

Annex C. Chronology 2017

IAN DAVIS

This chronology lists the significant events in 2017 related to armaments, disarmament and international security. Keywords are indicated in the right-hand column.

1 Jan.	A gunman kills 39 people at a nightclub in Istanbul, Turkey. The Islamic State (IS) claims responsibility.	Turkey; IS
1 Jan.	António Guterres becomes the ninth Secretary-General of the United Nations.	UN Secretary-General
3 Jan.	The Consultation Task Force, appointed by the Sri Lankan Government in Feb. 2016, publishes its final report on Sri Lankan citizens' aspirations for truth and justice.	Sri Lanka
7 Jan.	The Saudi Arabian-led coalition and aligned Yemeni troops launch a new military offensive against Houthi forces in the south-west of Yemen, bordering the Bab al-Mandeb strait.	Saudi Arabia; Yemen
18 Jan.	At least 47 people, including 5 suicide bombers from al-Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb (AQIM), are killed by a car bomb at a military camp in the city of Gao in northern Mali.	Mali; AQIM
20 Jan.	Donald J. Trump is inaugurated as the 45th President of the United States, vowing to follow a policy based on 'America first'.	USA
20 Jan.	Following both diplomatic pressure and the threat of force by the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), Gambian President Yahya Jammeh steps down, allowing election winner Adama Barrow to take up the presidency.	Gambia; ECOWAS
21 Jan.	Millions of people worldwide join the Women's March in response to the inauguration of Donald J. Trump as US President.	Women's March
23 Jan.	US President Trump withdraws the USA from the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP), a regional trade agreement among 11 Pacific rim countries.	USA; TPP
25 Jan.	At least 28 people are killed in an attack by al-Shabab on a hotel in Mogadishu, the capital of Somalia.	Somalia; al-Shabab
26 Jan.	The Northern Ireland Assembly, the devolved legislature set up under the Good Friday Agreement, is suspended and remains so throughout the year.	UK; Northern Ireland
8 Feb.	Former Prime Minister Mohamed Abdullahi Mohamed wins presidential elections in Somalia, defeating incumbent President Hassan Sheikh Mohamud.	Somalia

9 Feb.	At least 34 people are reported killed and about 50 injured by a bomb detonated at a market in Somalia. Al-Shabab is believed to be responsible.	Somalia; al-Shabab
11 Feb.	North Korea prompts international condemnation by test firing an intermediate-range ballistic missile across the Sea of Japan.	North Korea; missile proliferation
13 Feb.	North Korean leader Kim Jong Un's estranged half-brother is assassinated at Malaysia's Kuala Lumpur international airport, reportedly with a highly toxic nerve agent.	North Korea; Malaysia; assassination
14–16 Feb.	The 2017 intersessional implementation meeting of the Australia Group (AG) is held in Buenos Aires, Argentina, including a meeting of experts on new and evolving technologies.	AG
16 Feb.	A suicide bombing at one of Pakistan's most prominent Sufi shrines in Sehwan Sharif, Sindh province, kills at least 88 people and injures more than 200.	Pakistan; Islamist extremism
16 Feb.	Prior to the opening of the UN Conference to Negotiate a Legally Binding Instrument to Prohibit Nuclear Weapons, a one-day organizational meeting is held in New York, USA, attended by more than 100 states.	Nuclear weapon ban treaty
20 Feb.	The UN declares a famine in South Sudan as a result of the ongoing war and a collapsing economy.	UN; South Sudan
22 Feb.	Pakistan announces a new nationwide counterterrorism operation, Radd-ul-Fasaad (End to Chaos), with a particular focus on Punjab, its largest province.	Pakistan; counter- terrorism
23 Feb.– 3 Mar.	UN-sponsored peace talks on Syria take place in Geneva, Switzerland, ending without a breakthrough.	Syria; UN
25 Feb.	Azerbaijan reports six of its soldiers killed during an exchange of fire on the southern section of the line of contact around Nagorno-Karabakh.	Azerbaijan; Armenia; Nagorno- Karabakh
28 Feb.	China and Russia veto a UN Security Council resolution that would have imposed sanctions against Syria for the use of chemical weapons (CWs), based on the findings of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW)–UN Joint Investigative Mechanism (JIM).	UN; Syria; CWs; JIM
28 Feb.	An international pledging conference for the implementation of the Anti-personnel Mine (APM) Convention is held in Geneva, Switzerland.	APM Convention
1 Mar.	Macedonia's political crisis deepens after President Gjorge Ivanov refuses to hand opposition leader Zoran Zaev of the Social Democrat party a mandate to form a new government, despite his majority support in parliament.	Macedonia; political crisis
2–3 Mar.	The high-level fissile material cut-off treaty (FMCT) expert preparatory group meets for informal consultations at the UN in New York.	FMCT
3 Mar.	The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) condemns the use of CWs in the battle of Mosul, Iraq.	ICRC; Iraq; CWs

