

# Sudan Civil War: Status as on December 30, 2023

December 30, 2023

*ANALYSIS* by [www.DiGiNews360.com](http://www.DiGiNews360.com): *There seemed to be a stalemate after the Nyala setback to SAF* (Please see pages 7 and 8 at <https://diginews360.com/sudan-civil-war-peace-talks-hamdok-the-civil-front/> ).

Since 1950s, Sudan has been mired in civil wars in different parts of the 3<sup>rd</sup> largest country of Africa. Sudan has the potential of becoming a rich country. But it remains one of the poorest.

COUNTRY: AREA in Km<sup>2</sup>: **Algeria**:2,381,741; **DR Congo**: 2,344,858; **Sudan**:1,861,484; **Libya**:1,759,540

CIVIL WAR, starting on APRIL 15, 2023: The current situation in Sudan is complex and fluid. The present conflict is primarily a power struggle between the leaders of the **Sudanese Armed Forces** (SAF) and the **Rapid Support Forces** (RSF). The two groups, led by **General Abdel Fattah al-Burhan** and **Mohamed Hamdan "Hemedti" Dagalo**, respectively, are battling one another for control of the state and its resources.

The conflict has killed more than 10,000 people and displaced 5.6 million, 80 percent of whom are internally displaced and hundreds of thousands of whom have fled to unstable areas in **Chad, Ethiopia, and South Sudan**. The UN has pleaded for more support amid dire humanitarian conditions and a cholera outbreak.

The international community's efforts to broker peace have been uncoordinated and ineffectual, as various regional powers' efforts to pursue their own interests have exacerbated the situation.

Much will depend now on the degree of reinforcement the combatants receive from foreign patrons. The **United Arab Emirates** has the most documented relationship with the RSF, while **Egypt's** historic relationship with the SAF is well-established.

Khartoum, once **the emblem of a unified, independent Sudan**, is in the hands of the RSF, with the exception of some SAF strongholds. The city has suffered immensely due to the deployment of artillery and air power to dislodge the RSF. In the meantime, the RSF has consolidated its base in Darfur by capturing Nyala, a large SAF base. SAF has secured its base in Eastern Sudan headquartered at Port Sudan along the Red Sea coast.

EARLIER NEGOTIATIONS: Negotiations throughout 2022 over the future of Sudanese governance had culminated in a December 2022 deal laying the groundwork for a two-year transition to civilian leadership and national elections.

However, a civil war started between RSF and SAF on **April 15, 2023** and the existence of a Transitional Government and its Agreements is in doubt.



Reference: <https://acleddata.com/2023/12/01/sudan-situation-update-december-2023-unraveling-the-conflict-dynamics-in-darfur/>

The **Armed Conflict Location & Event Data Project (ACLED)** was created by **Clionadh Raleigh**, a Professor of Political Violence and Geography at the University of Sussex, in 2005 as a component of her PhD work. Since 2014, ACLED has operated as a **non-profit, non-governmental organization**

**incorporated in Wisconsin.** In 2022, ACLED expanded coverage to the entire world, collecting data in real time and publishing weekly updates.

The situation remains tense, and many largely uncoordinated mediation efforts have failed to produce results.

The **Civil Front to Stop the War in Sudan (CFSW)** is a coalition of political and civil forces that was formed, on Thursday April 27, 2023, to work towards **an immediate end to the war, address the humanitarian, health, and service needs of citizens, and restore the path of a comprehensive civil democratic transition.**

On October 26, 2023, the Front met at Addis Ababa, as reported by [www.DiGInews360.com](http://www.DiGInews360.com) on October 27, 2023 at <https://diginews360.com/sudan-civil-war-peace-talks-hamdok-the-civil-front/> on pages 1 and 2.

However, CFSW has not been able to prevent Sudan from descending into an all-out civil conflict.

BACKGROUND on the **Sudan People’s Liberation Movement–North (SPLM–N)** and its Agreement with the Government of Sudan: SPLM-N is a political party and militant organization in the Republic of Sudan, based in the **States of Blue Nile and South Kordofan** and led by **Abdelaziz al-Hilu**. The Group’s armed forces are formally known as the Sudan People’s Liberation Army–North (SPLA–N). The SPLM-N has been operating in a region inhabited by **minority Christians and followers of other beliefs** who long complained of **discrimination under al-Bashir’s rule.**

On Sunday, March 26, 2023, a “**declaration of principles**” was signed in **South Sudan’s** capital, **Juba** by SPLM-N and the Government of Sudan. The deal commits Sudan to **separating religion from the state** & the SPLM-N to integrating its forces into the SAF by the end of the transitional period.

