

MAJOR FINDINGS

Cluster Munition Monitor 2025

Ban Policy

Status of the 2008 Convention on Cluster Munitions

- The Convention on Cluster Munitions has 111 States Parties and 12 signatories.¹ The most recent states to become parties to the convention were South Sudan and Nigeria. The convention came into force for South Sudan on 1 February 2024, and for former signatory Nigeria on 1 August 2023.
- The convention lost one State Party on 6 March 2025, when Lithuania's withdrawal from the convention went into effect. It is the first time that a state has withdrawn from the convention.
- An annual United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) resolution promoting the convention was adopted in December 2024 by 121 states, including 27 states not party to the convention. Many states did not attend the vote in December but did vote on the resolution during its initial consideration by the UNGA First Committee on Disarmament and International Security in November, when 139 states voted in favor. Russia was the only country to vote against it in either forum.

Use of Cluster Munitions

- There have been no reports or allegations of new use of cluster munitions by any State Party since the convention was adopted in May 2008.
- Cluster munitions were used in Ukraine by Russian and Ukrainian forces during 2024 and the first half of 2025. There were also reports of cluster munition use inside Russia and in areas under Russian control by Ukrainian forces attacking Russian targets, but it was not possible to verify these claims.
- New cluster munition use was also recorded in Myanmar and Syria.
- Thailand appeared to admit to using cluster munitions in the border conflict with Cambodia in July 2025. Neither state is party to the Convention on Cluster Munitions.
- The Israeli military alleged that cluster munitions were used in an Iranian ballistic missile attack on central Israel in June 2025.

Production

- There are 17 countries that still produce cluster munitions or reserve the right to do so: Brazil, China, Egypt, Greece, India, Iran, Israel, North Korea, South Korea,

¹ After *Cluster Munition Monitor 2025* went to print, Vanuatu acceded to the Convention on Cluster Munitions, bringing the number of States Parties back up to 112.

Myanmar, Pakistan, Poland, Romania, Russia, Singapore, Türkiye, and the United States (US). None of these countries is party to the convention.

- Cluster Munition Monitor found evidence of new cluster munition production in Iran, Myanmar, North Korea, and South Korea during the reporting period.
- Cluster munitions produced by North Korea were used in Ukraine in 2025. It's not clear whether they were used by North Korean forces engaged in joint military operations with Russia, or acquired from North Korea by Russia and used by Russian forces in Ukraine.

Stockpile Destruction and Retention

- Since the convention's adoption in 2008, a total of 42 States Parties have collectively destroyed 100% of the cluster munition stocks that they declared, destroying 1.49 million cluster munitions and 179 million submunitions. Peru was the last State Party to complete the destruction of its stockpiles, in December 2023.
- Only six States Parties are retaining live cluster munitions for permitted research and training purposes, of which Germany has the highest number (77 cluster munitions and 4,851 submunitions).

Transfer

- Between July 2023 and October 2024, the US announced making at least seven transfers of cluster munitions to Ukraine, with some of those weapons transiting across State Party Germany in the process. Ukraine may have acquired cluster munitions from other countries since 2022, but reports of such transfers have been denied by the countries concerned.
- In June 2024, companies from India and South Korea promoted their cluster munitions for sale at the Eurosatory Arms Exhibition in France, which is a State Party to the convention. Both the convention and French law prohibit the promotion of cluster munitions on French territory.
- In the past, at least 15 countries have transferred more than 50 types of cluster munitions to at least 60 other countries. However, since the convention took effect in August 2010, no State Party is known to have transferred cluster munitions other than for purposes permitted by the convention.

Transparency Reporting

- A total of 107 States Parties have submitted an initial Article 7 transparency report for the convention. However, five States Parties—Cabo Verde, the Comoros, the Republic of the Congo, Guinea, and Rwanda—still have not done so.
- Compliance with the annual reporting requirement is overall satisfactory, however, only approximately half of States Parties regularly provide annual updated transparency reports.

National Legislation

- A total of 33 States Parties have specific implementation laws for the convention. The last country to enact national implementing legislation was Niue in 2021.

- Another 22 States Parties are planning or are in the process of drafting, reviewing, or adopting specific legislative measures to implement the convention, while 43 States Parties regard their existing laws and regulations as sufficient.

