



HUMAN RIGHTS DEVELOPMENTS IN A WEEK

12 – 18 September, 2022



Human Rights are inherent to all human beings, regardless of the nationality, place of residence, sex, national or ethnic origin, color, religion, language or any other status without discrimination. These rights are all universal, inalienable, interrelated, interdependent and indivisible.

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LOCAL

Monday
12 Sept 2022

Lebanon – [Oppressive blackouts force Lebanese to change rhythm of life](#)

Lebanon's electricity crisis is a subset of the country's worst economic crisis in decades that the World Bank stated could rank among the three worst economic crises globally since the mid-1800s in terms of its impact on living standards. Power cuts have become the norm in the country due to a dysfunctional electricity sector. However, these cuts have worsened in the past year due to acute fuel shortages and the state-supplied power coming on for only a maximum of an hour or two a day with no set schedule. Consequently, the electricity often comes unpredictably in the middle of the night, forcing citizens to adapt and change their rhythm of life to do their laundry, charge their electronics, and complete other basic tasks.

Lebanon – [Lebanon prisons: Inmates face deterioration of living conditions](#)

Videos sent to Al Jazeera by prisoners in Roumieh prison reveal the deteriorating conditions in Lebanon's detention facilities due to decades of neglect by the authorities. The situation has been further exacerbated by the country's current state. The government has not been able to pay months of overdue bills to catering companies, leaving inmates hungry and their families incapable of helping them due to the economic collapse. Moreover, with prisons operating at three times their capacity, inmates have less than one square meter of space – the standard being 3.4 meters. This is due to the fact that 75% of inmates have yet to be convicted, and many are still awaiting trial or are unable to pay their fines. The Lebanese government is asking for help from the international community, and officials say that there is an urgent need for food, medicine, health care, and other equipment, such as scanners.

Tuesday
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Lebanon – [The Lebanon Humanitarian Fund \(LHF\) allocates \\$8 million to address urgent needs](#)

The Lebanon Humanitarian Fund (LHF) has allocated US\$8 million to meet urgent needs and improve preparedness ahead of the fast-approaching winter, according to Humanitarian Coordinator Edouard Beigbeder. "Vulnerable families in Lebanon are affected by insufficient access to water, unaffordable prices of basic commodities, limited access to life-saving services, thus taking desperate measures to survive, and we need to act now and avoid a further deterioration of the humanitarian situation," he stated. The allocated budget will ensure urgent aid to all population groups, uphold the continuity of water services, support the return to school, and provide protection to the most vulnerable communities, most notably during the winter season.

Wednesday
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Lebanon – [Armed woman breaks into Lebanon's BLOM Bank demanding her savings](#)

A Lebanese woman waved what appeared to be a handgun in BLOM Bank in Beirut, forcing staff to hand over \$13,000 of her own money. According to the woman, Sali Hafiz, her actions were a desperate attempt to fund her cancer-stricken sister's hospital treatment. She entered the branch with a group of activists and stormed the manager's office, while streaming a live video of her raid. "I did not come to kill anyone or to start a fire ... I came to claim my rights," she said in the video. A while later, an armed man entered a branch of BankMed in Aley in an attempt to retrieve his savings. The man was able to obtain some of his money before handing himself over to authorities. The two incidents follow similar events that have taken place in the past few months, as Lebanese depositors continue to fight for their savings, which have been devalued and trapped in banks for almost three years.

Friday
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Lebanon – Man breaks into southern Lebanon bank to demand own money

A man entered a Byblos Bank branch in the town of Ghazieh, in the south of Lebanon and threatened employees with a military weapon, demanding they return his financial deposit. The incident created a state of panic among employees and customers, as security forces were negotiating with the armed depositor. The latter was accompanied by another individual who poured gasoline on the bank's premises and threatened to burn the branch unless he received his deposit. The gunman was able to get his full deposit – which consisted of \$19,200 – before giving it to his accomplice who was waiting outside and then going into hiding. It was later determined that the gunman's accomplice was his son, and both gave themselves up, smiling, to security forces who came to the scene. Less than two hours later, a depositor stormed the BLOM Bank branch in Beirut's Tarik El-Jadida, similarly demanding that his money be released to him.

