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Escalation of the war and the humanitarian catastrophe in Sudan

European Parliament resolution of 27 November 2025 on the escalation of the war and the humanitarian catastrophe in Sudan (2025/2984(RSP))

(C/2026/1717)

The European Parliament,

— having regard to its previous resolutions on Sudan, in particular those of 15 June 2023 on the humanitarian situation in Sudan, in particular the death of children trapped by fighting ([1]), and of 13 March 2025 on the severe political, humanitarian and human rights crisis in Sudan, in particular the sexual violence and child rape ([2]),

— having regard to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,

— having regard to the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and the additional protocols thereto,

— having regard to the efforts to mediate peace in Sudan, particularly those led by the African Union, the UN, the Intergovernmental Authority on Development, Saudi Arabia and the United States,

— having regard to UN Security Council Resolutions 1556 (2004) and 2736 (2024), and to all other relevant UN Security Council resolutions concerning Sudan,

— having regard to the relevant resolutions of the UN Human Rights Council on the human rights situation in Sudan,

— having regard to Council Decisions (CFSP) 2024/383 ([3]), (CFSP) 2024/1784 ([4]), (CFSP) 2024/2655 ([5]), (CFSP) 2024/3154 ([6]), (CSFP) 2025/377 ([7]) and (CFSP) 2025/1481 ([8]) concerning restrictive measures in view of the situation in Sudan,

— having regard to the Council conclusions on Sudan, approved by the Foreign Affairs Council at its meeting on 20 October 2025,

— having regard to the statement on Sudan of 20 November 2025 by the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy on behalf of the European Union,

— having regard to its resolution of 23 October 2025 on renewing the EU-Africa partnership: building common priorities ahead of the Angola Summit ([9]),

— having regard to Rules 136(2) and (4) of its Rules of Procedure,

([1]) OJ C, C/2024/486, 23.1.2024, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/C/2024/486/oj.
([2]) OJ C, C/2025/3154, 20.6.2025, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/C/2025/3154/oj.
([3]) OJ L, 2024/383, 22.1.2024, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/dec/2024/383/oj.
([4]) OJ L, 2024/1784, 24.6.2024, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/dec/2024/1784/oj.
([5]) OJ L, 2024/2655, 9.10.2024, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/dec/2024/2655/oj.
([6]) OJ L, 2024/3154, 16.12.2024, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/dec/2024/3154/oj.
([7]) OJ L, 2025/377, 25.2.2025, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/dec/2025/377/oj.
([8]) OJ L, 2025/1481, 18.7.2025, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/dec/2025/1481/oj.
([9]) Texts adopted, P10_TA(2025)0253.

A. whereas the conflict between the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) and the Rapid Support Forces (RSF) that began in April 2023 has evolved into the world's biggest and gravest humanitarian and protection crisis, causing mass displacement (both internally and into neighbouring countries) – with more than 7.2 million people displaced internally and more than 4,2 million refugees, asylum seekers and returnees fleeing to neighbouring countries – food insecurity and widespread human rights violations; whereas nearly two thirds of Sudan's population is in dire need of humanitarian assistance, including 16 million children, in a context marked by mass displacement, famine, widespread attacks on civilians and humanitarian and medical workers, and the collapse of essential services;

B. whereas the RSF captured El Fasher on 26 October 2025 after an 18-month siege, triggering mass murder and mass atrocities including summary executions, systematic sexual violence, torture and ethnically targeted killings;

C. whereas the Independent International Fact-Finding Mission (IIFFM) for the Sudan has documented the use of rape as a particularly cruel weapon of war, including public sexual violence and gang rape, and the use of forced marriage, putting millions of people at risk of gender-based violence;

D. whereas in its report, the IIFFM found that both parties to the conflict are violating international law and that these violations amount to international crimes, with the RSF having committed war crimes and crimes against humanity and the SAF having committed violations of international humanitarian law and human rights law that also amount to war crimes; whereas the violations committed by both parties include ethnically and religiously targeted violence, starvation as a weapon of war, mass sexual violence (including child rape), forced recruitment of children, arbitrary detentions, and other grave abuses;

E. whereas both parties have weaponised humanitarian assistance, hampering free and unhindered access by humanitarian organisations to those in need;

F. whereas all countries involved in exerting external influence on Sudan are playing a major role in prolonging the conflict within the country;

