53. UNSCR 2331 (2016), ¶ 11 (concerning trafficking in persons in armed conflict).

conflict" or "armed groups."[54] In some instances, the U.N. Security Council refers to the potential human-rights obligations of states along with those of particular ANSAs,[55] while in other instances, the U.N. Security Council addresses the potential human-rights obligations of ANSAs independently of the state in which it operates.[56] As with U.N. Security Council resolutions aimed at the activities of parties in a particular state or region, at least some of these thematic resolutions refer to both potential "abuses" and "violations" of human rights committed by ANSAs.[57] These abuses and violations are frequently mentioned not only in relation to IHRL but also to other fields of international law, including IHL and refugee law.

In 2009, the U.N. Security Council addressed the thematic area of protection of civilians in armed conflict. While the U.N. Security Council emphasized that "States bear the primary responsibility to respect and ensure the human rights of its citizens," the resolution also stated that "parties to armed conflict bear the primary responsibility to take all feasible steps to ensure the protection of civilians."[58] In the first operative paragraph of the resolution, the U.N. Security Council "demand[ed]" that parties to armed conflict comply with all applicable obligations under international humanitarian, human rights, and refugee law, and urged those parties to "take all required measures to respect and protect the civilian population and meet its basic needs."[59]

Finally, and perhaps importantly from an international-legal perspective, while the U.N. Security Council expressly adopts some of the resolutions analyzed herein under its Chapter VII authority, in certain other resolutions the Council states that the situation being addressed by the resolution constitutes "a threat to international peace and security in the region"[60] but does not (also) expressly invoke its Chapter VII authority.

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54. *See, e.g.*, UNSCR 2220 (2015), ¶ 20 (concerning small arms and light weapons).

55. *See, e.g.*, UNSCR 1464 (2003) ¶ 14 (regarding Côte d'Ivoire) ("[U]rges all parties, including the Government, to take all necessary steps to prevent further violations of human rights and international humanitarian law, in particular against civilians regardless of their origin").

56. *See, e.g.*, UNSCR 2031 (2011) ¶ 13 (regarding the Central African Republic) ("[C]ondemns human rights violations perpetrated by the [Front Populaire pour le Redressement]").

57. *Compare id. with* UNSCR 2071 (2012), Preamble (regarding Mali) ("Condemning strongly the abuses of human rights committed in the north of Mali by armed rebels, terrorist and other extremist groups").

58. UNSCR 1894 (2009), Preamble.

59. *Id.* at ¶ 1.

60. *See, e.g.*, UNSCR 1376 (2001), Preamble.

## B. U.N. Security Council Presidential Statements

The 54 U.N. Security Council Presidential Statements identified as relevant cover a broad range of states and thematic issues, with considerable overlap with those states, issues, and particular ANSAs addressed in the previously mentioned U.N. Security Council resolutions.

Thirty-four of the Presidential Statements, or 62 percent, address African nations or regions, with 12 of those statements relating specifically to the DRC. Fifteen of the Presidential Statements, or approximately 28 percent, address thematic issues ranging from the protection of civilians in armed conflict to peace and security in Africa. The Presidential Statements HLS PILAC identified through its research date from 1998 to the present, with nearly half of the statements dating from the period 2010 to 2017.

As with U.N. Security Council resolutions relating to potential human-rights obligations of ANSAs, the Presidential Statements appear to lack a clear pattern or practice of specific terminology used to describe ANSAs, using terms such as "belligerents,"[61] "armed groups,"[62] "illegal armed groups,"[63] "militias,"[64] "non-state parties" to armed conflicts,[65] as well as "terrorist and other armed groups."[66] HLS PILAC identified at least one Presidential Statement directly addressing Boko Haram,[67] while another statement, entitled "threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts," also focused on potential human-rights obligations of Boko Haram.[68] Other specific, designated-terrorist ANSAs were discussed in Presidential Statements involving Syria[69] and thematic resolutions on issues such as the maintenance of international peace and security.[70]

The statements also appear to lack a clear pattern or practice with respect to referring to potential "abuses" or "violations" of human rights,

61. S/PRST/2001/17 (June 29, 2001) (regarding Burundi).
62. S/PRST/2011/11 (May 18, 2011) (regarding the Democratic Republic of the Congo).
63. S/PRST/2015/18 (Oct. 28, 2015) (regarding Burundi).
64. S/PRST/2014/20 (Sept. 19, 2014) (regarding Iraq).
65. S/PRST/2004/46 (Dec. 14, 2004) (regarding the protection of civilians in armed conflict).
66. S/PRST/2015/25 (Dec. 16, 2015) (regarding the maintenance of international peace and security).
67. S/PRST/2015/4 (Jan. 19, 2015) (regarding Boko Haram).
68. S/PRST/2015/14 (July 28, 2015) (regarding threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts).
69. S/PRST/2015/15 (August 17, 2015) (regarding Syria and referring to "the Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant" and "Al-Qaida").
70. S/PRST/2015/25 (December 16, 2015) (regarding the maintenance of international peace and security and referring to the "Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL, also known as Da'esh)").

with both terms being used in relation to various geographic and thematic contexts.[71] The statements often call on relevant parties to "respect"[72] or "comply with"[73] IHL and ("as applicable") human rights law[74] (or, at least, to protect the civilian population consistent with human rights law), as well as, in some instances, refugee law.[75]

## C. U.N. General Assembly Resolutions

The U.N. General Assembly has also addressed potential human-rights abuses and violations—as well as potential human-rights obligations or other responsibilities—of ANSAs. However, certain differences emerge between the approaches of the U.N. General Assembly and the U.N. Security Council. These differences may concern (among other things) relevant geographic focuses, as well as an emphasis on addressing some ANSAs thematically or in groups. Also, the legal bindingness (or not) of U.N. General Assembly resolutions may distinguish them from certain relevant U.N. Security Council resolutions.

### i. Geographic scope

The U.N. General Assembly has adopted resolutions on states that have (also) been addressed in relevant terms by the U.N. Security Council (such as in respect of Sudan and the DRC). Yet the U.N. General Assembly has also addressed ANSAs in geographic contexts that the U.N. Security Council has not, including in relation to Bosnia and Herzegovina and Myanmar. Eighteen of the 66 General Assembly resolutions address Afghanistan (the greatest number of resolutions concerning a particular state).

### ii. Temporal scope

Many of the possibly relevant U.N. General Assembly resolutions date from 1993 to 2010, as compared with the practice of the U.N. Security Council, which appears to have increasingly recognized potential human-rights obligations on the part of ANSAs over time. (One possible reason for this

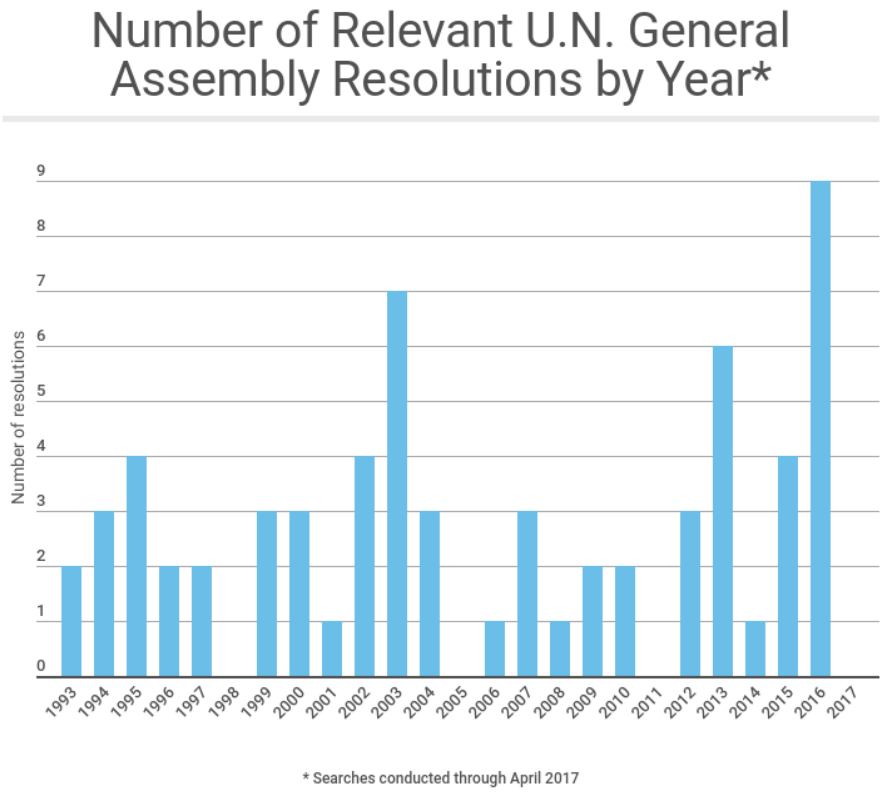
71. *See, e.g.*, S/PRST/2012/22 (Oct. 19, 2012) (regarding the Democratic Republic of the Congo), in which the Security Council "strongly condemns" M23 for, among other things, its "abuses of human rights." *Compare with* S/PRST/2013/7 (June 6, 2013) (regarding Somalia), in which the Security Council expressed "deep concern at reports of continued violations and abuses of human rights by all parties to the conflict in Somalia…").

72. *See, e.g.*, S/PRST/1998/13 (May 20, 1998) (regarding Somalia).

73. *See, e.g.*, S/PRST/2015/8 (March 22, 2015) (regarding Yemen).

74. S/PRST/2004/46 (December 14, 2004) (regarding the protection of civilians in armed conflict).

75. *Id.*

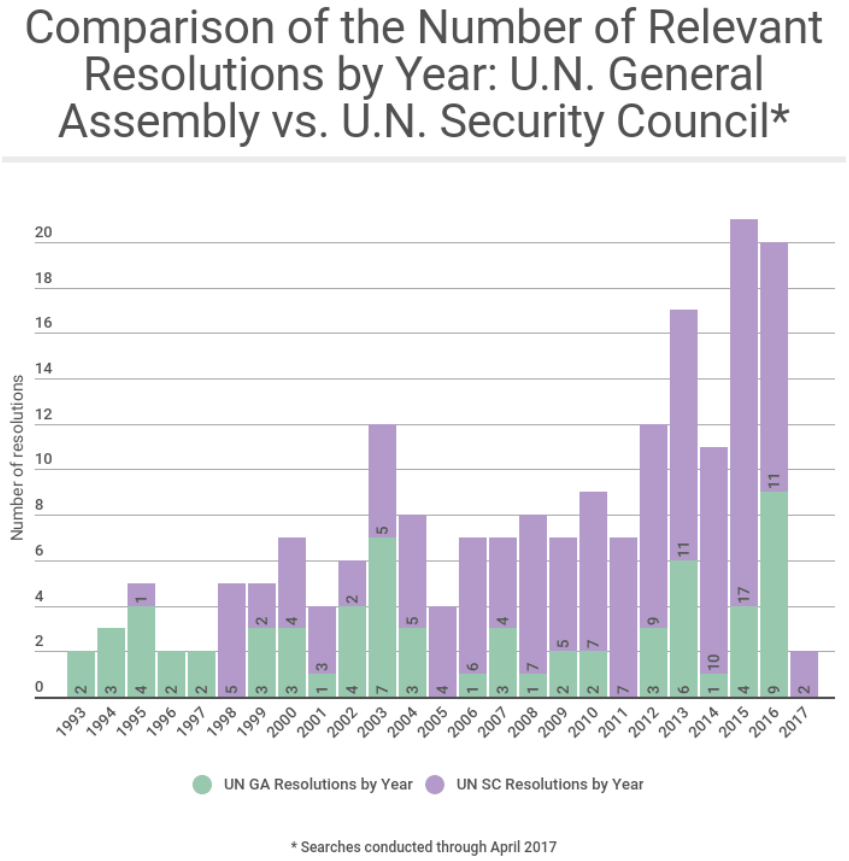



variance may relate to the powers of the U.N. General Assembly under Article 12 of the U.N. Charter, which states that the U.N. General Assembly may not make recommendations on any dispute or situation being currently addressed by the U.N. Security Council.)

### iii. Personal scope

Similarly to the U.N. Security Council, the U.N. General Assembly appears to use varying terms to describe ANSAs in relation to certain geographic contexts over time. In some instances in its resolutions regarding the DRC, the U.N. General Assembly refers to the acts of "parties to the conflict,"[76] although in other resolutions it refers to ANSAs as "armed forces and groups"[77] or "rebel groups" or those armed groups maintaining control over certain regions or territories.[78] In the case of Afghanistan, earlier U.N. General Assembly resolutions refer to the actions of the "Afghan parties,"[79] while later resolutions often refer specifically to acts of the Taliban, Al-Qaida, "extremist groups," and "illegal armed groups."[80]

76. *See, e.g.*, A/RES/56/173 (2002), Preamble.
77. A/RES/57/233 (2003), ¶ 2.
78. A/RES/56/173 (2002), ¶ 2.
79. A/RES/53/203 A-B (1999), ¶ 16.
80. A/RES/68/11 (2013), ¶ 41.




### iv. Material scope

The U.N. General Assembly generally refers to acts of various ANSAs as "violations of human rights and international humanitarian law."[81] One of these earliest resolutions "vigorously" condemns the "human rights violations" committed by "parties to the conflict" in Bosnia and Herzegovina.[82] More recently, the U.N. General Assembly has "strongly condemn[ed] all violations and abuses of international human rights law and all violations of international humanitarian law" committed by parties to conflict in Syria, including "armed extremists," "armed anti-Government groups," "Al-Qaida-affiliated terrorist groups," and the "so-called Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (Da'esh) and Al-Nusrah Front and their continued gross, systematic and widespread abuses of human rights and violations of international humanitarian law."[83] In relation to the context of Afghanistan, however, the U.N. General Assembly has taken a slightly different approach, with most resolutions finding certain ANSAs responsible for the "significant majority of

81. *See, e.g.*, A/RES/58/123 (2003), ¶ 6.
82. A/RES/44/88 (1993), ¶ 14 (regarding Bosnia and Herzegovina).
83. A/RES/70/234 (2016), Preamble, ¶¶ 1, 4–5 (regarding Syria).

civilian casualties" in Afghanistan,[84] and (further) "call[ing] for compliance with international humanitarian law and international human rights law."[85] Other resolutions call on these various ANSAs to "respect" human rights, and, in some instances, "to fully implement the human rights provisions of the Afghan Constitution."[86]

Like the U.N. Security Council, the U.N. General Assembly has also referred to acts of ANSAs as "abuses," "violations," or "violations and abuses"[87] of human rights, occasionally (further) qualifying these acts as "massive,"[88] "grave,"[89] or "gross"[90] abuses or violations. With respect to those ANSAs with *de-facto* control over regions or territories, the U.N. General Assembly maintains that ANSAs should have "accountability" for human-rights violations in areas under their control.[91] In contrast with the approach of the U.N. Security Council, the U.N. General Assembly detailed with great specificity human-rights violations committed by ANSAs in the DRC, to include such violations as "breaches of freedom of expression, opinion, association and assembly."[92]

Moreover, 18 of the 66 possibly relevant U.N. General Assembly resolutions address thematic issues as diverse as hostage-taking; protection of human-rights defenders; human rights and terrorism;[93] safe drinking water; and sanitation. Compared with the whole of U.N. General Assembly resolutions addressing possible human-rights obligations of ANSAs, these resolutions tend to address "non-state actors" explicitly in the resolution. In one such resolution on human-rights defenders, the U.N. General Assembly stated that it was "[g]ravely concerned also about incidents of human rights defenders being subjected to attacks, threats and other abuses by non-State actors, and underlin[ed] the need for the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all persons, including human rights defenders, to be respected and protected," and "[u]rged non-State

84. *See, e.g.*, A/RES/67/17 (2012), Preamble.

85. *See, e.g.*, A/RES/70/77 (2016), Preamble.

86. *See, e.g.*, A/RES/62/6 (2007), ¶ 22.

87. A/RES/68/182 (2013), ¶ 5 (regarding Syria).

88. A/RES/70/167 (2016), Preamble (regarding the Subregional Centre for Human Rights and Democracy in Central Africa).

89. A/RES/50/230 (2003), Preamble (regarding Sudan).

90. A/RES/66/253B (2012), ¶ 2 (regarding Syria).

91. A/RES/56/173 (2002), ¶ 2.

92. *Id.*

93. *See, e.g.*, A/RES/48/122 (1994) (regarding "human rights and terrorism"). This particular series of resolutions, which express concern over "gross violations of human rights" by "terrorist groups," might be germane insofar as "terrorist groups" share relevant characteristics with ANSAs.

actors to respect and promote the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all persons."[94] Another resolution, addressing sexual violence in armed conflict, "[s]trongly condemn[ed] all acts of violence against women and girls, whether these acts are perpetrated by the State, by private persons or by non-State actors," and further "[r]ecogniz[ed] that rape or any other form of sexual violence is unlawful in all circumstances and in all places…whether or not committed by State or non-State actors in the course of achieving political or military objectives, whether or not in the course of an international or non-international armed conflict, or in areas under foreign occupation."[95]

# V. Possible Legal Implications of Adopted Language

In considering existing international law regarding possible human-rights obligations or related responsibilities of ANSAs, addressing two questions may help to clarify the implications of identified practices of the U.N. Security Council and the U.N. General Assembly: first, is none, some, or all of a relevant document legally binding; and, second, if the document is considered binding, whom or what does it bind?

The U.N. Security Council derives its authority from the Charter of the United Nations, which provides that the Security Council maintains the "primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security."[96] The U.N. Charter also lays down that U.N. member states "agree to accept and carry out decisions of the Security Council in accordance

94. A/RES/70/161 (2016), Preamble and ¶ 7 (regarding "human rights defenders in the context of the Declaration on the Right and Responsibility of Individuals, Groups and Organs of Society to Promote and Protect Universally Recognized Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms").

95. A/RES/62/134 (2008), Preamble (regarding "eliminating rape and other forms of sexual violence in all their manifestations, including in conflict and related situations"). Separately, in a resolution addressing the human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation, the U.N. General Assembly "call[ed] upon non-State actors, including business enterprises, both transnational and others, to comply with their responsibility to respect human rights, including the human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation, including by cooperating with State investigations into allegations of abuses of the human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation, and by progressively engaging with States to detect and remedy abuses of the human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation." A/RES/70/169 (2016), ¶ 6 (regarding "the human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation"). As most businesses are not "armed" actors in a relevant sense under review here, HLS PILAC has not included this reference in the text.

96. Charter of the United Nations, Chapter V, Article 24.

with the present Charter."[97] The interpretation of U.N. Security Council resolutions—in particular, whether (a provision within) a resolution is legally binding—may hinge on an array of factors, including the invocation (or not) of particular legal authorities bestowed on the U.N. Security Council, such as whether to impose measures to "maintain or restore international peace and security,"[98] or the use of particular language signaling that the U.N. Security Council intends for a certain provision or entire document to be binding on member states.

In general, U.N. Security Council resolutions expressly adopted under its Chapter VII authority, or containing language that indicates the existence of a threat to the peace, breach of the peace, or act of aggression, may contain obligations that are legally binding on member states. Chapter VII of the U.N. Charter authorizes the U.N. Security Council to "determine the existence of any threat to the peace, breach of the peace, or act of aggression" and to "make recommendations, or decide what measures shall be taken…to maintain or restore international peace and security."[99] These measures may include so-called "provisional measures"[100]—that is, "measures not involving the use of armed force… to give effect to its decisions"[101]—or more coercive measures, such as authorized "action by air, sea, or land forces as may be necessary to maintain or restore international peace and security."[102] However, not every resolution expressly adopted under the U.N. Security Council's Chapter VII powers necessarily contains—without more indicia—obligations binding on member states. That is because, as noted above, Chapter VII (also) provides the U.N. Security Council with the authority to issue "recommendations,"[103] which would not in general be considered legally binding. The use of certain language, such as "decides," in an operative paragraph—in distinction to the preamble—of a resolution may also indicate the intent of the U.N. Security Council to create binding obligations.[104]

Thus, even where the U.N. Security Council invokes Chapter VII, that resolution or certain provisions within it may not necessarily be legally

97. *Id.* at Article 25.
98. *Id.* at Chapter VII, Article 39.
99. *Id.*
100. *Id.* at Article 40.
101. *Id.* at Article 41.
102. *Id.* at Article 42.
103. Michael C. Wood, *The Interpretation of Security Council Resolutions*, Max Planck Yearbook of United Nations Law, 74–95 (1998).
104. *Id.* at 82; *see* Charter of the United Nations, Chapter V, Article 25.

binding.[105] Determining whether a particular U.N. Security Council resolution imposes an obligation (or not) may (also) involve other considerations, as indicated by the International Court of Justice (ICJ) in an opinion addressing the interpretation of U.N. Security Council resolutions:

> The language of a resolution of the Security Council should be carefully analyzed before a conclusion can be made as to its binding effect. In view of the nature of the powers under Article 25 [of the U.N. Charter], the question whether they have been in fact exercised is to be determined in each case, having regard to the terms of the resolution being interpreted, the discussions leading to it, the Charter provisions invoked and, in general, all circumstances that might assist in determining the legal consequences of the resolution of the Security Council.[106]

A commentator argues that the U.N. Security Council should be considered a "political organ" rather than a legislative or judicial body, in part because it is composed of five permanent member states and ten rotating member states, each with varying perspectives, interests, and equities.[107] Negotiations over the language of resolutions remain a largely informal, non-public process, which can result in few, if any, materials to aid in the assistance of understanding the object and purpose of U.N. Security Council resolutions.[108] Furthermore, given the political nature of the U.N. Security Council, it may ultimately choose to adopt unclear or ambiguous language in resolutions to obtain consensus on certain issues. As one scholar notes, "In an ideal world, each resolution would be internally consistent, consistent with earlier Council action on the same matter, and consistent with Council action on other matters…[U.N. Security Council resolutions] are frequently not clear, simple, concise or unambiguous."[109] This context may help explain the various approaches, terminologies, and methodologies the U.N. Security Council has adopted to address the possible human-rights obligations of ANSAs.

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105. Security Council Report, *Special Research Report No. 1: Security Council Action Under Chapter VII: Myths and Realities* (June 23, 2008).

106. *Legal Consequences for States of the Continued Presence of South Africa in Namibia (South West Africa) notwithstanding Security Council Resolution 276 (1970)*, ICJ Reports 1971, at 53.

107. Wood, *supra* note 103, at 78–79. *But see* Paul C. Szasz, "The Security Council Starts Legislating," 96 American Journal of International Law 901 (2002) (concerning certain counterterrorism resolutions).

108. *Id.* at 94. *See also* Michael Wood, *United Nations, Security Council*, in Max Planck Encyclopedia of Public International Law (2007).

109. Wood, *supra* note 103, at 82.

To aid in discerning the intent of the U.N. Security Council, the preambular paragraphs of a resolution may, as one scholar notes, "assist in interpretation, by giving guidance as to [the resolution's] object and purpose, but they need to be treated with caution since they tend to be used as a dumping ground for proposals that are not acceptable in the operative paragraphs."[110] U.N. Security Council Presidential Statements may also provide clarity as to the intent of the U.N. Security Council in adopting a particular resolution; however, at least according to one commentator, they are not considered to be binding documents.[111]

With respect to the U.N. General Assembly, the U.N. Charter provides that it "may discuss any questions or any matters within the scope of the present Charter or relating to the powers and functions of any organs provided for in the present Charter, and, except as provided in Article 12 [which states that the U.N. General Assembly may not make recommendations on any dispute or situation being currently addressed by the U.N. Security Council], may make recommendations to the Members of the United Nations or to the Security Council or to both on any such questions or matters."[112] Each member state has one vote on matters before the U.N. General Assembly, and "the greater part of [U.N. General Assembly] resolutions are adopted with a large majority, often even without any opposition."[113]

Regarding the binding nature (or not) of U.N. General Assembly resolutions, one commentator has argued that, "[i]n principle, those resolutions of the [U.N. General Assembly] that go beyond the scope of its internal powers [for instance, the power to elect non-permanent members of the U.N. Security Council] possess no binding force. In terms of international law, such resolutions are legal acts which are not capable of creating direct legal obligations as such. The relevant provisions of the U.N. Charter unmistakably classify them as recommendations."[114] Nevertheless,

110. *Id.* at 86–87.

