



Human Rights Division Monthly Report

2018

December

I. KEY DEVELOPMENTS

During the month of December, unlike the previous months, the security and human rights situation in the Central African Republic (CAR) was less precarious and was characterized by a significant decrease in clashes between rival armed groups and in the number of attacks on the civilian population. Despite this relative calm, the human rights situation was still cause for concern in specific regions of the country due to the individual actions of members of armed groups or armed men affiliated to them, who were involved particularly in incidents of rape, cruel and inhuman treatment as well as arbitrary deprivation of liberty. In addition, the *Unité pour la Paix en Centrafrique* (UPC), the *Front Patriotique pour la Renaissance de la Centrafrique* (FPRC) have reportedly committed several breaches of international humanitarian law during their attack on and subsequent occupation of the village of Bakouma, Mbomou prefecture, on 31 December.

The prefectures of Mbomou, Nana Grébizi, Haute Kotto, Ouaka and Ouham were identified as the hotspots for the reporting period due to the number of incidents recorded, mainly killings and conflict-related sexual violence. The armed groups most active were the UPC, the FPRC and the anti-Balaka.

MINUSCA Human Rights Division (HRD), including Conflict-Related Sexual Violence and Child Protection Sections, recorded 111 new incidents of violations/abuses of international human rights as well as breaches of international humanitarian law affecting 167 victims, including 67 men, 40 women, 25 children (16 girls and nine boys) and 29 unknown victims and six groups of collective victims. These figures represent a 14.61 per cent decrease in the number of incidents and a 43.58 per cent decrease in the number of victims compared to the previous reporting period during which HRD documented 130 incidents of violations/abuses affecting 296 victims. HRD documented 36 civilian deaths and six injuries compared to 113 fatalities and 24 injured/maimed in November.

Armed groups were responsible for 108 incidents which affected 164 victims while State actors were responsible for three in-

cidents, including the torture of a detainee by the police which later resulted in his death. The most recurrent violations recorded during the month of December were killings, conflict-related sexual violence, cruel and inhuman treatment, arbitrary deprivation of liberty, abductions, appropriation, destruction/pillaging of property, attacks on schools and hospitals and recruitment of children.

HRD continued its advocacy activities aimed at strengthening national capacities and enhancing a protective environment, mainly through the holding of and/or participation in seminars/awareness-raising or sensitization sessions, particularly in relation to the 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence and the commemoration of the 70th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. With the support and advices of HRD, MINUSCA Senior Leadership initiated high-level engagement with national authorities on the recent appointment of the former Head of Office central pour la Répression du Banditisme (OCRB) as Director General of the National Police.

As was the case in November, December recorded a significant development in the fight against impunity. On 12 December, the authorities of the French Republic arrested former anti-Balaka leader, Mr. Patrice-Edouard Ngaïssona, pursuant to an arrest warrant issued by the International Criminal Court (ICC). He was arrested for his alleged criminal responsibility for war crimes and crimes against humanity committed in the Western part of CAR between December 2013 and December 2014.

HRD continued to provide technical assistance to the Steering Committee of the future Truth, Justice, Reparation and Reconciliation Commission in its preparation for the holding of national consultations as well as to the National Commission on Human Rights and Basic Freedoms in its sensitization campaign related to its complaint procedure. HRD completed eight Risk Assessments as part of its support to the HRDDP process.

REPORTED HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS IN CAR_OCTOBER 2018

