

COI Update Vol. 162

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 26 December 2017 and 8 January 2018.

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: Women fearing domestic abuse](#), 03 January 2018

Iran

UK Home Office, [Country Policy and Information Note, Iran: Background information, including actors of protection and internal relocation](#), 13 December 2017

Country News and Publications

Global

Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre, [2018: Turning the tide on internal displacement](#), 8 January 2018

International Crisis Group op-ed, [10 Conflicts to Watch in 2018](#), 2 January 2018

IRIN news, [Ten humanitarian crises to look out for in 2018](#), 1 January 2018

Afghanistan

IRIN news, [Europe sends Afghans back to danger](#), 4 January 2018

Radio Free Europe, [At Least 11 Killed, 25 Wounded In Kabul Suicide Blast](#), 4 January 2018

Radio Free Europe, [U.S. Soldier, Afghan Police Chief Killed In Fighting; 26 IS Fighters Killed By Air Strikes](#), 2 January 2018

Radio Free Europe, [Bombing Kills At Least 17 At Funeral In Eastern Afghan City](#), 31 December 2017

Radio Free Europe, [At Least 41 Killed In Attack On Shi'ite Culture Center In Kabul](#), 29 December 2017

Radio Free Europe, [Bomb Kills Six Shepherd Children In Northern Afghanistan](#), 28 December 2017

EASO Country of Origin Information Report, [Afghanistan: Security Situation](#), 22 December 2017

Bangladesh

Amnesty International research, [Bangladesh: Hold a Full Investigation into the Murder of Indigenous Human Rights Defender Mithun Chakma](#), 3 January 2018

Amnesty International campaigns, [Bangladesh: Further Information: Missing Bangladeshi Academic Returned Home: Mubashar Hasan](#), 3 January 2018

EASO Country of Origin Information Report, [Bangladesh: Country Overview](#), 20 December 2017

Burma/Myanmar

Radio Free Asia, [Myanmar Army Seizes Rebel Camps, Kills Insurgents in Kachin State](#), 5 January 2018

Radio Free Asia, [Myanmar Court Extends Detention of Reuters Reporters](#), 27 December 2017

China

Amnesty International campaigns, [China: Further Information: Sentenced Activist Remains At Risk Of Torture: Wu Gan](#), 5 January 2018

Amnesty International campaigns, [China: Further Information: Lawyer Refused Access To Detained Activist: Liu Feiyue](#), 5 January 2018

Radio Free Asia, [Fears For Wife of Prominent Chinese Democracy Activist, Three Years After 'Disappearance'](#), 29 December 2017

China-Tibet

Amnesty International news, [China: Sham trial exposes absurd charge against Tibetan activist](#), 4 January 2018

Radio Free Asia, [Former Tibetan Political Prisoner Questioned, Put Under House Arrest](#), 2 January 2018

Amnesty International research, [China: Amnesty International Welcomes the Reunion of Former Prisoner of Conscience Tibetan Filmmaker Dhondup Wangchen with His Family Abroad](#), 27 December 2017

China-Xinjiang

Radio Free Asia, [Uyghur Detentions Continue in Xinjiang, Despite Pledge to End With Party Congress](#), 8 January 2018

Radio Free Asia, [Rights Situation in Xinjiang Has 'Further Deteriorated' in Recent Months: CECC](#), 8 January 2018

Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)

UN News Centre, [UN rights office warns DR Congo authorities against use of excessive force when policing protests](#), 5 January 2018

Egypt

UN News Centre, [Shocked at executions in Egypt, UN rights office raises concerns over due process guarantees](#), 5 January 2018

Ethiopia

Amnesty International news, [Ethiopia: Closure of "torture chamber" could signal new chapter for human rights](#), 3 January 2018

Gambia

EASO Country of Origin Information Report, [The Gambia: Country Focus](#), 13 December 2017

Ghana

Human Rights Watch news release, [Ghana: Discrimination, Violence against LGBT People](#), 8 January 2018

Iran

Amnesty International news, [Iran: Stop increasingly ruthless crackdown and investigate deaths of protesters](#), 4 January 2018

Amnesty International research, [Iran: Halt Imminent Execution Of Youth Sentenced To Death At 16](#), 3 January 2018

Iraq

Human Rights Watch news release, [Iraq: Yezidi Fighters Allegedly Execute Civilians](#), 27 December 2017

Kenya

Amnesty International research, [Kenya: Open Letter Re: Evictions In Embobut Forest On 29 December 2017 And 1 January 2018](#), 1 January 2018

IRIN news, [Kenya's drought "solution" becomes a major menace once again](#), 28 December 2018

North Korea

Radio Free Asia, [North Korean Nuclear Scientist Commits Suicide on Forced Return From China](#), 28 December 2017

Somalia

UN News Centre, [Somalia: UN voices deep concern at reported destruction of housing for displaced persons](#), 2 January 2018

EASO Country of Origin Information Report, [Somalia: Security Situation](#), 21 December 2017

Syria

Amnesty International campaigns, [Syria: Further Information: 529 Patients Are Still Awaiting Medical Evacuation: Eastern Ghouta](#), 8 January 2018

Radio Free Europe, [About 39,000 People Killed In Syria In 2017, Monitor Says](#), 28 December 2017

Vietnam

International Federation for Human Rights press release, [Annus horribilis ends with more arrests and imprisonment](#), 5 January 2018

Radio Free Asia, [Vietnamese Former Political Prisoner Held on 'Public Disorder' Charge](#), 5 January 2018

Yemen

Amnesty International news, [Yemen: Huthis must quash death sentence of Baha'i prisoner of conscience](#), 3 January 2018

Zimbabwe

IRIN News, [Agriculture a hard sell for Zimbabwe's youth](#), 27 December 2018

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](#)