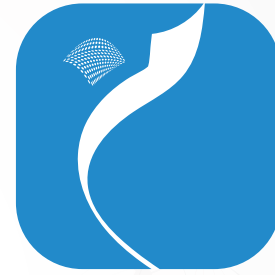


المركز
لدراسات الاستراتيجية
MOKHA
for strategic studies



MONTHLY BRIEFING

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MONTHLY BRIEFING

The Monthly Briefing is a bulletin that monitors and documents the most prominent current events in Yemen, on the political, military, economic, security and humanitarian levels. It is published monthly and translated into several languages

THE PREVIOUS
ISSUE 



Political Scene



Yemen witnessed intense political activity during the month of July. A fresh round of negotiations occurred in Muscat between the legitimate government and the Houthis, focusing on prisoners and abductees, under the United Nations' auspices. However, these talks did not yield any significant outcomes. Meanwhile, UN envoy to Yemen Hans Grundberg announced new agreements aimed at reducing tensions and addressing banking challenges. As a result, government decisions issued by the Central Bank were suspended, leading to widespread discontent among Yemeni citizens who support the legitimate government.



The Undersecretary of the Ministry of Human Rights, Majed Fadhail, announced that the legitimate government and the Houthi group had reached a preliminary agreement for the release of politician Mohammed Qahtan, who was kidnapped and forcibly disappeared for 10 years.

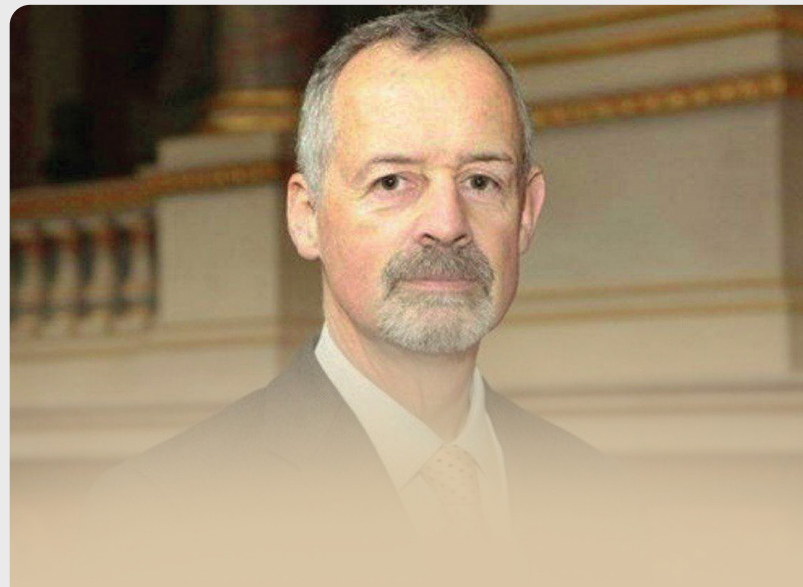
July 3

Abdul-Malik al-Houthi, the leader of the Houthi group, threatened to bomb Riyadh airport and target Saudi banks. He accused Saudi Arabia of implementing the American agenda and starving Yemenis, vowing a reciprocal response. This followed statements by Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Faisal bin Farhan about the imminent signing of the Yemeni roadmap.

July 7

The UN Security Council adopted a resolution to extend the mandate of the United Nations Mission to support the “Hodeida Agreement” until July 14, 2025, emphasizing the unity and sovereignty of Yemen.

July 8



Former British Ambassador to Yemen, Edmund Brown, described the Houthi group as a “malicious, violent group,” calling for strict sanctions against those violating humanitarian aid in Yemen.

July 6



The office of the UN envoy to Yemen, Hans Grundberg, announced a new agreement to de-escalate tensions between the legitimate government and the Houthi group, regarding the banking sector and the Yemenia Airlines. The agreement includes canceling decisions against banks, resuming and increasing the Yemenia flights and addressing financial and technical challenges.

July 23

The Chargé d'Affaires of the Chinese Embassy in Yemen, Shao Zheng, reaffirmed Beijing's strong support for the legitimate government and the Presidential Leadership Council. He urged the Houthis to cease targeting ships in the Red Sea and engage in dialogue.

July 8

The Presidential Leadership Council, led by Rashad Al-Alimi, held an emergency meeting to discuss a message from UN envoy Hans Grundberg, who had requested support to initiate a dialogue on economic and banking developments.

July 12

The Saudi Ministry of Foreign Affairs expressed deep concern about the military escalation in Yemen following Israeli attacks on the port of Hodeida. A spokesperson for the Ministry of Defense denied any involvement by the Kingdom in targeting the port.

