



**Current and Emerging Uniformed Capability Requirements  
for United Nations Peacekeeping**

In an increasingly complex security environment, the world is facing some of the most challenging times for peace in decades. UN peacekeeping is confronting simultaneous pressures: escalating operational demands, a rise in asymmetric and regionalized conflicts, and severe financial constraints that have forced reductions in missions and stretched resources. In this context, the sustained readiness and proactive support of Member States are vital to ensure that existing peacekeeping operations remain effective and that the United Nations is prepared to respond rapidly should new missions be required. The need for timely, well-equipped, and high-readiness pledges—across military, police, and enabling capabilities—is acute, underscoring peacekeeping’s role as a lifeline for many and a cornerstone of collective security in an increasingly volatile world.



*Protection of Civilians conducted by MONUSCO military forces in support of IDPs in Ituri*

In response to the request of Member States, guidance on the generation of multinational units, rotational mechanisms and support from Regional Organizations has been developed and was issued on 26 January. This will provide standardized processes for engagement with the Secretariat for force generation purposes that meet the legal and operational rules and regulations of the United Nations. This document can be found on the Peacekeeping Capability Readiness System (PCRS) Website ([Guidelines on Generation of Multinational Military Units and Rotational Mechanisms](#)) and in the Resources Hub ([Guidelines on the Generation of Multinational Military Units and Rotational Mechanisms](#)).

The following pages outline the current and emerging uniformed capability needs for UN Peacekeeping, including with regards to training and capacity-building, mission specific unit

gaps, general uniformed capabilities that are in demand, as well as some key information on counter-UAS requirements for military and police units. **Annex A** (page 9) is an updated list of current uniformed pledges made in the PCRS and **Annex B** (page 10) displays the PCRS pledges at Levels 2 and above for each capability category against the estimated number of units required for a new medium size mission. These lists support identification of military and police capabilities that are low in supply and should be prioritized in Member State planning for future pledges to the PCRS. If questions remain, please reach out to the PCRS managers at [pcrs.manager@un.org](mailto:pcrs.manager@un.org).

## I. TRAINING AND CAPACITY BUILDING

The UN seeks active collaboration from Member States to fortify capacity building and pre-deployment training efforts. We aim to receive offers from Member States in several areas:

1. **Hosting and Funding Training Activities:** Member States are encouraged to fund and host training activities, which may include the provision of venues, accommodation, meals for international participants, inland transportation, and conference services.

2. **Nomination of Subject Matter Experts (SMEs):** For 2026, SMEs from Member States are needed to support the development of new training materials on integration and joint tactical planning for military and police. SMEs will also be needed to assist in the creation of Counter UAS (C-UAS) training materials, FPU Pre-Deployment Training (Including Firearms, Police Tactics & Techniques, Public Order Management, C-IED and Ammunition Management), and Environmental Management for T/PCC focal points, pending the approval of appropriate policy and guidance, where necessary.



*Core Pre-deployment Training Materials (CPTM) TOT Course held for the Africa region*

3. **Selection and Provision of National Trainers for UN-led Training of Trainers (TOT):** Member States are encouraged to fund and nominate qualified national trainers for participation in TOT programs run regionally/globally. These trainers will later disseminate the materials nationally. Priorities for 2026 include TOTs on the newly revised Core Pre-deployment Training Material (CPTM), addressing misinformation, disinformation, and hate speech (MDH) threats for military and police commanders; UN Infantry Battalions (STM currently in development); UN Staff Officers (new STM); UN Military Observers (new STM) and

various training programs for UN Police, including a TOT Certification Course, UN FPU Command Staff Course and a UN FPU Pre-Deployment Training pilot. Additionally, subject to funding and in coordination with the Conduct and Discipline Service, ITS plans to conduct a TOT to roll out new training materials on conduct and discipline for military and police commanders.

4. **Supporting the UN Senior National Planners Programme:** Member States are encouraged to carefully select and nominate the most suitable candidates for this programme. The target audience includes decision-makers and planning officers responsible for the deployment of contingents. Participants will be introduced to the UN's administrative and technical procedures and the complexities of negotiating, planning, preparing, deploying, supporting, sustaining, and withdrawing national contingents in UN Peace Operations.

5. **Translation of Training Materials:** Member States are requested to assist in translating training materials, particularly those related to new developments, into at least the six UN official languages.