G. whereas all parties to the conflict are violating international human rights and humanitarian law, with most violations amounting to war crimes; whereas the RSF's conduct may also constitute crimes against humanity, including persecution and extermination, and their tactics include systematic attacks against civilians, intimidation of populations, journalists and media workers, and efforts to destabilise institutional authority;

H. whereas children are at particular risk, with UNICEF reporting several hundred cases of children being raped since the start of 2024; whereas the real figures are expected to be much higher; whereas large numbers of children in Sudan are unable to attend school as a result of ongoing closures and displacement, exposing them to heightened risks and denying them access to education;

I. whereas the EU has committed EUR 273 million for the region, including EUR 161 million specifically for Sudan;

J. whereas the EU continues to provide emergency life-saving aid that is needs-driven and guided by humanitarian principles in order to ensure immediate relief and protection for the most vulnerable populations, to provide essential assistance and monitor human rights abuses, and to respond to the severe food security and nutrition crisis in the country and provide humanitarian support for basic services; whereas women's organisations, resistance committees and community responders remain central to protecting civilians and documenting violations;

K. whereas the war is sometimes considered a proxy war in which Sudan has become the battlefield for competition for natural resources such as gold, gum arabic, iron ore, copper and uranium;

L. whereas Parliament, in its October 2025 resolution on renewing the EU-Africa partnership, called on all actors to increase transparency and to effectively ban the entry of all blood minerals into the EU;

M. whereas the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and its partners continue to deliver reproductive health and protection services, but the recent international funding cuts have forced UNFPA to withdraw from more than half of the 93 health facilities it was supporting in Sudan, meaning that only one in four facilities that offer clinical support to rape victims is currently functional;

1. Condemns, in the strongest terms, the grave atrocities committed by the RSF in El Fasher and across the rest of Sudan, including widespread, ethnically targeted killings and violence, rape and sexual enslavement, torture, enforced disappearances, attacks on hospitals and humanitarian facilities, and the deliberate starvation of civilians, possibly constituting acts of genocide;

2. Strongly condemns the escalating violence in Sudan and the grave violations of international law committed by all parties; stresses that there is no viable military solution to the conflict in Sudan and that the continuation of hostilities inflicts unacceptable suffering on civilians and poses increasing risks to regional peace and security;

3. Strongly condemns the grave and systematic violations of international humanitarian law and human rights committed by both the RSF and the SAF, including indiscriminate attacks against civilians, ethnically targeted violence, sexual violence, torture, the use of child soldiers, attacks on hospitals and humanitarian facilities, and the deliberate starvation of civilians, possibly constituting acts of genocide;

4. Strongly condemns the ongoing conflict in Sudan, which, for a third consecutive year, continues to cause the loss of thousands of lives and immense hardship for the Sudanese people and poses a serious threat to stability and security across the wider region;

5. Strongly condemns the continuing violence committed by both armed forces in Sudan, and the serious violations of international human rights and humanitarian law committed by all parties; condemns the blocking and looting of humanitarian aid and the targeting of humanitarian and medical workers, emergency responders and human rights defenders, which constitute serious violations of fundamental rights and international humanitarian law;

6. Expresses its full solidarity with the people of Sudan, particularly with those in the areas most affected by siege, famine, displacement and indiscriminate attacks, and pays tribute to local, voluntary and international humanitarian workers operating under extreme conditions, including mutual aid groups such as the Emergency Response Rooms; pays tribute to Sudanese civil society organisations, resistance committees and women's, workers' and youth movements;

7. Deplores the combatants' widespread and systematic use, as war tactics, of sexual and gender-based violence against women and girls, including rape, sexual slavery and forced marriage; calls for urgent, survivor-centred responses, including medical, psychosocial and legal support; urges all parties to immediately end these abuses and to ensure that the perpetrators are held accountable; underlines the need to prioritise the protection of women and children in all humanitarian and peacebuilding responses;

8. Reaffirms Sudan's sovereignty, independence, unity and territorial integrity; calls for the EU, its Member States and all Sudanese and international actors to uphold Sudan's sovereignty, unity and territorial integrity, and the legitimacy of the civilian government in Khartoum; rejects any attempt to create parallel or rival authorities or political structures in RSF-controlled areas;

