

## COI Update Vol. 164

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 23 January and 6 February 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

#### **Kenya**

UK Home Office, [Country Policy and Information Note, Kenya: Background information, including actors of protection and internal relocation](#), 5 February 2018

#### **Libya**

UK Home Office, [Country Policy and Information Note, Libya: Women](#), 29 January 2018

### Country News and Publications

#### **Global**

Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre, [Quarterly Update: October – December 2017](#), 31 January 2018

Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre, [While the migration agenda moves forward, IDPs keep getting side-tracked](#), 30 January 2018

Amnesty International research, [Executions Of Juveniles Since 1990 \(As Of January 2018\)](#), 24 January 2018

#### **Afghanistan**

Radio Free Europe, ['Dozens' Of Taliban Militants Killed In Southern Afghanistan](#), 2 February 2018

Radio Free Europe, [Eleven Afghan Soldiers Killed In Predawn Attack On Army Post](#), 29 January 2018

Radio Free Europe, [At Least 95 Killed As Ambulance Bomb Rocks Kabul](#), 27 January 2018

Radio Free Europe, [Six Afghan Children, One Adult Killed By Rocket](#), 26 January 2018

European Asylum Support Office (EASO), [Country of Origin Information Report: Afghanistan Networks](#), 25 January 2018

Amnesty International news, [Afghanistan: Amnesty stands in solidarity with Save the Children following Jalalabad attack](#), 24 January 2018

Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre report, [Escaping war: where to next?](#), 24 January 2018

#### **Bangladesh**

International Federation for Human Rights open letter, [Open letter on Digital Media Security Bill](#), 4 February 2018

Human Rights Watch news, [Letter from Human Rights Watch to Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina](#), 26 January 2018

Human Rights Watch news, [Bangladesh: Investigate Fate of ‘Disappeared’](#), 26 January 2018

### **Burma/Myanmar**

OHCHR press release, [UN human rights expert laments “tragic sense of déjà vu” in Myanmar, says refugee returns premature](#), 1 February 2018

Human Rights Watch dispatches, [Former US Diplomat Calls Burma Board a ‘Whitewash’](#), 25 January 2018

### **Cameroon**

UNHCR press release, [UNHCR condemns forced returns of Cameroon asylum-seekers from Nigeria](#), 1 February 2018

UNHCR press release, [UNHCR and partners seek US\\$157 million to aid Boko Haram displaced](#), 1 February 2018

### **China**

Radio Free Asia, [Wife of Detained Chinese Dissident ‘Still Not Free’ After First Sighting in Three Years](#), 6 February 2018

Amnesty International campaigns, [China: Further Information Fears For Activist Held Incommunicado: Zhen Jianhua](#), 2 February 2018

Amnesty International campaigns, [China: Health Fears For Detained Hong Kong Bookseller: Gui Minhaj](#), 1 February 2018

Human Rights Watch news, [China: Families of Interpol Targets Harassed](#), 31 January 2018

Amnesty International campaigns, [China: Further Information: Two Memorial Activists Released On Bail](#), 30 January 2018

Amnesty International campaigns, [China: Lawyer Detained For “Inciting Subversion”: Yu Wensheng](#), 30 January 2018

### **China-Tibet**

Radio Free Asia, [Missing Tibetan Protester Found Jailed in Soq County](#), 6 February 2018

Radio Free Asia, [Tibetan Nun Dies After Years of Ill Health Following Prison Term](#), 31 January 2018

Radio Free Asia, [Overcrowded Political Re-Education Camps in Hotan Relocate Hundreds of Uyghur Detainees](#), 26 January 2018

Human Rights Watch news, [China: New Controls on Tibetan Monastery](#), 24 January 2018

### **China-Xinjiang**

Radio Free Asia, [Threat of Re-Education Camp Drives Uyghur Who Failed Anthem Recitation to Suicide](#), 5 February 2018

Radio Free Asia, [Uyghur Muslim Scholar Dies in Chinese Police Custody](#), 29 January 2018

### **Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)**

UNHCR briefing notes, [UNHCR sounds alert as fresh violence in DR Congo’s Ituri province displaces thousands](#), 6 February 2018

IRIN News, [Praying for change in Congo: the Catholic Church takes on Kabila](#), 1 February 2018

UNICEF press release, [Democratic Republic of the Congo: violence in Tanganyika and South Kivu fuels one of the world’s worst displacement crises for children – UNICEF](#), 25 January 2018

