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United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the Central African Republic

HUMAN RIGHTS DIVISION

Monthly Report: Human Rights Situation

August 2025

The mandate of MINUSCA includes, inter alia, assisting the Government of the Central African Republic (CAR) to promote and protect human rights. This report is based on information received by the Human Rights Division (HRD) and only includes human rights violations and abuses that were documented and verified during the month of August 2025 in line with the established methodology of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR). Information that could not be verified is not included. Ordinary crimes are also excluded from this report. This report is shared with the CAR authorities and partners.

Main political and security developments

- 1. During the reporting period, the security and human rights situation was marked by cross-border dynamics, regrouping of armed groups in anticipation of the Disarmament and Demobilisation (DD) process and continued engagements by the Government to address security and human rights challenges.
- 2. In the **Fertit Region**, the security situation in the Vakaga Prefecture remained a concern largely due to cross-border dynamics and humanitarian challenges. Tensions between Sudanese herders, reportedly supported by members of the Rapid Support Forces (RSF) of Sudan, and local communities in Birao were reported to have increased. On 11 August, the population of Boura (24 km from Birao) and Bashama (14 km from Birao) reportedly fled to Birao town fearing reprisals by Sudanese armed men. This displacement followed Other Security Personnel (OSP)/Forces armées centrafricaines (FACA) operations near Am-Sissia-3 (35 km from Birao), during which one Sudanese armed man was allegedly killed and six others arrested. On 14 August, in Sikikédé (165 km from Birao), the killing of two youths and injury to a third by a FACA element triggered demonstrations by the local population. Meanwhile, concerns remain over the creation of self-defence groups in Sikikédé, Boromata, and Tiringoulou (located respectively 140 km, 95 km and 108 km from Birao).
- 3. In the **Haut-Oubangui Region**,² in Mbomou and Haut-Mbomou Prefectures, humanitarian challenges required continued urgent response measures. On 5 August, around 100 internally displaced persons (IDPs) reportedly fled Zémio (Haut-Mbomou) to Rafai (Mbomou) following OSP/FACA operations against the *Azande Ani Kpi Gbe* (Azanikpigbe). On 11 August in Obo, the Prefect of Haut-Mbomou met with 105 former Wagner Ti Azande (WTA) elements who had voluntarily disarmed in May 2025 and encouraged them to join the government-led disarmament and demobilization exercise. In Basse-Kotto

¹ The Fertit Region includes the Bamingui-Bangoran, Haute-Kotto, and Vakaga Prefectures, as per the *Gov. decree No. 21001*, January 2021.

² The Haut-Oubangui Region includes the Basse-Kotto, Haut-Mbomou, and Mbomou Prefectures, as per the *Gov. decree No. 21001, January* 2021.

Prefecture, UPC elements were reported to have erected checkpoints and forced road users on the Alindao-Bangassou axis to pay a passage fee.

- 4. In the **Kaga Region**,³ UPC members continued to voluntarily disarm within the framework of the DD process. On 11 August, disarmament operations in Maloum (50 km from Bambari) and Bambari, resulted in the disarmament of 252 UPC and 28 Anti-Balaka members. On 6 August, in Nana-Grébizi Prefecture, a taxi driver was killed and his passenger seriously injured near Patcho (20 km from Kaga-Bandoro) during an attack by unidentified armed men.
- 5. In the **Plateaux Region**, ⁴ clashes between Internal Security Forces (ISF) and unidentified armed men, continued to cause concern. In Ombella M'Poko Prefecture, on 1 August, three unidentified armed men reportedly affiliated with a Fulani self-defence group clashed with an ISF patrol in Benima (6 km from Damara). On 8 August, four unidentified armed men reportedly attacked the weekly livestock market in Bio-Lambi (45 km from Boali).
- 6. In the **Yadé Region**,⁵ the gathering of 3R members in preparation for DD operations was reported in different areas. While this was a positive development, it was observed that delays in the process created room for frustration with some armed elements engaging in human rights abuses including the seizing of property of some members of the local population. Meanwhile, in the Ouham Prefecture on 16 August, OSP issued an ultimatum to the *Mouvement patriotique pour la Centrafrique* (MPC) and the *Front populaire pour la renaissance de la Centrafrique* (FPRC) armed groups to clarify their stance regarding the DDR process by 30 August 2025, threatening a military offensive in case of non-compliance.