9. Stresses that the primary responsibility for ending the conflict rests with the leadership of the RSF, the SAF and their allied militias, and with those providing them with direct or indirect support; urges all external actors to take the necessary measures to end the sale or supply of arms and other military equipment to all parties, as per the arms embargo established by UN Security Council Resolutions 1556 (2004) and 1591 (2005);

10. Condemns all forms of external interference fuelling the war in Sudan, including arms transfers, mercenary deployment, gold smuggling and illicit financial networks, which undermine Sudan's sovereignty and directly contribute to mass atrocities, and stresses that such actions may entail international responsibility; calls for an immediate end to the recruitment of mercenaries and the provision of supplies and military or logistical support to the RSF and allied militias;

11. Stresses the central role of Sudanese civil society, resistance committees, trade unions, women's and youth organisations, minority and marginalised communities, and other grassroots actors in any political settlement; calls for the EU to prioritise their participation, protection and resourcing, including through direct, flexible funding and safe-space initiatives;

12. Calls for the restoration and strengthening of the rule of law, accountability, respect for international law – including international humanitarian law and human rights law – and justice in Sudan; stresses that Sudan's future cannot be shaped by violent extremist groups and networks, whose destabilising influence has long fuelled violence and instability in Sudan and across the region; demands the immediate cessation of hostilities and calls on all parties to engage in meaningful dialogue to end the conflict and establish a transition to civilian democratic governance; calls on all third-party actors to support diplomatic actions to secure a cessation of hostilities; condemns all violations of all UN arms embargoes; reaffirms that a genuinely civilian-led transition is the only viable path forward towards sustainable peace in Sudan; strongly supports the efforts of the African Union and regional partners to facilitate a peace process; underlines that Sudanese civilian society, particularly women-led organisations, must be central to the peace talks and lead the transition process; calls for the EU and its Member States, to this end, to proactively contribute to peace negotiations with partners in the international community, and to support Sudanese civil society, women-led organisations, human rights defenders and journalists politically and financially;

13. Demands that safe humanitarian corridors be opened, particularly into El Fasher, Kadugli and El Obeid, and that these be monitored and verified by the United Nations and the African Union to ensure compliance; stresses that the EU must actively promote and support a verifiable ceasefire as a prerequisite for any sustainable peace process;

14. Calls for immediate, safe and unimpeded humanitarian access to all affected populations, wherever they are, and demands that both parties cease the weaponisation of aid; urges all parties to the conflict to remove all barriers hindering the delivery of humanitarian assistance without delay, and to ensure immediate, unconditional, safe and unhindered humanitarian access, cease deliberate obstruction and protect civilians; calls for support to be provided to neighbouring countries hosting Sudanese refugees;

15. Calls on the warring parties to restore communication services throughout Sudan without delay, ending internet blackouts that violate Sudanese people's right to information, hinder the delivery of humanitarian and emergency services, affect the safety and protection of civilians and obstruct crucial monitoring and reporting on ongoing violations of international human rights and humanitarian law;

16. Deplores the mass killings, executions and sexual violence perpetrated in El Fasher and its surroundings during and after the RSF assault; expresses deep concern at reports of continued abductions and at the lack of humanitarian access; condemns, in particular, the deliberate targeting of civilian infrastructure, including the destruction of mosques and churches, and calls for religious minorities to be protected and their right to worship safeguarded;

17. Urges the warring parties to immediately put an end to hostilities, cease all attacks on civilians and civilian infrastructure, halt attacks on infrastructure and humanitarian aid, end the use of starvation and sexual violence as weapons of war and cease the recruitment and use of child soldiers, and to permit unfettered humanitarian access throughout the country, create humanitarian corridors, seek a negotiated solution and fulfil their Jeddah Declaration commitments; expresses deep concern at the alarming deterioration in the humanitarian crisis in Sudan, as the conflict has led to and continues to fuel the most severe humanitarian catastrophe worldwide, with confirmed famine in parts of the country; expresses concern, furthermore, about the effect of mass migration to neighbouring countries;

18. Calls on all parties to immediately end the widespread use of rape and all other forms of sexual and gender-based violence as weapons of war; calls for support for protection, care, treatment and psychosocial support for survivors of sexual violence;

19. Calls on the warring parties to cease targeted attacks and harassment of Sudanese activists, human rights defenders, journalists and civil society representatives;

