



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 24 November and 28 December 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

Albania

UK Home Office, [Country Policy and Information Note, Albania: Actors of protection](#), 20 December 2021

India

UK Home Office, [Country Policy and Information Note, India: Religious minorities and scheduled castes and tribes](#), 10 December 2021

Iraq

UK Home Office, [Country Policy and Information Note, Iraq: Perceived collaborators](#), 1 December 2021

Namibia

UK Home Office, [Country Information and Guidance, Namibia: Sexual orientation and gender identity and expression in Namibia](#), 24 November 2021

Sri Lanka

UK Home Office, [Country Policy and Information Note, Sri Lanka: Sexual orientation and gender identity](#), 7 December 2021

Country News and Publications

Global

Minority Rights Group International report, [Peoples under Threat 2021 – Authoritarianism](#), 16 December 2021

Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre report, [Internal Displacement Index 2021](#), 15 December 2021

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

International Federation for Human Rights statement, [Algeria: Authorities must not allow another preventable death in detention](#), 21 December 2021

Amnesty International news, [Algeria: Quash conviction of Christian convert and overturn repressive law used to prosecute him](#), 7 December 2021

Amnesty International news, [Algeria: Release human rights lawyer tried on bogus terrorism-related charges](#), 29 November 2021

Bangladesh

International Federation for Human Rights report, [Out of control - Human rights and rule of law crises in Bangladesh](#), 22 December 2021

Human Rights Watch news, [Bangladesh: Rohingya Refugee Schools Face Closure](#), 18 December 2021

International Federation for Human Rights statement, [Bangladesh: Stop Harassment of Human Rights Defenders](#), 14 December 2021

Human Rights Watch news, [Bangladesh: Bring Home the 'Disappeared'](#), 9 December 2021

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Brazil

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Cameroon

Amnesty International news, [Cameroon: Release of students sentenced for 10 years for sharing joke on Boko Haram is a great relief](#), 27 December 2021

UNHCR briefing note, [Clashes in Cameroon's Far North displace more than 100,000 people](#), 17 December 2021

Human Rights Watch news, [Cameroon: Armed Separatists' Attack on Education](#), 15 December 2021

China

Radio Free Asia, [Hunan teacher who supported fired journalism lecturer released under surveillance](#), 27 December 2021

Radio Free Asia, [Concerns grow for health of rights lawyer, dissident detained in Xiamen crackdown](#), 27 December 2021

Radio Free Asia, ['Disappeared' rights lawyer Tang Jitian 'tortured' in incommunicado detention: friend](#), 21 December 2021

Human Rights Watch dispatches, [Hong Kong Imposes Sham Election](#), 17 December 2021

Human Rights Watch commentary, [Xi is Bending Chinese Law to His Will](#), 30 November 2021

Amnesty International research, [China: Further information: Covid-19 journalist must be granted medical bail: Zhang Zhan](#), 25 November 2021

China-Tibet

Human Rights Watch dispatches, [Chinese Authorities Double Down on Tibetan Reincarnations](#), 15 December 2021

Radio Free Asia, [Tibetan monk missing more than a year after arrest](#), 14 December 2021

Radio Free Asia, [Tibetan monk given 5-year prison term for sharing teachings by Dalai Lama](#), 13 December 2021

Radio Free Asia, [Tibetan children taken from homes, sent to Chinese boarding schools: report](#), 13 December 2021

Radio Free Asia, [Tibetan writer given 10-year prison term in secret trial](#), 10 December 2021

Amnesty International research, [China: Further information: Tibetan monk held incommunicado for 2 years: Rinchen Tsultrim](#), 1 December 2021

China-Xinjiang

Radio Free Asia, [Retired Uyghur civil servant confirmed to have died in Xinjiang internment camp](#), 20 December 2021

Radio Free Asia, [Uyghur poet imprisoned on separatism charges in China's Xinjiang](#), 15 December 2021

