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Mission multidimensionnelle intégrée  
des Nations Unies pour la stabilisation  
en Centrafrique



UNITED NATIONS

United Nations Multidimensional  
Integrated Stabilization Mission in the  
Central African Republic

## HUMAN RIGHTS DIVISION

### Monthly Report: Human Rights Situation

September 2025

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*The mandate of MINUSCA includes, inter alia, assisting the Government of the Central African Republic (CAR) to promote and protect human rights. This report is based on information received by the Human Rights Division (HRD) and only includes human rights violations and abuses that were documented and verified during the month of September 2025 in line with the established methodology of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR). Information that could not be verified is not included. Ordinary crimes are also excluded from this report. This report is shared with the CAR authorities and partners.*

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### Main political and security developments

1. During the reporting period, the security and human rights situation was marked by the impact of cross-border dynamics in the **Fertit** Region; regrouping of armed groups in anticipation of the disarmament and demobilisation (DD) process in the **Equateur, Kaga, and Yadé** Regions; a resurgence of activity by *Azande Ani Kpi Gbe* (Azanikpigbe) in the **Haut-Oubangui** Region; and continued military operations and engagements by the Government to address security and human rights challenges.
2. In the **Fertit Region**,<sup>1</sup> the impact of the conflict in Sudan with activities of the Rapid Support Forces (RSF) in CAR territory coupled with operations conducted by Other Security Personnel (OSP) and *Forces armées centrafricaines* (FACA) and activities of *Parti pour le Rassemblement de la Nation Centrafricaine* (PRNC) have continued to trigger population displacement with further implications for the humanitarian situation. Reports indicated the presence of PRNC members in Sam-Ouandja, Ouanda-Djalle, and Ouadda (Haute-Kotto and Vakaga Prefectures), reportedly engaged in the recruitment of persons into their ranks. In mid-September, in Diné (35 km North-East of Birao), Vakaga Prefecture, OSP operations targeting Sudanese-linked armed individuals reportedly resulted in the killing of five men and prompted the mobilisation of RSF elements from Um-Dafuq (Sudan), with the intent of carrying out reprisals. However, they were dissuaded following dialogue with community leaders. In late September, in Dangoré and Am-Sissia (Vakaga), RSF attacks and related insecurity reportedly displaced more than 3,000 civilians to Am-Dafock, while others fleeing villages near Birao were stranded in Matala (17 km North-East of Birao).
3. In the **Equateur Region**,<sup>2</sup> FACA/OSP conducted operations against Anti-Balaka members and a localized presence of members of the *Retour, Réclamation and Réhabilitation* (3R) who had gathered in view of the DD process. During the reporting period, FACA/OSP operations against the Ndalé faction

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<sup>1</sup> The Fertit Region includes the Bamingui-Bangoran, Haute-Kotto, and Vakaga Prefectures, as per the *Gov. decree No. 21001*, January 2021.

<sup>2</sup> The Equateur Region includes the Mambéré, Mambéré-Kadei, Nana-Mambéré, and Sangha-Mbaéré Prefectures, as per *Gov. decree No. 21001*, January 2021.

of the Anti-Balaka in Bangarem, Nana-Mambéré Prefecture resulted in the pillage and burning of several houses. On 12 and 13 September, in Mboula and Zoutouna, the arrest and detention of a community leader accused of being an Anti-Balaka member by FACA/OSP led to panic and population displacement. In addition, in Koundé and Douagouzou, 3R members reportedly stole money and livestock from Fulani herders.

4. In the **Haut-Oubangui Region**,<sup>3</sup> renewed activity by the Azanikpigbe, ongoing FACA/OSP operations, and human rights abuses by members of the *Unité pour la paix en Centrafrique* (UPC) continued to impact the protection of civilians and the human rights situation. On 5 September, in Bambouti, Haut-Mbomou Prefecture, 28 Azanikpigbe members issued a declaration renouncing armed struggle, calling for reintegration of youth and ex-combatants. However, the following weeks saw an increase in human rights abuses perpetrated by Azanikpigbe members, suggesting a possible reorganization or repositioning after several weeks of absence. On 6 September, in Ngouyo, Azanikpigbe members abducted two men, including a representative of the *Autorité Nationale des Elections* (ANE) accused of spying and requested the sum of XAF 30 million (approximately USD 53,770) for his release. At the time of reporting, he had not been released. In the Zémio area, Azanikpigbe members engaged in a range of attacks targeting civilian, commercial, and humanitarian vehicles, robbing them, setting them on fire, and threatening civilians and humanitarian personnel, with implications for the delivery of humanitarian assistance, as some NGOs had to suspend humanitarian activities in the area. On a positive note, in Rafäi, Mbomou Prefecture, illegal taxation at FACA checkpoints significantly decreased since the deployment of a new FACA commander on 30 August.
5. In the **Kaga Region**,<sup>4</sup> FACA/OSP operations around mining sites continued while UPC members taking part in the DD process in Maloum continued to be involved in human rights abuses. Between 2 and 6 September, near Dékoa and Guirikombo, Kémo Prefecture, FACA/OSP conducted operations targeting groups linked to cattle theft and attacks on transhumant herders. On 5 September, in Ndassima, Ouaka Prefecture, OSP arrested ten civilian miners and opened fire on those attempting to flee, resulting in two deaths.
6. In the **Yadé Region**,<sup>5</sup> delays in the DD process and regrouping of UPC and 3R elements raised concerns about the protection of civilians. In Ketté-Sido (78 km North-East of Batangafo), Ouham-Fafa Prefecture, the regrouping of UPC members near the village led to reports of cases of rape, including gang-rapes, of women and girls, underscoring the urgent need for protective measures and efforts to accelerate the DD process. In Sanguere-Lim, Ouham-Pendé Prefecture, the DD process resumed with one hundred eleven members of the 3R registered. On 1 September, near the Kotabara mining site, Ouham Prefecture, an armed clash between UPC and members of the *Mouvement patriotique pour la Centrafrique* (MPC) reportedly resulted in the killing of at least four civilians and eight wounded, with both groups issuing communiqués accusing the other of undermining the peace process. On 5 September, in Bokoté, Ouham Prefecture, FACA/OSP operations were reportedly accompanied by destruction and looting of property and assaults on civilians. On 6 and 7 September, in Markélé and Nzakou, Lim-Pendé Prefecture, reports indicated that OSP were implicated in appropriation and destruction of property, arbitrary deprivation of liberty targeting traders, and the extrajudicial killing of a man suspected to be a member of an armed group. Intercommunal tensions also led to a number of abuses and reprisals by and against the Fulani community. On 12 September, in Bourouma, Ouham Prefecture, communal reprisals following cattle