Significant human rights-related developments

- 7. On 8 August, the Bar Association of the Central African Republic resumed its strike, initially launched in April, in protest against continued interference by judicial police authorities. Following an extraordinary general assembly held on 7 August, the Bar announced the suspension of lawyers' participation in all civil and criminal proceedings until 30 August 2025, including hearings before the Special Criminal Court (SCC). The decision was prompted by ongoing restrictions on lawyers' access to clients particularly in politically sensitive cases and impediments by officers of the *Office central de répression du banditisme* (OCRB) and the *Compagnie nationale de sécurité* (CNS). The cases of Mr. Armel Sayo and Mr. Christian Dondra were cited as examples. The impact of the strike is expected to be most pronounced in Bangui, where legal representation is more common.
- 8. On 11 August, in Bangui, the editor-in-chief of the newspaper "Le Quotidien" was provisionally released by the Doyen des juges d'instruction. The journalist had been arrested on 8 May and detained for alleged incitement to revolt as a result of his publications. On 14 May, he was detained at the Ngaragba Central Prison and, on 19 May, charged with complicity in rebellion, dissemination of information attempting to cause public disorder, inciting hatred, revolt and subversion against the Constitution and the State. The Union of Central African Journalists described the release as a relief but regretted that the "judicial system had been used to restrict press freedom."
- 9. From 20 to 22 August, the Sentence Enforcement Judge convened the Sentence Adjustment Commission at Ngaragba Central Prison to review the cases of 441 inmates. The process resulted in the release of 38 inmates and sentence reduction for 360 others, ranging from seven days to three months.

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³ The Kaga Region includes the Kémo, Nana-Grébizi, and Ouaka Prefectures, as per the *Gov. decree No. 21001, January* 2021

⁴ The Plateaux Region includes Ombella M'Poko and Lobaye Prefectures, as per the Gov. decree No. 21001, January 2021.

⁵ The Yadé Region includes the Lim-Pendé, Ouham, and Ouham-Pendé Prefectures, as per the *Gov. decree No. 21001, January* 2021.

- 10. On 26 August, the Central African Republic deposited its ratification instrument of the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa (Maputo Protocol) thereby becoming the 46th African Union Member State to commit to the legal advancement of women's rights.
- 11. On 26 August, the Ministry of Justice, with the support of the MINUSCA, organised a workshop on the reform of the *Commission Nationale des Droits de l'Homme et des Libertés Fondamentales* (CNDHLF), attended by various institutional stakeholders, including representatives of the French Embassy, the European Union, and judicial authorities. The workshop featured two key presentations, respectively on the Paris Principles and their relevance for the Commission's potential future status, and on the National Preventive Mechanism to prevent torture and other cruel, inhuman, or degrading treatment in detention sites.

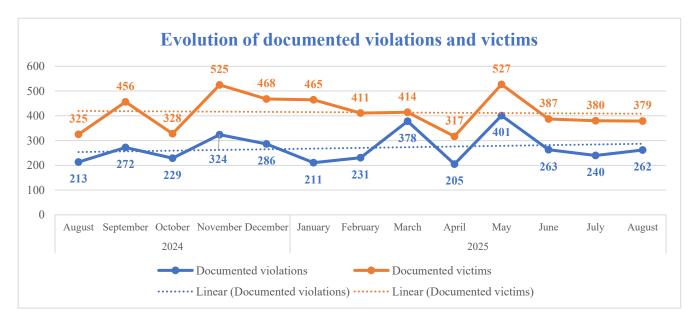
Human Rights Violations and Abuses and Breaches of International Humanitarian

12. During the period, reporting MINUSCA documented 262 violations and abuses of international human rights law (IHRL) and breaches of international humanitarian law (IHL), affecting 379 victims (including 246 men, 12 women, 28 girls, 68 boys, and 25 groups of collective victims), 70 of whom suffered multiple violations. Fiftyseven percent of the documented violations/abuses took place in August 2025, while the remaining violations/abuses occurred between January 2020 and July 2025. Compared to the violations

Main Trends

In total, 262 human rights violations and abuses as well as breaches of IHL affecting 379 victims (including 246 men, 12 women, 28 girls, 68 boys, and 25 groups of collective victims) were documented in August 2025. This constitutes an increase in the number of violations/abuses (+9%), and a slight decrease of one victim compared to July 2025.

