

Do Peace Operations Work? How effective are specific peace operations when assessed within their own context? Are they effective from the perspective of the people most directly affected by these operations?

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International Institute of Peace (IPI)
777 UN Plaza, 12th floor Trygve Lie Center for Peace, Security and Development
(East 44th Street and 1st Avenue), New York

Peace operations are one of the most important international mechanisms for conflict management and resolution. However, their effectiveness remains the subject of debate in both the policy and academic communities. There is a lack of independent, research-based information about the effectiveness of specific operations that can complement the strategic reviews and assessments done by the United Nations.

To address this gap the Norwegian Institute of International Affairs (NUPI), together with over 40 partners worldwide, has established the Effectiveness of Peace Operations Network (EPON). EPON joint research teams have so far undertaken studies on the African Union mission in Somalia (AMISOM), as well as the UN missions in Central African Republic (MINUSCA), Mali (MINUSMA), the Democratic Republic of Congo (MONUSCO) and South Sudan (UNMISS). Research on the joint UN-AU mission in Darfur (UNAMID), the UN verification mission in Colombia (UNVM) and the European Union & OSCE missions in Ukraine are under way. Each EPON case study focuses on a specific peace operation using a common methodology. In their own right, these case studies provide unique insights into these specific operations. Taken together, the studies also create a comprehensive resource for comparing peace operations and for identifying factors across missions that influence their effectiveness.

On November 14, EPON and the Division of Policy, Evaluation and Training (DPET) of the United Nations Department of Peace Operations briefed New York-based policymakers and practitioners on the status of EPON research, findings and lessons from EPON case studies to date, as well as on the progress of the studies underway and future plans. This seminar was invite-only, and was held under the Chatham House rule of non-attribution.

Programme:

09:30–10:00 Opening Session

- Jake Sherman, IPI
- Cedric de Coning, NUPI, ACCORD & EPON Coordinator
- Jean-Pierre Lacroix, USG, Department of Peace Operations

10:00–11:15 Horn of Africa: South Sudan & Somalia

- Chair: Amb. Taye Atske Selassie Amde, Ethiopia & co-chair, Friends of Peace Operations (tbc)
- UNMISS, Adam Day, UNU-CPR & EPON
- AMISOM, Linda Darkwa, TFP & EPON
- Discussant 1, UN (Regional Division)
- Discussant 2, Tyler Beckelman, USIP

11:30–12:45 Central Africa & Great Lakes: CAR & DRC

- Chair: Amb Cho Hyun, ROK & co-chair, Friends of Peace Operations
- MINUSCA, Lise Morjé Howard, Georgetown University & EPON
- MONUSCO, Alexandra Novosseloff, IPI & EPON
- Discussant 1, UN (Regional Division)
- Discussant 2, Tatiana Carayannis, SSRC
- Discussant 3, Lauren Spink, CIVIC

12:45-13:15 Lunch

13:15–14:15 West Africa: Mali

- Chair: Amb Odd-Inge Kvalheim, Norway & Co-chair, Friends of Peace Operations
- MINUSMA, Jair van der Lijn, SIPRI & EPON
- Discussant 1, UN (Regional Division)
- Discussant 2, Namie Di Razza, IPI

14:15-14:45 Forthcoming EPON studies

- Chair: Amb Fatima Kyari Mohammed, Permanent Observer of the AU to the UN
- UNAMID, Thomas Mandrup, CIGLA & EPON
- EU & OSCE in Ukraine, Joe Koops, GGI, Leiden University & EPON
- UN Verification Mission in Colombia, Borja Paladini Adell, Krock Institute, PRIO & EPON

14:45-15:00 Closing Session

- Jake Sherman, IPI
- Cedric de Coning, NUPI & ACCORD
- David Haeri, DPET