Radio Free Asia, [Uyghur policeman died of torture at hands of authorities, not suicide, source says](#), 2 December 2021

Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)

Human Rights Watch news, [DR Congo: Protesters Shot Dead, Wounded in Goma](#), 24 December 2021

Amnesty International research, [Democratic Republic of Congo: Peaceful activists jailed for 'defamation': Claude Lwaboshi Buhazi, Faustin Ombeni Tulinabo, Serge Mikindo Waso](#), 6 December 2021

The New Humanitarian, [The UN risks a failed drawdown in Congo if it doesn't listen to civilians](#), 6 December 2021

Amnesty International news, [DRC-Uganda: Civilians must be protected during joint military operations](#), 3 December 2021

Human Rights Watch dispatches, [Congo Investigation a Chance to Fight Corruption](#), 1 December 2021

Egypt

Human Rights Watch news, [Egypt: Wave of Unjust 'Emergency' Trials](#), 19 December 2021

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International Federation for Human Rights statement, [EGYPT: Release human rights defenders Alaa Abdel Fattah, Mohamed El-Baqer and Mohamed Oxygen](#), 16 December 2021

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International Federation for Human Rights urgent appeal, [Egypt: Release of Patrick George Zaki](#), 9 December 2021

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El Salvador

OHCHR press release, [El Salvador must amend reproductive health care laws after top Americas court ruling – UN experts](#), 6 December 2021

Amnesty International news, [El Salvador's president Bukele must change course before it's too late](#), 1 December 2021

Amnesty International research, [El Salvador: Law initiative endangers NGOs, HRDs and media](#), 24 November 2021

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Amnesty International research, [*Ethiopia: Accountability for international crimes is critical to ensure justice for survivors and a deterrent against further violations and abuses – oral statement at UN Human Rights Council*](#), 17 December 2021

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Amnesty International news, [*Ethiopia: New wave of atrocities in Western Tigray*](#), 16 December 2021

Human Rights Watch news, [*Ethiopia: Tigray Forces Summarily Execute Civilians*](#), 9 December 2021

Gambia

Amnesty International news, [*Gambia: Ending impunity of past crimes must be part of human rights priorities for President Adama Barrow's second term*](#), 7 December 2021

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Ghana

Human Rights Watch commentary, [*On LGBTQ+ Rights, Ghana's Bishops Choose to Ignore Pope*](#), 7 December 2021

India

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Amnesty International news, [*India: Kashmiri Activist Held Under Abusive Law*](#), 26 November 2021

Iran

Amnesty International research, [*Execution of tortured youth highlights cruelty of Iran's qesas system*](#), 26 November 2021

Iraq

Human Rights Watch commentary, [*Is There Rule of Law in Iraq?*](#), 2 December 2021

EASO COI Report, [*Iraq: Key socio-economic indicators for Baghdad, Basrah and Sulaymaniyah*](#), 25 November 2021

Kenya

Human Rights Watch news, [*Kenya: Vaccine Requirements Violate Rights*](#), 13 December 2021

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Lebanon

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Human Rights Watch, [Open Letter to the UN Secretary-General ahead of his visit to Lebanon](#), 8 December 2021

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Human Rights Watch news, [Morocco: Journalist in Prison After Unfair Trial](#), 25 November 2021

Myanmar/Burma

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Amnesty International news, [After coup, Myanmar military puts chokehold on people's basic needs](#), 17 December 2021

Human Rights Watch dispatches, [Myanmar Atrocities Show Need for International Action](#), 15 December 2021

Amnesty International dispatches, [Decades of Impunity Paved Way for Myanmar's Coup](#), 7 December 2021

Amnesty International news, [Myanmar: Unbridled destruction of freedoms as Aung San Suu Kyi sentenced](#), 6 December 2021

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Nepal

OHCHR press release, [Nepal must now deliver on promise of social justice - UN human rights expert](#), 9 December 2021

Nigeria

Amnesty International campaigns, [Nigeria: Plans to close IDP camps in Maiduguri could endanger lives](#), 15 December 2021