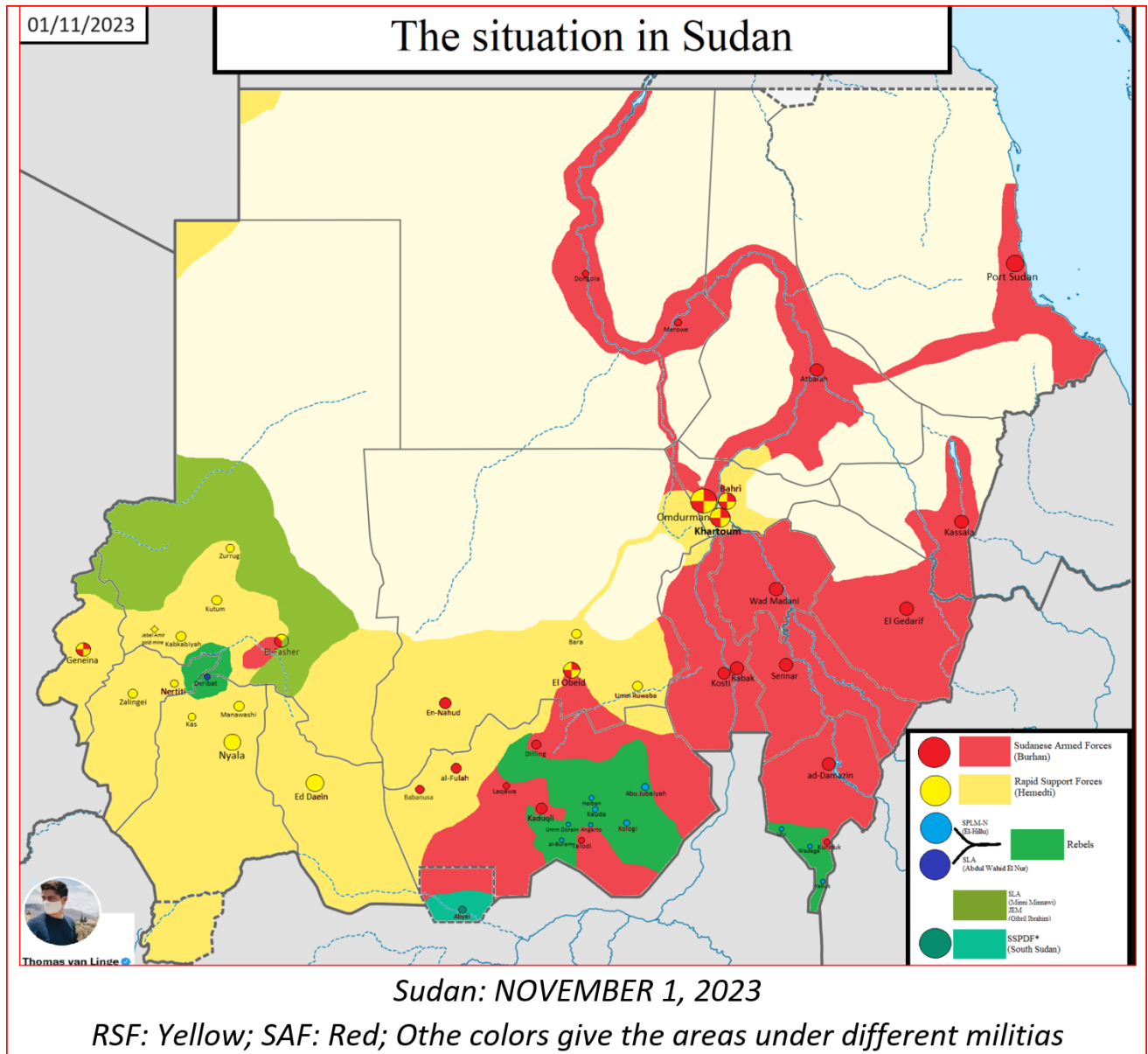
**Volker Perthes, United Nations special representative for Sudan,** welcomed the development, calling it “an important step forwards towards comprehensive peace in Sudan”.

HOPE & WARNING: Earlier, on March 20, 2023, at UNSC meeting, **Volkers** had said that the military and civilian signatories with the Trilateral Mechanism, the European Union and the **QUAD for Sudan** — namely, **Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, the United States and the United Kingdom** — a preparatory meeting had been convened at the **Republican Palace, in Juba, the capital of South Sudan,** to begin drafting of the final political agreement and a transitional constitution. He had

said that the formation of a civilian Government might begin before mid-April. Expressing concerns about the rising tensions between the Sudanese army and the Rapid Support Forces in recent weeks, he had said civilian parties will have to finalize discussions on mechanisms to select a Prime Minister and form a Government.

All hopes of a Civilian Government in Sudan collapsed, when a **Civil War started between RSF and SAF on April 15, 2023**.

As of 2023, the **al-Hilu faction** of the SPLM-N is fighting the **Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF)**, while the leader of the **Agar faction** was appointed into the military-run government.



**Note:** Please see the previous Reports on the Sudan Civil War by [www.DiGiNews360.com](http://www.DiGiNews360.com):

1. "Sudan Civil War: Peace Talks, Hamdok & the Civil Front" dated Nov 11, 2023 at <https://diginews360.com/sudan-civil-war-peace-talks-hamdok-the-civil-front/> .
2. "Sudanese Community in Windsor: Denounces the War" of May 13, 2023 at <https://diginews360.com/sudanese-community-in-windsor-denounces-the-war/>
3. "Sudan: 7-days Truce, mediated by South Sudan" of May 4, 2023 at <https://diginews360.com/sudan-7-days-truce-mediated-by-south-sudan/>
4. "Eid in Sudan: Ferocious Civil War continues" of April 21, 2023 at <https://diginews360.com/eid-in-sudan-ferocious-civil-war-continues/>
5. "Sudan Civil War: IGAD Calls for Immediate CEASEFIRE" of April 18, 2023 at <https://diginews360.com/sudan-civil-war-igad-calls-for-immediate-ceasefire/>
6. "UN SecGen: 'Immediate' Ceasefire in Sudan" of April 17, 2023 at <https://diginews360.com/un-secgen-immediate-ceasefire-in-sudan/>

**APPEAL by the UN Secretary-General:** The UN agencies have warned that Sudan could destabilize the entire region. The Secretary general has urged the international community to take urgent action to stop the violence and protect civilians.

The civil war has triggered an unimaginable humanitarian crisis, with 3.1 million people displaced, thousands killed or wounded, and widespread food insecurity and disease outbreaks. The UN has appealed for \$1.4 billion to provide humanitarian assistance to the affected population.

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