



# HUMAN RIGHTS DEVELOPMENTS IN A WEEK

8 - 14 August, 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.***

***The articles shared in this brief are the liability of their respective news outlets and do not reflect the views of CLDH.***



## LOCAL

**Monday**  
8 August 2022

**Lebanon – [Education Minister discusses with representatives of UN, international organizations preparations underway for new academic year](#)**

Caretaker Minister of Education Abbas Halabi on Monday met with a number of officials representing United Nations and other international organizations in Lebanon, with whom he discussed preparations underway for the new academic year.

**Lebanon – [Palestinian official assassinated in Lebanon - security sources](#)**

A Palestinian security official was shot dead late on Monday in a refugee camp in southern Lebanon, three Palestinian security officials said, just hours after a truce between Israel and Palestinian militants in Gaza. Said Alaadin was shot in the head by unknown assailants and later died of his wounds.

**Thursday**  
11 August 2022

**Lebanon – [Hostage standoff at Beirut bank ends with gunman's surrender](#)**

A hostage standoff in which a gunman demanded a Beirut bank let him withdraw his trapped savings has ended with the man's surrender and no injuries. Authorities say 42-year-old Bassam al-Sheikh Hussein entered the Federal Bank in Beirut's bustling Hamra district with a shotgun and a canister of petrol or gasoline and threatened to set himself on fire unless he was allowed to take out his money.

**Friday**  
12 August 2022

**Lebanon. – [Lebanese youth learn to stand up to hate speech](#)**

Hate speech can have a devastating effect on mental wellbeing and self-confidence. The UN office in Lebanon is helping young people to rise above these attacks, and reject negativity from others.

**Saturday and Sunday**  
13 and 14 August 2022

**Lebanon – [Lebanese soldier succumbs to injuries sustained in clashes with traffickers on the border with Syria](#)**

A Lebanese soldier was killed and another injured in armed clashes with traffickers on the northern border with Syria, the army said in a tweet on Saturday evening. The army had first reported two injured soldiers, one of whom later succumbed to his injuries after being hospitalized. The second soldier's is in a stable condition.

**Lebanon – [Journalist Dima Sadek denounces threats made against her in response to her social media commentary on Rushdie attack](#)**

The journalist Dima Sadek is again the subject of a violent campaign launched against her on social networks, following her publication Saturday of a photo of the late Iranian commander Qassem Soleimani and Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini with the caption "The Satanic Verses."



**Monday**  
8 August 2022

**Occupied Palestine – [Truce takes effect between Israel and Islamic Jihad after days of fighting](#)**

A truce between Occupied Palestine and the Palestinian militant group Islamic Jihad has taken effect in the Gaza Strip after three days of cross-border fighting triggered by surprise Israeli airstrikes.

**Iran – [Police arrest Afghan suspected of stabbing 10 to death](#)**

Police in Iran arrested an Afghan man suspected of stabbing 10 other farm laborers to death following a quarrel over land, Iranian state media reported Monday. The rampage in a remote village in southeastern Iran was a rare such incident in the Islamic Republic.

**Tuesday**  
9 August 2022

**Iran – [Iran releases Iranian-French academic Fariba Adelkhah on furlough](#)**

Iran has released Iranian-French academic Fariba Adelkhah on furlough for five days, her lawyer told the Emtedad website on Tuesday, a day after Tehran and Washington wound up indirect talks in Vienna to revive a 2015 nuclear pact. “We hope it (the furlough) will be extended,” Emtedad quoted Hojjat Kermani as saying. Adelkhah, who is a resident of France and was arrested in 2019 while on a visit to Iran, was sentenced in 2020 to five years in prison on national security charges. She was moved to house arrest later, but in January was returned to jail.