documented in July 2025, the number of violations/abuses (+9%) increased while the number of victims remained almost unchanged with only one less victim.⁶ Most violations and abuses were related to arbitrary arrest and/or detention and conditions of detention that do not comply with national and

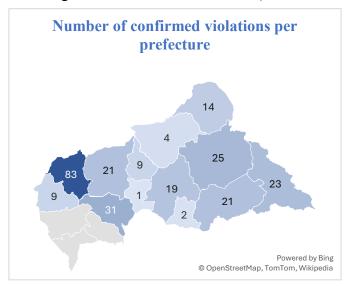


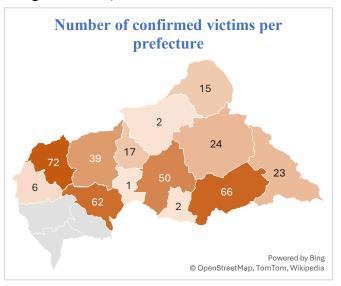
⁶ In July 2025, MINUSCA documented 240 violations and abuses affecting 380 victims.

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international standards (27%), forced recruitment (19%), and the right to physical and mental integrity $(14\%).^7$

- 13. Men were mainly victims of arbitrary arrest and/or detention and conditions of detention that do not comply with national and international standards (70%), violations/abuses of the right to physical and mental integrity (17%), and the right to property (13%). Women were mostly victims of conflict-related sexual violence (CRSV)⁸ (41%), arbitrary arrest and/or detention and conditions of detention that do not comply with national and international standards (41%), and the right to physical and mental integrity 33%). Girls were victims of CRSV (68%), forced recruitment (68%), and violations/abuses of the right to liberty and personal integrity (46%). **Boys** were mainly victims of forced recruitment (66%), arbitrary arrest and/or detention and conditions of detention that do not comply with national and international standards (25%), and violations/abuses of the right to liberty and personal integrity (25%).
- 14. The **Yadé** Region¹⁰ registered both the highest number of violations/abuses (104) and victims (111) with Ouham-Pendé being the most affected Prefecture (70 violations/abuses affecting 51 victims). The most common violations in the Yadé Region were related to forced recruitment (41 violations/abuses affecting 45 victims) and liberty and personal integrity (24 violations/abuses affecting 36 victims). This is due to newly verified cases following investigative missions in the region, which documented multiple abuses by the 3R in Ouham-Pendé that took place between 2020 and 2025. Accordingly, most violations/abuses in the region were attributed to the 3R (82 abuses affecting 70 victims).





Overview of violations by type of perpetrator

15. For the period under review, State actors were responsible for 134 human rights violations and breaches of international humanitarian law affecting 247 victims (202 men, six women, five girls,

⁷ In July 2025, the most common types of violations and abuses were related to arbitrary arrest and/or detention and conditions of detention that do not comply with national and international standards (25%), the right to physical and mental integrity (19%), and the right to property (15%).

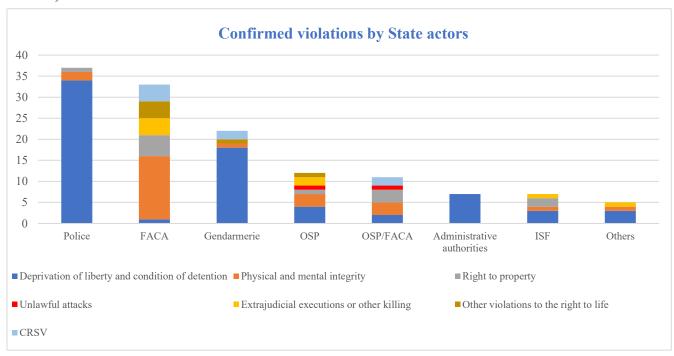
⁸ The term "conflict-related sexual violence" refers to rape, sexual slavery, forced prostitution, forced pregnancy, forced abortion, enforced sterilization, forced marriage and any other form of sexual violence of comparable gravity perpetrated against women, men, girls, or boys that is directly or indirectly linked to a conflict. See the full definition in the Report of the United Nations Secretary-General on Conflict-Related Sexual Violence (S/2019/280).

⁹ The total compiled percentages exceed 100% due to victims of multiple violations.

¹⁰ In the following map, Ouham-Pendé represents the combined figures for Ouham-Pendé and Lim-Pendé, as it is based on the former administrative boundaries when Lim-Pendé was still part of Ouham-Pendé.