Saturday and Sunday
17 and 18 Sept 2022

Lebanon – Syrian refugees, Forces deportation and "safe return"

The Lebanese government is still promoting its plan to deport Syrian refugees under the slogan of "Voluntary and safe return". The plan has repeatedly overlooked reports that have proven that Syria is still not safe for return. Indeed, as of August, bombing is still ongoing in many Syrian provinces, including Aleppo, North Idlib, Tartous, and Reef Damascus, by both the Israeli regime and Syrian and Russian forces. Moreover, 101 civilians have been killed by mines and undetonated artillery in many Syrian regions since the beginning of 2022, and another 6.1 million individuals have been internally displaced and have not been able to return to their homes and cities. Assad's forces have repeatedly confiscated and demolished Syrians' property without any compensation. Civilians were also not allowed to return to their houses in Qaboun, Jawbar, and Camp Yarmouk in Damascus.



REGIONAL

Middle East

Monday
12 Sept 2022

Egypt – [Egypt activist on hunger strike says he may die in prison](#)

Alaa Abdel Fattah, 40-year-old British-Egyptian activist and blogger, has warned his family that he might die in prison after being on a hunger strike for almost six months. Abdel Fattah is an icon of Egypt's 2011 revolution and pro-democracy movements, and he has spent the majority of the past decade in prison. According to Amnesty International, Abdel Fattah has been detained for the past 35 months for "peaceful exercise" of his human rights. He was arrested in September 2019 and sentenced by Egypt's Emergency State Security Court to five years in prison for "spreading false news" on social media. Abdel Fattah has been on a hunger strike since April 2, as he consumes only 100 calories a day to protest his detention as well as the prison's inhumane conditions and the authorities' refusal to grant him consular access.

Iraq – [Four Turkish soldiers killed in northern Iraq fighting](#)

Four Turkish soldiers have been killed in a clash with fighters in northern Iraq, according to a statement by Turkey's defense ministry. The ministry stated that the incident took place in a region where Turkey has been carrying out a cross-border operation called Claw-Lock, which is still ongoing. Turkey regularly carries out operations in Iraq, which lies on its southern border, as part of its offensive acts against Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK) members based in the Kurdish region of northern Iraq.

Tuesday
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Occupied Palestine – [Palestinian prisoner suffering from cancer 'in his last days'](#)

Protestors have been calling upon the Israeli regime to release Palestinian prisoner Nasser Abu Hmaid who is suffering from cancer and is in a critical condition. Abu Hmaid's family and prisoner groups have stated that the 49-year-old prisoner was facing "his last days", based on an Israeli medical report from the Assaf Harofeh hospital near Tel Aviv, which recommended his immediate release. Israeli prison authorities transferred Abu Hmaid from the hospital back to Ramla prison clinic, around seven kilometers away, after the hospital said there was nothing more it could do. Protests calling for the prisoner's release have been held in several cities across the occupied West Bank and the blockaded Gaza Strip, as well as in front of Ramla prison.

Syria – [UN warns of 'serious threat' from Syria cholera outbreak](#)

The United Nations has warned that the ongoing cholera outbreak in Syria constitutes a "serious threat" to the country and the wider region. The UN Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator in Syria, Imran Riza, said that the outbreak is linked to the irrigation of crops with contaminated water, as well as people drinking from the Euphrates river, which runs north to east in the country from the Turkish border to the Iraqi border, dissecting Syria's northern Aleppo province. At least 70 percent of the 936 cases recorded from August 25 to September 10 were in Aleppo, with more than 20 percent reported in Deir Az Zor in the east. Moreover, eight deaths have been recorded from the disease since August 25. The outbreak has highlighted "severe shortages of water" in Syria, where the majority of the population relies on unsafe water sources following the destruction of national water infrastructure during more than a decade of war.

