

COI Update Vol. 155

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 5 September and 18 September 2017.

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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: Sexual orientation and gender identity](#), 18 September 2017

Country News and Publications

Global

International Partnership for Human Rights statement, [The danger of speaking out – recent trends in Central Asia](#), 12 September 2017

International Crisis Group report, [Double-edged Sword: Vigilantes in African Counter-insurgencies](#), 7 September 2017

UN Secretary-General, [Report of the Secretary-General on the situation in the Lake Chad Basin region](#), 7 September 2017

Amnesty International news, [Lake Chad region: Boko Haram's renewed campaign sparks sharp rise in civilian deaths](#), 5 September 2017

Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre, [Annual Report 2016](#), 5 September 2017

Afghanistan

Human Rights Watch news, [Afghanistan: Proposed Militia a Threat to Civilians](#), 15 September 2017

Radio Free Europe, [At Least Three Killed In Suicide Blast Outside Kabul Cricket Stadium](#), 13 September 2017

Radio Free Europe, [Gunmen Kill Chief Of Religious Council In Northeastern Afghanistan](#), 9 September 2017

Albania

OHCHR press release, [Migrants face high risk of enforced disappearance, UN experts warn](#), 12 September 2017

Algeria

Amnesty International campaigns, [Algeria: Further Information: Religious Minority Leader Released But Still At Risk: Mohamed Fali](#), 14 September 2017

Bangladesh

UNHCR briefing note, [Bangladesh: Refugee camp capacity exhausted; thousands in makeshift shelters](#), 8 September 2017

Burma/Myanmar

Amnesty International news, [UN: Myanmar Rohingya exodus exposes abject failure of world leaders to deliver solution to refugee crisis](#), 18 September 2017

Radio Free Asia, [A Million Rohingya Could Flee to Bangladesh by Year's End: United Nations](#), 14 September 2017

Amnesty International news, [Myanmar: Scorched-earth campaign fuels ethnic cleansing of Rohingya from Rakhine State](#), 14 September 2017

International Crisis Group report, [Buddhism and State Power in Myanmar](#), 5 September 2017

Cameroon

IRIN news, [Development deficit feeds Boko Haram in northern Cameroon](#), 6 September 2017

China

Radio Free Asia, [Chinese Officials Search Law Firm of Top Human Rights Lawyer](#), 18 September 2017

Amnesty International campaigns, [China: Former Prisoner Of Conscience Detained Again: GaoZhisheng](#), 14 September 2017

Radio Free Asia, [China Jails Muslim Man, Sets Limits on Overseas Stays by Its Kazakh Nationals](#), 11 September 2017

Radio Free Europe, [Chinese Police Detain Another Dissident Over Seashore Memorial For Liu Xiaobo](#), 6 September 2017

China-Xinjiang

Human Rights Watch news, [China: Free Xinjiang 'Political Education' Detainees](#), 10 September 2017

Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)

UNHCR press release, [UNHCR shocked over Burundians deaths in DRC, calls for investigation](#), 16 September 2017

UNICEF press release, [DR Congo: Children's access to education under threat from ongoing violence in Kasai region](#), 15 September 2017

Egypt

Amnesty International campaigns, [Egypt: Human Rights Lawyer Must Be Released: LbrahimMetwaly](#), 15 September 2017

Amnesty International news, [Egypt: Release 24 Nubian activists detained after protest calling for respect of their cultural rights](#), 12 September 2017

Amnesty International campaigns, [Egypt: Couple Held In Solitary Confinement For 66 Days: Ola Al-Qaradawy And HossamKhalaf](#), 8 September 2017

Human Rights Watch news, [Egypt: Torture Epidemic May Be Crime Against Humanity](#), 6 September 2017

Amnesty International news, [NGO websites latest targets of Egypt's online clampdown](#), 5 September 2017

Ethiopia

UN News Centre, [In Ethiopia, UN agency chiefs say more investment is needed to bolster drought-prone areas](#), 5 September 2017

Ghana

Human Rights Watch dispatches, [Ghana Makes Secondary Schools Free](#), 18 September 2017

India

Human Rights Watch news, [India: Ensure Full Inquiry into Journalist's Murder](#), 6 September 2017

Iran

Radio Free Europe, [Iranian Baha'i Leader Released After Completing 10-Year Sentence](#), 18 September 2017

Human Rights Watch news, [Iran: Free Unjustly Held Journalists](#), 12 September 2017

Amnesty International news, [Iran: Arrest of human rights defender seeking truth about disappeared family members](#), 11 September 2017

Iraq

Radio Free Europe, [Iraq Says Town Near Syrian Border Liberated From IS](#), 16 September 2017

Radio Free Europe, [At Least 52 Killed In Gunmen, Car-Bomb Attack In Southern Iraq](#), 14 September 2017

Radio Free Europe, [Report: Iraq Holding 1,400 Wives, Children Of Defeated IS Fighters](#), 11 September 2017

Kenya

UNICEF press release, [Nutrition crisis deepening across Kenya](#), 15 September 2017

Human Rights Watch commentary, [Election-related Sexual Violence in Kenya](#), 7 September 2017

