



PROTECTION OF CIVILIANS – POC

**From
1999 to 2019**

In the Democratic Republic of the Congo, MONUSCO's mandate is to:

- Protect civilians
- Build sustainable institutions of governance
- Promote State authority

**Protection
of Civilians**

- Gov DRC has the primary responsibility to protect civilians
- MONUSCO has an important support role to play, covering critical gaps remaining in the national security framework



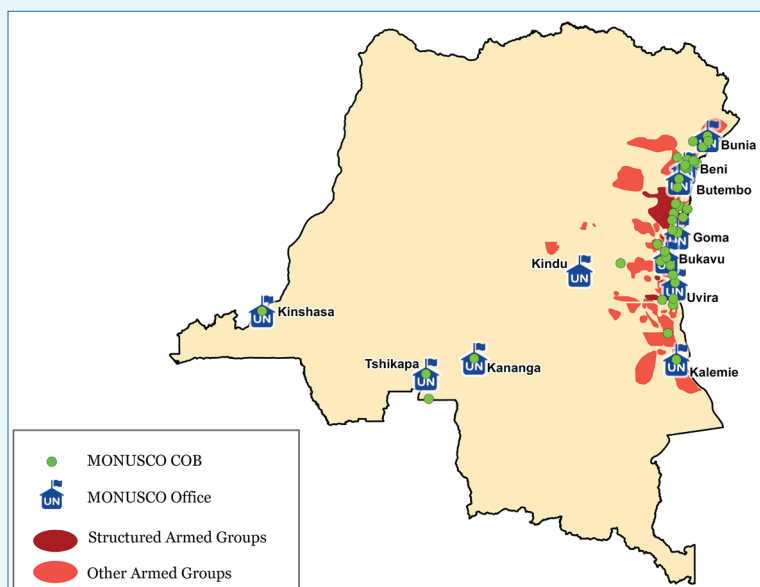
Supporting the military justice for the prosecution of grave human rights violations by armed groups and security forces.

Providing physical protection through early warning and response as well as neutralizing armed groups.

Managing small arms and weapons for national security forces, who are often a source of weapons for armed groups

Strengthening prison security to minimize prison breaks.

A new approach - In 2018, MONUSCO opted for the repositioning of its assets from a mainly static posture to a more dynamic one. This process builds on the Force transformation initiated with the deployment of five Rapidly Deployable Battalions (RDBs) over the country, out of which are extracted Standing Combat Deployments (SCDs). This goes along with an expanded and strengthened early warning system allowing rapid deployments (agility, dynamism and coverage of the entire country through specific protection actions).





- Early warning system: allows the Mission to have a better situational awareness on the ground and be aware of the need to respond as well as the kind of intervention required to be projected. Situational awareness is also being enhanced through improved analysis and information gathering systems that can also identify hot spots or feed into the development of appropriate interventions.
- Early warning system: a vital tool to address conflicts.



In 2019, in response to regular attacks on the civilian population in the East, the Congolese armed forces (FARDC) launched two offensive operations called SUKOLA 1 and SUKOLA 2 in order to disrupt the 100+ armed groups activities in the region. These two operations were supported by the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUSCO) with rations, fuel, MED/CASEVAC, intelligence, transportation of troops).



156 Community Liaison Assistants (CLAs)

Community Liaison Assistants deployed in 70+ locations in eastern Congo. CLAs facilitate communication between the Force and the local communities and authorities. They are particularly effective in building confidence with local actors, including humanitarians. In 2019, further efforts were undertaken to reinforce effective collaboration / cohabitation between civilians and the military. CLAs also ensure the smooth transition and continuation of operations during the rotation of troops.

SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 2502 (2019)

- The Security Council Resolution 2502 on the DRC (adopted on 19 December 2019) calls on MONUSCO Force "to provide effective, dynamic and integrated protection for civilians at risk of physical violence as part of a comprehensive approach, including deterring and preventing all armed groups and local militias from committing violence against the population or by intervening to stop it, in consultation with local communities."



"In 2019, eleven Quick Impact Projects (QIPs) targeting solar panels installation were implemented mainly in North and South Kivu in order to better secure populations, especially at night, through electricity"

Like other peacekeeping missions, MONUSCO deals with the protection of civilians through three different lines of action:

1. Dialogue and commitment
2. Physical protection
3. Protective environment

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