18 boys, and 16 groups of collective victims). The patterns remained broadly consistent with those observed in July 2025, with an increase in the number of violations (+8%) and a decrease in the number of victims (-5%). 11

16. The main violations perpetrated by State actors were related to arbitrary arrest and/or detention and conditions of detention that do not comply with national and international standards (72), mostly attributable to the Police and the Gendarmerie; the right to physical and mental integrity (26); and the right to life (14). Among State actors, the Police¹² was involved in the highest number of violations and was responsible for the highest number of victims (37 violations affecting 95 victims). The FACA acting alone was responsible for 33 violations affecting 30 victims, the Gendarmerie ¹³ for 22 violations affecting 42 victims and the OSP for 12 violations affecting 17 victims. ¹⁴ The Haut-Oubangui Region was the most affected Region both in terms of violations and victims by State actors (33 violations affecting 71 victims), followed by the Plateaux/Bas-Oubangui Region (29 violations affecting 48 victims). ¹⁵



17. Armed groups signatories to the APPR-RCA were responsible for 96 human rights abuses and breaches of international humanitarian law affecting 105 victims (32 men, four women, 19 girls, 46 boys, and four groups of collective victims). In comparison to July 2025, this represents an increase of 20% in abuses and of 50% in victims ¹⁶, predominantly due to the return of 3R and UPC to the APPR-RCA following the N'Djamena Agreement enabling dialogue which led to the identification of additional

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¹¹ In July 2025, State actors committed 124 violations affecting 260 victims.

¹² The figures for the Police include also violations committed by its specialized units, namely the *Office Central de répression du banditisme* (OCRB) (four violations affecting 12 victims).

¹³ The figures for the Gendarmerie include also violations committed by its specialized units, namely the *Brigade de Recherche et d'Intervention* (BRI) (three violations affecting seven victims).

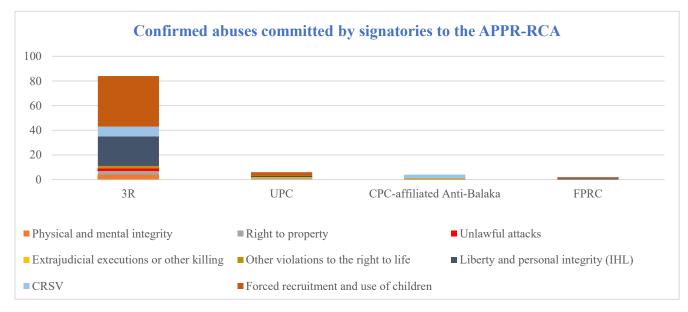
¹⁴ In the graph below, the "Others" refers to the Prison authorities (three violations) and the FACA acting jointly with the ISF (two violations).

¹⁵ In July 2025, the regions most affected by violations by State actors were the **Kaga** Region (31 violations affecting 51 victims) and the **Haut-Oubangui** Region (26 violations affecting 39 victims).

¹⁶ In July 2025, armed groups signatories to the APPR-RCA committed 80 abuses affecting 70 victims.

children for separation from the armed groups, and documentation of abuses previously committed by these groups.

18. The main abuses perpetrated by armed groups signatories to the APPR-RCA were related to forced recruitment (45 abuses affecting 60 victims), liberty and personal integrity (26 abuses affecting 52 victims), CRSV (11 cases affecting 15 victims) and right to life (four abuses affecting eight victims, including one victim of summary killing). Among armed groups signatories to the APPR-RCA, the 3R were the main perpetrators (84 abuses affecting 84 victims), ¹⁷ followed by the UPC (six abuses affecting 16 victims). Most of the abuses committed by armed groups signatories to the APPR-RCA took place in the Yadé Region (86%), which also recorded the highest number of victims (83 abuses affecting 71 victims).