6 Mar.	The USA begins deploying the Terminal High Altitude Area Defence (THAAD) system in South Korea.	USA; South Korea; missile defence
8 Mar.	The Central African Convention for the Control of Small Arms and Light Weapons, Their Ammunition and All Parts and Components That Can Be Used for Their Manufacture, Repair and Assembly (Kinshasa Convention) enters into force.	Kinshasa Convention
10 Mar.	The UN warns that the world is facing the biggest humanitarian crisis since World War II, with up to 20 million people at risk of starvation and famine in Yemen, Somalia, South Sudan and Nigeria.	UN; Yemen; Somalia; South Sudan; Nigeria; humanitarian crisis
20 Mar.	The European Union (EU) imposes sanctions against four Syrian military officials for their role in the use of CWs.	EU; Syria; CWs; sanctions
21 Mar.	Ukraine imposes an economic blockade on territory held by Russian-backed separatists.	Ukraine
22 Mar.	Six people, including the attacker, are killed and 50 injured in a terrorist attack near the Houses of Parliament in the UK. The attacker drives into pedestrians on Westminster Bridge and stabs a police officer before being shot dead by police. IS claims responsibility.	UK; IS
24 Mar.	In the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), 39 police officers are reportedly killed in an ambush by Kamwina Nsapu militiamen in Kamuesha, Kasai province.	DRC
27 Mar.– 2 Apr.	The Conference of National Entente takes place in Mali, involving armed groups and opposition political parties.	Mali
27–31 Mar.	The opening session of the UN Conference to Negotiate a Legally Binding Instrument to Prohibit Nuclear Weapons takes place in New York. More than 130 states participate, along with representatives from international organizations and civil society groups.	Nuclear weapon ban treaty
29 Mar.	The British Government triggers Article 50 of the Lisbon Treaty, starting the process to leave the EU (Brexit).	UK; EU; Brexit
30 Mar.	Israel announces plans for its first new settlement in the West Bank in more than twenty years.	Israel; Palestine
30 Mar.	An alleged CW attack takes place in Ltamenah, in the Hama Governorate, Syria.	Syria; CWs
30 Mar.	US President Trump relaxes the US combat rules for Somalia, signing a directive that identifies parts of Somalia as an ‘area of active hostilities’, where war-zone targeting rules apply.	USA; Somalia
31 Mar.	Violent protests break out in Asunción, the capital of Paraguay. Protesters storm and set fire to the parliament building after senators vote to approve a bill amending the constitution to lift the one-term limit on the presidency.	Paraguay

<i>31 Mar.</i>	The UN Security Council recognizes the significance of the Lake Chad crisis and unanimously issues Resolution 2349 against terrorism and human rights violations in the region.	UN; Lake Chad Basin
<i>4–7 Apr.</i>	The USA, among others, holds President Bashar al-Assad's regime responsible for a CW attack on Khan Shaykhoun that kills at least 80. Three days later the USA launches a missile strike on the air base from which it believes the attack was launched.	Syria; USA; CWs
<i>9 Apr.</i>	Two separate suicide attacks by IS at Coptic churches in Egypt kill 48 people.	Egypt; IS
<i>9 Apr.</i>	During a by-election in Srinagar, Kashmir, Indian security forces open fire on protesters throwing stones and attacking polling stations, killing seven. Overall, eight people are killed and over 200 injured in election-day clashes.	India; Kashmir
<i>10 Apr.</i>	The UN Secretary-General, António Guterres, calls on Morocco and the Polisario movement to restart peace talks amid decades of territorial tensions over the sovereignty of Western Sahara.	UN; Morocco; Western Sahara
<i>12 Apr.</i>	The Atomic Energy Organization of Iran signs a contract with the China National Nuclear Corporation for the design concept of a new nuclear reactor.	Iran; China; nuclear cooperation
<i>13 Apr.</i>	The US military drops the largest non-nuclear bomb ever deployed in combat, targeting an IS base in Afghanistan. The GBU-43/B Massive Ordnance Air Blast bomb ('Mother of All Bombs') hit a tunnel complex in the Nangarhar province.	USA; Afghanistan: IS
<i>16 Apr.</i>	A referendum in Turkey adopts constitutional changes to establish a 'presidential system', although most of them are not due to take effect until after elections in 2019.	Turkey
<i>21 Apr.</i>	The Taliban infiltrate an army base in Mazar-e-Sharif city in the Balkh province of Afghanistan, killing at least 140 soldiers.	Taliban; Afghanistan
<i>21 Apr.</i>	Maoists ambush a police patrol in the Indian state of Chhattisgarh, killing at least 25, in what is reportedly the worst attack on security forces in the area since 2010.	India; terrorism
<i>24 Apr.</i>	The USA imposes sanctions on 271 Syrian officials and scientists in connection with the sarin attack on Khan Shaykhoun, Syria, on 4 Apr.	US; Syria; CWs; sanctions
<i>25 Apr.</i>	A suicide bombing by IS in Egypt's northern Sinai peninsula kills at least 40 people.	Egypt; IS
<i>27 Apr.</i>	Around 200 protesters storm Macedonia's parliament after an ethnic Albanian politician is voted in as Speaker. Clashes inside and outside the parliament injure over 70 people.	Macedonia
<i>28 Apr.</i>	Via Resolution 2351, the UN Security Council extends the UN Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara (MINURSO) and calls for new negotiations between Morocco and the Polisario movement.	UN; Morocco; Western Sahara