Libya

International Crisis Group statement, [Restoring UN Leadership of Libya's Peace Process](#), 18 September 2017

International Crisis Group commentary, [Quick Fixes Won't Block Libya's People Smugglers for Long](#), 14 September 2017

IRIN news, [Libya's migration crisis is about more than just security](#), 11 September 2017

OHCHR press release, [Returned migrants are being robbed, raped and murdered in Libya](#), 8 September 2017

UN Secretary-General, [Report of the Secretary-General pursuant to Security Council resolution 2312 \(2016\)](#), 7 September 2017

Mali

UN News Centre, [Imposing sanctions on Mali, Security Council targets those undermining peace process](#), 5 September 2017

Nigeria

Amnesty International research, [Nigeria: Ensure Independence And Effectiveness Of The Presidential Investigation Panel](#), 11 September 2017

North Korea

Human Rights Watch commentary, [North Korean Refugees Trapped by China's Expanding Dragnet](#), 18 September 2017

Radio Free Europe, [UN Security Council Toughens Sanctions On North Korea](#), 12 September 2017

OHCHR press release, [Children's rights: UN committee to review Democratic People's Republic of Korea](#), 8 September 2017

Occupied Palestinian Territories (OPTs)

Amnesty International news, [Palestinian human rights activist charged under repressive new cybercrimes law](#), 7 September 2017

Amnesty International campaigns, [Israel/Occupied Palestinian Territories-Palestine: Further Information: Palestinian Circus Performer Released: Mohamed Faisal Abu Sakha](#), 7 September 2017

International Federation for Human Rights urgent appeal, [Israel and the Occupied Palestinian Territory: Arbitrary detention and judicial harassment of Mr. Salah Hamouri](#), 6 September 2017

Pakistan

Human Rights Watch news, [In Pakistan, a Text Message Can Lead to a Death Sentence](#), 18 September 2017

Radio Free Europe, [Roadside Bomb Kills Government Administrator In Northwestern Pakistan](#), 17 September 2017

Radio Free Europe, [Gunmen In Pakistan Kill Four Shi'a From Hazara Family](#), 11 September 2017

Radio Free Europe, [Three Pakistani Security Personnel Killed In Balochistan Ambush](#), 5 September 2017

Russia

Amnesty International campaigns, [Russian Federation: LGBT Activist Charged With Homosexual Propaganda: Evdokia Romanova](#), 12 September 2017

Amnesty International campaigns, [Russian Federation: Chechen Man's Whereabouts In Russia Unknown: Imran Salamov](#), 8 September 2017

Human Rights Watch news, [Russia: Government vs. Rights Groups](#), 8 September 2017

Human Rights Watch news, [Russia: Independent Think Tank Faces Charges](#), 8 September 2017

Human Rights Watch news, [Russia: Nationwide Assaults on Political Opposition Campaign](#), 6 September 2017

South Sudan

OHCHR press release, [Human Rights Council holds enhanced interactive dialogue on the human rights situation in South Sudan](#), 18 September 2017

Sri Lanka

Human Rights Watch news, [Sri Lanka: 2 Years On, Scant Progress on UN Resolution](#), 13 September 2017

Sudan

Amnesty International campaigns, [Sudan: Detained Opposition Activist Denied Lawyer Visits: Nabil Mohamed El-Niwari](#), 15 September 2017

Amnesty International campaigns, [Sudan: Detained Student Activist Risks Ill-Treatment: Naser Aldeen Mukhtar Mohamed](#), 5 September 2017

Syria

OHCHR press release, [Statement by Mr. Paulo Sérgio Pinheiro, Chair of the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic](#), 18 September 2017

IRIN news, [The Kurdish struggle in northern Syria](#), 15 September 2017

UNHCR briefing note, [After three year siege, UNHCR aid convoy reaches DeirEz-Zor in eastern Syria](#), 15 September 2017

Joint NGO Statement, [Syria: Joint Statement: Justice For The Thousands Of Victims Of Enforced Disappearances](#), 5 September 2017

Turkey

Amnesty International news, [“My time in jail has made me even more committed”: Salil Shetty meets Amnesty Turkey's jailed director](#), 12 September 2017

IRIN news, [Crackdown: Prison conditions worsen in post-coup Turkey](#), 6 September 2017

Ukraine

International Crisis Group commentary, [Ukraine's New Diplomatic Battlefronts: U.S. Weapons, UN Peacekeepers](#), 13 September 2017

Radio Free Europe, [Kyiv Car Bomb Kills Man In Suspected Targeted Attack](#), 8 September 2017

Vietnam

Amnesty International campaigns, [Viet Nam: Activists Held Incommunicado May Face Life In Prison](#), 8 September 2017

Yemen

Human Rights Watch dispatches, [Yemen's Children Are Being Shelled While the World Sits Back](#), 18 September 2017

OHCHR press release, [Yemen: An “entirely man-made catastrophe” – UN human rights report urges international investigation](#), 5 September 2017

Zimbabwe

Amnesty International campaigns, [Zimbabwe: Further Information: Human Rights Defender Facing Two Trials: Evan Mawarire](#), 18 September 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](#)