

COI Update Vol. 163

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 9 January and 22 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

Afghanistan

UK Home Office, [Country Policy and Information Note, Afghanistan: Afghans perceived as “Westernised”](#), 19 January 2018

Iraq

UK Home Office, [Country Policy and Information Note, Iraq: Perceived collaborators](#), 12 January 2018

Libya

UK Home Office, [Country Policy and Information Note, Libya: Security and humanitarian situation](#), 12 January 2018

Country News and Publications

Global

UNHCR report, [Global report: 10 most under-reported humanitarian crises of 2017](#), 22 January 2018

Human Rights Watch report, [World Report 2018](#), 18 January 2018

IRIN News, [Five migration trends to watch in 2018](#), 17 January 2018

Afghanistan

Human Rights Watch dispatches, [Kabul Hotel Attack a War Crime](#), 22 January 2018

Amnesty International news, [Norway: Parliament fails to protect Afghans from horrors of war](#), 18 January 2018

Human Rights Watch news, [Afghanistan: No Letup in War’s Civilian Toll](#), 18 January 2018

Algeria

Human Rights Watch news, [Algeria: New Trials Shake Ahmadi Minority](#), 22 January 2018

Bangladesh

Amnesty International news, [Bangladesh/Myanmar: Postponing returns arrangement provides temporary relief for Rohingya refugees](#), 22 January 2018

Human Rights Watch news, [Bangladesh: Transgender Men Fear for Their Safety](#), 19 January 2018

Human Rights Watch news, [Bangladesh: Impunity Endures for Rights Violations](#), 18 January 2018

International Federation for Human Rights report, [Odhikar's Annual Human Rights Report 2017](#), 12 January 2018

Burma/Myanmar

Human Rights Watch news, [Burma: Ethnic Cleansing, Repression, Denials](#), 18 January 2018

Amnesty International news, [Myanmar: Investigate police killings of Rakhine State protesters](#), 17 January 2018

OHCHR press release, [UN Special Rapporteur on Myanmar to visit Bangladesh and Thailand – 18 to 30 January](#), 16 January 2018

UNICEF press release, [Half a million Rohingya refugee children at risk in overcrowded camps in Bangladesh with cyclone and monsoon season on horizon](#), 16 January 2018

Human Rights Watch news, [Burma: Privacy Law Used to Prosecute Critics](#), 12 January 2018

Amnesty International news, [Myanmar: Military's mass grave admission exposes extrajudicial killings of Rohingya](#), 10 January 2018

Amnesty International campaigns, [Myanmar: Two Journalists Face Up To 14 Years In Prison](#), 10 January 2018

Amnesty International news, [Iran: Investigate reports of protester deaths in custody](#), 9 January 2018

Cameroon

UNHCR briefing notes, [Concern grows for women and children fleeing Cameroon](#), 19 January 2018

Amnesty International news, [Cameroon: Ten arrested Anglophone leaders at risk of unfair trial and torture if deported from Nigeria](#), 12 January 2018

China

Radio Free Asia, [Top Human Rights Lawyer Held on Public Order Charges: Police](#), 22 January 2018

Human Rights Watch news, [China: Rights Crackdown Goes Global](#), 18 January 2018

Amnesty International campaigns, [China: More Activists Detained For Liu Xiaobo Memorial](#), 11 January 2018

Amnesty International campaigns, [China: Medical Practitioner Held Incommunicado: Shafkat Abasi](#), 9 January 2018

China-Tibet

Radio Free Asia, [Nomad Families Forced From Their Land in Tibet's Chamdo](#), 16 January 2018

China-Xinjiang

Radio Free Asia, [Uyghur Inmates Suffer Health Complications Due to Neglect in Xinjiang Detention Centers](#), 18 January 2018

Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)

Amnesty International news, [DRC: Brutal crackdown on anti-government protests must be investigated](#), 22 January 2018

UNICEF joint press release, [UN agencies in urgent bid to prevent famine in Kasai, DRC](#), 17 January 2018

IRIN op-ed, [The human cost of cuts to the peacekeeping mission in Congo](#), 10 January 2018

