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# COI Update

# Vol. 239

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25 August 2021

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 29 July and 24 August 2021.

*Ctrl + click the hyperlinked text to access the documents*

## **Legal Update**

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

## **UK Home Office Publications Update**

### **China**

UK Home Office, [Country Policy and Information Note, China: Muslims \(including Uyghurs in Xinjiang\)](#), 23 August 2021

## **Country News and Publications**

### **Global**

Amnesty International research, [Southern Africa: SADC Must take decisive action on COVID-19 vaccine access at Summit](#), 18 August 2021

The New Humanitarian, [Soaring cases and little vaccination: A COVID-19 Middle East snapshot](#), 18 August 2021

### **Afghanistan**

Amnesty International news, [Afghanistan: Shameful failure of UNHRC special session to address escalating human rights crisis](#), 24 August 2021

International Crisis Group briefing note, [Taliban Rule Begins in Afghanistan](#), 24 August 2021

Amnesty International news, [Afghanistan: Taliban responsible for brutal massacre of Hazara men – new investigation](#), 19 August 2021

UNHCR briefing note, [UNHCR issues a non-return advisory for Afghanistan](#), 17 August 2021

### **Bangladesh**

Human Rights Watch news, [Bangladesh: Fleeing Rohingya Die at Sea](#), 24 August 2021

Human Rights Watch news, [Bangladesh: 86 Victims of Enforced Disappearance Still Missing](#), 16 August 2021

## **Brazil**

Human Rights Watch news, [Brazil: Bolsonaro Blocks Critics on Social Media](#), 19 August 2021

## **Cameroon**

Human Rights Watch dispatches, [Video Captures Vicious Transphobic Attack in Cameroon](#), 10 August 2021

Human Rights Watch news, [Cameroon: New Abuses by Both Sides](#), 2 August 2021

## **China**

Radio Free Asia, [Two Jailed After Raid on Early Rain Church Meeting in China's Sichuan](#), 24 August 2021

Radio Free Asia, [Researchers Jailed Over Github Stash of Pandemic Content Banned in China](#), 18 August 2021

Amnesty International news, [China: Authorities must immediately release imprisoned Changsha Funeng staff](#), 6 August 2021

Radio Free Asia, [Calls Grow For Release of Wuhan Citizen Journalist on Hunger Strike](#), 5 August 2021

## **China-Tibet**

Radio Free Asia, [Tibetan Poet Dies of Alcohol-Related Health Issues After Arrests, Interrogation](#), 23 August 2021

Radio Free Asia, [Tibetans Chafe at Repression as China Celebrates 70 Years of Rule over Tibet](#), 21 August 2021

Radio Free Asia, [Tibetan Man Arrested in Sichuan for Failure to Attend Chinese Propaganda Lecture](#), 18 August 2021

Radio Free Asia, [Chinese Police Stop Tibetan Travelers, Pushing One Into River and Shooting Another](#), 16 August 2021

Radio Free Asia, [Three Tibetans Arrested in Qinghai For Sharing Photos Outside the Region](#), 10 August 2021

Radio Free Asia, [Tibetan Monk Held in Sichuan's Ngaba County on Unknown Charges](#), 5 August 2021

## **China-Xinjiang**

Radio Free Asia, [Uyghur Entrepreneur Confirmed to be Held in Internment Camp in Xinjiang](#), 23 August 2021

Radio Free Asia, [Uyghur Literature Professor Confirmed Detained in Xinjiang](#), 11 August 2021

Radio Free Asia, [Uyghur Linguistics Professor Serving 15-Year Sentence in Xinjiang](#), 9 August 2021

Radio Free Asia, [Uyghur Actor Confirmed Detained in China's Xinjiang](#), 9 August 2021

### **Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)**

UNHCR briefing note, [UNHCR gravely concerned about systematic sexual violence in DR Congo's Tanganyika Province](#), 13 August 2021

Amnesty International research, [DRC: Further information: Peaceful activists released on bail: Elisée Lwatumba Kasonia and Eric Muhindo Muvumbu](#), 4 August 2021

### **Egypt**

Amnesty International research, [Egypt: Further information: Human rights defender released: Esraa Abdelfattah](#), 23 August 2021

Amnesty International news, [Egypt: Twelve dissidents face execution while security forces enjoy impunity over Rabaa massacre](#), 13 August 2021

Amnesty International news, [Egypt: Investigate evidence of extrajudicial executions by Egyptian army in North Sinai](#), 5 August 2021

Amnesty International research, [Egypt: Further information: Opposition politicians tried by special court: Zyad el-Elaimy, Hisham Fouad, Hossam Moanis](#), 4 August 2021