Figure 1

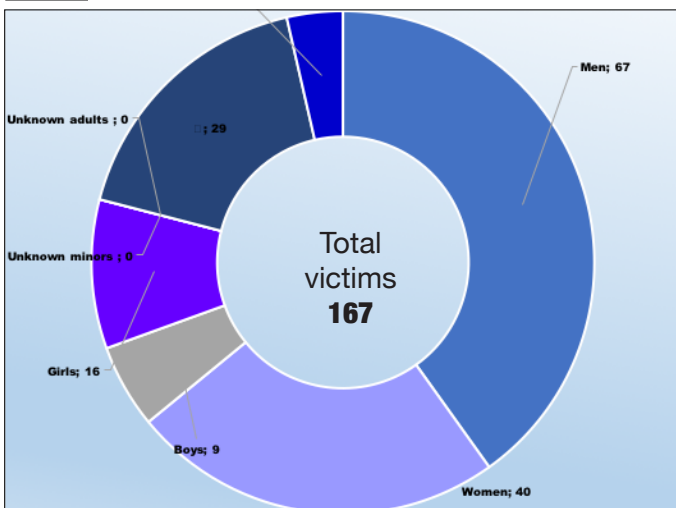


Figure 3

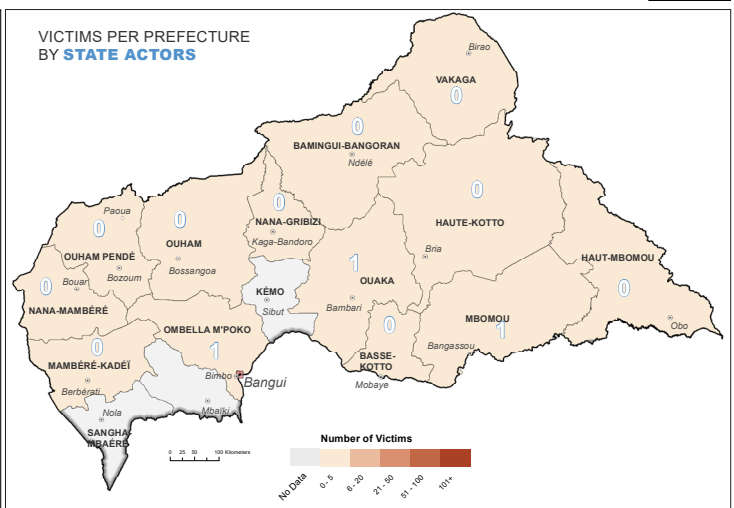


Figure 2

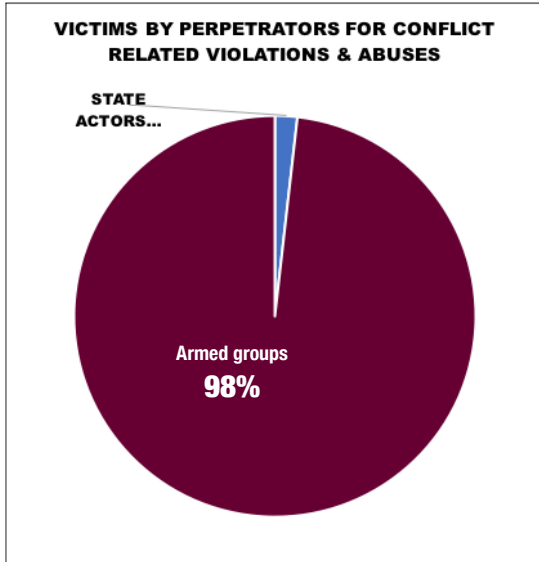


