



COI Update

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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 25 August and 28 September 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

Eritrea

UK Home Office, [Country Policy and Information Note, Eritrea: National service and illegal exit](#), 20 September 2021

Iraq

UK Home Office, [Country Policy and Information Note, Iraq: Sexual orientation and gender identity and expression](#), 3 September 2021

Namibia

UK Home Office, [Country Policy and Information Note, Namibia: Women fearing gender-based violence](#), 15 September 2021

Nigeria

UK Home Office, [Country Policy and Information Note, Nigeria: Internal relocation](#), 13 September 2021

Pakistan

UK Home Office, [Country Policy and Information Note, Pakistan: Ahmadis](#), 7 September 2021

Sri Lanka

UK Home Office, [Country Policy and Information Note, Sri Lanka: Religious minorities](#), 31 August 2021

Country News and Publications

Afghanistan

Together with Asylos and Clifford Chance, ARC Foundation has launched the *Afghanistan Country of Origin Information (COI) Repository*. This repository is compiled by volunteer researchers from Asylos and Clifford Chance, and quality reviewed by the Directors of ARC Foundation and Asylos.

Updated on a weekly basis until further notice, this repository contains a list of national, regional and international sources and presents relevant and current country information on Afghanistan under research headings. **To download the latest edition of the report please [click here](#).** From now on the research will be updated on a weekly basis on Thursdays and you will be able to download the newest version directly from this page.

Algeria

Amnesty International, [Algeria: Stop using bogus terrorism charges to prosecute peaceful activists and journalists](#), 28 September 2021

Amnesty International news, [Algerian refugee deported from Tunisia now imprisoned in Algeria](#), 3 September 2021

Bangladesh

Human Rights Watch news, [Bangladesh: Officials Linked to Hundreds of 'Disappearances'](#), 30 August 2021

Brazil

Human Rights Watch dispatches, [New Measures in Brazil Not Enough to Solve Amazon Crisis](#), 6 September 2021

Cameroon

Amnesty International news, [Cameroon: Repression marks crackdown anniversary](#), 22 September 2021

Human Rights Watch news, [Cameroon: Repression Marks Crackdown Anniversary](#), 22 September 2021

China

Human Rights Watch commentary, [China's use of force and coercion to drive up its COVID-19 vaccination rate is not the answer](#), 28 September 2021

Radio Free Asia, [Police in China's Guangdong Move to Arrest Rights Lawyer Zhou Xiaoyun](#), 28 September 2021

International Federation for Human Rights urgent appeal, [China: Acts of torture against detained HRD Chang Weiping](#), 17 September 2021

International Federation for Human Rights open letter, [China: Joint letter urging President Xi Jinping to release journalist Zhang Zhan](#), 17 September 2021

China-Tibet

Radio Free Asia, [Tibetan Monk in Failing Health After Early Release from 15-Year Prison Term](#), 27 September 2021

Radio Free Asia, [Tibetan Writer Dies After Eight Years of Failing Health Following Release From Prison](#), 16 September 2021

Radio Free Asia, [Tibetans Detained in Kardze Language Rights Arrests Are Denied Proper Food, Medical Care](#), 15 September 2021

Radio Free Asia, [Eight More Tibetans are Arrested in Sichuan Over Dalai Lama Photos, Language Rights](#), 7 July 2021

China-Xinjiang

Radio Free Asia, [Uyghur Businessman, Philanthropist Confirmed Dead in Xinjiang's Ghulja](#), 27 September 2021

Radio Free Asia, [Rights Activists Call For Release of Uyghur Scholar on Seventh Anniversary of His Jailing](#), 23 September 2021

Radio Free Asia, [Ethnic Groups Fear More Repression After Chinese President's Speech on Minorities](#), 3 September 2021

Radio Free Asia, [Uyghur Woman, Family Harassed by Authorities in China's Xinjiang After Brief Meeting With US Official](#), 30 August 2021

Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)

Human Rights Watch news, [DR Congo: New Findings on Prison Mass Rape](#), 20 September 2021

The New Humanitarian, [Slow aid response frustrates Congolese made homeless by volcano](#), 16 September 2021

Human Rights Watch news, [DR Congo: Massacres Persist Despite Martial Law](#), 15 September 2021

UNHCR briefing note, [Millions need urgent humanitarian assistance in eastern DR Congo](#), 10 September 2021

Egypt

Amnesty International news, [Egypt: Businessmen behind bars for resisting security agency demands](#), 27 September 2021

International Federation for Human Rights urgent appeal, [Egypt: Deterioration of health condition while in detention of Alaa Abdel Fattah](#), 24 September 2021

