



INVITATION

The Future of UN Peace Operations: Use of Force and the Protection of Civilians

An Operational Dialogue on the Challenges Facing Peacekeepers and Troop Contributing Countries

DATE: Thursday 6 November 2025

TIME: 12:30 - 14:45hrs. A light lunch will be served at arrival.

VENUE: Permanent Mission of Norway to the United Nations, New York

About the Event

During UN Peace Operations Review Week, this high-level in-person event will bring together Force Commanders, Troop Contributing Countries, UN officials, legal experts, researchers and civil society to address one of the most pressing operational challenges in peacekeeping: **the use of force and balancing Protection of Civilians mandates with force protection imperatives.**

With an **operational focus on tactical-level challenges**, the event will examine:

- **Rules of Engagement interpretation** at the tactical level and its impact on the protection of civilians
 - **The operational reality** when protection mandates collide with force protection concerns
 - **Mutually reinforcing effects of POC and safety and security**, i.e. how protecting civilians protects peacekeepers
 - **Capability gaps** in equipment, training, intelligence, and mobility that prevent effective PoC
 - **Integration challenges** between civilian, military, and police components
 - **Cultural humility** as a tool to support dialogue and engagement fostering a safe environment
 - **Possible changes needed at the level of policy and doctrine** to enable proactive rather than reactive protection of civilians
 - **Unintended consequences** including on the perceived impartiality of missions, civilian casualties and related mitigation efforts
 - **TCC perspectives** on operational constraints, risk tolerance, and support requirements
 - **Practical solutions** for improving mission effectiveness and safety and security of UN peacekeepers
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Program Highlights

**Opening Remarks: Ambassador Andreas Løvold,
Deputy Permanent Representative of Norway to the UN**



Opening Context: Operational Challenges and Reform Imperatives

- **Lieutenant General Cheryl Pearce**, Acting UN Military Adviser, UN DPO

Panel Discussion:

Use of Force: the PoC-Force Protection Nexus in Practice –

Perspectives on Rules of Engagement, Risk, Protection, and Military Capability

- **Lieutenant General Mohan Subramanian**, UNMISS Force Commander
- **Major General Patrick Cammaert**, former Force Commander, Military Adviser UN DPKO and UNMAH Head of Mission
- **Major General Patrick Gauchat**, UNTSO Head of Mission and UNDOF Acting Force Commander
- **Mona Ali Khalil**, Director MAK LAW International and former UN Senior Legal Officer
- **Roger Hughes**, UN peace operations training specialist and former UNMISS Deputy Chief U3 and JOC

Closing Remarks: Lessons Learned and Good Practices for the Way Forward

- **David Haeri**, Director Policy, Evaluation and Training Division, UN DPO

Moderator: Dr. Lotte Vermeij, Senior Expert on UN Peace Operations, NORCAP

Interactive Dialogue: From strategy to operations—making PoC work on the ground

Forward Look: Operational solutions including simplified ROE, capability requirements, integrated planning, and legal frameworks for future missions

Why Attend

- **Operational focus:** Real scenarios, tactical challenges, and practical solutions from field commanders
- **Frank dialogue:** Informal setting for honest discussion about operational failures and lessons learned
- **Action-oriented:** Generate concrete, implementable recommendations for improving operations
- **Network:** Connect with military commanders, TCCs, UN officials, and policymakers

To register for this event [RSVP here](#)

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This event contributes to strengthening UN peace operations through operational dialogue on ROE implementation, civilian protection, force protection, and the future of peacekeeping in high-threat environments.