

COI Update Vol. 153

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 11 July and 24 July 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

Bangladesh

UK Home Office, [Country Policy and Information Note, Bangladesh: Journalists, publishers and internet bloggers](#), 14 July 2017

Egypt

UK Home Office, [Country Policy and Information Note, Egypt: Muslim Brotherhood](#), 14 July 2017

UK Home Office, [Country Policy and Information Note, Egypt: Christians](#), 14 July 2017

Iran

UK Home Office, [Country Policy and Information Note, Iran: Forced marriage](#), 12 July 2017

Kenya

UK Home Office, [Country Policy and Information Note, Kenya: Female Genital Mutilation \(FGM\)](#), 17 July 2017

Morocco

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

Somalia

UK Home Office, [Country Policy and Information Note, Somalia \(South and Central\): Fear of Al-Shabaab](#), 17 July 2017

Sri Lanka

UK Home Office, [Country Policy and Information Note, Sri Lanka: Journalists, media professionals and human rights activists](#), 13 July 2017

UK Home Office, [Country Policy and Information Note, Sri Lanka: Sexual orientation and gender identity](#), 13 July 2017

Country News and Publications

Global

International Crisis Group report, [How the Islamic State Rose, Fell and Could Rise Again in the Maghreb](#), 24 July 2017

UNICEF statement, [Children paying a disproportionate price as famine looms across Somalia, South Sudan, north-east Nigeria and Yemen](#), 18 July 2017

Afghanistan

Amnesty International news, [Afghanistan: Kabul bombing is a war crime](#), 24 July 2017

Radio Free Europe, [Taliban Seize Control Of Two Districts In Afghanistan](#), 23 July 2017

Human Rights Watch news, [Toll of Conflict on Afghan Women Worsens](#), 19 July 2017

OHCHR press release, [Extreme harm to Afghan civilians continues as suicide attacks worsen, new UN report shows](#), 17 July 2017

Albania

Radio Free Europe, [Meta Sworn In As Albanian President, Vows To Protect Democracy](#), 24 July 2017

Algeria

Amnesty International research, [Algeria: Submission to the United Nations Human Rights Committee, List of Issues](#), 24 July 2017

Angola

Amnesty International news, [Angola: Victory for civil society as court strikes down NGO law](#), 14 July 2017

Burma/Myanmar

OHCHR press release, [Myanmar: UN expert lists catalogue of concerns as human rights slide in worsening conflict](#), 24 July 2017

Radio Free Asia, [Myanmar Military Files Second Lawsuit Against Yangon Editor And Columnist](#), 21 July 2017

Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre, [Internal displacement: What's development got to do with it?](#), 20 July 2017

IRIN News, [Inside the 'glaringly dysfunctional' UN mission in Myanmar](#), 17 July 2017

Amnesty International research, [Myanmar: Authorities Must Immediately Release and Drop Charges against Three Detained Journalists](#), 14 July 2017

Amnesty International campaigns, [Myanmar: Further Information: Kachin Pastors Face Additional Charge: Dumdaw Nawng Lat And Langjaw Gam Seng](#), 11 July 2017

Cameroon

Amnesty International news, [Cameroon: Amnesty report reveals war crimes in fight against Boko Haram, including horrific use of torture](#), 20 July 2017

China

Human Rights Watch news, [China: Widow of Nobel Laureate Feared 'Disappeared'](#), 20 July 2017

Amnesty International news, [China: Anti-corruption activist to be freed but relentless crackdown goes on](#), 14 July 2017

Amnesty International campaigns, [China: Further Information: Three Labour Activists Released On Bail](#), 11 July 2017

China-Tibet

Radio Free Asia, [Tibetan Monk Detained 'For no Reason' in Kardze](#), 24 July 2017

China-Xinjiang

Radio Free Asia, [China Detains 12-Year-Old Uyghur Boy on Return to Xinjiang From Egypt](#), 24 July 2017

Radio Free Asia, [Detained Uyghur Students Held by Egypt's Intelligence Service](#), 19 July 2017

Radio Free Asia, [China Launches Racial Profiling Campaign to Assess Uyghurs' Security Risk](#), 14 July 2017

Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)