111. *Id.* at 83.

112. Charter of the United Nations, Chapter IV, Article 10.

113. Christian Tomuschat, *United Nations, General Assembly*, in Max Planck Encyclopedia of Public International Law (2011).

114. *Id. See also* Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons, 1996 I.C.J. 226, at ¶ 70 ("The Court notes that General Assembly resolutions, even if they are not binding, may sometimes have normative value. They can, in certain circumstances, provide evidence important for establishing the existence of a rule or the emergence of an *opinio juris*. To establish whether this is true of a given General Assembly resolution, it is necessary to look at its content and the conditions of its adoption; it is also necessary to see whether an *opinio juris* exists as to its normative character. Or a series of resolutions may show the gradual evolution of the *opinio juris* required for the establishment of a new rule.").

that commentator notes, "it has frequently been argued in recent times that resolutions adopted unanimously or by consensus should be considered as legally binding *stricto sensu* if they purport to set forth legal rules," citing as the most notable example the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.[115]

Therefore, to answer the first question, with limited exceptions U.N. General Assembly resolutions, on their own, are in general considered not binding but might reflect emerging state practice or *opinio juris*. Some (but only some) U.N. Security Council documents—most obviously, decisions expressly adopted under its Chapter VII authority authorizing "all necessary measures"—impose legal obligations. The use of particular language or invocation of certain legal authorities under the U.N. Charter (among other things) tends to indicate whether the U.N. Security Council intends for a (provision of a) resolution to be legally binding. For their part, Presidential Statements or other statements made by members of the U.N. Security Council may, in general, help illuminate its intent in adopting a particular decision.

As to whom or what can be bound pursuant to a relevant U.N. Security Council resolution, it may be helpful to begin by considering the various parties addressed in those resolutions. First, certain (provisions within) U.N. Security Council resolutions are often directed at U.N. member states. As noted above, the U.N. Charter provides that its member states "confer on the Security Council primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security"[116] and that member states "agree to accept and carry out the decisions of the Security Council in accordance with the present Charter."[117] Chapter VII of the Charter also establishes the responsibility of U.N. member states to "carry out" decisions of the U.N. Security Council and to afford "mutual assistance" in doing so.[118] As one example, the ICJ addressed legal consequences arising for states from the continued presence of South Africa in Namibia, notwithstanding Security Council Resolution 276 (1970):

> A binding determination made by a competent organ of the United Nations to the effect that a situation is illegal cannot remain without consequence. Once the Court is faced with such a situation, it would be failing in the discharge of its judicial functions if it did not declare that there is an obligation, especially upon Members of the United Nations, to bring that situation to an end.[119]

115. Tomuschat, *supra* note 113.
116. Charter of the United Nations, Chapter V, Article 24.
117. *Id.* at Article 25.
118. *Id.* at Articles 48–49.
119. *Legal Consequences for States of the Continued Presence of South Africa in Namibia*

Second, as HLS PILAC's research indicates, the U.N. Security Council has increasingly addressed (provisions of) resolutions to ANSAs and other non-state actors. At least in certain key respects, the legal effect (if any) of these provisions is currently unclear. The organization Security Council Report has explained that, at least according to its research, "no consensus has emerged and existing positions present many problems. On the one hand, the Charter is silent about non-state actors, and there are concerns about the continuous, practical expansion of Security Council powers. On the other, there are problems from seeing Council demands against non-state actors…as solely political statements."[120]

In general, while it is widely accepted that in relation to armed conflict relevant ANSAs are bound by applicable provisions of IHL,[121] the obligations (if any) of ANSAs under IHRL law remain less clear.[122] The implications of U.N. Security Council resolutions addressing potential human-rights abuses or violations of ANSAs are also unclear and are the subject of vigorous debate among legal scholars. Disagreement often concerns issues involving the capability (or not) of non-state entities to consent to be bound by IHRL; the extent to which various ANSAs exercise control over territory, a situation under which the ANSA may be capable of (*de facto* if not also *de jure*) guaranteeing certain human rights to the population; and what the general invocation of "human rights" in this context may mean, given the vast array of human-rights provisions in international law.[123] With respect to that last issue, much of the practice of the U.N. Security Council and U.N. General Assembly has contributed to a lack of clarity through vague references to "human rights law" in nearly all relevant instances identified in HLS PILAC's research, without clarifying what precisely is meant by invoking "human rights law," or speaking of "abuses" or "violations" of human rights.[124]

In short, at this time, it may be argued that the U.N. Security Council, in speaking in terms of potential human-rights obligations or related

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*(South West Africa) notwithstanding Security Council Resolution 276 (1970)*, ICJ Reports 1971, at 54.

120. Security Council Report, *supra* note 105.

121. *See generally* Sandesh Sivakumaran, *Binding Armed Opposition Groups*, The International Law and Comparative Law Quarterly, Vol. 55, No. 2, 369–394 (2006).

122. *See, e.g.*, Giacca, *supra* note 1.

123. For an early discussion of various perspectives, *see generally* Andrew Clapham, *Human Rights Obligations of Non-State Actors in Conflict Situations*, International Review of the Red Cross, Vol. 88, No. 863 (2006).

124. Giacca finds the distinction between "abuses" and "violations" of human rights throughout U.N. documents to represent a "semantic distinction" without a legal consequence. *See, e.g.*, Giacca, *supra* note 1, at 250.

responsibilities of ANSAs, more often than not appears to be making statements of a moral or political character—not necessarily (also) of a legal character. Depending on future practices of the U.N. Security Council, those statements may or may not ultimately coalesce or evolve in general into measures of a legal character. In theory, for instance, the U.N. Security Council could seek to transform statements concerning potential human-rights obligations or related responsibilities of ANSAs into legal measures by (among other things) including language in binding decisions that are expressly adopted under Chapter VII, that clearly demonstrate the Council's intention to impose such obligations on ANSAs, and that are laid down in sufficiently concrete terms addressing the geographic, temporal, personal, and material scope of relevant obligations. Currently, it is not clear that the U.N. Security Council wants to do so or will do so. Nor is it obvious that doing so would necessarily lead to greater overall respect for and enjoyment of human rights in practice.

# VI. Conclusion

In sum, it is incontrovertible that the U.N. Security Council and the U.N. General Assembly have recognized, at a minimum, that the conduct of at least some ANSAs—in contexts as diverse as the DRC to Syria—can amount to violations or abuses of human rights. It is not currently possible to state, however, that either of these principal U.N. organs has taken sufficient steps to formally endow ANSAs with human-rights obligations in general under international law. Taking those steps would, in a key respect, contribute to a radical revision of a key conceptual foundation of the IHRL system. That is because that system has long been premised on *states* bearing international responsibility for respecting, protecting, and fulfilling human rights. Nor is it possible currently to state that either of these U.N. organs has precisely defined what is meant in invoking the general term "human rights" with respect to possible human-rights obligations under international law in relation to ANSAs.

In relation to the development of international law and the imposition of legal obligations, U.N. Security Council action is of much greater significance than that of the U.N. General Assembly. That is due to the powers bestowed on the Council in the contemporary collective-security system. For its part, the U.N. Security Council appears to assume, at a minimum, that (at least certain) ANSAs must respect or comply with (certain provisions of) human rights law and that (at least certain) ANSAs may bear responsibility to take appropriate steps to protect a relevant civilian population consistent with human rights.

The trend in the U.N. Security Council, in short, is toward increasing recognition that (at least certain) ANSAs have a role in helping to ensure that human rights are not abused. Yet it is currently not possible to establish that the U.N. Security Council has taken—and it is not clear that it will take—the steps that would be necessary to help progressively develop the concept of human rights such that ANSAs will ultimately be recognized by the Council in general as bearing human-rights obligations as such under international law.

Whether U.N. Security Council and U.N. General Assembly action in support of such a development would ultimately be seen as promoting greater protection and enjoyment of human rights and accountability concerning violations of human rights may turn on many factors. Consider three such factors.

First, in general, U.N. Security Council and U.N. General Assembly action in support of the premise that ANSAs can have human-rights obligations (as some legal scholars have argued[125] in relation to various contexts) would represent an endorsement by those U.N. organs of the proposition that states are no longer (solely) responsible under international law for respecting, protecting, and fulfilling human rights. It may be noted in that connection that many states are already failing in key respects to fulfill their human-rights commitments. A related line of argumentation might emphasize that numerous civilian populations already live in territories under *de-facto* control of ANSAs. And, considering that reality, the expansion of the number of bearers of human-rights obligations might, according to this argument, strengthen the overall protection of human rights in practice. Yet U.N. Security Council and U.N. General Assembly action in support of (more formally) endowing ANSAs with human-rights obligations may raise countervailing concerns as well. For instance, dispersing human-rights obligations among disparate actors—state and non-state alike—may ultimately be seen as diluting the force of the underlying obligations. Such an approach might also raise concerns regarding the coherence of the legal system: for example, would it be possible (short of a level of specificity that is rarely, if ever, found in relevant U.N. Security Council decisions) to discern the precise scope of obligations of ANSAs in the context of such U.N. Security Council and U.N. General Assembly action? Ultimately, would treaty-based international-human-rights mechanisms need to be revised, and, if so, would states consent to these revisions?

A second factor is whether the U.N. Security Council, in particular, should be considered a desirable or an appropriate vehicle through

125. *See*, *e.g.*, Murray, *supra* note 1.

which to help bring about these changes. From one perspective, the U.N. Security Council might be lauded for innovating protective norms. Over the last quarter century, for instance, it raised, in an increasingly broad set of contexts, the protection of individual human beings to a matter of international concern. This line of argumentation might further emphasize the capacity of the Council to act quickly to bind all member states, surpassing the relatively slow processes of codification or customary-international-law formation. Yet countervailing arguments might emerge here as well. For example, the Council is much less likely, it appears, to scrutinize situations where its permanent members are active. It might also be noted that in relation to counterterrorism decisions—the primary area where the Council has already been seen as "legislating"—the Council itself has been subject to certain criticisms from human-rights perspectives.

A third, related factor is the uneven approach of the U.N. Security Council to date in pursuing accountability concerning human-rights abuses. Given the political character of the U.N. Security Council, it is perhaps unsurprising that states politically or militarily aligned with one or more permanent members of the Council are less likely to be subject to such Council scrutiny. This situation often occurs even though, in relation to many situations of grave human-rights violations, the state that is being shielded by a permanent member bears far greater responsibility in practice than any ANSAs might.

# VII. Possible Areas of Focus for Future Research

To better understand trends and trajectories concerning relevant practice of the U.N. Security Council and U.N. General Assembly with respect to ANSAs, additional empirical and normative research may prove illuminating. Possible areas of inquiry in that connection might include:

- Exploring whether a correlation exists between a failure by a state to meet its human-rights obligations and an increased willingness of the U.N. Security Council to address human-rights matters in relation to ANSAs in relation to that context;
- Examining the precise legal status (especially the bindingness, if any) of a cross-section of U.N. Security Council resolutions, especially in light of the Council's uneven practice in expressly or impliedly invoking (or not) its various authorities;

- Comparing the U.N. Security Council's approach to addressing human rights regarding ANSAs in areas where permanent members are active versus areas where they are not;
- Seeking to better understand the substantive content of "human rights" as addressed by the U.N. Security Council and U.N. General Assembly. This would likely involve at least qualitative research that not only examines public debates and discussions by these two organs but also looks at how individual states have articulated their understanding of these terms. Assuming that it is unlikely that states will have been explicit regarding the specific content of references to "human rights," this research might also involve exploring potential answers from secondary sources;
- Seeking to identify whether there is a correlation between the U.N. Security Council's (and potentially the U.N. General Assembly's) determination that a group is "terrorist" and subsequent references to "violations" or "abuses" of human rights;
- Undertaking empirical research that would create well-founded numerical values for different types of language (*e.g.*, varying levels of obligation, specificity of rights, types of ANSAs) and that would establish findings regarding the perspectives of these two U.N. principal organs;
- Examining the extent to which the U.N. Security Council and the U.N. General Assembly see ANSAs as having human-rights obligations only—or, at least, primarily—in relation to situations of armed conflict;
- Exploring the approaches of the U.N. Security Council and the U.N. General Assembly with respect to instances where "refugee law" is invoked along with potential human-rights obligations for ANSAs; and
- Considering critically the various avenues available to states that might wish to move international law toward a more formal recognition of ANSA-related obligations or responsibilities under IHRL. This research might examine such areas as developments in treaty law, the progressive development of practice in key contexts, and a more strategic approach to advocating for positions in salient multilateral contexts.

# Annex I - Search Terms

HLS PILAC used the following search terms, either individually or in combination with other terms, to conduct its research of U.N. documents:

- Al-Qaida
- Al-Shabaab
- Armed activities
- Armed actor[s]
- Armed element[s]
- Armed forces
- Armed group[s]
- Armed movement
- Armed non-state actor[s]
- Armed opposition group[s]
- Armed rebel group[s]
- Armed terrorist group[s]
- Armed unit[s]
- Belligerents
- Colonial
- Combatant[s]
- Dissident armed forces
- Faction[s]
- Foreign element[s]
- Freedom[s]
- Guerilla[s]
- Hamas
- Hezbollah
- Human rights
- Illegal armed group[s]
- Insurgent element[s]
- Insurgents

- Insurrectional movement
- Islamic State/ISIL
- Liberation movement
- LTTE/Tamil
- Military junta
- Militia[s]
- National liberation movement
- Organized armed actor[s]
- Organized armed group[s]
- Palestine/PLO
- Rebel[s]
- Rebel militia[s]
- Terrorist group[s]
- Terrorists.

# Annex II.A - Database of Excerpts concerning ANSAs and IHRL in U.N. Security Council Resolutions

| Document | Year adopted | Situation and/or thematic context | Excerpt | Invocation of Chapter VII authority? |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| S/RES/1001 | 1995 | Liberia | "Calling on the Liberian factions, especially the combatants, to respect the human rights of the civilian population and to respect international humanitarian law" | |
| S/RES/1181 | 1998 | Sierra Leone | "[OP 12] *Demands* that all factions and forces in Sierra Leone...respect human rights and abide by applicable rules of international humanitarian law" | |
| S/RES/1193 | 1998 | Afghanistan | "[OP 14] *Urges* the Afghan factions to put an end to the discrimination against girls and women and to other violations of human rights as well as violations of international humanitarian law and to adhere to the internationally accepted norms and standards in this sphere" | |
| S/RES/1213 | 1998 | Angola | "[OP 7] *Reiterates* its concern at the continued deterioration of the humanitarian situation, especially the significant increase in the number of internally displaced persons and the increase in minelaying activity, and *calls* on the Government of Angola and in particular UNITA to guarantee unconditionally the safety and freedom of movement of all international humanitarian personnel, to cooperate fully with international humanitarian organizations in the delivery of emergency relief assistance to affected populations, to cease minelaying activity, and to respect international humanitarian, refugee and human rights law" | |
| S/RES/1214 | 1998 | Afghanistan | "[OP 12] *Demands* that the Afghan factions put an end to discrimination against girls and women and other violations of human rights, as well as violations of international humanitarian law, and adhere to the international norms and standards in this sphere" | |
| S/RES/1216 | 1998 | Guinea-Bissau | "[OP 5] *Calls upon* all concerned, including the Government and the Self-Proclaimed Military Junta, to respect strictly relevant provisions of international law, including humanitarian and human rights law, and to ensure safe and unimpeded access by international humanitarian organizations to persons in need of assistance as a result of the conflict" | |

| Document | Year adopted | Situation and/or thematic context | Excerpt | Invocation of Chapter VII authority? |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| S/RES/1231 | 1999 | Sierra Leone | "[OP 3] *Condemns* the atrocities perpetrated by the rebels on the civilian population of Sierra Leone, including in particular those committed against women and children, *deplores* all violations of human rights and international humanitarian law which have occurred in Sierra Leone during the recent escalation of violence as referred to in paragraphs 21 to 28 of the report of the Secretary-General, including the recruitment of children as soldiers, and *urges* the appropriate authorities to investigate all allegations of such violations with a view to bringing the perpetrators to justice; [OP 4] *Calls upon* all parties to the conflict in Sierra Leone fully to respect human rights and international humanitarian law..." | |
| S/RES/1272 | 1999 | East Timor | "Expressing its concern at reports indicating that systematic, widespread and flagrant violations of international humanitarian and human rights law have been committed in East Timor, stressing that persons committing such violations bear individual responsibility, and calling on all parties to cooperate with investigations into these reports" | Express invocation of Chapter VII authority |
| S/RES/1291 | 2000 | Democratic Republic of the Congo | "[OP 17] *Calls on* all parties to the conflict in the Democratic Republic of the Congo to protect human rights and respect international humanitarian law and the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide of 1948" | |
| S/RES/1296 | 2000 | Protection of civilians in armed conflict | "Underlining the need for all parties concerned to comply with the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations and with rules and principles of international law, in particular international humanitarian, human rights and refugee law, and to implement fully the relevant decisions of the Security Council" | |
| S/RES/1332 | 2000 | Democratic Republic of the Congo | "[OP 13] *Reiterates* its call on all parties to the conflict, including all armed groups referred to in Annex A, Chapter 9.1 of the Lusaka Ceasefire Agreement [S/1999/815], to take immediate steps to prevent human rights abuses and violations of international humanitarian law and to ensure safe and unhindered access to humanitarian personnel for providing assistance to all those in need, including the refugees and the internally displaced persons" | |
| S/RES/1333 | 2000 | Afghanistan | "Underlining the responsibility of the Taliban for the well-being of the population in the areas of Afghanistan under its control" | |

| Document | Year adopted | Situation and/or thematic context | Excerpt | Invocation of Chapter VII authority? |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| S/RES/1346 | 2001 | Sierra Leone | "[OP 6] *Expresses* its deep concern at the reports of human rights abuses committed by the Revolutionary United Front (RUF) and others, including other military groups, against the civilian population, in particular the harassment and forced recruitment of adults and children for fighting and forced labour, [and] *demands* that these acts cease immediately..." | |
| S/RES/1370 | 2001 | Sierra Leone | "[OP 4] *Expresses* its continued deep concern at the reports of human rights abuses and attacks committed by the RUF, the Civil Defence Forces (CDF) and other armed groups and individuals, against the civilian population, in particular the widespread violation of the human rights of women and children, including sexual violence, [and] demands that these acts cease immediately" | |
| S/RES/1376 | 2001 | Democratic Republic of the Congo | "[OP 5] *Expresses* its grave concern at the repeated human rights violations throughout the Democratic Republic of the Congo in particular in the territories under the control of the rebel groups party to the Lusaka Ceasefire Agreement, and *calls* on all parties to put an end to such violations" | |
| S/RES/1417 | 2002 | Democratic Republic of the Congo | "[OP 4] *[R]eiterates* that it holds the Rassemblement Congolais pour la Democratie-Goma, as the de facto authority, responsible to bring to an end all extrajudicial executions, human rights violations and arbitrary harassment of civilians in Kisangani, and all other areas under RCD Goma's control...[OP 5] *Condemns* the exploitation of ethnic differences in order to incite or carry out violence or human rights violations, deplores the humanitarian impact of such abuse, and in this regard expresses particular concern at the situation in the Ituri region and in South Kivu, in particular in the Hauts Plateaux, and calls on the de facto authorities in the regions affected to ensure the protection of civilians and the rule of law" | |
| S/RES/1445 | 2002 | Democratic Republic of the Congo | "[OP 15] *Expressing its deep concern* over the intensification of ethnically targeted violence in the Ituri region, *condemns* all such violence or incitement to violence, requests all parties to take immediate actions to diffuse these tensions, ensure the protection of civilians and end violations of human rights" | |
| S/RES/1464 | 2003 | Côte d'Ivoire | "[OP 7] *[U]rges* all parties, including the Government, to take all necessary steps to prevent further violations of human rights and international humanitarian law, in particular against civilians regardless of their origin" | |

| Document | Year adopted | Situation and/or thematic context | Excerpt | Invocation of Chapter VII authority? |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| S/RES/1478 | 2003 | Liberia | "[OP 8] *Calls upon* the Government of Liberia and all parties, particularly the LURD and other armed rebel groups, to ensure unimpeded and safe movement for the personnel of United Nations humanitarian agencies and non-governmental organizations, to end the use of child soldiers and to prevent sexual violence and torture" | Express invocation of Chapter VII authority |
| S/RES/1484 | 2003 | Democratic Republic of the Congo | "[OP 7] *Demands* that all Congolese parties and all States in the Great Lakes region respect human rights..." | Express invocation of Chapter VII authority |
| S/RES/1494 | 2003 | Georgia | "[OP 15] *Recalls* that the Abkhaz side bears a particular responsibility to protect the returnees and to facilitate the return of the remaining displaced population" | |
| S/RES/1509 | 2003 | Liberia | "Gravely concerned by the use of child soldiers by armed rebel militias, government forces, and other militias...[OP 10] *Demands* that all parties cease all use of child soldiers, that all parties cease all human rights violations and atrocities against the Liberia population, and stresses the need to bring to justice those responsible" | Express invocation of Chapter VII authority |
| S/RES/1529 | 2004 | Haiti | "[OP 7] *Demands* that all the parties to the conflict in Haiti cease using violent means, and reiterates that all parties must respect international law, including with respect to human rights and that there will be individual accountability and no impunity for violators..." | Express invocation of Chapter VII authority |
| S/RES/1556 | 2004 | Sudan | "Condemning all acts of violence and violations of human rights and international humanitarian law by all parties to the crisis, in particular by the Janjaweed, including indiscriminate attacks on civilians, rapes, forced displacements, and acts of violence especially those with an ethnic dimension, and expressing its utmost concern at the consequences of the conflict in Darfur on the civilian population, including women, children, internally displaced persons, and refugees...Urging all the parties to take the necessary steps to prevent and put an end to violations of human rights and international humanitarian law and underlining that there will be no impunity for violators...[OP 6] *Demands* that the Government of Sudan fulfil its commitments to disarm the Janjaweed militias and apprehend and bring to justice Janjaweed leaders and their associates who have incited and carried out human rights and international humanitarian law violations and other atrocities" | Express invocation of Chapter VII authority |

| Document | Year adopted | Situation and/or thematic context | Excerpt | Invocation of Chapter VII authority? |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| S/RES/1564 | 2004 | Sudan | "Expressing grave concern at the lack of progress with regard to security and the protection of civilians, disarmament of the Janjaweed militias and identification and bringing to justice of the Janjaweed leaders responsible for human rights and international humanitarian law violations in Darfur; Recalling that the Sudanese Government bears the primary responsibility to protect its population within its territory, to respect human rights, and to maintain law and order, and that all parties are obliged to respect international humanitarian law, Stressing that the Sudanese rebel groups, particularly the Justice and Equality Movement and the Sudanese Liberation Army/Movement, must also take all necessary steps to respect international humanitarian and human rights law...[OP 7] *Reiterates* its call for the Government of Sudan to end the climate of impunity in Darfur by identifying and bringing to justice all those responsible, including members of popular defense forces and Janjaweed militias, for the widespread human rights abuses and violations of international humanitarian law, and insists that the Government of Sudan take all appropriate steps to stop all violence and atrocities..." | Express invocation of Chapter VII authority |
| S/RES/1565 | 2004 | Democratic Republic of the Congo | "[OP 19] *Strongly condemns* violence and other violations of international humanitarian law and human rights, in particular those perpetrated against civilians, in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and *demands* that all parties and Governments concerned in the region, including the Government of National Unity and Transition, take without delay all necessary steps to bring to justice those responsible for these violations and to ensure respect for human rights and international humanitarian law, as appropriate with relevant international assistance, as well as to guarantee the security and well-being of the civilian population" | Express invocation of Chapter VII authority |
| S/RES/1574 | 2004 | Sudan | "Recalling in this regard that all parties, including the Sudanese rebel groups such as the Justice and Equality Movement and the Sudanese Liberation Army, must respect human rights and international humanitarian law, and also recalling the primary responsibility of the Sudanese Government to protect its population within its territory and to maintain law and order, while respecting human rights" | |