Wednesday
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Turkey – [Babies among six dead after refugee boat sinks off Turkish coast](#)

Six people, primarily children, have drowned after a boat carrying refugees from Lebanon to Italy sank off the coast of southwestern Turkey, according to the Turkish coast guard. The victims included one woman, three children, and two babies, but their nationalities have not been disclosed. 73 refugees and migrants in four lifeboats were rescued on Tuesday, while the search and rescue operations for five missing individuals continue with two boats and a helicopter. The Turkish coast guard stated that its Greek counterpart, which responded to the call for help coming from the boats, had placed the refugees in four lifeboats and left them near Turkish territorial waters. However, the Greek coast guard denied these claims.

Occupied Palestine – [Two Palestinians, one Israeli soldier killed in Jenin shoot-out](#)

Two Palestinian men and one Israeli soldier were killed during an exchange of fire in the northern occupied West Bank near the city of Jenin. The Palestinian men – who were identified as Ahmad Ayman Abed, 23, and Abdul Rahman Hani Abed, 22 – had reportedly engaged in armed clashes with Israeli forces in a military checkpoint north of the city. The Israeli army said it had been carrying out "a suspect arrest procedure, during which the suspects shot at the fighters". The two Palestinian men were members of the Fatah movement's armed wing, the al-Asqa Martyrs Brigades. One of them worked as a Palestinian Authority intelligence officer. Their bodies are still held by the Israeli army.

Thursday
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Yemen – [Over 100 abducted in Houthi raids on Yemen villages](#)

The Iran-backed Houthis have abducted more than 100 villagers in Yemen's western province of Hodeidah and killed a civilian who resisted their attempt to seize their land and farms. One man was killed, and eight others were injured as villagers fought the Houthis with bare hands to protect their land and families. According to Fatehia Al-Ma'amari, head of Hodeidah's provincial office of the Ministry of Human Rights, Houthis brutally beat women and used live bullets to disperse a gathering of women and children who resisted their usurpation of land and arbitrary abduction of men. The Houthis' confiscation of land in Hodeidah has sparked outrage in Yemen, with people calling upon international mediators to condemn the robbery, pressure the militia to release abducted people, and order them to allow residents to use their farms and land.

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Occupied Palestine – [Palestinian teen killed in West Bank clashes with Israeli army](#)

A Palestinian teenager was killed during clashes with the Israeli army near Jenin in the occupied West Bank. According to the Palestinian health ministry, 17-year-old Uday Salah was "killed by a bullet to the head fired by the Israeli occupation soldiers in Kafr Dan, Jenin governorate." The Israeli army stated that its forces were "mapping out the homes of the terrorists who killed Major Bar Falah and arresting suspects throughout the West Bank." Falah was killed the day prior in clashes close to the Jalameh checkpoint, north of Jenin, which also took the lives of Palestinians Ahmed Abed and Abdul Rahman Abed.

Iran – [Mahsa Amini: Woman dies after arrest by Iran's morality police](#)

A young woman has died after falling into a coma following her detention by Iran's morality police. Mahsa Amini, 22, was visiting Tehran with her family when she was detained by the specialist police unit that enforces the strict dress code obligatory for women since shortly after the [Islamic revolution](#) of 1979. According to state television, Amini died and her body was taken to the medical examiner's office a day after Tehran police confirmed that she had been detained with other women for "instruction" about the rules. President Ebrahim Raisi ordered the interior minister to open an inquiry into the case, and various lawmakers said they would raise the case in parliament. The judiciary additionally stated that it would form a special task force to investigate the incident.

Saturday and Sunday
17 and 18 Sept 2022

Syria – [Syria says five killed in Israeli air attack on Damascus airport](#)

Air attacks carried by the Israeli regime on Syria's Damascus International Airport and other positions south of the capital have killed five soldiers and caused material damage, according to the ministry of defense. Syrian air defenses succeeded in intercepting the raid and downing the majority of the missiles. However, there was no immediate confirmation whether the attack affected flights at the airport. The defense ministry affirmed that the attack was launched at about 00:45 AM local time with a missile fired from the air from the northeastern direction of Lake Tiberias, targeting the airport and other targets south of the city. Israeli forces have increased their strikes on Syria's airport with the goal of disrupting Tehran's increasing use of aerial supply routes to send arms to allies in Syria and Lebanon, including Hezbollah.

