

SUMMARY

Key human rights concerns in January include violations of freedom of expression, arbitrary arrests, convictions, and harassment of journalists, and restrictions placed on media outlets. Civilian casualties decreased from December, although there were a significant number of abductions attributed to Al Shabaab, mainly connected to the charcoal trade. Approximately 35 households were forcefully evicted from a camp in Kismaayo, and significant displacement was reported in Sool region as a result of continuing tensions between Somaliland and Puntland. One civilian was injured in an airstrike conducted by unidentified aircraft in Lower Juba, and another was killed by AMISOM in Hiraan. Two IDP women were sexually assaulted and two others were injured by police in an incident in Puntland. One prisoner died in Mogadishu Central Prison, while 36 children who were rescued from Al Shabaab captivity in Middle Shabelle were transported to a UNICEF-supported rehabilitation centre in Mogadishu.

KEY FIGURES

CIVILIAN CASUALTIES

TOTAL

71

KILLED

32

INJURED

36

RAPED

2

DEATH

1
in custody

ABDUCTIONS

24

HIGHLIGHTS

Total casualties: **13%** from December and lowest since 2016

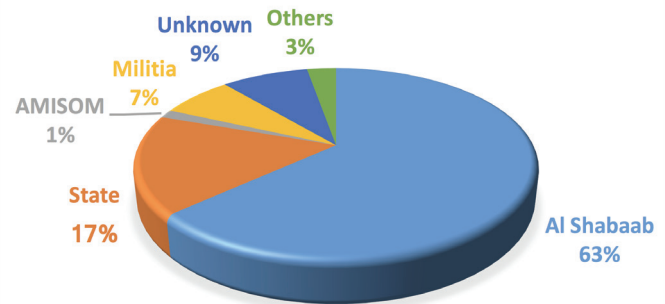
AS: **55%** from December 2017

Security forces: **48%** from December 2017

Seven summary executions by AS

Child Protection: **36** children rescued from AS captivity in Middle Shabelle and taken to a rehabilitation centre in Mogadishu

PERCENTAGE OF CIVILIAN CASUALTIES BY MAIN PERPETRATOR - JANUARY 2018



CONCERNS

FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION (Overall increase since 2017)



Convictions: 4 journalists in **Somaliland** | 2 sentenced to 2 years imprisonment | 2 had sentences converted to fines. 1 journalist (arrested in December) **released after 12 days** due to unsubstantiated charges. 5 journalists arrested in **Sool, Middle Shabelle** and **Mudug**, and released without charges, 1-6 days in detention; 1 media outlet closed in **Jubbaland** | 2 journalists (including a woman) beaten and harassed by NISA in **Galkaayo**.

ARBITRARY ARREST / DETENTION



Arrests: 22, 15 in Puntland | **23 Al Shabaab/IS suspects** in Bossaso, Puntland faced **prolonged detention**. | Wadajir Party members arrested and intimidated by NISA/SNA in December, 5 people killed during the arrest.

STRENGTHENING NATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

HUMAN RIGHTS DUE DILIGENCE POLICY



Puntland Defense Forces (PDF) trainers, trained by UNSOM, conducted cascade training on human rights and international humanitarian law, women's and child protection, and was delivered to the PDF that are to be integrated into the SNA. Thus far, 1,891 troops have been trained in Bari, Karkaar, Sanaag, Nugaal, Cayn and part of the Mudug region of Puntland. In coordination with UNSOM and ROLSIG, UNOPS commenced the biometric registration for troops trained in line with HRDDP and advocated with Puntland military authorities to conclude the training and confirm that only troops trained are considered for integration.

CAPACITY BUILDING



HRPG met with the **Somaliland Journalists Association** and discussed UNSOM's recommendations contained in its public report on **freedom of expression**, including ways to engage the government in drafting a comprehensive **media law**.

On a joint mission in Dhobley, Lower Juba, HRPG met with **AMISOM Kenyan Defence Force** Deputy Commander and sought his support for HRPG's planned training on **International Human Rights Law, Humanitarian Law and Human Rights Due Diligence Policy** for the newly-deployed **AMISOM forces**.

HUMAN RIGHTS TRAININGS



20 platoon commanders and **20 SNA officers**

trained on International Human Rights Law and Humanitarian Law in Baidoa, Interim South West Administration, on **22 and 23 January**.