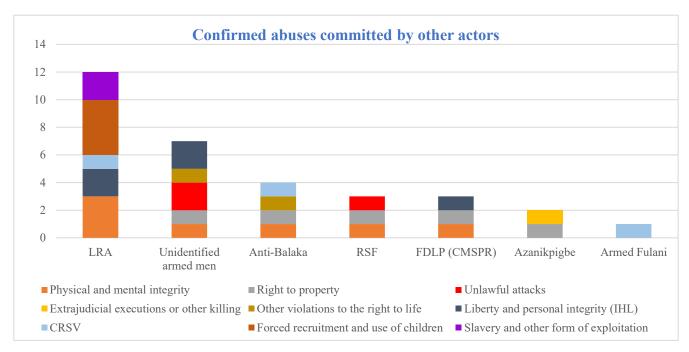


19. Other actors were responsible for 32 abuses affecting 27 victims (12 men, two women, four girls, four boys and five groups of collective victims). In comparison to July 2025, this represents a decrease of 11% in abuses and of 46% in victims. Abuses were mainly related to the right to physical and mental integrity (seven abuses affecting 11 victims), the right to liberty and personal integrity (five abuses affecting eight victims), the right to property (five abuses affecting ten victims), and forced recruitment (four abuses affecting five victims). The main perpetrators were the *Lord's Resistance Army* (LRA) (12 abuses affecting nine victims), unidentified armed men (seven abuses affecting five victims), and non-CPC-affiliated Anti-Balaka (four abuses affecting two victims).

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¹⁷ Out of the 84 abuses affecting 84 victims documented in August 2025 and attributed to the 3R, 20% of the abuses and 46% of the victims relate to incidents that occurred during the reporting period.

¹⁸ In July 2025, other actors committed 36 abuses affecting 50 victims.



Typology of human rights violations and abuses and violations of IHL

Conflict-Related Sexual Violence (CRSV)

- 20. During the reporting period, MINUSCA documented **22 CRSV cases affecting 29 victims** (five men, five women and 19 girls aged from 7 to 17 years old), 31% of which occurred during the reporting period. The main form of CRSV continued to be rape, including gang rape, followed by sexual slavery, and forced nudity. Some of the CRSV cases were perpetrated alongside other human rights violations and abuses such as abduction, cruel, inhuman, or degrading treatment, extrajudicial or summary killing, and recruitment and use of children. The main perpetrators of CRSV cases documented in August 2025 were **armed groups signatories to the APPR-RCA**, most notably the 3R (eight cases affecting 12 victims), in the Ouham-Pendé and Lim-Pendé Prefectures. **State actors** also committed CRSV, notably the FACA, responsible for six cases against nine victims in Bangui, Haute-Kotto, Nana-Mambéré and Vakaga Prefectures, of which two cases of forced nudity affecting four men, were committed jointly with OSP. Other actors were responsible for three cases affecting three victims, one case each attributed to non-CPC-affiliated Anti-Balaka members, armed men of Fulani ethnicity and the LRA members.
- 21. Trends and patterns¹⁹ indicate that **Yadé** was the most affected Region, especially the Ouham-Pendé Prefecture, with CRSV cases being predominantly perpetrated by armed groups signatories to the APPR-RCA.

Right to life

22. During the reporting period, MINUSCA documented **21 violations/abuses of the right to life affecting 28 victims** (22 men, two women, three boys, and one collective victim), including summary or extrajudicial killings (10 violations/abuses affecting 12 men and one boy), death threats (seven violations/abuses affecting eight victims), and attempted summary or extrajudicial killings (four violations/abuses affecting seven victims). Most violations were attributed to **State actors** (14 violations

¹⁹ The analysis of CRSV trends and patterns includes information from confirmed and alleged CRSV cases. In August 2025, nine confirmed victims and six alleged victims were taken into account, giving a total of 15 CRSV survivors being victims of CRSV perpetrated by armed elements.

affecting 16 victims, including 10 victims of extrajudicial killings). The FACA, acting alone, were responsible for the highest number of violations and victims (eight violations affecting nine victims, including five victims of extrajudicial killings). For instance, on 11 August near Nangha-Boguila, Ouham Prefecture, FACA elements killed a Fulani man following an identity check. They requested his identification papers, but he attempted to flee. One FACA element fired warning shots, while another shot him in the back, killing him on the spot.

- 23. Armed groups signatories of the APPR-RCA were responsible for four abuses affecting eight victims, mostly attributed to 3R (two violations affecting five victims, all victims of attempted summary killing). Other actors were responsible for three abuses affecting four victims, including two victims of summary killing (one attributable to unidentified armed men and one attributable to Anti-Balaka).
- 24. In line with its obligations under Article 3 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) and Article 6 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), the State guarantees the right to life of every individual, including the responsibility to ensure transparent investigations into actions by State and non-State actors to determine the cause of death and to ensure accountability.