<i>2 May</i>	Fayez Serraj, the head of Libya's internationally recognized government, meets General Khalifa Haftar, his major military opponent, for the first time in over a year.	Libya
<i>2–12 May</i>	The Preparatory Committee for the 2020 Review Conference of the Parties to the 1968 Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) holds the first of three planned sessions in Vienna, Austria.	NPT PrepCom
<i>6 May</i>	A partial ceasefire is agreed in the west of Syria, and de-escalation zones are created in an agreement between Iran, Russia, Syria and Turkey.	Syria; Russia; Iran; Turkey
<i>7 May</i>	Out of the 276 schoolgirls abducted by Boko Haram in Nigeria in 2014, 82 are freed in a prisoner exchange with the group.	Nigeria; Boko Haram
<i>9 May</i>	The USA decides to arm some Kurdish militias in Syria, principally the People's Protection Units (YPG), raising tensions between the USA and Turkey.	Syria; USA; Turkey, Kurds
<i>9 May</i>	A bomb at a department store in Pattani, southern Thailand, injures around 80 civilians. The main insurgent group, Barisan Revolusi Nasional, claims responsibility.	Thailand; terrorism
<i>11 May</i>	At the London Conference, Somalia agrees a security pact with international donors, in which Somalia's army and police will be trained to take over duties performed by the African Union (AU).	Somalia; AU
<i>12 May</i>	Computers around the world are hit by a large-scale ransomware cyberattack, which goes on to affect at least 150 countries.	Cybersecurity
<i>18 May</i>	EU member states endorse a Coordinated Annual Review on Defence (CARD) as a pilot activity to run for two years from the autumn of 2017.	EU; military cooperation
<i>20 May</i>	Hassan Rouhani is re-elected as the President of Iran, winning 57 per cent of the 41 million votes cast, as voters overwhelmingly back his reformists efforts.	Iran
<i>22 May</i>	At least 23 people are killed and more than 500 wounded in a suicide bomb attack at a concert in Manchester, UK. The bomber largely acts alone, although IS claims responsibility.	UK; IS
<i>22 May</i>	President Salva Kiir (South Sudan) declares a unilateral ceasefire and launches a national dialogue process.	South Sudan
<i>23 May</i>	President Rodrigo Duterte declares martial law in the southern island of Mindanao in the Philippines, after about 100 IS fighters take over large parts of Marawi City. Over 170 000 residents are forced to flee.	Philippines; IS
<i>24 May</i>	A roadside bomb hits the convoy of the Governor of Mandera County, Kenya, killing five bodyguards. From 8–25 May, al-Shabab attacks on security forces and civilians in the north-east of the country kill 18 people.	Kenya; al-Shabab
<i>26 May</i>	IS launches its first major attack in Upper Egypt, which leaves at least 29 dead. The Egyptian Government responds by carrying out airstrikes in Libya and intensifying repression at home.	Egypt; IS; Libya

<i>31 May</i>	A truck bomb explodes close to the heavily guarded diplomatic area of Kabul, Afghanistan, killing at least 150 people.	Afghanistan
<i>31 May</i>	Over five months after holding elections, under increasing international pressure, Macedonian President Ivanov finally agrees to offer the mandate to form a government to opposition leader Zoran Zaev of the Social Democrat SDSM party.	Macedonia
<i>1 June</i>	US President Trump announces that he is withdrawing the USA from the Paris Agreement on climate change, although this cannot be finalized until near the end of his term due to the accord's legal structure and language.	USA; the Paris Agreement
<i>2 June</i>	The UN Security Council unanimously adopts Resolution 2356 condemning North Korea's recent nuclear weapon and ballistic missile developments and extending the scope of sanctions.	UN; North Korea; sanctions
<i>3 June</i>	In the UK, an Islamic terrorist attack on London Bridge kills 8 people and injures 48.	UK; IS
<i>5 June</i>	Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, the United Arab Emirates, Egypt and Yemen break off diplomatic ties and close transport links with Qatar.	Qatar; Gulf states
<i>5 June</i>	Montenegro becomes the twenty-ninth member of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO).	Montenegro; NATO
<i>6–7 June</i>	The 16th annual meeting on the Hague Code of Conduct (HCOC) takes place in Vienna, Austria, with delegations from 64 of the 138 subscribing states attending.	HCOC
<i>7 June</i>	The European Commission launches the European Defence Fund (EDF) for military research and capabilities development.	EU; EDF
<i>7 June</i>	Two terrorist attacks by IS in Tehran kill 17 civilians and wound 43, marking the first IS attack in Iran.	Iran; IS
<i>8 June</i>	An attack by al-Shabab on a military base in Puntland, Somalia, leaves at least 70 people dead in what Somali officials call the deadliest attack in the country for years.	Somalia; al-Shabab
<i>8 June</i>	The EU agrees to establish a Brussels-based Military Planning and Conduct Capability (MPCC) to plan and conduct training and capacity-building missions.	EU; military cooperation
<i>15 June</i>	The European Parliament adopts a third resolution condemning airstrikes in Yemen by the Saudi Arabian-led coalition, including its use of cluster munitions.	EU; Saudi Arabia; Yemen; cluster munitions
<i>15 June</i>	The UN Conference to Negotiate a Legally Binding Instrument to Prohibit Nuclear Weapons resumes in New York, USA, with the aim of adopting a treaty before the talks end on 7 July.	Nuclear weapon ban treaty
<i>18 June</i>	A US strike aircraft shoots down a Syrian Government combat aircraft south-west of Raqqah, Syria, and US forces carry out several airstrikes on advancing pro-government forces.	Syria; USA