**Wednesday**  
10 August 2022

**Egypt – [Salma Baghat killed “just like Nayra Ashraf”](#)**

Twenty-year-old Islam Mohammad Fathi murdered his classmate, twenty-year-old Salma Bahgat, on Tuesday. Both are media students at the Egyptian Shuruk Academy. Islam stabbed Salma 17 times with a knife near the Zagazig court in Egypt’s Sharqia governorate in the north, after she rejected his advances. Public prosecution in Egypt arrested Islam yesterday and is investigating the crime. Islam confessed to deliberately killing Salma for “revenge” and “to heal his anger.” This is the second crime inspired by Mohamed Adel’s murder of Nayra Ashraf on June 20: Oday Hassan killed Jordanian student Iman Irshaid on June 23.

**Occupied Palestine – [Palestinian workers forced to get off Israeli bus](#)**

An Israeli public transport firm has apologised after it was revealed that 50 Palestinian workers were forced to get off one of its buses. The incident happened in an ultra-Orthodox suburb of Tel Aviv after three Jewish passengers got on and refused to travel with Arabs on board.

**Occupied Palestine – [Gaza mourns the 16 children killed in Israel’s latest assault](#)**

Children accounted for a third of the number of Palestinians who were killed in Israel’s latest offensive on the Gaza Strip. The Israeli assault from August 6 to August 8 killed 47 Palestinians, including 16 children.

**Iran – [US charges Iranian man over alleged plot to kill ex-Trump aide John Bolton](#)**

The US has charged an Iranian man it says is a member of the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) with attempting to hire a hitman for \$300,000 to kill John Bolton, the former national security adviser in the Trump administration. The Department of Justice said Shahram Poursafi, also known as Mehdi Rezayi, offered the money in November 2021 to an unidentified person in the US to “eliminate” Bolton, apparently to avenge the drone killing of the IRGC commander Qassem Suleimani, in January 2020.

**Lebanon/Saudi Arabia – [Ex-Twitter employee found guilty of spying on Saudi dissidents](#)**

A former Twitter employee has been found guilty of spying on Saudi dissidents using the social media platform and passing their personal information to a close aide of Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman. A jury in a federal court in California found Ahmad Abouammo, a dual US-Lebanese national, had acted as an unregistered agent of the Saudi government. Abouammo was found to have used his position at Twitter to find personal details identifying critics of the Saudi monarchy who had been posting under anonymous Twitter handles, and then supplying the information to Prince Mohammed’s aide Bader al-Asaker.

**Thursday**  
11 August 2022

**Occupied Palestine – [Palestinian hunger striker moved to hospital as health worsens](#)**

A Palestinian prisoner on a protracted hunger strike has been moved from an Israeli jail to a hospital because of his worsening health condition, his wife said. Khalil Awawdeh has refused food for more than 160 days in a bid to draw attention to his detention by Israeli forces without trial or charge.

**Kuwait – [US and Kuwait discuss enhancing global food security](#)**

The US Assistant Secretary of State for International Organization Affairs Michele Sison met with Kuwait’s Foreign Minister Sheikh Ahmed Nasser Al-Mohammed Al-Sabah during an official state visit, Kuwait State Agency (KUNA) reported. They explored ways to boost cooperation to enhance global food security and health sector. They discussed bilateral ties and reviewed the latest regional and international developments of common interest.

**Friday**  
12 August 2022

**Occupied Palestine – [Gaza death toll rises to 49, including 17 children](#)**

Palestinian mourners held a funeral for a fighter who succumbed to wounds suffered during an attack by Israel on the besieged territory of Gaza last weekend. His death brought the total number of Palestinians killed during the three-day assault to 49, including 17 children, according to Gaza's health ministry.

**Iran – [Iranian women who need certificates to prove they are virgins](#)**

In Iran, virginity before marriage is important for many girls and their families. Sometimes men demand a virginity certificate - a practice that the World Health Organization (WHO) deems to be against human rights. But in the past year, more and more people have been campaigning against it.

**Saturday and Sunday**  
13 and 14 August 2022

**Egypt – [At least 41 dead in Cairo church fire](#)**

At least 41 people were killed in a fire that broke out on Sunday in a Cairo church, according to Coptic church authorities, while the Egyptian Ministry of Health said it has identified 55 victims. According to the authorities, the fire, the origin of which remains undetermined, occurred at the Abu Sifine church in the popular district of Imbaba.