Iran – [Iran police fire tear gas as protests erupt at funeral of woman arrested by morality police](#)

Iranian police fired tear gas at protesters after the funeral ceremony of Mahsa Amini who died in police custody earlier during the week. After Amini's funeral in the city of Saqez, about 460 kilometers (280 miles) west of the capital, Tehran, some protesters gathered in front of the governor's building, chanting slogans. After police showed up and fired tear gas, the protesters dispersed. There was no immediate information about any injuries.



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Global – [Modern slavery shoots up by 10 million in five years](#)

According to the International Labor Organization (ILO), an estimated 50 million people are trapped in forced labor or forced marriages. This equates to 1 out of every 150 people alive and is 10 million more compared to the number five years ago. The ILO stated that it was “shocking” that things were getting worse. “Nothing can justify the persistence of this fundamental abuse of human rights,” said its director general, Guy Ryder. The organization further stressed that slavery is not limited to poor countries. In fact, more than half of all forced labor happens in wealthier countries within the upper-middle or high-income bracket. Around 27.6 million individuals are forced into labor, 3.3 million of which are children. Another 22 million people are in forced marriages, with more than two-thirds of them being women. Many of these victims are under the age of 15 when the marriage occurs.

China – [China COVID lockdowns leave residents short of food and essential items](#)

Chinese residents are complaining about shortages of food and necessities amid COVID-19 lockdowns. Under partial or full lockdowns, tens of millions of people in at least 30 regions across China have been ordered to stay home for more than two weeks. China continues to maintain strict lockdowns even when only a handful of cases are reported. On Monday, the country recorded 949 new cases nationally. The government’s policy has been met with public dissent from citizens as the latter appeal for help on social media. One Uyghur man posted a video stating that his three children have been without food for three days. “I’m out of money to buy supplies. My wife is pregnant and we have two kids. We are running out of gas. My wife needs a medical check,” said another resident.

Denmark – [Hijab ban proposal sparks debate, protests in Denmark](#)

The Danish Commission for the Forgotten Women’s Struggle – a body set up by Denmark’s ruling Social Democratic Party – has recommended that the country’s government ban hijabs for students in Danish elementary schools. The proposal is one of nine recommendations that strive to prevent the “honor-related social control of girls from minority backgrounds.” Other recommendations included providing Danish language courses, promoting modern child upbringing practices in ethnic minority families, and strengthening sexual education in elementary schools. “I have always known that we have freedom of religion in Denmark. I can wear what I want, and I can believe in what I like. So when I heard about the proposal, I was surprised,” said 15-year-old Huda Makai Asghar, who would be forced to take off her headscarf if the ban is implemented.

Afghanistan – [UN expert decries ‘systematic’ attacks on Afghan Shia groups](#)

A United Nations expert has warned that Hazara and other Shia Muslim communities in Afghanistan are facing “systemic” attacks that could equate to international crimes. Afghanistan’s Hazaras have fallen victim to decades of abuse and state-sponsored discrimination, including by the ruling Taliban. Hazara and other groups have been “arbitrarily arrested, tortured, summarily executed, displaced from traditional lands, subjected to discriminatory taxation and otherwise marginalized,” said Richard Bennett, the special rapporteur on the human rights situation in Afghanistan. They are also frequently targets of attacks, including by the Islamic State of Khorasan Province, ISKP (ISIS-K) – the Taliban’s enemy.

Italy – [Infants among 6 Syrian refugees found dead on boat off Italy](#)

Six Syrian refugees, including two infants aged one or two and a child aged 12, have been found dead on a migrant boat that arrived in the Sicilian port of Pozzallo, according to the United Nations refugee agency (UNHCR). The bodies of a mother and a grandmother were also recovered. The victims died of thirst, hunger, and severe burns, and they were among a group of 26 people who had been on the boat for several days. “This is unacceptable,” said UNHCR’s representative to Italy, Chiara Cardolett. “Strengthening rescue at sea is the only way to prevent these tragedies.” More than 1,200 individuals have died while trying to cross the Mediterranean and reach Europe.

