

Crisis Group Commentary

2 March 2023

CrisisWatch - Our Monthly Conflict Tracker

CrisisWatch

March Alerts & February 2023 Trends

CrisisWatch warns of **one conflict risk alert** in March.

Deadly clashes erupted between **Somaliland** forces and local militias in Las Anod, the administrative capital of the contested Sool region. Violence could escalate further if fighting spreads beyond Las Anod or draws in other actors.

Our monthly conflict tracker highlighted **eight deteriorations** in February.

Back-to-back jihadist attacks in **Burkina Faso** left scores of military personnel dead; similar large-scale attacks in the past contributed to the ouster of former Presidents Kaboré and Damiba.

Al-Qaeda-affiliated jihadists launched their deadliest attack in **Togo** to date, killing dozens of civilians and indicating that the group has durably implanted itself in the country's north.

In Israel-Palestine, violence soared in the West Bank as Israeli forces conducted their deadliest raid in years, Israeli settlers rampaged the town of Hawara and Palestinians staged attacks, leaving dozens of Palestinians and seven Israelis dead.

Tunisian President Saïed's comments drawing links between migrants and criminality unleashed a wave of violence against sub-Saharan Africans, while authorities carried out the farthest-reaching arrest campaign in decades targeting opposition figures.

Tensions spiked in **Sri Lanka** after the government claimed a funding shortfall, forcing the election commission to indefinitely postpone local polls scheduled for March. Police cracked down on pro-election protests, killing an opposition politician.

Relations between **Moldova** and Russia sharply deteriorated amid allegations of Russian plans to topple the pro-European government in Chişinău, Russia's accusations of provocation in the breakaway region Transnistria and its violation of Moldova's airspace.

Aside from the conflict situations we usually cover, we tracked notable developments in **Benin** and **Indonesia**.

TRENDS IN FEBRUARY



Deteriorated Situations

Sri Lanka, Democratic Republic of Congo, Moldova, Tunisia, Togo, Somaliland, Burkina Faso, Israel/Palestine



Improved Situations

None

ALERTS FOR MARCH



Conflict Risk Alerts

Somaliland



Resolution Opportunities

None