| Document | Year adopted | Situation and/or thematic context | Excerpt | Invocation of Chapter VII authority? |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| S/RES/1592 | 2005 | Democratic Republic of the Congo | "Reiterating its serious concern regarding the continuation of hostilities by armed groups and militias in the eastern part of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, particularly in the provinces of North and South Kivu and in the Ituri district, and by the grave violations of human rights and of international humanitarian law that accompany them, calling on the Government of National Unity and Transition to bring the perpetrators to justice without delay, and recognizing that the continuing presence of ex-Forces armées rwandaises and Interahamwe elements remains a threat for the local civilian population and an impediment to good-neighbourly relations between the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Rwanda, Recalling its condemnation of the attack by one of these militias against members of the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUC), on 25 February 2005, and welcoming the first steps taken to date to bring them to justice, in particular the arrests of militia leaders suspected of bearing responsibility for human rights abuses..." | Express invocation of Chapter VII authority |
| S/RES/1621 | 2005 | Democratic Republic of the Congo | "Reiterating its serious concern regarding the continuation of hostilities by armed groups and militias in the eastern part of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, at the violations of human rights and of international humanitarian law that accompany them, and at the threat they pose to the holding of elections in the Democratic Republic of the Congo" | Express invocation of Chapter VII authority |
| S/RES/1635 | 2005 | Democratic Republic of the Congo | "Reiterating its serious concern regarding the continuation of hostilities by militias and foreign armed groups in the eastern part of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and at the threat they pose to the holding of elections in the Democratic Republic of the Congo; Deploring the violations of human rights and international humanitarian law carried out by these militias and groups and stressing the urgent need for those responsible for these crimes to be brought to justice" | Express invocation of Chapter VII authority |

| Document | Year adopted | Situation and/or thematic context | Excerpt | Invocation of Chapter VII authority? |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| S/RES/1649 | 2005 | Democratic Republic of the Congo | "Reiterating its serious concern regarding the continuation of hostilities by militias and foreign armed groups in the eastern part of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and at the threat they pose to civilians and to the holding of elections in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and to stability in the region; Deploring the violations of human rights and international humanitarian law committed by these groups and militias and stressing the urgent need for those responsible for these crimes to be brought to justice" | Express invocation of Chapter VII authority |
| S/RES/1653 | 2006 | Great Lakes region of Africa | "[OP 6] *Urges* all States concerned to take action to bring to justice perpetrators of grave violations of human rights and international humanitarian law and to take appropriate measures of international cooperation and judicial assistance in this regard...[OP 8] *Strongly condemns* the activities of militias and armed groups operating in the Great Lakes region such as the Forces Démocratiques de Libération du Rwanda (FDLR), the Palipehutu-Forces Nationales de Libération (FNL) and the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) which continue to attack civilians and United Nations and humanitarian personnel and commit human rights abuses against local populations and threaten the stability of individual States and the region as a whole..." | |
| S/RES/1663 | 2006 | Sudan | "[OP 7] *Strongly condemns* the activities of militias and armed groups such as the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA), which continue to attack civilians and commit human rights abuses in the Sudan; and *urges* in this regard UNMIS to make full use of its current mandate and capabilities" | |
| S/RES/1711 | 2006 | Democratic Republic of the Congo | "Deploring the persistence of violations of human rights and international humanitarian law in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, in particular those carried out by these militias and foreign armed groups and by elements of the Armed Forces of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (FARDC), and stressing the urgent need for those responsible for these crimes to be brought to justice" | Express invocation of Chapter VII authority |
| S/RES/1716 | 2006 | Georgia | "[OP 9] *Urges* the Abkhaz leadership to address seriously the need for a dignified return of IDPs and refugees, including their security and human rights concerns | |

| Document | Year adopted | Situation and/or thematic context | Excerpt | Invocation of Chapter VII authority? |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| S/RES/1721 | 2006 | Côte d'Ivoire | "[OP 27] *Demands* that all Ivorian parties guarantee the security and freedom of movement of all Ivorian nationals throughout the territory of Côte d'Ivoire..." | Express invocation of Chapter VII authority |
| S/RES/1736 | 2006 | Democratic Republic of the Congo | "Deploring the persistence of violations of human rights and international humanitarian law in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, in particular those carried out by these militias and foreign armed groups and by elements of the Armed Forces of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (FARDC), and stressing the urgent need for those responsible for these crimes to be brought to justice" | Express invocation of Chapter VII authority |
| S/RES/1756 | 2007 | Democratic Republic of the Congo | "Deploring again the persistence of violations of human rights and international humanitarian law in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, in particular those carried out by these militias and armed groups and by elements of the Armed Forces of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (FARDC), the Congolese National Police (PNC) and other security and intelligence services, and stressing the urgent need for those responsible for these crimes to be brought to justice" | Express invocation of Chapter VII authority |
| S/RES/1772 | 2007 | Somalia | "[OP 19] *[S]tresses* the responsibility of all parties and armed groups in Somalia to take appropriate steps to protect the civilian population in the country, consistent with international humanitarian, human rights and refugee law, in particular by avoiding any indiscriminate attacks on populated areas" | Express invocation of Chapter VII authority |
| S/RES/1778 | 2007 | Central African Republic and Chad | "Deeply concerned at the activities of armed groups and other attacks in eastern Chad, the north-eastern Central African Republic and western Sudan which threaten the security of the civilian population, the conduct of humanitarian operations in those areas and the stability of those countries, and which result in serious violations of human rights and international humanitarian law" | |

| Document | Year adopted | Situation and/or thematic context | Excerpt | Invocation of Chapter VII authority? |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| S/RES/1794 | 2007 | Democratic Republic of the Congo | "Deploring again the persistence of violations of human rights and international humanitarian law in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, in particular those carried out by the FDLR, ex-FAR/Interahamwe and the dissident militia of Laurent Nkunda, as well as other militias and armed groups and elements of the FARDC, the Congolese National Police (PNC) and other security and intelligence services, and stressing the urgent need for those responsible for these crimes to be brought to justice... Condemning in particular sexual violence perpetrated by militias and armed groups as well as elements of the FARDC, the PNC and other security and intelligence services, stressing the urgent need for the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, in cooperation with MONUC and other relevant actors, to end such violence and bring the perpetrators, as well as the senior commanders under whom they serve, to justice..." | Express invocation of Chapter VII authority |
| S/RES/1801 | 2008 | Somalia | "[OP 13] *[S]tresses* the responsibility of all parties and armed groups in Somalia to take appropriate steps to protect the civilian population in the country, consistent with international humanitarian, human rights and refugee law, in particular by avoiding any indiscriminate attacks on populated areas" | Express invocation of Chapter VII authority |
| S/RES/1804 | 2008 | Democratic Republic of the Congo and Great Lakes region | "Deploring the persistence of violations of human rights and international humanitarian law carried out by the FDLR, ex-FAR/Interahamwe, and other Rwandan armed groups operating in the eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo, condemning in particular sexual violence perpetrated by those groups..." | |
| S/RES/1806 | 2008 | Afghanistan | "Expressing also its concern over the harmful consequences of violent and terrorist activities by the Taliban, Al-Qaida and other extremist groups on the capacity of the Afghan Government to guarantee the rule of law, to provide security and basic services to the Afghan people, and to ensure the improvement and protection of their human rights and fundamental freedoms" | |

| Document | Year adopted | Situation and/or thematic context | Excerpt | Invocation of Chapter VII authority? |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| S/RES/1814 | 2008 | Somalia | "[OP 16] *Condemns* all and any violations of human rights and international humanitarian law, *calls upon* all parties in Somalia to respect fully their obligations in this regard, and *calls* for those responsible for such violations in Somalia to be brought to justice...[OP 17] *[S]tresses* the responsibility of all parties and armed groups in Somalia to take appropriate steps to protect the civilian population in the country, consistent with international humanitarian, human rights and refugee law" | Express invocation of Chapter VII authority |
| S/RES/1833 | 2008 | Afghanistan | "Recognizing the increased threats posed by the Taliban, Al-Qaida and other extremist groups as well as the challenges related to the efforts to address such threats, expressing its serious concern with the high number of civilian casualties in this context, noting relevant statements of Afghan authorities and high-ranking UN officials, as well as Press Statements of the President of the Security Council, in this regard, and calling for compliance with international humanitarian and human rights law and for all appropriate measures to be taken to ensure the protection of civilians" | Express invocation of Chapter VII authority |
| S/RES/1834 | 2008 | Central African Republic and Chad | "Deeply concerned at the activities of armed groups and other attacks in eastern Chad, the north-eastern Central African Republic and western Sudan which threaten the security of the civilian population, the conduct of humanitarian operations in those areas and the stability of those countries, and which result in serious violations of human rights and international humanitarian law" | |

| Document | Year adopted | Situation and/or thematic context | Excerpt | Invocation of Chapter VII authority? |
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| S/RES/1856 | 2008 | Democratic Republic of the Congo | "Expressing its extreme concern at the deteriorating humanitarian and human rights situation, condemning in particular the targeted attacks against the civilian population, sexual violence, recruitment of child soldiers and summary executions, and stressing the urgent need for the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, in cooperation with the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUC) and other relevant actors, to end those violations of human rights and international humanitarian law, in particular those carried out by the militias and armed groups and by elements of the Armed Forces of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (FARDC), the Congolese National Police (PNC) and other security and intelligence services, and to bring the perpetrators, as well as the senior commanders under whom they serve, to justice, and calling on Member States to assist in this regard and to continue to provide medical, humanitarian and other assistance to victims" | Express invocation of Chapter VII authority |
| S/RES/1861 | 2009 | Chad | "Deeply concerned at armed activities and banditry in eastern Chad, the northeastern Central African Republic and western Sudan which threaten the security of the civilian population, the conduct of humanitarian operations in those areas and the stability of those countries, and which result in serious violations of human rights and international humanitarian law..." | |
| S/RES/1863 | 2009 | Somalia | "[OP 15] *Calls upon* all parties to...comply fully with their obligations under international law, including international humanitarian, human rights and refugee law...[OP 19] *[S]tresses* the responsibility of all parties and armed groups in Somalia to take appropriate steps to protect the civilian population in the country, consistent with international humanitarian, human rights and refugee law" | Express invocation of Chapter VII authority |
| S/RES/1868 | 2009 | Afghanistan | "Expressing also its serious concern over the harmful consequences of violent and terrorist activities by the Taliban, Al-Qaida and other extremist groups on the capacity of the Afghan Government to guarantee the rule of law, to provide security and basic services to the Afghan people, and to ensure the improvement and protection of their human rights and fundamental freedoms" | |

| Document | Year adopted | Situation and/or thematic context | Excerpt | Invocation of Chapter VII authority? |
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| S/RES/1894 | 2009 | Protection of civilians in armed conflict | "Recognizing that States bear the primary responsibility to respect and ensure the human rights of their citizens, as well as all individuals within their territory as provided for by relevant international law...Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the protection of civilians of 29 May 2009 (S/2009/277) and its annex on constraints on humanitarian access, which identify the core challenges to the effective protection of civilians, namely enhancing compliance with international law; enhancing compliance by non-State armed groups with their obligations under international law; enhancing protection through more effective and better resourced United Nations peacekeeping and other relevant missions; enhancing humanitarian access; and enhancing accountability for violations...[OP 1] *Demands* that parties to armed conflict comply strictly with the obligations applicable to them under international humanitarian, human rights and refugee law, as well as to implement all relevant decisions of the Security Council and in this regard, urges them to take all required measures to respect and protect the civilian population and meet its basic needs...[OP 8] *Emphasizes* the importance of addressing in its country specific deliberations the compliance of parties to armed conflict with international humanitarian, human rights and refugee law..." | |

| Document | Year adopted | Situation and/or thematic context | Excerpt | Invocation of Chapter VII authority? |
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| S/RES/1906 | 2009 | Democratic Republic of the Congo | "Stressing the primary responsibility of the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo for ensuring security in its territory and protecting its civilians with respect for the rule of law, human rights and international humanitarian law...Expressing its extreme concern at the deteriorating humanitarian and human rights situation and the continued impunity of those responsible for human rights abuses and other atrocities, condemning in particular the targeted attacks against the civilian population, widespread sexual violence, recruitment and use of child soldiers and extrajudicial executions, stressing the urgent need for the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, in cooperation with the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUC) and other relevant actors, to end violations of human rights and international humanitarian law, and to bring the perpetrators to justice...[OP 10] *Demands* that all armed groups, in particular the Forces Démocratiques de Libération du Rwanda (FDLR) and the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA), immediately cease all forms of violence and human rights abuse against the civilian population in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, in particular gender-based violence, including rape and other forms of sexual abuse; [OP 11] *Demands* that the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, in furtherance of resolution 1888 (2009), immediately take appropriate measures to protect civilians, including women and children, from violations of international humanitarian law and human rights abuses, including all forms of sexual violence; urges the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo to ensure the full implementation of its "zero-tolerance policy" with respect to discipline and human rights violations, including sexual and gender-based violence, committed by elements of the Armed Forces of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (FARDC) and further urges that all reports of such violations be thoroughly investigated, with the support of MONUC, and that all those responsible be brought to justice through a robust and independent process" | Express invocation of Chapter VII authority |
| S/RES/1910 | 2010 | Somalia | "Condemning all and any violations of human rights and international humanitarian and human rights law, stressing the responsibility of all parties in Somalia to respect fully their obligations in this regard and to take appropriate measures to protect civilians, including women and children..." | Express invocation of Chapter VII authority |

| Document | Year adopted | Situation and/or thematic context | Excerpt | Invocation of Chapter VII authority? |
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| S/RES/1917 | 2010 | Afghanistan | "Recalling its resolutions 1674 (2006), 1738 (2006) and 1894 (2009) on the protection of civilians in armed conflict, expressing its concern at the high number of civilian casualties, the significant majority of which are caused by the Taliban, Al-Qaida and other extremist groups, welcoming the progress by Afghan and international forces in reducing civilian casualties reiterating its call for all feasible steps to be taken to ensure the protection of civilians, and calling for compliance with international humanitarian and human rights law as applicable" | |
| S/RES/1923 | 2010 | Chad | "Concerned at armed activities and banditry in eastern Chad, the north-eastern Central African Republic and western Sudan which threaten the security of the civilian population, the conduct of humanitarian operations in those areas and the stability of those countries, and which result in serious violations of human rights and international humanitarian law... | |
| S/RES/1925 | 2010 | Democratic Republic of the Congo | "[OP 18] Demands that all armed groups, in particular FDLR and the LRA, immediately cease all forms of violence and human rights abuse against the civilian population in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, in particular gender-based violence, including rape and other forms of sexual abuse" | Express invocation of Chapter VII authority |
| S/RES/1943 | 2010 | Afghanistan | "Expressing its serious concern with the increased high number of civilian casualties in Afghanistan, in particular women and children casualties, the large majority of which are caused by Taliban, Al-Qaida and other extremist groups, reaffirming that all parties to armed conflict must take all feasible steps to ensure the protection of affected civilians, calling for all parties to comply with their obligations under international humanitarian and human rights law and for all appropriate measures to be taken to ensure the protection of civilians, and recognizing the importance of the ongoing monitoring and reporting to the United Nations Security Council, including by ISAF, of the situation of civilians and in particular civilian casualties" | Express invocation of Chapter VII authority |

| Document | Year adopted | Situation and/or thematic context | Excerpt | Invocation of Chapter VII authority? |
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| S/RES/1952 | 2010 | Democratic Republic of the Congo | "[OP 6] *Requests* the Group of Experts to focus its activities in areas affected by the presence of illegal armed groups, including North and South Kivu and Orientale Province, as well as on regional and international networks providing support to illegal armed groups, criminal networks and perpetrators of serious violations of international humanitarian law and human rights abuses, including those within the national armed forces, operating in the eastern part of the Democratic Republic of the Congo..." | Express invocation of Chapter VII authority |
| S/RES/1964 | 2010 | Somalia | "Expressing its condemnation in the strongest terms of all acts of violence, abuses and human rights violations committed against civilians, including women and children, and humanitarian personnel, in violation of international humanitarian law and human rights law, stressing the responsibility of all parties in Somalia to comply fully with their obligations in this regard and reaffirming the importance of the fight against impunity...[OP 15] *Calls* for the immediate cessation of all acts of violence or abuses committed against civilians, including women and children, and humanitarian personnel in violation of international humanitarian law and human rights law and stresses the responsibility of all parties and armed groups in Somalia to comply with their obligations to protect the civilian population from the effects of hostilities, in particular by avoiding any indiscriminate or excessive use of force" | Express invocation of Chapter VII authority |
| S/RES/1974 | 2011 | Afghanistan | "Recalling its resolutions 1674 (2006), 1738 (2006) and 1894 (2009) on the protection of civilians in armed conflict, expressing its serious concern with the increased high number of civilian casualties in Afghanistan, in particular women and children casualties, the large majority of which are caused by the Taliban, Al-Qaida, other violent extremist groups and illegal armed groups, reaffirming that all parties to armed conflict must take all feasible steps to ensure the protection of affected civilians, calling for all parties to comply with their obligations under international humanitarian and human rights law and for all appropriate measures to be taken to ensure the protection of civilians..." | |

| Document | Year adopted | Situation and/or thematic context | Excerpt | Invocation of Chapter VII authority? |
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| S/RES/1991 | 2011 | Democratic Republic of the Congo | "Stressing that significant security challenges remain in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, including the continued presence of armed groups in the Kivus and Oriental Province, serious abuses and violations of human rights and acts of violence against civilians, limited progress in building professional and accountable national security and rule of law institutions, and illegal exploitation of natural resources...[OP 13] *Demands* that all armed groups, in particular Forces Démocratiques de Libération du Rwanda (FDLR) and the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA), immediately cease all forms of violence and human rights abuses against the civilian population in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, in particular against women and children, including rape and other forms of sexual abuse, and demobilize...[OP 18] *[E]ncourages* the Congolese authorities to promote lasting reconciliation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo by pursuing these efforts to combat impunity against all perpetrators of human rights and international humanitarian law violations, including those committed by any illegal armed groups or elements of the Congolese security forces" | |
| S/RES/1996 | 2011 | South Sudan | "[OP 9] *Demands* that all parties, in particular rebel militias and the LRA, immediately cease all forms of violence and human rights abuses against the civilian population in South Sudan, in particular gender-based violence, including rape and other forms of sexual abuse as well as all violations and abuses against children in violation of applicable international law such as their recruitment and use, killing and maiming and abduction with a view to specific and time-bound commitments to combat sexual violence in accordance with resolution 1960 and violence and abuses against children...[OP 13] *Calls upon* the authorities of the Republic of South Sudan to combat impunity and hold accountable all perpetrators of human rights and international humanitarian law violations, including those committed by illegal armed groups or elements of the Republic of South Sudan Security Forces..." | Express invocation of Chapter VII authority |

| Document | Year adopted | Situation and/or thematic context | Excerpt | Invocation of Chapter VII authority? |
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| S/RES/2011 | 2011 | Afghanistan | "Expressing its serious concern with the increased high number of civilian casualties in Afghanistan, in particular women and children casualties, the increasingly large majority of which are caused by Taliban, Al-Qaida and other violent and extremist groups, reaffirming that all parties to armed conflict must take all feasible steps to ensure the protection of affected civilians, especially women, children and displaced persons, calling for all parties to comply with their obligations under international humanitarian and human rights law and for all appropriate measures to be taken to ensure the protection of civilians..." | Express invocation of Chapter VII authority |
| S/RES/2014 | 2011 | Yemen | "[OP 2] *Strongly condemns* the continued human rights violations by the Yemeni authorities, such as the excessive use of force against peaceful protestors as well as the acts of violence, use of force, and human rights abuses perpetrated by other actors, and stresses that all those responsible for violence, human rights violations and abuses should be held accountable...[OP 8] Further demands that all armed groups remove all weapons from areas of peaceful demonstration, refrain from violence and provocation, refrain from the recruitment of children, and urges all parties not to target vital infrastructure" | |
| S/RES/2021 | 2011 | Democratic Republic of the Congo | "Noting with great concern the persistence of human rights abuses and humanitarian law violations against civilians in the eastern part of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, including the killing and displacement of significant numbers of civilians, the recruitment and use of child soldiers, and widespread sexual violence, stressing that the perpetrators must be brought to justice, reiterating its firm condemnation of all human rights abuses and international humanitarian law violations in the country, and recalling all its relevant resolutions on women and peace and security, on children and armed conflict, and on the protection of civilians in armed conflicts...[OP 13] *Demands* that all armed groups, in particular the FDLR, the LRA, Mai Mai Yakutumba, the Forces Nationales de Libération (FNL) and the Allied Democratic Forces (ADF) lay down their arms and immediately cease all forms of violence, human rights abuses and international humanitarian law violations against the civilian population in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the Great Lakes region, in particular against women and children, including rape and other forms of sexual abuse, and demobilize" | Express invocation of Chapter VII authority |

| Document | Year adopted | Situation and/or thematic context | Excerpt | Invocation of Chapter VII authority? |
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| S/RES/2031 | 2011 | Central African Republic | "Expressing deep concern at the precarious security situation in the Central African Republic due to the persisting presence and activities of national and foreign armed groups, including the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) and the Front Populaire pour le Redressement (FPR), that threaten peace and security in the Central African Republic and the subregion...[OP 13] *[C] ondemns* human rights violations perpetrated by the FPR...[OP 14] *Strongly condemns* the continued violations of international humanitarian and human rights law, including the recruitment and use of children, killing and maiming, rape, sexual slavery and other sexual violence and abductions perpetrated by armed groups, and specifically the LRA that threaten the population as well as peace and stability of the Central African Republic and the subregion..." | |
| S/RES/2036 | 2012 | Somalia | "[OP 16] *Demands* that all parties and armed groups take appropriate steps to ensure the safety and security of humanitarian personnel and supplies, and further demands that all parties ensure full and unhindered access for the timely delivery of humanitarian aid to persons in need of assistance across Somalia, consistent with humanitarian, human rights and refugee law" | Express invocation of Chapter VII authority |
| S/RES/2041 | 2012 | Afghanistan | "Recalling its resolutions 1674 (2006), 1738 (2006) and 1894 (2009) on the protection of civilians in armed conflict, expressing its serious concern with the increased high number of civilian casualties in Afghanistan, in particular women and children, the increasingly large majority of which are caused by the Taliban, Al-Qaida and other violent and extremist groups and illegal armed groups, reaffirming that all parties to armed conflict must take all feasible steps to ensure the protection of civilians, calling for all parties to comply with their obligations under international law including international humanitarian and human rights law and for all appropriate measures to be taken to ensure the protection of civilians..." | |