Figure 4

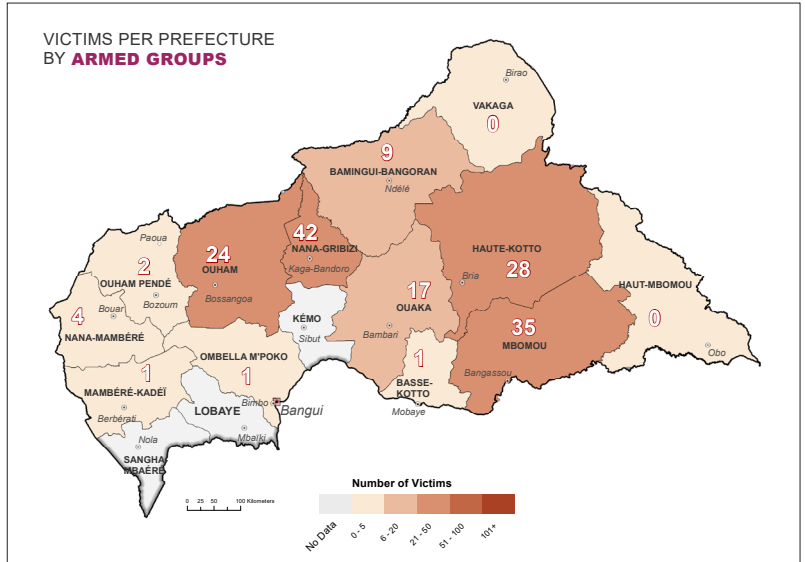


Figure 5

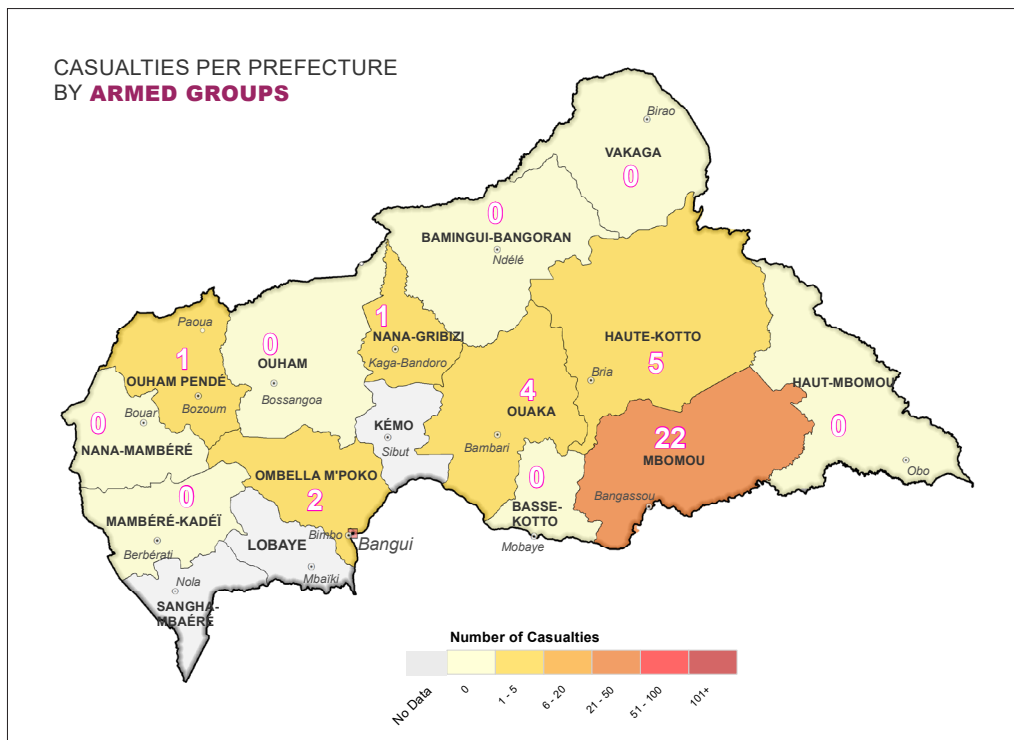
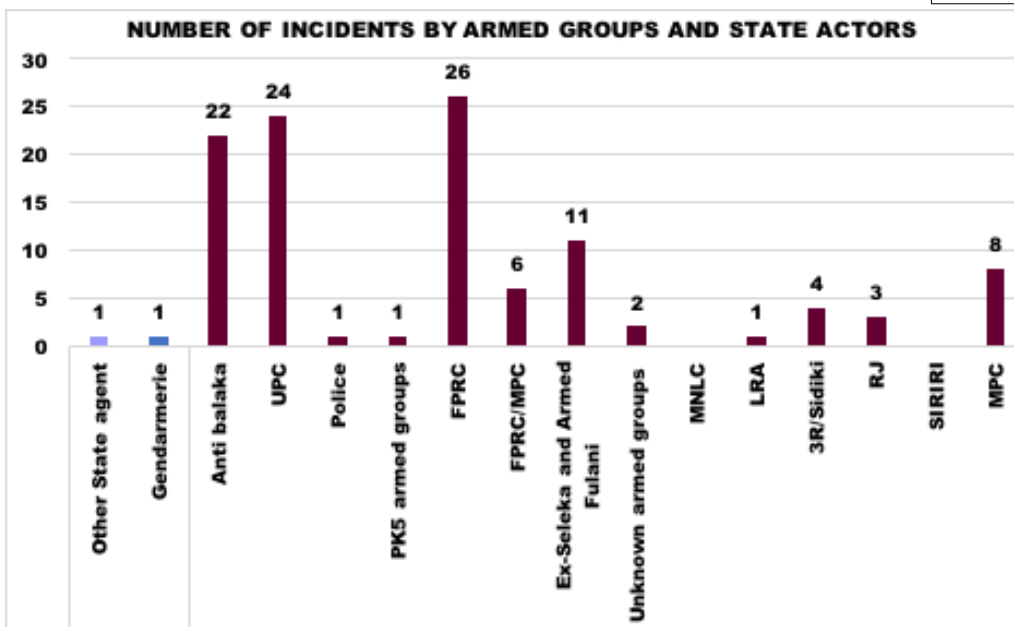


