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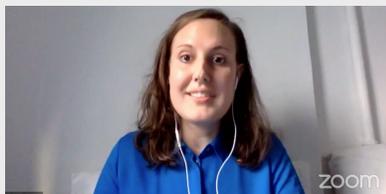
Updates for the Coalition for Dialogue and Negotiations

The Southern Cameroons Incident Tracker: <https://reportscatrocities.info>

[Juliette Paauwe Speaks at the Launch of the Coalition for Dialogue and Negotiation's Southern Cameroons Incident Tracker](#)

By Juliette Paauwe | February 10, 2021

On 10 February Global Centre Senior Research Analyst Juliette Paauwe delivered remarks on the situation in Cameroon during the launch event for the Southern Cameroons Incident Tracker. The event, hosted by the Coalition for Dialogue and Negotiation, focused on how, through utilizing technology, the tracker will help victims report and document evidence of major human rights violations and abuses for future judicial proceedings. A full recording of the event is available [here](#).



[CDN Holds International Forum on U.S. Resolution to End Conflict & Genocide in Southern Cameroons](#)

By Coalition for Dialogue and Negotiations | February 13, 2021

The Coalition for Dialogue and Negotiations (CDN) today held an online international forum on the implications and



Coalition
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opportunity U.S. Senate Resolution 684 will have on the deadly ongoing conflict in the Southern Cameroons. S.Res.684 is a resolution calling on the Government of Cameroon and separatist armed groups from the English-speaking Northwest and Southwest regions to end all violence, respect the human rights of all Cameroonians, and pursue a genuinely inclusive dialogue toward resolving the ongoing civil conflict in Anglophone Cameroon. CDN's virtual forum brought together experts on genocide, foreign policy experts and members of Parliaments from 5 countries including South Africa, France, Canada, Germany and the United States of America. Recorded video of today's forum featuring the participants listed below is available on the CDN Facebook page at [@CoalitionFDN](#). Live link [here](#).

Opening remarks were given by **U.S. Representative Karen Bass**, Chairperson, Subcommittee on Africa, Global Health and Global Human Rights, House Foreign Affairs Committee, United States Congress.

John Tomaszewski ("JT"), Lead Professional Staff Member on Sub-Saharan Africa at the U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee gave an overview of S.Res.684 and led a discussion of potential next steps.

Cameroon Detains Eight Soldiers After Torture Video Emerge

By Bate Felix and Richard Chang | February 15, 2021

Cameroon has detained eight soldiers after a video emerged over the weekend showing them in uniform torturing a victim with a machete until he fell unconscious, the Central African nation's defense ministry said on Monday. The incident, which occurred on Feb. 11 in the North West Region, one of the country's English-speaking regions where separatist insurgents have been battling government forces since 2017, is the latest in a series of atrocities and suspected rights abuse in the drawn-out conflict. The ministry said the man in the video was suspected of helping separatist fighters. Reuters has not verified the video. The video widely shared and decried on social media shows a shirtless man lying on the floor. A soldier steps on his back to keep him steady, then flogs him with the flat side of a machete, while another soldier wets the man's buttocks. Another video sequence shows a soldier standing on the victim's ankles as he lies on the ground. The soldier then uses the flat end of the machete to beat the soles of the victim's feet as he screams, while another soldier slaps him. The video later shows the unresponsive man lying face down, head in a gutter. A soldier prods him with the muzzle of his rifle, while another soldier says off camera that they should hold off because they do not know if the victim is a separatist fighter.

Additional expert perspectives on prospects and actions for international advocacy around S.Res.684 was provided by **Hon. Darren Bergman**: Member of the Foreign Relations and Cooperation Committee of the South African Parliament, Vice-Chair: Democracy, Governance & Human Rights, SADC Parliamentary Forum, Member of Liberal International Human Rights Committee; **Hon. Sebastien Nadot**: Member of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the French Parliament and **Hon. Stefan Kaufmann**, member of the German Bundestag.

Salient aspects of S.Res.684 for ending the conflict and restoring justice & peace was covered by **Dr. Christopher Fomunyoh**: Senior Associate and Regional Director for West and Central Africa at the National Democratic Institute (NDI) and Member of the CDN's Advisory Board; **Dr. Chris Roberts**: Foreign Policy Analyst and Political Science Instructor, University of Calgary, Canada; **Ms. Iffat Rahman**: Human Rights Advocate, Special Representative of the African Bar Association; and **Kyra Fox**: Research Assistant: United States Holocaust Memorial Museum's Center for the Prevention of Genocide.

