

Timeline of International Response to the Situation in Egypt

This timeline provides a chronological list of the major responses and policy actions by key international actors to the crisis in Egypt since President Mohammed Morsi was ousted in a military coup on 3 July 2013.

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Acronyms:

AU – African Union

EU – European Union

MB – Muslim Brotherhood

NATO – North Atlantic Treaty Organization

OHCHR – United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights

OSAPG – Office of the Special Advisor on the Prevention of Genocide

UAE – United Arab Emirates

UN – United Nations

UNESCO – United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

UNHCR – United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

UNICEF – United Nations Children’s Fund

UNSC – United Nations Security Council

UNSG – United Nations Secretary-General

US – United States of America

July 2013

4 July 2013

- **AU** – Chairperson of the Commission of the AU Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma states that the removal of President Morsi was in violation of the provisions of the Egyptian constitution and falls under AU doctrine on unconstitutional changes of Government. ([Source](#))
- **UNSG** – Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon expresses concern about “military interference” in Egypt and urges a quick return to civilian rule. He also reminds Egyptian authorities of their obligation to protect their citizens’ rights to freedom of speech and assembly. ([Source](#))

5 July 2013

- **AU** – The Peace and Security Council of the AU suspends the participation of Egypt in all AU activities until the restoration of “constitutional order” in the country. ([Source](#))
- **OHCHR** – Navi Pillay stresses the need to restore the rule of law in Egypt and urges a major effort by Egyptian authorities “to deter and punish any acts of vengeance.” She emphasizes that authorities must respect the human rights of all Egyptians, including the freedoms of speech and assembly. ([Source](#))
- **UNSG** – Ban Ki-moon urges security forces to protect protesters and calls on security forces and protesters to act “exclusively by peaceful means.” He also expresses concern with reports of sexual violence in protest sites. ([Source](#))

6 July 2013

- **Qatar** – Qatar-based Sunni cleric Youssef al-Qaradawi declares in a fatwa that the Egyptian army and the necessity to support ousted President Morsi. ([Source](#))

8 July 2013

- **AU** – Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma announces the appointment of the AU High-Level Panel for Egypt. The international panel is mandated with supporting a peaceful, inclusive transition and restoration of constitutional order in Egypt. ([Source](#))
- **UNSG** – Ban Ki-moon urges all sides to “do everything possible to avoid further escalation” of the political crisis and states that he is “deeply disturbed” by the reported killings. He calls for recent killings to be “thoroughly investigated” by independent and competent national bodies. ([Source](#))

9 July 2013

- **OHCHR** – The OHCHR calls on “all sides to refraining from resorting to violence” and reminds Egyptian authorities that any incidents resulting in death or injury require transparent and thorough investigation. ([Source](#))
- **Saudi Arabia and UAE** – In a decision widely interpreted as a backing of Egypt’s transitional government, Saudi Arabia and the UAE announce financial aid packages of \$8 billion to Egypt. ([Source](#))
- **US** – Second White House Secretary Jay Carney states that the US is “cautiously encouraged by the announcement by the interim government it has a potential plan for moving forward with a democratic purpose” and declares that the best hope for resolving the crisis is through an inclusive political process. ([Source](#))

10 July 2013

- **Kuwait** – Kuwait announces \$4 billion in aid to the Egyptian government. ([Source](#))

11 July 2013

- **UNSG** – In a phone call with Egyptian Foreign Minister Mohamed Kamel Amr, Ban Ki-moon calls for peaceful dialogue and for Egypt to respect all citizens’ rights to freedom of association, speech and due process. He also announces his

concern about continued detentions and arrest warrants against leaders of the MB. ([Source](#))

12 July 2013

- **UNHCR** – The UN High Commissioner for Refugees Antonio Guterres calls on Egyptian authorities to protect Syrians who have fled the conflict in their country. ([Source](#))

