

Annex C. Chronology 2016

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This chronology lists the significant events in 2016 related to armaments, disarmament and international security. Keywords are indicated in the right-hand column.

1 Jan.	The United Nations officially launches the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which establishes the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).	UN; SDGs
2–4 Jan.	Saudi Arabia executes the prominent Shia cleric Sheikh Nimr al-Nimr and cuts diplomatic relations with Iran following Shia protests across the region.	Saudi Arabia; Iran
6 Jan.	North Korea carries out its fourth nuclear weapon test explosion, and claims it was a hydrogen bomb	North Korea; Nuclear weapons
12 Jan.	A suspected member of the Islamic State (IS) group kills 10 people, at least eight of them German tourists, in a suicide bomb attack in Istanbul.	Turkey; IS
14 Jan.	Multiple explosions and gun attacks in Jakarta leave at least eight people—four attackers and four civilians—dead and 23 injured. IS claims responsibility.	Indonesia; IS
16 Jan.	The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) announces that Iran has fulfilled requirements to limit its nuclear activities, a step that automatically lifts the nuclear-related economic sanctions imposed by the UN, the European Union (EU) and the United States.	Iran; Nuclear agreement; UN
25 Jan.	The UN Security Council in adopting Resolution 2261 decides to establish a political mission of unarmed international observers to monitor and verify for one year the laying down of arms by the Government of Colombia and the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (Fuerzas Armadas Revolucionarias de Colombia, FARC).	UN; Colombia; FARC; Peace operations
1 Feb.	Zika is declared a global public health emergency by the World Health Organization as the number of suspected birth defects linked to the mosquito-borne virus rises into the thousands.	Zika virus
1–2 Feb.	The EU hosts the Australia Group's (AG) intersessional meeting at the European Commission in Brussels.	AG
4 Feb.	At an international donor conference in London, US\$ 11.22 billion is pledged for the Syrian crisis, the largest sum ever on a single day for a single crisis.	Syria

6 Feb.	North Korea successfully launches a Kwangmyŏngsŏng-4 long-range rocket, putting a satellite in orbit.	North Korea; Missile test
10 Feb.	The EU and North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) sign a Technical Arrangement to increase information sharing on cyber incidents.	Cybersecurity; EU; NATO
11 Feb.	The USA and Russia announce a 'cessation of hostilities' as part of a deal reached by the International Syria Support Group. The deal contains three main commitments around humanitarian access, a negotiated ceasefire and a political transition.	Russia; Syria; USA
16 Feb.	Saudi Arabia and Russia agree an oil production freeze, subject to wider acceptance by other producers. (In Nov. the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries, OPEC, agrees to cut output for the first time since 2008.)	Saudi Arabia; Russia; OPEC; Oil production
17 Feb.	Fighting at a UN Protection of Civilians camp in Malakal, South Sudan, leaves 18 dead, including two workers from Médecins Sans Frontières, amid reports of the involvement of government troops.	South Sudan; UN
17 Feb.	A car bomb in Ankara kills at least 28 people and injures at least 60. A Kurdistan Workers' Party (Partiya Karkerên Kurdistan, PKK) affiliate, the Kurdish Freedom Hawks (Teyrêbazên Azadiya Kurdistan, TAK) claim responsibility.	Turkey; TAK
22 Feb.	A study by the Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research shows that sea levels have risen faster in the past century than at any time in the past 1200 years.	Sea levels; Climate change
22–26 Feb.	The open-ended working group (OEWG) meets in Geneva to discuss recommendations on measures that could help to take forward negotiations on multilateral nuclear disarmament.	Nuclear disarmament
25 Feb.	By a large majority, the European Parliament adopts a non-binding resolution requesting that the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy launch an initiative aimed at imposing an EU arms embargo on Saudi Arabia.	European Parliament; Saudi Arabia
27 Feb.	A ceasefire takes effect in Syria as part of the deal negotiated earlier in the month.	Syria; Ceasefire
29 Feb.	At the Extraordinary Meeting of states parties to the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT) in Geneva decisions are taken on the role and functioning of the ATT Secretariat.	ATT
29 Feb.	Iranian President Hassan Rouhani and reformists make strong gains in Iranian legislative elections.	Iran
2 Mar.	The UN Security Council responds to North Korea's nuclear test in Jan. by imposing fresh sanctions under Resolution 2270.	UN; North Korea
8 Mar.	Iran test-fires several ballistic missiles from silos across the country.	Iran; Missile proliferation
11 Mar.	The UN Security Council adopts Resolution 2272, which specifically addresses sexual exploitation and abuse in UN peace operations.	UN; Peace operations