<i>18 June</i>	Five female Boko Haram suicide bombers kill 12 people in Kofa village near Maiduguri, Nigeria. Part of a series of attacks over several days in the north-eastern state of Borno, which leaves at least 80 civilians dead.	Nigeria; Boko Haram
<i>18 June</i>	In response to the terrorist attacks in Tehran earlier in the month, Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps (IRGC) fires six surface-to-surface mid-range ballistic missiles from domestic bases targeting IS forces in Syria.	Iran; Syria; IS
<i>19 June</i>	As part of a merged peace process, a meeting with armed groups in Rome results in a 'political peace agreement' for the Central African Republic (CAR). However, the agreement is soon overtaken by a resumption of violence.	CAR
<i>21 June</i>	Prince Muhammed Bin Salman, the son of Saudi King Salman, is named heir to the throne as Crown Prince in a reshuffle that sidelines his older cousin, Prince Muhammed bin Nayef.	Saudi Arabia
<i>21 June</i>	The Great Mosque of al-Nuri in Mosul, Iraq, is destroyed by IS.	Iraq; IS
<i>25 June</i>	The World Health Organization (WHO) estimates that Yemen has over 200 000 cases of cholera.	WHO; Yemen
<i>26 June</i>	In Colombia, UN monitors report that FARC has completed the handover of their weapons to the UN mission a day ahead of the 27 June deadline, under the 2016 peace agreement.	Colombia; FARC; UN
<i>27 June</i>	A series of cyberattacks using the Petya malware begins, affecting organizations in Ukraine.	Ukraine; Cybersecurity
<i>29–30 June</i>	At the seventh round of High-Level Consultations on Maritime Affairs in Japan, among other things, China and Japan agree to launch an air and maritime contact mechanism as soon as possible.	China; Japan
<i>30 June</i>	The 20th anniversary of the entry into force of the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC).	CWC
<i>3 July</i>	A series of accelerated North Korean missile tests in recent months culminate with the launch of an inter-continental ballistic missile (ICBM).	North Korea; missile proliferation
<i>7 July</i>	The UN Conference to Negotiate a Legally Binding Instrument to Prohibit Nuclear Weapons completes a final draft of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW), which is adopted by a vote of 122 participating states in favour, 1 against (Netherlands) and 1 abstaining (Singapore).	Nuclear weapon ban treaty
<i>7 July</i>	The UN Secretary-General, António Guterres, announces the collapse of negotiations to reunify Cyprus after another round of talks between Greek and Turkish Cypriot leaders in Switzerland.	Cyprus
<i>7 July</i>	At least 23 soldiers are killed when IS suicide car bombs hit two military checkpoints in Egypt's northern Sinai peninsula.	Egypt; IS

22 July	Houthi forces in Yemen claim to have launched a ballistic missile into Saudi Arabia, the latest of many attempts to hit targets in Saudi territory with long-range ballistic missiles.	Yemen; Saudi Arabia; missile proliferation
27 July	Iran launches a satellite, prompting the US Congress to impose the first new US sanctions against Iran since the negotiation of the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA).	Iran; USA; sanctions
28 July	North Korea carries out its second ICBM test launch this month.	North Korea; missile proliferation
30 July	The Venezuelan Government under President Nicolás Maduro pushes through a vote to elect a constituent assembly with the power to dissolve state institutions, including the opposition-led parliament, and rewrite the constitution. Opposition protests intensify.	Venezuela
2 Aug.	The UN Security Council adopts Resolution 2370, which calls for more stringent national measures to address the threat of improvised explosive devices (IEDs), including preventing the supply of weapons and explosive precursors to terrorists.	UN; IEDs
2 Aug.	The US Congress approves the Countering America's Adversaries Through Sanctions Act, which imposes new or expanded sanctions against North Korea, Iran and Russia.	Iran; North Korea; Russia; USA; sanctions
5 Aug.	The UN Security Council unanimously approves new sanctions on North Korean trade and investment, as part of Resolution 2371.	UN; North Korea; sanctions
7 Aug.	The UN Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator, Stephen O'Brien, tells the UN Security Council that the situation in CAR displays warning signs of genocide and calls for additional troops for the peacekeeping mission.	CAR
8 Aug.	Violence mars Kenya's general elections, with 37 deaths reported and a contested outcome in the presidential election.	Kenya
13–17 Aug.	Two suspected Islamist militants kill 19 people in Ouagadougou, the capital of Burkina Faso. Four days later, a military vehicle hits an IED in Inata in the north, killing 3 soldiers.	Burkina Faso
15 Aug.	Three Boko Haram female suicide bombers kill 27 people in north-eastern Nigeria.	Nigeria; Boko Haram
17 Aug.	Sixteen people are killed and over 130 wounded in two IS attacks in Barcelona, Spain.	Spain; IS
22 Aug.	US President Trump announces a new strategy for Afghanistan, with a shift from a time-based approach to a conditions-based approach and an increase of about 4000 deployed troops.	USA; Afghanistan
24 Aug.	In Yemen, former president Ali Abdullah Saleh stages a large rally in the capital Sana'a, leading to increases in Saudi Arabian-led coalition airstrikes.	Yemen