6. **Supporting AI and e-Learning Initiatives for Pre-Deployment Training:** ITS is developing AI models to enhance Scenario-Based Exercises and Table-Top Exercises (SBE and TTX) as part of the Pre-Deployment Training for T/PCCs. ITS is also considering issuing parts of suitable training materials as e-learning. Member States are encouraged to provide funding or in-kind contributions to support these developments.

7. **Addressing Capability Gaps:** The Light Coordination Mechanism (LCM), managed by Integrated Training Service (ITS), engages troop-and police-contributing countries (T/PCCs) and training and capacity-building

providers to communicate training gaps, match opportunities to identified needs, and facilitate capacity-building partnerships to improve the performance, safety and security of uniformed UN peacekeepers. Member States and relevant stakeholders are encouraged to use the LCM Online System (LCMOS), including the Global Peacekeeping Training Schedule and the new Marketplace feature launched in March 2025. Through this platform, they can post and/or search for training and capacity-building opportunities and strengthen collective information-sharing and direct collaboration to support partnerships in the field of peacekeeping. To discuss offers and training matters with ITS, please contact: [peacekeeping-training@un.org](mailto:peacekeeping-training@un.org). To register for the LCM Online System or to discuss your offers or requests for training and capacity-building assistance, please contact the LCM at [dpo-lcm@un.org](mailto:dpo-lcm@un.org).

The **Triangular Partnership Programme (TPP)** enhances uniformed peacekeepers' capacities for UN Peacekeeping Operations, as well as African Union Peace Support Operations, through training and operational support across five distinct projects: 1) Engineering 2) Medical 3) C4ISR (Command, Control, Communications, Computers (C4), Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance (ISR)) and Camp Security Technologies, 4) Counter-Improvised Explosive Devices (C-IED), and 5) Telemedicine. The newly established C-IED pillar highlights TPP's growing cooperation with the UN Mine Action Service (UNMAS), and its renewed commitment to enhance the safety and security of Troop and Police-Contributing Countries deploying to peace operations. In line with these efforts, TPP and UNMAS have recently initiated a cross-pillar training enhancement project focused on providing Explosive Hazard Awareness and IED Threat Mitigation Training of Trainers to six target countries in Asia. This is in line with the TPP's approach to building long-term national and regional capacities. Additionally, the TPP has conducted the Heavy Engineering Equipment (HEE) Operators' Intermediate Course in Kenya, targeting African Union and United Nations peace operations personnel. Finally, TPP welcomes continued Member State nominations for the Environmental Management e-Learning.



*HEE Operators' Intermediate Course (Kenya) participants observe a practical exercise*

The TPP welcomes the continued active participation of Member States in training in the above-mentioned key peacekeeping capability areas. Member States are encouraged to actively participate in TPP trainings by nominating trainees, notably women participants, deploying trainers, hosting facilities, and providing equipment, funding and other in-kind support. Member States interested in training and partnership opportunities can contact Mr. Takakazu Ito ([itot@un.org](mailto:itot@un.org)). For more information, please consult [the TPP Informational Video](#) and the [TPP Fact Sheet](#).



*UNMPEC Course held at SWISSINT*

The second pilot of the United Nations Military Performance Evaluators Course (UNMPEC) was conducted last year at Swiss Armed Forces International Command (SWISSINT), Switzerland. This iteration marked a significant milestone in the refinement and operationalization of the course and has proven its relevance as a tool to enhance the readiness, accountability, and implementation of evaluations across TCCs and peacekeeping missions. Member States are encouraged to support the Office of Military Affairs and host and fund the next edition of this course in 2026.

## II. MISSION-SPECIFIC UNIT GAPS

All units required by field missions have been selected from the PCRS and presently there are no mission-specific gaps.

The PCRS Rapid Deployment Level (RDL) is critical in allowing the Secretariat to promptly respond to any new immediate requirements from existing missions and to support plans for the quick start-up of a new mission. Currently, two units are under elevation process to RDL and Member State have been selected to provide RDL units for the Vanguard Brigade capability during the 26/27 Cycle.

## III. GENERAL CAPABILITIES

As peacekeeping missions evolve, it is critical that military and police capabilities offered to the UN not only address trends and future needs but also can adapt to existing capability gaps or new short-term requirements.

The following section outlines the military and police capabilities that are seen as necessary for current and likely for future peacekeeping missions. These types of units serve as the backbone for mandate implementation or for the safety and protection of peacekeepers.