13 Mar.	A car bomb in Ankara kills at least 37 people and injures 125. The TAK claims responsibility.	Turkey; TAK
16 Mar.	A UN Headquarters Board of Inquiry is established into the Feb. clashes at the UN Protection of Civilians site in Malakal, South Sudan.	South Sudan; UN
18 Mar.	The EU and Turkey agree to end irregular migration from Turkey to the EU and replace it with legal channels of resettlement of refugees.	EU; Turkey; Refugees
19 Mar.	A suicide bomber in Istanbul kills at least 5 people and injures 36. IS is suspected of carrying out the attack.	Turkey; IS
20 Mar.	US President Barack Obama and his family visit Havana. It is the first visit to Cuba by a US president for 88 years.	Cuba; USA
22 Mar.	IS suicide bombers kill 32 people at Brussels airport and a metro station in the city.	Belgium; IS
22 Mar.	The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) issues the first in a series of updates to Commentaries that provide guidance to states on how to interpret and implement the four Geneva conventions and their Additional Protocols.	ICRC; Geneva conventions
27 Mar.	A suicide bomb in Lahore, Pakistan kills at least 75 people and injures hundreds more. A Taliban faction, Jamaat-ul-Ahrar, claims responsibility.	Pakistan; Taliban
27 Mar.	Syrian Government forces (with Russian air support) oust IS from the historic city of Palmyra.	Syria; IS; Russia
30 Mar.	The African Union's (AU) Peace and Security Council holds its first open session on climate change at its 585th meeting.	AU; Climate change
31 Mar.–1 Apr.	The fourth and final meeting in a series of Nuclear Security Summits is held in Washington, DC.	Nuclear security
2 Apr.	The worst breach of the ceasefire between the Armenian and Azerbaijani militaries since 1994 kills at least 190 people.	Armenia; Azerbaijan
3 Apr.	The International Consortium of Investigative Journalists coordinates work between newsrooms across the globe to publish some 11.5 million confidential documents from Mossack Fonseca, a Panamanian firm used to hide money overseas.	Panama papers
4–5 Apr.	In the Republic of the Congo at least 17 people are killed in violence between government and opposition forces. The next day the government begins airstrikes in the south against opposition areas, including the former residence of an opposition leader.	Republic of the Congo
6 Apr.	The EU adopts a Joint Framework to counter hybrid threats and foster resilience while increasing cooperation with NATO on countering such threats.	EU; Hybrid threats; NATO
11–15 Apr.	An informal meeting of experts takes place in Geneva to discuss lethal autonomous weapons systems (LAWS) in the context of the Certain Conventional Weapons (Convention) (CCW).	CCW; LAWS
13 Apr.	Peace talks on Syria resume in Geneva, with the ceasefire on the verge of collapse.	Syria; Ceasefire

19 Apr.	The European Council formally decides to establish an EU Military Training Mission in the Central African Republic (CAR) with a view to launching it in July 2016.	EU; CAR; Peace operations
19 Apr.	The Taliban detonates a car bomb and launches an attack on the Afghan National Directorate of Security, killing 64. It is the deadliest insurgent attack in Kabul since 2001.	Afghanistan; Taliban
20 Apr.	The US Supreme Court rules that Iran's central bank must pay nearly US\$ 2 billion to victims of terrorist attacks sponsored by Iran. Iran later hints at retaliation over the US seizure of assets.	USA; Iran
21 Apr.	Although fighting continues in Yemen, UN-sponsored peace talks begin between President Hadi's government and the Huthi/Saleh opposition group.	Yemen; UN
22 Apr.	Violence escalates in Aleppo, where over 250 people are reported killed by days of regime and rebel bombardments.	Syria; Aleppo
25–26 Apr.	The first session of the Preparatory Committee for the Eighth Biological and Toxin Weapons Convention (BTWC) Review Conference takes place in Geneva.	BTWC
26–28 Apr.	South Sudan moves closer to implementing its Aug. 2015 peace agreement when Riek Machar, the leader of the armed opposition (the Sudan People's Liberation Movement/Army in Opposition, SPLM/A-IO), is appointed vice president. Two days later a transitional government is formed.	South Sudan
27 Apr.	In a rare concurrent action, the UN General Assembly and the UN Security Council adopt by consensus their highly detailed and substantively identical resolutions on UN peacebuilding.	UN; Peacebuilding
2–13 May	The second session of the OEWG takes place in Geneva.	Nuclear disarmament
8 May	The 2005 Amendment to the 1979 Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material (CPPNM) enters into force.	Nuclear security
9 May	Rodrigo Duterte wins presidential election, is declared the winner on 27 May and becomes President of the Philippines on 30 June.	Philippines
16 May	The USA and other world powers agree to arm the Libyan Government of National Accord to help it fight IS.	Libya; USA; IS
16 May	The Minsk Group holds an emergency meeting in Vienna in response to the escalation of fighting in the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict.	Nagorno-Karabakh
23–24 May	The World Humanitarian Summit (WHS) takes place in Istanbul; 9000 participants representing states and governments, private sector entities, civil society and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) attend.	WHS; UN
24 May	The Conference on Disarmament (CD) discusses a Russian proposal to negotiate a new convention on acts of chemical and biological (CB) terrorism.	CD; Russia; CB terrorism