25 Aug.	Militants launch coordinated attacks on 30 police posts and an army base in Myanmar's northern Rakhine state. In response, the military conduct 'clearance operations' that set in motion an exodus of up to 38 000 Rohingyas towards Bangladesh.	Myanmar; Rohingya
25–30 Aug.	Hurricane Harvey strikes the USA and causes widespread damage to the Houston area, mostly due to record-breaking floods. At least 90 deaths are recorded and total damage reaches \$198.6 billion, making Harvey the costliest natural disaster in US history.	USA; extreme weather
28 Aug.	Following diplomatic initiatives from both sides, a border confrontation between India and China ends after a 73-day standoff.	India; China
29 Aug.	North Korea launches an intermediate-range ballistic missile over northern Japan, triggering warning sirens in the area and prompting international condemnation.	North Korea; Japan
30 Aug.	A conciliatory move by President Paul Biya to release some jailed Anglophone leaders fails to stem unrest in Cameroon.	Cameroon
1 Sep.	Over 580 000 Rohingya civilians are estimated to have fled across the border into Bangladesh, prompting one of the fastest-growing refugee crises since World War II.	Myanmar; Bangladesh; Rohingya
1 Sep.	Kenya's Supreme Court annuls August's presidential election result, which gave victory to President Uhuru Kenyatta, and orders a rerun.	Kenya
1 Sep.	Russian President Vladimir Putin expels 755 US diplomats in response to US sanctions.	Russia; USA
3 Sep.	North Korea conducts its sixth and largest nuclear test, inflaming regional and international tensions.	North Korea; nuclear proliferation
4 Sep.	The Colombian Government and the National Liberation Army (ELN), the country's second main guerrilla group, announce a temporary ceasefire.	Colombia; ELN
4–6 Sep.	The Seventh Meeting of States Parties to the Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM) takes place in Geneva, Switzerland.	CCM
5 Sep.	The UN Security Council unanimously adopts Resolution 2374 (2017), which establishes a sanctions regime against Mali, including a travel ban and assets freeze on individuals and entities impeding the implementation of the peace agreement.	UN; Mali
5 Sep.	Salvadorian rights groups present a report to the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, chronicling alleged extrajudicial killings carried out by police elements within the Salvadorian National Police.	El Salvador
6–10 Sep.	The Caribbean and USA are struck by Hurricane Irma, the strongest hurricane ever recorded in the Atlantic basin outside the Caribbean and Gulf of Mexico. The storm causes at least 134 deaths and at least \$63 billion in damage.	Caribbean; USA; extreme weather

<i>11 Sep.</i>	The UN Security Council unanimously approves Resolution 2375 in response to North Korea's sixth nuclear test explosion. The resolution contains several measures that strengthen sanctions on the North Korean economy.	UN; North Korea; sanctions
<i>11–15 Sep.</i>	The third conference of states parties (CSP3) to the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT) is held in Geneva, Switzerland.	ATT
<i>19 Sep.</i>	US President Trump tells the UN General Assembly that he would 'totally destroy' North Korea if it threatened the USA or its allies.	North Korea; USA; nuclear weapons
<i>19–20 Sep.</i>	Just two weeks after Hurricane Irma struck the Caribbean, Hurricane Maria strikes similar areas, causing at least 94 deaths and damage estimated in excess of \$103 billion.	Caribbean; extreme weather
<i>19–25 Sep.</i>	Heads of state, foreign ministers and other high-level officials gather in New York, USA, for the UN General Assembly high-level debate to discuss urgent and emerging issues related to international peace and security.	UN
<i>20 Sep.</i>	Article XIV Conference on the Entry into Force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT) takes place in New York, USA.	CTBT
<i>20 Sep.</i>	The TPNW opens for signature.	Nuclear weapon ban treaty
<i>20 Sep.</i>	The two main Tuareg coalitions of armed groups in Mali, the Platform (supporting national unity) and the separatist Coordination of Azawad Movements (CMA), reach an agreement that includes a ceasefire, release of prisoners and other confidence-building measures.	Mali
<i>20 Sep.</i>	The UN Security Council, the AU, the EU and the League of Arab States all endorse the UN Action Plan for Libya launched by the UN Support Mission in Libya (UNSMIL).	Libya; UN; EU; League of Arab States
<i>23 Sep.</i>	Forty murders in one day mark El Salvador's highest death toll in a single day this year. Nearly 200 people are reported killed that week in violence that police blame on fighting between criminal gangs.	El Salvador
<i>25–29 Sep.</i>	Iraqi Kurdistan holds a referendum on independence from Iraq in which over 92 per cent vote in favour, exacerbating tensions with the central government in Baghdad and within the region. Four days later the Iraqi Government bans international flights to and from Iraqi Kurdistan.	Iraq; Kurds
<i>26 Sep.</i>	The ban on women driving in Saudi Arabia is formally lifted (but the change does not come into effect until June 2018).	Saudi Arabia
<i>27 Sep.</i>	Russia completes the destruction of its CW stockpile.	Russia; CWs
<i>27–28 Sep.</i>	The high-level meeting to review the UN Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons takes place in New York, USA. It assesses achievements, gaps and challenges, including in the implementation of relevant legal instruments.	UN; human trafficking