Egypt

Human Rights Watch dispatches, [More Arrests in Egypt's LGBT Crackdown, but No International Outcry](#), 22 January 2018

Amnesty International news, [Egypt: Release of activist Mahienour el-Massry a rare moment of justice](#), 16 January 2018

Ethiopia

Amnesty International news, [Ethiopia: Release of hundreds of detainees must lead to freedom for all remaining prisoners of conscience](#), 17 January 2018

IRIN News, [Ethiopian Oromo refugees face bribes, harassment in Kenya](#), 12 January 2018

Gambia

IRIN News, [One year on, victims of Gambian dictator demand justice](#), 22 January 2018

India

Amnesty International campaigns, [India: Two Indigenous Activists Face Life Imprisonment](#), 18 January 2018

Human Rights Watch news, [India: Unchecked Attacks on Religious Minorities](#), 18 January 2018

Human Rights Watch news, [India: Identification Project Threatens Rights](#), 13 January 2018

Human Rights Watch commentary, [The Time Has Come for India to Stop Making Criminals of People Who Love Each Other](#), 10 January 2018

Iran

Amnesty International campaigns, [Iran: Further Information: Man Arrested At 17 At Risk Of Execution: Hamid Ahmadi](#), 22 January 2018

Amnesty International campaigns, [Iran: Teen Arrested At 14 Still At Risk Of Execution: Abolfazl Chezani Sharahi](#), 19 January 2018

Amnesty International news, [Iran: Authorities amputate a man's hand in shocking act of cruelty](#), 18 January 2018

Human Rights Watch news, [Iran: No Momentum for Reform](#), 18 January 2018

Amnesty International news, [Iran: Easing of deadly drugs laws may spare hundreds from gallows](#), 10 January 2018

International Federation for Human Rights report, [31 protesters died in streets & detention centres; more than 3,700 detained](#), 10 January 2018

Human Rights Watch news, [Iran: Deaths of Detained Protesters Raise Concerns of Ill-Treatment](#), 9 January 2018

Iraq

UNICEF statement, [At least one in four children in Iraq impacted by conflict and poverty](#), 19 January 2018

International Crisis Group op-ed, [Twilight of the Kurds](#), 16 January 2018

Amnesty International news, [Iraq: Committee to investigate abuses in Tuz Khurmatu a welcome step](#), 9 January 2018

Kenya

Human Rights Watch commentary, [Chance for Kenya to Make Amends for Post-Election Sexual Violence](#), 19 January 2018

IRIN News, [Inside Kenya's Turkana region: cattle, climate change, and oil](#), 15 January 2018

OHCHR press release, [Indigenous rights must be respected during Kenya climate change project, say UN experts](#), 15 January 2018

Amnesty International campaigns, [Kenya: Indigenous Community Forcibly Evicted](#), 12 January 2018

IRIN News, [Consecutive droughts spell disaster and hunger for Kenya in 2018](#), 10 January 2018

Libya

Human Rights Watch news, [Libya: Impunity Drives Violence](#), 18 January 2018

Mali

International Federation for Human Rights press release, [UN member States should urge Mali to choose justice in the face of crisis](#), 15 January 2018

IRIN News, [A dozen shades of khaki: counter-insurgency operations in the Sahel](#), 11 January 2018

Nigeria

Human Rights Watch dispatches, [Nigeria Loses a Treasured Justice Advocate](#), 22 January 2018

North Korea

Human Rights Watch news, [North Korea: Bring Justice for Rights Crimes](#), 18 January 2018

IRIN News, [Donors lose appetite for North Korean food aid](#), 9 January 2018

Occupied Palestinian Territories (OPTs)

Amnesty International news, [Israel/OPT: Israeli authorities must release Ahed Tamimi immediately](#), 17 January 2018

Pakistan

Human Rights Watch news, [Pakistan: Escalating Limits on Association, Speech](#), 18 January 2018

Human Rights Watch dispatches, [Pakistan Needs to Protect Children from Sexual Abuse](#), 12 January 2018

Amnesty International news, [Pakistan: End impunity for attacks on journalists](#), 10 January 2018

