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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 

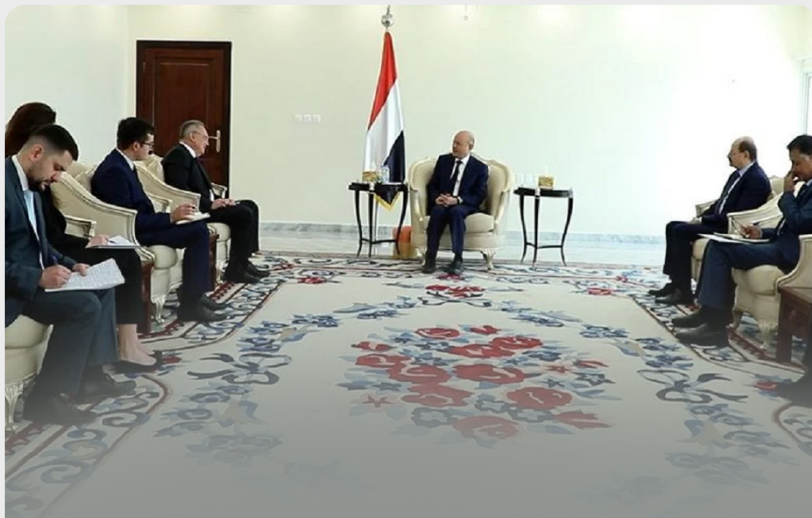


Political Scene



International efforts to revive peace talks in Yemen have been renewed amid growing regional tensions and local challenges that complicate the peace process. With violence escalating and the risk of Yemen sliding into a broader regional conflict, the UN envoy, Hans Grundberg, has been intensifying his diplomatic efforts, which include a series of meetings with various international stakeholders as part of his push to broker a political solution between the legitimate government and the Houthi group, following nearly nine years of relentless conflict.





The chairman of the Presidential Leadership Council (PLC), Rashad Al-Alimi, and Prime Minister bin Mubarak hosted a Russian delegation led by Alexander Kinshchak, the head of the Middle East and North Africa department at the Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

October 16

The Kremlin dismissed claims that Russia was supplying weapons to the Houthi group, calling them “fake news,” after Timothy Lenderking, the U.S. envoy to Yemen, accused Russia of cooperating with the Houthis. Lenderking had warned that that will have significant consequences for the ongoing conflict in Yemen.

October 7

UN Special Envoy to Yemen Hans Grundberg met the Russian Deputy Foreign Minister in Moscow to discuss the escalating regional tensions and their impact on Yemen.

October 11

Grundberg held discussions with U.S. officials to explore ways to advance a comprehensive political process in Yemen, particularly considering the recent Houthi military escalation in the Red Sea

October 19

U.S. Ambassador to Yemen Stephen Fagin met with Aidarous Al-Zubaidi, vice president of Yemen's Presidential Leadership Council (PLC). The two discussed the importance of unity within the council and exchanged views on the latest developments in Yemen.

October 20



Yemeni Prime Minister Dr. Ahmed Awad bin Mubarak met with European Union ambassadors, highlighting the urgent need for regional and international support to strengthen Yemen's economy and stabilize its national currency.

October 15



Yemen's Ministry of Foreign Affairs condemned the terrorist attack on the Sutash company in Ankara, reiterating its firm rejection of any terrorist actions that threaten Turkey's security.

October 24

The Wall Street Journal published an article that accused Russia of providing intelligence that has allegedly facilitated Houthi attacks on ships in the Red Sea, using Russian satellites.

October 25

Military scene



Clashes between the Yemeni government forces and Houthi militias persist along key frontlines, particularly in areas of direct contact. Meanwhile, Yemen's Minister of Defense vowed to take decisive action aimed at reclaiming the capital, Sana'a. At the same time, the Houthis are continuing to deploy their forces in both the Ma'rib region and along the West Coast, preparing for further escalation.



The Houthi group revealed that they buried 66 unidentified bodies in Hodeida, bringing the total number of bodies buried in the area to 126 within less than a week. The origins of these bodies remain unclear, with conflicting reports about how they were obtained.

October 6

Yemen's Minister of Defense, Mohsen Al-Daari, reaffirmed the readiness of Yemen's armed forces to advance toward Sana'a. He described the Houthi group as a "temporary project" that is gradually losing strength.

October 12



The Yemeni army reported a new type of landmine planted by the Houthi group in the Midi district of Hajjah Governorate. These mines are equipped with advanced technology that can spread over more than 50 meters, making them even more dangerous to civilians

October 3



Lebanon's Hezbollah leader, Basil Mustafa Shukr, was killed in an Israeli air strike in southern Lebanon. Shukr was known to have played the most important role in training the Houthi militants since 2015.

October 20

The Houthis announced they had been targeted by a series of air strikes carried out by U.S. warplanes, targeting their positions in Sana'a and Saada.

October 17

Security Scene



Security challenges are increasing in Yemen with the intensification of arms smuggling to the Houthi group amid successive U.S. sanctions targeting companies and individuals accused of supporting the Houthis through Iranian and Chinese networks. Meanwhile, the security media revealed the seizure of new arms shipments that were on their way to Houthi-controlled areas.