<i>1 Oct.</i>	Over 800 people are injured as police try to block voting in an independence referendum organized by the regional government of Catalonia in north-east Spain, which the Spanish Government has declared illegal. The Catalan Government reports that 43 per cent of the electorate voted, 90 per cent of them favouring independence.	Spain; Catalonia
<i>1 Oct.</i>	The USA experiences the deadliest mass shooting in its modern history, with at least 58 people killed and over 500 wounded by a single gunman in Las Vegas.	USA; gun violence
<i>1 Oct.</i>	The confrontation between the Government of Cameroon and the Anglophone minority in the South West and North West regions continues to intensify as the Anglophone secessionists make a symbolic declaration of independence.	Cameroon
<i>4 Oct.</i>	In Niger, about 50 fighters from an IS-affiliated group ambush a Nigerien patrol and kill 4 US soldiers from a US Special Operations Task Force team that was accompanying the patrol.	Niger; USA; IS
<i>5–11 Oct.</i>	Reconciliation talks between the CMA and the Platform take place in Anéfis, Mali, and conclude with agreement on a road map for implementing the commitments reached during the talks.	Mali
<i>6 Oct.</i>	The International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN) wins the Nobel Peace Prize.	Nobel peace prize; nuclear disarmament
<i>12 Oct.</i>	The USA announces its withdrawal from the UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and is immediately followed by Israel.	USA; Israel; UNESCO
<i>13 Oct.</i>	US President Trump refuses to recertify the Iran nuclear agreement (JCPOA).	Iran; USA; JCPOA
<i>14 Oct.</i>	Two lorry bombs kill over 350 people, mostly civilians, in Mogadishu, Somalia, in the country's deadliest terrorist attack ever. The attack is suspected to have been carried out by al-Shabab.	Somalia; al-Shabab
<i>16 Oct.</i>	The Council of the EU adopts new autonomous EU sanctions to complement and reinforce those in UN Security Council Resolution 2375.	EU; North Korea; sanctions
<i>16–20 Oct.</i>	The Missile Technology Control Regime (MTCR) holds its 31st Plenary in Dublin, Ireland.	MTCR
<i>17 Oct.</i>	The head of UN peacekeeping operations in South Sudan warns the UN Security Council that the country is sliding into chaos and escalating violence.	South Sudan
<i>17 Oct.</i>	Over 70 people are killed in Afghanistan, mostly police, in Taliban attacks in the Paktia and Ghazni provinces.	Afghanistan; Taliban
<i>17 Oct.</i>	Raqqah, the de-facto IS capital, is declared fully liberated by the Syrian armed forces.	Syria; IS
<i>19 Oct.</i>	A Taliban attack on a military base in the province of Kandahar in southern Afghanistan kills over 40 soldiers.	Afghanistan; Taliban
<i>20 Oct.</i>	At least 56 people are killed in an attack by IS on a mosque in Kabul, the capital of Afghanistan.	Afghanistan; IS

- 25 Oct. At the 19th National Congress of the Communist Party of China, Xi Jinping assumes his second term as General Secretary, and the political theory 'Xi Jinping Thought' is written into the party's constitution. China
- 26 Oct. A new global Women, Peace and Security Index is launched in New York, USA, at a side-event to the 2017 UN Security Council Open Debate on Women, Peace and Security. The index measures progress on women's inclusion, access to justice and security. Women, peace and security
- 26 Oct. A repeat presidential election is held in Kenya and is marked by further violence. President Kenyatta is declared the winner. Kenya
- 27 Oct. After Catalonia's parliament votes to declare independence, the Spanish Government dismisses the Catalan Government and calls new regional elections. Spain's Attorney General files charges against Catalan leaders for rebellion, sedition and misuse of public funds. Spain; Catalonia
- 29 Oct. The Iraqi Kurdistan president, Masoud Barzani, resigns after the Iraq Government forcibly takes back the disputed city of Kirkuk and its oil fields, as well as other parts of the disputed territories following the Kurdish region's earlier independence referendum. Iraq; Kurds
- 31 Oct. An individual claiming to act on behalf of IS drives a truck into people in New York, USA, killing 8 and injuring 11. It is the deadliest terrorist attack in the city since 11 September 2001. USA; IS
- 3 Nov. Both Deir Ez-Zor in Syria and Al-Qa'im in Iraq are declared liberated from IS. Syria; Iraq; IS
- 4 Nov. In response to the Houthis' foiled missile attack on Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, the Saudi Arabian-led coalition steps up its bombing campaign in Yemen. Yemen; Saudi Arabia
- 5 Nov. Saudi Arabia detains 11 princes, 4 ministers and dozens of former ministers as part of an alleged anti-corruption campaign. Saudi Arabia
- 5 Nov. Some of the details of the Paradise Papers, a set of 13.4 million confidential electronic documents relating to offshore investments that were leaked to a German newspaper, are made public. Paradise Papers
- 6–17 Nov. The 23rd annual Conference of the Parties (COP) under the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) takes place in Bonn, Germany. Agreement is reached on the foundations of a 'rule book' to chart progress in scaling back carbon emissions. Climate change; Paris Agreement
- 13 Nov. The Council of the EU imposes sanctions against Venezuela, including an embargo on the supply of arms and on material that might be used for internal repression. EU; Venezuela; sanctions
- 13 Nov. Airstrikes on a market in Atareb, northern Syria, kill at least 53 people. They are thought to have been carried out by either the Syrian Government or Russia. Syria; Russia