<i>30 May</i>	In the south-east of Nigeria, security forces fight Biafran separatists in several cities leaving at least 20 dead.	Nigeria
<i>1 June</i>	After the Organization of American States (OAS) Secretary General invokes the Inter-American Democratic Charter, Members of the Permanent Council of the OAS meet to discuss the deteriorating situation in Venezuela.	Venezuela; OAS
<i>2–3 June</i>	India joins The Hague Code of Conduct (HCOC) against Ballistic Missile Proliferation at its annual meeting in Vienna.	India; HCOC
<i>3 June</i>	Boko Haram insurgents overrun Bosso, a town on Lake Chad, Niger, killing 26 soldiers. Similar attacks are reported against an army-held town and barracks on 9 and 16 June.	Boko Haram; Niger
<i>6–10 June</i>	The sixth biennial meeting of states to consider the implementation of the Programme of Action on Small arms and light weapons (SALW) takes place at the UN in New York.	SALW
<i>7 June</i>	A bomb attack in Istanbul kills 12 people and injures 51 others. No group claims responsibility for the attack.	Turkey
<i>12 June</i>	In the deadliest terrorist attack in the USA since 11 Sep. 2001, 49 people are killed and 53 wounded by a lone gunman in a nightclub in Orlando, Florida. The gunman had pledged allegiance to IS.	USA; IS
<i>12 June</i>	In the latest in a series on confrontations since the Horn of Africa nations separated more than two decades before, Eritrea claims to have killed more than 200 Ethiopian troops in fighting on the joint border.	Eritrea; Ethiopia
<i>13 June</i>	A French police chief and his partner are killed in a stabbing at their home near Paris; IS claims responsibility.	France; IS
<i>14 June</i>	To help prevent weapons smuggling to and from Libya, the UN Security Council passes Resolution 2292 authorizing states to inspect vessels off the coast of Libya that are believed to be carrying prohibited items.	UN; Libya
<i>16 June</i>	Jo Cox, a British Labour Party Member of Parliament, dies after being shot and stabbed multiple times by a right-wing extremist.	United Kingdom
<i>18–19 June</i>	Fulani herdsmen kill at least 59 people as part of worsening armed violence in Nigeria's oil-rich Niger Delta.	Nigeria
<i>21 June</i>	The International Criminal Court (ICC) sentences Jean-Pierre Bemba, the former vice president of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), to 18 years in prison for his militia's abuses in the CAR in 2002–2003. He becomes the most senior official to be sentenced at the ICC.	ICC; DRC; CAR
<i>21 June</i>	The findings of the UN inquiry into the clashes at the UN base in Malakal, South Sudan, are presented to the UN Security Council but a summary of the report is not made public until early Aug.	South Sudan; UN

23 June	The Colombian Government and FARC sign agreements on the 'end of conflict', providing the strongest assurance yet that the 52-year long conflict is finally ending.	Colombia; FARC
23 June	After 43 years of membership, the UK votes in a national referendum by 52 per cent to 48 per cent to leave the EU. Leave wins the majority of votes in England and Wales, while remain wins a majority in Scotland and Northern Ireland.	UK; EU
23–24 June	At its Plenary Meeting in Seoul, the Nuclear Suppliers Group (NSG) highlights proliferation concerns about North Korea and especially the nuclear test in Jan.	NSG
27 June	India becomes the first new member of the Missile Technology Control Regime (MTCR) since 2004.	India; MTCR
27–28 June	As part of the Wassenaar Arrangement's (WA) 20th anniversary events, an outreach workshop is held in Vienna; over 100 representatives attend from 46 countries.	WA
28 June	At the EU summit in Brussels, EU High Representative Federica Mogherini presents the EU Global Strategy on foreign and security policy to EU leaders.	EU Global Strategy
28 June	In Turkey, a gun and suicide bomb attack at Istanbul airport kills 44 people and injures over 200. IS is believed to be responsible. There are reports that the three attackers were from Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan and Russia's North Caucasus.	IS; Turkey
30 June	The UN Mission in Liberia formally hands over security responsibilities to the Liberian authorities.	Liberia; UN; Peace operations
1 July	In Bangladesh, an attack on a café in Dhaka leaves 22 people, mostly foreigners, dead. Although IS claim responsibility, officials point to the likely involvement of local affiliates of al-Qaeda.	Bangladesh; IS, al-Qaeda
1 July	The UN General Assembly continues its fifth review of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and adopts a resolution on its implementation.	UN; Counter- terrorism
1 July	The US Administration releases official data on counterterrorism strikes and civilian casualties.	USA; Counter- terrorism
3 July	At least 165 people are killed in a bomb attack in Baghdad; IS claims responsibility.	IS; Iraq
7 July	The USA and South Korea agree to deploy the THAAD advanced missile defence system in South Korea.	South Korea; USA; Missile defence
8 July	Indian security forces kill Burhan Wani, the operations chief of Kashmir's largest militant group, Hizbul Mujahideen, sparking major protests and clashes with the security forces across Jammu and Kashmir in which 49 people are reported killed and over 5000 injured.	India; Kashmir
8–9 July	At the Warsaw summit meeting of the North Atlantic Council, NATO leaders take additional steps to enhance its military preparedness.	NATO