15 July 2013

- **US** – US Deputy Secretary of State William Burns visiting Egypt as the first senior US official to visit Egypt since fall of Mohamed Morsi. The *Tamarrod* movement refuses to schedule a meeting with him. ([Source](#))

17 July 2013

- **UNESCO** – Director-General of the UNESCO Irina Bokova condemns the killing of Egyptian press photographer Ahmed Assem el-Senousy and urges all parties to respect the right of journalists to carry out their work without fear of violence. ([Source](#))

19 July 2013

- **OHCHR** –Navi Pillay requests detailed legal information from Egyptian authorities regarding detainees, arrest warrants and the number of people currently in custody by the government. She also announces that these requests were transmitted in a written note to the Egyptian government on 12 July and that the OHCHR has not received a reply. ([Source](#))

24 July 2013

- **Arab League** – Secretary General of the Arab League Nabil Al-Araby denounces the recent bombing in front of a police station in Mansoura, calling it a “criminal act that targets Egypt and threatens security and stability in the country” ([Source](#))
- **US** – In an apparent sign of displeasure with the Egyptian government, the US cancels its delivery of F16 fighter jets to Egypt. ([Source](#))

26 July 2013

- **OHCHR** –Navi Pillay stresses that it is “extremely important” that security forces do not resort to excessive use of force and reiterates the position of Ban Ki-moon. ([Source](#))
- **UNHCR** – The UNHCR reiterates its concern over the detention of an increasing number of Syrian refugees in Egypt, amid numerous reports of xenophobic remarks and verbal attacks against Syrians. ([Source](#))
- **UNSG** – Ban Ki-moon again urges Egyptian authorities to respect the rule of law and human rights. He also urges authorities to end arbitrary arrests and called for Morsi and other detained MB leaders to be released or have their cases reviewed without delay. ([Source](#))

27 July 2013

- **EU** – EU High Representative for Foreign Affairs Catherine Ashton “deeply deplores” the loss of life during the recent military crackdown of pro-Morsi demonstrations. ([Source](#))
- **UNSG** – Ban Ki-moon strongly condemns violence in Egypt and calls on security forces to respect the fight to free speech and assembly. He reiterates his calls for Morsi and other detained MB leaders to be released or have their cases reviewed in transparency. ([Source](#))

28 July 2013

- **OHCHR** – Navi Pillay condemns recent mass violence and reiterates her call that “credible, independent and prompt” investigation is launched into large-scale killings in Egypt and that the responsible brought to justice. Pillay also warns that the confrontational approach by both sides “is leading to disaster.” ([Source](#))
- **UNSG** – In a phone call with Egypt’s vice president Ban Ki-moon calls on interim authorities to assume full responsibility for the peaceful management of all demonstrations and calls for Mohammed Morsi and other Muslim Brotherhood leaders to be released. ([Source](#))
- **US** – US Secretary of State John Kerry speaks with Egyptian vice president Mohamed ElBaradei and expresses his “deep concern about the bloodshed and violence in Cairo and Alexandria.” He calls for Egyptian authorities to respect the right of peaceful assembly and freedom of expression while urging an independent and impartial inquiry into recent killings. ([Source](#))

29 July

- **EU** – Catherine Ashton meets with Morsi, interim president Adly Mansour, his vice president, ElBaradei, and defense minister General Abdul Fattah Al-Sissi as well as with leaders of the Muslim Brotherhood, Al Wasat and Al Nour. ([Source](#))
- **US** – The US State Department announces that it “fully supports and appreciates” Catherine Ashton’s efforts to calm tensions, prevent further violence and bridge political divides. ([Source](#))

31 July 2013

- **UNICEF** – UNICEF voices its deep concern at reports that children have been deliberately used and put at risk of potential violence. ([Source](#))
- **UNSG** – In a conversation with Catherine Ashton, Ban Ki-moon reiterates his call to release former president Morsi and senior MB officials. ([Source](#))