### *Air Assets*

**Attack, armed helicopters units** are critical deterrent capabilities for field missions in the delivery of their mandates. **Utility Helicopter Units** are often one of the most critical specialized capabilities deployed to peacekeeping. Medium Utility Helicopter Units (MUHU) can carry out multiple functions to contribute to mission's mandate delivery, including troop insertions/extractions, aerial escorts, quick reaction force response, passenger transportation, medical transportation (CASEVAC/ MEDEVAC) air reconnaissance, support for airmobile operations, search and rescue (SAR), combat SAR (CSAR), patrol, observation and monitoring, troop movements, logistic support, aerial resupply and cargo re-supply. Well-equipped MUHUs are in high demand and short in supply.

**Tactical Transport Fixed-Wing Aviation Units** are very important elements to provide flexibility and rapid response, extend the missions' footprint, and increase the missions' ability to support components deployed in locations that cannot be sustained by roads. Despite some current challenges with Host Nations authorization for deployment and utilization, **Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS)** are needed in the mid to long-term as critical Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance (ISR) tools that are part of the UN peacekeeping-intelligence (MPKI) architecture and also to minimize risk in logistic activities including UAS Class I, Class II and Class III. Micro and mini UAS class I can be deployed as organic equipment and support ground units in early warning and observations. All UAS classes should be deployable and re-deployable easily to observe incidents in real time, monitor safe demilitarized border zones, detect civil intrusions into buffer zones, detect/deter illegal activities, conduct surveillance of opposing forces positions, help protect peacekeepers and map/record terrain changes. The



*Tunisian C-130 deployed in MINUSCA and supporting the presidential electoral process*

Secretariat is studying the use of UAS for the delivery of cargo and medical supplies, emergency response or environmental monitoring.

### ***Military Ground Forces***

**Quick reaction forces (QRF) at company level** that are more agile and have the adaptability to the developing situations, give the Force and Sectors the ability to quickly intervene in contingency situations and allow planned operations to be reinforced. **Infantry Battalions** are required in large UN peacekeeping missions and must be able to quickly respond to urgent requirements and have a lighter footprint without losing their robust posture and maintaining conditions for the safe implementation of mandates. To allow the configuration of operational elements to conduct different types of tasks, most QRF and Infantry Battalions' Statement of Unit Requirements (SUR) require high-mobility light tactical vehicles (HMLTV) and reconnaissance vehicles for their units.

### ***Force Protection and Mandate Implementation***

Some capabilities are required for both force protection, as well as to better implement mandated tasks with high end capabilities in higher threat environments. T/PCCs must be capable of adjusting their units or generating independent units. **Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) Units/capabilities** are required to contribute to the missions' overall capacity to respond to an increasing EOD threat, especially from Improvised Explosive Devices (IED), impacting freedom of manoeuvre and the safety and security of peacekeepers.

### ***Engineering Units***



*Road rehabilitation conducted by UNMISS ROK contingent in support of operations*

Military Engineering Units play a crucial role in United Nations peacekeeping operations, contributing to the mission's success and creating conditions for successful mandate implementation. Engineering Units are responsible for constructing and maintaining critical infrastructure, such as roads, bridges, and airstrips, which are essential for the mobility of peacekeeping forces and the delivery of humanitarian aid amongst other tasks. These types of units may also play a role in transition phases in support of humanitarian and development agencies and support to host authorities and local populations. Besides regular horizontal and vertical works, additional capabilities with EOD and bridging capacity are being requested from these units.

### ***Police***

In line with current and emerging uniformed capability requirements, it is not sufficient for units to be well equipped in terms of equipment; commanders must also be able to understand and address related challenges, having a common understanding of performance-related issues, FPU generation mechanisms, pre-deployment training, and COE matters, as well as the recent changes in key guiding documents such as the revised FPU Policy, PCRS Guidelines, and the COE Manual, among others.

To support this, the Police Division, in collaboration with field missions and some Member States, conducts annual FPU Commanders' workshops. These workshops include tailored mission scenarios and address topics such as command and control, welfare, gender issues, and conduct and discipline, all of which are thoroughly discussed. In addition, the hosting of performance-related FPU workshops and seminars by PCCs has been one of the key drivers for improving performance. These forums provide valuable opportunities to discuss operational gaps and identify practical measures to address them effectively.

**Formed Police Units (FPU)** are the core of uniformed police capabilities in UN missions. They should be equipped with relevant capabilities, such as SWAT, rapid reaction, canine and/or riverine elements (e.g., two FPUs at rapid deployment level require SWAT capabilities, one of them being francophone). A platoon size of women as part of each FPU remains essential. Considering the operational realities on the ground and the expanded area of operations following the implementation of liquidity contingency planning, priority should be given to deploying FPUs with embedded personnel who possess expertise in ammunition management and IED awareness, particularly in high-threat environments. Additionally, selected members should receive advanced IED awareness training.