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<sup>3</sup> The Haut-Oubangui Region includes the Basse-Kotto, Haut-Mbomou, and Mbomou Prefectures, as per the *Gov. decree No. 21001, January 2021*.

<sup>4</sup> The Kaga Region includes the Kémo, Nana-Grébizi, and Ouaka Prefectures, as per the *Gov. decree No. 21001, January 2021*.

<sup>5</sup> The Yadé Region includes the Lim-Pendé, Ouham, Ouham-Fafa and Ouham-Pendé Prefectures, as per the *Gov. decree No. 21001, January 2021*.

theft reportedly resulted in the killing of three Fulani and the injury of seven others, including three children. On 24 September, in Bolio, Ouham Prefecture, thefts of livestock by young men triggered retaliatory destruction of roughly 24 hectares of farmland.

### Significant human rights-related developments

7. On 1 September, the Bar Association of the Central African Republic extended its strike for two more weeks which had initially started in April, to protest against continued impediments by judicial authorities limiting access to their clients. The extension aimed to assess whether a new Circular from the Minister of Justice<sup>6</sup> would improve police and judicial practices, as the Minister of Justice had sent a reminder to judicial authorities on 28 August to respect the Circular. On 17 September, the Bar Association decided to suspend the strike pending discussions with the Minister of Justice to address two unresolved issues including obstacles to accessing their clients and the issue of court-appointed attorney fees.
8. Between 9 and 11 September, in Maloum, the Ministry of Promotion of Gender and Protection of Women, Family, and Children, together with MINUSCA’s Child Protection Unit, UNICEF, and NGO partners, identified and separated 19 children recruited by the UPC, who were subsequently transferred to host families or UNICEF’s reintegration programme.
9. On 12 September, the Pre-Trial Chamber II of the International Criminal Court (ICC) issued its decision against the admissibility of the case against Edmond Beina, accused of crimes against humanity and war crimes allegedly committed in Guen, Mambéré Prefecture, between 1 February and early April 2014. The ICC considered that “CAR is willing and able to genuinely investigate and prosecute the case”<sup>7</sup> and noted that the victims prefer the proceedings to take place in the country to facilitate their participation. The Special Criminal Court has already been seized of the case which involves Mr. Beina and other Anti-Balaka members. Their trial is scheduled to begin in October 2025.
10. In Bangui, nine men, who had been illegally detained between one and seven weeks, were released from the OCRB following advocacy by MINUSCA. In Bangui and the Ombella M’Poko Prefecture, two new Courts of First Instance (*Tribunal de Grande Instance* - TGI) became operational in Bégoua and Boali, respectively. On 19 September, the magistrates of the new Damara Court of First Instance (TGI) were deployed to their posts. These developments are expected to improve access to justice for the population and reduce the length of pre-trial detention in the region, where the Bangui and Bimbo TGIs are currently managing more than half of all civil and criminal cases in the country. Similarly, in Bossangoa, Ouham Prefecture, the recent assumption of duties by both the President and the Prosecutor of the TGI is expected to contribute to addressing prolonged pre-trial detention cases.
11. On 15 September, following the roundtable held in Casablanca, Morocco, Prime Minister Félix Moloua announced that several international partners had pledged a total of XAF 6.2 trillion (approximately USD 9.6 billion) to support the National Development Plan (PND). This represents a significant step in advancing the implementation of the PND.

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<sup>6</sup> Circulaire du ministre de la Justice relative aux libres accès des avocats dans les locaux des unités d’investigations en vue de communiquer avec leurs clients gardés à vue dans le cadre des enquêtes préliminaires du 7 avril 2025.

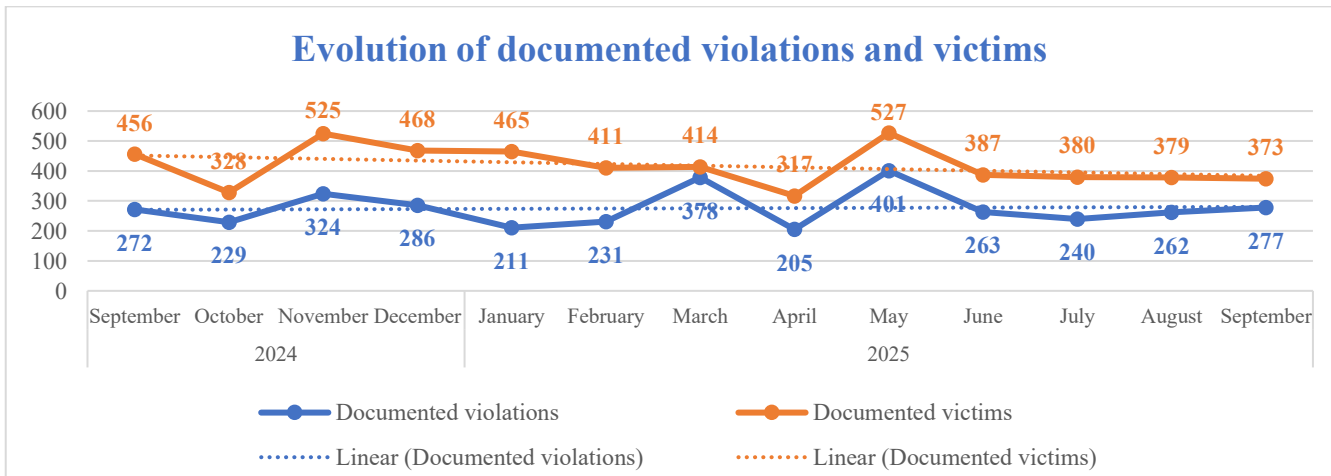
<sup>7</sup> In international criminal law, the International Criminal Court (ICC) has secondary jurisdiction, acting only when national courts are unable or unwilling to prosecute severe crimes. This is called the Principle of Complementarity.