July 21

The presidency of the Republic announced that the president and members of the PLC unanimously rejected the resignation of the Central Bank of Yemen Governor Ahmed Ghaleb Al-Ma'baqi. He will continue in his position with full support from the council and the government to implement comprehensive banking reforms.

July 23

The Supreme Council of the Popular Resistance criticized the legitimate government's reversal of the Central Bank's decisions, labeling it an "agreement of submission." They called for a unified national stance against the agreement, asserting that this withdrawal would reinforce division and legitimize the de facto authority in Sana'a.

July 24



PLC Chairman Rashad Al-Alimi, along with council members Abdullah Al-Alimi and Sheikh Othman Majli, arrived in Mukalla for his second visit to Hadhramaut. The visit aims to discuss financing and development issues with local leaders.

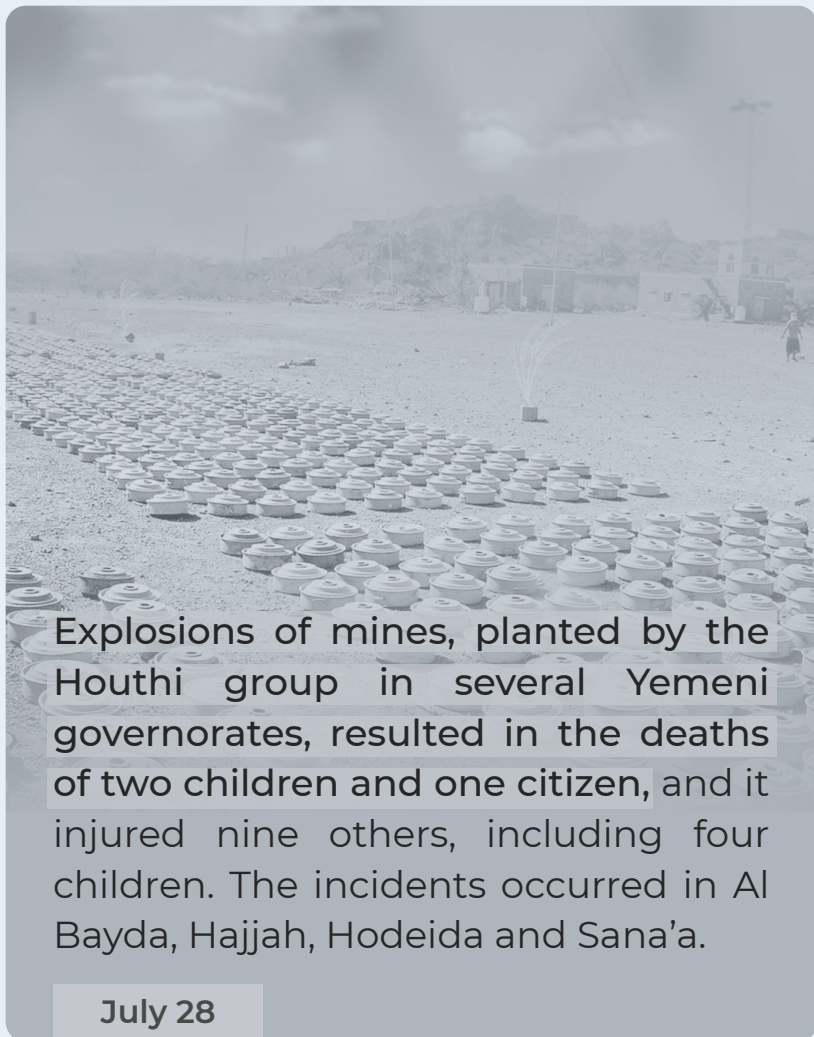
July 27

Military scene



Despite a fragile truce, military escalation continues on several fronts, particularly in the cities of Taiz and Ma'rib. There are intermittent confrontations between the army and Houthi militants in the north, south and center of Yemen, along with Houthi military build-ups in Ma'rib. The Houthis also carried out a drone attack on the city of Tel Aviv in Palestine, resulting in the death of an Israeli person and injuring eight others, which led Israel to respond with a violent bombing of the port of Hodeida.





Explosions of mines, planted by the Houthi group in several Yemeni governorates, resulted in the deaths of two children and one citizen, and it injured nine others, including four children. The incidents occurred in Al Bayda, Hajjah, Hodeida and Sana'a.

July 28

A Houthi bombing targeted the Al Shaqab area, southwest of Taiz, killing three civilians, including two children, and injuring five others, all women and children, despite the existence of an undeclared truce.

July 10

An Israeli was killed and eight others were injured as a result of a drone that exploded in Tel Aviv. Israel confirmed that the attack was caused by a falling air target, while the Houthis claimed responsibility.