8–11 July	In renewed fighting in South Sudan's capital, Juba, more than 300 people are reported killed, including many civilians and a UN peacekeeper.	South Sudan
11 July	Over 80 participants, including government and civil society representatives from 17 countries, gather in Bangkok at the Asia-Pacific regional symposium on national action plans on women, peace and security.	Women, peace and security
12 July	In a case initiated by the Philippines, an international tribunal in The Hague rejects China's claims in the South China Sea and finds that its expansive claim to sovereignty over the waters, including its construction of artificial islands, has no legal basis. China states it does not accept the arbitration and is not bound by its outcome.	China; Philippines; South China Sea
14 July	A Tunisian-born Frenchman drives a lorry into the crowd at a Bastille Day fireworks display in Nice, killing 86 people, including many children. IS claims responsibility.	France; IS
15 July	A faction of Turkish troops seeks to overthrow President Recep Tayyip Erdogan in a failed coup. Erdogan blames Fethullah Gülen, a former political ally living in exile in the USA. More than 100 000 officials are subsequently arrested or fired in a government purge of suspected 'Gülenists'.	Turkey
17 July	An armed opposition group seizes a police headquarters in Yerevan, killing two police officers and taking several hostages before surrendering at the end of the month.	Armenia
18 July	The British Parliament approves a motion supporting the government's commitment to the Trident successor programme by 472 votes to 117.	UK; Nuclear weapons
19 July	A US airstrike on Menbij city, Syria, kills at least 73 civilians, making it possibly the worst coalition attack on civilians in Syria to date.	Syria; USA
21–22 July	Fighting in northern Mali between pro-government militia and Tuareg rebels kills at least 20 and threatens the peace deal.	Mali
22 July	Wikileaks posts a massive collection of US Democratic National Committee internal emails online as part of a series of email leaks that reveal embarrassing communications from Hillary Clinton's aides.	USA; Wikileaks
23 July	IS claims responsibility for a joint suicide attack on ethnic Hazara protesters in the Afghan capital, which kills at least 80 people and injures over 250.	Afghanistan; IS
26 July	An elderly priest is killed and five people are taken hostage by two armed men in a church in Rouen, northern France. The two IS attackers are shot dead by police.	France; IS
27 July	Over 40 people are reported killed in an IS bomb attack on Qamishli city near the Turkish border.	Syria; IS
5 Aug.	The US Administration releases a redacted version of its policy framework on drone strikes 'outside the United States and areas of actual hostilities', often called The Playbook.	USA; Drone strikes

6 Aug.	UN-sponsored peace talks in Yemen end without a breakthrough. Fighting continues between government forces and rebels near the capital, Sanaa.	UN; Yemen
6–7 Aug.	Up to 90 people are killed across Ethiopia's Oromia and Amhara regions as the authorities suppress a new wave of anti-government protests.	Ethiopia
8 Aug.	A suicide bomber in Pakistan kills at least 70 people and injures more than 100 in an attack on a hospital in Quetta. IS and a Taliban faction claim responsibility.	Pakistan; IS
8–12 Aug.	The second Preparatory Committee meeting for the Eighth BTWC Review Conference takes place in Geneva. It finalizes the provisional agenda and rules of procedure for the Conference.	BTWC
11–12 Aug.	Coordinated bombings are carried out in several tourist destinations in Thailand, killing four people and injuring 35. No group claims responsibility.	Thailand
12–16 Aug.	The UN Security Council increases the force level of the UN Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS) up to a ceiling of 17 000 military personnel to allow for the deployment of a Regional Protection Force. Four days later, the UN Secretary-General launches an investigation into the July clashes in Juba.	South Sudan; UN; Peace operations
16 Aug.	IS allegedly fires approximately seven missiles filled with toxic chemicals in Marea, Syria. At least 10 people seek medical assistance.	Chemical weapons; IS; Syria
17 Aug.	IS claims responsibility for its first terrorist attack in Russia after men try to kill police officers with a gun and axes near Moscow.	Russia; IS
18–21 Aug.	UN human rights experts urge President Rodrigo Duterte's Administration to step back from its violent approach to drug crime. Duterte responds by threatening to leave the UN.	The Philippines; drug crime; UN
19 Aug.	At the final meeting of the OEWG, a final report is adopted by a non-recorded vote of 68 in favour and 22 against with 13 abstentions. The report recommends the convening of a conference in 2017 to begin negotiations on a nuclear weapons ban treaty.	Nuclear disarmament
20 Aug.	A suspected IS suicide bomber targets a wedding celebration in Gaziantep, Turkey, which kills 56 people, mostly children, and injures more than 90.	Turkey; IS
22 Aug.	Peace talks between the Government of the Philippines and the National Democratic Front of the Philippines (NDFP) communist movement resume in Oslo after a five-year hiatus.	The Philippines
22–26 Aug.	At the Second Conference of states parties to the ATT in Geneva, consensus is achieved on the permanent Head of the ATT Secretariat and other procedural matters.	ATT