**Iran – [Iran puts reformist Mostafa Tajzadeh on trial](#)**

Iran has put on trial the reformist politician Mostafa Tajzadeh, who was previously jailed and arrested again last month accused of undermining state security, local media reported. The 65-year-old – who last year made an unsuccessful bid for the presidency as a reformist and “political prisoner for seven years” – went on trial in Tehran on Saturday, said the judicial authority's news agency Mizan Online.



## INTERNATIONAL

**Monday**  
8 August 2022

**Switzerland – [UN Committee reviews anti-discrimination efforts underway](#)**

The Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination opened in Geneva on Monday to review anti-discrimination efforts being done in seven UN Member States. During this session it will be reviewing the work underway in Azerbaijan, Benin, Nicaragua, Slovakia, Suriname, United States and Zimbabwe. Wan-Hea Lee, who heads the UN human rights office's Civil, Political, Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, Human Rights Treaties Branch, congratulated the Committee on its work fighting racial discrimination.

**Haiti – [Former Haitian Sports Minister Arrested for Alleged Sexual Abuse](#)**

On July 2, Haiti's former minister of sports, Evans Lescouflair, was arrested by Interpol in Panama where he had sought to escape Haitian justice. Lescouflair stands accused of repeatedly raping an 11-year-old student while he was a teacher. He is also facing a civil lawsuit brought by several other people who have brought forward evidence that he sexually abused them.

**United States – [World Bank says mobilizing \\$4.5 billion U.S. grant for Ukraine](#)**

The World Bank on Monday said it was mobilizing a \$4.5 billion grant for Ukraine provided by the United States that will help Kyiv meet urgent needs created by Russia's invasion, including healthcare, pensions and social payments.

**Tuesday**  
9 August 2022

**Brazil – [Indigenous Rights Under Serious Threat](#)**

The Brazilian government has adopted policies that seriously threaten the rights of Indigenous peoples. The administration of President Jair Bolsonaro has undermined the government agency tasked with protecting those rights, issued regulations that are harmful to Indigenous people, and halted the recognition of their traditional lands. The government has also weakened the federal environmental protection agencies, the Brazilian Institute of the Environment and Renewable Natural Resources (IBAMA, its Portuguese acronym) and the Institute for the Conservation of Biodiversity (ICMBio), leaving Indigenous territories even more vulnerable to encroachment.

**World – [Macron and Johnson pledge again to support Ukraine as long as necessary](#)**

French President Emmanuel Macron and Britain's Prime Minister Boris Johnson reaffirmed their commitment to support Ukraine, invaded by Russia in February, as long as necessary, the French presidential palace said on Tuesday.

**Wednesday**  
10 August 2022

**United States – ['End this' Biden tells Syria 10 years after Austin Tice abduction](#)**

US President Joe Biden reaffirmed his commitment to returning journalist Austin Tice home and implored the Syrian government to come to an agreement to secure his release 10 years after his abduction. "We know with certainty that he has been held by the Syrian regime," Biden said in a statement Wednesday. "We have repeatedly asked the government of Syria to work with us so that we can bring Austin home."

**Greece – [Dozens missing after migrant boat sinks in Aegean Sea](#)**

Dozens of people are said to be missing after a boat of migrants and refugees sank in the Aegean Sea on Wednesday off the Greek island of Karpathos, according to the UN refugee agency, UNHCR.

**Malaysia – [State-Backed Discrimination Harms LGBT People](#)**

Persistent Malaysian government-sponsored discrimination threatens the rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) people in Malaysia, Human Rights Watch and Justice for Sisters said in a report released today. The government should decriminalize same-sex conduct and gender diversity, and should discontinue programs and rhetoric suggesting that LGBT people should be "rehabilitated" or "cured."