## Human Rights Violations and Abuses and Breaches of International Humanitarian Law

12. During the reporting period, MINUSCA documented **277 violations and abuses** of international human rights law (IHRL) and breaches of international humanitarian law (IHL), affecting **373 victims** (including 192 men, 50 women, 25 girls, 64 boys, and 42 groups of collective victims), 92 of whom suffered multiple violations.<sup>8</sup> Sixty-one percent of the documented violations/abuses took place in September 2025, while the remaining violations/abuses occurred between January 2020 and August 2025. Compared to August 2025, the number of violations/abuses increased (+6%) while the number of victims remained almost unchanged (-1% decrease).<sup>9</sup> Most violations and abuses were related to arbitrary arrest and/or detention and conditions of detention that do not comply with national and international standards (21%), and the rights to physical and mental integrity (18%), property (14%), and forced recruitment (13%).<sup>10</sup>

**Main Trends**

In total, **277 human rights violations and abuses** as well as breaches of IHL affecting **373 victims** (including **192 men, 50 women, 25 girls, 64 boys, and 42 groups of collective victims**) were documented in September 2025. This constitutes an increase in the number of violations/abuses (+6%) and a very minor decrease in the number of victims (-1%) compared to August 2025.



13. **Men** were mainly victims of arbitrary arrest and/or detention and conditions of detention that do not comply with national and international standards (44%), violations/abuses of the right to physical and mental integrity (24%), the right to property (16%), and the right to life (13%). **Women** were mostly victims of conflict-related sexual violence (CRSV)<sup>11</sup> (31%), the right to physical and mental integrity (28%), and the right to life (19%). **Girls** were victims of CRSV (33%), violations/abuses of the right to liberty and personal integrity (19%), and the right to life (16%). **Boys** were mainly victims of forced recruitment (50%), arbitrary arrest and/or detention and conditions of detention that do not comply with

<sup>8</sup> Approximately a quarter (27%) of men suffered multiple violations, while almost half the women (42%) and girls (40%) suffered multiple violations.

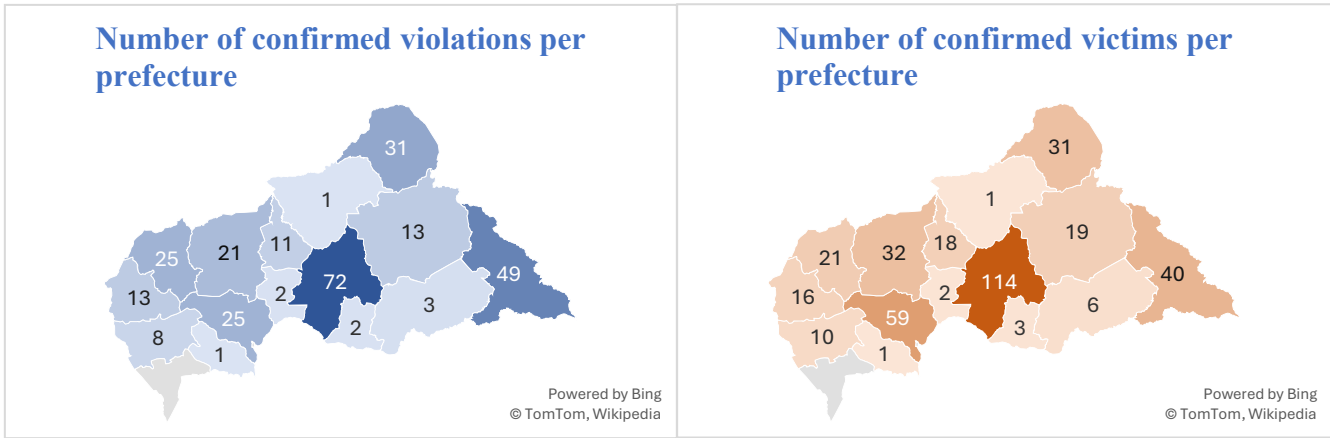
<sup>9</sup> In August 2025, MINUSCA documented 262 violations and abuses affecting 379 victims.

<sup>10</sup> In August 2025, the most common types of violations and abuses were related to arbitrary arrest and/or detention and conditions of detention that do not comply with national and international standards (27%), forced recruitment (19%), and the right to physical and mental integrity (14%).

<sup>11</sup> The term “conflict-related sexual violence” refers to rape, sexual slavery, forced prostitution, forced pregnancy, forced abortion, enforced sterilization, forced marriage and any other form of sexual violence of comparable gravity perpetrated against women, men, girls, or boys that is directly or indirectly linked to a conflict. See the full definition in the *Report of the United Nations Secretary-General on Conflict-Related Sexual Violence (S/2019/280)*.

national and international standards (31%), and violations/abuses of the right to liberty and personal integrity (6%).<sup>12</sup>

14. The **Kaga Region**<sup>13</sup> registered both the highest number of violations/abuses (85) and victims (134) with Ouaka being the most affected Prefecture (72 violations/abuses affecting 114 victims). The most common violations in the Kaga Region were related to arbitrary arrest and/or detention and conditions of detention that do not comply with national and international standards (20 violations affecting 64 victims), forced recruitment (19 violations/abuses affecting 19 victims) and the right to physical and mental integrity (16 violations/abuses affecting 45 victims). State actors were responsible for a high number of incidents of arbitrary arrest and/or detention and conditions of detention that do not comply with national and international standards. Almost all verified cases of forced recruitment in the Region were attributable to the UPC.