- 24 Aug. Turkey launches a major military intervention in Syria, sending tanks and combat aircraft across the border in a campaign coordinated with Syrian opposition fighters. The dual purpose of Operation Euphrates Shield is to dislodge IS from Jarablus and contain the expansion of Kurdish militias in northern Syria. Turkey; IS; Syria
- 24 Aug. The Colombian Government and FARC reach a final peace accord, paving the way for an end to 52 years of armed conflict. Colombia; FARC
- 24 Aug. North Korea test-fires a submarine-based ballistic missile and claims that it is now capable of striking the USA. North Korea; Missile test
- 25 Aug. In a significant gain for the Syrian Government, the rebel stronghold Darayya outside Damascus surrenders to government forces. Syria
- 26 Aug. The Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) adopts a plan for the destruction of Libya's category 2 chemicals outside its territory. Libya; OPCW
- 30 Aug. IS announces that its senior strategist, Abu Muhammad al-Adnani, has been killed in northern Syria. IS; Syria
- 31 Aug. In Gabon, President Ali Ben Bongo's disputed re-election triggers violent clashes. Gabon
- 31 Aug. Brazilian President Dilma Rousseff is ousted after the Senate votes to impeach her. Brazil
- 2 Sep. The United States and China, two of the world's biggest polluters, ratify the Paris Climate Agreement. China; USA; Climate change
- 6 Sep. North Korea carries out three ballistic missile launches. This is described by the UN Security Council as a 'grave violation' of North Korea's international obligations. North Korea; Missile tests; UN
- 9 Sep. North Korea conducts its fifth nuclear test, producing an explosive yield of 10 kilotons. This is the highest yield recorded by the country so far. North Korea; Nuclear weapons
- 9–12 Sep. After months of negotiations, the USA and Russia agree a plan to reduce violence and lead to 'political transition' in Syria. The ceasefire of 12 Sep. collapses almost immediately. In the weeks that follow, the city of Aleppo suffers the worst bombardments for months. Russia; Syria; USA
- 11 Sep. General Khalifa Haftar's Libyan National Army forces capture the country's main oil terminals along the Mediterranean shore, consolidating his control in the east of Libya. Libya
- 17 Sep. US and Coalition (Australia, Denmark and the UK) forces bomb a Syrian Army position, reportedly killing at least 62 soldiers. The Coalition forces claim the attack was a mistake, while Syria and Russia claim it was intentional. USA; Syria