The United Nations reported that arms smuggling into Yemen continues to occur via both sea and land routes, often using small boats and traditional smuggling networks, further complicating efforts to bring stability to the region.

October 21

The U.S. Treasury renewed sanctions on a network of 18 entities, including individuals, companies and ships, for their involvement in supporting the financial activities of the Houthis, who receive backing from Iran. This list notably includes Saeed Al-Jamal, who is a Houthi financial official, and he is reinforcing the pressure on those enabling the group's operations.

October 17

Yemeni government security forces at the "Shahn" port in Al-Mahrah seized a shipment of weapon spare parts headed for Houthi-controlled areas. The cargo, found aboard a truck, contained nearly 4,000 parts for automatic Kalashnikov rifles, further highlighting the need for ongoing efforts to disrupt arms smuggling.

October 19

The chairman of Yemen's PLC convened an emergency meeting with the Supreme Security Committee. The meeting focused on strengthening security measures to combat smuggling and support the Central Bank of Yemen in its efforts to stabilize the economy.

October 20

Economic Scene



Yemen is currently facing severe economic challenges, with escalating food insecurity and a sharp decline in the value of the national currency, which recorded its lowest levels against the dollar. According to a World Bank report, 24% of the population suffers from severe food insecurity as a result of the conflict and climate change. Reports also showed that Yemen lost more than \$6 billion from the cessation of oil exports due to Houthi attacks.



The Houthi group has imposed new taxes on goods, charging an estimated 30 million Yemeni riyals per truck, marking a 50% increase from the previous year. At the same time, they are blocking imported goods from entering the country through government-controlled ports

October 19

Yemen's Central Bank governor, Ahmed Al-Ma'baqi, revealed that the country has lost more than \$6 billion in revenue over the past 30 months, primarily due to the halt in oil and gas exports caused by ongoing Houthi attacks.

October 24

The Yemeni rial has reached a historic low, with its exchange rate for the dollar hitting 2,026 riyals for purchase and 2,050 riyals for sale, further deepening the country's economic troubles.

October 24

Violations



Yemenis continue to endure widespread human rights violations under Houthi repression, with growing concerns about enforced disappearances and arbitrary arrests. Human rights groups have documented the arrests of over 500 civilians during the celebrations of the September Revolution anniversary. Among the cases sparking alarm is the enforced disappearance of journalist Mohammed Al-Mayahy, with fears for his safety increasing. His case, along with the fate of many other activists, underscores the deepening human rights crisis and the suffering of ordinary civilian Yemenis.



Humana humanitarian organization documented the arrests of 500 civilians by Houthi forces, including 40 journalists and writers, many of whom were detained for their activities on social media or for celebrating national holidays

October 5

Al-Masdar Online revealed the recruitment of hundreds of young Yemenis to fight for Russian forces in Ukraine. These recruits are being transported from Yemen through Oman and Dubai to Moscow.

October 1

The SAM Organization for Rights and Liberties reported 32 cases of enforced disappearance and torture between 2015 and 2023, most of which occurred in Houthi-run prisons. The report, titled “Years of Hell”, highlights the ongoing brutality faced by detainees.

October 3

SAM Organization for Rights and Liberties condemned the Houthi authorities for referring several staff members from international and local organizations to criminal prosecution on charges of “terrorism” and collaborating with foreign nations. This action is seen as part of a broader effort to stifle humanitarian work and suppress basic human rights.

October 13

Since 2015, 45 journalists have been killed in Yemen, and many others face ongoing threats as repression intensifies across the country. Since the Houthi takeover, journalists have been living under constant fear and have been subjected to arrests, torture and violence.

October 11

Human Rights Watch strongly criticized the Houthi authorities for the kidnapping of dozens of Yemenis in late September 2024, including minors, women and the elderly, all of whom were detained simply for participating in celebrations marking the September 26 Revolution.

October 15

Humanitarian Scene



Yemen is grappling with an escalating humanitarian crisis, with approximately 500,000 people displaced since the beginning of 2024. Most of these displacements have been caused by climate-related disasters, including devastating floods that have claimed 210 lives and left hundreds of thousands more suffering. Meanwhile, relief efforts are being hindered by ongoing challenges, particularly in areas controlled by the Houthis.



The International Organization for Migration (IOM) reported the deaths of 45 migrants and the disappearance of 132 others off the coast of Obock, in Djibouti. The migrants, who were forced to abandon their boats at sea, were part of a dangerous journey, and this marks the second such incident in 2024, with a total of 337 migrant deaths attributed to drowning.

October 2

In 2024, 2,800 Yemeni families were displaced at least once, with 94 families forced to flee between September 22 and October 5. The displacement was spread across different regions, with the majority coming from Hodeida and Sana'a.

October 8

The United Nations expressed deep concern over the Houthi authorities' decision to refer kidnapped UN employees to criminal prosecution. The UN warned that this not only threatens the safety of its staff but also further complicates an already dire humanitarian situation in Yemen.

October 8



The United Nations reported that nearly 500,000 people have been displaced in Yemen since early 2024, primarily due to extreme climate events. The floods caused widespread devastation across the country, resulted in the loss of 210 lives and affected hundreds of thousands more

October 4

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