

COI Update

Vol 176

This document provides an update of UK Country Guidance case law, UK Home Office publications and developments in refugee producing countries (focusing on those which generate the most asylum seekers in the UK) between 17 July and 30 July 2018.

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Legal Update

No UK Country Guidance cases were promulgated in the reporting period.

UK Home Office Publications Update

Afghanistan

UK Home Office, Country Policy and Information Note, Afghanistan: Hindus and Sikhs, 24 July 2018

Eritrea

UK Home Office, <u>Country Policy and Information Note, Eritrea: National service and illegal exit</u>, 17 July 2018

India

UK Home Office, <u>Country Policy and Information Note, India: Women fearing gender-based violence</u> 25 July 2018

Country News and Publications

Global

Internal Displacement Monitoring Blog, <u>Quarterly Update April – June 2018</u>, 28 July 2018

Amnesty International news, <u>EU: Commission proposals risk a dangerous expansion of failed migration policies</u>, 24 July 2018

Internal Displacement Monitoring Blog, Annual Report 2017, 24 July 2018

Afghanistan

Radio Free Europe, <u>At Least Three Killed In Militant Attack On Afghan Midwife Training Center</u>, 28 July 2018

Radio Free Europe, Car Bomber Strikes Security Convoy In Afghan Capital, 26 July 2018

Radio Free Europe, Three Injured In Rocket Attacks On Kabul, 24 July 2018

Radio Free Europe, <u>Dozens Of Afghan Civilians</u>, <u>Police Killed In Fighting In North</u>, 20 July 2018 International Crisis Group report, <u>Building on Afghanistan's Fleeting Ceasefire</u>, 19 July 2018 Radio Free Europe, <u>Bomb Kills 20 In Afghanistan</u>, <u>As Army Frees Dozens Of Prisoners</u>, 17 July 2018

Bangladesh

International Federation for Human Rights urgent appeal, <u>Bangladesh: Attack against Mr.</u> <u>Mahmudur Rahman</u>, 24 July 2018

Burma/Myanmar

Radio Free Asia, <u>Myanmar Forces Made 'Extensive And Systematic' Plans For Attacks on Rohingya:</u> <u>Fortify Rights</u>, 19 July 2018

OHCHR press release, <u>UN Experts on Myanmar conclude visit to Bangladesh weeks ahead of the</u> release of its final report, 19 July 2018

Amnesty International campaigns, <u>Myanmar: Former Child Soldier Jailed After Media Interview: Aung Ko Htwe</u>, 18 July 2018

Cameroon

International Crisis Group, <u>Dialogue is Essential to Unite Cameroon's Disparate Voices</u>, 27 July 2018 OHCHR press release, <u>UN Human Rights Chief deeply alarmed by reports of serious rights breaches in Cameroon</u>, 25 July 2018

Human Rights Watch commentary, <u>Cameroon's Schools Are Under Attack, And The UK Can Help Stop</u> *It*, 23 July 2018

Human Rights Watch report, Cameroon: Killings, Destruction in Anglophone Regions, 19 July 2018

China

Amnesty International news, <u>Stop. Rewind. Repeat. Why Chinese children are still not safe</u>, 28 July 2018

Radio Free Asia, <u>Group Slams China's Record on Ethnic Mongolians Amid Calls For Writer's Release</u>, 26 July 2018

Radio Free Asia, <u>China Jails Two Political Refugees Sent Home From Thailand After Secret Trial</u>, 25 July 2018

Amnesty International campaigns, <u>China: Further Information: Hands And Feet Of Lawyer Cuffed To Iron Chair: Jiang Tianyong</u>, 20 July 2018

China-Tibet

Human Rights Watch news, China: Crackdown on Tibetan Social Groups, 29 July 2018

China-Xinjiang

Radio Free Asia, <u>US Officials, Lawmaker Slam China Over Religious Persecution of Ethnic Uyghurs</u>, 27 July 2018

Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)

Amnesty International campaigns, <u>Democratic Republic of Congo: Further Information: Youth Activists Risk Three Years Imprisonment</u>, 27 July 2018

Human Rights Watch news, <u>DR Congo: Threats Over Film Exposing Evictions</u>, 26 July 2018 UNICEF press release, <u>DRC Ebola epidemic ends, but ongoing vigilance is essential to keeping children</u> <u>safe from future outbreaks – UNICEF</u>, 24 July 2018

Egypt

Human Rights Watch dispatches, <u>US Release of Military Aid to Egypt Sends Signal</u>, 27 July 2018 International Federation for Human Rights urgent appeal, <u>Egypt: pursuit of arbitrary detention of Dr.</u> Shadi al-Ghazali Harb, 26 July 2018

OHCHR press release, *Egypt: UN human rights experts urge release of poet/songwriter*, 26 July 2018

Eritrea

Amnesty International news, *Op-Ed: Eritrea: no more excuses for indefinite national service*, 30 July 2018

Ethiopia

Human Rights Watch commentary, Task of Ethiopia's New Leader: End Torture, 30 July 2018

Gambia

OHCHR press release, <u>Human Rights Committee closes its one hundred and twenty-third session</u>, 27 July 2018

India

OHCHR press release, <u>India must bring its new anti-trafficking Bill in line with human rights law, urge</u> UN experts, 23 July 2018

Iran

Amnesty International campaigns, <u>Iran: Road To Be Built Over Individual And Mass Graves</u>, 26 July 2018

Radio Free Europe, <u>Iran Lifts Ban On Zoroastrian City Council Member</u>, 22 July 2018

Iraq

International Crisis Group report, <u>Iraq's Paramilitary Groups: The Challenge of Rebuilding a</u>
<u>Functioning State</u>, 30 July 2018

Human Rights Watch news, <u>Iraq: Intelligence Agency Admits Holding Hundreds Despite Previous</u>
Denials, 22 July 2018

Amnesty International news, <u>Iraq: Security forces deliberately attack peaceful protesters while</u> internet is disabled, 19 July 2018

Kenya

OHCHR press release, <u>Kenya: Stop forced evictions from Nairobi's Kibera settlement, say UN rights experts</u>, 26 July 2018

Amnesty International campaigns, <u>Kenya: Thousands Of Residents' Risk Forced Eviction</u>, 25 July 2018 Amnesty International news, <u>Kenya: No crime justifies the death sentence</u>, 19 July 2018

Liberia

OHCHR press release, <u>Human Rights Committee closes its one hundred and twenty-third session</u>, 27 July 2018

Mali

IRIN news, "Praying for peace": Malians pick new president amid rising violence, 30 July 2018

Nigeria

International Crisis Group report, Stopping Nigeria's Spiralling Farmer-Herder Violence, 26 July 2018

Occupied Palestinian Territories (OPTs)

Amnesty International news, <u>Israel/OPT: Ahed Tamimi release a bittersweet moment as other</u> <u>Palestinian children languish in Israeli jails</u>, 29 July 2018

UNICEF press release, <u>Nearly 25 per cent of boys aged 15 out of school in the State of Palestine</u>, 26 July 2018

Amnesty International news, <u>State of Palestine: The Palestinian authorities must rein in security</u> forces, allow peaceful protests, 25 July 2018

OHCHR press release, <u>President of Human Rights Council appoints Members of Commission of Inquiry on 2018 protests in Occupied Palestinian Territory</u>, 25 July 2018

Amnesty International campaigns, <u>Israel/OPT: Further Information: NGO Worker's Administrative Detention Renewed: Salah Hammouri</u>, 24 July 2018

OHCHR press release, <u>Israel's proposed demolition of Palestine village Khan al-Ahmar could result in</u> <u>war crime, warns UN rights expert</u>, 24 July 2018

OHCHR press release, <u>UN women's rights experts issue findings on the State of Palestine</u>, 23 July 2018