| Document | Year adopted | Situation and/or thematic context | Excerpt | Invocation of Chapter VII authority? |
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| S/RES/2053 | 2012 | Democratic Republic of the Congo | "Acknowledging that there have been positive developments relative to the consolidation of peace and stability across the Democratic Republic of the Congo, but stressing that serious challenges remain, particularly in the eastern provinces, including the continued presence of armed groups in the Kivus and Oriental Province, serious abuses and violations of human rights and acts of violence against civilians, limited progress in building professional and accountable national security and rule of law institutions, and illegal exploitation of natural resources...Remaining greatly concerned by the humanitarian situation and the persistent high levels of violence and human rights abuses and violations against civilians, condemning in particular the targeted attacks against civilians, widespread sexual and gender-based violence, recruitment and use of children by parties to the conflict, in particular the mutineers of ex-Congrès National pour la Défense du Peuple (ex-CNDP) and the 23 March Movement (M23), the displacement of significant numbers of civilians, extrajudicial executions and arbitrary arrests and their deleterious effect on the stabilization, reconstruction and development efforts in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, reiterating the urgent need for the swift prosecution of all perpetrators of human rights abuses and international humanitarian law violations, urging the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, in cooperation with the United Nations, the International Criminal Court and other relevant actors, to implement the appropriate responses to address these challenges and to provide security, medical, legal, humanitarian and other assistance to victims...[OP 18] *Demands* that all armed groups, in particular mutineers of ex-CNDP and M23, the FDLR, the LRA and the Allied Democratic Forces/National Army for the Liberation of Uganda (ADF/NALU), immediately cease all forms of violence and human rights abuses against the civilian population in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, in particular against women and children, including rape and other forms of sexual abuse and child recruitment, and demobilize..." | Express invocation of Chapter VII authority |

| Document | Year adopted | Situation and/or thematic context | Excerpt | Invocation of Chapter VII authority? |
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| S/RES/2057 | 2012 | South Sudan | "[OP 10] *Demands* that all parties immediately cease all forms of violence and human rights abuses against the civilian population in South Sudan, in particular gender-based violence, including rape and other forms of sexual violence as well as all violations and abuses against children in violation of applicable international law such as their recruitment and use, intentional killing and maiming, abduction and attacks against schools and hospitals and calls for specific and time-bound commitments to combat sexual violence in accordance with resolution 1960" | Express invocation of Chapter VII authority |
| S/RES/2063 | 2013 | Sudan | "[OP 8] *Reaffirms* its support for...freedom from harassment, arbitrary arrest and intimidation; and freedom from interference by the Government or the armed groups..." | |
| S/RES/2067 | 2012 | Somalia | "[OP 18] *Strongly condemns* the grave and systematic violations and human rights abuses perpetrated by many parties and in particular by Al-Shabaab and its affiliates against the civilian population, including violence against, children, journalists and human rights defenders and sexual violence against women and children, and calls for the immediate cessation of such acts, and emphasizes the need for accountability for all such violations and abuses" | |
| S/RES/2071 | 2012 | Mali | "Condemning strongly the abuses of human rights committed in the north of Mali by armed rebels, terrorist and other extremist groups, including violence against its civilians, notably women and children, killings, hostage-taking, pillaging, theft, destruction of cultural and religious sites and recruitment of child soldiers, stressing that some of such acts may amount to crimes under the Rome Statute and that their perpetrators must be held accountable and noting that the Transitional authorities of Mali referred the situation in the north of Mali since January 2012 to the International Criminal Court on 18 July 2012...[OP 5] *Demands* that all groups in the north of Mali cease all abuses of human rights and violations of international humanitarian law, including targeted attacks against the civilian population, sexual violence, recruitments of child soldiers and forced displacements..." | Express invocation of Chapter VII authority |

| Document | Year adopted | Situation and/or thematic context | Excerpt | Invocation of Chapter VII authority? |
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| S/RES/2076 | 2012 | Democratic Republic of the Congo | "Stressing the primary responsibility of the Government of the DRC for ensuring security in its territory and protecting its civilians with respect for the rule of law, human rights and international humanitarian law...[OP 3] *Strongly condemns* the M23 and all its attacks on the civilian population, MONUSCO peacekeepers and humanitarian actors, as well as its abuses of human rights, including summary executions, sexual and gender based violence and large scale recruitment and use of child soldiers, *further condemns* the attempts by the M23 to establish an illegitimate parallel administration and to undermine State authority of the Government of the DRC, and *reiterates* that those responsible for crimes and human rights abuses will be held accountable...[OP 17] *Emphasizes* the primary responsibility of the Government of the DRC to reinforce State authority and governance in Eastern DRC, including through effective security sector reform to allow army and police reform, and to end impunity for abuses of human rights and violations of international humanitarian law, and urges the Government of the DRC to increase efforts to provide security, reform the security sector, protect civilians and respect human rights" | Express invocation of Chapter VII authority |
| S/RES/2078 | 2012 | Democratic Republic of the Congo | "Noting with great concern the persistence of serious human rights abuses and humanitarian law violations against civilians in the eastern part of the DRC, including summary executions, sexual and gender based violence and large scale recruitment and use of child soldiers committed by the M23 and other armed groups...[OP 6] *Strongly condemns* the M23 and all its attacks on the civilian population, MONUSCO peacekeepers and humanitarian actors, as well as its abuses of human rights, including summary executions, sexual and gender based violence and large scale recruitment and use of child soldiers, *further condemns* the attempts by the M23 to establish an illegitimate parallel administration and to undermine State authority of the Government of the DRC, and *reiterates* that those responsible for crimes and human rights abuses will be held accountable" | Express invocation of Chapter VII authority |

| Document | Year adopted | Situation and/or thematic context | Excerpt | Invocation of Chapter VII authority? |
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| S/RES/2085 | 2012 | Mali | "Condemning strongly all abuses of human rights in the north of Mali by armed rebels, terrorist and other extremist groups, including those involving violence against civilians, notably women and children, killings, hostage-taking, pillaging, theft, destruction of cultural and religious sites and recruitment of child soldiers, reiterating that some of such acts may amount to crimes under the Rome Statute and that their perpetrators must be held accountable and noting that the Transitional authorities of Mali referred the situation in Mali since January 2012 to the International Criminal Court on 13 July 2012" | Express invocation of Chapter VII authority |
| S/RES/2091 | 2013 | Sudan | "Emphasizing the imperative, highlighted in the Doha Document for Peace in Darfur, for all armed actors to refrain from all acts of violence against civilians, in particular vulnerable groups such as women and children, and from violations of human rights and international humanitarian law and the need to address the urgent humanitarian crisis faced by the people of Darfur, including the guarantee of safe, timely and unrestricted humanitarian access to all areas by humanitarian agencies and personnel" | Express invocation of Chapter VII authority |
| S/RES/2093 | 2013 | Somalia | "[OP 28] *Expresses concern* at the security situation in camps for internally displaced persons (IDPs) and settlements, condemns all human rights violations and abuses, including sexual violence, committed against IDPs by all parties, including armed groups and militias, and calls for the strengthening of protection of IDP camps" | Express invocation of Chapter VII authority |
| S/RES/2096 | 2013 | Afghanistan | "Recalling its resolutions 1674 (2006), 1738 (2006) and 1894 (2009) on the protection of civilians in armed conflict, expressing its serious concern with the high number of civilian casualties in Afghanistan, in particular women and children, the increasingly large majority of which are caused by the Taliban, Al-Qaida and other violent and extremist groups and illegal armed groups, reaffirming that all parties to armed conflict must take all feasible steps to ensure the protection of civilians, calling for all parties to comply with their obligations under international law including international humanitarian and human rights law and for all appropriate measures to be taken to ensure the protection of civilians..." | |

| Document | Year adopted | Situation and/or thematic context | Excerpt | Invocation of Chapter VII authority? |
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| S/RES/2098 | 2013 | Democratic Republic of the Congo | "Expressing its deep concern regarding the threat posed by the presence of M23 in the immediate vicinity of the city of Goma in violation of resolution 2076 (2012), as well as the continuation of serious violations of international humanitarian law and abuses of human rights by the M23 and other armed groups...[OP 8] *Strongly condemns* the M23, the FDLR, the ADF, the APCLS, the LRA, the National Force of Liberation (FNL), the various Mayi Mayi groups and all other armed groups and their continuing violence and abuses of human rights, including summary executions, sexual and gender based violence and large scale recruitment and use of children, *demands* that all armed groups cease immediately all forms of violence and destabilizing activities and that their members immediately and permanently disband and lay down their arms, and *reiterates* that those responsible for human rights abuses and violations of international humanitarian law will be held accountable and should not be eligible for integration into the FARDC or other elements of state security forces" | Express invocation of Chapter VII authority |
| S/RES/2100 | 2013 | Mali | "Condemning strongly all abuses and violations of human rights and violations of international humanitarian law, including those involving extrajudicial executions, arbitrary arrests and detentions, and sexual and gender-based violence, forced amputations, as well as killing, maiming, recruitment and use of children, attacks against schools and hospitals, forced displacements, and destruction of cultural and historical heritage, committed in Mali by any group or individuals, noting, especially, widespread abuses of human rights by terrorist, extremist and armed groups in the north of Mali, condemning strongly the reports of retaliatory attacks, including those based on ethnicity and those allegedly perpetrated by members of the Malian Defence and Security Forces against civilians, and calling upon all parties to bring an end to such violations and abuses and to comply with their obligations under applicable international law" | Express invocation of Chapter VII authority |

| Document | Year adopted | Situation and/or thematic context | Excerpt | Invocation of Chapter VII authority? |
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| S/RES/2109 | 2013 | South Sudan | "Expressing grave concern at the continuing human rights violations, including inter alia arbitrary arrests and detentions, torture, and incidences of extrajudicial killings, as well as looting of property, by armed groups and by national security institutions, in particular in areas of Jonglei State, as well as the inability of the authorities to hold those responsible to account...[OP 14] *Demands* that all parties immediately cease all forms of violence and human rights violations and abuses against the civilian population in South Sudan, in particular gender-based violence, including rape and other forms of sexual violence as well as all violations and abuses against children in violation of applicable international law such as their recruitment and use, killing and maiming, abduction and attacks against schools and hospitals and calls for specific and timebound commitments to combat sexual violence in accordance with resolution 1960...[OP 22] *Calls upon* the authorities of the Republic of South Sudan to combat impunity and hold accountable all perpetrators of human rights and international humanitarian law violations, including those committed by illegal armed groups or elements of the Republic of South Sudan Security Forces, and to ensure that all victims of sexual violence, particularly women and girls, have equal protection under the law and equal access to justice" | Express invocation of Chapter VII authority |
| S/RES/2120 | 2013 | Afghanistan | "Expressing its serious concern with the high number of civilian casualties in Afghanistan, in particular women and children, the increasingly large majority of which are caused by Taliban, Al-Qaida and other violent and extremist groups and illegal armed groups...reaffirming that all parties to armed conflict must take all feasible steps to ensure the protection of affected civilians, especially women, children and displaced persons, including from sexual violence and all other forms of gender based violence, calling for all parties to comply with their obligations under international humanitarian and human rights law and for all appropriate measures to be taken to ensure the protection of civilians" | Express invocation of Chapter VII authority |

| Document | Year adopted | Situation and/or thematic context | Excerpt | Invocation of Chapter VII authority? |
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| S/RES/2127 | 2013 | Central African Republic | "Remaining seriously concerned by multiple and increasing violations of international humanitarian law and the widespread human rights violations and abuses, notably by former Seleka and militia groups, in particular those known as the "antibalaka", including those involving extrajudicial killings, enforced disappearances, arbitrary arrests and detention, torture, sexual violence against women and children, rape, recruitment and use of children and attacks against civilians...[OP 17] *Strongly condemns* the continued violations of international humanitarian law and the widespread human rights violations and abuses, perpetrated by armed groups, and specifically former Seleka elements, anti-Balaka elements and the LRA, that threaten the population and *stresses* that the perpetrators of such violations should be brought to justice; [OP 18] *Urges* the Transitional Authorities to ensure, without delay, that all perpetrators of violations and abuses of human rights and violations of international humanitarian law are held accountable...[OP 21] *Underscores* the primary responsibility of the Transitional Authorities to protect the population, as well as to ensure the security and unity in its territory, and stresses their obligation to ensure respect for international humanitarian law, human rights law and refugee law" | Express invocation of Chapter VII authority |

| Document | Year adopted | Situation and/or thematic context | Excerpt | Invocation of Chapter VII authority? |
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| S/RES/2134 | 2013 | Central African Republic | "Remaining seriously concerned by multiple and increasing violations of international humanitarian law and the widespread human rights violations and abuses, including those involving extrajudicial killings, forced disappearances, arbitrary arrests and detention, torture, sexual violence against women and children, rape, recruitment and use of children and attacks against civilians and attacks against places of worship, committed by both former Seleka elements and militia groups, in particular those known as the "anti-Balaka"...Stressing the need to end impunity in the CAR and to bring to justice perpetrators of violations of international humanitarian law and of abuses and violations of human rights, and in this regard underlining the need to bolster national accountability mechanisms...[OP 38] *Expresses grave concern* over reports that some CAR political figures have provided support and direction to anti-Balaka and Seleka groups planning violence and serious human rights violations and abuses against the civilian population of the CAR, *demands* that these figures and all others cease any such activities immediately, and *directs* the Committee to consider, as a matter of urgency, designating such figures for targeted sanctions if they engage in any of the activities set forth in paragraph 36 and 37 of this resolution" | Express invocation of Chapter VII authority |
| S/RES/2136 | 2013 | Democratic Republic of the Congo | "Noting with deep concern reports and allegations indicating the persistence of serious human rights and international humanitarian law violations committed by Congolese armed forces (FARDC), including those committed with impunity...[OP 6] *Strongly condemns* all armed groups operating in the region and their violations of international humanitarian law as well as other applicable international law, and abuses of human rights including attacks on the civilian population, MONUSCO peacekeepers and humanitarian actors, summary executions, sexual and gender based violence and large scale recruitment and use of children, and reiterates that those responsible will be held accountable...[OP 12] *Recalling* that there should be no impunity for any of those responsible for violations of international humanitarian law and violations and abuses of human rights in the DRC and the region, and, in this regard, urging the DRC, all countries in the region and other concerned United Nations Member States to bring perpetrators to justice and hold them accountable..." | Express invocation of Chapter VII authority |

| Document | Year adopted | Situation and/or thematic context | Excerpt | Invocation of Chapter VII authority? |
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| S/RES/2138 | 2014 | Sudan | "Emphasizing the imperative for all armed actors to refrain from all acts of violence against civilians, in particular vulnerable groups such as women and children, and from violations and abuses of human rights and violations of international humanitarian law... | Express invocation of Chapter VII authority |
| S/RES/2139 | 2014 | Syria | "[OP 1] *Strongly condemns* the widespread violations of human rights and international humanitarian law by the Syrian authorities, as well as the human rights abuses and violations of international humanitarian law by armed groups...[OP 2] *Demands* that all parties immediately put an end to all forms of violence, irrespective of where it comes from, cease and desist from all violations of international humanitarian law and violations and abuses of human rights...[OP 13] *Stresses* the need to end impunity for violations of international humanitarian law and violations and abuses of human rights, and *reaffirms* that those who have committed or are otherwise responsible for such violations and abuses in Syria must be brought to justice" | |
| S/RES/2140 | 2014 | Yemen | "[OP 9] *Calls on* all parties to comply with their obligations under international law including applicable international humanitarian law and human rights law...[OP 27] *Expresses* its concern over reported serious human rights abuses and violence against civilians in both the Northern and Southern Governorates, including Al Dhale'e Governorate, *urges* all parties involved to end the conflicts and comply with their obligations under applicable international humanitarian and human rights law, and *stresses* the need for parties to take all required measures to avoid civilian casualties, respect and protect the civilian population" | Express invocation of Chapter VII authority |
| S/RES/2143 | 2014 | Protection of children affected by armed conflict | "[OP 1] *Strongly condemns* all violations of applicable international law involving the recruitment and use of children by parties to armed conflict, as well as their re-recruitment, killing and maiming, rape and other sexual violence, abductions, attacks against schools or hospitals and denial of humanitarian access by parties to armed conflict and all other violations of international law, including international humanitarian law, human rights law and refugee law, committed against children in situations of armed conflict and *demands* that all relevant parties immediately put an end to such practices and take special measures to protect children" | |

| Document | Year adopted | Situation and/or thematic context | Excerpt | Invocation of Chapter VII authority? |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| S/RES/2145 | 2014 | Afghanistan | "Recalling its resolutions 1674 (2006), 1738 (2006) and 1894 (2009) on the protection of civilians in armed conflict, expressing its serious concern with the high number of civilian casualties in Afghanistan, in particular women and children, the increasingly large majority of which are caused by the Taliban, Al-Qaida and other violent and extremist groups and illegal armed groups, condemning the targeted killing of women and girls, in particular high level female officials, reaffirming that all parties to armed conflict must take all feasible steps to ensure the protection of affected civilians, especially women, children and displaced persons, including from sexual violence and all other forms of gender based violence, and that perpetrators of such violence must be held accountable, calling for all parties to comply with their obligations under international law including international humanitarian law and human rights law and for all appropriate measures to be taken to ensure the protection of civilians..." | |
| S/RES/2149 | 2014 | Democratic Republic of the Congo | "Remaining seriously concerned by multiple violations of international humanitarian law and the widespread human rights violations and abuses, including those involving extrajudicial killings, enforced disappearances, arbitrary arrests and detention, torture, sexual violence against women and children, rape, recruitment and use of children and attacks against civilians, in particular but not limited to Muslims, and attacks against places of worship, denial of humanitarian access, committed by both former Seleka elements and militia groups, in particular the "anti-Balaka" | Express invocation of Chapter VII authority |
| S/RES/2164 | 2014 | Mali | "Remaining concerned over the fragile security situation in the North of Mali and the continuing activities in the Sahel region of terrorist organizations, including Al-Qaida in the Islamic Maghreb (AQIM), Ansar Eddine, the Movement for Unity and Jihad in West Africa (MUJAO), and Al Mourabitoune, which constitute a threat to peace and security in the region and beyond, and reiterating its strong condemnation of the abuses of human rights and violence against civilians, notably women and children, committed in the North of Mali and in the region by terrorist groups" | Express invocation of Chapter VII authority |

| Document | Year adopted | Situation and/or thematic context | Excerpt | Invocation of Chapter VII authority? |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| S/RES/2165 | 2014 | Syria | "Strongly condemning the continuing widespread violations of human rights and international humanitarian law by the Syrian authorities, as well as the human rights abuses and violations of international humanitarian law by armed groups...[OP 1] *Reiterates* that all parties to the conflict, in particular the Syrian authorities, must comply with their obligations under international humanitarian law and international human rights law and must fully and immediately implement the provisions of its resolution 2139 (2014) and its Presidential Statement of 2 October 2013 (S/PRST/2013/15)" | |
| S/RES/2170 | 2014 | On threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts by Al-Qaida | "[OP 1] *Deplores and condemns* in the strongest terms the terrorist acts of ISIL and its violent extremist ideology, and its continued gross, systematic and widespread abuses of human rights and violations of international humanitarian law...[OP 3] *Recalls* that widespread or systematic attacks directed against any civilian populations because of their ethnic or political background, religion or belief may constitute a crime against humanity, *emphasizes* the need to ensure that ISIL, ANF and all other individuals, groups, undertakings and entities associated with Al-Qaida are held accountable for abuses of human rights and violations of international humanitarian law, *urges* all parties to prevent such violations and abuses" | Express invocation of Chapter VII authority |
| S/RES/2191 | 2014 | Syria | "Gravely concerned at the lack of effective implementation of its resolutions 2139 (2014) and 2165 (2014) by the parties to the Syrian domestic conflict, recalling in this regard their legal obligations under international humanitarian law and international human rights law, as well as all the relevant decisions of the Security Council, including by ceasing all attacks against civilians and civilian objects, including those involving attacks on schools, medical facilities and the deliberate interruptions of water supply, the indiscriminate use of weapons, including artillery, barrel bombs and air strikes, indiscriminate shelling by mortars, car bombs, suicide attacks and tunnel bombs, as well as the use of starvation of civilians as a method of combat, including by the besiegement of populated areas, and the widespread use of torture, ill-treatment, arbitrary executions, extrajudicial killings, enforced disappearances, sexual and gender based violence as well as all grave violations and abuses committed against children...[OP 1] Demands that all parties to the Syrian domestic conflict, in particular the Syrian authorities, immediately comply with their obligations under international humanitarian law and international human rights law..." | |

| Document | Year adopted | Situation and/or thematic context | Excerpt | Invocation of Chapter VII authority? |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| S/RES/2196 | 2015 | Central African Republic | "Strongly condemning the resurgence of violence, which was politically or criminally motivated, that occurred in October 2014 in Bangui; the continuous cycle of provocations and reprisals by armed groups, both inside and outside of Bangui; the threats of violence, human rights violations and abuses and international humanitarian law violations, including those involving extrajudicial killings, enforced disappearances, arbitrary arrests and detention, torture, sexual violence against women and children, rape, recruitment and use of children and attacks against civilians, attacks against places of worship, and denial of humanitarian access, committed by armed elements, which continue to adversely affect the dire humanitarian situation faced by the civilian population and to impede humanitarian access to vulnerable populations" | Express invocation of Chapter VII authority |
| S/RES/2198 | 2015 | Democratic Republic of the Congo | "Noting with great concern the persistence of serious human rights abuses and international humanitarian law violations against civilians in the eastern part of the DRC, including summary executions, sexual and gender based violence and large scale recruitment and use of children committed by armed groups...Noting with deep concern reports and allegations indicating the persistence of serious human rights and international humanitarian law violations committed by some members of the FARDC and Congolese National Police (PNC), and recalling the importance of fighting against impunity within all ranks of the FARDC and PNC, commending the DRC authorities for recent prosecutions and condemnations of two high-ranking FARDC officers for crimes against humanity and war crimes...[OP 10] *Strongly condemns* all armed groups operating in the region and their violations of international humanitarian law as well as other applicable international law, and abuses of human rights including attacks on the civilian population...[OP 11] *Demands* that the FDLR, the ADF, the LRA and all other armed groups operating in the DRC cease immediately all forms of violence and other destabilizing activities...[OP 19] *Emphasizes* the primary responsibility of the Government of the DRC to reinforce State authority and governance in eastern DRC, including through effective security sector reform to allow army, police and justice sector reform, and to end impunity for violations and abuses of human rights and violations of international humanitarian law, urges the Government of the DRC to increase efforts in this regard, in accordance with its national commitments under the PSC Framework" | Express invocation of Chapter VII authority |

| Document | Year adopted | Situation and/or thematic context | Excerpt | Invocation of Chapter VII authority? |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| S/RES/2200 | 2015 | Sudan | "Emphasizing the imperative for all armed actors to refrain from all acts of violence against civilians, in particular members of vulnerable groups such as women and children, and to end all violations and abuses of human rights and violations of international humanitarian law, and further emphasizing that some of these acts may amount to war crimes or crimes against humanity under international law...Deploring the violations of international humanitarian law and human rights violations and abuses committed by Government of Sudan security forces, their proxies, and armed groups, including those opposing the Government of Sudan, especially at the Khor Abeche Internally Displaced Persons (IDP) camp and at Taweisha, North Darfur, as reported by the Panel of Experts" | Express invocation of Chapter VII authority |
| S/RES/2206 | 2015 | South Sudan | "Strongly condemning past and ongoing human rights violations and abuses and violations of international humanitarian law, including those involving targeted killings of civilians, ethnically-targeted violence, extrajudicial killings, rape, and other forms of sexual and gender-based violence, recruitment and use of children in armed conflict, abductions, enforced disappearances, arbitrary arrests and detention, violence aimed at spreading terror among the civilian population, and attacks on schools, places of worship and hospitals, as well as United Nations and associated peacekeeping personnel and objects, by all parties, including armed groups and national security forces, as well as the incitement to commit such abuses and violations, further condemning harassment and targeting of civil society, humanitarian personnel and journalists, and emphasizing that those responsible for violations of international humanitarian law and violations and abuses of human rights must be held accountable, and that the Government of South Sudan bears the primary responsibility to protect its population from genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing, and crimes against humanity..." | Express invocation of Chapter VII authority |