Figure 6



EVOLUTION OF DOCUMENTED HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS/ABUSES/VICTIMS PER MONTH

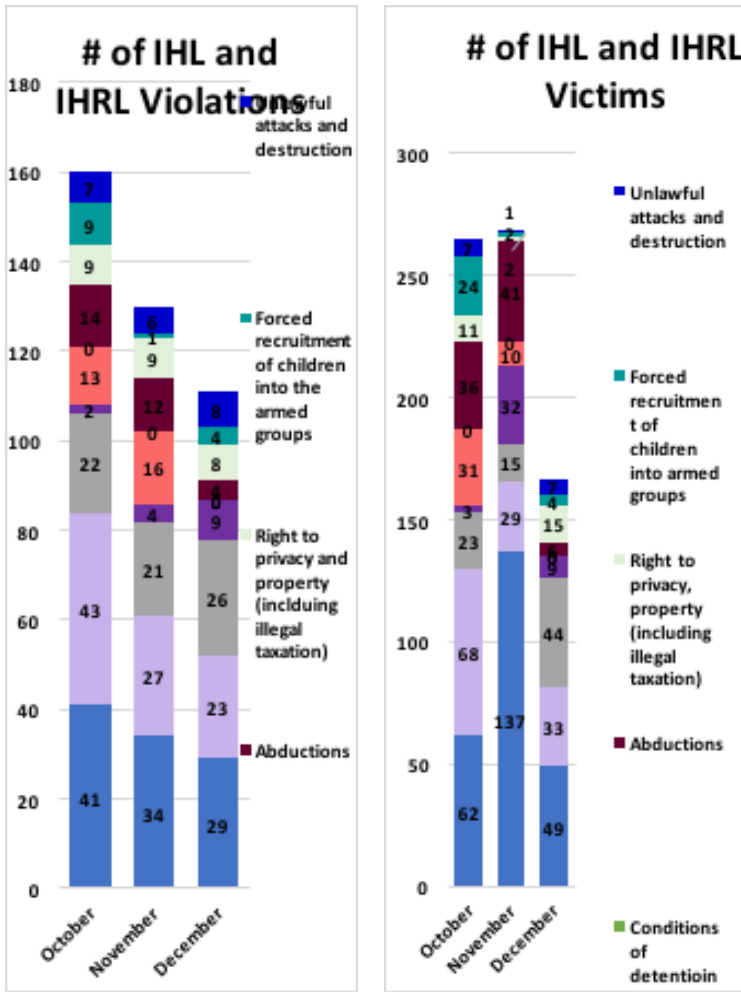


Figure 7

Figure 8
TOTAL REPORTED VIOLATIONS/ABUSES & VICTIMS PER MONTH:



DOCUMENTED CASUALTIES IN DECEMBER 2018

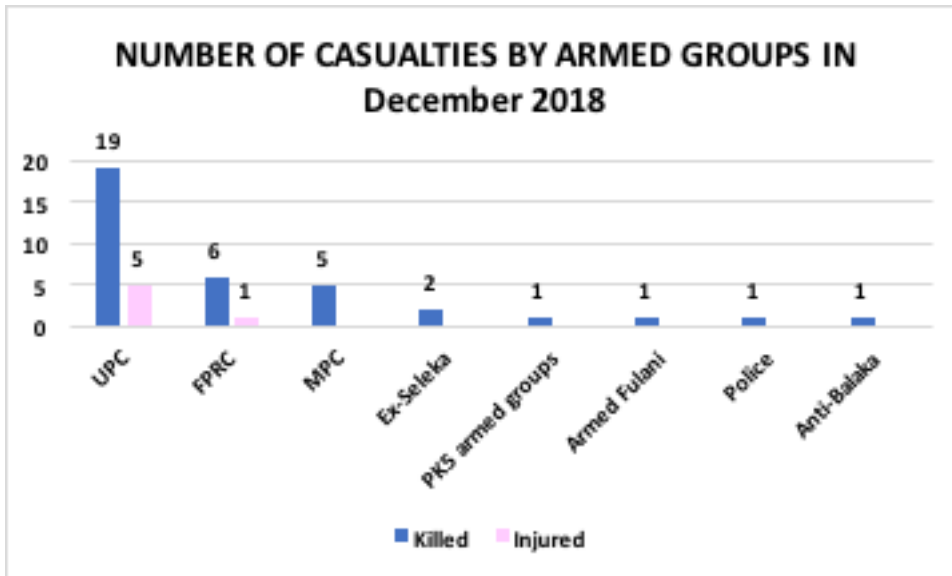


Figure 9

The figures mentioned in this fact sheet do not reflect a complete overview of the human rights violations and abuses in December 2018, but only relate to cases documented by the HRD, through OHCHR methodology and standards. It is worth noting that these figures may include human rights violations committed during previous months but brought to the attention of the MINUSCA's HRD in December 2018. Statistics on the number of violations/abuses reported may increase or decrease over a given period due to numerous factors outside the control and/or knowledge of the HRD and must therefore be used with caution.