Deprivation of liberty and conditions of detention

- 25. During the reporting period, MINUSCA documented 72 violations related to deprivation of liberty and conditions of detention affecting 207 victims (172 men, five women, 17 boys, and 13 groups of collective victims). Most violations were related to arbitrary arrest and/or detention (56 affecting 192 victims), largely due to detention beyond the legal time limit for custody. Of note, at the Maison d'Arrêt et de Correction in Bangassou, Mbomou Prefecture, 30 cases of arbitrary detention were documented in a single incident due to failure by authorities to respect the legal time limit for pre-trial detention. Additionally, on 3 August, in Ouaka Prefecture, OSP elements arrested 11 individuals at the Ndassima mining site, including three children, and reportedly held them for two days before handing them over to the ISF on 5 August, after which they were transferred to the gendarmerie in Bambari. All were released on 18 August.
- 26. Meanwhile, detention conditions in several facilities/centres continue to raise serious concerns due to both structural deficiencies and individual violations. In the Maison Centrale of Bambari, Ouaka Prefecture, several violations were documented, including food shortages, inhumane conditions of detention due to poor sanitation, lack of adequate medical care, and the absence of separation between minors and adults. The food shortage is reflected in the daily budget allocated per detainee, which is limited to 87 XAF (approximately USD 0.14), an amount insufficient to meet basic nutritional needs. Other challenges include the lack of adequate sanitation infrastructure, soap shortages, and an overflowing septic tank. Access to medical care remains extremely limited with only one medical staff member available as well as recurrent shortages of medication. In Bambari, there was one newly reported case of tuberculosis and several cases of malnutrition.
- 27. It is worth highlighting that persons in custody and detainees are protected by various national laws, including the Constitution, the Code pénal (Criminal Code), and the Code de procédure pénale (Criminal Procedure Code) adopted by laws n°10.001, n°10.002, and the law n°12.003 on fundamental principles of the prison system.²⁰

the prison administration.

²⁰ Additional national texts protecting persons in custody and detainees: Decree n°160090 on standard internal regulations applicable to prisons in the Central African Republic, decree n°160087 on the organization and operation of prisons in the Central African Republic and determining their internal regulations, as well as decree n°160088 redefining the framework of

Right to liberty and personal integrity

- 28. During the reporting period, MINUSCA documented 31 abuses to the right to liberty and personal integrity²¹ affecting 60 victims, including abductions (28 abuses affecting 49 victims) and arbitrary deprivation of liberty (three abuses affecting 11 victims). Most of these abuses were committed by the 3R (24 abuses affecting 48 victims) between 2020 and 2025 but verified during the reporting period. Abuses related to the right to liberty and personal integrity are often linked to other violations, such as forced recruitment, CRSV, or appropriation of property. On 3 and 9 August, in Ombella M'Poko Prefecture, 3R members abducted a total of 14 Fulani herders during two separate attacks on a Fulani camp in the village of Boali Poste (40 km from Boali). All the victims were released on 18 August.
- 29. In line with its responsibilities under Article 3 of the UDHR, Article 9 of the ICCPR, and Article 6 of the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights (ACHPR), the CAR Government is obligated to take measures to prevent and investigate violations and abuses of the right to liberty and personal integrity.

Right to physical and mental integrity

- 30. During the period under review, MINUSCA documented 37 violations/abuses of the right to physical and mental integrity²² affecting 54 victims,²³ including cruel, inhuman, or degrading treatment (24) violations/abuses affecting 37 victims), threats to physical and mental integrity (seven violations/abuses affecting 11 victims), torture (three violations/abuses affecting four victims), and maining and injuries (three violations/abuses affecting four victims). State actors were responsible for 26 violations affecting 29 victims, perpetrated mainly by FACA (15 violations affecting 16 victims) and the OSP acting jointly with FACA (three violations affecting five victims). Armed groups signatories to the APPR-RCA were responsible for four abuses affecting 14 victims, all attributable to 3R (four abuses affecting 14 victims). Other actors were responsible for seven abuses affecting 11 victims, most involving the LRA (three abuses affecting five victims) and the Sudanese RSF (one abuse affecting three victims). On 24 August, in Sam-Ouandja, Haute-Kotto Prefecture, two intoxicated FACA elements from the 13th Infantry Battalion (BIT 13) subjected one boy aged 12 and two men aged 18 and 19 to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment during a football match at the municipal stadium in Sam-Ouandja. The FACA elements entered the stadium under the pretext of enforcing discipline and repeatedly beat and punched the three victims. As an angry crowd gathered, the perpetrators fired warning shots into the air to disperse the population and escape the scene, causing panic.
- 31. In line with its obligations under Article 5 of the UDHR, Article 7 of ICCPR and Articles 2 and 16 of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and Articles 4 and 5 of the ACHPR, the CAR Government is expected to take concrete steps to prevent and investigate cases relating to torture and cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment. Additionally, other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment is prohibited under Article 16, paragraph 4 of the Constitution of CAR.