### **Egypt**

Amnesty International campaigns, [Egypt: Further Information: Trial Of Nubian Activists Adjourned](#), 2 February 2018

Amnesty International campaigns, [Egypt: Further Information: Peaceful Protesters And Activists Released: Mahienour El-Masry And Moatasem Medhat](#), 26 January 2018

OHCHR press release, [Egypt must halt executions, say UN human rights experts](#), 26 January 2018  
Amnesty International news, [Egypt: Authorities must cease interference in upcoming election and set guarantees for free candidacy](#), 24 January 2018

### **Ethiopia**

Amnesty International research, [Ethiopia: Commentary On The Draft Criminal Procedure Code](#), 5 February 2018

### **Iran**

Amnesty International campaigns, [Iran: Further Information: Kurdish Man Sentenced To Death After Unfair Trial: Ramin Hossein Panahi](#), 5 February 2018

Amnesty International news, [Iran: At least six young human rights defenders arrested in coordinated raids at risk of torture](#), 2 February 2018

OHCHR press release, [Iran must ensure rights of Christian minority and fair trial for the accused– UN experts](#), 2 February 2018

Amnesty International news, [Iran: Authorities execute man in exceptionally cruel circumstances](#), 30 January 2018

Human Rights Watch dispatches, [Will Iran's Parliamentary Visit to Evin Prison Bear Fruit?](#), 26 January 2018

Amnesty International research, [Iran: Compulsory Veiling Is Abusive, Discriminatory And Humiliating; End The Persecution Of Women For Peacefully Protesting Against It](#), 24 January 2018

### **Iraq**

Human Rights Watch news, [Families with ISIS Relatives Forced into Camps](#), 4 February 2018

Human Rights Watch commentary, [ISIS Trials are Robbing Victims of Their Rights](#), 26 January 2018

### **Kenya**

Human Rights Watch news, [Kenya: Media Barred From Opposition Event](#), 30 January 2018

International Crisis Group statement, [Kenya: Averting an Avoidable Crisis](#), 29 January 2018

### **Libya**

OHCHR press release, [Libya: UN expert calls for roadmap to tackle plight of thousands who have fled homes](#), 2 February 2018

Human Rights Watch news, [Libya: Displaced Benghazi Families Prevented From Return](#), 1 February 2018

Amnesty International news, [Libya: Special Forces commander apparently filmed committing extrajudicial executions must be handed over to the ICC](#), 25 January 2018

Human Rights Watch news, [Libya: Deadly Mosque Attack A Violation of Laws of War](#), 25 January 2018

OHCHR press release, [Libya: UN expert on internally displaced people set for first official visit to Libya](#), 24 January 2018

### **Mali**

IRIN News, [Why some Malians join armed groups](#), 25 January 2018

### **Nigeria**

Amnesty International research, [Nigeria: Analysis Of The Air Force Raid In Adamawa State](#), 30 January 2018

Amnesty International news, [Nigeria: Dozens killed as military launches air attacks on villages beset by spiralling communal violence](#), 30 January 2018

## **North Korea**

International Crisis Group media release, [The Korean Peninsula Crisis: Beyond Fire and Fury](#), 23 January 2018

## **Occupied Palestinian Territories (OPTs)**

OHCHR press release, [UN rights office issues report on business and human rights in settlements in the occupied Palestinian territory](#), 31 January 2018

## **Pakistan**

Human Rights Watch dispatches, [Pakistani Professor's Endless Blasphemy Trial](#), 5 February 2018

Radio Free Europe, [Pakistani Soldiers Killed In Swat Valley Suicide Attack](#), 3 February 2018

Radio Free Europe, [Blast Kills At Least Six Family Members In Northwestern Pakistan](#), 30 January 2018

## **Russia**

Radio Free Europe, [Gay Couple Flees Russia After Same-Sex-Marriage Scandal](#), 29 January 2018

Radio Free Europe, [At Least 350 Detained At Election Boycott Rallies In Russia](#), 29 January 2018

Amnesty International news, [Russia: Authorities must release human rights activist held on baseless accusations](#), 25 January 2018

Amnesty International research, [Russian Federation: Supreme Court Cancels Deportation Order For Ali Feruz](#), 25 January 2018

## **Somalia**

Human Rights Watch news, [Somalia: Thousands Homeless as Settlements Razed](#), 28 January 2018

Asylum Research Consultancy, [Situation in South and Central Somalia \(including Mogadishu\)](#), 25 January 2018

