

National context

Throughout March, Yemen has remained entrenched in a multifaceted crisis brought about by political stagnation, economic decline, and environmental challenges. The conflict has led to a significant decrease in gross domestic product (GDP) per capita and a 50% depreciation of the Yemeni rial in government-controlled areas over the past year, exacerbating poverty levels across the country. The political landscape continues to remain complicated by the Houthis' attacks on commercial and military vessels in the Red Sea and on Israeli territory. Although a ceasefire between Israel and Hamas was established on 19 January, the Houthis' unpredictable responses to regional developments continue to hinder intra-Yemeni political processes, contributing significantly to regional insecurity.

Security Incidents

A series of security incidents in Yemen heightened tensions both domestically and regionally as the US intensified its military operations against Houthi targets following the group's threats to Israeli maritime activities. On 15 March, US airstrikes reportedly killed over 40x Houthi fighters, targeting missile launch sites and key personnel. However, the death of a senior Houthi missile expert remains unconfirmed, with US officials unable to verify the identity of the individual killed. In retaliation, the Houthis claimed to have shot down an American MQ-9 Reaper drone on 1 April. While the US acknowledged awareness of the reports, no further comments were made. POTUS Trump emphasised the continuation of military operations until freedom of navigation in the Red Sea is secured.

The conflict's regional implications are evident, with over 100x shipping attacks attributed to the Houthis since late 2023, disrupting vital maritime routes and prompting costly military responses. Egypt, for instance, has suffered significant economic losses, including a \$7 billion revenue decline from the Suez Canal in 2024 due to these disruptions. In response, diplomatic efforts are underway, with Egyptian President Abdel Fattah al-Sisi and POTUS Trump discussing regional mediation to restore stability and protect Red Sea navigation.