Amnesty International campaigns, [Democratic Republic of Congo: Further Information: Activist and His Lawyer Released without Charge: Jean-Marie Kalonji and Sylva Mbikayi](#), 20 July 2017

UNHCR briefing note, [As DR Congo's Kasai displacement grows, no end in sight to civilian suffering](#), 14 July 2017

Human Rights Watch dispatches, [Arrest DR Congo Warlord](#), 13 July 2017

IRIN News, [Displaced Congolese civilians sent back to a widening war](#), 11 July 2017

Egypt

Amnesty International news, [Egypt: Investigate apparent torture and death in custody of Coptic man](#), 21 July 2017

Amnesty International campaigns, [Egypt: Egyptian Defender Arbitrarily Detained: Tarek Mohamed Ahmed Hussein](#), 20 July 2017

Eritrea

UN News Centre, [Despite some humanitarian progress in Eritrea, UN relief official urges continued aid to tackle hunger](#), 13 July 2017

Gambia

IRIN News, [Meet the Gambian migrants under pressure to leave Europe](#), 20 July 2017

Ghana

Amnesty International news, [Ghana: Scrap death penalty and end grim conditions for scores on death row](#), 12 July 2017

India

Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre, [Internal displacement: What's development got to do with it?](#), 20 July 2017

Human Rights Watch news, [India: Top Court Orders Manipur Killings Inquiry](#), 15 July 2017

Iran

Radio Free Europe, [Rights Group Says Iran Jailing Christian Converts](#), 21 July 2017

Human Rights Watch news, [Iran: Halt Drug-Related Executions](#), 20 July 2017

Amnesty International news, [Iran: Foreign diplomats tour of Evin prison a 'crude PR stunt'](#), 13 July 2017

Amnesty International campaigns, [Iran: Reveal Whereabouts of Four Kurdish Men](#), 13 July 2017

Iraq

Human Rights Watch news, [Iraq: Execution Site Near Mosul's Old City](#), 19 July 2017

Human Rights Watch news, [Iraq: Alleged ISIS Families Sent to 'Rehabilitation Camp'](#), 13 July 2017

Radio Free Europe, [Videos Appear To Show Killing, Beatings By Iraq Forces](#), 13 July 2017

Amnesty International news, [Iraq: Investigations, not denials needed over appalling civilian death toll in west Mosul](#), 12 July 2017

Amnesty International news, [Iraq: Battle between US-led coalition, Iraqi forces and Islamic State creates civilian catastrophe in west Mosul](#), 11 July 2017

UN Secretary-General, [Report of the Secretary-General pursuant to resolution 2299 \(2016\)](#), 11 July 2017

Kenya

International Crisis Group commentary, [Ethnic Contest and Electoral Violence in Northern Kenya](#), 19 July 2017

Human Rights Watch news, [Kenya: Rift Valley Violence Threatens Voting](#), 11 July 2017

Liberia

UN News Centre, [Ahead of October elections, Security Council urges Liberia to plan for safe, credible polls](#), 24 July 2017

Libya

Human Rights Watch news, [Libya: Incitement Against Religious Minority](#), 20 July 2017

Mali

International Crisis Group report, [The Politics of Islam in Mali: Separating Myth from Reality](#), 18 July 2017

Nigeria

OHCHR press release, [UN women's rights experts issue findings on Nigeria](#), 24 July 2017

International Crisis Group commentary, [Nigeria: Growing Insecurity on Multiple Fronts](#), 20 July 2017

IRIN News, [In Nigeria, healing the scars of war might curtail its spread](#), 13 July 2017

North Korea

UN News Centre, [Drought in DPR Korea threatens food supply during ongoing lean season](#), 20 July 2017

Occupied Palestinian Territories (OPTs)

Human Rights Watch dispatches, [Yet Another Military Trial in the Occupied Territories](#), 16 July 2017

Pakistan

Radio Free Europe, [Blast Kills At Least 14 People In Pakistan](#), 24 July 2017

Radio Free Europe, [Gunmen Kill 4 Members Of Shi'ite Family In Pakistan](#), 19 July 2017

Radio Free Europe, [Suicide Attacker Targets Pakistan Paramilitary Force, Killing At Least One](#), 17 July 2017

OHCHR press release, [Human Rights Committee discusses the initial report of Pakistan](#), 12 July 2017