July 19

Houthi-affiliated media reported that the U.S.-British Coalition launched three raids on Hodeida airport and four raids on Kamaran Island in western Yemen. Details on the damage or casualties were not provided.

July 26

Security Scene



Lookout has uncovered new malware, called “GuardZoo,” targeting Yemeni military personnel, attributed to a Houthi-allied party. The U.S. Treasury Department has imposed new sanctions on financing and shipping networks linked to the Houthis, although similar measures have not succeeded in curbing Houthi activity in the past.



The U.S. Treasury Department announced new sanctions on financing and shipping networks linked to the Houthis on July 18. The sanctions target 12 individuals and ships within Houthi financier Sa'id al-Jamal's illicit network, including Indonesia-based Malaysian and Singaporean national Mohammed Roslan bin Ahmad and People's Republic of China-based Chinese National Zhuang Liang, who were both involved in illegal shipments and money laundering to finance the Houthis.

July 18



July 28

Economic Scene

Yemeni Finance Minister Salem bin Braik met with his Qatari counterpart, Ali bin Ahmed Al-Kuwari, in Doha to discuss Yemen's economic situation, ways to enhance bilateral cooperation and the challenges posed by the financial crisis in Yemen.

July 2

Yemenia Airways signed an agreement with Airbus at its Dubai office to purchase eight A320 and A321 aircraft to enhance its fleet, following the Houthi's seizure of four aircraft. These aircraft will be delivered between 2031 and 2034, with a second batch planned for the purchase of four A330 aircraft.

July 17



The Yemeni riyal hit its lowest value against foreign currencies in government-controlled governorates, with the exchange rate of the Saudi riyal reaching 500 Yemeni riyals and the US dollar reaching 1,918 Yemeni riyals. A banking source warned of further deterioration if the Central Bank does not take strict and rapid measures to prevent the collapse.

July 22

Violations



There has been a noticeable escalation in violations committed by the Houthi group in the areas under their control. This includes an increase in kidnapping campaigns and threats against employees of private and international institutions, alongside preparations to issue and execute political death sentences against civilians opposed to the group.



The Houthi group kidnapped three girls in Amran Governorate for working as singers, accusing them of practicing a forbidden profession. The girls were forced to sign a pledge to not return to that profession.

July 7

The National Authority for Prisoners and Abductees announced that the Houthi group has issued 145 death sentences against civilian abductees in their prisons, with nine of these sentences already carried out.

July 25



The Houthi group has threatened new kidnapping campaigns targeting those they label as “agents of America and Israel,” giving a deadline of 30 days for cooperation with their security apparatus. This threat comes weeks after the kidnapping of dozens of employees from the U.S. embassy in Sana’a and various relief organizations, alongside heightened security measures.

July 2

Humanitarian Scene



The United Nations Migration Organization announced that nearly 10,000 Yemenis have been displaced since the beginning of 2024 due to the ongoing conflict. According to tracking data, 1,622 families (equaling 9,732 individuals) have been displaced, so far, to June 29, 2024. Also, 43 families (equaling 342 individuals) were displaced just from June 23 to 29, for security and economic reasons.

July 10

July 7

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The National Authority for Prisoners and Abductees announced that the Houthi group has issued 145 death sentences against civilian abductees in their prisons, with nine of these sentences already carried out.

July 25

General News



Every year in mid-July, the city of Mukalla hosts the annual Al-Balda Tourist Festival. This event features popular dances and Hadrami folklore songs, showcasing the Hadrami coast's rich heritage. The festival beautifully blends ancient traditions with contemporary culture, offering stunning artistic performances despite the challenging economic and political conditions.

July 15

The National Library of Israel in Jerusalem reported that it acquired the largest collection — 60,000 items — of Yemeni Jewish manuscripts. This collection was donated by the family of Yemenite Jew Yehuda Levi Nahum (1915-1998), according to Abdullah Mohsen, an expert specializing in tracking looted Yemeni manuscripts.

July 13

The “Conflict and Environment Observatory” announced the detection of a 220-kilometer-long oil slick in the Red Sea, following a Houthi attack on the oil tanker Chios Leon. The Yemeni government condemned the attack, warning of an impending environmental disaster that could affect fishing, ports and water desalination.

July 18

Statistics

Responsible parties

- %44** Houthi group
- %40** Legitimate government
- %5** US forces
- %5** Egyptian authorities
- %2** German company
- %2** Social media activists



Cases of Violations of Freedom of the Press in Yemen during the first half of 2024

Types of violations

8 Cases of Detention of Freedom 	11 Cases of Threats and Incitement
6 Blocking and Confiscation Incidents 	7 Attacks
2 Salary Suspensions 	6 Trials

Source: Yemeni Journalists Syndicate

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