

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. CON. RES. 24

Condemning the hostilities in Sudan and standing with the people of Sudan
in their calls for peace and their democratic aspirations.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

DECEMBER 19, 2023

Mr. CARDIN (for himself and Mr. RISCH) submitted the following concurrent
resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Condemning the hostilities in Sudan and standing with the
people of Sudan in their calls for peace and their demo-
cratic aspirations.

Whereas, on April 15, 2023, hostilities broke out in Sudan
between the Rapid Support Forces (RSF), a paramilitary
force formed from the Janjaweed militia that committed
acts of genocide in Darfur since 2003, and the Sudanese
Armed Forces (SAF), which like the RSF has a history
of committing atrocities both in Sudan’s civil wars and
against pro-democracy protestors from 2019–2022;

Whereas, according to United Nations Secretary-General
António Guterres, on April 17, 2023, just days following
the outbreak of fighting, the humanitarian situation in
Sudan was “already precarious and is now catastrophic”;

Whereas, on April 23, 2023, the United States temporarily suspended operations at its embassy in Khartoum and evacuated embassy personnel from the country;

Whereas the war has created the world's largest displacement crisis, with over 7,000,000 people, including 3,000,000 children, displaced since the war began, and over half of the population in Sudan needs humanitarian assistance;

Whereas widespread rape and sexual violence is being used as a weapon of war, and over 4,200,000 women and girls in Sudan are at risk for sexual violence according to the United Nations;

Whereas Sudan was identified by the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum's Early Warning Project as one of the top ten countries at risk for new mass killings in its 2022–2023 report, and the Museum warned in June 2023 about the dire risk of genocide in Darfur;

Whereas Secretary of State Blinken issued an atrocities determination for Sudan on December 6, 2023, finding that the SAF and RSF have committed war crimes in Sudan, and that the RSF and allied militias have committed crimes against humanity and ethnic cleansing;

Whereas impunity for violations of international humanitarian law has characterized the conflict in Sudan;

Whereas the United States and Saudi Arabia have engaged in multiple rounds of “emergency diplomacy” in Jeddah since May, during which the parties to the conflict have repeatedly made confidence-building, ceasefire, and humanitarian commitments that were immediately violated;

Whereas, in October 2023, the United National Human Rights Council adopted a resolution establishing an independent Fact-Finding Mission with a mandate to inves-

investigate abuses committed in the context of the war in Sudan;

Whereas leadership in neither the SAF or RSF represent the people of Sudan nor have a legitimate claim to leadership of the country, and there is no military solution to the political situation in Sudan;

Whereas reports indicate some international actors have taken actions that constitute repeated violations of the existing United Nations arms embargo for Darfur; and

Whereas the outbreak of hostilities has destabilized Sudan, and represents a threat to regional stability more broadly: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives*
2 *concurring), That Congress—*

3 (1) condemns the hostilities in Sudan since
4 April 15, 2023, the brazen and brutal attacks on ci-
5 vilians, including systemic use of rape as a weapon
6 of war, and the widespread destruction of civilian
7 residences, businesses, and infrastructure;

8 (2) stands with the people of Sudan in their
9 calls for peace and their democratic aspirations;

10 (3) calls for the Rapid Support Forces (RSF)
11 and Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) to—

12 (A) permanently cease hostilities;

13 (B) stop attacks on civilians;

14 (C) remove all roadblocks and checkpoints,

15 and allow for the safe passage of civilians and

1 the unfettered delivery of humanitarian assist-
2 ance; and

3 (D) comply with international humani-
4 tarian law and cease all atrocities against civil-
5 ians;

6 (4) calls on the President to name an experi-
7 enced, high level United States Special Envoy for
8 Sudan, that reports directly to the President or the
9 Secretary of State, to coordinate a comprehensive
10 United States policy and diplomatic efforts and to
11 work with international partners to address the com-
12 plex crisis in Sudan;

13 (5) calls on the Secretary of State to—

14 (A) regularly review and update the atroc-
15 ities determination for Sudan, to include wheth-
16 er atrocities committed constitute genocide;

17 (B) provide continued assistance to organi-
18 zations documenting violations of international
19 humanitarian law, and to share, as appropriate,
20 information with international bodies inves-
21 tigating atrocities, including war crimes and
22 crimes against humanity;

23 (C) support enhanced end use monitoring
24 of weapons sold by the United States to deter-
25 mine if United States defense articles, defense

1 services, or any other type of security sector as-
2 sistance have been diverted to the SAF and
3 RSF;

4 (D) coordinate with—

5 (i) the Administrator of the United
6 States Agency for International Develop-
7 ment on efforts to establish and maintain
8 humanitarian access, and to support an in-
9 clusive, civilian-led political dialogue;

10 (ii) the Department of the Treasury
11 to develop a comprehensive strategy uti-
12 lizing existing sanctions authorities appli-
13 cable to Sudan, with priority given to the
14 designation of the leadership in the RSF
15 and SAF, and to actors which supply, or
16 facilitate the supply of arms and materiel
17 to belligerents, for targeted sanctions; and

18 (iii) the United States Permanent
19 Representative to the United Nations to
20 ensure the United Nations Security Coun-
21 cil reports violations of the Darfur arms
22 embargo and works to prioritize efforts to
23 protect civilians, and to pursue efforts to
24 establish a credible mechanism for ac-
25 countability for atrocities, including any

1 that may constitute genocide, war crimes,
2 or crimes against humanity; and

3 (E) work, through a high level United
4 States Special Envoy for Sudan, with partners
5 to engage members of the international commu-
6 nity to join United States efforts to end the
7 conflict and promote accountability, including
8 by setting clear criteria for establishing a more
9 inclusive alternative to the Jeddah talks; and

10 (6) calls on international allies and partners,
11 particularly neighboring countries and partners in
12 the Gulf Cooperation Council and others with direct
13 interests in the Sudan conflict, to—

14 (A) join United States efforts to—

15 (i) pressure the parties to cease hos-
16 tilities;

17 (ii) explore options to protect civilians
18 from mass atrocities;

19 (iii) empower Sudanese civilians to es-
20 tablish a path toward a peaceful demo-
21 cratic transition;

22 (iv) support the establishment of cred-
23 ible mechanisms for accountability;

24 (v) impose targeted sanctions on SAF
25 and RSF members who are responsible for

1 violations of international humanitarian
2 law, corruption, and undermining Sudan's
3 transition to democracy, and actors who
4 supply or facilitate the supply of arms and
5 materiel to either party;

6 (vi) take steps, as appropriate, includ-
7 ing through imposition of sanctions, to
8 pressure belligerents to return to the rule
9 of law as set forth by the transitional con-
10 stitution and immediately cease violations
11 of existing United Nations arms embargoes
12 and to deter any effort by external parties
13 to support parties financially or with arms
14 and materiel; and

15 (vii) provide robust in-kind and finan-
16 cial contributions to humanitarian assist-
17 ance efforts; and

18 (B) suspend Sudan's participation in all
19 regional and multilateral organizations until a
20 civilian-led government is established.

○