

## COI Update Vol. 148

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 2 May and 15 May 2017.

*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: Ethnic minority groups](#), 12 May 2017

UK Home Office, [Country Policy and Information Note, Albania: Sexual orientation and gender identity](#), 12 May 2017

### Country News and Publications

#### **Global**

International Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans and Intersex Association (ILGA) report, [State Sponsored Homophobia 2017: A World Survey Of Sexual Orientation Laws: Criminalisation, Protection and Recognition](#), 15 May 2017

Amnesty International blog, [East Africa: Now is the time to stand up for media freedom](#), 3 May 2017

Amnesty International news, [Southern Africa: A year of persistent attacks on media threaten press freedom](#), 3 May 2017

Amnesty International research, [Africa: Malabo Protocol: Legal and Institutional Implications of the Merged and Expanded African Court - Snapshots](#), 2 May 2017

Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre, [Quarterly Update](#), 2 May 2017

#### **Afghanistan**

OHCHR press release, [UN Committee against Torture publishes findings on Afghanistan](#), 12 May 2017

Radio Free Europe, [Afghan Forces Retake Northeastern District From Taliban](#), 11 May 2017

Radio Free Europe, [Afghan Taliban Captures District Near Kunduz](#), 6 May 2017

Human Rights Watch commentary, [Hekmatyar Should Be Held Accountable For Past Actions: HRW](#), 5 May 2017

Radio Free Europe, [At Least Eight Killed In Bombing Of NATO Convoy In Kabul](#), 3 May 2017

#### **Albania**

OHCHR press release, [Freedom of Religion: UN human rights expert announces first official visit to Albania](#), 4 May 2017

## **Algeria**

Human Rights Watch news, [Algeria/Morocco: Syrians Stranded at Border](#), 5 May 2017

OHCHR press release, [Algeria's human rights record to be reviewed by Universal Periodic Review](#), 3 May 2017

## **Angola**

UNHCR briefing note, [Update: Over 20,000 DRC refugees in Angola](#), 12 May 2017

## **Bangladesh**

International Federation for Human Rights urgent appeal, [Bangladesh: Arbitrary detention of two journalists associated with Odhikar](#), 12 May 2017

Human Rights Watch commentary, [Bangladesh Accord: New phase should protect unions](#), 11 May 2017

Amnesty International research, [Caught Between Fear And Repression: Attacks On Freedom Of Expression In Bangladesh](#), 8 May 2017

## **Burma/Myanmar**

Human Rights Watch news, [Burma: Two Islamic Schools Shuttered in Rangoon](#), 8 May 2017

Radio Free Europe, [Explosion of Handmade Bombs Kills Two in Myanmar's Rakhine State](#), 8 May 2017

Amnesty International campaigns, [Myanmar: Further Information: Immediately Release Kachin Prisoner Of Conscience: Lahpai Gam](#), 3 May 2017

## **Cameroon**

International Federation for Human Rights urgent appeal, [Cameroon: Release on bail and ongoing judicial harassment of members of the Esu Youths Development Association \(EYDA\)](#), 11 May 2017

OHCHR press release, [Committee on the Rights of the Child holds seventy-fifth session in Geneva from 15 May to 2 June](#), 11 May 2017

## **China**

Human Rights Watch commentary, [China: One Belt, One Road, Lots of Obligations](#), 12 May 2017

Radio Free Asia, ['Jiang Tianyong Has Been Tortured'](#), 12 May 2017

Radio Free Asia, [Protests Grow in China's Guangdong Amid Police Crackdown, Information Blackout](#), 9 May 2017

Radio Free Asia, [China's State Security Police Target Activists Who Showed Up to Xie Yang Trial](#), 4 May 2017

Radio Free Asia, [International Lawyers, Judges Call on Beijing to Release Detained Rights Lawyer Xie Yang](#), 2 May 2017

Radio Free Asia, [China Detains Outspoken Party Ideologue Who Called For Removal of President Xi](#), 2 May 2017

## **China-Tibet**

Radio Free Asia, [Tibetan Monk Detained on Suspicion of 'Passing Information' Outside Protest Area](#), 8 May 2017

Radio Free Asia, [Tibetan Protesters' Home Villages Harassed by Chinese Security Troops](#), 3 May 2017

## **China-Xinjiang**

Radio Free Asia, [Rights Groups Blast Uyghur Activist's Expulsion From UN Forum in New York](#), 10 May 2017

Radio Free Asia, [China Holds Ethnic Uyghur Woman For Reposting Quranic Verses on Social Media](#), 9 May 2017

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

UNHCR briefing note, [Update: Over 20,000 DRC refugees in Angola](#), 12 May 2017

## **Eritrea**

OHCHR press release, [Eritrea must free prize winning journalist, says UN human rights expert](#), 3 May 2017

## **India**

OHCHR press release, [India must restore internet and social media networks in Jammu and Kashmir, say UN rights experts](#), 11 May 2017

Human Rights Watch news, [Indian Women Have Right to Live Without Fearing Sexual Assault](#), 5 May 2017

## **Iran**

Radio Free Europe, [U.S. Calls On Iran To Free Jailed Baha'i Leaders](#), 14 May 2017

Amnesty International news, [Iran: Release of prominent human rights defender after a decade in prison](#), 12 May 2017

Amnesty International campaigns, [Iran: Further Information: Jailed Human Rights Defender In Poor Health: AtenaDaemi](#), 9 May 2017

Amnesty International campaigns, [Iran: Further Information: Iranian Arrested At 15 Risks Imminent Execution: PeymanBarandah](#), 5 May 2017