United States – [‘Overworked’: US nurses strike over low pay, staffing shortages](#)

Around 15,000 private sector nurses in the US state of Minnesota have launched a three-day strike to push for higher pay and better staffing in a healthcare system that has been stretched to its limits during the COVID-19 pandemic. The nurses left their shifts in seven healthcare systems in Minneapolis and Duluth, mounting picket lines, chanting slogans, and holding signs that read messages like “Patients Before Profits”. The Minnesota Nurses Association (MNA) believes that the strike is the largest of its kind in US history, shedding light on the prevailing problems that US healthcare workers face, including low pay and staffing shortages.

United States – [US states fail to protect children's rights](#)

United States laws do not meet global child rights standards, as they fail to protect children from child marriage, hazardous child labor, extreme prison sentences, and violent treatment, according to the Human Rights Watch. The organization gave 20 states a failing "F" grade, with 26 others receiving a "D". No states received a "B" or an "A". Moreover, New Jersey, Ohio, Iowa, and Minnesota were the only states to receive a "C" grade. The United States remains the only country that has not ratified the Convention on the Rights of the Child, which is ratified by 196 states. "When it comes to child marriage, hazardous child labor, extreme prison sentences, and violent treatment of children, the vast majority of US states have abysmal laws. State policymakers should act quickly to better protect their children," said Jo Becker, children's rights advocacy director for Human Rights Watch.

Myanmar – [Death of activists in custody](#)

Myanmar's military and police are responsible for several deaths in custody since the February 1, 2021 military coup, according to the Human Rights Watch. Six detained activists died in what seemed to involve apparent torture or the denial of appropriate medical care. Authorities have yet to properly investigate these deaths or take the necessary actions against those held accountable. It is vital to put an end to the junta's abuses against those opposed to military rule, including arbitrary arrests and detention, torture and other ill-treatment, and unfair trials. Similarly, deaths in custody should be reported and documented to the person's family, the body should be returned, and the responsible parties should be held accountable.

Haiti – [Haitian journalists killed while reporting on violence in capital](#)

Two Haitian journalists have been killed while reporting in the country's capital as deadly gang violence persists across Port-au-Prince, according to a journalists' association and news outlet. The reporters – identified as Tayson Latigue, who worked for digital publication Ti Jenn Journalis, and Frantzsen Charles, a reporter with FS News Haiti – were fatally shot and their bodies burned while they were reporting on violence in the impoverished neighborhood of Cite Soleil, which has suffered from heightened gang activity in the past few months. Their bodies have yet to be recovered. The reporters were attacked while investigating the recent killing of a 17-year-old girl in Cite Soleil.

United Kingdom – [Arrest of UK anti-royal protesters raises free speech concerns](#)

British police have been criticized by activists and civil liberties groups over their treatment of people who have publicly challenged King Charles III's accession to the throne after the death of Queen Elizabeth II, raising free speech concerns. A woman in Edinburgh holding a sign reading "F*** imperialism, abolish the monarchy" was charged with a breach of the peace while another woman in London was moved from the gates of Parliament while carrying a "Not my king" sign. Police have arrested several individuals protesting against the monarchy in recent days. This has consequently raised questions about freedom of speech in the country. In Oxford, peace activist Symon Hill was handcuffed after he shouted "Who elected him?" referring to Charles being proclaimed new king. Hill was detained for behavior that could allegedly cause "harassment, alarm or distress." He was later released, but could still face questioning. "The police abused their powers to arrest someone who voiced some mild opposition to a head of state being appointed undemocratically," he said.

Ethiopia – [Ten dead in second day of air raids in Ethiopia's Tigray region](#)

At least 10 people were killed in a second day of air raids on Mekelle, the capital of Ethiopia's northern Tigray region, in attacks that came after authorities expressed readiness for a ceasefire, a hospital official said. According to Kibrom Gebreselassie, the CEO of Ayder Referral Hospital, twin drones attacks hit a residential neighborhood, killing 10 people and injuring others. Five of the victims died while being transported to the hospital, while others died at the scene of the attack. Gebreselassie additionally stated that the hospital struggled to save the wounded due to a shortage of supply that has been caused by nearly two years of war. "There is no oxygen for the operation. I don't know what to do. Am I to lose every salvageable victim because there is no oxygen or medicine?" he asked.