- 18 Sep. Relations between India and Pakistan reach their lowest point since 2011 following an attack by four armed militants on an army base in Uri region, Indian-administered Kashmir, in which 18 Indian soldiers are killed and about 30 injured. Kashmir; India; Pakistan
- 19 Sep. The UN General Assembly hosts a high-level summit on the refugee and migrant crisis. The aim is to bring countries together to formulate a more humane and better coordinated approach. UN General Assembly; Refugee crisis
- 19 Sep. The 12 Sep. ceasefire in Syria is officially ended by the Syrian Government (as a result of the 17 Sep. attack). A UN aid convoy is bombed, killing at least 20 civilians. The Syrian and Russian governments refute accusations that their air forces were involved in the attack. Russia; Syria; UN
- 19–20 Sep. Security forces in the DRC use live rounds to disperse crowds protesting against the regime's attempts to stay in power beyond its constitutional time limit. At least 49 civilians are killed. DRC
- 21 Sep. A local agreement is reached to separate warring parties in eastern Ukraine and withdraw weapons from the combat zone. The agreement is signed by the Trilateral Contact Group, comprised of Ukraine, Russia and the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) acting as a mediator. Ukraine; Russia; OSCE
- 21 Sep. Myanmar and Swaziland are the 165th and 166th nations to ratify the CTBT. Myanmar; Swaziland; CTBT
- 22 Sep. The Afghan Government agrees a peace deal with Gulbuddin Hekmatyar and his militant group Hezbi-Islami. Afghanistan
- 23 Sep. The UN Security Council adopts Resolution 2310 urging all states that have either not signed or not ratified the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT)—particularly the eight remaining Annex 2 states—to do so without further delay. UN; CTBT
- 24 Sep. The twentieth anniversary of the opening for signature of the CTBT on 24 Sep. 1996. CTBT
- 26 Sep. The Government of Colombia and FARC sign a final peace agreement, officially ending 52 years of civil war. Colombians vote on whether to approve the final agreement on 2 Oct. Colombia; FARC
- 26 Sep. In a referendum in Azerbaijan, voters overwhelmingly approve several constitutional amendments that are widely criticized for strengthening the rule of President Aliyev and suppressing dissent. Azerbaijan
- 26 Sep. Bosnia's Serb-controlled entity, Republika Srpska, holds a controversial referendum in defiance of a ruling by the state Constitutional Court. The referendum approves the continued celebration of the annual 'Republika Srpska' public holiday in the entity. Bosnia and Herzegovina
- 26 Sep. The European Commission presents a draft regulatory proposal on dual-use trade controls. EU; Dual-use trade controls

- 26 Sep. Former South Sudan First Vice President Riek Machar calls for (renewed) armed struggle against South Sudanese President Salva Kiir. This is followed by more chaos in the country and further heavy fighting by the end 2016. South Sudan
- 29 Sep. India's army says it carried out 'surgical strikes' against suspected militants along the de facto border with Pakistan in Kashmir, causing 'significant casualties' to 'terrorists'. Pakistan denies that India carried out any strikes and says two of its soldiers were killed in cross-border shelling. Kashmir; India; Pakistan
- 2 Oct. The Colombian peace deal is rejected in a referendum, making the fate of the final peace agreement of Aug. 2016 uncertain. Colombia; FARC
- 2 Oct. In Ethiopia, at least 100 people are killed in a stampede reportedly triggered by security forces firing tear gas and rubber bullets to disperse anti-government protests. Ethiopia
- 2 Oct. Afghanistan and the EU agree a 'Joint Way Forward' document on migration issues. Afghanistan; EU; Refugee crisis
- 3 Oct. An IS suicide bomber kills at least 30 people at a Kurdish wedding party in north-east Syria. IS; Syria
- 3 Oct. Russian President Vladimir Putin signs a decree suspending Russia's participation in the 2000 Plutonium Management and Disposition Agreement between Russia and the USA. (The State Duma approves the decree on 19 Oct.) Russia; USA; Nuclear security
- 4 Oct. In Haiti, Hurricane Matthew kills hundreds and creates the worst humanitarian crisis since the 2010 earthquake. Haiti; Severe weather event
- 5 Oct. The USA proposes a set of multilaterally agreed standards for the export and use of armed unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs). The declaration setting out the key principles that states should apply is signed by over 40 states. USA; UAVs
- 6 Oct. At least six people are killed in an attack in north-east Kenya by suspected fighters from the Somalia-based group al-Shabab. Kenya; al-Shabab
- 6 Oct. Suspected jihadists based in northern Mali attack an army post in western Niger killing 22 security personnel. Western Niger
- 7 Oct. The Nobel Peace Prize is awarded to Colombian President Juan Manuel Santos for his efforts to bring the country's civil war to an end. Colombia; Nobel peace prize
- 7 Oct. US officials and the US intelligence community publicly blame the Russian Government for hacking emails and trying to create turmoil in the US presidential election. USA; Russia
- 9–12 Oct. Attacks on border police in the north of Myanmar trigger violence, displace thousands of people and threaten to exacerbate intercommunal tensions across the country. Myanmar