Russia

Radio Free Europe, [Imprisoned Russian Activist Mokhnatkin Starts Hunger Strike](#), 24 July 2017

Radio Free Europe, [In Disturbing Video, Men Beaten, Forced To Apologize To Daghestani Leader](#), 14 July 2017

Human Rights Watch news, [Russia: Government vs. Rights Groups](#), 24 July 2017

Human Rights Watch commentary, [Don't Tolerate the Intolerable from Chechnya's Strongman Kadyrov](#), 19 July 2017

International Federation for Human Rights press release, [Organisations denounce blatant problems of racism in Russia, and its controlled territories](#), 18 July 2017

Human Rights Watch news, [Russia: Assault on Freedom of Expression](#), 18 July 2017

Human Rights Watch dispatches, [*Piecemeal Justice for Murder of Russian Opposition Leader*](#), 13 July 2017

Somalia

IRIN News, [*The Somali pirates are back \(SPOILER ALERT: they never really left\)*](#), 19 July 2017

Human Rights Watch dispatches, [*Review of Somalia's Media Law Falls Short*](#), 18 July 2017

Amnesty International campaigns, [*The return to Somalia: home sweet home?*](#), 12 July 2017

South Sudan

Amnesty International news, [*South Sudan: Sexual violence 'on a massive scale' leaves thousands in mental distress amid raging conflict*](#), 24 July 2017

Amnesty International campaigns, [*South Sudan: Further Information: Several Men Arbitrarily Held In Poor Conditions*](#), 20 July 2017

Amnesty International news, [*OP-ED: World must seize the moment to support South Sudanese refugees*](#), 12 July 2017

Sri Lanka

OHCHR press release, [*Sri Lanka routinely tortures security suspects amid stalled reform process, UN expert finds*](#), 18 July 2017

Human Rights Watch commentary, [*Sri Lanka's Difficulty With Truth*](#), 13 July 2017

Sudan

Amnesty International news, [*Sudan: Hundreds of Darfuri student protesters stopped at the capital's gates*](#), 19 July 2017

Syria

Human Rights Watch news, [*Syria: Airstrike on School Kills Civilians*](#), 12 July 2017

Amnesty International campaigns, [*Syria: Further Information: Two Kurdish Activists Freed, Third Still Detained: Amin Hussam, Bashar Amin and Mohsen Taher*](#), 12 July 2017

Turkey

Amnesty International news, [*Turkey: Re-arrest of four human rights defenders a cruel and retrograde step*](#), 22 July 2017

International Crisis Group commentary, [*Turkey's PKK Conflict Kills almost 3,000 in Two Years*](#), 20 July 2017

Uganda

Amnesty International news, [*Uganda: Arrest of dozens for attending peaceful meetings is absurd*](#), 21 July 2017

Amnesty International campaigns, [*Uganda: Further Information: Court Stays Mental Exam Of University Lecturer: Dr Stella Nyanzi*](#), 20 July 2017

Ukraine

Amnesty International campaigns, [*Ukraine: Further Information: Imprisoned Journalist Must Be Released: Stanislav Aseev*](#), 21 July 2017

Human Rights Watch dispatches, [*Ukraine: Who Killed Journalist Pavel Sheremet?*](#), 20 July 2017

Vietnam

Human Rights Watch news, [*Vietnam: New Threats to Growing Online Community*](#), 23 July 2017

International Federation for Human Rights press release, [*VIETNAM: Immediately release labour and land rights defender Tran Thi Nga*](#), 21 July 2017

Amnesty International campaigns, [*Viet Nam: Further Information: Ten Years in Prison for Human Rights Defender: Nguyễn Ngọc Như Quỳnh*](#), 12 July 2017

Yemen

Amnesty International research, [*Worsening Crisis in Yemen and Need for United Nations Security Council Action*](#), 20 July 2017

UNHCR press release, [*UNHCR shocked and saddened by civilian deaths in Taizz, Yemen*](#), 19 July 2017

Human Rights Watch commentary, [*Yemen is suffering at the hands of Saudi Arabia - and the UK is profiting*](#), 11 July 2017

Zimbabwe

Human Rights Watch dispatches, [*Political Violence on the Rise in Zimbabwe*](#), 20 July 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*](#)