

Nowadays UN Police are helping Malian law enforcement agencies to learn how to investigate and prevent illicit drug activity. In 2014, the Mission established a Transnational and Organized Crime and Counter-Terrorism Unit. MINUSMA has also provided crucial equipment and forensic support to the Malian authorities. In 2015 the Mission established a modern forensics laboratory at its headquarters to help Malian law enforcement agencies to collect and analyze evidence, from DNA, fingerprints, to more complex ballistic examinations.

The Mission has achieved certain results. Drug seizures have increased. For example, in August 2015, the Malian Brigade dismantled a drug trafficking network that operated in a neighbourhood previously beyond the reach of law enforcement agencies. This operation alone led to the trial of 10 accused traffickers, as well as an additional arrest of a drug dealer in September 2015. UN police are helping their counterparts by conducting trainings, joining patrols and facilitating the reestablishment of law and order.

MINUSMA is determined to maintain its commitment to Mali and help the Malian authorities consolidate peace and security in close coordination with other regional and international stakeholders. Peacekeeping is an effective mechanism for helping countries make the difficult transition from conflict to peace.

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UNITED NATIONS CIVILIAN POLICE AS A CRUCIAL PART OF THE UN PEACE OPERATIONS AROUND THE WORLD

United Nations Civilian Police are a crucial part of UN peace operations around the world. More than 11,000 UN police, from more than 90 countries, are currently working in 18 different field missions. Every day these women and men patrol, provide training, advise domestic policing services, help ensure compliance with international human rights standards and assist in a wide range of activities to restore and promote security, public safety and the rule of law. The benefits of this work are clear: UN police help to create a safer environment where communities will be better protected and criminal activities will be prevented. The diverse national experiences of these United Nations police officers, and their commitment to peace and security, are their best tools to promote sustainable peace through justice and security.

The United Nations has been deploying police officers for service in peace operations since the 1960s. Traditionally, the mandate of police components in peace operations was limited to monitoring, observing and reporting. Beginning in the early 1990s, advisory, mentoring and training functions were integrated into the monitoring activities in order to offer peace operations the opportunity to act as a corrective mechanism with domestic police and other law enforcement agencies. At the end of the 1990s, UN police were called upon to provide interim law enforcement in Eastern Slavonia, Kosovo and Timor-Leste, and in 2000 the Panel on United Nations Policing and Peace Operations concluded that the primary goal of the police in peace operations should be «to focus primarily on the reform and restructuring of local police forces in addition to traditional advisory, training and monitoring tasks.» Within this already challenging context, the nature of police peacekeeping continues to evolve and new threats keep emerging. Contemporary police peacekeepers must perform a variety of increasingly complex tasks mostly unforeseen at the dawn of United Nations police peacekeeping, including supporting the host-state police and other law enforcement in addressing such threats as serious and organized crime, terrorism and corruption. In some cases, the United Nations police are mandated to assume either partial or full executive policing responsibility and other law enforcement duties within a designated territory while the host-state police and other law enforcement agencies regain functional self-sufficiency. More commonly, mission mandates foresee an operational support role for the United Nations police, including helping the host-state police and other law enforcement to conduct investigations and special operations and to ensure public safety, based on overarching policing strategies that are oriented toward the communities they serve and guided by the strategic use of criminal intelligence.

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UNITED NATIONS STABILIZATION MISSION IN HAITI

The United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH) was established on 1 June 2004. The mandate of the mission included such authorities as: to support the Transitional Government in ensuring a secure and stable environment; to assist in monitoring, restructuring and reforming the Haitian National Police; to support the Transitional Government as well as Haitian human rights institutions in their efforts to promote and protect