

# **NONTHLY** BRIEFING

### FOREIGN STUDIES UNIT

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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





# **Political Scene**

The Yemeni peace consultations are facing a stalemate due to Houthi attacks in the Red Sea and U.S. pressure to postpone any agreement. Meanwhile, the internationally recognized legitimate government has welcomed a political solution, according to a UN roadmap. The confidential United Nations report on Houthi activities and their transformation into a military force supported by Iran's Revolutionary Guard and Hezbollah reduces the chances of the country achieving lasting peace.



In a speech to the UN Security Council, delivered by Abdullah Al-Saadi, Yemen's Permanent Representative to the United Nations, the Yemeni government reiterated its support for international efforts to end the conflict in the country. It called on the Security Council to pressure the Houthis into ending the war, warning of an environmental catastrophe in the Red Sea.

#### September 12

During a meeting with the Middle East Minister, Hamish Faulkner; U.S. Special Envoy to Yemen Tim Lenderking; and the U.S. and Saudi ambassadors in London, the British government affirmed that achieving peace in Yemen is vital for regional stability.

#### September 11

U.S. Special Envoy to Yemen Tim Lenderking affirmed that Houthi actions in the Red Sea are obstructing peace efforts. He accused the group of exploiting the Gaza war to extend their power.

#### September 12

The UN envoy to Yemen, Hans Grundberg, concluded his visit to the United Kingdom with high-level meetings focused on enhancing international efforts to support Yemen's stability, address economic challenges and deal with regional tensions.

In his briefing to the Security Council on September 12, UN envoy Hans Grundberg highlighted the complexity of peace efforts in Yemen due to regional escalation and called on the Houthi group to release detainees. The following week, the UN envoy visited Tehran, where he met with Iran's Foreign Minister and emphasized the need to resume negotiations

#### September 18

Lenderking warned that the transfer of weapons from Russia to the Houthis could alter the nature of the conflict in Yemen, emphasizing the importance of diplomatic solutions to reduce escalation in the Red Sea.

September 27



on the Houthis to engage in mediation

efforts.

September 26

05



The Supreme Council of Popular Resistance in Taiz celebrated the September 26 and October 14 revolutions, with Sheikh Hamoud Saeed Al-Mikhlafi calling for unity to restore the state and defeat the coup.

#### September 26

A confidential United Nations report stated that the Houthis have transformed into a formidable military force with the support from Iran's Revolutionary Guard, Hezbollah and Iraqi specialists. They received training outside Yemen, used forged passports and launched attacks on ships in the Red Sea, with increasing coordination with al-Qaeda.

September 26

UN envoy to Yemen Hans Grundberg announced that the escalation in Lebanon is further destabilizing the Middle East and hindering a peaceful settlement in Yemen. This statement came following Israel's announcement of "Operation Northern Arrows" against Hezbollah and the assassination of the group's Secretary-General, Hassan Nasrallah.

September 28

06



### Military scene

The military situation in Yemen escalated as the Houthis intensified their offensives in Lahij, Al-Dhale, Ma'rib, and Taiz, while also continuing attacks on ships in the Red Sea. Meanwhile, Israel conducted airstrikes on the port of Hodeida.

Pro-government "Giants' Forces" took control of a strategic mountain range in Mawiyah District, eastern Taiz, following intense battles with the Houthi group.

#### September 8

Mohamed Hussein Sarour, a Hezbollah leader and envoy to Yemen for training on missiles and drones, was killed during an Israeli air strike in the southern suburbs of the Lebanese capital, Beirut, amid recent events.

#### September 10

The U.S. Navy announced that it intercepted several missiles and drones launched by the Houthis while passing through the Bab al-Mandab Strait. Meanwhile, the Houthis declared that they targeted three American destroyers in the Red Sea with 23 missiles and drones.

#### September 27



Israeli occupation forces conducted intensive air strikes on vital facilities in Hodeidah Governorate, resulting in the deaths of four individuals. The strikes also destroyed power stations and oil tanks.



The Houthi group threatened to ban the satellite internet service "Starlink" in Yemen, considering it a threat to national security, following the announcement by the company and the Yemeni government to officially activate the service.