Visit the CDN Facebook page (https://fb.watch/3D_-lpBQ1c/) to view a recording of the forum.

Website: Coalition for Dialogue and Negotiations (<https://coalitionfdn.org/>)

In Cameroon's Separatist War, Children are the Biggest Losers

By Emeline Fonyuy | February 13, 2021

I long for a Cameroon where anglophone children no longer mimic the sound of gunfire, and Mondays are no longer "stay-at-home" days decreed by armed men. I want to go back to a time – not so long ago – when education was a religion in every household, and schools were places children were eager to



Sand covers a puddle of blood in a classroom following a shooting at a school in Kumba, in Cameroon's Southwest region, in October 2020. (Josiane Kouagheu/REUTERS)

[Separatists Kill 3 Soldiers in Southwestern Cameroon](#)

By Rodrigue Forku and Peter Kum | February 15, 2021

Three members of the Cameroonian Navy have been killed in an ambush attributed to English-speaking separatists, a local official said Monday. The incident occurred on Sunday in Ekondo-Titi, a coastal town in the country's South West region. "Four soldiers belonging to the 21st battalion of the Navy were ambushed in the village Bekora Barombi in Ekondo-Titi, not far from their post," Nwafua Laurence, a local official, told Anadolu Agency. "Three of the sailors were killed while the fourth was seriously injured." Ekondo-Titi, located near the border with Nigeria, is regularly targeted by English-speaking separatists.

[Army Captain Allegedly Killed by Ambazonia Fighters in Kumbo](#)

By Francis Ajurnane | February 16, 2021

A military captain has reportedly been killed by armed Ambazonia separatist fighters in Kumbo, Bui division in the North West Region, sources have confirmed. The captain, Thierry Engbwe Omgba was killed after successfully leading an operation to detonate some land mines that had been planted on the road. It is only after clearing the road and on their way back that he received a bullet from the bush from armed men believed to be Ambazonia separatist fighters who took off. This brings to four, the number of uniform officers killed this weekend in the restive Anglophone regions after three marine officers were killed in Ekondo Titi, South West Region on Sunday.

attend, promising a brighter future. These days, we have school massacres, boycotts, kidnappings. We have more than 80 percent of schools closed, and over 1.1 million children out of class. We have teachers and students stripped naked, terrified, jeered at by gunmen, and those images posted to social media. Much of the killing and violence in this conflict has been by the government security forces – their abuses well documented by rights groups. The counter-insurgency campaign fuels the cycle of violence, and the alleged impersonation of separatist fighters adds confusion to the tragedy. But lately, trust in the separatist fighters has also begun to fade. They have enforced an unpopular school boycott since 2016 to protest what they see as the dismantling of the region's separate education system, and its assimilation within French-speaking Cameroon. The turning point for public sympathy came in October 2020, when armed men stormed a school in Kumba in the Southwest region and killed seven children and wounded 13 others. Nobody has claimed responsibility for the attack, although the government blamed the separatists. The Kumba killing became just one in a series. In November, gunmen attacked Kulu Memorial College in the Southwest, and to punish the teachers and students for attending school, stripped them naked and beat them. Barely 24 hours later, 11 teachers were kidnapped by armed men from a mission school in Kumbo, in the Northwest region. They were released after two days, following pressure from civil society groups and the Presbyterian church. Intimidated, the local population sits on the fence for fear of being tagged as sympathizers by either side. Others are packing up and leaving the conflict zones. Women and girls have been hardest hit by the school closures and lockdowns imposed by the separatists – with a spike in teenage pregnancy, rape, and transactional sex. In Kumbo, a hotbed of the crisis in the Northwest region, a government health survey of girls aged between 15 and 19 found that the majority were out of school and almost half had become teen mothers. Yaoundé and major cities like Douala and Bafoussam have seen a huge influx of displaced people. The streets are full of young anglophone children hawking goods. In private homes, young girls are employed as domestic workers, earning as little as \$35 a month. And then came COVID-19 last year. It shut down the world but not the war, and has made the struggles of already poor and vulnerable households so much worse. Even if parents wanted to send their children to school, the fees are a burden that many can no longer afford. I sometimes wonder what would have become of me if I hadn't mustered the courage to ignore the unrest and complete my studies at the University of Buea. I have opportunities now – working in Yaoundé – that so many children from the conflict zone will never have; children who these days can barely count to 10, let alone read. That is leading to some rethinking among separatist leaders in the diaspora – where nearly all are based – over the continuation of the school boycott. After championing the ban for the past four years, activists like Mark Baretta and Eric Tataw, for

