

COI Update Vol. 161

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 28 November and 11 December 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

South Africa

UK Home Office, [Country Policy and Information Note South Africa: Background information, including actors of protection and internal relocation](#), 6 December 2017

Country News and Publications

Global

Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre, [Internal Displacement Update: Issue 27: 19 October - 15 November 2017](#), 6 December 2017

International Crisis Group commentary, [Three Critical African Elections](#), 4 December 2017

International Federation for Human Rights statement, [The externalization of migration policies: a scourge for human rights](#), 28 November 2017

Afghanistan

Radio Free Europe, [Five Killed In Motorcycle Bomb Attack In Afghanistan](#), 3 December 2017

Radio Free Europe, [Two Killed, 13 Injured In Separate Afghan Attacks](#), 2 December 2017

Amnesty International campaigns, [9 reasons why Norway should stop forcing teenagers to go to Afghanistan](#), 30 November 2017

Algeria

OHCHR press release, [Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination concludes its ninety-fourth session](#), 8 December 2017

Bangladesh

Amnesty International action, [Imprisoned for searching for her missing husband - free Hanan now](#) 30 November 2017

Amnesty International news, [Bangladesh: Rohingya refugees must not be relocated to uninhabitable island](#), 28 November 2017

Amnesty International action, [Xulhaz's killers are getting away with murder - act now](#), 28 November 2017

Human Rights Watch, [Bangladesh: Mass Death Sentences Confirmed](#), 28 November 2017

Burma/Myanmar

OHCHR press release, [Independent International Fact Finding Mission on Myanmar concludes visit to Malaysia](#), 11 December 2017

International Crisis Group report, [Myanmar's Rohingya Crisis Enters a Dangerous New Phase](#), 7 December 2017

Amnesty International research, [Myanmar: Need For Accountability For Serious Human Rights Violations And Crimes Against Humanity Committed Against Minorities In Myanmar](#), 5 December 2017

Amnesty International campaigns, [Myanmar: Further Information: Kachin Pastor Sentenced To Four Years In Prison](#), 5 December 2017

Cameroon

Amnesty International news, [UN Committee tells Cameroon to put an end to torture by security forces in the fight against Boko Haram](#), 6 December 2017

OHCHR press release, [UN Committee against Torture publishes findings on Cameroon](#), 6 December 2017

IRIN News, [Cameroon government 'declares war' on secessionist rebels](#), 4 December 2017

China

Amnesty International campaigns, [Out in the cold: Housing activist Ni Yulan feels the pain of the thousands forced from their homes in Beijing](#), 8 December 2017

Radio Free Europe, [China Arrests WhatsApp Group Chat Moderator, Claiming 'Backdoor' Access](#), 8 December 2017

Amnesty International campaigns, [China: Further Information: Former POC Feared To Be In Detention Again: GaoZhisheng](#), 6 December 2017

Amnesty International campaigns, [China: Further Information: Detained Rights Lawyer Further Ill-Treated: Li Yuhan](#), 5 December 2017

Amnesty International news, [China: Taiwanese activist sentenced to five years in jail](#), 28 November 2017

China-Tibet

Radio Free Asia, [Tibetan Monk Burns to Death in Sichuan Calling For Tibetan Freedom](#), 29 November 2017

China-Xinjiang

Radio Free Asia, [China Expands Recall of Passports to Uyghurs Outside of Xinjiang](#), 8 December 2017

Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)

Human Rights Watch, [DR Congo: Rebels Were Recruited to Crush Protests](#), 4 December 2017

International Crisis Group report, [Time for Concerted Action in DR Congo](#), 4 December 2017

Amnesty International news, [DRC: Heavy-handed police crackdown on protests must stop](#), 1 December 2017

UNHCR briefing note, [As 12,000+ Congolese flee to Zambia, aid funds slow to trickle](#), 1 December 2017

Egypt

Amnesty International news, [Egypt: Release journalist who has spent two years behind bars without charge or trial](#), 29 November 2017

Ethiopia

OHCHR press release, [UN human rights expert group begin visit to South Sudan, Uganda and Ethiopia](#), 11 December 2017

Amnesty International, [Ethiopia: New Spate of Abusive Surveillance](#), 6 December 2017

Ghana

OHCHR press release, [UN expert group on the use of mercenaries to visit Ghana](#), 7 December 2017

Iran

Freedom from Torture, [Turning a blind eye: Why the international community must no longer ignore torture in Iran](#), December 2017

Human Rights Watch news, [Iran: Imprisoned Foreign Student Threatened](#), 9 December 2017

Iraq

Human Rights Watch commentary, [KRG: Why ISIS Trials are Robbing Victims of Their Rights](#), 5 December 2017

Human Rights Watch commentary, [Why Iraq Should Limit Islamic State Trials](#), 5 December 2017

Kenya

Amnesty International campaigns, [Mr President, Kenyans need justice before reconciliation](#), 11 December 2017

Libya

Human Rights Watch, [Libya: New Wave of Attacks Against Sufi Sites](#), 7 December 2017

IRIN News, [Libya's downward spiral to shortages, militia power, and migrant abuse](#), 7 December 2017