| Document | Year adopted | Situation and/or thematic context | Excerpt | Invocation of Chapter VII authority? |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| S/RES/2210 | 2015 | Afghanistan | "Recalling its resolutions 1674 (2006), 1738 (2006) and 1894 (2009) on the protection of civilians in armed conflict, expressing its serious concern with the high number of civilian casualties in Afghanistan, in particular women and children, the increasingly large majority of which are caused by the Taliban, Al-Qaida and other violent and extremist groups and illegal armed groups, condemning the targeted killing of women and girls, in particular high-level female officials, reaffirming that all parties to armed conflict must take all feasible steps to ensure the protection of affected civilians, especially women, children and displaced persons, including from sexual violence and all other forms of gender-based violence, and that perpetrators of such violence must be held accountable, calling for all parties to comply with their obligations under international law including international humanitarian law and human rights law and for all appropriate measures to be taken to ensure the protection of civilians..." | |
| S/RES/2211 | 2015 | Democratic Republic of the Congo | "[OP 22] *Strongly condemns* all armed groups operating in the region and their violations of international humanitarian law as well as other applicable international law, and abuses of human rights including attacks on the civilian population, MONUSCO peacekeepers and humanitarian actors, summary executions, sexual and gender based violence and large scale recruitment and use of children in violation of applicable international law, and *reiterates* that those responsible must be held accountable" | Express invocation of Chapter VII authority |
| S/RES/2216 | 2015 | Yemen | "[OP 8] *Calls on* all [Yemeni] parties to comply with their obligations under international law, including applicable international humanitarian law and human rights law" | Express invocation of Chapter VII authority |

| Document | Year adopted | Situation and/or thematic context | Excerpt | Invocation of Chapter VII authority? |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| S/RES/2217 | 2015 | Central African Republic | "Condemning the multiple violations of international humanitarian law and the widespread human rights violations and abuses, including those involving extrajudicial killings, enforced disappearances, arbitrary arrests and detention, torture, sexual violence against women and children, rape, recruitment and use of children and attacks against civilians, looting and destruction of property and attacks against places of worship, denial of humanitarian access, deliberate attacks against national and international personnel of humanitarian organisations, United Nations personnel and its associated personnel, and humanitarian assets, including supplies, facilities and transports committed by both former Seleka elements and militia groups, in particular the "anti-Balaka"...Expressing its concern that children have continued to be victims of abuses committed by armed elements of the ex-Séléka and anti-Balaka as well as the Lord's resistance army, and that women continue to be violently targeted and victims of sexual and gender based violence in the CAR...[OP 17] *Calls upon* all parties to armed conflict in the CAR, including former Séléka elements and anti-Balaka elements, to issue clear orders prohibiting all violations and abuses committed against children, in violation of applicable international law, including those involving their recruitment and use, rape and sexual violence, killing and maiming, abductions and attacks on schools and hospitals and further calls upon the Transitional Authorities to investigate swiftly alleged violations and abuses in order to hold perpetrators accountable and to ensure that those responsible for such violations and abuses are excluded from the security sector" | Express invocation of Chapter VII authority |
| S/RES/2220 | 2015 | Small arms and light weapons | "[OP 20] *Recognizes* the importance of preventing the illicit transfers and sales of weapons and ammunition, including small arms and light weapons, to armed groups and criminal networks that target civilians and civilian objects and underlines that such transfers could exacerbate conflict or facilitate the commitment of serious violations of international humanitarian law and serious violations and abuses of human rights" | |

| Document | Year adopted | Situation and/or thematic context | Excerpt | Invocation of Chapter VII authority? |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| S/RES/2223 | 2015 | South Sudan | "Strongly condemning reported and ongoing human rights violations and abuses and violations of international humanitarian law, including those involving extrajudicial killings, ethnically targeted violence, rape and other forms of sexual and gender-based violence, recruitment and use of children, enforced disappearances, arbitrary arrests and detention, violence aimed at spreading terror among the civilian population, and attacks on schools, places of worship, hospitals, and United Nations and associated peacekeeping personnel, by all parties, including armed groups and national security forces, as well as the incitement to commit such abuses and violations...[OP 21] *Further demands* that all parties immediately cease all forms of violence, human rights violations and abuses, violations of international humanitarian law, including rape and other forms of sexual and gender-based violence" | Express invocation of Chapter VII authority |
| S/RES/2225 | 2015 | Protection of children affected by armed conflict | "Gravely concerned by the human rights abuses and violations of international humanitarian law committed by non-state armed groups, in particular violent extremist groups, including mass abductions, rape and other forms of sexual violence such as sexual slavery, particularly targeting girls, which can cause displacement and affect access to education and healthcare services, and emphasizing the importance of accountability for such abuses and violations...Recalling the obligations of all parties to armed conflict applicable to them under international humanitarian law and human rights law...[OP 1] *Strongly condemns* all violations of applicable international law involving the recruitment and use of children by parties to armed conflict as well as their re-recruitment, killing and maiming, rape and other forms of sexual violence, abductions, attacks against schools and hospitals as well as denial of humanitarian access by parties to armed conflict and all other violations of international law, including international humanitarian law, human rights law and refugee law, committed against children in situations of armed conflict and demands that all relevant parties immediately put an end to such practices and take special measures to protect children" | |

| Document | Year adopted | Situation and/or thematic context | Excerpt | Invocation of Chapter VII authority? |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| S/RES/2227 | 2015 | Mali | "Strongly condemning the activities in Mali and in the Sahel region of terrorist organizations, including Al-Qaida in the Islamic Maghreb (AQIM), Ansar Eddine, the Movement for Unity and Jihad in West Africa (MUJAO), which continue to operate in Mali and constitute a threat to peace and security in the region and beyond, and human rights abuses and violence against civilians, notably women and children, committed in the North of Mali and in the region by terrorist groups" | Express invocation of Chapter VII authority |
| S/RES/2228 | 2015 | Sudan | "[OP 16] *Demands* that all parties in Darfur immediately end attacks targeting civilians, peacekeepers and humanitarian personnel, and comply with their obligations under international human rights and humanitarian law; and affirms the Council's condemnation of all violations of international humanitarian law and violations and abuses of human rights" | |
| S/RES/2233 | 2015 | Iraq | "Urging the Government of Iraq to continue to promote and protect human rights and also to consider additional steps to support the Independent High Commission for Human Rights in carrying out its mandate, and reaffirming that all parties, including ISIL, associated armed groups, and militias, must respect human rights and abide by all applicable obligations under international humanitarian law, including those protecting the civilian population, by which both official Iraqi forces and member states that assist them must also abide…Further expressing grave concern that the violent extremism and terrorism perpetrated by ISIL in Iraq has frequently targeted women and girls, and that ISIL has committed serious human rights abuses, and violations of international humanitarian law against women and children, including those involving murder, kidnapping, hostage taking, enslavement, their sale into or otherwise forced marriage, human trafficking, rape, sexual slavery and other forms of sexual violence, and expressing grave concern at the recruitment and use of children by ISIL and other armed groups in violation of international law" | |

| Document | Year adopted | Situation and/or thematic context | Excerpt | Invocation of Chapter VII authority? |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| S/RES/2241 | 2015 | South Sudan | "Strongly condemning all human rights violations and abuses and violations of international humanitarian law, including those involving extrajudicial killings, ethnically targeted violence, rape and other forms of sexual and gender-based violence, recruitment and use of children, enforced disappearances, arbitrary arrests and detention, violence aimed at spreading terror among the civilian population, and attacks on schools, places of worship, hospitals, and United Nations and associated peacekeeping personnel, by all parties, including armed groups and national security forces, as well as the incitement to commit such abuses and violations...[OP 26] *Further demands* that all parties immediately cease all forms of violence, human rights violations and abuses, violations of international humanitarian law, including rape and other forms of sexual and gender-based violence...[OP 31] *Calls upon* the Government of South Sudan to move forward expeditiously and transparently to complete the ongoing investigations of allegations of human rights violations and abuses in a manner consistent with its international obligations, and encourages it to release the reports of those investigations...[OP 32] *Further calls upon* the Government of South Sudan...to hold to account all those responsible for violations and abuses of human rights and violations of international humanitarian law, and to ensure that all victims of sexual violence have equal protection under the law and equal access to justice, and to safeguard equal respect for the rights of women and girls in these processes" | Express invocation of Chapter VII authority |
| S/RES/2248 | 2015 | Burundi | "Strongly condemning the increased cases of human rights violations and abuses, including those involving extra-judicial killings, acts of torture and other cruel, inhuman and/or degrading treatment, arbitrary arrests, illegal detentions, harassment and intimidation of human rights defenders and journalists, and all violations and abuses of human rights committed in Burundi both by security forces and by militias and other illegal armed groups" | |

| Document | Year adopted | Situation and/or thematic context | Excerpt | Invocation of Chapter VII authority? |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| S/RES/2258 | 2015 | Syria | "Gravely concerned at the lack of effective implementation of its resolutions 2139 (2014), 2165 (2014), and 2191 (2014) and recalling in this regard the legal obligations of all parties under international humanitarian law and international human rights law, as well as all the relevant decisions of the Security Council, including by ceasing all attacks against civilians and civilian objects, including those involving attacks on schools, medical facilities and the deliberate interruptions of water supply, the indiscriminate use of weapons, including artillery, barrel bombs and air strikes, indiscriminate shelling by mortars, car bombs, suicide attacks and tunnel bombs, as well as the use of starvation of civilians as a method of combat, including by the besiegement of populated areas, and the widespread use of torture, illtreatment, arbitrary executions, extrajudicial killings, enforced disappearances, sexual and gender-based violence, as well as all grave violations and abuses committed against children...[OP 1] Demands that all parties, in particular the Syrian authorities, immediately comply with their obligations under international law, including international humanitarian law and international human rights law as applicable..." | |
| S/RES/2265 | 2016 | Sudan | "Emphasizing the imperative for all armed actors to refrain from all acts of violence against civilians, in particular members of vulnerable groups such as women and children, and to end all violations and abuses of human rights and violations of international humanitarian law, and further emphasizing that some of these acts may amount to war crimes or crimes against humanity under international law...Deploring the violations of international humanitarian law and human rights violations and abuses committed by Government of Sudan security forces, their proxies, and armed groups, including those opposing the Government of Sudan, especially at the Khor Abeche Internally Displaced Persons (IDP) camp and at Taweisha, North Darfur, as reported by the Panel of Experts" | Express invocation of Chapter VII authority |

| Document | Year adopted | Situation and/or thematic context | Excerpt | Invocation of Chapter VII authority? |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| S/RES/2274 | 2016 | Afghanistan | "Recalling its resolutions 1674 (2006), 1738 (2006) and 1894 (2009) on the protection of civilians in armed conflict, expressing its grave concern with the high number of civilian casualties in Afghanistan, in particular women and children, the increasingly large majority of which are caused by the Taliban, Al-Qaida and other violent and extremist groups and illegal armed groups, condemning the suicide attacks, often in civilian-populated areas, and the targeted and deliberate killings, in particular of women and girls, including high-level women officials and those promoting women's rights, as well as journalists, reaffirming that all parties to armed conflict must take all feasible steps to ensure the protection of affected civilians, especially women, children and displaced persons, including from sexual violence and all other forms of gender-based violence, and that perpetrators of such violence must be held accountable, calling for all parties to comply with their obligations under international law including international humanitarian law and human rights law and for all appropriate measures to be taken to ensure the protection of civilians..." | |
| S/RES/2277 | 2016 | Democratic Republic of the Congo | "[OP 16] *Strongly condemns* all armed groups operating in the region and their violations of international humanitarian law as well as other applicable international law, and abuses of human rights including those involving attacks on the civilian population, United Nations personnel and humanitarian actors, summary executions, sexual and gender based violence and large scale recruitment and use of children in violation of applicable international law, and *reiterates* that those responsible must be held accountable" | Express invocation of Chapter VII authority |

| Document | Year adopted | Situation and/or thematic context | Excerpt | Invocation of Chapter VII authority? |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| S/RES/2293 | 2016 | Democratic Republic of the Congo | "Noting with great concern the persistence of serious human rights abuses and international humanitarian law violations against civilians in the eastern part of the DRC, including summary executions, sexual and gender-based violence and large scale recruitment and use of children committed by armed groups...Remaining deeply concerned by reports of an increase in serious human rights and international humanitarian law violations committed by some members of the FARDC, the National Intelligence Agency, the Republican Guard and Congolese National Police (PNC), urging all parties to refrain from violence and provocation as well as to respect human rights...[OP 12] *Strongly condemns* all armed groups operating in the region and their violations of international humanitarian law as well as other applicable international law, and abuses of human rights including attacks on the civilian population, MONUSCO peacekeepers and humanitarian actors, summary executions, sexual and gender-based violence and large scale recruitment and use of children, and reiterates that those responsible will be held accountable...[OP 19] *Emphasizes* the primary responsibility of the Government of the DRC to reinforce State authority and governance in eastern DRC, including through effective security sector reform to allow army, police and justice sector reform, and to end impunity for violations and abuses of human rights and violations of international humanitarian law, and urges the Government of the DRC to increase efforts in this regard, in accordance with its national commitments under the PSC Framework..." | Express invocation of Chapter VII authority |

| Document | Year adopted | Situation and/or thematic context | Excerpt | Invocation of Chapter VII authority? |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| S/RES/2295 | 2016 | Mali | "Strongly condemning the activities in Mali and in the Sahel region of terrorist organisations, including Al-Qaida in the Islamic Maghreb (AQIM), Al Mourabitoune, Ansar Eddine, and their affiliates such as the Front de Libération du Macina (FLM), which continue to operate in Mali and constitute a threat to peace and security in the region and beyond, and human rights abuses and violence against civilians, notably women and children, committed in Mali and in the region by terrorist groups...Strongly condemning all abuses and violations of human rights and violations of international humanitarian law, including those involving extrajudicial and summary executions, arbitrary arrests and detentions and ill-treatment of prisoners, sexual and gender-based violence, as well as killing, maiming, recruitment and use of children, attacks against schools and hospitals, calling on all parties to respect the civilian character of schools as such in accordance with international humanitarian law and to cease unlawful and arbitrary detention of all children, and calling upon all parties to bring an end to such violations and abuses and to comply with their obligations under applicable international law" | Express invocation of Chapter VII authority |

| Document | Year adopted | Situation and/or thematic context | Excerpt | Invocation of Chapter VII authority? |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| S/RES/2299 | 2016 | Iraq | "Reaffirming that all parties, including armed groups and militias, must respect human rights and abide by all applicable obligations under international humanitarian law, including those to protect the civilian population, including civilians displaced from and returning to areas liberated from ISIL (Da'esh), by which both official Iraqi forces and Member States that assist them must also abide, and while acknowledging legitimate security measures to identify members of ISIL (Da'esh), calling on all parties to immediately release any arbitrarily or unlawfully detained persons, emphasizing that those responsible for violations of international humanitarian law and violations and abuses of human rights, including those involving sexual and gender-based violence, must be held accountable, welcoming the establishment by Prime Minister of Iraq Haider al-Abadi of a committee to investigate reported violations and abuses, including the reports of missing men and boys from Fallujah, and stressing the need for all such allegations, wherever they occur, to be immediately and comprehensively investigated and, as appropriate, prosecuted...Expressing grave concern that the violent extremism and terrorism perpetrated by ISIL (Da'esh) in Iraq has systematically targeted women and children, especially those from minority communities, and that ISIL (Da'esh) has committed serious human rights abuses, and violations of international humanitarian law against all people," | |

| Document | Year adopted | Situation and/or thematic context | Excerpt | Invocation of Chapter VII authority? |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| S/RES/2301 | 2016 | Central African Republic | "Condemning the multiple violations of international humanitarian law and the widespread human rights violations and abuses, committed notably by both ex-Seleka elements and militia groups, in particular the "anti-Balaka"...[OP 17] *Reiterates* the urgent and imperative need to hold accountable all perpetrators of violations of international humanitarian law and violations and abuses of human rights, irrespective of their status or political affiliation, and reiterates that some of those acts may amount to crimes under the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (ICC), to which the CAR is a State party...[OP 19] *Calls upon* all parties to armed conflict in the CAR, including ex-Seleka elements and anti-Balaka elements, to end all violations and abuses committed against children, in violation of applicable international law, including those involving their recruitment and use, rape and sexual violence, killing and maiming, abductions and attacks on schools and hospitals and further calls upon the CAR Authorities to investigate swiftly alleged violations and abuses in order to hold perpetrators accountable and to ensure that those responsible for such violations and abuses are excluded from the security sector" | Express invocation of Chapter VII authority |
| S/RES/2304 | 2016 | South Sudan | "Strongly condemning all human rights violations and abuses and violations of international humanitarian law, including those involving extrajudicial killings, ethnically targeted violence, rape and other forms of sexual and gender-based violence, recruitment and use of children, enforced disappearances, arbitrary arrests and detention, violence aimed at spreading terror among the civilian population, targeting of members of civil society, and attacks on schools, places of worship, hospitals, and United Nations and associated personnel, by all parties, including armed groups and national security forces, as well as the incitement to commit such abuses and violations, further condemning harassment and targeting of civil society, humanitarian personnel and journalists, and emphasizing that those responsible for violations of international humanitarian law and violations and abuses of human rights must be held accountable, and that South Sudan's Transitional Government of National Unity bears the primary responsibility to protect its populations from genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing, and crimes against humanity" | Express invocation of Chapter VII authority |

| Document | Year adopted | Situation and/or thematic context | Excerpt | Invocation of Chapter VII authority? |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| S/RES/2327 | 2016 | South Sudan | "Strongly condemning all human rights violations and abuses and violations of international humanitarian law, including those involving extrajudicial killings, ethnically targeted violence, rape and other forms of sexual and gender-based violence, recruitment and use of children, enforced disappearances, arbitrary arrests and detention, violence aimed at spreading terror among the civilian population, targeting of members of civil society, and attacks on schools, places of worship, hospitals, and United Nations and associated personnel, by all parties, including armed groups and national security forces, as well as the incitement to commit such abuses and violations, further condemning harassment and targeting of civil society, humanitarian personnel and journalists, and emphasizing that those responsible for violations of international humanitarian law and violations and abuses of human rights must be held accountable, and that South Sudan's TGNU bears the primary responsibility to protect its populations from genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing, and crimes against humanity...[OP 23] *Further demands* that all parties immediately cease all forms of violence, human rights violations and abuses, violations of international humanitarian law, including rape and other forms of sexual and gender-based violence, and hold perpetrators accountable, in order to break the prevailing cycle of impunity" | Express invocation of Chapter VII authority |
| S/RES/2331 | 2016 | Trafficking in persons in armed conflicts | "Recalling resolution 2249 (2015), in which the Security Council condemns in the strongest terms the gross, systematic, and widespread abuses of human rights and violations of international humanitarian law by ISIL (also known as Daesh)...[OP 11] *Condemns* all acts of trafficking, particularly the sale or trade in persons undertaken by the 'Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant' (ISIL, also known as Da'esh), including of Yazidis and other persons belonging to religious and ethnic minorities, and condemns also any such trafficking in persons and violations and other abuses committed by Boko Haram, Al-Shabaab, the Lord's Resistance Army, and other terrorist or armed groups for the purpose of sexual slavery, sexual exploitation, and forced labour, recognizes the importance of collecting and preserving evidence relating to such acts in order to ensure that those responsible can be held accountable..." | |

| Document | Year adopted | Situation and/or thematic context | Excerpt | Invocation of Chapter VII authority? |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| S/RES/2332 | 2016 | Syria | "[OP 1] *Reiterates its demand* that all parties, in particular the Syrian authorities, immediately comply with their obligations under international law, including international humanitarian law and international human rights law as applicable..." | |
| S/RES/2340 | 2017 | Sudan | "Emphasizing the imperative for all armed actors to refrain from all acts of violence against civilians, in particular members of vulnerable groups such as women and children, and to end all violations and abuses of human rights and violations of international humanitarian law, and further emphasizing that some of these acts may amount to war crimes or crimes against humanity under international law...Deploring the violations of international humanitarian law and human rights violations and abuses committed by Government of Sudan security forces, their proxies, and armed groups, including those opposing the Government of Sudan, against civilians, including IDPs, particularly in the Jebel Marra area" | Express invocation of Chapter VII authority |
| S/RES/2349 | 2017 | Lake Chad Basin Region | "[OP 1] *Strongly condemns* all terrorist attacks, violations of international humanitarian law and abuses of human rights by Boko Haram and ISIL in the Region, including those involving killings and other violence against civilians, notably women and children, abductions, pillaging, child, early and forced marriage, rape, sexual slavery and other sexual and gender-based violence, and recruitment and use of children, including increasingly the use of girls as suicide bombers, and destruction of civilian property, and calls for those responsible for these acts to be held accountable, and brought to justice" | |