Amnesty International research, [Egypt: Further information: Human rights lawyer released: Mahienour el-Masry](#), 3 August 2021

Amnesty International press release, [Egypt: Crackdown on human rights defenders continues amid ongoing "foreign funding" investigation](#), 30 July 2021

### **Eritrea**

OHCHR press release, [Eritrea: UN experts demand release of human rights defender held 20 years without charge](#), 18 August 2021

### **Ethiopia**

Human Rights Watch news, [Ethiopia: Ethnic Tigrayans Forcibly Disappeared](#), 18 August 2021

Amnesty International news, [Ethiopia: Troops and militia rape, abduct women and girls in Tigray conflict – new report](#), 10 August 2021

### **Ghana**

Human Rights Watch commentary, [Homophobic Ghanaian 'Family Values' Bill is Odious and Beggars Belief](#), 10 August 2021

## India

Amnesty International research, [EU/India: The EU must break its silence on India's human rights record](#), 19 August 2021

## Iran

Radio Free Europe, [Tehran Prison Abuse Revealed In Security Footage Leak](#), 24 August 2021

Human Rights Watch news, [Iran: Government Mismanagement Compounds Covid-19 Crisis](#), 19 August 2021

Amnesty International news, [Iran: Security forces use ruthless force, mass arrests and torture to crush peaceful protests](#), 11 August 2021

Amnesty International news, [Iran: Secret execution of young man arrested at 15 a cruel assault on child rights](#), 4 August 2021

Human Rights Watch news, [Social Media Harassment of Iran Researchers, Activists](#), 3 August 2021

Human Rights Watch news, [Iran: Deadly Repression of Khuzestan Protests](#), 29 July 2021

## Iraq

Human Rights Watch news, [Iraq: Apparent Familial Feud Drives Illegal Evictions](#), 11 August 2021

OHCHR press release, [Iraq: Implementation of laws key to ending torture and building public trust in justice system - UN](#), 3 August 2021

## Kenya

Human Rights Watch commentary, [Kenya Needs an Inclusive Social Protection Policy](#), 29 July 2021

## Lebanon

Amnesty International news, [Lebanon: Parliament police take part in vicious attack on families of Beirut Blast victims and journalists](#), 12 August 2021

Amnesty International news, [Lebanon: One year on from devastating Beirut explosion, authorities shamelessly obstruct justice](#), 2 August 2021

## Libya

Amnesty International news, [Libya: Government of National Unity must not legitimize militias and armed groups responsible for harrowing abuses](#), 6 August 2021

OHCHR press release, [Mercenaries and related private contractors must leave Libya to pave way for peace, elections – UN experts](#), 30 July 2021

## **Malawi**

Amnesty International news, [Malawi: People with albinism in urgent need of protection after horrific killing](#), 17 August 2021

## **Malaysia**

Amnesty International news, [Malaysia: PM's resignation must restore respect for freedom of expression and assembly](#), 17 August 2021

## **Morocco**

Amnesty International research, [Morocco: Further information: Prisoner of conscience provisionally released: Maati Monjib](#), 6 August 2021

## **Myanmar/Burma**

Human Rights Watch dispatches, [Covid-19 Surge in Myanmar's Prisons](#), 16 August 2021

Radio Free Asia, [Myanmar's Junta Seen Moving to Dissolve NLD to Ensure Grip on Power](#), 16 August 2021

Radio Free Asia, [More Than 80 Civilians Killed by Myanmar Forces in Sagaing Township](#), 12 August 2021

Amnesty International press release, [Myanmar: Covid-19 surges unchecked, overwhelming shattered healthcare system](#), 30 July 2021

## **Nepal**

Amnesty International news, [Nepal: Indigenous peoples the silent victims of country's conservation 'success story'](#), 9 August 2021

Human Rights Watch news, [Nepal: New Government Should Address Rights](#), 29 July 2021

## **Nigeria**

Human Rights Watch commentary, [Hunger during the pandemic shows Nigeria's social security gaps](#), 19 August 2021

Amnesty International research, [Nigeria: Further information: Activists jailed for anti-president t-shirts freed: Larry Emmanuel, Anene Victor Udoka, Samuel Gabriel, Henry Nwodo, Ben Mannaseh](#), 6 August 2021

Amnesty International news, [Nigeria: At least 115 people killed by security forces in four months in country's Southeast](#), 5 August 2021

## North Korea

Radio Free Asia, [North Koreans Pressed to Donate Labor, Cash For Flood Recovery Work](#), 24 August 2021

## Occupied Palestinian Territories (OPTs)

Human Rights Watch news, [Gaza: Israel's May Airstrikes on High-Rises](#), 23 August 2021