International Crisis Group briefing, Averting War in Gaza, 20 July 2018

Pakistan

Human Rights Watch dispatches, Controversial Election in Pakistan, 28 July 2018

OHCHR press release, <u>Pakistan must repeal discriminatory measures leading to persecution of</u>
Ahmadis, say UN experts, 25 July 2018

Radio Free Europe, <u>Pakistani Candidate Killed In Latest Attack Ahead Of July 25 Elections</u>, 22 July 2018

South Africa

Amnesty International news, <u>Mandela's long walk to freedom showed we can change the world</u>, 18 July 2018

South Sudan

Human Rights Watch dispatches, <u>Will African Governments Implement the UN Arms Embargo on South Sudan?</u>, 19 July 2018

Sri Lanka

Amnesty International news, Sri Lanka: Executions are never the solution, 19 July 2018

Sudan

Amnesty International news, <u>Sudan: Freedom for teacher who faced execution for criticizing</u> government, 26 July 2018

Syria

Amnesty International news, <u>Syria: Government must return remains of 161 people confirmed dead</u> <u>after being forcibly disappeared</u>, 26 July 2018

Human Rights Watch dispatches, <u>A Bold Step to End Impunity in Syria Chemical Attacks</u>, 24 July 2018 UNICEF statement, <u>Access to children in need in Syria continues to be severely restricted</u>, 19 July 2018 Amnesty International research, <u>Syria: Flaws in the US-Led Coalition's Reporting on Civilian Casualties in Ragga: Civilian Casualties Dismissed as Non-Credible</u>, 17 July 2018

Turkey

Amnesty International news, <u>Turkey: Lifting of state of emergency must pave road back to justice</u>, 18 July 2018

Uganda

Human Rights Watch dispatches, <u>Forced Evictees in Northern Uganda Entitled to a Remedy</u>, 23 July 2018

Ukraine

OHCHR press release, <u>Ukraine: Act now to stop systematic persecution of Roma minority in "alarming" attacks, say UN experts</u>, 18 July 2018

Vietnam

Radio Free Asia, <u>Twenty Sentenced in Vietnam For Their Role in June 10 SEZ Protests</u>, 30 July 2018 Human Rights Watch news, <u>Vietnam: Clean Up Abysmal Rights Record</u>, 23 July 2018 Human Rights Watch news, <u>Vietnam: US Citizen in Televised 'Confession'</u>, 18 July 2018

Yemen

UN News Centre, <u>Hudaydah 'one airstrike away from unstoppable epidemic': UN humanitarian chief in Yemen</u>, 29 July 2018

UNICEF statement, <u>Access to water continues to be jeopardized for millions of children in war-torn</u> <u>Yemen</u>, 24 July 2018

Zimbabwe

International Federation for Human Rights press release, <u>Zimbabwe: Human rights defenders at risk</u> <u>as elections approach</u>, 27 July 2018

IRIN news, <u>Zimbabwe ruling party accused of using food aid to buy votes</u>, 24 July 2018 Human Rights Watch news, <u>Zimbabwe Elections Blog Will Monitor Human Rights Environment</u>, 23 July 2018

<u>Sources consulted</u>: Amnesty International; Human Rights Watch; Institute for War and Peace Reporting; Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC); International Crisis Group; International Federation for Human Rights (FIDH); International Partnership for Human Rights (IPHR); IRIN; Radio Free Asia news, Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty; UN Agencies, Committees, Special Rapporteurs and news.

<u>Useful COI databases (non-exhaustive)</u>:

- o <u>Asylos's research notes</u>
- o <u>COI Forum</u>
- o <u>EASO COI Portal</u> [European Asylum Support Office's portal]
- o <u>Electronic Immigration Network</u> [Subscription only]
- <u>ECOI.net</u> [European Country of Origin Information Network]
- Refworld [UNHCR's portal]
- o <u>ReliefWeb</u>