20. Urges all parties to uphold their obligations under international humanitarian law and human rights law by using every possible means to protect civilians and civilian objects; stresses that addressing the situation of women and girls in Sudan, and in particular the ongoing conflict-related sexual violence, must be prioritised in the efforts aimed at addressing the Sudan conflict; underlines the need for sufficient support for emergency social services, and for specific support for the protection, care, treatment and support mechanisms for survivors of sexual and gender-based violence;

21. Calls on the countries neighbouring Sudan to open their borders to Sudanese refugees, and for the EU and its Member States to rapidly increase emergency funding for the humanitarian response in Sudan and in refugee camps in neighbouring countries;

22. Highlights the grave risk that the conflict in Sudan will spill over to other vulnerable regions, such as the Horn of Africa and the Sahel, and is gravely concerned by the effects of the Sudanese crisis on irregular migration flows towards Europe;

23. Urges the Council and the Commission to maintain and increase the EU's humanitarian commitment of EUR 273 million for Sudan and the region, ensuring that funds reach those most in need;

24. Demands that the perpetrators of all criminal actions against the Sudanese people be held to account without delay; calls for the EU and the Member States to support the expansion of the International Criminal Court's jurisdiction to the whole of Sudan, the establishment of an independent judicial mechanism, as recommended by the IIFFM, and the bringing of national proceedings under universal jurisdiction;

25. Emphasises that accountability is a legal and moral imperative; stresses that justice cannot wait and that the international community must act decisively to prosecute those responsible under international law;

26. Calls for prompt, effective, thorough, independent, impartial and transparent investigations to hold perpetrators accountable, including those in the chain of command;

27. Calls for the EU and its Member States to redouble diplomatic efforts towards both warring parties and use all instruments at their disposal to ensure access for all accountability mechanisms, to urgently respond to serious human rights and international humanitarian law violations in Sudan and to hold perpetrators to account for these violations;

28. Stresses that the EU's current restrictive measures are important, but remain clearly insufficient to halt the ongoing atrocities; calls, therefore, for deeper and sustained diplomatic engagement, notably through the EU Special Representative for the Horn of Africa, Annette Weber, together with concrete accountability measures targeting both the perpetrators and their accomplices around the world; calls, in addition, for the appointment of an EU Special Envoy for Sudan, with a robust mandate to coordinate EU action, liaise with regional partners, facilitate diplomatic engagement and ensure consistent support for Sudanese civil society, human rights defenders, journalists and democratic actors;

29. Urges the EU to apply targeted sanctions under the EU Global Human Rights Sanctions Regime to key RSF and SAF commanders, including Generals Abdel Fattah al-Burhan and Muhammad Hamdan 'Hemedti' Dagalo and their respective networks, as well as to financiers and external enablers, for their responsibility for serious violations of international humanitarian law;

30. Calls on the Council to urgently trigger the procedure to evaluate whether the RSF fulfils the criteria for inclusion on the EU's restrictive 'terrorist list', ensuring a rigorous review of the substantial evidence of its actions and, if justified, proceeding to a unanimous designation by the EU Member States;

31. Calls on the Vice-President of the Commission / High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, the Commission, the Council and the Member States, having regard to their obligations under the UN Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide, to take strong action and work closely with international partners to prevent genocide in Sudan;

32. Urges all parties to the conflict to engage constructively in inclusive ceasefire negotiations and highlights the urgent need for a credible and inclusive mediation process; urges all external actors who, whether directly or indirectly, are supplying arms, financial support or support of any other kind to the warring parties to immediately cease such support and to comply with the UN arms embargo; notes that the existing arms embargo is limited to Darfur and calls for it to be expanded to cover the whole of Sudan;

33. Welcomes the joint statement issued by the Quad (Egypt, Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates and the United States) on 12 September 2025 on ending the conflict in Sudan and recalls that it remains the sole recognised mediation format for this conflict; expresses support for the efforts of the African Union and the Intergovernmental Authority on Development to coordinate international and bilateral pressure on all parties to secure a ceasefire, improve humanitarian access and relaunch an inclusive political dialogue, in cooperation with partners such as the EU, the League of Arab States and the United Nations;

34. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council, the Commission, the Vice-President of the Commission / High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, the governments and parliaments of the Member States, the African Union, the United Nations Secretary-General, the UN Human Rights Council, the International Criminal Court, and the authorities of Sudan.