Amnesty International news, [Libya: EU/AU migrant plans long on returns, short on resettlement](#), 30 November 2017

OHCHR press release, [Libya must end "outrageous" auctions of enslaved people, UN experts insist](#), 30 November 2017

Human Rights Watch, [Libya: Mass Extra-Judicial Execution](#), 29 November 2017

Amnesty International action, [Urgent: stop the selling and detention of refugees and migrants in Libya](#), 28 November 2017

Nigeria

Amnesty International action, [URGENT: Stop the government bill that threatens people's freedom in Nigeria](#), 10 December 2017

Amnesty International news, [Nigeria: Government must act in response to fresh allegations of police abuses](#), 5 December 2017

UNICEF statement, [Statement by Mohamed Malick Fall, UNICEF Representative in Nigeria, on the school attack in Borno State](#), 30 November 2017

North Korea

Human Rights Watch dispatches, [North Korea's Brutality Laid Bare](#), 11 December 2017

OHCHR press release, [UN's North Korea human rights expert makes official visit to region](#), 6 December 2017

Amnesty International campaigns, [North Korea: Further Information: Mother And Son Risk Being Sent To Prison Camp](#), 5 December 2017

Occupied Palestinian Territories (OPTs)

Amnesty International campaigns, [Israel/OPT: Bedouin Community At Imminent Risk Of Expulsion: Jabal Al-Baba Bedouin Community](#), 7 December 2017

Amnesty International action, [Support Palestinian human rights defenders Issa and Farid](#), 30 November 2017

Pakistan

Amnesty International campaigns, [Pakistani Activist's Whereabouts Unknown: Raza Khan](#), 7 December 2017

Radio Free Europe, [Roadside Bomb Kills Six In Northwestern Pakistan](#), 5 December 2017

Radio Free Europe, [Nine Killed In Taliban Attack On College In Peshawar](#), 1 December 2017

Russia

Amnesty International campaigns, [Russian Federation: Further Information: Russian Authorities Block Activist's Release: Khudoberdi Nurmatov \(Ali Feruz\)](#), 11 December 2017

Amnesty International campaigns, [Russian Federation: Further Information: Court Rejects Activist's Appeal: Evdokia Romanova](#), 10 December 2017

Amnesty International campaigns, [Russian Federation: Further Information: Prisoner Subjected To Forced Psychiatric Treatment: Stanyslav Klykh](#), 8 December 2017

Human Rights Watch, [Russia: Threats, Alleged Torture in Bombing Case](#), 5 December

Human Rights Watch, [Russia: Punished Over Hyperlinks](#), 30 November 2017

Somalia

OHCHR press release, [Somalia conflict exacting terrible toll on civilians – UN report Al Shabaab responsible for most civilian casualties](#), 11 December 2017

South Africa

Human Rights Watch dispatches, [Children with Disabilities in South Africa Cannot Wait](#), 4 December 2017

South Sudan

OHCHR press release, [UN human rights expert group begin visit to South Sudan, Uganda and Ethiopia](#), 11 December 2017

UN Secretary General, [Report of the Secretary-General on South Sudan](#), 1 December 2017

Sri Lanka

OHCHR press release, [Sri Lanka: UN experts on arbitrary detention launch official visit](#), 29 November 2017

Syria

UNICEF press release, [Intense violence in Syria's East Ghouta shuts schools, deprives children of medical care - UNICEF](#), 10 December 2017

UNHCR press release, [UNHCR study uncovers shocking sexual violence against Syrian refugee boys, men](#), 6 December 2017

Amnesty International news, [Syria: Banned Soviet-made cluster munitions fuel humanitarian catastrophe in Eastern Ghouta](#), 30 November 2017

Uganda

OHCHR press release, [UN human rights expert group begin visit to South Sudan, Uganda and Ethiopia](#), 11 December 2017

Ukraine

Radio Free Europe, [Ukraine Says One Soldier Killed, Two Wounded Amid Shelling In East](#), 29 November 2017

Vietnam

Radio Free Asia, [Vietnam Upholds Decade-Long Jail Term For Activist Blogger Mother Mushroom](#), 30 November 2017

Human Rights Watch, [Vietnam: EU Should Press for Release of Political Prisoners](#), 28 November 2017

Yemen

International Crisis Group commentary, [The Killing of Former President Saleh Could Worsen Yemen's War](#), 6 December 2017

IRIN News, [UN calls for 'humanitarian pause' in Yemen as conditions in capital deteriorate](#), 4 December 2017

OHCHR press release, [Yemen: Zeid appoints group of eminent international and regional experts](#), 4 December 2017

UNHCR press release, [United Nations leaders call on the Saudi-led coalition to fully lift blockade of Yemeni Red Sea ports](#), 2 December 2017

Zimbabwe

Amnesty International campaigns, [Zimbabwe: Further Information: Human Rights Defender Acquitted Of All Charges: Evan Mawarire](#), 6 December 2017

Amnesty International news, [Zimbabwe: Robert Mugabe's legacy](#), 4 December 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](#)