### Overview of violations by type of perpetrator

15. For the period under review, **State actors were responsible for 141 human rights violations and breaches of international humanitarian law affecting 235 victims**<sup>14</sup> (152 men, 26 women, seven girls, 22 boys, and 28 groups of collective victims). The patterns remained broadly consistent with those observed in August 2025, with an increase in the number of violations (+6%) and a decrease in the number of victims (-5%).
16. **The main violations perpetrated by State actors** were primarily related to arbitrary arrest and/or detention and conditions of detention that do not comply with national and international standards (57), mostly attributable to the Gendarmerie and the Police; the right to physical and mental integrity (28), with FACA and OSP members responsible for the majority of cases; and the right to property (21). Among State actors, the FACA committed the highest number of violations (45 violations affecting 39 victims). The Police<sup>15</sup> was responsible for the highest number of victims (21 violations affecting 64 victims). The Gendarmerie<sup>16</sup> were responsible for 21 violations affecting 46 victims, and the OSP for 19

<sup>12</sup> The total compiled percentages may exceed 100% due to victims of multiple violations.

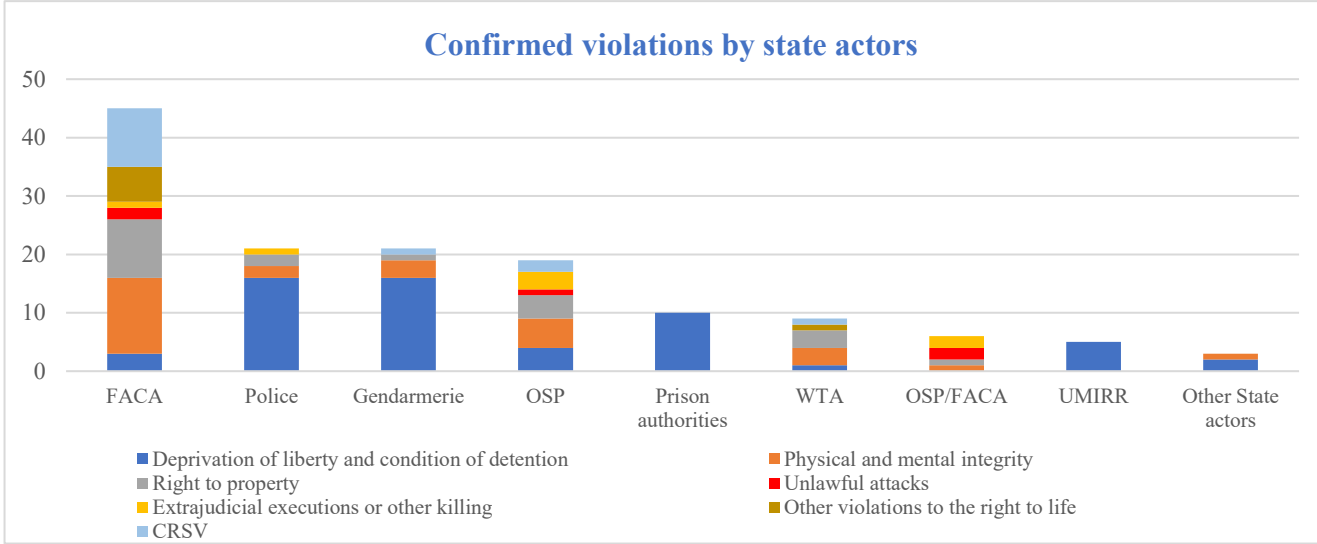
<sup>13</sup> In the following map, Ouham-Pendé represents the combined figures for Ouham-Pendé and Lim-Pendé, as it is based on the former administrative boundaries when Lim-Pendé was still part of Ouham-Pendé.

<sup>14</sup> One victim suffered the same violation by two separate actors in the same incident, causing them to be counted twice when disaggregating the data.

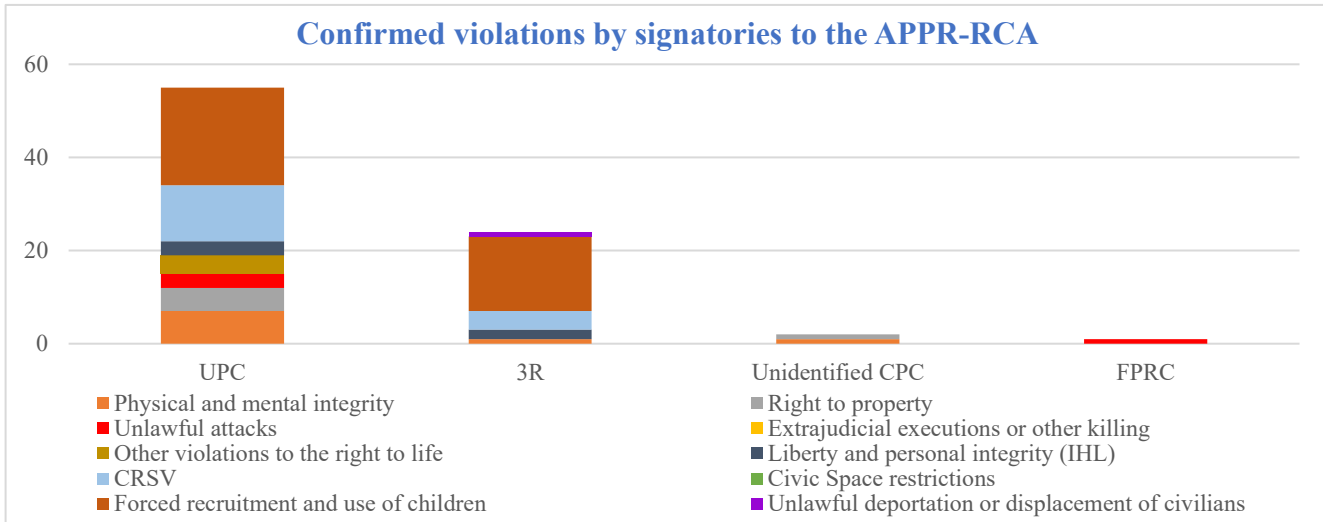
<sup>15</sup> The figures for the Police include also violations committed by its specialized units, namely the *Office Central de répression du banditisme* (OCRB) (four violations affecting 18 victims).