## **South Sudan**

Human Rights Watch dispatches, [Time is Ripe for a UN Arms Embargo on South Sudan](#), 2 February 2018

UNHCR press release, [Aid appeals seek over US\\$3 billion as South Sudan set to become Africa's largest refugee and humanitarian crisis](#), 1 February 2018

Amnesty International news, [South Sudan: A Year On, two Men's Whereabouts Unknown](#), 24 January 2018

## **Sri Lanka**

OHCHR press release, [Committee on the Rights of the Child concludes seventy-seventh session](#), 2 February 2018

Human Rights Watch news, [Sri Lanka: Repeal Draconian Security Law](#), 29 January 2018

## **Sudan**

Amnesty International campaigns, [Sudan: Further Information: Student Held In Solitary Confinement Released: Naser Aldeen Mukhtar Mohamed](#), 5 February 2018

Amnesty International news, [Sudan: AU-UN peacekeepers must be given unfettered access to protect civilians in Jebel Marra](#), 1 February 2018

Amnesty International research, [Sudan: Stop Abuse Of Peaceful Demonstrators](#), 30 January 2018

Amnesty International campaigns, [Sudan: Further Information: Opposition Member Released From Sudan Prison: Radwan Daoud](#), 29 January 2018

## **Syria**

OHCHR press release, [UN Commission of Inquiry on Syria Condemns Upsurge in Violence in the Idlib Governorate and eastern Ghouta: Syrian Arab Republic](#), 6 February 2018

UNICEF press release, [Geneva Palais briefing note: Nearly seven years since beginning of war in Syria, children continue to be killed, injured, displaced](#), 6 February 2018

Radio Free Europe, [Syrian Civilians 'Killed In Air Strikes' On Rebel-Held Area Near Capital](#), 5 February 2018

Human Rights Watch dispatches, [Chemical Weapons Resurface in Syria](#), 3 February 2018

Human Rights Watch news, [Turkey/Syria: Border Guards Shoot, Block Fleeing Syrians](#), 3 February 2018

International Crisis Group op-ed, [Syria: from Vienna to Sochi](#), 30 January 2018

UN Secretary General report, [Implementation of Security Council resolutions 2139 \(2014\), 2165 \(2014\), 2191 \(2014\), 2258 \(2015\), 2332 \(2016\) and 2393 \(2017\)](#), 23 January 2018

## **Turkey**

Amnesty International news, [Turkey: Re-arrest of Amnesty chair devastates family, disgraces justice](#), 1 February 2018

International Federation for Human Rights urgent appeal, [Turkey: Arbitrary arrest and judicial harassment of six members of IHD and ongoing detention of four of them](#), 1 February 2018

International Federation for Human Rights urgent appeal, [Turkey: Arbitrary detention and judicial harassment of 11 members of the Central Council of the Turkish Medical Association \(TTB\)](#), 31 January 2018

Amnesty International campaigns, [Turkey: Further Information: Turkish Medical Association Leaders Detained](#), 30 January 2018

International Crisis Group report, [Turkey's Syrian Refugees: Defusing Metropolitan Tensions](#), 29 January 2018

## **Ukraine**

Human Rights Watch dispatches, [Ukraine's Misguided Curbs on Freedom of Expression](#), 26 January 2018

## **Vietnam**

Radio Free Asia, [Vietnamese Environmental Activists Handed Prison Terms in Nghe An](#), 6 February 2018

Human Rights Watch news, [Vietnam: Drop Charges, Release Democracy Activists](#), 30 January 2018

Human Rights Watch news, [Vietnam: Crackdown on Rights Activists](#), 24 January 2018

## **Yemen**

Amnesty International news, [Yemen: 'Heart-breaking' mass drowning a symptom of devastating conflict and humanitarian crisis](#), 26 January 2018

OHCHR press release, [Death sentence of Bahá'í follower in Yemen must be quashed – UN rights experts](#), 25 January 2018

## **Zimbabwe**

Amnesty International research, [Zimbabwe: Lost Without Knowledge: Barriers To Sexual And Reproductive Health Information In Zimbabwe](#), 26 January 2018

Human Rights Watch dispatches, [Zimbabwe's Post-Coup President Heads to African Union Summit](#), 26 January 2018

Amnesty International news, [Zimbabwe: Inconsistent laws and sexual taboos put adolescent girls' health and futures at risk](#), 24 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](#)