13–14 Nov.	At the 31st Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Summit in Manila, Philippines, ASEAN and China formally announce the start of negotiations on the particulars of a code of conduct (COC) in the South China Sea.	ASEAN; China
13–17 Nov.	The Group of Governmental Experts on Lethal Autonomous Weapons Systems (LAWS) meets in Geneva, Switzerland, to discuss the technological, military and ethical/legal dimensions of emerging technologies in the area of LAWS.	LAWS
15 Nov.	Zimbabwean President Robert Mugabe is placed under house arrest as the military take control of the country.	Zimbabwe
16 Nov.	The mandate of the OPCW–UN Joint Investigative Mechanism (JIM) in Syria expires.	Syria; CWs; JIM
16 Nov.	Ahead of general elections scheduled for 2018, Cambodia’s Supreme Court dissolves the Cambodia National Rescue Party, which is the main opposition to the Cambodian People’s Party of the Prime Minister, Hun Sen, and bans more than a hundred of its members from politics for five years.	Cambodia
20 Nov.	The Eleventh Conference of the High Contracting Parties to Protocol V (on explosive remnants of war) to the Certain Conventional Weapons Convention (CCW) takes place in Geneva, Switzerland.	Protocol V; CCW
21 Nov.	The 19th Annual Conference of the High Contracting Parties to Amended Protocol II (on landmines and IEDs) to the CCW takes place in Geneva, Switzerland.	Protocol II; CCW
21 Nov.	A US airstrike in Somalia is reported to have killed over 100 al-Shabab militants.	Somalia; USA; al-Shabab
21 Nov.	Zimbabwean President Mugabe resigns following a 37-year rule, after being abandoned by the military and his own party.	Zimbabwe
22 Nov.	Ratko Mladic, former Bosnian Serbian commander, is sentenced to life imprisonment by the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY), after being found guilty of genocide and war crimes in the Balkans conflicts over two decades ago.	Bosnia and Herzegovina; ICTY
22–24 Nov.	The Meeting of the High Contracting Parties to the CCW takes place in Geneva, Switzerland. The discussions focus on incendiary weapons, EWIPA and ‘mines other than anti-personnel mines’ (MOTAPM).	CCW
23 Nov.	Myanmar and Bangladesh sign a repatriation agreement, but the conditions necessary for the voluntary and safe repatriation of Rohingya refugees do not yet exist.	Myanmar; Bangladesh; Rohingya
24 Nov.	Islamic militants attack a mosque in Egypt’s Sinai peninsula killing at least 305 people and wounding at least 128 in the deadliest terrorist attack in Egypt’s modern history. No group claims responsibility, but IS is the main suspect.	Egypt; terrorism

26 Nov.	The general elections in Honduras trigger a crisis as the final vote count is postponed and the opposition alliance candidate, Salvador Nasralla, alleges fraud. Protests break out in several parts of the country when it becomes apparent that incumbent President Juan Orlando Hernández will win by a small margin.	Honduras
27 Nov.	The Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) reports substantial progress in talks held in Vienna, Austria, between leaders from Moldova and its breakaway region Transnistria.	Moldova; Transnistria
27–28 Nov.	A regional conference on the protection of civilians from the use of explosive weapons in populated areas (EWIPA) meets in Maputo, Mozambique.	EWIPA
27 Nov.– 1 Dec.	The 22nd Conference of the States Parties to the CWC meets in The Hague, Netherlands, to agree a 2018 programme and budget.	CWC
28–29 Nov.	North Korea test launches a new type of long-range ballistic missile. North Korean leader Kim Jong Un says that his country has completed its state nuclear force and achieved its goal of becoming a nuclear power.	North Korea; nuclear and missile proliferation
30 Nov.	The Government of Niger gives the USA permission to base and use armed unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs, drones) from Niamey, the country's capital.	Niger; USA; UAVs
30 Nov.	Armed clashes break out in Sana'a, Yemen, between formerly allied Houthi and Saleh forces.	Yemen
2 Dec.	Former Yemeni president Saleh reaches out to the Saudi Arabian-led coalition battling the Houthis and offers peace talks if it lifts a blockade on Yemen.	Yemen; Saudi Arabia
4 Dec.	Former Yemeni president Saleh is killed by the Houthis, previously his alliance partners, initiating a new phase in the conflict that includes intensified airstrikes by the Saudi Arabian-led coalition.	Yemen; Saudi Arabia
4–8 Dec.	The annual Meeting of States Parties to the BTWC agrees a further intersessional process of annual meetings for the period 2018–20.	BTWC
5 Dec.	The United Arab Emirates (UAE) announces the formation of a new political and military alliance with Saudi Arabia, throwing into doubt the future of the 36-year old Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC).	UAE; Saudi Arabia; GCC
6 Dec.	US President Trump's declaration that the USA recognises Jerusalem as Israel's capital is condemned by the international community and Palestinians.	USA; Israel; Palestine
6–7 Dec.	The plenary of the Wassenaar Arrangement (WA) is held in Vienna, Austria. India is admitted as the 42nd participating state.	WA; India
7 Dec.	President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan makes the first visit to Greece by a Turkish head of state in 65 years.	Turkey; Greece
7 Dec.	The foreign ministers of the OSCE Minsk group co-chair countries issue a joint statement supporting resumed and intensified diplomacy in regard to Nagorno-Karabakh.	OSCE Minsk group; Nagorno- Karabakh