<sup>16</sup> The figures for the Gendarmerie include also violations committed by its specialized units, namely the *Brigade de Recherche et d'Intervention* (BRI) (one violation affecting three victims).

violations affecting 49 victims.<sup>17</sup> The **Kaga** Region was the most affected Region both in terms of violations and victims by State actors (40 violations affecting 92 victims), followed by the **Haut-Oubangui** Region (29 violations affecting 23 victims). Of note, violations by *Wagner Ti Azande* (WTA) that occurred between May 2024 and January 2025 were also documented during this reporting period.



17. **Armed groups signatories to the APPR-RCA were responsible for 82 human rights abuses and breaches of international humanitarian law affecting 71 victims** (nine men, nine women, nine girls, 38 boys, and six groups of collective victims). In comparison to August 2025, this represents decrease in both the number of abuses (-15%) and number of victims (-32%),<sup>18</sup> predominantly due to a constant decrease in abuses attributable to the 3R since the N’Djamena Agreement.
18. **The main abuses perpetrated by armed groups signatories to the APPR-RCA were related to forced recruitment (37 abuses affecting 37 victims), partially reflecting the recent increase in the separation of minors from armed groups within the DD process, CRSV (16 cases affecting 16 victims) and abuses to the right to physical and mental integrity (nine abuses affecting 12 victims).** Among armed groups

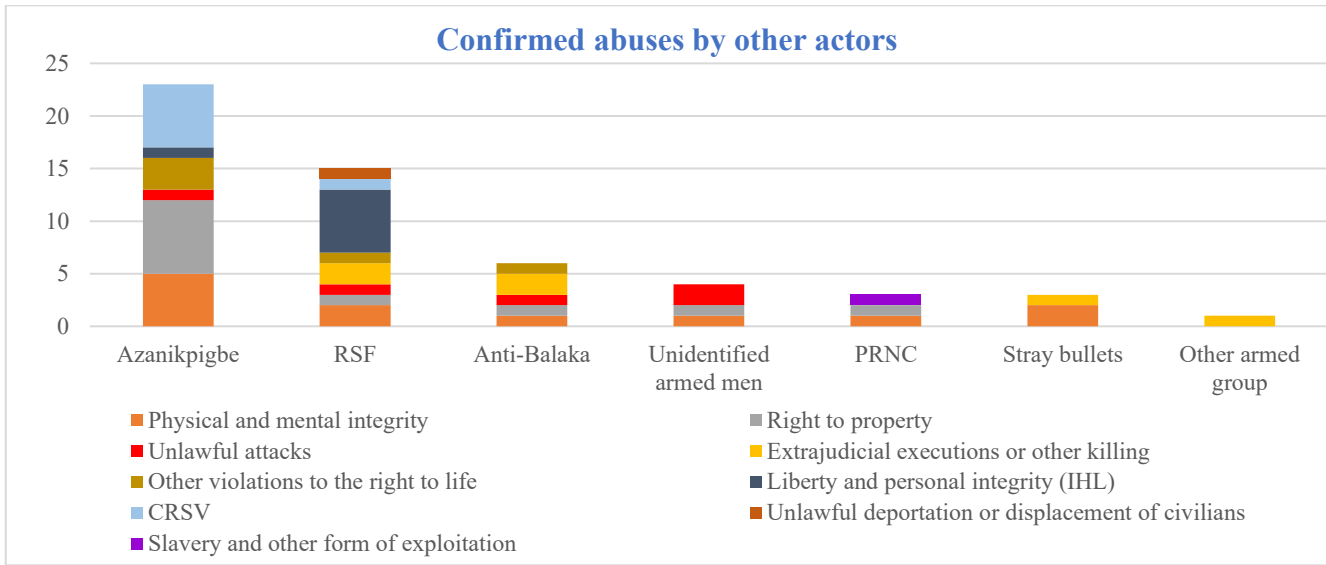


<sup>17</sup> In the graph below, the “Others” refers to the *Compagnie Nationale de Sécurité* (CNS) (two violations affecting six victims) as well as the sub-prefect of a village (one violation affecting one victim).

<sup>18</sup> In August 2025, armed groups signatories to the APPR-RCA committed 96 abuses affecting 105 victims.

signatories to the APPR-RCA, the UPC were the main perpetrators (55 abuses affecting 50 victims),<sup>19</sup> followed by the 3R (24 abuses affecting 20 victims). Most of the abuses committed by armed groups signatories to the APPR-RCA took place in the **Kaga Region** (46%), which also recorded the highest number of abuses and victims (38 abuses affecting 35 victims).

19. **Other actors were responsible for 54 abuses affecting 68 victims** (31 men, 15 women, nine girls, four boys and nine groups of collective victims). In comparison to August 2025, this represents a significant increase in both the number of abuses (+69%) and victims (+155%),<sup>20</sup> primarily due to the resurgence of Azanikpigbe and activities by the RSF. Abuses were mainly related to the right to physical and mental integrity (12 abuses affecting 26 victims), the right to life (11 abuses affecting 25 victims), including one victim of extrajudicial killing, and the right to property (11 abuses affecting 24 victims). The main perpetrators were Azanikpigbe (23 abuses affecting 22 victims), the RSF (15 abuses affecting 10 victims), and Anti-Balaka not affiliated to the CPC (six abuses affecting six victims).