OHCHR press release, [Committee against Torture closes seventy-second session after adopting concluding observations on Nigeria](#), 3 December 2021

Amnesty International news, [Nigeria: Escalating attacks targeting children endanger right to education](#), 2 December 2021

Amnesty International news, [Nigeria: Mass prisoner release from unlawful military detention is testament to campaign power of 'Knifor Women'](#), 25 November 2021

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Human Rights Watch news, [North Korea: Abusive Rule 10 Years after Kim Jong Il](#), 16 December 2021

Radio Free Asia, [North Korea publicly executed at least 27 people since 2011, report says](#), 15 December 2021

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Human Rights Watch news, [Israel: Abusive Policing in Lod During May Hostilities](#), 14 December 2021

Joint NGO Letter, [EU: Joint NGO letter urging EU targeted sanctions against NSO Group](#), 3 December 2021

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Radio Free Europe, [Pakistan-Controlled Kashmir Bars Entry To Pashtun Rights Activist](#), 22 December 2021

Radio Free Europe, [At Least Five People Killed In Election-Related Violence In Pakistan's Northwest](#), 19 December 2021

Radio Free Europe, [Second Deadly Attack On Pakistan's Polio-Eradication Effort In As Many Days](#), 12 December 2021

Radio Free Europe, [Relatives Of Victims Of Enforced Disappearances Protest In Islamabad](#), 10 December 2021

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Radio Free Europe, [Scores Of Arrests Made In Pakistan Over 'Horrible' Lynching Of Sri Lankan](#), 4 December 2021

Radio Free Europe, [Watchdog Blasts Pakistan's 'Pointless' New Law Aimed At Protecting Journalists](#), 1 December 2021

Radio Free Europe, [Pakistani Lawmaker Wazir Still In Jail Despite Being Granted Bail](#), 30 November 2021

Russia

Human Rights Watch news, [Russia: Year of Doubling Down on Internet Censorship](#), 24 December 2021

Amnesty International news, [Russia: Quash sentences against Ingush protest leaders](#), 15 December 2021

Amnesty International research, [Russian Federation: Russian authorities should stop the persecution of key civil society organisation, Memorial](#), 10 December 2021

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International Crisis Group podcast, [The Search for an African Union Exit Strategy from Somalia](#), 2 December 2021

South Africa

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OHCHR press release, [Sri Lanka: UN expert calls for 'inclusive society' to end scourge of slavery](#), 3 December 2021

Sudan

The New Humanitarian, [Guardians of the revolution: The street activists defying Sudan's coup](#), 14 December 2021

UNHCR briefing note, [Darfur clashes displace thousands](#), 7 December 2021

International Federation for Human Rights report, [Delays and Dilemmas: New Violence in Darfur and Uncertain Justice Efforts within Sudan's Fragile Transition](#), 30 November 2021

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Syria

The New Humanitarian, [Conflict and climate change collide: Why northeast Syria is running dry](#), 20 December 2021

Human Rights Watch news, [Syria/Russia: 12 Civilians Dead in Idlib Artillery Attacks](#), 8 December 2021

Amnesty International news, [Syria: Repatriate at least 27,000 children held in dire conditions in north-east Syria](#), 30 November 2021

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Amnesty International news, [Turkey: "Crystal clear message" from the Council of Europe – Release Osman Kavala](#), 3 December 2021

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Uganda

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Ukraine

UN News Centre, [*Fundamental freedoms squeezed in Ukraine, Human Rights Council hears*](#), 15 December 2021

Vietnam

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The New Humanitarian, [*'The war crushed our dreams': Displaced again and again in Yemen's Marib*](#), 24 November 2021

Zimbabwe

Amnesty International research, [*Southern Africa: Alarming rise in the number of girls experiencing sexual abuse and unwanted pregnancies during the pandemic calls on governments to take action to protect girls' rights*](#), 8 December 2021

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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](#).