Right to property

32. MINUSCA documented 21 violations/abuses of the right to property, ²⁴ affecting 37 victims, mostly related to destruction or appropriation of property (19 affecting 35 victims). State actors were responsible for 12 violations affecting 15 victims, armed group signatories to the APPR-RCA were responsible for four abuses affecting 12 victims, and other actors were responsible for five abuses affecting 10 victims. The main perpetrators in terms of violations were the FACA (five violations affecting seven victims), while the main perpetrators in terms of victims were the 3R (three abuses

²¹ The right to liberty and personal integrity includes protection against abduction, deprivation of liberty, and hostage-taking (violations and breaches of international humanitarian law).

²² Violations related to the right to physical and mental integrity include ill-treatment, torture and maiming and injuries.

²³ Two of the 54 victims suffered two different violations within this category.

²⁴ The right to property includes protection from destruction or appropriation of property and illegal taxation.

affecting 11 victims). On 18 August, in Loura (75 km from Paoua), Lim-Pendé Prefecture, 3R members ambushed a man and deprived him of liberty, accusing him of having purchased stolen cattle from Fulani herders. The victim was forced to pay 600,000 XAF (approximately USD 980) for his release, which occurred the same day.

33. Pursuant to Article 17 of the UDHR and Article 14 of the ACHPR, the CAR Government is expected to take measures to protect the right to property of all individuals living on its territory. Furthermore, Article 3 common to the Geneva Conventions and the Additional Protocol to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949 relating to the protection of victims of non-international armed conflicts (Protocol II), prohibit the parties to the conflict from targeting civilian property and protected property.

Unlawful attacks

- 34. MINUSCA documented **seven unlawful attacks**²⁵ affecting seven groups of collective victims. These included five incidents of denial of humanitarian assistance by: Sudanese RSF in Am-Dafock (Vakaga); OSP in Bolio (Ouham); 3R in Kémo (Ouham); and unidentified armed men in Benzambé (Ouham) and Zémio (Haut-Mbomou). Other incidents included an attack against civilians by 3R members in Kémo (Ouham-Pendé), and the illegal occupation and attack on a protected object, namely the pillaging of a medical center by OSP/FACA elements in Tabane (Haut-Mbomou).
- 35. Article 3 common to the Geneva Conventions, the Additional Protocol to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949 relating to the protection of victims of non-international armed conflicts (Protocol II), as well as Articles 7 and 8 of the Rome Statute, prohibit parties to the conflict from carrying out indiscriminate attacks against protected persons and property.

Children in Armed Conflict

- 36. During the reporting period, the CTFMR²⁶ verified **102** grave child rights violations affecting 68 children (25 girls and 43 boys), an increase compared to the previous reporting period, during which 70 grave violations affecting 32 children were documented. The increase in August is due to children verified to be associated with the UPC and 3R during the ongoing disarmament and demobilization operations as *per* the 19 April Agreement.
- 37. Of the 102 violations verified, 20% occurred outside the reporting period but were verified during the period under review. The main perpetrators were armed groups, which accounted for 90% of the violations (92), predominantly recruitment and use of children,

Act to Protect Campaign

Through the "Act to Protect" campaign, 365 peacekeepers (313 men and 52 women) were trained on the protection of children during armed conflict. Similar trainings and awareness sessions were delivered to 276 local authorities (161 men and 115 women), including FACA and ISF as well as community members and leaders, youth leaders, members of local peace committees, and members of INGOs and NGOs, with a view to enabling them to engage in the protection of children.

abduction and rape. **State actors** were responsible for 7% of the violations (seven), while **other actors** accounted for 3% (three). A total of 22 children (eight girls and 14 boys) were victims of multiple

²⁵ Unlawful attacks include attacks against civilians, attacks against other protected persons, the failure of precautions to protect the civilian population or objects under a party's control against the effects of attacks, and denial of humanitarian relief.