# Annex II.B - Database of Excerpts concerning ANSAs and IHRL in U.N. Security Council Presidential Statements

| Document | Date adopted | Situation and/or thematic context | Excerpt |
|---|---|---|---|
| S/PRST/1998/13 | 20-May-1998 | Sierra Leone | "The Security Council condemns as gross violations of international humanitarian law the recent atrocities carried out against the civilian population, particularly women and children, of Sierra Leone by members of the Revolutionary United Front and the deposed military junta including widespread rape, mutilation, and slaughter. It calls for an immediate end to all violence against civilians...The Council urges all parties concerned to respect fully international law, including human rights and humanitarian law." |
| S/PRST/1999/6 | 12-Feb-1999 | Protection of civilians in armed conflict | "The Security Council expresses its grave concern at the growing civilian toll of armed conflict and notes with distress that civilians now account for the vast majority of casualties in armed conflict and are increasingly directly targeted by combatants and armed elements. The Council condemns attacks or acts of violence in situations of armed conflict directed against civilians, especially women, children and other vulnerable groups, including also refugees and internally displaced persons, in violation of the relevant rules of international law, including those of international humanitarian and human rights law...The Security Council strongly condemns the deliberate targeting by combatants of civilians in armed conflict and demands that all concerned put an end to such violations of international humanitarian and human rights law." |
| S/PRST/1999/13 | 15-May-1999 | Sierra Leone | "The Security Council condemns the recent killings, atrocities, destruction of property and other violations of human rights and international humanitarian law perpetrated on civilians by the rebels in recent attacks, in particular at Masiaka and Port Loko. It calls upon the rebels to cease such actions immediately and urges the rebel leadership to release all hostages and abductees without delay." |
| S/PRST/1999/29 | 25-Oct-1999 | Afghanistan | "The Security Council deplores the worsening human rights situation in Afghanistan. It expresses particular alarm at the continuing disregard by the Taliban of the concerns expressed by the international community. The Council underlines the unacceptability of the forced displacement of the civilian population, in particular that conducted by the Taliban during their recent offensive, summary executions, the deliberate abuse and arbitrary detentions of civilians, violence and continuing discrimination against women and girls, the separation of men from their families, the use of child soldiers, the widespread burning of crops and destruction of homes, the indiscriminate bombing and other violations of human rights and international humanitarian law in Afghanistan. It calls upon all Afghan parties, especially the Taliban, to put an end to such practices, to adhere to the international norms and standards in this sphere, to take urgent measures to improve the human rights situation and, as an immediate first step, to ensure the protection of civilians." |

| Document | Date adopted | Situation and/or thematic context | Excerpt |
|---|---|---|---|
| S/PRST/2000/12 | 7-Apr-2000 | Afghanistan | "The Security Council stresses its grave concern at the human rights situation in Afghanistan, which is unacceptable. It expresses particular alarm at the continuing disregard by the Taliban of the concerns expressed by the international community. The Council strongly condemns the forced displacement of the civilian population, notably that conducted by the Taliban in 1999, the deliberate targeting of civilians and the destruction of their assets and means of survival, summary executions, arbitrary detention of civilians and forced labour of those in detention, the separation of men from their families, indiscriminate bombing and other violations of human rights and international humanitarian law. It calls upon all Afghan parties, especially the Taliban, to put an end to such practices and to ensure the protection of civilians." |
| S/PRST/2000/22 | 29-Jun-2000 | Somalia | "The Security Council expresses its deep concern at the ongoing abuse of human rights and grave deterioration of the humanitarian situation in Somalia, which has led to death, displacement and the outbreak of diseases among the civilian population, particularly children and other vulnerable groups. It expresses appreciation to the efforts of all United Nations agencies, other organizations and individuals carrying out humanitarian activities in Somalia. The Council strongly condemns attacks by armed groups on innocent civilians and all humanitarian personnel. It strongly urges the Somali factions to respect international humanitarian and human rights law, to ensure the safety and freedom of movement of all humanitarian personnel and to facilitate the delivery of humanitarian relief to all those in need." |
| S/PRST/2000/31 | 3-Nov-2000 | Sierra Leone | "The Council also calls upon those armed groups [in Sierra Leone] responsible for continuing human rights abuses to put an immediate end to such activities." |
| S/PRST/2000/37 | 1-Dec-2000 | Guinea-Bissau | "The Security Council reiterates its support for the democratically elected Government of Guinea-Bissau, and underlines that all parties concerned, especially the members of the former military junta, must continue to uphold the results of the elections and the principles of democracy, the rule of law, and respect for human rights and civilian rule in the country." |
| S/PRST/2001/1 | 11-Jan-2001 | Somalia | "The Security Council, emphasizing the importance of respect for human rights and international humanitarian law, notes with concern that the humanitarian and security situation remains fragile in several parts of Somalia, including Mogadishu. It strongly condemns attacks by armed groups on civilians and humanitarian personnel and calls upon all Somalis to respect fully the security and safety of personnel of the United Nations and its specialized agencies, the International Committee of the Red Cross and of non-governmental organizations, and to guarantee their complete freedom of movement and safe access throughout Somalia." |

| Document | Date adopted | Situation and/or thematic context | Excerpt |
|---|---|---|---|
| S/PRST/2001/17 | 29-Jun-2001 | Burundi | "The Security Council expresses grave concern at continuing human rights abuses and violations of humanitarian law, and stresses the need for all parties to ensure respect for human rights and humanitarian law. In particular, it urges the belligerents to commit themselves immediately to the protection of civilians, in particular their life, physical integrity and the means necessary for their survival. It also reiterate its call for safe and unhindered access for the delivery of humanitarian aid to all people in need." |
| S/PRST/2001/33 | 8-Nov-2001 | Burundi | "The Security Council expresses its concern at the human rights and humanitarian situation in Burundi and once again calls on the responsible parties to ensure full compliance with the relevant international conventions." |
| S/PRST/2002/19 | 5-Jun-2002 | Democratic Republic of the Congo | "The Council holds RCD-Goma, as de facto authority, responsible to bring to an end all extrajudicial executions, human rights violations and arbitrary harassment of civilians in Kisangani and all other areas under RCD Goma's control." |
| S/PRST/2002/22 | 23-Jul-2002 | Democratic Republic of the Congo | "The Security Council expresses its serious concern at the absence of accountability throughout the Democratic Republic of the Congo noted in the report of the OHCHR, and calls on all parties to take immediate steps to ensure an end to impunity and full respect for human rights." |
| S/PRST/2002/27 | 18-Oct-2002 | Democratic Republic of the Congo | "The Security Council reminds all parties in Uvira and in the area that they must abide by international humanitarian standards and ensure respect for human rights in the sectors they control." |
| S/PRST/2002/41 | 20-Dec-2002 | Protection of civilians in armed conflicts | "The Security Council calls upon all parties to armed conflict to comply fully with the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations and with the rules and principles of international law, in particular international humanitarian, human rights and refugee law, and to implement fully the relevant decisions of the Security Council." |
| S/PRST/2002/42 | 20-Dec-2002 | Côte d'Ivoire | "The Security Council expresses its deepest concern at reports of mass killings and grave violations of human rights in Côte d'Ivoire. It calls on all parties to ensure full respect for human rights and international humanitarian law, particularly with regard to the civilian population, regardless of its origin, and to bring to justice all those responsible for any violation thereof." |
| S/PRST/2003/27 | 15-Dec-2003 | Protection of civilians in armed conflict | "The Security Council reiterates its call to all parties to armed conflict to comply fully with the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations and with the rules and principles of international law, in particular international humanitarian, human rights and refugee law, and to implement fully the relevant decisions of the Security Council." |
| S/PRST/2004/4 | 26-Feb-2004 | Haiti | "The Council calls upon the Government and all other parties to respect human rights and to cease the use of violence to advance political goals. Those responsible for human rights violations will be held accountable." |

| Document | Date adopted | Situation and/or thematic context | Excerpt |
|---|---|---|---|
| S/PRST/2004/21 | 22-Jun-2004 | Democratic Republic of the Congo | "The Security Council condemns the deaths of innocent civilians and human rights abuses in the East of the Democratic Republic of the Congo and calls for such incidents to be fully investigated. Those responsible for atrocities and human rights abuses should be held to account, and the Government of National Unity and Transition should take immediate steps, with support from the international community, to reverse the current climate of impunity." |
| S/PRST/2004/46 | 14-Dec-2004 | Protection of civilians in armed conflict | "The Security Council reiterates its call to all parties to armed conflict, including non-State parties, to comply fully with the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations and with rules and principles of international law, in particular, international humanitarian law, and as applicable, human rights and refugee law, and to implement fully the relevant decisions of the Security Council." |
| S/PRST/2005/1 | 12-Jan-2005 | Haiti | "The Security Council underlines the important role of MINUSTAH in ensuring a secure environment and commends the recent joint operations by MINUSTAH and the Haitian National Police (HNP), in particular against all illegal armed groups. It notes however that further urgent action is needed to continue to improve the security situation. The Council again calls on all parties in Haiti to respect human rights and to renounce the use of violence to advance their goals." |
| S/PRST/2005/67 | 21-Dec-2005 | Sudan | "The Security Council recalls the demands on the Government of the Sudan and the rebel forces, as well as other armed groups, to respect fully their commitments referred to in its recent resolutions. The Council demands, in particular, that the SLM/A, the JEM and the Government of the Sudan immediately cease violence, comply with the N'djamena Ceasefire Agreement, end impediments to the peace process and cooperate fully with the African Union Mission, and that the Government of the Sudan disarm and control militias. It further demands that those responsible for violations of human rights and international humanitarian law be brought to justice without delay." |
| S/PRST/2006/4 | 25-Jan-2006 | Democratic Republic of the Congo | "The Security Council also condemns with the utmost firmness the recent seizure of villages in the area of Rutshuru, province of North Kivu, by insurgent elements. It expresses its concern at atrocities and human rights abuses which have been reported in this context. It considers all such actions to constitute a serious threat to the peace process and to the transition, and demands that these cease immediately." |

| Document | Date adopted | Situation and/or thematic context | Excerpt |
|---|---|---|---|
| S/PRST/2008/2 | 30-Jan-2008 | Democratic Republic of the Congo | "The Security Council is particularly pleased that the armed groups in North and South Kivu have undertaken to observe a complete and immediate ceasefire, to begin the withdrawal of their forces with a view to their brassage or their disarmament, demobilization and reintegration under the national programme for that process, and to abide strictly by the rules of international humanitarian and human rights law, set out in the statements of commitment (Actes d'engagement) which they signed with the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo on 23 January 2008." |
| S/PRST/2008/6 | 12-Feb-2008 | Children and armed conflict | "The Security Council is concerned with the widespread and systematic use of rape and other forms of sexual violence against children in particular girls in situations of armed conflict, and calls on all parties to armed conflicts to take special measures to protect girls and boys from sexual and gender based violence, particularly rape, in situations of armed conflict." |
| S/PRST/2009/1 | 14-Jan-2009 | Protection of civilians in armed conflict | "The Council reaffirms in this regard that parties to armed conflict bear the primary responsibility to take all feasible steps to ensure the protection of affected civilians and to meet their basic needs, including by giving attention to the specific needs of women and children…Demands…[the affected State], all militias, armed groups and all other stakeholders ensure the full, safe and unhindered access of humanitarian organizations and relief personnel…[S]tresses the responsibility of all parties and armed groups in [the affected State] to take appropriate steps to protect the civilian population…consistent with international humanitarian, human rights and refugee law, in particular by avoiding any indiscriminate attacks on populated areas." |

| Document | Date adopted | Situation and/or thematic context | Excerpt |
|---|---|---|---|
| S/PRST/2010/25 | 22-Nov-2010 | Protection of civilians in armed conflict | "Calls upon the States in the region to ensure that any military actions against armed groups are carried out in accordance with international humanitarian, human rights and refugee law, and that they take appropriate measures to protect civilians and reduce the impact of military actions upon the civilian population, including through regular contacts with and early warning of the civilian population on potential attacks...[S]tresses the responsibility of all parties and armed groups in [the affected country] to take appropriate steps to protect the civilian population in the country, consistent with international humanitarian, human rights and refugee law, in particular by avoiding any indiscriminate or excessive use of force in populated areas...Reiterating its serious concern at the worsening humanitarian situation in [the affected country], strongly condemning the targeting and obstruction of the delivery of humanitarian aid by armed groups in [the affected country], which has prevented the delivery of such aid in some areas, deploring the repeated attacks on humanitarian personnel, expressing its condemnation in the strongest terms of all acts of violence or abuses committed against civilians and humanitarian personnel, in violation of international humanitarian law and human rights law, and reaffirming the importance of the fight against impunity...[S]tresses the responsibility of all parties and armed groups in [the affected State] to take appropriate steps to protect the civilian population...consistent with international humanitarian, human rights and refugee law, in particular by avoiding any indiscriminate attacks on populated areas." |
| S/PRST/2011/11 | 18-May-2011 | Democratic Republic of the Congo | "The Security Council reiterates its deep concern about the persistent high levels of violence, especially sexual violence, and human rights abuses against civilians, mostly affecting women and children including the use and recruitment of children by parties to the conflict...It calls for an urgent end to the attacks against the civilian population by all armed groups. It condemns all violations of human rights, including those committed by some elements of the Congolese security forces. The Council welcomes progress with the recent prosecutions after the incidents in Fizi and other cases. It reiterates the urgent need for the swift prosecution of all perpetrators of human rights abuses...It urges the Congolese government to take all necessary steps, including ensuring proper conduct by their armed forces in compliance with international humanitarian and human rights law, to facilitate the return of refugees and displaced persons." |

| Document | Date adopted | Situation and/or thematic context | Excerpt |
|---|---|---|---|
| S/PRST/2012/9 | 4-Apr-2012 | Peace and security in Africa | "The Security Council strongly condemns the continued attacks, looting and seizure of territory carried out by rebel groups in the North of Mali and demands an immediate cessation of hostilities. The Council is alarmed by the presence in the region of the terrorist group Al Qaida in the Islamic Maghreb, which could lead to a further destabilization of the security situation. The Council calls upon the rebels to immediately cease all violence and urges all parties in Mali to seek a peaceful solution through appropriate political dialogue. The Council stresses the importance of the safety of civilians and of the respect of human rights." |
| S/PRST/2012/22 | 19-Oct-2012 | Democratic Republic of the Congo | "The Security Council strongly condemns the M23 and all its attacks on the civilian population, United Nations peacekeepers and humanitarian actors, as well as its abuses of human rights, including summary executions, sexual and gender based violence and large scale recruitment and use of child soldiers." |
| S/PRST/2012/26 | 10-Dec-2012 | Peace and security in Africa | "The Security Council strongly condemns the abuses of human rights committed in the region by terrorist and other extremist groups, including violence against civilians, notably women and children, extrajudicial and arbitrary executions, hostage-taking, trafficking in persons, and recruitment of child soldiers. |
| S/PRST/2013/7 | 6-Jun-2013 | Somalia | "The Council expresses its deep concern at reports of continued violations and abuses of human rights in Somalia by all parties to the conflict, including reports of grave violations and abuses against children. The Council also expresses concern at reports of sexual violence perpetrated against internally displaced persons by organised armed groups and members of the Somali armed forces. The Council calls on the Government of Somalia to ensure that all perpetrators of violations and abuses of human rights and violations of international humanitarian law are held fully accountable, in line with the relevant provision of international humanitarian law and human rights law." |
| S/PRST/2013/10 | 16-Jul-2013 | Peace and security in Africa | "The Security Council strongly condemns the abuses of human rights and violence against civilians, notably women and children, committed in the region by terrorist and other extremist groups." |
| S/PRST/2013/11 | 23-Jul-2013 | Democratic Republic of the Congo | "The Security Council expresses grave concern about reports of alleged mistreatment of M23 detainees and the desecration of corpses of M23 combatants by members of the FARDC. The Security Council welcomes steps taken by the Congolese armed forces and MONUSCO to investigate these claims and to hold the perpetrators accountable for these acts, which constitute violations of human rights and international humanitarian law." |

| Document | Date adopted | Situation and/or thematic context | Excerpt |
|---|---|---|---|
| S/PRST/2013/15 | 2-Oct-2013 | Syria | "The Security Council condemns the widespread violations of human rights and international humanitarian law by the Syrian authorities, as well as any human rights abuses and violations of international humanitarian law by armed groups...The Security Council recalls that all obligations under international humanitarian law must be respected in all circumstances. It recalls, in particular, the obligation to distinguish between civilian populations and combatants, and the prohibition against indiscriminate attacks, and attacks against civilians and civilian objects, as well as the prohibition on the use of chemical weapons and the employment of weapons, projectiles and material and methods of warfare which are of a nature to cause superfluous injury or unnecessary suffering. The Council urges all parties to immediately cease and desist from all violations of international humanitarian law and violations and abuses of human rights, and calls on all parties to fully respect their obligations under international humanitarian law and to take all appropriate steps to protect civilians, including by desisting from attacks directed against civilian objects, such as medical centres, schools and water stations, and also calls on all parties to avoid establishing military positions in populated areas." |
| S/PRST/2013/17 | 14-Nov-2013 | Democratic Republic of the Congo | "The Security Council strongly condemns the continuing violence and abuses of human rights by all armed groups, including summary executions, sexual and gender-based violence and large-scale recruitment and use of children, demands that all armed groups cease immediately all forms of violence and destabilizing activities and that their members immediately and permanently disband, lay down their arms and demobilize children from their ranks, and reiterates that those responsible for human rights abuses and violations of international humanitarian law will be held accountable and should not be eligible for integration into the FARDC or other elements of state security forces." |
| S/PRST/2013/8 | 25-Nov-2013 | Central African region | "The Security Council reiterates its strong condemnation of the appalling attacks and war crimes and crimes against humanity carried out by the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) and its violations of international humanitarian law and abuses of human rights." |
| S/PRST/2013/19 | 9-Dec-2013 | Guinea-Bissau | "The Security Council expresses its grave concern at the recent deterioration of the security situation, including many cases of violations and abuses of human rights and acts of violence against persons and property, intimidation, threats and restrictions of freedom of expression and assembly and notes that in several cases, these acts have reportedly been carried out by state and non-state armed elements." |

| Document | Date adopted | Situation and/or thematic context | Excerpt |
|---|---|---|---|
| S/PRST/2013/10 | 12-Dec-2013 | Peace and security in Africa | "The Security Council reiterates its continued concern about the alarming situation in the Sahel region and reaffirms its continued commitment to address the complex security and political challenges in this region, which are interrelated with humanitarian and developmental issues as well as the adverse effects of climate and ecological changes. The Security Council reiterates its strong condemnation of the recent terrorist attacks perpetrated in the region. The Security Council also strongly condemns the abuses of human rights and violence against civilians, notably women and children, committed in the region by terrorist and other extremist groups." |
| S/PRST/2013/20 | 12-Dec-2013 | Peace and security in Africa | "The Security Council also strongly condemns the abuses of human rights and violence against civilians, notably women and children, committed in the region by terrorist and other extremist groups." |
| S/PRST/2014/3 | 12-Feb-2014 | Protection of civilians in armed conflict | "Expressing grave concern at the continuing human rights violations, including inter alia arbitrary arrests and detentions, torture, and incidences of extrajudicial killings, as well as looting of property, by armed groups and by national security institutions...Condemning strongly all abuses and violations of human rights and violations of international humanitarian law, including those involving extrajudicial executions, arbitrary arrests and detentions, and sexual and gender-based violence, forced amputations, as well as killing, maiming, recruitment and use of children, attacks against schools and hospitals, forced displacements, and destruction of cultural and historical heritage, committed in [the affected country] by any group or individuals...condemning strongly the reports of retaliatory attacks, including those based on ethnicity and those allegedly perpetrated by members of the...Defence and Security Forces [of the affected country] against civilians, and calling upon all parties to bring an end to such violations and abuses and to comply with their obligations under applicable international law...Condemns all attacks against civilians in [the affected country], calls for the immediate cessation of all acts of violence, including sexual and gender based violence, or abuses committed against civilians, including women and children, and humanitarian personnel in violation of international humanitarian law and human rights law...Demands that all groups in the [affected areas of the affected country] cease all abuses of human rights and violations of international humanitarian law, including targeted attacks against the civilian population, sexual violence, recruitments of child soldiers and forced displacements, and recalls in this regard all its relevant resolutions...on Protection of civilians in armed conflicts..." |

| Document | Date adopted | Situation and/or thematic context | Excerpt |
|---|---|---|---|
| S/PRST/2014/8 | 12-May-2014 | Central African Republic | "The Security Council reiterates its strong condemnation of the appalling attacks, war crimes and crimes against humanity carried out by the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) and its violations of international humanitarian law and abuses of human rights, including the LRA's recruitment and use of children in armed conflict, killing and maiming, rape, sexual slavery and other sexual violence, and abductions. The Council demands an immediate end to all attacks by the LRA and urges the LRA to release all those abducted, and to disarm and demobilise. The Council...reiterates its resolve to maintain the current momentum until a permanent end to the threat posed by the LRA has been achieved." |
| S/PRST/2014/20 | 19-Sep-2014 | Iraq | "The Security Council reaffirms that all parties, including ISIL, associated armed groups, and other militias, must respect the human rights of the Iraqi people and abide by all applicable obligations under international humanitarian law, including those protecting the civilian population, by which both official Iraqi forces and member states that assist them must also abide." |
| S/PRST/2014/22 | 5-Nov-2014 | Democratic Republic of the Congo | "The Security Council reiterates once again its call on the government of DRC, in coordination with MONUSCO, to immediately undertake military action against those leaders and members of the FDLR who do not engage in the demobilization process or who continue to carry out human rights abuses...The Security Council notes with deep concern the persistence of serious human rights abuses and international humanitarian law violations against civilians in the DRC committed by armed groups, including the FDLR. The Security Council also expresses deep concern at reports and allegations indicating the persistence of serious human rights and international humanitarian law violations committed by Congolese security and defense forces, and reiterates the need to fight against impunity in this regard." |
| S/PRST/2014/28 | 18-Dec-2014 | Central African Republic | "The Security Council affirms that those responsible for violations of international humanitarian law, human rights violations and abuses and other criminal acts, including those involving killing, maiming, rape and other forms of sexual violence, recruitment and use of children, violations of physical integrity, looting, destruction of properties and restrictions on freedom of movement, as well as attacks against humanitarian personnel, shall be held accountable." |

| Document | Date adopted | Situation and/or thematic context | Excerpt |
|---|---|---|---|
| S/PRST/2015/4 | 19-Jan-2015 | Boko Haram | "The Security Council strongly condemns and deplores all abuses of human rights and, where applicable, violations of international humanitarian law by the terrorist group Boko Haram, since 2009, including those involving violence against civilian populations, notably women and children, kidnappings, killings, hostage-taking, pillaging, rape, sexual slavery and other sexual violence, recruitment of children and destruction of civilian property. The Security Council expresses serious concern over the reported violations and abuses of human rights and large-scale displacements of civilian population, including into Nigeria's neighbouring countries. The Security Council recalls its decision to place Boko Haram on the Al-Qaida sanctions list. The Security Council demands that Boko Haram immediately and unequivocally cease all hostilities and all abuses of human rights and violations of international humanitarian law and disarm and demobilise." |
| S/PRST/2015/8 | 22-Mar-2015 | Yemen | "The Security Council reiterates the importance of all parties allowing all Yemenis to assemble peacefully without fear of attack, injury, arrest, or retaliation. The Security Council calls on all parties to comply with their obligations under international law, including applicable international humanitarian law and human rights law." |
| S/PRST/2015/12 | 11-Jun-2015 | Central African Republic | "The Security Council reiterates its strong condemnation of the appalling attacks, including those that may amount to war crimes and crimes against humanity carried out by the LRA and other violations of international humanitarian law and abuses of human rights, including the LRA's recruitment and use of children in armed conflict, killing and maiming, rape, sexual slavery and other sexual violence, and abductions. The Council demands an immediate end to all attacks by the LRA and urges the LRA to release all those abducted, and to disarm and demobilise. The Council welcomes the progress made with regard to ending crimes under international law in Central Africa and reiterates its resolve to maintain the current momentum until a permanent end to the threat posed by the LRA has been achieved." |
| S/PRST/2015/14 | 28-Jul-2015 | Threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts | "The Security Council reiterates its strong condemnation of all the terrorist attacks, abuses of human rights and violations of international humanitarian law by Boko Haram... " |

| Document | Date adopted | Situation and/or thematic context | Excerpt |
|---|---|---|---|
| S/PRST/2015/15 | 17-Aug-2015 | Syria | "The Security Council expresses its gravest concern that parts of Syria are under control of terrorist groups such as Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) and Al Nusrah Front (ANF), condemns the ongoing and multiple terrorist acts by ISIL, ANF and all other individuals, groups, undertakings and entities associated with Al-Qaida, condemns further the targeting of civilians, based on their ethnicity, religion and/or confessional affiliations, expresses concern about the negative impact of terrorism, violent extremist ideology in support of terrorism, and action that destabilizes Syria and the region, with a devastating humanitarian impact on the civilian population, reaffirms its resolve to address all aspects of the threat, and calls on all parties to commit to putting an end to terrorist acts perpetrated by ISIL, ANF and all other individuals, groups, undertakings and entities associated with Al-Qaida...The Security Council demands that all parties work urgently towards the comprehensive implementation of the Geneva Communiqué, aimed at bringing an end to all violence, violations and abuses of human rights and violations of international humanitarian law..." |
| S/PRST/2015/18 | 28-Oct-2015 | Burundi | "The Security Council strongly condemns all violations and abuses of human rights and acts of unlawful violence committed in Burundi both by security forces and by militias and other illegal armed groups, and expresses its determination to seek accountability for perpetrators of such acts. The Security Council welcomes the decision of the African Union to launch an in-depth investigation on the violations and abuses of human rights against individuals in Burundi." |
| S/PRST/2015/20 | 9-Nov-2015 | Democratic Republic of the Congo | "The Security Council remains deeply concerned by persistent high levels of violence and violations and abuses of human rights and international law, especially in eastern DRC. The Security Council condemns in particular such violations and abuses involving targeted attacks against civilians, widespread sexual and gender-based violence, systematic recruitment and use of children by armed groups, forced displacement of significant numbers of civilians, extrajudicial executions and arbitrary arrests." |
| S/PRST/2015/25 | 16-Dec-2015 | Maintenance of international peace and security | "The Security Council deplores all acts of trafficking in persons undertaken by the 'Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant' (ISIL, also known as Da'esh), including of Yazidis, as well as all ISIL's violations of international humanitarian law and abuses of human rights, and deplores also any such trafficking in persons and violations and other abuses by the Lord's Resistance Army, and other terrorist or armed groups, including Boko Haram, for the purpose of sexual slavery, sexual exploitation, and forced labor which may contribute to the funding and sustainment of such groups, and underscores that certain acts associated with trafficking in persons in the context of armed conflict may constitute war crimes." |

| Document | Date adopted | Situation and/or thematic context | Excerpt |
|---|---|---|---|
| S/PRST/2016/7 | 13-May-2016 | Boko Haram | "The Security Council strongly condemns all terrorist attacks, abuses of human rights and violations of international humanitarian law by Boko Haram in the Lake Chad Basin region, including those involving killings and other violence against civilians, notably women and children, abductions, pillaging, rape, sexual slavery and other sexual violence, recruitment and use of children, and destruction of civilian property. The Security Council expresses serious concern over the reported violations and abuses of human rights and large scale displacement of the civilian population across the Lake Chad Basin region as a result of Boko Haram's activities. The Security Council stresses that those responsible for these abuses and violations of human rights and violations of international humanitarian law must be held accountable and brought to justice...The Security Council demands that Boko Haram immediately and unequivocally cease all violence and all abuses of human rights and violations of international humanitarian law." |