*FPU Coordinators Workshop*

### **Guard Units (GU) and Rapid Response Police Units**

**(RRPU)** protect mainly UN personnel and facilities. Rapid Response Police Units are smaller police contingents (about 60 to 80 strength), highly specialized and quickly deployable to support specific mission requirements. As the RRPUs cannot deploy in full self-sustainment, they will require sustainment and logistic support from other units already deployed.

Currently deployed formed police units still require compatible satellite phones, unmanned aircraft system micro (multirotor), force protection surveillance equipment, day and night cameras for camp security, inside base surveillance dome camera (360° + thermal view), armored personnel carriers (APC) wheeled ambulance/rescue, and all-terrain vehicles light. Some PCCs will require support to augment COE so that they meet the renewed statement of unit requirements in line with mission mandates and to enhance safety and security and undertake protection tasks. The UN Secretariat can facilitate bilateral partnerships with concerned PCCs to fill such gaps.

Language skills are also essential. For example, among the current pledges in the PCRS, 89% are from anglophone Member States, while two of the major missions are francophone. Francophone Member States are therefore strongly encouraged to pledge FPUs, Police Guard Units, and SPTs.

**Specialized Police Teams (SPT)** are specialized assets, usually provided by one or two PCCs, used in community-oriented policing, environmental (rule of law) crimes, public order management, border policing, protection of civilians, cattle raiding, SGBV, CRSV, forensics and forensics explosives exploitation. The use of SPTs provides the opportunity to target specific areas of concern in different missions. Additionally, specialized anti-narcotics teams are also required

would generate valuable operational data, supporting evidence-based decision-making for capability optimization, rightsizing, operational rebalancing, and the redeployment of uniformed capabilities when required.

### ***Logistics/Administration***

The 2026 Contingent-Owned Equipment (COE) Working Group convened at United Nations Headquarters in New York from 19 to 30 January 2026. During this session, the Working Group considered an extensive agenda

comprising 120 issue papers, 50 submitted by the Secretariat and 70 by Member States, in addition to national cost data provided by 30 Member States. Beyond agreeing on an increase of 1.58 per cent to the wet lease rates for major equipment and the reimbursement rates for self-sustainment, Member States endorsed several efficiency measures designed to enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of mandate delivery. These measures include, inter



*The 2026 Contingent-Owned Equipment Working Group, UNHQ, New York, 19 - 30 January 2026*

alia, the revision of the reimbursement framework to reflect actual equipment usage for the majority of support vehicles categories and prime power generators; amendments to the disposal policy to encourage in-mission disposal of unserviceable equipment; the reduction of the threshold for loss or damage resulting from a single incident of hostile action or forced abandonment from USD 80,000 to USD 70,000; the inclusion of counter-unmanned aircraft systems; the application of Field Remote Infrastructure Monitoring technology on generators to monitor key parameters in real time; the introduction of a modular hospital concept enabling missions to better align Level 2 and Level 3 medical capabilities with operational

requirements; and the adoption of more efficient policies for ammunition management.

Further details on the decisions adopted by Member States during the 2026 COE Working Group are available on the dedicated COE WG website: <https://operationalsupport.un.org/en/what-we-do/uniformed-capabilities-support/contingent-owned-equipment-working-group>

#### **IV. COUNTER UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEM (C-UAS) REQUIREMENTS**

As first outlined in the March 2022 UCRP, C-UAS requirements continue to be a growing concern for UN peacekeeping operations. Unmanned aircraft systems have increasingly been used by different actors in peacekeeping operational theaters. This capability has become accessible to non-state actors and individuals, as UAS are relatively inexpensive to acquire and easy to operate. As such they pose a credible threat to peacekeepers and to the mandate of the missions. Several incidents have been reported during the past two years ranging from intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance of UN troops and facilities to direct attacks on peacekeepers and UN locations. The severity of attack ranged from small UAS dedicated or modified to carry grenades or improvised explosive devices that can cause minor damage or hinder peacekeepers to larger UAS operated by actors with advanced military capabilities causing peacekeepers fatalities and destroying UN facilities. These capabilities can be single UAS or swarms of UAS to strike static targets, such as UN compounds, or moving targets, such as patrols, through single or simultaneous coordinated attacks.