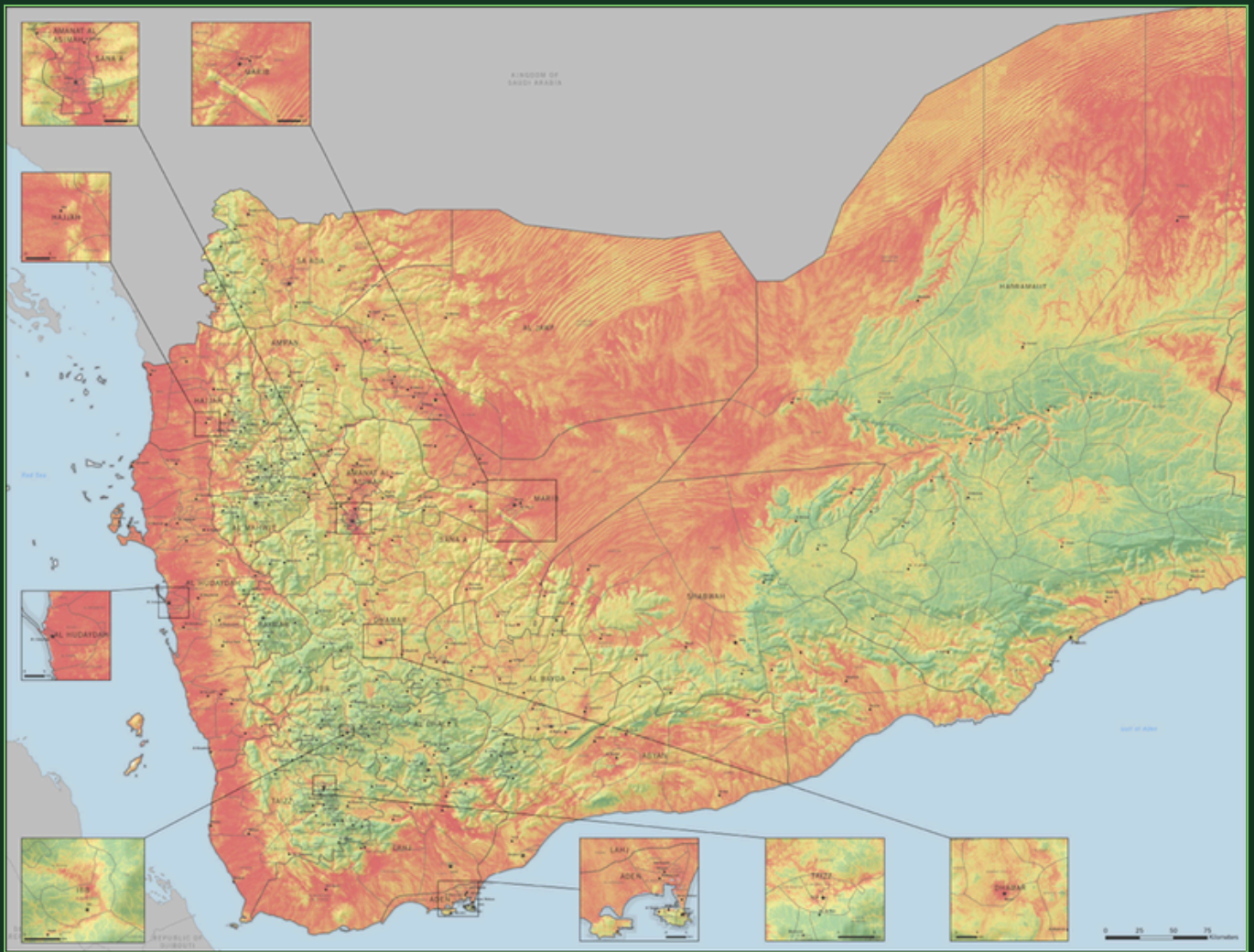
Humanitarian situation

The humanitarian crisis in Yemen has reached catastrophic levels, particularly in western coastal areas like Hudaydah, where malnutrition rates have soared to 33%. UNICEF warned of thousands of impending deaths due to severe malnutrition, exacerbated by aid cuts from major donors and inefficient food distribution. Currently, half of the children under five and 1.4 million pregnant women are malnourished. In response, the United Nations and its partners launched the 2025 Yemen Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan, seeking \$2.47 billion to provide urgent assistance to millions in need. Over 19.5 million people require humanitarian aid and protection services, with the most vulnerable being women and girls. Despite significant challenges, aid organisations reached over 8 million people last year, primarily through local Yemeni organizations. Compounding these issues, environmental factors such as floods (see image below for flood susceptible areas) have displaced landmines, complicating demining efforts and exacerbating intertribal conflicts over scarce resources. Women are disproportionately affected by these challenges, facing increased vulnerabilities to natural disasters and conflict-related insecurities.

Dynamic assessment

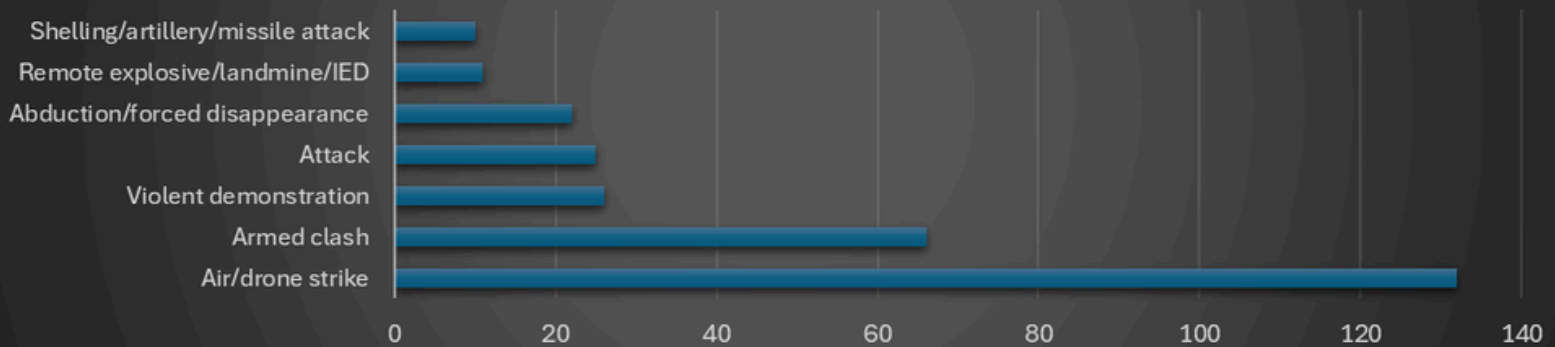
The convergence of political inaction, escalating security incidents, and a deteriorating humanitarian situation suggests a grim outlook for Yemen in the coming month. The absence of a nationwide ceasefire and the potential for renewed large-scale military operations could further destabilise the region. The Houthis' unpredictable responses to regional dynamics, particularly concerning Israel and the Red Sea maritime routes, may provoke additional international military interventions, thereby intensifying the conflict.

Economically, the continued depreciation of the Yemeni rial and the collapse of essential services are likely to deepen poverty and food insecurity. The humanitarian crisis is expected to worsen, with aid agencies struggling to meet the escalating needs due to funding shortages and operational challenges. Without substantial international support and a restored political process, Yemen faces the prospect of further fragmentation, prolonged human suffering, and regional instability. April is likely to be a critical juncture for Yemen, necessitating urgent and coordinated efforts from both domestic and international actors to avert a deeper crisis.

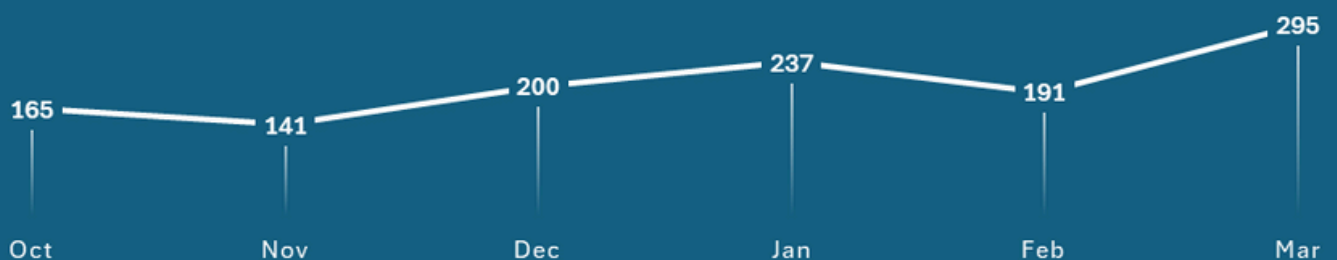


Source: ShelterCluster.org

Categories of political violence: Yemen [Oct '24 - Mar '25]



RECORDED INSTANCES OF POLITICAL VIOLENCE: YEMEN [OCT '24 - MAR '25]



Graphical Intelligence Summary (GRINTSUM)

YEMEN