## Typology of human rights violations and abuses and violations of IHL

### Conflict-Related Sexual Violence (CRSV)

20. During the reporting period, MINUSCA documented **36 CRSV cases affecting 38 victims** (one man, 23 women, and 14 girls), 35% of which occurred during the reporting period. The main form of CRSV continued to be rape, including gang rape, followed by attempted rape, forced marriage, and sexual assault and harassment. Some of the CRSV cases were perpetrated alongside other human rights violations and abuses such as abduction, cruel, inhuman, or degrading treatment, extrajudicial or summary killing, and violation of the right to property. The fact that the number of perpetrators of CRSV is more than twice the number of victims, indicates that on average, a victim may have been raped by more than one perpetrator. The main perpetrators of CRSV were **armed groups signatories to the APPR-RCA**, most notably the UPC (12 cases affecting 12 victims) primarily in the Ouham-Fafa Prefecture (close to DD assembly sites), and the 3R (four cases affecting four victims), primarily in the Ouham-Pendé Prefecture. Regarding **State actors**, FACA elements were responsible for 10 cases against 10 victims primarily in the Haut-Mbomou and Haute-Kotto Prefectures; OSP (two cases affecting two victims); the Gendarmerie (one case affecting two victims); and the WTA (one case affecting one victim).

<sup>19</sup> Out of the 55 abuses affecting 50 victims documented in September 2025 and attributed to the UPC, 7% of the abuses and 10% of the victims relate to incidents that occurred during the reporting period.

<sup>20</sup> In August 2025, other actors committed 32 abuses affecting 27 victims.

**Other actors** were responsible for six cases affecting seven victims, attributable to Azanikpigbe (five cases affecting six victims) in the Haut-Mbomou Prefecture, and the RSF (one case affecting one victim) in the Vakaga Prefecture.

21. Trends and patterns<sup>21</sup> highlight the increasing risk of CRSV by armed elements assembled within the scope of the ongoing DD process particularly in Kette-Sido (Ouham-Fafa Prefecture). It is worth noting that due to security concerns and limited access, allegations of abuses including rape by Azanikpigbe members in the **Haut-Mbomou** Prefecture could not be investigated and documented during the reporting period.

### Right to life

22. During the reporting period, MINUSCA documented **29 violations/abuses of the right to life affecting 55 victims** (31 men, 14 women, seven girls, two boys, and one collective victim), including summary or extrajudicial killings (14 violations/abuses affecting 25 men, six women, one girl, and one boy), death threats (14 violations/abuses affecting 20 victims), and death in custody (one violation affecting one victim). Most violations were attributed to **State actors** (14 violations affecting 26 victims, including 19 victims of extrajudicial killings, primarily due to activities by OSP). The FACA, acting alone, were responsible for the highest number of violations (seven violations affecting nine victims, including three victims of extrajudicial killings), OSP were responsible for the highest number of victims (three violations affecting 13 victims, all victims of extrajudicial killings) including for instance, the killing of six men on 3 September in the OSP base after they were arrested at the Ndassima mining site.
23. **Other actors** were responsible for 11 abuses affecting 25 victims, including 14 victims of summary killings. Azanikpigbe members were responsible for the highest number of abuses and victims (three abuses affecting nine victims), all of which were death threats. Non-CPC-affiliated Anti-Balaka were responsible for three abuses affecting four victims (including three victims of summary killings), followed by the RSF with three abuses affecting three victims (including two victims of summary killings). Other armed groups were responsible for two abuses affecting two victims, both victims of summary killings, while stray bullets were responsible for one abuse affecting seven victims. On 1 September, a clash between the UPC and MPC at the Kotabara mining site resulted in civilian casualties/fatalities, including nine wounded (seven men and two women), and seven killed (three men and four women). **Armed groups signatories of the APPR-RCA** were responsible for four abuses affecting four victims, all victims of death threats attributable to the UPC.
24. In line with its obligations under Article 3 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) and Article 6 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), the State guarantees the right to life of every individual, including the responsibility to ensure transparent investigations into actions by State and non-State actors to determine the cause of death and to ensure accountability.

### Deprivation of liberty and conditions of detention

25. During the reporting period, MINUSCA documented **57 violations related to deprivation of liberty and conditions of detention affecting 150 victims** (106 men, seven women, 22 boys, and 15 groups of collective victims). Most violations were related to arbitrary arrest and/or detention (25 affecting 100 victims), largely due to detention beyond the legal time limit for custody.
26. Detention conditions in several facilities/centres continue to raise serious concerns due to both structural deficiencies and individual violations. At the Gendarmerie Brigade in Bonewala, Mambéré-Kadeï Prefecture, the absence of categorical separation of women and minors from men remains a challenge

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<sup>21</sup> The analysis of CRSV trends and patterns includes information from both confirmed and alleged CRSV cases. In September 2025, the trends and pattern analysis includes the information from 48 CRSV cases, affecting 48 victims.



with 21 men and six women being held together in a single cell leading to the sexual assault of a female detainee by another male detainee. Ngaragba prison continues to experience overcrowding and serious hygiene and health challenges, including inadequate food and medical supplies. Of note, on 18 September, a man with a known history of diabetes who had been detained in Ngaragba prison since 18 August and who was admitted to the prison’s infirmary on 14 September, died shortly after being transferred to the hospital.

27. It is worth highlighting that persons in custody and detainees are protected by various national laws, including the Constitution, the *Code pénal* (Criminal Code), and the *Code de procédure pénale* (Criminal Procedure Code) adopted by laws n°10.001, n°10.002, and the law n°12.003 on fundamental principles of the prison system.<sup>22</sup>

### Right to liberty and personal integrity

28. During the reporting period, MINUSCA documented **12 abuses to the right to liberty and personal integrity**<sup>23</sup> affecting **13 victims**, all abductions. Most of these abuses were committed by the RSF (six abuses affecting six victims), followed by the UPC (three abuses affecting three victims), the 3R (two abuses affecting two victims), and Azanikpigbe (one abuse affecting two victims). Abuses related to the right to liberty and personal integrity are often linked to other violations, such as forced recruitment, CRSV, or appropriation of property. For example, on 20 September, in Dangoré, Vakaga Prefecture, a 53-year-old man was abducted by RSF members and brought to Um-Dafuq in Sudan where they tortured him for four days to reveal the whereabouts of persons of Kara and Sara ethnic groups and members of OSP.
29. In line with its responsibilities under Article 3 of the UDHR, Article 9 of the ICCPR, and Article 6 of the African Charter on Human and Peoples’ Rights (ACHPR), the CAR Government is obligated to take measures to prevent and investigate violations and abuses of the right to liberty and personal integrity.