#### September 19

# Security Scene

The operation to transport the Greek oil tanker "MT Sounion," which was attacked by the Houthi group in the Red Sea, has begun, with Saudi Arabia transferring its cargo of one million barrels to avoid a potential environmental disaster.



### **Economic Scene**

Banks in Sana'a are suffering from a severe liquidity crisis, notably the Yemen International Bank, which has been unable to meet customer withdrawal requests and has been forced to lay off employees. Experts believe that the crisis stems from the Houthis' control of the Central Bank since 2014, the freezing of deposits and the exploitation of funds for political purposes, leading to a loss of confidence in the banking system in the country.

The Houthi group has imposed new taxes and levies on traders in areas under its control, as part of its efforts to boost revenue by varying rates exceeding 30%.

September 5

American businessman Elon Musk officially announced the launch of his satellite internet service Starlink in Yemen.

September 18

### The Central Bank of Yemen

**in Aden** announced that the following five exchange companies' assets will be frozen for operating without the necessary licenses. The companies are: Al-Hattar, Al-Muhayyib, Al-Barq, Al-Badani and Adel Al-Badji.



## Violations

Yemen witnessed an unprecedented escalation in human rights violations during the celebrations for the 62nd anniversary of the September 26 Revolution. The Houthi group launched a widespread crackdown on celebrants in several governorates, particularly lbb, Amran, Sana'a and Dhamar, during which dozens of activists and academics were kidnapped.

Director of the Friedrich Ebert Foundation in Yemen, Konstantin Grund, criticized the Houthis accusing them of employing repressive methods and escalating violence, including the detention of 60 employees working for international organizations. This comes alongside a call from the United Nations High Commissioner for the immediate release of 17 employees detained by the group, including six who have been held for three months.

September 3

A human rights report revealed that the Houthi group has committed 7,742 violations against civilians in Al-Bayda Governorate since 2015. These violations resulted in the deaths of 842 civilians and the displacement of 80,000 families.

September 6

Rights Radar report revealed that 2,099 farmers and herders have been killed since 2014 due to landmines and indiscriminate shelling, with children and women suffering the most casualties.

The Houthi group issued a death sentence against the director of Yemen Digital Media, accusing him of supporting what they refer to as the "aggression" and spreading false news. They also confiscated his assets and the company he manages, valued at millions of dollars, including visual archives and real estate documents.

September 28

The Rights Radar organization reported the detention of 428 civilians by the Houthi group in 10 Yemeni governorates due to their celebration of the September 26 Revolution anniversary.

September 28

Young Yemenis have called on the Yemeni government and its embassy in Russia to rescue them after falling victim to a recruitment gang in Oman. They were lured with promises of work in Russia for a monthly salary of \$2,500, only to find themselves sent to fight in the war against Ukraine.



### Humanitarian Scene

The humanitarian situation in Yemen has deteriorated significantly due to heavy rains and floods, affecting over 158,000 people and causing deaths, injuries and extensive damage to property, homes and infrastructure. The United Nations and UNICEF have warned of impending crises related to malnutrition and stunting. A UN report indicated that at least 123 African migrants have drowned in incidents while attempting to reach Yemen between April and July of 2024. The International Organization for Migration (IOM) documented four drownings, highlighting the dangers faced by migrants on their journey from the Horn of Africa to Yemen.

September 16

The Yemeni government described the situation of the Houthi coup, 10 years later, as "catastrophic and tragic," stating that the Houthis have led the country to historical setbacks through human rights violations, child recruitment and economic destruction, while their leadership lives in luxury.

September 21



UN's World The Food Programme confirmed the ongoing food insecurity in Yemen, with the percentage of families suffering from insufficient food consumption rising to 64% in August 2024. includes This figure 65% in government-controlled areas and 64% in Houthi-controlled regions.



### **General News**

Hamtramck, Mich. Mayor Amer Ghalib's support for former President Donald Trump in the upcoming U.S. election has sparked widespread controversy among the Yemeni and Arab communities in America, due to Trump's previous policies toward Yemenis and Muslims.





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