Amnesty International news, [Egypt: End National Security Agency's web of fear controlling activists' lives](#), 16 September 2021

Human Rights Watch news, [Egypt: 'Shootouts' Disguise Apparent Extrajudicial Executions](#), 7 September 2021

Amnesty International news, [*Egypt: Chance to end seven-year sham case against brave NGOs*](#), 1 September 2021

Human Rights Watch commentary, [*Al-Sisi Is Leaving the Sick to Suffer in Egypt's Prisons*](#), 1 September 2021

El Salvador

Human Rights Watch news, [*El Salvador: New Laws Threaten Judicial Independence*](#), 2 September 2021

Eritrea

Amnesty International news, [*Eritrea: Release journalists and politicians arrested 20 years ago*](#), 17 September 2021

Ethiopia

Human Rights Watch dispatches, [*US Authorizes Sanctions in Ethiopia's Tigray Conflict*](#), 17 September 2021

Human Rights Watch news, [*Ethiopia: Eritrean Refugees Targeted in Tigray*](#), 16 September 2021

OHCHR press release, [*Update on joint UN and Ethiopian Human Rights Commission investigation on Tigray*](#), 10 September 2021

Gambia

Amnesty International news, [*Gambia: Oppressive laws remain despite President's promises*](#), 22 September 2021

Ghana

Human Rights Watch news, [*Ghana: LGBT Activists Face Hardships After Detention*](#), 20 September 2021

India

Human Rights Watch dispatches, [*India's Spot on World Stage Mired in Abuses at Home*](#), 21 September 2021

Human Rights Watch news, [*India: Government Raids Targeting Critics*](#), 17 September 2021

International Federation for Human Rights statement, [*Death of detained Kashmiri leader triggers serious human rights violations*](#), 10 September 2021

Iran

Amnesty International news, [Iran: Stop imminent execution of Farhad Salehi Jabehdar](#), 28 September 2021

Amnesty International news, [Iran: A decade of deaths in custody unpunished amid systemic impunity for torture](#), 15 September 2021

Iraq

Human Rights Watch news, [Iraq: People with Disabilities Face Election Barriers](#), 16 September 2021

International Crisis Group commentary, [Al-Qaeda's Virulent Strain in Iraq](#), 7 September 2021

Kenya

Human Rights Watch dispatches, [Kenya Censors Another Gay-Themed Film](#), 27 September 2021

Human Rights Watch news, [Kenya: Survivors of Gender-Based Violence Lack Help](#), 21 September 2021

Kuwait

OHCHR press release, [UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights to review Kuwait](#), 24 September 2021

Lebanon

Amnesty International news, [Lebanon: Suspension of investigation into Beirut blast points to authorities' brazen attempts to obstruct justice](#), 27 September 2021

Amnesty International news, [Lebanon: Authorities violating right to health and endangering lives by failing to provide fuel to hospitals](#), 6 September 2021

OHCHR press release, [UN Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination issues findings on Lebanon](#), 1 September 2021

Libya

OHCHR press release, [UN Fact-Finding Mission on Libya concludes first visit to Libya](#), 27 August 2021

Malawi

OHCHR press release, [Comment by UN Human Rights Spokesperson Marta Hurtado on Malawi's death penalty reinstatement](#), 26 August 2021

Malaysia

Human Rights Watch news, [Malaysia: New Prime Minister Needs New Rights Agenda](#), 31 August 2021

Morocco

Amnesty International news, [Morocco: Detained Uyghur must not be transferred to China](#), 22 September 2021

Myanmar/Burma

Radio Free Asia, [Deaths Under Interrogation by Myanmar Security Forces Top 50](#), 28 September 2021

Amnesty International research, [Governments and businesses must unite in action to prevent further bloodshed amid deepening humanitarian catastrophe in Myanmar](#), 23 September 2021

OHCHR press release, [Myanmar: UN report calls for urgent action to end human rights catastrophe](#), 23 September 2021

International Federation for Human Rights urgent appeal, [Myanmar: Incommunicado detention of MATA member Kyaw Min Htut](#), 15 September 2021

Nepal

Human Rights Watch news, [Nepal: Stop Stalling Enforced Disappearance Inquiries](#), 30 August 2021

Nigeria

Amnesty International research, [Torture and ill treatment: IMOLEAYO MICHAEL NIGERIA-Locked in an Underground Cell for Protesting Police Violence](#), 24 September 2021

Human Rights Watch commentary, [Nigerian States Should Protect Girls by Ending Child Marriage](#), 24 September 2021

The New Humanitarian, [Why support for secession is growing in southeast Nigeria](#), 14 September 2021