OHCHR press release, [UN experts condemn raid on West Bank NGO, urge Israel meaningfully probe child deaths](#), 13 August 2021

Human Rights Watch news, [Palestinian Rockets in May Killed Civilians in Israel, Gaza](#), 12 August 2021

OHCHR press release, [Israel must safeguard human rights defenders in Occupied Palestinian Territory and within its borders – UN expert](#), 11 August 2021

## Pakistan

Amnesty International news, [Pakistan: Drop ludicrous blasphemy charges against eight-year-old boy](#), 9 August 2021

Amnesty International research, [Pakistan: Further information: Pakistani activist returned after disappearance: Seenqar Noonari](#), 6 August 2021

Human Rights Watch dispatches, [Proposed Pakistan Authority Seeks Greater Control of Media](#), 23 August 2021

## Russia

Amnesty International news, [Russia: Kremlin designates Dozhd TV “foreign agent” in yet another attack on press freedom](#), 21 August 2021

Amnesty International research, [Russian Federation: Further information: Activist is released but will stand trial: Mikhail Iosilevich](#), 19 August 2021

International Partnership for Human Rights, [Russia's silence factory: New report documents the Kremlin's crackdown on free speech and democracy ahead of the 2021 Parliamentary elections](#), 16 August 2021

Amnesty International news, [Russia: End of the road for those seeking to exercise their right to protest](#), 12 August 2021

## Somalia

Amnesty International research, [Somalia: “We just watched COVID-19 patients die”: COVID-19 exposed Somalia's weak healthcare system but debt relief can transform it](#), 18 August 2021

International Crisis Group podcast, [Eastern Africa's Jihadis: Somalia](#), 18 August 2021



International Crisis Group briefing note, [Building on Somaliland's Successful Elections](#), 12 August 2021

## **Sri Lanka**

Human Rights Watch news, [Sri Lanka: Police Abuses Surge Amid Covid-19 Pandemic](#), 6 August 2021

Amnesty International news, [Sri Lanka: Authorities falter on accountability in 'Navy 11' case](#), 4 August 2021

## **Syria**

OHCHR press release, [Syria: Bachelet raises alarm at plight of civilians in Daraa amid ongoing hostilities](#), 5 August 2021

## **Turkey**

International Federation for Human Rights urgent appeal, [Turkey: Threats and acts of harassment against human rights lawyer Abdurrahman Karabulut](#), 20 August 2021

## **Uganda**

Amnesty International research, [Uganda: Guarantee human rights: Amnesty International submission for the UN Universal Periodic Review, 40th session of the UPR Working Group, January-February 2022](#), 30 July 2021

Human Rights Watch dispatches, [Uganda Moves to End Longstanding Land Conflict](#), 20 August 2021

## **Ukraine**

Amnesty International research, [Ukraine: Further information: Investigation into homophobic attack extended: Vitalina Koval](#), 10 August 2021

Amnesty International news, [Ukraine: Authorities must conduct effective investigation into suspicious death of prominent Belarusian exile](#), 3 August 2021

## **Vietnam**

Radio Free Asia, [Vietnam Punishes Critics of Government's COVID-19 Response](#), 10 August 2021

Radio Free Asia, [Five Vietnamese Journalists Face Lesser Charges After 'State Secrets' Investigation is Dropped](#), 6 August 2021

Radio Free Asia, [Jailed Vietnamese Democracy Advocate Vows Hunger Strike to His Death](#), 2 August 2021



## Yemen

UNHCR briefing note, [Shelter needs soar for newly displaced in Yemen's Marib](#), 24 August 2021

International Crisis Group op-ed, [The Shattering of Yemen: Why Ending the War Is More Difficult Than Ever](#), 19 August 2021

## Zimbabwe

Human Rights Watch dispatches, [Ensure Justice for Zimbabwe's Child Brides](#), 6 August 2021

Human Rights Watch dispatches, [Still No Justice for Zimbabwe's 2018 Post-Election Violence](#), 2 August 2021

Amnesty International research, [Zimbabwe: Entrenched Repression: Amnesty International submission for the UN Universal Periodic Review, 40th session of the UPR Working Group, January-February 2022](#), 29 July 2021

Sources consulted: 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); Minority Rights Group International; The New Humanitarian; Radio Free Asia; Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty; Reporters Without Borders; UN Agencies, Committees, Special Rapporteurs and news.

Sources consulted for annual reports: Amnesty International; Freedom House; Human Rights Watch; U.S. Department of State

Additional useful COI databases for case-specific country research (non-exhaustive):

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

For useful sources arranged by theme consult ARC Foundation's free [Thematic COI Sources toolkit](#).