12 Oct.	Violence worsens in the CAR after a militia attack on refugees. UN troops from the Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the CAR (MINUSCA) open fire to dispel the attackers.	CAR; UN peacekeeping
15 Oct.	A Russian naval task group, including the country's only active aircraft carrier, leaves home bases to deploy to the Mediterranean in support of Russian forces operating in Syria.	Russia; Syria
17–20 Oct.	At the Habitat III conference in Quito, Ecuador, the New Urban Agenda is adopted as a guide to how cities should be planned and managed in order to achieve sustainable urbanization.	Cities; Sustainable development
17–21 Oct.	The annual MTCR plenary meeting in Busan, South Korea, discusses and exchanges information on missile proliferation, including developments in North Korea.	MTCR
20 Oct.	Senior diplomats from France, Germany, Russia and Ukraine agree to develop a road map for the implementation of Minsk II in relation to the conflict in eastern Ukraine.	Ukraine; Minsk II
21 Oct.	A report by the OPCW-UN Joint Investigative Mechanism concludes that Syrian Government forces used helicopters to drop barrel bombs containing chlorine gas.	OPCW; UN; Syria; Chemical weapons
21 Oct.	The UN Secretary-General establishes a Board of Inquiry to investigate the 19 Sep. attack on the humanitarian aid convoy in Syria. The report is not published but a summary is provided to the President of the UN Security Council in Dec.	UN; Syria
24 Oct.	Three armed militants wearing suicide vests attack the Balochistan police training college in Quetta, Pakistan, killing at least 60 cadets and injuring 190. IS claims responsibility.	Pakistan; IS
25 Oct.	The UN Security Council convenes its annual open debate on women, peace and security.	UN; Women, peace and security
27 Oct.	Despite strong opposition from nuclear-weapon possessing nations and their allies, UN member states vote overwhelmingly to start negotiations on a treaty to ban nuclear weapons.	UN; Nuclear weapons treaty
31 Oct.	Michel Aoun, a Maronite Christian and founder of the Free Patriotic Movement party, is elected President of Lebanon, ending more than two years of deadlock surrounding the vacancy.	Lebanon
1 Nov.	The UN Secretary-General dismisses the Commander of the UN force in South Sudan after an inquiry report says that it failed to protect civilians in Juba in July.	South Sudan; UN; Peace operations
1 Nov.	UN human rights spokeswoman Ravina Shamdasani says that all sides fighting in Aleppo could be committing war crimes through their indiscriminate attacks in civilian areas.	Syria; UN
4 Nov.	The Paris Agreement on climate change enters into force.	Climate change

7–18 Nov.	The 22nd annual conference of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in Marrakech, Morocco, agrees a diverse set of documents on taking forward the Paris Agreement.	Climate change
7–25 Nov.	The Eighth Review Conference of the BTWC meets in Geneva but is unable to agree a final declaration.	BTWC
8 Nov.	Donald J. Trump wins US presidential election and (in 2017 formally) becomes the 45th President of the United States.	USA
10 Nov.	UN relief envoy Jan Egeland says that ‘Syria is the worst war, the worst humanitarian crisis, the worst displacement crisis, the worst refugee crisis in a generation’.	UN; Syria
11 Nov.	Japan finalizes a nuclear cooperation agreement with India, after a preliminary memorandum on cooperation signed in Dec.2015.	Japan; India; Nuclear cooperation
12–13 Nov.	Myanmar’s northern Rakhine state erupts in violence. The military claims that it has killed more than 30 insurgents.	Myanmar
14 Nov.	Following a two-year process of negotiations between the European Council, the European Parliament and the European Commission, the EU adopts a revised version of the EU Torture Regulation.	EU Torture Regulation
15 Nov.	Pro-government forces in Syria re-escalate attacks on rebel strongholds in eastern Aleppo, the west of the city and across Syria. Full-scale aerial bombardments cause significant numbers of civilian casualties and damage.	Syria
15–16 Nov.	At the request of US officials, amid growing US concerns that Russia is preparing to deploy the cruise missile at the centre of the compliance controversy, the dispute resolution mechanism established by the Intermediate-range Nuclear Forces (INF) Treaty meets for the first time since 2003.	INF Treaty; Russia; USA
17 Nov.	The UN Security Council calls for an international investigation into alleged abuses and the restoration of humanitarian access to Myanmar’s northern Rakhine state.	Myanmar; UN
20 Nov.	Myanmar’s ethnic peace process suffers a setback after a major joint attack on the military by four armed groups in northern Shan state, near the border with China.	Myanmar
24 Nov.	The Colombian Government and FARC unveil a new peace accord. It contains tougher provisions on FARC members but drops the requirement for a national referendum. (The Colombian Senate approves the deal one week later followed by the House of Representatives on 28 Dec.)	Colombia; FARC
25 Nov.	The US Administration announces that it is expanding the power of the Joint Special Operations Command to conduct attacks on terrorist cells.	USA; Special forces; Counter-terrorism
25 Nov.	The former president of Cuba, Fidel Castro, dies aged 90.	Cuba