The New Humanitarian, [What Nigerians displaced by Boko Haram say about living with ex-fighters](#), 1 September 2021

North Korea

Human Rights Watch dispatches, [North Korea Controls Youth Through 'Hard Labor'](#), 2 September 2021

Occupied Palestinian Territories (OPTs)

Human Rights Watch news, [End Support for Israeli Apartheid and Palestinian Authority Repression](#), 22 September 2021

Pakistan

Amnesty International, [Pakistan: Investigate police for use of excessive force against protesting doctors](#), 6 September 2021

Amnesty International news, [Pakistan: Authorities must deliver on pledge to end cruelty of enforced disappearances](#), 29 August 2021

Russia

Human Rights Watch news, [Russia: Three Human Rights Groups Penalized](#), 27 September 2021

Amnesty International news, [Russia: Siberian shaman who marched against Putin is indefinitely confined to a psychiatric hospital](#), 23 September 2021

Amnesty International news, [Russia: To protect human rights, newly elected MPs must repeal repressive laws](#), 20 September 2021

Amnesty International news, [Russia: Journalist arrested over his call for "smart voting" against the ruling party](#), 10 September 2021

Human Rights Watch, [The Revolving Door of Persecution in Crimea](#), 7 September 2021

Amnesty International news, [European Court's judgment on Natalia Estemirova's abduction and killing highlights unabated impunity in Russia](#), 31 August 2021

Human Rights Watch dispatches, [No End to Chechnya's Violent Anti-Gay Campaign](#), 31 August 2021

Somalia

International Crisis Group op-ed, [Could Somalia Be the Next Afghanistan?](#), 22 September 2021

EASO COI Report, [Somalia: Targeted profiles](#), 20 September 2021

EASO COI Report, [Somalia: Key socio-economic indicators](#), 20 September 2021

EASO COI Report, [Somalia: Security situation](#), 20 September 2021

International Crisis Group statement, [Somalia's Politicians Play with Fire – Again](#), 14 September 2021

Sri Lanka

International Federation for Human Rights statement, [Sri Lanka: End arbitrary arrests, reprisals against human rights defenders and activists advocating for education rights](#), 28 September 2021

Amnesty International news, [*Sri Lanka: Minister accused of holding Tamil prisoners at gunpoint must face investigation*](#), 15 September 2021

Human Rights Watch news, [*Sri Lanka: UN Rights Council Scrutiny Crucial*](#), 10 September 2021

Sudan

Human Rights Watch dispatches, [*Sudan's Rights-Abiding Transition is Under Threat*](#), 28 September 2021

International Federation for Human Rights statement, [*Sudan: The use of criminal law to target critics must stop!*](#), 24 September 2021

Syria

OHCHR press release, [*UN Syria Commission: Increasing violence and fighting add to Syria's woes, making it unsafe for return*](#), 14 September 2021

Amnesty International news, [*Syria/Jordan: UN-led return operation will put refugees at risk of abuses in Syria*](#), 10 September 2021

Amnesty International news, [*Syria: Former refugees tortured, raped, disappeared after returning home*](#), 7 September 2021

Amnesty International news, [*Syria: Government must lift deadly siege of Daraa al-Balad and allow humanitarian aid to flow*](#), 27 August 2021

Turkey

OHCHR press release, [*Turkey: Uncover truth behind killing of couple who challenged mining companies, demands UN expert*](#), 17 September 2021

International Federation for Human Rights urgent appeal, [*Turkey: Attack against lawyers Harika Günay Karataş and Tevfik Gündüz*](#), 8 September 2021

Uganda

Human Rights Watch news, [*Uganda: Harassment of Civil Society Groups*](#), 27 August 2021

Ukraine

Radio Free Europe, [*Thousands March For LGBT Rights In Ukraine*](#), 19 September 2021

Vietnam

Radio Free Asia, [*Vietnamese Dissident Receives Death Threats Over Criticism of China's COVID Vaccines*](#), 23 September 2021

Amnesty International news, [*Viet Nam: As Ho Chi Minh City extends Covid-19 restrictions, militarized response must respect human rights*](#), 13 September 2021

Yemen

OHCHR press release, [*Group of Experts on Yemen to the Human Rights Council: Impunity Continues Largely Unabated for those who Perpetrate Serious Violations in Yemen*](#), 14 September 2021

Human Rights Watch news, [*Yemen: Key Human Rights Concerns for UN Envoy*](#), 12 September 2021

International Crisis Group commentary, [*Misunderstanding Yemen*](#), 20 September 2021

Zimbabwe

Human Rights Watch news, [*Zimbabwe: Dire Lack of Clean Water in Capital*](#), 22 September 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*](#).