

Soon available: *Sanctions for Conflict Prevention and Peace Building. Lessons Learned from Côte d'Ivoire and Liberia*, by Peter Wallensteen, Mikael Eriksson and Daniel Strandow.

The UN has launched 17 sanctions operations. The more recent cases are targeted sanctions: focusing particular commodities or individuals. The Uppsala Special Program on the Implementation of Targeted Sanctions (SPITS) has taken up the challenge of systematically collecting lessons from such cases.

This report deals with two ongoing cases: Liberia and Côte d'Ivoire/Ivory Coast. The former began already in 1992, the latter only in 2004. In Liberia, sanctions now have a role in building a new society after many years of war. In the Ivory Coast case they aim at preventing an immediate return to war.

Based on published reports, scholarly analyses and on interviews conducted in May-June 2006, this publication draws some conclusions. The gist of the report is that these sanctions do have an impact on the targeted societies. For instance, they lead to difficulties for armed actors in getting access to weapons; and they may have a sobering effect on individuals that are targeted.

The report suggests conclusions for the two cases, for instance, on criteria for the gradual removal of sanctions on Liberia, and possible measures for strengthening them on Côte d'Ivoire in a worst-case scenario. It also has implications for UN policy on targeted sanctions, notably, on listing and delisting of individuals and the need for guidelines how to interact with targeted actors.

In all, the report contains some thirty recommendations, thus hoping to contribute to the continuous debate on the use of the sanctions instrument by the international community.