### Right to physical and mental integrity

30. During the period under review, MINUSCA documented **49 violations/abuses of the right to physical and mental integrity**<sup>24</sup> affecting **97 victims**,<sup>25</sup> including cruel, inhuman, or degrading treatment (24 violations/abuses affecting 43 victims), threats to physical and mental integrity (15 violations/abuses affecting 19 victims), torture (seven violations/abuses affecting 23 victims), excessive or disproportionate use of force (one violation/abuse affecting 10 victims), and maiming and injuries (two violations/abuses affecting five victims). **State actors** were responsible for 28 violations affecting 72 victims, perpetrated mainly by FACA (13 violations affecting 18 victims) and the OSP (five violations affecting 28 victims). **Armed groups signatories to the APPR-RCA** were responsible for nine abuses affecting 12 victims, attributable to UPC (seven abuses affecting 10 victims), the 3R (one abuse affecting one victims), and unidentified CPC (one abuse affecting one victim). **Other actors** were responsible for 12 abuses affecting 26 victims, primarily by the Azanikpigbe (five abuses affecting 11 victims) or injured by stray bullets (two abuses affecting 10 victims). On 10 September, a UPC member who had arrived in Maloum (Ouaka Prefecture) within the context of the DD process threatened a family and entered their home. Once inside the home, he set it on fire, resulting in varying degrees of burns to the five occupants

<sup>22</sup> Additional national texts protecting persons in custody and detainees: Decree n°160090 on standard internal regulations applicable to prisons in the Central African Republic, decree n°160087 on the organization and operation of prisons in the Central African Republic and determining their internal regulations, as well as decree n°160088 redefining the framework of the prison administration.

<sup>23</sup> The right to liberty and personal integrity includes protection against abduction, deprivation of liberty, and hostage-taking (violations and breaches of international humanitarian law).

<sup>24</sup> Violations related to the right to physical and mental integrity include ill-treatment, torture and maiming and injuries.

<sup>25</sup> Three of the 97 victims suffered two different violations within this category.

of the house (a man, a woman, and their three children). The family’s 5-year-old girl suffered severe burns. All family members received medical care.

31. In line with its obligations under Article 5 of the UDHR, Article 7 of ICCPR and Articles 2 and 16 of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and Articles 4 and 5 of the ACHPR, the CAR Government is expected to take concrete steps to prevent and investigate cases relating to torture and cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment. Additionally, other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment is prohibited under Article 16, paragraph 4 of the Constitution of CAR.

### Right to property

32. MINUSCA documented **38 violations/abuses of the right to property**,<sup>26</sup> affecting **72 victims**, related to destruction or appropriation of property (35 affecting 69 victims) and illegal taxation (three violations affecting three victims). **State actors** were responsible for 21 violations affecting 35 victims, **armed group signatories to the APPR-RCA** were responsible for six abuses affecting 13 victims, and **other actors** were responsible for 11 abuses affecting 24 victims. The main perpetrators in terms of violations were the FACA (10 violations affecting 10 victims), while the main perpetrators in terms of victims were the police (two violations affecting 16 victims). On 1 September, on a road entering Zémio (Haut-Oubangui Prefecture), FACA elements set up an illegal barrier and imposed “taxes” of XAF 1,000 (about 1.78 USD) on road users, which adversely impacted the return of IDPs from Rafai.
33. Pursuant to Article 17 of the UDHR and Article 14 of the ACHPR, the CAR Government is expected to take measures to protect the right to property of all individuals living on its territory. Furthermore, Article 3 common to the Geneva Conventions and the Additional Protocol to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949 relating to the protection of victims of non-international armed conflicts (Protocol II), prohibit the parties to the conflict from targeting civilian property and protected property.

### Unlawful attacks

34. MINUSCA documented **14 unlawful attacks**<sup>27</sup> affecting two women and 11 groups of collective victims. These included four incidents of attacks against civilians (by FACA/OSP, RSF, Anti-Balaka, and unidentified armed men); four incidents of illegal occupation and attacks on protected objects (by OSP, FACA, UPC, and unidentified armed men); four incidents due to a lack of measures and precautions to protect the civilian population or objects against the effects of attacks; and two incidents of denial of humanitarian relief (by Azanikpigbe and UPC). For example, on 27 September, OSP and FACA acting jointly carried out an attack on a camp in Gbatoro (19 km West of Bouar), Nana-Mambéré Prefecture in a search operation for Anti-Balaka members. In the process, several Anti-Balaka fighters were killed, and at least one civilian was also killed, and two injured, due to a lack of precautionary measures to ensure distinction between armed combatants and civilians.
35. Article 3 common to the Geneva Conventions, the Additional Protocol to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949 relating to the protection of victims of non-international armed conflicts (Protocol II), as well as Articles 7 and 8 of the Rome Statute, prohibit parties to the conflict from carrying out indiscriminate attacks against protected persons and property.

<sup>26</sup> The right to property includes protection from destruction or appropriation of property and illegal taxation.

<sup>27</sup> Unlawful attacks include attacks against civilians, attacks against other protected persons, the failure of precautions to protect the civilian population or objects under a party’s control against the effects of attacks, and denial of humanitarian relief.

