



[The Truce in Yemen is Extended for an Additional Two Months After Aid Agencies Urge for Such Action to be Taken Due to Its Positive Humanitarian Impacts](#)

This week, with the critical two-month truce between the warring parties in Yemen set to expire, the United Nations recently announced that an agreement to extend it for an additional two months had been reached. Human rights activists have strongly supported the ceasefire, with over three dozen calling for an extension to come into effect before the deal elapses. The truce has been integral to the lowering of fatalities and the allowing of humanitarian aid to those most affected by the devastating conflict. Initially, talks to extend the truce had made little progress with observers concerned that the discussions would end and the vital truce agreement may not be extended further. This, it was worried, would have damaging ramifications on the state of human rights as important aid services could become increasingly difficult to disperse to those in need in Yemen; especially with the ongoing global food crisis due to the war in Ukraine. With the latest developments that have transpired, the extension of the truce was slated to officially take place when the current period expired on June 2nd at 7pm Yemen time.

The United Nations-brokered truce has been championed by human rights activists, peace advocates, and security experts. The arrangement has allowed for critically-needed food and medical supplies to reach those most harmed by the war, particularly vulnerable children and families. As a result of global food shortages, in large part due to the reduction in wheat production that has been caused by the illegal and destructive Russian invasion of Ukraine, there is an even greater risk of catastrophic food insecurity in Yemen. The longstanding conflict in Yemen, which has killed at least 377,000 people, has seen a significant reduction in war-related fatalities since the truce went into effect back in early April. However, the fallout from the conflict has still had lasting impact on Yemeni citizens who still struggle to receive necessary aid and human services.

While the undeniable need for humanitarian aid focused particularly on food shortages has always been evident throughout the course of the war in Yemen, the potential end of the truce brought fears that this could worsen considerably in the country. Due to the Russian invasion of Ukraine, the global community has experienced an increasingly troubled state of food access, most notably in wheat. As Ukraine is regarded as the “bread basket of Europe,” much of the gulf region in the Middle East is reliant on that wheat supply. Therefore, the need for an extension of the truce to ensure that food can flow to those affected by the Yemeni conflict is essential under the given circumstances.

In the face of the urgent and widely-understood importance of extending the truce in Yemen, talks at the United Nations had largely stalled. U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations, Linda Thomas Greenfield, had stated earlier this week that the talks “haven’t ended yet but seem to be in a bit of trouble.” It appeared as though the truce was in real danger of elapsing, and analysts had warned that should this have happened, there could be a serious increase in violence between the Saudi-led coalition and the Houthi rebels.

The effects of an elapsing of the truce could have resulted in a likely dramatic uptick in war-related casualties, the launching of new military campaigns, and a harmful reduction in Yemeni civilian access to paramount aid services. Thus, observers have praised the decision to extend the truce in Yemen for an additional two months.