Zimbabwe – [UN's WFP plans food relief for 700,000 people in Zimbabwe](#)

The UN's World Food Program (WFP) is planning a food relief program targeting 700,000 people in Zimbabwe who are affected by a poor harvest and the Ukraine war. The country's government is cooperating with agencies to provide food aid for 3.8 million people. WFP said it had budgeted \$40m for the food aid program to cushion millions over the peak of the hunger season from October, when poor households run out of food stocks, to March, when harvesting starts.

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Canada – [Advocates urge Canada to grant permanent status to migrants](#)

Migrant rights advocates in Canada are once again pushing Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's government to grant permanent residency to foreign workers, students, and other undocumented people residing in the country when the parliament resumes next week. The Migrant Rights Network organized a virtual news briefing days before rallies will be held across Canada to demand permanent status for all – a call that has been gaining momentum among civil rights activists for months. The issue gained increased urgency after the COVID-19 pandemic shed light on systemic problems in many industries employing immigrants and other individuals without permanent status. Rights groups estimate that more than one million migrant workers, students, refugees and others are in Canada without permanent immigration status, while hundreds of thousands of others are undocumented.

Pakistan – [Climate Change: Leaving Pakistan out to dry](#)

Pakistan has faced months of floods and torrential downpours which have been blamed on climate change. However, Pakistan's contribution to greenhouse gases is less than 1 percent, and the international community has been slow to provide aid. "It sounds like it's one crisis after another, in Pakistan, for those of us following the country. The economy was already wobbly. The country's nearing a debt crisis. There's rampant inflation. It's unclear if the country will get the international lending it's depending on and the price tag of the flood is already over \$10bn at this point," said journalist Halla Mohieddeen in a podcast with Al Jazeera.

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India – [Indian sisters found hanged in suspected rape case](#)

Two teenage sisters below the age of 18 were found hanging from a tree in the Indian state of Uttar Pradesh in a suspected case of rape and murder. Six men were arrested on charges of rape and murder, and the girls' bodies were sent for a postmortem examination. The girls belonged to the Dalit caste at the bottom of a deeply discriminatory Hindu hierarchy. Despite constitutional protections, the community routinely faces prejudice and violence. The case has ignited protests by locals and opposition parties. Police stated that the girls knew the accused, but the family denied these claims and said they were abducted.

Armenia – [Armenia says 105 troops killed in Azerbaijan border clashes](#)

More than 100 Armenian soldiers have been killed in border clashes with Azerbaijan since Monday, Armenian Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan has said. Azerbaijan says 50 of its own troops have also been killed in the fighting, which both sides blame on the other. It is the latest in a series of long-running conflicts fought between the two former Soviet republics over the disputed Nagorno-Karabakh region. Russia and the US have each called for peace between the two countries. Prime Minister Pashinyan accused Azeri troops of occupying 10 sq km (4 sq miles) of Armenian territory this week and said he had now turned to Russia - a long-time ally of Armenia - for military assistance.

South Sudan – ['Girls have less food to eat': Hungry and out of school in South Sudan](#)

Around 7.7 million people, or 63 percent of the population, are facing acute food insecurity in South Sudan. The problem has been recently further exacerbated due to substantial aid funding shortages due to the global rise in food prices and the war in Ukraine. "Children are the ones suffering the most in this crisis, mainly girls," explains Mary Nyanagok, a gender and protection officer for NGO Plan International, which provides food assistance for tens of thousands of people in South Sudan. She further explains that girls tend to eat last and eat less when there is food inflation, as women and girls account for 70 percent of the world's hungry.