# Annex II.C - Database of Excerpts concerning ANSAs and IHRL in U.N. General Assembly Resolutions

| Document | Year adopted | Situation and/or thematic context | Excerpt |
|---|---|---|---|
| A/RES/44/88 | 1993 | Bosnia and Herzegovina | "Recalling the report of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, in which the Committee "noted with great concern that links existed between the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) and Serbian militias and paramilitary groups responsible for massive, gross and systematic violations of human rights in Bosnia and Herzegovina and in Croatian territories controlled by Serbs"...[OP 14] Condemns vigorously the violations of the human rights of the Bosnian people and of international humanitarian law committed by parties to the conflict, especially those violations committed as policy, flagrantly and on a massive scale, by Serbia and Montenegro and the Bosnian Serbs..." |
| A/RES/48/12 | 1993 | Measures to strengthen international cooperation against the illicit production, sale, demand, traffic and distribution of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and related activities | "[OP 10] Requests the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the Economic and Social Council, with the assistance of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme and the International Narcotics Control Board, to consider and make recommendations on the following issues, on the basis of the principle of shared responsibility and a balanced, comprehensive and multidisciplinary approach, and without excluding any other aspects that could be addressed...[s]trengthening of international cooperation to eradicate the growing and dangerous links between terrorist groups, drug traffickers and their paramilitary gangs and other armed criminal groups, which have resorted to all types of violence, thus undermining the democratic institutions of States and violating basic human rights..." |
| A/RES/48/122 | 1994 | Human rights and terrorism | "Seriously concerned at the gross violations of human rights perpetrated by terrorist groups...[OP 1] Unequivocally condemns all acts, methods and practices of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, wherever and by whomever committed, as activities aimed at the destruction of human rights, fundamental freedoms and democracy..." |
| A/RES/48/52 | 1994 | Afghanistan | "Deeply concerned about the violation of the human rights of women by warring factions in Afghanistan, and about the lack of respect towards them and their honour, physical integrity and dignity, as reported by the Special Rapporteur...[OP 7] Recognizes that the promotion and protection of human rights should be an essential element in the achievement of a comprehensive solution to the crisis in Afghanistan, and calls upon all the Afghan parties to respect human rights" |

| Document | Year adopted | Situation and/or thematic context | Excerpt |
|---|---|---|---|
| A/RES/49/10 | 1994 | Bosnia and Herzegovina | "Recalling the report of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, in which the Committee noted "with great concern that links existed between the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) and Serbian militias and paramilitary groups responsible for massive, gross and systematic violations of human rights in Bosnia and Herzegovina and in Croatian territories controlled by Serbs...[OP 11] Condemns vigorously all violations of human rights and international humanitarian law committed by parties to the conflict, especially those violations committed as policy by Serbia and Montenegro and the Bosnian Serbs, who have done so systematically, flagrantly and on a massive scale against the people of Bosnia and Herzegovina" |
| A/RES/49/185 | 1995 | Human rights and terrorism | "Seriously concerned at the gross violations of human rights perpetrated by terrorist groups...[OP 1] Reiterates its unequivocal condemnation of all acts, methods and practices of terrorism, as activities aimed at the destruction of human rights, fundamental freedoms and democracy" |
| A/RES/49/198 | 1995 | Sudan | "[OP 3] Urges the Government of the Sudan fully to respect human rights, and calls upon all parties to cooperate in order to ensure such respect...[OP 9] Strongly urges all parties to the hostilities to redouble their efforts to negotiate an equitable solution to the civil conflict to ensure respect for the human rights and fundamental freedoms of the Sudanese people, thereby creating the necessary conditions to end the exodus of Sudanese refugees to neighbouring countries and to facilitate their early return to the Sudan, and welcomes efforts to facilitate dialogue to that end among the parties" |
| A/RES/49/207 | 1995 | Afghanistan | "Deeply concerned about the recurring violations of human rights specific to or primarily directed against women by some members of warring factions in Afghanistan, and about the lack of respect towards them and their physical integrity and dignity, as reported by the Special Rapporteur...[OP 8] Recognizes that the promotion and protection of human rights should be an essential element in the achievement of a comprehensive solution to the crisis in Afghanistan, and calls upon all the Afghan parties to respect human rights...[OP 11] Strongly urges all the Afghan parties to ensure respect for the human rights and fundamental freedoms of women, so that their honour and dignity may be ensured in accordance with the provisions of international human rights instruments and humanitarian law" |
| A/RES/49/60 | 1995 | Measures to eliminate international terrorism | "Concerned at the growing and dangerous links between terrorist groups and drug traffickers and their paramilitary gangs, which have resorted to all types of violence, thus endangering the constitutional order of States and violating basic human rights" |

| Document | Year adopted | Situation and/or thematic context | Excerpt |
|---|---|---|---|
| A/RES/50/159 | 1996 | Burundi | "[OP 4] Urges all political parties, military leaders, the media and civil society to dissociate themselves from extremist forces, to reject all extremism and all ethnic or political fanaticism, to settle disputes through negotiation and dialogue and to unite in order to bring about national reconciliation and respect for human rights" |
| A/RES/50/186 | 1996 | Human rights and terrorism | "Taking into account the fact that acts of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations aimed at the destruction of human rights have continued despite national and international efforts; Bearing in mind that the most essential and basic human right is the right to life; Bearing in mind also that terrorism creates an environment that destroys the freedom from fear of the people...Seriously concerned at the gross violations of human rights perpetrated by terrorist groups...Mindful of the need to protect human rights of and guarantees for the individual in accordance with the relevant international human rights principles and instruments, particularly the right to life...[OP 2] Reiterates its unequivocal condemnation of the acts, methods and practices of terrorism as activities aimed at the destruction of human rights, fundamental freedoms and democracy" |
| A/RES/51/195 | 1997 | Afghanistan | "[OP 12] Denounces the discrimination against girls and women and other violations of human rights in Afghanistan, and calls upon all Afghan parties to respect the human rights of every individual, regardless of gender, ethnicity or religion" |
| A/RES/52/133 | 1997 | Human rights and terrorism | "Seriously concerned about the gross violations of human rights perpetrated by terrorist groups...[OP 2] Condemns the violations of the right to live free from fear and of the right to life, liberty and security; [OP 3] Reiterates its unequivocal condemnation of the acts, methods and practices of terrorism, in all its forms and manifestations, as aimed at the destruction of human rights, fundamental freedoms and democracy..." |
| A/RES/53/1 J-O | 1999 | Democratic Republic of the Congo | "Urging all parties to respect and protect human rights and respect international humanitarian law, in particular the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and the additional Protocols thereto, of 1977" |
| A/RES/53/203 A-B | 1999 | Afghanistan | "[OP 16] Urges the Taliban and other Afghan parties to recognize, protect and promote all human rights and freedoms, including the right to life, liberty and security of persons, regardless of gender, ethnicity or religion" |
| A/RES/54/96A–D | 1999 | Democratic Republic of the Congo | "Urging all parties to respect and protect human rights and respect international humanitarian law, in particular the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and the additional Protocols thereto, of 1977" |

| Document | Year adopted | Situation and/or thematic context | Excerpt |
|---|---|---|---|
| A/RES/54/164 | 2000 | Human rights and terrorism | "Seriously concerned about the gross violations of human rights perpetrated by terrorist groups...[OP 2] Condemns the violations of the right to live free from fear and of the right to life, liberty and security; [OP 3] Reiterates its unequivocal condemnation of the acts, methods and practices of terrorism, in all its forms and manifestations, as activities aimed at the destruction of human rights, fundamental freedoms and democracy..." |
| A/RES/54/189A-B | 2000 | Afghanistan | "A. [OP 22] Urges all Afghan parties to recognize, protect and promote all human rights and freedoms, including the right to life, liberty and security of persons, regardless of gender, ethnicity or religion; [OP 23] Calls upon all Afghan parties, in particular the Taliban, to end discriminatory policies against women and girls, including policies regarding their rights to education, work and equal health care, and to recognize, protect and promote the equal rights and dignity of men and women" B. Expressing its grave concern at the serious violations of human rights and international humanitarian law, in particular by the Taliban, in Afghanistan and at the inadequacy of measures taken by the warring factions to reverse the situation... Deeply concerned by the continuing and substantiated reports of violations of human rights, in particular of women and girls, including all forms of discrimination against them, notably in areas under the control of the Taliban...[OP 2] Stresses that the responsibility for the humanitarian crisis lies with all warring parties, in particular with the Taliban...[OP 12] Denounces the continuing discrimination against girls and women as well as ethnic and religious groups, including minorities, and other violations of human rights and international humanitarian law in Afghanistan, notably in areas under the control of the Taliban...and calls upon all parties within Afghanistan to respect fully the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all, regardless of gender, ethnicity or religion, in accordance with international human rights instruments, inter alia, the International Covenants on Human Rights; [OP 13] Strongly urges all of the Afghan parties to end discriminatory policies and to recognize, protect and promote the equal rights and dignity of women and men, including their rights to full and equal participation in the life of the country, freedom of movement, access to education and health facilities, employment outside the home, personal security and freedom from intimidation and harassment, in particular with respect to the implications of discriminatory policies for the distribution of aid, notwithstanding some progress made with respect to access to education and health care for girls and women" |

| Document | Year adopted | Situation and/or thematic context | Excerpt |
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| A/RES/54/82 | 2000 | Sudan | "[OP 2] Expresses its deep concern [a]t the impact of the current armed conflict on the situation of human rights and its adverse effect on the civilian population, in particular women and children, and continuing serious violations of human rights and international humanitarian law by all parties, in particular: [t]he occurrence of cases of extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary execution resulting from conflict between members of the armed forces and their allies, and armed insurgent groups, including the Sudanese People's Liberation Army...[OP 3] Urges all parties to the continuing conflict in the Sudan [t]o respect and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms, to respect fully international humanitarian law, thereby facilitating the voluntary return, repatriation and reintegration of refugees and internally displaced persons to their homes, and to ensure that those responsible for violations of human rights and international humanitarian law are brought to justice" |
| A/RES/55/174 | 2001 | Afghanistan | "Expressing its grave concern at the serious violations of human rights and international humanitarian law, in particular by the Taliban, in Afghanistan and at the inadequacy of measures taken by the warring factions to reverse the situation... [OP 14] Denounces the continuing discrimination against girls and women as well as ethnic and religious groups, including minorities, and other violations of human rights and international humanitarian law in Afghanistan, notably in areas under the control of the Taliban, notes with deep concern their adverse effects on international relief and reconstruction programmes in Afghanistan, and calls upon all parties within Afghanistan to respect fully the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all, regardless of gender, ethnicity or religion, in accordance with international human rights instruments, inter alia, the International Covenants on Human Rights,6 and to refrain from all attempts to single out minorities; [OP 15] Strongly urges all the Afghan parties to end discriminatory policies and to recognize, protect and promote the equal rights and dignity of women and men, including their rights to full and equal participation in the life of the country, freedom of movement, access to education and health facilities, employment outside the home, personal security and freedom from intimidation and harassment, in particular with respect to the implications of discriminatory policies for the distribution of aid, notwithstanding some progress made with respect to access to education and health care for girls and women" |
| A/RES/56/100 | 2002 | Democratic Republic of the Congo | "Urging all parties to respect and protect human rights and respect international humanitarian law, in particular, the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and the additional Protocols thereto, of 1977" |

| Document | Year adopted | Situation and/or thematic context | Excerpt |
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| A/RES/56/160 | 2002 | Human rights and terrorism | "Seriously concerned about the gross violations of human rights perpetrated by terrorist groups...[OP 2] Strongly condemns the violations of the right to live free from fear and of the right to life, liberty and security; [OP 3] Reiterates its unequivocal condemnation of the acts, methods and practices of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations as activities aimed at the destruction of human rights, fundamental freedoms and democracy..." |

| Document | Year adopted | Situation and/or thematic context | Excerpt |
|---|---|---|---|
| A/RES/56/173 | 2002 | Democratic Republic of the Congo | "Concerned at all violations of human rights and international humanitarian law in the territory of the Democratic Republic of the Congo by parties to the conflict, including acts of and incitement to ethnic hatred and violence, as noted in the reports of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in the Democratic Republic of the Congo...[OP 2] Expresses its concern at...[t[he situation of human rights in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, particularly in the zones held by the rebel groups and under foreign occupation, and the persistent violations of human rights and international humanitarian law, including the atrocities against the civilian populations, usually committed with complete impunity, while emphasizing in this regard that the occupying forces should be held accountable for the violations of human rights in the territories under their control. It condemns in particular: [a]ll the massacres and atrocities still being committed throughout the territory of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, in particular in the zones held by the armed rebels and under foreign occupation, including Bugobe, Nyatende, Kamisimbi, Lurhala, Nyangesi, Biambwe, Nbingi, Bunyatenge, Kaghumo, Banyuke, and Kirima, Kalemié, Pweto, Rutshuru, Kibumba, Kimia Kimia, Dungo Mulunga and Kasese Bolanga; [t]he occurrences of cases of summary and arbitrary execution, disappearance, torture, arbitrary arrest and detention without trial of, among others, journalists, opposition politicians, human rights defenders and people who have cooperated with the United Nations mechanisms; [t]he numerous instances of rape and sexual violence against women and children, including as a means of warfare; [t]he continuing recruitment and use of child soldiers by armed forces and groups, including the enlistment and kidnapping of children throughout the territory of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, in particular in North and South Kivu and in the eastern province; [t] he sentencing to death of civilians tried before the Military Court, in violation of the obligations assumed by the Democratic Republic of the Congo under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, as well as the prolonged and arbitrary detentions ordered by the Court; [t]he death sentences and summary executions by the Congolese Rally for Democracy-Goma; [t]he indiscriminate attacks against civilian populations, including against hospitals in the zones held by rebel forces and the zones held by foreign forces; The conflicts between the Hema and Lendu ethnic groups in the eastern province, where thousands of Congolese have already been killed and where Uganda, which controls the zone de facto, is responsible for ensuring respect for human rights; The excessive accumulation and spread of small arms and the distribution, circulation and illicit trafficking of arms in the region and their negative impact on human rights; The breaches of freedom of expression, opinion, association and assembly throughout the territory of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, in particular in the eastern part of the country; The harassment and persecution of human rights defenders and other members of civil society; The acts of intimidation and persecution against representatives of the Churches, as well as the killings of those persons in the eastern part of the country...[OP 3] Urges all parties to the conflict in the Democratic Republic of the Congo...[t]o protect human rights and respect international humanitarian law, in particular, as applicable to them, the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949 for the protection of victims of war and the Additional Protocols thereto, of 1977, the Hague Convention respecting the Laws and Customs of War on Land of 18 October 1907, the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide and other relevant provisions of international humanitarian, human rights and refugee law, and in particular to respect the rights of women and children and to ensure the safety of all civilians, including refugees and internally displaced persons, regardless of their origin...[and] [t]o put an immediate end to the recruitment and use of child soldiers, which are in contravention of the international human rights standards" |
| A/RES/56/175 | 2002 | Sudan | "[OP 3] Urges all parties to the continuing conflict in the Sudan...[t]o stop the use of tribal militias that commit serious human rights abuses..." |

| Document | Year adopted | Situation and/or thematic context | Excerpt |
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| A/RES/50/230 | 2003 | Sudan | "[OP 3] Urges all parties to the conflict in the Sudan...[t]o stop the support provided to and use of tribal militias that commit grave human rights abuses..." |
| A/RES/57/220 | 2003 | Hostage-taking | "Concerned that, despite the efforts of the international community, acts of hostage-taking in different forms and manifestations, inter alia, those committed by terrorists and armed groups, continue to take place and have even increased in many regions of the world...[OP 1] Reaffirms that hostage-taking, wherever and by whomever committed, is a serious offence aimed at the destruction of human rights and is, under any circumstances, unjustifiable" |
| A/RES/57/230 | 2003 | Sudan | "[OP 2] Expresses its deep concern at...[t]he impact of the ongoing armed conflict on the situation of human rights and its adverse effects on the civilian population, in particular women, children and internally displaced persons, and at the continuing serious violations of human rights, fundamental freedoms and international humanitarian law by all parties to the conflict...[t]he negative role of undisciplined southern militias, armed and supported by all parties to the conflict, which are responsible for killings, torture, kidnappings, rape, the burning of villages, the destruction of crops and the theft of livestock...[OP 3] Urges all parties to the conflict in the Sudan...[t]o respect and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms, to respect fully international humanitarian law, in particular the need to ensure the protection of civilians and civilian premises, thereby facilitating the voluntary return, repatriation and reintegration of refugees and internally displaced persons to their homes, and to ensure that those responsible for violations of human rights and international humanitarian law are brought to justice...[t]o stop the support provided to and use of tribal militias that commit grave human rights abuses" |

| Document | Year adopted | Situation and/or thematic context | Excerpt |
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| A/RES/57/233 | 2003 | Democratic Republic of the Congo | "Concerned at all violations of human rights and international humanitarian law in the territory of the Democratic Republic of the Congo by parties to the conflict, as mentioned in the reports of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in the Democratic Republic of the Congo... [OP 2] Condemns [t]he continuing violations of human rights, fundamental freedoms and international humanitarian law, including acts of and incitement to ethnic hatred and violence and atrocities against civilian populations, generally committed with complete impunity; [t]he recruitment and use of child soldiers by armed forces and groups, including the abduction of children throughout the territory of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, in contravention of international human rights standards...[OP 4] Urges all parties to the conflict in the Democratic Republic of the Congo...[t]o implement all necessary measures to put an end to the widespread violations of human rights and to impunity, in particular with regard to the sexual violence against women and children" |
| A/RES/58/123 | 2003 | Democratic Republic of the Congo | "[OP 6] Strongly condemns the acts of violence, including the latest massacres in Ituri, systematically perpetrated against civilians, including the massacres, as well as other atrocities and violations of international humanitarian law and human rights, in particular sexual violence against women and girls, stresses the need to bring to justice those responsible, including those at the command level, and urges all parties, including the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, to take all necessary steps to prevent further violations of human rights and international humanitarian law, in particular those committed against civilians" |
| A/RES/58/174 | 2003 | Human rights and terrorism | "Seriously concerned about the gross violations of human rights perpetrated by terrorist groups...[OP 1] Reiterates its unequivocal condemnation of the acts, methods and practices of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations as activities aimed at the destruction of human rights, fundamental freedoms and democracy..." |
| A/RES/58/196 | 2003 | Democratic Republic of the Congo | "[OP 4] Urges all parties to the conflict in the Democratic Republic of the Congo...[t]o implement all necessary measures to put an end to the widespread violations of human rights and to impunity, in particular with regard to the sexual violence against women and children; [t]o protect human rights and to respect international humanitarian law, in particular by ensuring the safety, security and freedom of movement of all civilians, as well as United Nations and associated personnel, and the unhindered access of humanitarian personnel to all of the affected population throughout the territory of the Democratic Republic of the Congo" |

| Document | Year adopted | Situation and/or thematic context | Excerpt |
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| A/RES/59/112 A-B | 2004 | Afghanistan | "[OP 7] Reminds all Afghan parties of their commitment to the Bonn Agreement and the Berlin Declaration, and calls for the full respect of the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all, without discrimination of any kind, including on the basis of gender, ethnicity or religion, in accordance with obligations under the Afghan Constitution and international law, and commends the commitment of the Government of Afghanistan in this respect" |
| A/RES/59/195 | 2004 | Human rights and terrorism | "Seriously concerned about the gross violations of human rights perpetrated by terrorist groups...[OP 1] Reiterates its unequivocal condemnation of the acts, methods and practices of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations as activities aimed at the destruction of human rights, fundamental freedoms and democracy, threatening the territorial integrity and the security of States, destabilizing legitimately constituted Governments, undermining pluralistic civil society and having adverse consequences for the economic and social development of States" |
| A/RES/59/207 | 2004 | Democratic Republic of the Congo | "[OP 5] Urges all parties to the conflict in the Democratic Republic of the Congo...[t]o promote the full enjoyment of all human rights by women and children and to meet the special needs of women and girls in post-conflict reconstruction, as well as to ensure the full participation of women in all aspects of conflict resolution and peace processes, including peacekeeping, conflict management and peacebuilding, as a matter of priority, in accordance with Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) of 31 October 2000 on women, peace and security" |

| Document | Year adopted | Situation and/or thematic context | Excerpt |
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| A/RES/61/18 | 2006 | Afghanistan | "[OP 16] Notes with concern the negative impact of the security situation on the enjoyment of human rights, and calls for all parties to fully respect human rights and international humanitarian law throughout Afghanistan and, with the assistance of the Afghan Independent Human Rights Commission and of the Assistance Mission, to fully implement the human rights provisions of the new Afghan Constitution, and commends the commitment of the Government of Afghanistan in this respect; [OP 17] Calls for the full respect of the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all, without discrimination of any kind, including on the basis of gender, ethnicity or religion, in accordance with obligations under the Afghan Constitution and international law; [OP 18] Stresses the need to ensure respect for the right to freedom of expression and the right to freedom of thought, conscience or belief; [OP 19] Continues to emphasize the necessity of investigating allegations of current and past violations of human rights and of international humanitarian law, including violations committed against persons belonging to ethnic and religious minorities, as well as against women and girls, of facilitating the provision of efficient and effective remedies to the victims and of bringing the perpetrators to justice in accordance with international law" |
| A/RES/61/172 | 2007 | Hostage-taking | "Concerned that, despite the efforts of the international community, acts of hostage-taking in different forms and manifestations, including, inter alia, those committed by terrorists and armed groups, continue to take place and have even increased in many regions of the world...[OP 1] Reaffirms that hostage-taking, wherever and by whomever committed, is a serious crime aimed at the destruction of human rights and is, under any circumstances, unjustifiable" |
| A/RES/62/222 | 2007 | Myanmar | "[OP 2] Expresses grave concern at...[t]he discrimination and violations suffered by persons belonging to ethnic nationalities of Myanmar, particularly in border and conflict areas, and attacks by military forces and non-State armed groups on villages in Karen State and other ethnic States in Myanmar, leading to extensive forced displacements and serious violations and other abuses of the human rights of the affected populations" |

| Document | Year adopted | Situation and/or thematic context | Excerpt |
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| A/RES/62/6 | 2007 | Afghanistan | "[OP 22] Notes with concern the negative impact of the security situation, in particular terrorist and violent activities by the Taliban, Al-Qaida and extremist groups, on the enjoyment of human rights, and calls for all parties to fully respect human rights and international humanitarian law throughout Afghanistan and, with the assistance of the Afghan Independent Human Rights Commission and of the Assistance Mission, to fully implement the human rights provisions of the Afghan Constitution, including those regarding the full enjoyment by women of their human rights, and commends the commitment of the Government of Afghanistan in this respect" |
| A/RES/62/134 | 2008 | Eliminating rape and other forms of sexual violence in all their manifestations, including in conflict and related situations | "Strongly condemning all acts of violence against women and girls, whether these acts are perpetrated by the State, by private persons or by non-State actors, calling for the elimination of all forms of gender-based violence in the family, within the general community, and where perpetrated or condoned by the State, and stressing the need to treat all forms of violence against women and girls as a criminal offence, punishable by law, Stressing that rape or other forms of sexual violence must not be used or condoned in any circumstance by any individual, State or non-State actor, Recognizing that rape or any other form of sexual violence is unlawful in all circumstances and in all places, regardless of the sex or age of the victim, including in detention and in jails, whether or not committed by State or non-State actors in the course of achieving political or military objectives, whether or not in the course of an international or non-international armed conflict, or in areas under foreign occupation..." |
| A/RES/63/18 | 2009 | Afghanistan | "[OP 26] [E]xpresses its concern at the harmful consequences of violent and terrorist activities by the Taliban, Al-Qaida and other extremist and criminal groups for the enjoyment of human rights and for the capacity of the Government of Afghanistan to ensure human rights and fundamental freedoms for all Afghans" |
| A/RES/63/245 | 2009 | Myanmar | "[OP 2] Expresses grave concern, in particular, at...[t]he continuing discrimination and violations suffered by persons belonging to ethnic nationalities of Myanmar, and attacks by military forces and non-State armed groups on villages in Karen State and other ethnic States in Myanmar, leading to extensive forced displacements and serious violations and other abuses of the human rights of the affected populations" |