## Children in Armed Conflict

36. During the reporting period, the CTFMR<sup>28</sup> verified **57 grave child rights violations affecting 45 children** (38 boys and seven girls), a decrease compared to the previous reporting period, during which 102 grave violations affecting 68 children were documented. The decrease is due to a high number of children verified to be associated with the UPC and 3R during the ongoing disarmament and demobilization operations as *per* the 19 April Agreement during the previous month of August, which saw an increase in verifications. During the period under review, 100 children were identified to be associated with the UPC and 3R as part of ongoing disarmament and demobilization operations but have not yet been counted in the present report as the CTFMR is yet to conduct a verification mission and has yet to support the separation of the children.

### Act to Protect Campaign

Through the “**Act to Protect**” campaign, **368 peacekeepers** (309 men and 59 women) were trained on the protection of children during armed conflict. Similar trainings and awareness sessions were delivered to **1075 local authorities** (686 men and 389 women), including FACA and ISF as well as community members and leaders, youth leaders, members of local peace committees, and members of INGOs and NGOs, with a view to enabling them to engage in the protection of children.

37. Of the 57 violations verified, 84% (48) occurred outside the reporting period but were verified during the period under review. The **main perpetrators were armed groups, which accounted for 88% of the violations (50)**, predominantly recruitment and use of children and abduction. **State actors** were responsible for 9% of the violations (five), while **other actors** accounted for 3% (two). Five children (three boys and two girls) were victims of multiple violations: abduction and use (three) and abduction, recruitment, and use, and rape (two). The violations documented included: recruitment and use (37), abduction (eight), rape and other forms of sexual violence (five), attacks against hospitals or medical personnel (three), denial of humanitarian access (two), and maiming and injuries (two). Armed groups committed 50 violations, with responsibility attributable to the UPC (27), the 3R (19), the RSF (three), and Azanikpigbe (one). State actors committed five violations, with the FACA accounting for four of these, and the OSP for one. Unidentified armed individuals were responsible for two violations. Ouaka was the most affected Prefecture with 26 violations, followed by Ouham-Pendé (19), Vakaga (four), Haute-Kotto (three), Haut-Mbomou (two), and Basse-Kotto, Nana-Grébizi, and Nana-Mambéré with one each.
38. MINUSCA continued dialogue with 3R and UPC leadership to secure the release of children recruited and used following the 19 April Agreement. Following this advocacy and CTFMR missions in Mbomou and Ouham-Pende Prefectures, 100 children, including 39 girls, were identified. The CTFMR is planning missions to verify and separate the children for reintegration in the coming weeks and months.

## Human Rights Promotion and Capacity-Building

39. During the period under review, the **HRD organised or took part in 64 activities** (awareness-raising, advocacy, trainings, and capacity-building workshops) across **11 Prefectures**,<sup>29</sup> **benefitting 2,392**

<sup>28</sup> The information in this section has been collected by the MINUSCA Child Protection Unit. The Security Council has created mechanisms and tools to implement the mandate on the protection of children in armed conflict, including through Security Council Resolution 1612 (2005), which establishes the Monitoring and Reporting Mechanism (MRM) to collect reliable and up-to-date information on violations committed against children by the parties to the conflict, as well as the Security Council Working Group on Children and Armed Conflict.

<sup>29</sup> Bamingui-Bangoran, Bangui, Haute-Kotto, Haut-Mbomou, Mambéré-Kadeï, Mbomou, Nana-Grébizi, Nana-Mambéré, Ouaka, Ouham, and Vakaga.

**individuals (including 1,648 men, 620 women, 24 girls, and 100 boys).** Participants included, among others, national and local authorities, representatives and members of civil society, human rights defenders, youth and women’s organisations, justice and penitentiary actors, detainees, FACA, ISF, students, and community and religious leaders. The activities focused on human rights and international humanitarian law, civil and political rights related to the electoral process, the protection of children, the peace process, MINUSCA’s mandate, the prevention of CRSV and gender-based violence (SGBV), transhumance issues and the fight against hate speech, and human rights in detention.

40. In particular, **HRD organised or took part in six election-related activities** (awareness-raising and monitoring) across **three Prefectures**,<sup>30</sup> **benefitting 456 individuals (including 257 men and 199 women)** during the reporting period. Four activities focused on various aspects of the electoral process including the right to vote, the right to participate and run for office in elections, including women’s participation and the obstacles they faced in exercising their rights, hate speech within the context of elections and non-discrimination. The HRD also monitored hate speech in Bouar, observing a public gathering, and monitored the roll-out of the DD process in Nana-Mambéré Prefecture.
41. **The HRD conducted 39 monitoring visits to detention centres and facilities in 12 Prefectures**,<sup>31</sup> **and documented 121 victims of arbitrary detention.** MINUSCA continues to be granted access to most detention centres and facilities to monitor the situation and engage with relevant authorities to advocate for and support efforts to enhance respect for human rights.

### **Human Rights Due Diligence Policy (HRDDP)**

42. During the period under review, 34 risk assessments were conducted relating to MINUSCA’s support to the Defence and Internal Security Forces (FACA, ISF, and other law enforcement officers). Human rights background checks were conducted for a total of 247 beneficiaries including 184 ISF (83 Police officers and 101 Gendarmes), 52 FACA officers, 11 Prison officers.
43. Beneficiaries were provided with logistical, financial, and technical support, including air transportation for non-UN security forces on various missions to and from Bangui.
44. The risks identified in these assessments were deemed low and medium. Among the individuals screened, five were excluded for involvement in human rights violations. Based on these assessments, MINUSCA’s support was approved with a set of recommendations and mitigation measures, including the need to continuously build the capacity of the non-UN security forces on international human rights law, international humanitarian law and the necessary skills and techniques in maintaining and restoring law and order.

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<sup>30</sup> Haute-Kotto, Mambéré, Nana-Mambéré.

<sup>31</sup> Bamingui-Bangoran, Bangui, Haute-Kotto, Haut-Mbomou, Lim-Pendé, Lobaye, Mambéré-Kadéï, Mbomou, Nana-Grébizi, Nana-Mambéré, Ouaka, and Vakaga.