

COI Update Vol. 166

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 22 February and 6 March 2018.

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Legal Update

No UK Country Guidance cases were promulgated in the reporting period.

UK Home Office Publications Update

China

UK Home Office, [Country Policy and Information Note, China: Background information, including actors of protection](#), 6 March 2018

Iran

UK Home Office, [Country Policy and Information Note, Iran: Christians and Christian converts](#), 6 March 2018

Jamaica

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

Country News and Publications

Global

OHCHR press release, [Migration policies can amount to ill-treatment and torture, UN rights expert warns](#), 1 March 2018

UN News Centre, [UN Committee against Torture issues new guidelines on asylum seekers' rights](#), 28 February 2018

Afghanistan

Radio Free Europe, [One Afghan Killed, 22 Wounded In Kabul Bombing Targeting Australians](#), 2 March 2018

Amnesty International news, [Afghanistan: Kabul Process conference must put the protection of civilians at its heart](#), 28 February 2018

Radio Free Europe, [At Least Five Police Killed, 30 People Kidnapped In Southern Afghanistan](#), 28 February 2018

Algeria

Amnesty International article, [Algeria: Disturbing clampdown against civil society as two women's NGOs forced to close](#), 2 March 2018

Human Rights Watch news, [Algeria: New Wave of Deportations](#), 27 February 2018

Bangladesh

Amnesty International research, [Bangladesh: Ensure Immediate Safety And Security Of The Two Marmas Sisters With Their Consultation And Consent And Launch Investigation Into The Sexual Assault On Them By Members Of Bangladesh Army](#), 6 March 2018

International Crisis Group report, [Countering Jihadist Militancy in Bangladesh](#), 28 February 2018

Human Rights Watch dispatches, [Failing Rohingya Rape Victims in Bangladesh](#), 23 February 2018

Human Rights Watch news, [Bangladesh: Scrap Draconian Elements of Digital Security Act](#), 22 February 2018

Burma/Myanmar

UN News Centre, ['No other conclusion,' ethnic cleansing of Rohingyas in Myanmar continues – senior UN rights official](#), 6 March 2018

IRIN News, [Identity and belonging in a card: How tattered Rohingya IDs trace a trail toward statelessness](#), 1 March 2018

Human Rights Watch news, [Burma: Scores of Rohingya Villages Bulldozed](#), 23 February 2018

Cameroon

UN News Centre, [In Cameroon, UN deputy aid chief urges assistance as insecurity deepens in Lake Chad basin](#), 26 February 2018

China

Radio Free Asia, [China Places Outspoken Dissidents Under House Arrest Ahead of Parliament](#), 1 March 2018

Amnesty International blog, [When Profits Threaten Privacy – 5 Things You Need to Know about Apple in China](#), 27 February 2018

China-Xinjiang

Amnesty International campaigns, [China: 20 Relatives Of Uighur Journalist Detained](#), 1 March 2018

Human Rights Watch news, [China: Big Data Fuels Crackdown in Minority Region](#), 26 February 2018

Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)

UNHCR briefing notes, [Rekindled tension in DR Congo's Kasai region poses new threat to civilians, displaced](#), 6 March 2018

Amnesty International news, [DRC: Government crackdown on child labour must address root causes](#), 2 March 2018

Egypt

Amnesty International news, [Egypt: Lawyer and human rights defender Ezzat Ghonim at risk of enforced disappearance](#), 2 March 2018

Amnesty International news, [Egypt: Use of banned cluster bombs in North Sinai confirmed by Amnesty International](#), 1 March 2018

International Federation for Human Rights urgent appeal, [Egypt: Judicial harassment of 32 Nubian human rights defenders](#), 1 March 2018

Human Rights Watch news, [Egypt: Arrests Escalate Ahead of Unfair Elections](#), 26 February 2018

Ethiopia

Amnesty International news, [Ethiopia: MPs' decision to approve state of emergency disappointing and irresponsible](#), 2 March 2018

India

Amnesty International campaigns, [India: Indigenous Peoples Advocate Arrested For "Sedition"](#), 2 March 2018

Human Rights Watch dispatches, [India Gets Another Chance Protecting Transgender Rights](#), 22 February 2018

Iran

Amnesty International news, [Iran: Dozens of women ill-treated and at risk of long jail terms for peacefully protesting compulsory veiling](#), 26 February 2018

Human Rights Watch news, [Iran: Stop Prosecuting Women Over Dress Code](#), 24 February 2018

Amnesty International campaigns, [Iran: Young Human Rights Defenders At Risk Of Torture: Shima Babaee And Dariush Zand](#), 23 February 2018

OHCHR press release, [Iran: Spying charges against wildlife activists "hard to fathom", say UN experts](#), 23 February 2018

Iraq

Human Rights Watch news, [Kurdistan Region of Iraq: Protesters, Journalists Detained](#), 28 February 2018

Human Rights Watch news, [Iraq: Families of Alleged ISIS Members Denied IDs](#), 25 February 2018