The Impact

Cluster Munition Casualties

- Ukraine had the highest number of annual casualties globally for the third consecutive year. Since February 2022, over 1,200 cluster munition casualties have been recorded in Ukraine.
- Globally, 314 people were recorded as killed or injured by cluster munitions in 2024. However, the actual number is likely much higher as many casualties go unreported. In Ukraine alone, some 40 cluster munition attacks were reported in 2024 where the number of casualties that occurred was not noted.
- New casualties from cluster munitions were recorded in nine countries—Afghanistan, Iraq, Lao PDR, Lebanon, Mauritania, Myanmar, Syria, Ukraine, and Yemen—in 2024.
 - All of those countries, except Myanmar, had new casualties from cluster munition remnants recorded in 2024.
 - Casualties from cluster munition attacks occurred in three countries—Myanmar, Syria, and Ukraine—all states not party to the Convention on Cluster Munitions.
- Of the total reported casualties in 2024, 257 were the result of cluster munition attacks, while 57 were caused by cluster munition remnants.
- Cluster munitions and their remnants continued to disproportionately impact civilians. All recorded casualties in 2024 were civilians. However, unreliable reporting on military casualties prevented the number of military casualties from being included in the Monitor's casualty dataset.
- In 2024, sex- and age-disaggregated data on cluster munition casualties was severely lacking, especially in conflict-affected countries where reporting was challenging. However, the majority of casualties continued to be men and boys, where the sex was known.
- Children are at particularly high risk of harm from cluster munition remnants, especially submunitions. Children accounted for 42% of all recorded casualties from cluster munition remnants in 2024.

Cluster Munition Contamination and Clearance

- A total of 29 countries and other areas are contaminated or suspected to be contaminated by cluster munition remnants. Of those, 10 are States Parties: Afghanistan, Chad, Chile, Germany, Iraq, Lao PDR, Lebanon, Mauritania, Somalia, and South Sudan. One state not party, Myanmar, was added to the list in 2024.
- A total of 11 States Parties have completed clearance of cluster munition contaminated areas—the most recent being Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH) in 2023. No State Party completed clearance of cluster munition contaminated areas in 2024.

- States Parties contaminated with cluster munition remnants released just over 100km² of hazardous area through clearance, technical survey, and non-technical survey during 2024. Combined, these land release methods resulted in the destruction of at least 83,452 cluster munition remnants. The number of cluster munition remnants destroyed in 2024 is the highest reported in the past five years.
- Of the contaminated States Parties, Chile, Germany, Lao PDR, and Mauritania increased the amount of land released in 2024 compared to 2023. For Afghanistan, Iraq, Lebanon, and South Sudan, the annual amount decreased in 2024, primarily due to a decline in funding—and, in the case of Lebanon, as a consequence of new conflict that shifted priorities towards emergency response. Chad and Somalia did not release any cluster munition contaminated land in 2024.
- In the first half of 2025, Afghanistan, Chile, Lebanon, Mauritania, and Somalia each requested to extend their current clearance deadlines.

Risk Education

- In 2024, all contaminated States Parties carried out risk education activities warning of the dangers of cluster munition remnants and other explosive hazards, except for Chile and Germany, where cluster munition contaminated areas are on military land that is inaccessible to the public.
- Men and boys remained the groups at highest risk of harm from cluster munition remnants due to everyday activities that bring them into contact with contaminated areas.
- Corresponding with the high risk of harm that they face, children represented the majority of risk education beneficiaries (59%), comprising 31% boys and 28% girls. Adults constituted the remaining 41% of beneficiaries, with 20% men and 21% women.

Victim Assistance

- Victim assistance efforts under the Convention on Cluster Munitions saw some targeted improvements in 2024, but many States Parties faced significant structural and funding challenges that have hampered the provision of adequate and accessible services.
 - In Lao PDR, a multi-year US-funded program extended to continue through 2027 was stalled by funding cuts in 2025.
- Despite some increase in beneficiary numbers within States Parties in 2024, access to emergency and continuing medical care and to rehabilitation services remained limited for survivors living in rural or conflict-affected areas, particularly in Afghanistan and Lebanon.
- National health systems in most cluster munition affected countries have not yet achieved the required sustainability of service delivery. In some affected countries, including in Afghanistan, Lebanon, Somalia, and South Sudan, support from international non-governmental organizations (NGOs) helped fill gaps.

- Limited progress was made in socio-economic inclusion and financial assistance for victims, leaving many needs unmet. Many cluster munition victims could not access income-generating opportunities.
 - However, in 2025, Montenegro passed legislative amendments that gave civilian casualties the right to compensation.
- Vital psychological support was often lacking, particularly in Lao PDR and South Sudan, with some improvements in legislation and coordination reported in Afghanistan and Albania.
- Ongoing conflicts hindered vital victim assistance access and weakened health systems in countries outside the convention that have experienced recent new contamination and casualties from attacks, including in Myanmar, Syria, and Ukraine, as well as in some parts of Yemen.