To mitigate the risks to peacekeepers and UN personnel, missions must incorporate countermeasures against hostile UAS by integrating layered Counter-Unmanned Aircraft System (C-UAS) solutions into operational planning and force protection requirements. T/PCCs need to incorporate these solutions as part of routine operational tasks and safety and protection of camps, bases and facilities. The requirement for C-UAS will be incorporated into the units' SUR, particularly for the missions facing UAS threats. This capability can be provided as Contingent Owned Equipment (COE). This should include the provision of appropriately trained personnel, in line with UN Pre-Deployment Training (PDT) standards, and the ability to operate in accordance with UN procedures for detection, identification, and response to UAS incidents.

Defined as a “set of technologies, strategies, and measures designed to detect, track, identify, and mitigate threats posed by unauthorized or hostile UAS”, C-UAS provides capabilities that detect potentially hostile UAS using

various passive and active sensing technologies. The layered system should be able to detect and identify UAS at minimum ranges given below, with 360 degrees of coverage under all weather conditions. Effective C-UAS capability requires integration of multiple sensor types into a layered detection architecture to ensure reliability across different threat scenarios.

To counter this threat, two primary C-UAS approaches can be employed, either individually or in combination, depending on the nature of the threat: soft-kill measures and hard-kill measure. Soft-kill measures aim to disrupt the UAS, limiting its ability to carry out its intended actions by using non-kinetic means. These methods are often preferred in environments where collateral damage must be minimized. Hard-kill techniques involve physically incapacitating the UAS. These methods are typically used in high-security areas or military operations where immediate neutralization of the threat is critical.

Given the nature of UN peace operations deployment, C-UAS systems can be required as Handheld/Manpack with indicative detection ranges depending on system type and operational context (e.g., handheld systems typically below 1 km, mobile systems up to several kilometers, and fixed systems significantly beyond), subject to terrain, environment, and sensor type. C-UAS capabilities should be integrated within the broader Integrated Base Defence (IBD) framework and linked to Command and Control structures, situational awareness systems, and response procedures. This capability can be also provided as UNOE through system contracts or as a service through LOA.

Consideration should also be given, both during pre-deployment and deployment phases, to training, sustainment, and lifecycle support, including maintenance, updates, and continuous capability development.

## ANNEX A

### CURRENTLY PLEDGED CAPABILITIES

The PCRS is the sole entry point to commit uniformed capabilities to UN peacekeeping. The system supports the Secretariat’s selection process for deployments. The status of pledges in the PCRS (Level 1, Level 2, Level 3 and RDL) is shown in the table below. Level 1 indicates that a pledge of a formed unit with all the required information was accepted in the system. **Level 2** indicates the pledge received a successful AAV and that the unit assessed is deemed capable for a potential deployment within **180 days from the acceptance of an invitation**. **Level 3** indicates that the pledged capability has contingent-owned equipment and personnel in alignment with the generic UN military/police statement of requirement (SUR) and this equipment is accurately reflected in a load list and is estimated ready for deployment within **120 days from the acceptance of an invitation**. A unit at the **RDL** has been pledged and verified as ready for deployment to any UN field mission within **60 days of a formal invitation from the Secretariat**. A “Registered” pledge (e.g. for Staff Officers, IPOs and training pledges) is one for which the various PCRS Levels are not relevant. For questions on the status of a pledge contact [pcrs.manager@un.org](mailto:pcrs.manager@un.org).