## **Iraq**

Human Rights Watch news, [Iraq: Kirkuk Security Forces Expel Displaced Turkmen](#), 7 May 2017

## **Kenya**

OHCHR press release, [UN Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination publishes findings on Kenya](#), 12 May 2017

## **Libya**

International Crisis Group commentary, [Libya: No Political Deal Yet](#), 11 May 2017

Amnesty International news, [Libya: University professor latest in string of victims targeted in epidemic of militia abductions](#), 8 May 2017

Human Rights Watch news, [Libya: Enforced Disappearance of Tripoli Activist](#), 7 May 2017

## **Mali**

International Federation for Human Rights report, [Mali: Terrorism and impunity jeopardize the fragile peace agreement](#), 11 May 2017

## **Nigeria**

IRIN News, [Nigeria wakes up to its growing vigilante problem](#), 9 May 2017

Human Rights Watch dispatches, [Nigeria Fails to Protect Freed Chibok Schoolgirls' Privacy](#), 8 May 2017

IRIN News, [Boko Haram: Nigeria winning the battle but losing the war?](#), 4 May 2017

## **North Korea**

OHCHR press release, [UN disability expert welcomes opportunity for constructive dialogue on human rights in North Korea](#), 15 May 2017

## **Pakistan**

OHCHR press release, [UN Committee against Torture publishes findings on Pakistan](#), 12 May 2017

Radio Free Europe, [At Least 25 Killed In IS Attack On Senior Pakistani Lawmaker](#), 12 May 2017

Radio Free Europe, [Pakistan Says Three Militants Killed In Clash On Afghan Border](#), 3 May 2017

## **Russia**

International Federation for Human Rights press release, [One year ahead of the Presidential elections, severe crackdown on freedom of assembly is underway in Russia](#), 15 May 2017

Radio Free Europe, [At Least 11 Russian Activists Said Detained On Moscow's Red Square](#), 12 May 2017

Amnesty International news, [Russia: Knee-jerk repression as LGBTI activists arrested over Chechnya petition](#), 11 May 2017

Amnesty International news, [Russian YouTuber convicted of blasphemy after playing Pokémon Go in a church](#), 11 May 2017

Amnesty International research, [Russian Federation: Detained Members of Corruption Watchdog Are Prisoners of Conscience and Should Be Freed Immediately](#), 11 May 2017

## **Somalia**

International Crisis Group statement, [The London Conference and Prospects for Peace and Stability in Somalia](#), 10 May 2017

International Crisis Group briefing, [Instruments of Pain \(III\): Conflict and Famine in Somalia](#), 9 May 2017

Human Rights Watch news, [Human Rights Priorities for Somalia's New Government Show More Services](#), 2 May 2017

## **South Africa**

Human Rights Watch dispatches, [South Africa Needs a Global Reminder About Education Obligations](#), 9 May 2017

OHCHR press release, [South Africa's human rights record to be reviewed by Universal Periodic Review](#), 5 May 2017

## **South Sudan**

UNHCR press release, [More than one million children have fled escalating violence in South Sudan](#), 8 May 2017

OHCHR press release, [South Sudan: Weary, frightened displaced civilians in Upper Nile at imminent risk of further violence](#), 4 May 2017

## **Sri Lanka**

Amnesty International research, ["Only Justice Can Heal Our Wounds": Listening To The Demands Of Families Of The Disappeared In Sri Lanka](#), 8 May 2017

## **Sudan**

Amnesty International research, [Sudan: 'Uninvestigated, Unpunished': Human Rights Violations Against Darfuri Students](#), 15 May 2017

OHCHR press release, [UN rights expert visits Sudan to follow up implementation of his recommendations](#), 9 May 2017

Amnesty International campaigns, [Sudan: Further Information: Opposition Activists Released Without Charge](#), 2 May 2017

## **Syria**

Amnesty International campaigns, [Syrian Father Of Three Missing For 1403 Days: Ali Mohammed Mostafa](#), 5 May 2017

International Crisis Group report, [The PKK's Fateful Choice in Northern Syria](#), 4 May 2017

## **Turkey**

Amnesty International news, [Turkey: Detention of Cumhuriyet editor another dark day for country's media](#), 12 May 2017

Amnesty International research, [Turkey: Journalism Is Not A Crime: Crackdown On Media Freedom In Turkey](#), 3 May 2017

International Crisis Group report, [Managing Turkey's PKK Conflict: The Case of Nusaybin](#), 2 May 2017

## **Ukraine**

Amnesty International news, [Ukraine: Russian-backed separatists 'sentence' prominent academic in sham trial](#), 4 May 2017

Human Rights Watch commentary, [Crimea: 'Not Our Home Anymore'](#), 3 May 2017

## **Vietnam**

Radio Free Asia, [Detained Vietnam Labor Activist in Poor Health: Lawyer](#), 11 May 2017

Radio Free Asia, [Vietnam Issues Arrest Warrant For Activist Blogger](#), 5 May 2017

## **Yemen**

International Crisis Group commentary, [The Counter-productive Isolation of Proud and Hungry Sanaa](#), 15 May 2017

Amnesty International research, [Yemen: Joint Letter to Ambassadors of the United Nations Security Council](#), 8 May 2017

*Sources consulted:* Amnesty International; Human Rights Watch; European Asylum Support Office (EASO); 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.

### Useful COI databases (non-exhaustive):

- [Asylos's research notes](#)
- [COI Forum](#)
- [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](#)