Thursday  
11 August 2022

**United Kingdom – [Man allegedly linked to ISIS 'Beatles' cell charged with terror offenses](#)**

A man allegedly linked to an ISIS cell known as "the Beatles" has been charged with various terrorism offenses by London's Metropolitan Police. Aine Leslie Davis, 38, was held at Luton Airport on Wednesday evening after he arrived in the United Kingdom on a flight from Turkey. He was taken to a south London police station, the Met said in a statement. Davis appeared on Thursday at Westminster Magistrates' Court in London, where he was remanded in custody. He did not enter a plea. A spokesperson for the Crown Prosecution Service Special Crime and Counter Terrorism Division said that it had "authorised the Metropolitan Police to charge Aine Leslie Junior Davis for terrorism offences in 2014, and after being deported to England by Turkish authorities," according to PA Media. The spokesperson added that Davis was charged with terrorism offenses and possession of a firearm for a purpose connected with terrorism.

**France – [France gets help from EU neighbors as wildfires rage](#)**

Firefighting teams and equipment from six EU nations started to arrive in France on Thursday to help battle a spate of wildfires, including a fierce blaze in the parched southwest that has forced thousands to evacuate. Most of the country is sweltering under a summer heatwave compounded by a record drought – conditions most experts say will occur more often as a result of rapid climate change.

Friday  
12 August 2022

**United States – [Author Salman Rushdie on ventilator after attack in New York](#)**

Salman Rushdie, the Indian-born British author whose writing led to death threats from Iran in the 1980s, has been stabbed as he was about to give a lecture in southwestern New York state. Police confirmed Rushdie was stabbed "at least once in the neck, and at least once in the abdomen" on Friday after an assailant rushed to the stage and lunged at the 75-year-old writer just as he was being introduced to the audience.

**Global – [140 aid workers killed in 2021 as UN humanitarian funding gap looms larger than ever – OCHA](#)**

The United Nations humanitarian agency (OCHA) warned on Friday that at nearly \$34 billion, the funding shortfall for aid operations is the biggest it's ever been. The news comes at a time when global needs are at an all-time high, with a record 303 million people in crisis worldwide. "UN appeals aim to reach 204 million of the most vulnerable. Never before have humanitarians been called to respond to this level of need and they are doing so in ever more dangerous environments," said OCHA spokesperson Jens Laerke.

**Europe – [Europe Heatwaves Disastrous for Older People, People with Disabilities](#)**

Thousands of people have died as 21 countries across Europe endured unusually high temperatures amid an unprecedented and prolonged yet predictable heatwave last month. Older people and those with underlying medical conditions were particularly affected. Data from Spain and Portugal show most people who died were over age 65.

Saturday and Sunday  
13 and 14 August 2022

**United States – [Salman Rushdie attack suspect pleads not guilty](#)**

The accused attacker of acclaimed author Salman Rushdie, 24-year-old Hadi Matar of Fairview, New Jersey, pleaded not guilty to charges of attempted murder and assault at a court appearance on Saturday, his court-appointed lawyer, Nathaniel Barone, told Reuters. Meanwhile, Rushdie remained hospitalized on Sunday, but according to his literary agent he is no longer on life support.

**Haiti – [Building a more resilient post-earthquake future in Haiti](#)**

One year on from a devastating earthquake which struck Haiti, communities are rebuilding their lives, and aiming to be better prepared when future disasters strike. A line of women carry rocks in the hands and on their heads as they descend to a gully on the side of a hill in southern Haiti. They are bringing the rocks so their community can build barriers which will slow down the flow of water across this verdant valley and protect the land, which is so important to this rural farming community from erosion. The team of workers building the barriers is made up of women and men from vulnerable communities in one of three departments across Haiti's southern peninsula which were hit by a destructive 7.2 magnitude earthquake on 14 August 2021.

**Scotland – [Edinburgh fringe: 'Extreme' racism behind Sadowitz scrapping - venue](#)**

An Edinburgh Festival show by controversial comedian Jerry Sadowitz was cancelled for "extreme racism and misogyny", venue bosses have said.