Lebialem Community to Protest Against Separatist Atrocities

By Journal du Cameroun |
February 16, 2021

The Lebialem community resident in Yaounde will on Tuesday, February 16 stage a march at the National Museum to protest against separatist atrocities back home. The protest is organized by Minister Paul Tasong who is an elite of Lebialem and comes just days after three traditional chiefs in Lebialem were pulled out of their houses in Lebialem and reportedly killed by separatist fighters. In a release announcing the manifestation, Minister Paul Tasong called on all Lebialem sons and daughters resident in Yaounde and environs to converge on the esplanade of the National Museum at 3pm in order to join forces to condemn these atrocities. He equally called on the Lebialem community to remain vigilant and join forces with defense and security forces to fish out those responsible for the atrocities.



example, have pressed for armed fighters to allow children to go back to school. That is good news. But how does the damage of four lost years get repaired? There was a time when schools in the anglophone region were famous throughout the country as bastions of quality education. This war was supposedly waged to liberate and raise up our children. Poverty and illiteracy seem the only winners.

Cameroon Says Radio Contributes to Solving Crises, COVID-19

By Moki Edwin Kindzeka | February 13, 2021

World Radio Day (February 13) was observed in crisis-prone Cameroon, with journalists and other media practitioners calling the medium an important tool in reducing crises and COVID-19. Cameroon has been broadcasting messages of peace and reconciliation, especially to separatists fighting to create an English-speaking state in the French-speaking majority Cameroon. Some fighters say they dropped their weapons after listening to radio messages. This is the voice of Cameroonian President Paul Biya warning Cameroonians to beware of a resurgence of COVID-19. The message, urging Cameroonians to always wear face masks, wash their hands regularly and consult health staff if people notice COVID-19 symptoms, is played before and during primetime news on many radio stations. Cameroon's Public Health Ministry says that, thanks to radio, the message has reached millions of Cameroonians who now protect themselves from the coronavirus. Journalists in Cameroon broadcast special programs on the history and importance of radio and why radio can be trusted to mark the day. Some marched on the streets of the capital Yaoundé to stress its importance. Geraldine Fobang is a journalist with the Christian Broadcasting Service, based in the English-speaking western town of Buea, and president of the NGO Cameroon Community Media Network. She says many Cameroonians now distinguish between hate language and propaganda on social media and verifiable information on radio. "If something is not said on radio, some people will not believe it, that is why when they see anything on social media, the next thing is to tune to the radio that [where] people get credible and factual information," Fobang said. "It is a dire need for journalists working within this traditional media [radio] to be very conscious of what they send out. Cameroon has been using radio to communicate messages of unity and reconciliation in its western regions, where separatists have been fighting to create an English-speaking state out of the French-speaking majority country. Theodore Kiniben Dufe is a former fighter. He says while in the bush, he could only get information from a

solar-powered radio. Dufe says he escaped from a separatist camp in the English-speaking northwestern village of Mbuluf when he heard from the radio that surrendering fighters would not be arrested by the military. Cameroon says it is difficult to give statistics on how many fighters have surrendered because they listened to radio pleas for them to drop their weapons. Journalism associations, however, say radio's impact on peoples' lives is huge. People listen to the radio in their cars, shops, homes, offices and farms. Radios are cheaper than TVs, and newspapers are either not always available in the hinterlands or are out of reach for many. Cameroon has more than 200 radio stations. The central African state accuses some of the stations of propagating separatist ideology. The separatists accuse some journalists of broadcasting only information favorable to the government. Peter Essoka, president of Cameroon National Communication Council, says radio is essential for those who want to communicate in Cameroon. Essoka says journalists should work harder in verifying the information they broadcast, to continue to gain their audience's confidence.

Ex Ambazonia Combatants Protest in Bamenda

By Journal du Cameroun | February 16, 2021

Ex Ambazonia combatants at the Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration Centre in Bamenda on Monday, February 15 staged a protest to demand better living conditions. The ex fighters marched through the streets of Bamenda and went to see the Governor of the North West Region, Adolphe Lele L'Afrique to present their worries. The Governor, alongside the City Mayor, Paul Achobong listened to them and later urged them to put their demands in writing and submit to him. The Governor, sources say could be paying a visit to the centre on Wednesday to further discuss with the ex combatants. Monday's protest come just a week after ex combatants at the DDR Centre in Buea staged a protest on the streets to denounce their poor living conditions. A delegation was immediately sent with financial support to the centre and dozens of the ex fighters at the centre were also reintegrated into society.