Kenya

Amnesty International news, [Kenya: Fresh Evidence of Election-Period Abuses](#), 25 February 2018

Liberia

OHCHR press release, [Liberia: UN human rights expert starts official visit to assess freedom of expression](#), 5 March 2018

Libya

UNHCR briefing notes, [Libya: UNHCR increasingly concerned over long-time stranded Tawergha people](#), 23 February 2018

Mali

UNHCR briefing notes, [UNHCR welcomes launch of birth certification for Malian refugees in Mbera camp](#), 23 February 2018

UN News Centre, [UN migration agency reports rise in displacement in northern Mali](#), 23 February 2018

Nigeria

UNICEF statement, [Statement on attack against Bursari Government Girls Science Secondary School in northeast Nigeria](#), 23 February 2018

Occupied Palestinian Territories (OPTs)

Amnesty International news, [Israel/OPT: Administrative detention of NGO worker Salah Hammouri extended](#), 26 February 2018

Russia

Amnesty International press release, [Russia: Human Rights Defender Oyub Titiev's Detention Extended For Two Months](#), 6 March 2018

Human Rights Watch, [Russia: Government vs. Rights Groups](#), 6 March 2018

Human Rights Watch dispatches, [Children in Russian Orphanage Alleged Rape](#), 5 March 2018

Amnesty International blog, [Chechnya: Persecuted for defending human rights](#), 28 February 2018

OHCHR press release, [Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities examines the report of Russia](#), 28 February 2018

Human Rights Watch dispatches, [Welcome Support for Workers' Rights Advocate in Russia](#), 26 February 2018

South Sudan

UNICEF news note, [Nearly two-thirds of the population in South Sudan at risk of rising hunger](#), 26 February 2018

Amnesty International news, [South Sudan: UN probe team's findings should be world's wake-up call to address human rights catastrophe](#), 23 February 2018

OHCHR press release, [UN Human Rights Commission collects evidence to hold more than 40 South Sudanese officials accountable for war crimes and crimes against humanity](#), 23 February 2018

OHCHR press release, [Freedom of expression vital for peace in conflict-afflicted South Sudan – UN report](#), 22 February 2018

Human Rights Watch news, [Sudan: Prisoner Release Left Many Activists Behind](#), 22 February 2018

Sri Lanka

Amnesty International news, [Sri Lanka: State of emergency must respect human rights](#), 6 March 2018

Amnesty International news, [Sri Lanka: End impunity for attacks on Muslim minority](#), 6 March 2018

Sudan

Amnesty International campaigns, [Sudan: Further Information: Some Critics Freed, Others Remain In Custody](#), 2 March 2018

OHCHR press release, [Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities examines report of Sudan](#), 22 February 2018

Syria

OHCHR press release, [UN Commission of Inquiry on Syria: Amid the ruins of Ar-Raqqa and Dayr al-Zawr, calls for justice and accountability by victims and families must be urgently addressed](#), 6 March 2018

Amnesty International news, [Syria: UN Human Rights Council must ensure those responsible for atrocities in Eastern Ghouta are held to account](#), 3 March 2018

UNICEF briefing note, [Geneva Palais briefing note: Children in Syria](#), 2 March 2018

Amnesty International news, [Syria: Hundreds of civilian lives at risk as Afrin offensive escalates](#), 28 February 2018

Amnesty International news, [Syria: Alleged chemical weapons pact with North Korea would represent 'a betrayal of humanity'](#), 27 February 2018

UNICEF press release, [85 per cent of Syrian children in host communities in Jordan live in poverty - UNICEF](#), 25 February 2018

Turkey

Amnesty International news, [We must speak up for free expression in Turkey](#), 1 March 2018

OHCHR press release, [Turkey: UN expert says deeply concerned by rise in torture allegations](#), 27 February 2018

Uganda

IRIN News, [Women carry the burden of Ugandan war trauma](#), 27 February 2018

Ukraine

International Crisis Group commentary, [Peacekeeping in Ukraine's Donbas: Opportunities and Risks](#), 6 March 2018

Radio Free Europe, [New Ukraine Cease-Fire 'Violated Almost Immediately'](#), 5 March 2018

Vietnam

Amnesty International campaigns, [Viet Nam: Further Information: Health Fears For Relocated Jailed Activist: Nguyễn Ngọc Như Quỳnh](#), 28 February 2018

Amnesty International campaigns, [Vietnam: Further Information: Maximum Prison Sentence For Anti-Formosa Activist: Hoàng Đức Bình](#), 28 February 2018

OHCHR press release, [Viet Nam: UN rights experts urge release of activists jailed for protesting toxic spill](#), 23 February 2018

Yemen

Human Rights Watch news, [Yemen: Houthis Sentence Baha'i Man to Death](#), 27 February 2018

Zimbabwe

Human Rights Watch dispatches, [Violence Erupts Within Zimbabwe's Opposition Party](#), 6 March 2018

Amnesty International news, [Zimbabwe: Investigate police role in the killing of two people during minibus violence](#), 23 February 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](#)