August 2013

3 August 2013

- **EU and US** – William Burns arrives in Egypt for talks with the MB and interim minister Nabil Fahmy. These talks also attended by EU Special Representative for Southern Mediterranean Bernardino Leon. ([Source](#))

6 August 2013

- **UNSG** – In a phone call with Egyptian Foreign minister Nabil Fahmy, Ban Ki-moon stresses the need to end all violence in Egypt and for the Egyptian government to launch a credible reconciliation process. ([Source](#))

7 August 2013

- **EU, US, Qatar and UAE** – Egypt’s presidency announces that recent efforts by EU, US, Qatar and UAE diplomats to mediate an end to Egypt’s political deadlock have failed. ([Source](#))

10 August 2013

- **UNSG** – Ban Ki-moon urges all sides in Egypt to “urgently reconsider their current actions and language” and find a genuinely inclusive political process to bring about reconciliation. ([Source](#))

14 August 2013

- **AU** – The Peace and Security Council of the AU is briefed by the AU High-Level Panel for Egypt. The AU releases a press statement noting that the Council “strongly condemns” acts of violence in Egypt and called for an “urgent end to all inflammatory statement” and other actions that would undermine the restoration of constitutional order through the holding of free elections. The Council also recommends that the AU High-Level Panel for Egypt undertake a new mission to Egypt to reiterate the AU appeal for restraint and an inclusive political dialogue. ([Source](#))
- **EU** – Catherine Ashton announces she is “very concerned at violence in Egypt and deplores loss of life” and asserts that Egypt’s democratic future depends on a inclusive dialogue of political reconciliation, the upholding of freedom of expression and peaceful protest and protecting all citizens. ([Source](#))
- **NATO** – NATO Secretary-General Anders Fogh Rasmussen announces that he is “deeply concerned by the situation in Egypt, and the continuing reports of bloodshed.” ([Source](#))
- **US** – The White House “strongly condemns” the use of violence against protestors in Egypt and calls upon security forces to show restraint. The White House also announces that it opposes the use of the State of Emergency law and calls on the Egyptian government to respect basic human rights. ([Source](#))
- **US** – John Kerry “strongly condemns” violence in Egypt and urges the government to respect the rights of free assembly and free expression. He lists amending the constitution and holding parliamentary as well as presidential elections as constructive options for an inclusive and peaceful political process. ([Source](#))
- **UNSG** – Ban Ki-moon condemns “in strongest terms” the violence that occurred in Cairo and urges Egyptians to reconcile inclusively and peacefully. ([Source](#))

15 August 2013

- **EU** – President of the European Council Herman Van Rompuy pledges that the EU and its member states will review its relations with Egypt and adopt measures

aimed at pursuing an end to violence and upholding of fundamental human rights. ([Source](#))

- **OHCHR** – Navi Pillay reiterates her call for an “independent, impartial, effective and credible investigation of the security forces” and states that the number of people killed in the 14 August crackdown indicate an “excessive, even extreme, use of force” against protesters. ([Source](#))
- **OSAPG** – Special Adviser on the Prevention of Genocide Adama Dieng and Special Adviser on the Responsibility to Protect Jennifer Welsh announce their concern with the number of Christian churches and institutions that have been targeted in retaliatory violence. They also called on all actors to “abandon strategies of confrontation, engage constructively to ensure respect for diversity, and take all possible steps to facilitate peaceful resolution of disputes in the country.” ([Source](#))
- **UNSC** – The UNSC holds a closed-door emergency session in NYC and urges all parties in Egypt on Thursday to end the violence. UN Deputy Secretary-General Jan Eliasson briefs the Council. ([Source](#))
- **UNSG** – Ban Ki-moon holds talks with leaders in Jordan as well as with Palestinian officials in Ramallah. The deadly violence in Egypt, the ongoing Syria crisis and the Israeli-Palestinian peace process are on his agenda. ([Source](#))
- **US** – President Obama announces that the US is cancelling longstanding joint military exercises with the Egyptian Army originally scheduled for September. He also condemns violence and arbitrary arrests while reiterating Washington’s call for the interim government to lift the state of emergency. ([Source](#))
- **US** – US Secretary of Defense Chuck Hagel issues a press statement noting that the US will “continue to maintain a military relationship with Egypt” but “violence and inadequate steps towards reconciliation are putting important elements of our longstanding defense cooperation at risk” ([Source](#))