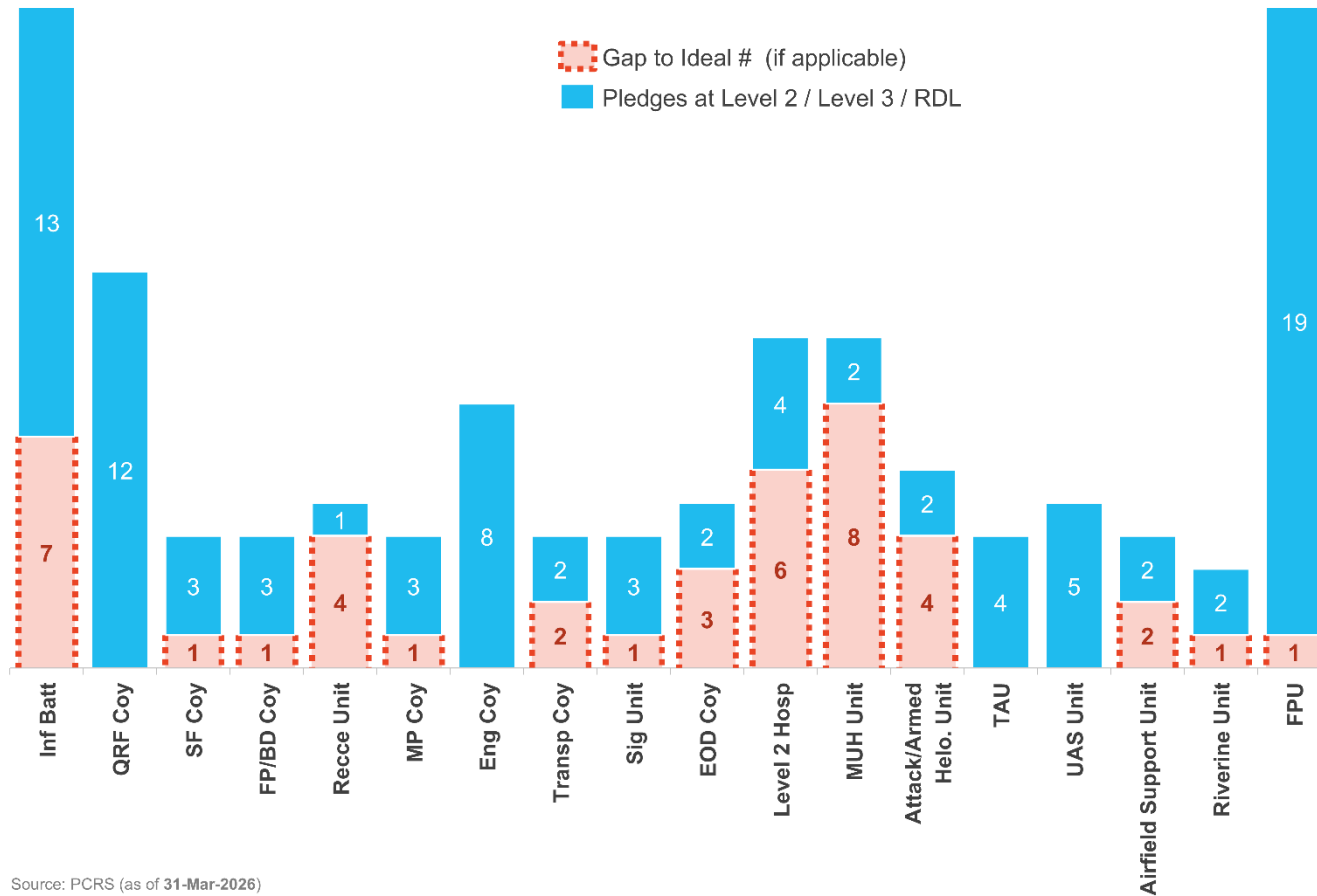
Type of units	# of units in PCRS Level 1	# of units in PCRS Level 2	# of units in PCRS Level 3	# of units in PCRS RDL	# of deployed units in the Cycle (25/26)
Infantry Battalions	21	10	3	2	-
Infantry Company/Platoon	8	2	-	-	-
Recce Company	3	1	-	-	-
Special Force Units/ groups	8	2	-	1	-
Force Protection/HQ Sp Company	7	3	1	-	-
Quick Reaction Force (Coy)	17	11	2	3	-
ISR Aerial units/ UAS	5	4	1	-	-
Engineering Companies/ Platoons	16	5	3	1	-
Demining/EOD Units	13	1	-	1	-
Hospitals/ Medical Teams	12	4	1	-	1
Utility Helicopter Units	6	2	-	-	-
Attack/Armed Helicopter Units	-	-	-	2	-
Transport Aircrafts	4	3	-	1	-
MP Companies/ teams	7	3	-	1	-
Signal Companies/platoons	5	2	-	1	-
Log/Transport Companies/Units	3	2	1	-	-
Formed Police Units	19	10	7	2	-
Police Guard Units	1	-	-	-	-
Air Lift			6		
Maritime Units			5		
Training Pledges			58		
<b>Total</b>	<b>155</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>1</b>

\* as of 31 Mar 2026.

# One of the Attack/Armed Helicopter Units at RDL is an Armed Utility Helicopter unit.

**ANNEX B**

**Current PCRS pledges vs ideal number of pledges**



Source: PCRS (as of 31-Mar-2026)

UNITED NATIONS | Department of Peace Operations

\*Multiple pledges by one Member State of the same capability at Level 2, 3 or RDL are counted as one available pledge.