²⁶ The information in this section has been collected by the MINUSCA Child Protection Unit. The Security Council has created mechanisms and tools to implement the mandate on the protection of children in armed conflict, including through Security Council Resolution 1612 (2005), which establishes the Monitoring and Reporting Mechanism (MRM) to collect reliable and up-to-date information on violations committed against children by the parties to the conflict, as well as the Security Council Working Group on Children and Armed Conflict.

violations: abduction and use (16), abduction, recruitment and use and rape (five), recruitment and use and rape (one). The violations documented included: recruitment and use (56), abduction (22), rape and other forms of sexual violence (16), denial of humanitarian access (five), killing (one), maiming and injuries (one), and attacks against hospitals or medical personnel (one). Armed groups committed 92 violations, with responsibility attributable to the CPC factions (64), including 3R (61), FPRC (two) and UPC (one); the CPC-F (22), including UPC (21) and CPC-affiliated Anti-Balaka (one); LRA (four) and the Sudanese RSF (two). State actors committed seven violations, with the FACA accounting for four while acting alone, for two while acting jointly with the OSP, and the ISF accountable for one. Unidentified armed individuals were responsible for three violations.

- 38. Ouham-Pendé was the most affected Prefecture with 61 violations, followed by Haut-Mbomou (15), Haute-Kotto (10), Ouham-Fafa (four), Bangui (three), Mbomou (three), Ouham (two), Vakaga (two), Basse-Kotto (one) and Lim-Pendé (one).
- 39. MINUSCA continued dialogue with 3R and UPC leadership to secure the release of children recruited and used following the 19 April Agreement. The leadership of both armed groups informed that instructions have been given to the commanders to identify and include the children in the ongoing disarmament exercise.

Human Rights Promotion and Capacity-Building

- 40. During the period under review, the **HRD organised 63 activities** (awareness-raising, advocacy, trainings, and capacity-building workshops) across **11 Prefectures**, ²⁷ **benefitting 2,686 individuals** (including 1,668 men, 845 women, 123 girls, and 50 boys). Participants included among others national and local authorities, representatives and members of civil society, human rights defenders, youth and women's organisations, justice and correctional actors, detainees, FACA, ISF, students, community and religious leaders. The activities focused on human rights and international humanitarian law, civil and political rights related to the electoral process, the protection of children, the peace process, MINUSCA's mandate, the prevention of CRSV and gender-based violence (SGBV), the fight against hate speech, and human rights in detention.
- 41. The HRD conducted 70 monitoring visits to detention centres and facilities in 14 Prefectures, ²⁸ and documented 163 victims of arbitrary detention. MINUSCA continues to be granted access to most detention centres and facilities to monitor the situation and engage with relevant authorities to advocate for and support efforts to enhance respect for human rights.

Human Rights Due Diligence Policy (HRDDP)

- 42. During the period under review, 25 risk assessments were conducted relating to MINUSCA's support to the Defence and Internal Security Forces (FACA, ISF, and other law enforcement officers). Human rights background checks were conducted for a total of 114 beneficiaries including 91 ISF (49 Police officers and 42 Gendarmes), 17 FACA officers, five agents from the Anti-fraud Unit, one Prison officer.
- 43. Beneficiaries were provided with logistical support including air transportation and trainings, enabling both the 3rd and 6th renewals of the Umbrella clearance for the Haut-Mbomou Prefecture and the ISF/UNPOL joint operations in the Haute-Kotto Prefecture. Among the risk assessments conducted, 25 were for logistical support, including various missions to and from Bangui to different regions.

and Vakaga.

28 Bamingui-Bangoran, Bangui, Haute-Kotto, Haut-Mbomou, Kémo, Lim-Pendé, Mbomou, Nana-Grébizi, Nana-Mambéré, Ouaka, Ouham, Ouham-Fafa, Ouham-Pendé, and Vakaga.

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²⁷ Bamingui-Bangoran, Bangui, Haute-Kotto, Haut-Mbomou, Kémo, Lim-Pendé, Mbomou, Nana-Grébizi, Ouaka, Ouham, and Vakaga.

44. The risks identified in these assessments were deemed low. Among the individuals screened, eight were excluded for involvement in human rights violations. Based on these assessments, MINUSCA's support was approved with a set of recommendations and mitigation measures, including the need to continuously build the capacity of the non-UN security forces on international human rights law, international humanitarian law and the necessary skills and techniques in maintaining and restoring law and order.