16 August 2013

- **AU** – The Peace and Security Council of the AU issues a press statement expressing its “deep concern at the escalation of violence in Egypt.” It once again calls on all Egyptian stakeholders, including the interim authorities and the Muslim Brotherhood, to exercise utmost restraint. The Council also announces that it is waiting for a response from Egypt’s interim authorities to enable the AU High-Level Panel on Egypt access to travel to Cairo next week. ([Source](#))
- **EU** – Catherine Ashton issues a press statement condemning continued violence and announcing that she has “asked member state representatives to debate and coordinate appropriate measures to be taken by the EY in response to the situation in Egypt.” ([Source](#))
- **UN Group of Experts** – The Coordination Committee of international experts appointed by the UN Human Rights Council calls for restraint and an immediate end to violent confrontations in Cairo. ([Source](#))

17 August 2013

- **UNSG** – Ban Ki-moon denounces attacks on churches, hospitals and public facilities in Egypt. ([Source](#))

19 August 2013

- **UNSG** – Ban Ki-moon announces that Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs Jeffrey Feltman will hold talks in Cairo on how the UN can best support peace and forge reconciliation in Egypt. Ban has also emphasized his support for an “Egyptian-led” solution to resolving the crisis. ([Source](#))
- **UNSG** – Ban Ki-moon condemns the ambush of Egyptian police officers in the Sinai and calls for a full investigation to ascertain the facts surrounding this incident. ([Source](#))

20 August 2013

- **UNSG** – Ban Ki-moon condemns the recent ambush on two minibuses in the Sinai Peninsula that left 25 Egyptian police officers dead. He calls for the perpetrators to be found and tried for their crimes. ([Source](#))
- **OHCHR** – The OHCHR reiterates its call to Egyptian authorities to allow the office to deploy human rights officers who can assess the situation on the ground. It condemns the recent ambush in the Sinai on two-minibuses and voices deep condemn over reports of 36 prisoners being killed in police custody on 18 August. ([Source](#))

21 August 2013

- **EU** – Following a meeting of foreign ministers, the EU announces that it believes recent Egyptian security forces have acted disproportionately and caused an unacceptable number of deaths. It calls on Egypt to end its state of emergency, to restore due process, to release all political prisoners and to respect international obligations regarding detainee treatment. Member States also agree to suspend export licenses to Egypt of any equipment which “might be used for internal repression” and to reassess export licenses of equipment covered by Common Position 2008/944/CFSP. ([Source](#))

28 August 2013

- **AU** – The AU’s High-Level Panel begins its five-day trip to Egypt. The Panel meets with the Egyptian interim authorities, as well as with other stakeholders. ([Source](#))
- **UK** – The UK announces that it has suspended 49 export licenses for Egypt, including equipment for helicopters, aircraft, specialist software and communications equipment. ([Source](#))

30 August 2013

- **US** – David Satterfield is announced as charge d’affaires at the US embassy in Cairo, replacing Anne Patterson. ([Source](#))

September 2013

2 September 2013

- **UAE** – After a meeting with General Abdel Fattah El Sisi, Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Deputy Supreme Commander of the UAE Armed Forces, announces his support to enhancing relations with Egypt. ([Source](#))
- **Saudi Arabia** – At the same meeting, Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Saud Al-Faisal reaffirms Saudi Arabia’s commitment to Egypt and announces that “Egyptian-Saudi relations are at their best.” ([Source](#))