Russia

Amnesty International campaigns, [Russian Federation: Tatar Activist And Prisoner Of Conscience Released: Rafis Kashapov](#), 19 January 2018

Human Rights Watch news, [Russia: Dark Year for Freedom](#), 18 January 2018

Amnesty International news, [Russia: Attacks on human rights group Memorial must be investigated and stopped](#), 17 January 2018

Human Rights Watch dispatches, [Arson Attack on Office of Russian Rights Group](#), 17 January 2018

Amnesty International news, [Russia: Rights Defender Arbitrarily Arrested in Chechnya](#), 11 January 2018

Amnesty International campaigns, [Russian Federation: Human Rights Defender Detained In Chechnya: Oyub Titiev](#), 10 January 2018

International Federation for Human Rights urgent appeal, [Russian Federation: Arbitrary detention and judicial harassment of Mr. Oyub Titiev](#), 9 January 2018

Somalia

Amnesty International news, [Somalia: Satellite imagery reveals devastation amid forced evictions of thousands who fled conflict and drought](#), 19 January 2018

Human Rights Watch news, [Somalia: Al-Shabab Demanding Children](#), 14 January 2018

South Africa

Amnesty International news, [South Africa: Government must show political will to end xenophobic violence](#), 12 January 2018

South Sudan

Amnesty International campaigns, [South Sudan: Further Information: Two Men Still Missing One Year Later: Dong Samuel Luak And Aggrey Idri](#), 22 January 2018

UNICEF statement, [Statement by UNICEF Executive Director Henrietta H. Fore following two-day visit to conflict-ravaged South Sudan](#), 19 January 2018

Sri Lanka

Human Rights Watch news, [Sri Lanka: One Step Forward, Two Back](#), 18 January 2018

OHCHR press release, [Committee on the Rights of the Child reviews report of Sri Lanka](#), 16 January 2018

OHCHR press release, [Committee on the Rights of the Child holds seventy-seventh session in Geneva from 15 January to 2 February 2018](#), 11 January 2018

Sudan

Amnesty International campaigns, [Sudan: Opposition Member Alleges Torture In Sudan Prison: Radwan Daoud](#), 18 January 2018

International Federation for Human Rights urgent appeal, [Sudan: Arbitrary detention of two community leaders from Port Sudan, Red Sea state](#), 12 January 2018

Syria

IRIN News, [Syria 2018: 5 key factors to watch](#), 16 January 2018

Human Rights Watch news, [Syria: Children Under Attack in Damascus Enclave](#), 11 January 2018

OHCHR press release, [Syria: Zeid condemns upsurge in civilian casualties in Eastern Ghouta and Idlib](#), 10 January 2018

Turkey

Human Rights Watch dispatches, [Activist Detained in Turkey for Tweets](#), 22 January 2018

Human Rights Watch news, [Turkey: Media, Activists, Political Opposition Targeted](#), 18 January 2018

OHCHR press release, [UN human rights experts urge Turkey not to extend state of emergency](#), 17 January 2018

Uganda

Amnesty International news, [Uganda: President's misguided death penalty vow threatens a decade of progress](#), 19 January 2018

Ukraine

Radio Free Europe, [OSCE Monitor Killed In Car Accident In Eastern Ukraine](#), 20 January 2018

Human Rights Watch news, [Ukraine: Failing Its Human Rights Commitments](#), 18 January 2018

Vietnam

Human Rights Watch news, [Vietnam: Renewed Crackdown on Rights Bloggers, Activists](#), 18 January 2018

Human Rights Watch news, [Vietnam: Drop Charges Against Nguyen Van Oai](#), 14 January 2018

Yemen

Human Rights Watch news, [Yemen: All Sides Fuel Humanitarian Crisis](#), 18 January 2018

Amnesty International news, [Yemen: Release of Hisham al-Omeisy must be followed by release of all prisoners of conscience](#), 16 January 2018

UNICEF press release, [3 million children born into war in Yemen](#), 16 January 2018

IRIN News, ["If the war doesn't kill us, the food prices will"](#), 10 January 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](#)