Guatemala – [Guatemala concert stampede leaves at least 9 dead, 20 injured](#)

At least 9 people were killed and another 20 injured in a stampede at an outdoor concert in western Guatemala, according to emergency workers. The victims were crushed as thousands of people tried to leave an open-air esplanade at the end of a concert during the traditional "Xelafer" festival in Quetzaltenango, which was held to celebrate the country's independence day. Ambulances made their way to the scene and first aid workers helped injured individuals who were later taken to the hospital.

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Ukraine – [Ukraine finds mass burial site in Izyum after Russians driven out](#)

Ukrainian authorities have found a mass grave in woods near the northeastern town of Izyum, days after recapturing it from occupying Russian forces. The burial site contains around 440 bodies, according to Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy. A regional police official stated that some of those killed had died in shelling or air raids. Journalists who visited the site described the presence of hundreds of graves marked with wooden crosses among the trees. According to the Associated Press news agency, a larger grave was marked as containing the bodies of 17 Ukrainian soldiers. Investigators at the site used metal detectors to look for any hidden explosives.

Saturday and Sunday
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Italy – [At least 10 people killed, several missing in flooding in Italy](#)

At least 10 people have died and several others are missing after flood waters triggered by heavy rainfall swept through several towns in a hilly region of central-east Italy. Dozens of survivors climbed onto rooftops and trees while waiting to be rescued. "It wasn't a water bomb, it was a tsunami," Barbara Mayor Riccardo Pasqualini told Italian state radio, describing the sudden downpour that devastated his town in the Marche region near the Adriatic Sea. Firefighters stated that they rescued dozens of people from cars, rooftops, and trees. Helicopters were also deployed to transfer people to safety in remote towns.

Kyrgyzstan/Tajikistan – [At least 24 killed in clashes on Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan border](#)

At least 24 people have died and a dozen others have been wounded after fights erupted on the border separating Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan. Both sides have blamed the other for the clashes that prompted a mass evacuation. Kyrgyzstan's health ministry said that 24 bodies had been delivered to hospitals in the Batken region that borders Tajikistan. It also stated that 87 people were wounded. The clashes that began earlier during the week turned into large-scale fighting that involved tanks, artillery, and rocket launchers. Tajik forces also struck the regional capital, Batken, with rockets. Kyrgyzstan's emergency ministry stated that 136,000 people were evacuated from the area engulfed by the fighting.

Bangladesh – [Mortar fired from Myanmar kills Rohingya youth in Bangladesh](#)

A Rohingya teenager has been killed and at least six people were injured when a mortar shell fired from Myanmar exploded inside Bangladesh territory, local officials and a Rohingya leader said. The victim was killed by a mortar blast in a strip of land along the Myanmar-Bangladesh border where around 4,000 Rohingya live. He was identified by Bangladesh's The Daily Star newspaper as Iqbal Hossain Bari, 18.

Haiti – [Misery deepens in Haiti as unrest rages and water shortages bite](#)

Thousands of residents in Haiti are facing water shortages after days of protest halted distribution. People in Haiti's capital Port-au-Prince were forced to shelter home due to gunfire and burning tires that blocked the street during protests over fuel hikes and crime. The protests slowed or halted companies that usually deliver water to the city where the temperature has been reaching 34 degrees Celsius. Several individuals benefited from an expected half-day truce on Saturday to go to distribution centers and stockpile supplies of water and cooking gas to last a few days. Fears about the approach of tropical storm Fiona also fueled the rush to get water.

Serbia – [Belgrade holds Pride march as far-right groups clash with police](#)

Dozens of individuals have been detained in the Serbian capital of Belgrade following clashes with right-wing and ultranationalist protesters who endeavored to prevent a Pride march. LGBTQ+ activists gathered for an international Pride march despite threats from anti-gay groups and a ban by the government of President Aleksandar Vucic late last month. Ultranationalist protesters hurled stun grenades, stones and flares at a police cordon, which repelled the attack with batons and riot shields. Hundreds of Pride march supporters gathered in the pouring rain, dancing and singing as their march was held on a shortened route. "What's most important is that we are gathering in the streets. This is a fight for human rights. This is the fight for our constitutional rights and this is the fight for a democratic Serbian rule of law," said Marko Mihajlovic, one of the Pride event organizers.