| Document | Year adopted | Situation and/or thematic context | Excerpt |
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| A/RES/64/11 | 2010 | Afghanistan | "Expressing its serious concern about the high number of civilian casualties, noting recent relevant statements by Afghan authorities and high-ranking United Nations officials in this regard, recalling that the Taliban, Al-Qaida and other extremist and criminal groups are responsible for the significant majority of the civilian casualties in Afghanistan, and calling for compliance with international humanitarian and human rights law and for all appropriate measures to be taken to ensure the protection of civilians...[OP 27] [E]xpresses its concern at the harmful consequences of violent and terrorist activities by the Taliban, Al-Qaida and other extremist and criminal groups for the enjoyment of human rights and for the capacity of the Government to ensure human rights and fundamental freedoms for all Afghans; [OP 28] Recalls Security Council resolutions 1674 (2006) of 28 April 2006 and 1738 (2006) of 23 December 2006, as well as the statement by the President of the Council of 14 January 2009, on the protection of civilians in armed conflict, expresses its concern at the high number of civilian casualties, including women and children, notes that the Taliban, Al-Qaida and other extremist and criminal groups are responsible for the significant majority of civilian casualties, reiterates its call for all feasible steps to be taken to ensure the protection of civilians, and calls for additional appropriate steps in this regard and for full compliance with international humanitarian and human rights law" |

| Document | Year adopted | Situation and/or thematic context | Excerpt |
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| A/RES/65/8 | 2010 | Afghanistan | "Expressing its serious concern about the high number of civilian casualties, recalling that the Taliban, Al-Qaida and other extremist and criminal groups are responsible for the significant majority of the civilian casualties in Afghanistan, and calling for compliance with international humanitarian and human rights law and for all appropriate measures to be taken to ensure the protection of civilians...[OP 30] Acknowledges and encourages the efforts made by the Government of Afghanistan in this respect, and expresses its concern at the harmful consequences of violent and terrorist activities by the Taliban, Al-Qaida and other extremist and criminal groups for the enjoyment of human rights and for the capacity of the Government of Afghanistan to ensure human rights and fundamental freedoms for all Afghans...[OP 31] Recalls Security Council resolutions 1674 (2006) of 28 April 2006, 1738 (2006) of 23 December 2006, 1894 (2009) of 11 November 2009, the mid-year report of August 2010 on the protection of civilians in armed conflict, prepared by the Assistance Mission, expresses its concern at the high number of civilian casualties, including women and children, notes that the Taliban, Al-Qaida and other extremist and criminal groups are responsible for the significant majority of civilian casualties, reiterates its call for all feasible steps to be taken to ensure the protection of civilians, and calls for additional appropriate steps in this regard and for full compliance with international humanitarian and human rights law" |

| Document | Year adopted | Situation and/or thematic context | Excerpt |
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| A/RES/66/13 | 2012 | Afghanistan | "Expressing its serious concern about the high number of civilian casualties, recalling that the Taliban, Al-Qaida and other violent and extremist groups are responsible for the significant majority of the civilian casualties in Afghanistan, and calling for compliance with international humanitarian and human rights law and for all appropriate measures to be taken to ensure the protection of civilians...[OP 52] Acknowledges and encourages the efforts made by the Government of Afghanistan in promoting respect for human rights, and expresses its concern at the harmful consequences of violent and terrorist activities by the Taliban, Al-Qaida and other violent and extremist groups and criminals for the enjoyment of human rights and for the capacity of the Government of Afghanistan to ensure human rights and fundamental freedoms for all Afghans, notes with concern reports of continued violations of human rights and of international humanitarian law, including violent or discriminatory practices, violations committed against persons belonging to ethnic and religious minorities, as well as against women and children, in particular girls, stresses the need to promote tolerance and religious freedom as guaranteed by the Afghan Constitution, emphasizes the necessity of investigating allegations of current and past violations, and stresses the importance of facilitating the provision of efficient and effective remedies to the victims and of bringing the perpetrators to justice in accordance with national and international law...[OP 56] Recalls Security Council resolutions 1674 (2006) of 28 April 2006, 1738 (2006) of 23 December 2006, 1894 (2009) of 11 November 2009 and the mid-year report of July 2011 on the protection of civilians in armed conflict, prepared by the Assistance Mission, expresses its serious concern at the high number of civilian casualties, including women and children, and its impact on local communities, notes that the Taliban, Al-Qaida and other violent and extremist groups remain responsible for the significant majority of civilian casualties, reiterates its call for all feasible steps to be taken to ensure the protection of civilians, and calls for additional appropriate steps in this regard and for full compliance with international humanitarian and human rights law" |

| Document | Year adopted | Situation and/or thematic context | Excerpt |
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| A/RES/66/253 B | 2012 | Syria | "[OP 2] Strongly condemns the continued widespread and systematic gross violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms by the Syrian authorities and pro-Government militias, such as the use of force against civilians, massacres, arbitrary executions, the killing and persecution of protestors, human rights defenders and journalists, arbitrary detention, enforced disappearances, interference with access to medical treatment, torture, sexual violence, and ill-treatment, including against children, as well as any human rights abuses by armed opposition groups...[OP 4] Condemns all violence, irrespective of where it comes from, and calls upon all parties in the Syrian Arab Republic, including armed groups, to stop all violence or reprisals immediately, in accordance with the League of Arab States initiative; [OP 5] Stresses again the importance of ensuring accountability and the need to end impunity and hold to account those responsible for human rights violations, including those violations that may amount to crimes against humanity" |
| A/RES/67/16 | 2012 | Afghanistan | "Expressing its serious concern about the high number of civilian casualties, recalling that the Taliban, Al-Qaida and other violent and extremist groups and illegal armed groups are responsible for the significant majority of the civilian casualties in Afghanistan, and calling for compliance with international humanitarian and human rights law and for all appropriate measures to be taken to ensure the protection of civilians..." |
| A/RES/67/183 | 2013 | Syria | "[OP 1] Strongly condemns the continued widespread and systematic gross violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms by the Syrian authorities and the Government-controlled shabbiha militias, such as the use of heavy weapons, aerial bombardments and force against civilians, massacres, arbitrary executions, extrajudicial killings, the killing and persecution of protestors, human rights defenders and journalists, arbitrary detention, enforced disappearances, interference with access to medical treatment, torture, sexual violence and ill-treatment, including against children, as well as any human rights abuses by armed opposition groups" |
| A/RES/67/233 | 2013 | Myanmar | "[OP 13] Expresses deep concern about the continuing armed conflict in Kachin State and the associated human rights and international humanitarian law violations, and calls upon the Government of Myanmar and all parties to the armed conflict to take measures to protect the civilian population and for safe, timely, full and unhindered humanitarian access" |

| Document | Year adopted | Situation and/or thematic context | Excerpt |
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| A/RES/67/262 | 2013 | Syria | "[OP 2] Strongly condemns also all violations of international humanitarian law and the continued widespread and systematic gross violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms by the Syrian authorities and the Government-affiliated shabbiha militias, such as those involving the use of heavy weapons, aerial bombardments and other force against civilians, attacks on schools, hospitals and places of worship, massacres, arbitrary executions, extrajudicial killings, the killing and persecution of protestors, human rights defenders and journalists, arbitrary detention, enforced disappearances, violations of the rights of the child, including the recruitment and use of children in the conduct of hostilities in violation of international law, unlawful interference with access to medical treatment, failure to respect and protect medical personnel, torture, systematic sexual violence, including rape in detention, and ill-treatment, including against children, as well as any human rights abuses or violations of international humanitarian law by anti-Government armed groups" |
| A/RES/68/11 | 2013 | Afghanistan | "Deeply concerned about the high level of violence in Afghanistan, especially the number of civilian casualties, condemning in the strongest terms all violent attacks, recalling that the Taliban, Al-Qaida and other violent and extremist groups and illegal armed groups are responsible for the significant majority of the civilian casualties in Afghanistan, expressing particular serious concern about increased targeted killing of women and girls, and calling for compliance with international humanitarian and human rights law and for all appropriate measures to be taken to ensure the protection of civilians...[OP 41] Recalls Security Council resolutions 1674 (2006) of 28 April 2006, 1738 (2006) of 23 December 2006 and 1894 (2009) of 11 November 2009 and the midyear report of July 2013 on the protection of civilians in armed conflict...notes that the Taliban, Al-Qaida and other violent and extremist groups and illegal armed groups remain responsible for the significant majority of civilian casualties, reiterates its call for all feasible steps to be taken to ensure the protection of civilians, and calls for additional appropriate steps in this regard and for full compliance with international humanitarian and human rights law" |

| Document | Year adopted | Situation and/or thematic context | Excerpt |
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| A/RES/68/182 | 2013 | Syria | "[OP 2] Also strongly condemns the continued widespread and systematic gross violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms and all violations of international humanitarian law by the Syrian authorities and the Governmentaffiliated shabbiha militias, including those involving the use of heavy weapons, aerial bombardments, cluster munitions, ballistic missiles and other force against civilians, attacks on schools, hospitals and places of worship, massacres, arbitrary executions, extrajudicial killings, the killing and persecution of protestors, human rights defenders and journalists, arbitrary detention, enforced disappearances, violations of women's rights, unlawful interference with access to medical treatment, failure to respect and protect medical personnel, torture, systemic sexual and gender-based violence, including rape in detention, and ill-treatment, and further strongly condemns all human rights abuses or violations of international humanitarian law by armed extremists, as well as any human rights abuses or violations of international humanitarian law by armed anti-Government groups...[OP 5] Demands that all parties immediately put an end to all violations and abuses of international human rights law and international humanitarian law..." |
| A/RES/68/242 | 2013 | Myanmar | "[OP 8] Welcomes the signing of ceasefire agreements between the Government of Myanmar and ethnic armed groups, and the recent signing of a seven-point agreement with regard to Kachin State and urges full implementation of it and of ceasefire agreements between other groups and the Government, including for all parties to protect the civilian population against ongoing violations of human rights and international humanitarian law and for safe, timely, full and unhindered humanitarian access to be granted to all areas, also welcomes the commitment by the Government to reach a nationwide ceasefire with ethnic armed groups, and encourages an all-inclusive political dialogue with the objective of achieving lasting peace" |

| Document | Year adopted | Situation and/or thematic context | Excerpt |
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| A/RES/69/18 | 2014 | Afghanistan | "Deeply concerned about the high level of violence in Afghanistan, especially the number of civilian casualties, condemning in the strongest terms all violent attacks, recalling that the Taliban, Al-Qaida and other violent and extremist groups and illegal armed groups are responsible for the significant majority of the civilian casualties in Afghanistan, expressing particular serious concern about increased targeted killing of women and girls, and calling for compliance with international humanitarian and human rights law and for all appropriate measures to be taken to ensure the protection of civilians...[OP 37] Acknowledges and encourages the efforts made by the Government of Afghanistan in promoting respect for human rights, expresses its concern at the destructive consequences of violent and terrorist activities, including against persons belonging to ethnic and religious minorities, by the Taliban, Al-Qaida and other violent and extremist groups and other illegal armed groups and criminals for the enjoyment of human rights and for the capacity of the Government to ensure human rights and fundamental freedoms for all Afghans, notes with concern reports of incidents in which violations of human rights and of international humanitarian law have occurred, including violations committed against women and children, in particular girls..." |
| A/RES/69/182 | 2015 | Extrajudicial, summary, or arbitrary executions | "Deeply concerned also about killings committed by non-State actors, including terrorist groups and criminal organizations, which may amount to abuses of international human rights law and violations of international humanitarian law" |

| Document | Year adopted | Situation and/or thematic context | Excerpt |
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| A/RES/69/189 | 2015 | Syria | "Expressing grave concern also at the spread of extremism and extremist groups, terrorism and terrorist groups, and strongly condemning all violations and abuses of human rights and violations of international humanitarian law committed in the Syrian Arab Republic by any party to the conflict, in particular the so-called Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant, militias fighting on behalf of the regime, Al-Qaida-affiliated terrorist groups and other extremist groups...[OP 3] [A]nd further strongly condemns all human rights abuses or violations of international humanitarian law by armed extremists, as well as any human rights abuses or violations of international humanitarian law by armed anti-Government groups; [OP 4] Further deplores and condemns in the strongest terms the terrorist acts and violence committed against civilians by the Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant, its violent extremist ideology and its continued gross, systematic and widespread abuses of human rights and violations of international humanitarian law...[OP 12] Strongly condemns the intervention in the Syrian Arab Republic of all foreign terrorist fighters and those foreign organizations fighting on behalf of the Syrian regime, particularly militia groups such as Hizbullah, Asa'ib Ahl al-Haq and Liwa' Abu al-Fadl al-Abbas, and expresses deep concern that their involvement further exacerbates the deteriorating situation in the Syrian Arab Republic, including the human rights and humanitarian situation, which has a serious negative impact on the region...[OP 14] [D]emands that all parties immediately put an end to all violations and abuses of international human rights law and international humanitarian law...[OP 15] Strongly condemns practices including abduction, hostage-taking, incommunicado detention, torture, brutal murder of innocent civilians and summary executions carried out by non-State armed groups and terrorist groups, most notably the Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant and al-Nusra Front, and underlines that such acts may amount to crimes against humanity" |
| A/RES/69/248 | 2015 | Myanmar | "[OP 6] Welcomes the important steps taken towards a nationwide ceasefire with ethnic armed groups and towards an all-inclusive political dialogue with the objective of achieving lasting peace, and urges full implementation of existing ceasefire agreements, including for all parties to protect the civilian population against ongoing violations and abuses of human rights and violations of international humanitarian law and for safe, timely, full and unhindered humanitarian access to be granted to all areas" |

| Document | Year adopted | Situation and/or thematic context | Excerpt |
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| A/RES/70/233 | 2015 | Myanmar | "[OP 11] Welcomes the signing of the nationwide ceasefire agreement by the Government of Myanmar with eight armed groups as a significant step and as progress towards initiating an inclusive and comprehensive national political dialogue with the objective of achieving lasting peace, encourages the Government and remaining non-signatory ethnic armed groups to continue discussions towards realizing the signing of the agreement, and urges all parties to end violence and to fully implement existing ceasefire agreements, including by protecting individuals against ongoing violations and abuses of human rights and violations of international humanitarian law and by granting safe, timely, full and unhindered humanitarian access to all areas" |
| A/RES/70/161 | 2016 | Human rights defenders in the context of the Declaration on the Right and Responsibility of Individuals, Groups and Organs of Society to Promote and Protect Universally Recognized Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms | "Gravely concerned also about incidents of human rights defenders being subjected to attacks, threats and other abuses by non-State actors, and underlining the need for the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all persons, including human rights defenders, to be respected and protected...[OP 7] Urges non-State actors to respect and promote the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all persons..." |
| A/RES/70/167 | 2016 | Subregional Centre for Human Rights and Democracy in Central Africa | "Noting the context of deteriorating security and humanitarian conditions in the subregion, and in particular the challenges created by increasing and indiscriminate attacks and massive abuses of human rights by Boko Haram against the civilian population in many countries of the Central African subregion and in the Lake Chad Basin countries..." |
| A/RES/70/169 | 2016 | The human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation | "[OP 6] Calls upon non-State actors, including business enterprises, both transnational and others, to comply with their responsibility to respect human rights, including the human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation, including by cooperating with State investigations into allegations of abuses of the human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation, and by progressively engaging with States to detect and remedy abuses of the human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation" |

| Document | Year adopted | Situation and/or thematic context | Excerpt |
|---|---|---|---|
| A/RES/70/234 | 2016 | Syria | "Expressing grave concern at the spread of extremism and extremist groups, terrorism and terrorist groups, and strongly condemning all violations and abuses of human rights and violations of international humanitarian law committed in the Syrian Arab Republic by any party to the conflict, in particular so-called Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (Da'esh), militias fighting on behalf of the regime, Al-Qaida-affiliated terrorist groups and other extremist groups...[OP 1] Strongly condemns all violations and abuses of international human rights law and all violations of international humanitarian law committed against the civilian population, in particular all indiscriminate attacks, including the use of barrel bombs in civilian areas and against civilian infrastructure, and demands that all parties immediately demilitarize medical facilities and schools and comply with their obligations under international law...[OP 4] Strongly condemns all human rights abuses or violations of international humanitarian law by armed extremists, as well as any human rights abuses or violations of international humanitarian law by armed anti-Government groups; [OP 5] Deplores and strongly condemns the terrorist acts and violence committed against civilians by so-called Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (Da'esh) and Al-Nusrah Front and their continued gross, systematic and widespread abuses of human rights and violations of international humanitarian law, and reaffirms that terrorism, including the actions of so-called Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (Da' esh), cannot and should not be associated with any religion, nationality or civilization...[OP 14] Strongly condemns the intervention in the Syrian Arab Republic of all foreign terrorist fighters and those foreign organizations and foreign forces fighting on behalf of the Syrian regime, particularly the Al-Quds Brigades, the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps and militia groups such as Hizbullah, Asa 'ib Ahl al-Haq and Liwa' Abu al-Fadl al-Abbas, and expresses deep concern that their involvement further exacerbates the deteriorating situation in the Syrian Arab Republic, including the human rights and humanitarian situation, which has a serious negative impact on the region...[OP 17] Also demands that all parties immediately put an end to all violations and abuses of international human rights law and violations of international humanitarian law..." |

| Document | Year adopted | Situation and/or thematic context | Excerpt |
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| A/RES/70/77 | 2016 | Afghanistan | "Deeply concerned about the continuous and high level of violence in Afghanistan, especially the number of civilian casualties, condemning in the strongest terms all violent attacks, in particular the recent killings, Taliban attacks, including on the city of Kunduz, and acts by international terrorists, recalling that the Taliban, Al-Qaida and other violent and extremist groups and illegal armed groups are responsible for the significant majority of the civilian casualties in Afghanistan, expressing particularly serious concern about increased targeted killing of women and girls, and calling for compliance with international humanitarian law and international human rights law, as applicable, and for all appropriate measures to be taken to ensure the protection of civilians; [OP 39] Acknowledges and encourages the efforts made by the Government of Afghanistan in promoting respect for human rights, expresses its concern at the destructive consequences of violent and terrorist activities, including against persons belonging to ethnic and religious minorities, by the Taliban, including the Haqqani Network, Al-Qaida and other violent and extremist groups and other illegal armed groups and criminals for the enjoyment of human rights and for the capacity of the Government to ensure human rights and fundamental freedoms for all Afghans, notes with concern reports of incidents in which violations and abuses of human rights and violations of international humanitarian law have occurred, including violations and abuses committed against women and children, in particular girls...[OP 42] Recalls Security Council resolutions 1674 (2006) of 28 April 2006, 1738 (2006) of 23 December 2006 and 1894 (2009) of 11 November 2009 and the midyear report of July 2015 on the protection of civilians in armed conflict, prepared by the Assistance Mission, expresses its serious concern at the continued high number of civilian casualties, including, in particular, women and children, and their impact on local communities, notes that the Taliban, including the Haqqani Network, Al-Qaida and other violent and extremist groups and illegal armed groups remain responsible for the significant majority of civilian casualties, reiterates its call for all feasible steps to be taken to protect civilians, and calls for additional appropriate steps in this regard and for full compliance with international humanitarian and human rights law" |

| Document | Year adopted | Situation and/or thematic context | Excerpt |
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| A/RES/71/130 | 2016 | Syria | "Deeply concerned by the presence of terrorist organizations in the Syrian Arab Republic and the spread of violent extremism conducive to terrorism, strongly condemning all terrorist attacks, abuses of human rights and violations of international humanitarian law carried out by so-called ISIL (also known as Da'esh), Al-Nusrah Front and all other individuals, groups, undertakings and entities associated with Al-Qaida or ISIL (also known as Da'esh), and other terrorist groups, as designated by the Security Council, and reiterating the call upon all parties to commit to putting an end to terrorist acts perpetrated by such organizations and individuals, while reaffirming that terrorism in all its forms constitutes one of the most serious threats to international peace and security and that any acts of terrorism are unjustifiable, regardless of their motivation, wherever, whenever and by whomsoever committed...[OP 3] Further demands that all parties to the Syrian conflict immediately comply with their obligations under applicable international law, including international humanitarian law and international human rights law, including with respect to all besieged and hard-to-reach areas inside the Syrian Arab Republic..." |
| A/RES/71/198 | 2016 | Extrajudicial, summary, or arbitrary executions | "Deeply concerned also about killings committed by non-State actors, including terrorist groups and criminal organizations, which may amount to abuses of international human rights law and violations of international humanitarian law" |
| A/RES/71/203 | 2016 | Syria | "Expressing grave concern also at the spread of extremism and extremist groups, terrorism and terrorist groups, and strongly condemning all violations and abuses of human rights and violations of international humanitarian law committed in the Syrian Arab Republic by any party to the conflict, in particular so -called ISIL-Da'esh, Al-Nusrah Front and militias fighting on behalf of the regime, Al-Qaida-affiliated terrorist groups and other extremist groups...[OP 11] Strongly condemns all human rights abuses or violations of international humanitarian law, including the killing and persecution of individuals and members of communities on the basis of their religion or belief, by armed extremists, as well as any human rights abuses or violations of international humanitarian law by armed anti-Government groups; [OP 12] Deplores and strongly condemns the terrorist acts and violence committed against civilians by so-called ISIL-Da'esh and Al-Nusrah Front and their continued gross, systematic and widespread abuses of human rights and violations of international humanitarian law, and reaffirms that terrorism, including the actions of so-called ISIL-Da'esh, cannot and should not be associated with any religion, nationality or civilization" |

| Document | Year adopted | Situation and/or thematic context | Excerpt |
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| A/RES/71/9 | 2016 | Afghanistan | "[OP 26] Reiterates its concern at the destructive consequences of violent and terrorist activities, including against persons belonging to ethnic and religious minorities, by the Taliban, including the Haqqani Network, Al-Qaida and other violent and extremist groups and other illegal armed groups and criminals, for the enjoyment of human rights and for the capacity of the Government to ensure human rights and fundamental freedoms for all Afghans, stresses the need to further promote tolerance and religious freedom and to ensure respect for the right to freedom of expression and the right to freedom of thought, conscience or belief as enshrined in the Afghan Constitution and the international covenants that Afghanistan adheres to, emphasizes the necessity of investigating allegations of current and past violations, stresses the importance of facilitating the provision of efficient and effective remedies to the victims and of bringing the perpetrators to justice in accordance with national and international law, calls for full implementation of the mass media law, while noting with concern and condemning the continuing intimidation and violence targeting Afghan journalists, such as cases of abduction and even the killing of journalists by terrorist and extremist and criminal groups, urges that harassment and attacks on journalists be investigated by Afghan authorities and that those responsible be brought to justice, and welcomes in this regard the issuance of the presidential decree of 31 January 2016 outlining specific measures for ensuring the safety, security and protection of journalists" |

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