<i>8 Dec.</i>	The EU and the UK reach a deal on the terms of Brexit, after months of negotiations, and talks are opened on their future relationship.	UK; EU; Brexit
<i>8 Dec.</i>	On the 30th anniversary of the signing of the 1987 Treaty on the Elimination of Intermediate-Range and Shorter-Range Missiles (INF Treaty), the US State Department announces a new US strategy for resolving the INF Treaty dispute with Russia.	USA; INF Treaty
<i>9 Dec.</i>	Iraq declares victory in its war against IS. After lengthy assaults, an array of forces drove IS from its main stronghold in Iraq, the city of Mosul.	Iraq; IS
<i>11 Dec.</i>	EU member states formally activate the permanent structured cooperation (PESCO) on defence envisaged in the Lisbon Treaty.	EU; PESCO; military cooperation
<i>11 Dec.</i>	Russian President Putin visits Syria and announces a drawdown of Russian forces in the country, having declared victory over IS.	Syria; Russia; IS
<i>12–14 Dec.</i>	Delegations from the five parties to the INF Treaty (Belarus, Kazakhstan, Russia, Ukraine and the USA) hold a meeting of the treaty's dispute-resolution mechanism, the Special Verification Commission, in Geneva, Switzerland.	INF Treaty
<i>13 Dec.</i>	Martial law is extended for another year on Mindanao, Philippines.	Philippines
<i>13 Dec.</i>	Twelve members of a Congolese militia group are convicted of raping young girls in a landmark case in the fight against impunity for sexual violence crimes.	DRC; sexual violence
<i>14 Dec.</i>	Eighteen police officers are killed in an attack by al-Shabab on the Somalian police academy.	Somalia; al-Shabab
<i>15 Dec.</i>	The Mexican Congress passes a law strengthening the military's role in combating organized crime, authorizing the deployment of soldiers to areas controlled by drug gangs.	Mexico
<i>17 Dec.</i>	On the second anniversary of the 2015 Libyan Political Agreement, Field Marshal Khalifa Haftar announces that he considers the agreement to have expired and that related institutions are no longer valid.	Libya
<i>18 Dec.</i>	The USA uses its first UN Security Council veto in six years to block a resolution that would have indirectly criticized the Trump administration's decision to recognize Jerusalem as the capital of Israel.	USA; Israel; Palestine; UN
<i>18–21 Dec.</i>	The 16th Meeting of States Parties to the APM Convention takes place in Vienna.	APM Convention
<i>19 Dec.</i>	The Houthis in Yemen fire another missile at Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, which Saudi forces reportedly intercept over the city.	Yemen; Saudi Arabia
<i>20 Dec.</i>	The US special envoy to Ukraine, Kurt Volker, says 2017 is the most violent year so far in the conflict in Ukraine.	Ukraine
<i>20 Dec.</i>	The USA confirms that multiple ground operations involving US troops are taking place in Yemen.	USA; Yemen

<i>21 Dec.</i>	The South Sudanese Government and armed opposition groups sign a cessation of hostilities agreement.	South Sudan
<i>21–22 Dec.</i>	The eighth round of Russian, Iranian and Turkish-backed Syrian peace talks take place in Astana, Kazakhstan, and end with agreement to hold a peace congress for Syria in Sochi, Russia, in Jan. 2018.	Syria; Astana peace talks
<i>22 Dec.</i>	The UN Security Council unanimously approves Resolution 2397, which further tightens sanctions against North Korea, including measures to cut the country's petroleum imports by up to 90 per cent.	UN; North Korea; sanctions
<i>24 Dec.</i>	Guatemala follows the USA's lead by announcing that it will also move its Israeli embassy to Jerusalem; Honduras and Panama do the same two days later.	Israel; Palestine
<i>28 Dec.</i>	Anti-government protests start in the Iranian city of Mashhad and quickly spread to other towns and cities, where they also take on a political dimension.	Iran
<i>29 Dec.</i>	In a joint statement on the milestone of 1000 days of war in Yemen, the heads of three UN agencies reiterate calls for parties to the conflict to immediately allow full humanitarian access and stop the fighting.	Yemen; humanitarian crisis
<i>29 Dec.</i>	An attack on Coptic Christians outside Cairo, Egypt, kills at least nine people.	Egypt; IS
<i>30 Dec.</i>	Crowds attack state buildings in Tehran, the capital of Iran.	Iran