28 Nov.– 1 Dec.	The 15th Meeting of states parties to the Anti-personnel Mine (APM) Convention takes place in Santiago, Chile. Landmine clearance extension deadlines are granted to Ecuador, Niger and Peru.	APMs
28 Nov.– 2 Dec.	The 21st session of the Conference of the States Parties to the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC) meets in The Hague to agree a 2017 programme and budget.	CWC
29 Nov.	A meeting of foreign ministers from France, Germany, Russia and Ukraine fails to make any progress on a road map for implementation of the Minsk II agreement.	Ukraine; Minsk II
30 Nov.	The UN Security Council strengthens sanctions on North Korea by unanimously adopting Resolution 2321.	North Korea; UN
1 Dec.	Political tensions rise in The Gambia following presidential elections. President Jammeh initially concedes defeat after losing to Adama Barrow, but later refuses to step down and calls for a new vote.	Gambia
5 Dec.	IS loses control of the Libyan city of Sirte to forces from the western city of Misrata (that are part of Libya's Government of National Accord) supported by US airstrikes.	Libya; IS
5–9 Dec.	The IAEA organizes its second international nuclear security conference. The conference focuses on specific legal, regulatory and technical measures and reviews the progress made on strengthening nuclear security.	IAEA; Nuclear security
6 Dec.	The EU and NATO publish an agreement on how their joint declaration on cybersecurity will be implemented.	Cybersecurity; EU; NATO
6–8 Dec.	The annual plenary of the WA meets in Vienna to update its best practice documents on arms brokering legislation (2003) and enforcement (2000).	WA
9 Dec.	US President Barack Obama instructs the US intelligence agencies to conduct an investigation into hacking attacks related to the US election.	USA
9 Dec.	South Korea's National Assembly votes to impeach President Park Geun-hye over her role in a corruption scandal. She is suspended from the presidency while South Korea's Constitutional Court reviews the National Assembly's decision.	South Korea
9 Dec.	OSCE foreign ministers agree to launch a structured dialogue on the current and future risks and challenges to security in the OSCE area.	OSCE; Arms control
10 Dec.	Twin bomb attacks in central Istanbul kill 36 police officers and eight civilians. The TAK, claims responsibility. After the attack, counterterrorism police detain more than 900 people on charges of PKK membership and terrorist propaganda.	Turkey; PKK; TAK
11 Dec.	IS recaptures the city of Palmyra (which it lost in Mar.) from Syrian troops.	Syria; IS

<i>11 Dec.</i>	A suicide bomber kills at least 25 people and injures 49 others at a Coptic church in Cairo. IS claims responsibility.	Egypt; IS
<i>12–16 Dec.</i>	At the Fifth Review Conference of the CCW in Geneva discussion focuses on improvised explosive devices, incendiary weapons, the use of explosive weapons in populated areas and LAWS.	CCW
<i>13 Dec.</i>	Opposition forces agree to a ceasefire in Aleppo, to allow civilians and opposition fighters to be evacuated to opposition-held territory. Despite disruption by further sporadic fighting, the evacuation is completed on 22 Dec.	Syria; Aleppo
<i>14 Dec.</i>	A suicide attack on a bus carrying off-duty soldiers in Central Anatolia, Turkey, kills 14. The TAK claims responsibility.	Turkey; TAK
<i>15 Dec.</i>	After months of fierce bombardment and failed diplomacy, the Syrian Government begins the evacuation of residents from the last rebel-held districts of Aleppo. The process solidifies President Bashar al-Assad's control over the city.	Syria; Aleppo
<i>16 Dec.</i>	About 40 unidentified gunmen attack a military and gendarmerie post in Burkina Faso, close to the Malian border, killing 12.	Burkina Faso
<i>17 Dec.</i>	A suspected car bombing in Kayseri, Turkey, kills 13 soldiers on a bus and injures at least 55 others.	Turkey
<i>19 Dec.</i>	A lorry is deliberately driven into a Christmas market in Berlin, leaving 12 people dead and 56 injured. The IS perpetrator, a failed asylum seeker from Tunisia, is killed by police in Italy four days later.	Germany; IS
<i>19 Dec.</i>	Andrei Karlov, the Russian ambassador to Turkey, is assassinated in Ankara before major Syria peace talks.	Russia; Turkey; Syria
<i>23 Dec.</i>	By a vote of 113 in favour and 35 against with 13 abstentions, the UN General Assembly adopts Resolution 71/258 on commencing negotiations in 2017 on a treaty banning nuclear weapons.	UN; Nuclear disarmament
<i>28 Dec.</i>	A new nuclear power plant built with Chinese support is opened in Chashma, Pakistan.	China; Pakistan; Nuclear cooperation
<i>31 Dec.</i>	The EU Police Mission (EUPOL) in Afghanistan, which had been active in the country since 2007, completes its final mandate and is terminated as planned.	Afghanistan
<i>31 Dec.</i>	The third ceasefire of the year is agreed in Syria. The UN Security Council unanimously adopts a resolution welcoming efforts by Russia and Turkey to seek an end to the almost six-year long conflict in Syria.	Russia; Syria; Turkey
<i>31 Dec.</i>	An attack on New Year celebrations in Istanbul leaves at least 39 dead, including 24 foreign nationals. IS claims responsibility.	Turkey; IS