

justice + conflict

UPDATES FROM SUDAN

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Hello,

Welcome to this roundup of news on justice and conflict in Sudan. Back to the typical format; hyperlinks are underlined.

Friday 3 Dec 2021

BIG STORIES FIRST

- Mass protests continue in Sudan, including on Tuesday 30 November. The Central Committee of Sudanese Doctors (CCSD) reported that [98 people](#) were injured on Tuesday, primarily from teargas canisters and stun grenades. Protestors said on social media that the teargas [used](#) was “more like nerve gas than tear” in terms of potency and appearance. 44 people were also reportedly [arrested](#) during the protests. On the same day, a [43rd person](#) died as a result of injuries sustained during protests, after being beaten on the head on 25 November. The next big protests are scheduled for 6 December (to be followed by demonstrations on December 13, 19, 25, and 30, marking the third anniversary of the 2018 revolution).
- Security forces continue to raid hospitals, putting patients and health workers at grave risk. On 30 November, videos circulating on social media show security forces [arresting](#) a wounded protestor receiving treatment on a [stretcher](#), taking him to an unknown location. The CCSD also [reported](#) that there was a heavy security presence on al-Hawadith Street, where many hospitals and clinics are located. On Wednesday, Hamdok ordered an [investigation](#) into the hospital raid.
- Most high-level political detainees have been released, including politicians [Wagdi Salah](#) and [Ibrahim al-Sheikh](#), both of whom joined the protests on 30 October. [Mohamed al-Faki](#), the former head of the Empowerment Removal Committee, has also been released. Salih, al-Sheikh, and activist Ismail al-Tag reportedly [face charges](#) of inciting the armed forces; relatedly, some sources indicate that an arrest warrant has been [issued](#) against the former minister of

justice for “defamation.” Many other activists and human rights defenders remain detained across Sudan.

GOVERNMENT SACKINGS, REFUGEES, DISSENT

Shakeup in leadership of police, intelligence services

Prime Minister Hamdok [announced](#) the dismissal of Khalid Mahdi Ibrahim from his position as Director General of the Police Forces, and al-Sadiq Ali Ibrahim from his position as Deputy Director General of the Police Forces. (Oddly, in the same week, despite his alleged involvement in human rights violations, Khalid Mahdi Ibrahim was [elected](#) to a “Delegate for Africa” position on INTERPOL’s Executive Committee.) Hamdok also removed Zain al-Abidin Othman as head of the Khartoum Police. Similarly, al-Burhan [dismissed](#) at least eight General Intelligence Service officers, including GIS head Jamal Abdul Majeed, and Yasir Mohamed Osman, head of Military Intelligence. Among those appointed to fill these roles is Ahmed Ibrahim Mufaddal, who will serve as the new GIS director; as critics have noted, Mufaddal was appointed governor of South Kordofan under former president al-Bashir, and served as head of the National Congress Party in the state.

Prime Minister Hamdok replaces caretaker ministers

On Wednesday, Prime Minister Hamdok issued a [decree](#) replacing most of the caretaker deputy ministers appointed by the military after the coup. It is not clear how permanent these new appointments are; the decree did not include the finance, federal rule, and information ministries. On Thursday, the Sovereign Council also [appointed](#) Khalifa Ahmed as the new acting Public Prosecutor.

Hemedti demands support from Europe, US to avert refugee crisis

Hemedti told reporters that Europe and the US may face a [surge of refugees](#) if they don’t support Sudan’s post-coup government, saying that “because of our commitment to the international community and the law, we are keeping these people together,” but “if Sudan will open the border, a big problem will happen worldwide.” Hemedti’s Rapid Support Forces play a role in [enforcing migration controls](#) at Sudan’s borders – and human trafficking.

Forces for Freedom and Change criticise 21 Nov political agreement

In a public press conference, FFC coalition representatives [rejected](#) the political agreement between Prime Minister Abdalla Hamdok and coup leader al-Burhan. For example, the leader of the Sudanese Congress Party, Omer al-Diguair, was quoted as saying that the agreement was “not acceptable politically, and not even morally.” On the other hand, Hamdok told the [Financial Times](#) that the “agreement, [...] in the circumstances, is a workable agreement; it is something that avoided us going down a very slippery slope.” Hamdok went on to say that “these situations, if they are not

managed well, could easily slip into chaos, civil wars,” and that he signed the agreement to “stop the bloodshed” and to “preserve the achievements of the last few years, and key among them are the achievements on the economy.”

JUSTICE ILL-TREATMENT, EMPOWERMENT REMOVAL

Judges dismissed by Empowerment Removal Committee are reinstated

Newly-sworn-in Chief Justice Abdulaziz Fath al-Rahman Abdeen appears to have issued a [directive](#) ordering the reinstatement of all judges dismissed from their positions by the Empowerment Removal Committee. The directive also provides back pay for all affected individuals, to cover their salaries for the relevant period.

Detained minister details treatment while imprisoned

In a televised [interview](#), former Cabinet Affairs minister Khalid Omer Yousif told Al Jazeera that he was physically beaten at the time of his arrest, and placed in solitary confinement. Yousif also said that he was not interrogated any point during his detention, and that the military “wanted a coup within a constitutional framework to avoid external and internal pressures.”

HUMANITARIAN SITUATION CONFLICT, ETHIOPIA

Sudanese soldiers killed in clashes with Ethiopian forces

Sudanese forces were reportedly killed by Ethiopian forces after falling into an ambush in the disputed al-Fashaga region. Various sources reported that between [six](#) and [20](#) troops were killed, and that the “situation is very tense” along the border.

Four killed by RSF in Darfur IDP camp

The RSF reportedly dispersed a protest in South Darfur with [lethal force](#) on Thursday 2 December, killing four protestors with live fire, including one young man under the age of 18.

**weekend
read**

A new [report on violence](#) in Darfur and justice efforts; Sudanese Archive reporting on the [30 October protests](#); and a video [archive](#) of a Congressional hearing on the situation in Sudan.

Thanks for reading.

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