



# HUMAN RIGHTS DEVELOPMENTS IN A WEEK

11 July - 17 July, 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**  
11 July 2022

### **Lebanon – [Lebanon telecoms mark-up threatens migrants' link to jobs and safety](#)**

Lebanon hosts an estimated 250,000 migrant workers primarily from sub-Saharan Africa and Southeast Asia, according to the United Nations. Their residence is usually subject to "kafala", a sponsorship system that rights groups say gives employers excessive control over workers' lives. Lebanon's three-year financial downturn has only added to their woes, with employers abandoning domestic migrant workers in the streets as their monthly wages – between \$150 to \$400 – became too expensive. Some went freelance, living on their own and taking on cleaning or nannying work to pay the bills. But that has become harder by the day. Lebanon's currency has lost 95% of its value while food and public transportation costs have risen roughly eleven-fold.

**Tuesday**  
12 July 2022

### **Lebanon / CLDH– [Two Months after the Tripoli Boat Incident... A Survivor Pleads for Justice](#)**

On April 23, 2022, a boat carrying around 80 travelers to Cyprus sank while attempting to leave Lebanon by sea. Lebanese army forces were able to rescue some people, while at least 8 were found dead. Many passengers are still missing with no news to date about their fate. Two months after the Tripoli boat incident, the only survivor of his family recounts how fast the sinking happened and how tragic it was. He lost his wife and his 3 children.

### **Lebanon – [Beirut port silos suffer second fire in less than a week](#)**

A second fire in less than a week has been seen at silos in Beirut port, where nearly two years ago an explosion killed at least 215 people and injured more than 7,000. Smoke has occasionally been seen rising from the site since a small fire – which was quickly contained – broke out at the grain silos on Thursday. On Monday evening, images emerged on social media of another small blaze. Omar Itani, the director general of the port, said the first fire and ensuing smoke were because of fermenting wheat at the bottom of the silos

**Wednesday**  
13 July 2022

### **Lebanon – [Port victims' families protest lack of official response to silo fires](#)**

Families of the victims of the Aug. 4, 2020 port explosion held a sit-in near the grain silos Wednesday, after a fire had erupted in the silos for the third time in a week, while the caretaker Public Works Minister said he had ordered the firefighters not to approach the blaze out of fear that the silos would collapse.

### **Lebanon – [Two men convicted of killing mother and her three daughters in south Lebanon are sentenced to death](#)**

Beirut's Acting First Investigative Judge, Charbel Abou Samra, on Wednesday pronounced the death sentence against the two perpetrators of the quadruple murder committed in March in the south Lebanon town of Ansar, in which Bassima Abbas and her three daughters aged 16 to 22 were killed, the state-run National News Agency reported.

**Thursday**  
14 July 2022

### **Lebanon – [US firm named in Beirut blast lawsuit denies wrongdoing](#)**

A US firm targeted in a \$250 million lawsuit over the 2020 port explosion in Beirut that killed more than 200 people has denied any wrongdoing in the tragedy

Friday  
15 July 2022

**Lebanon – [Documents dispute Lebanon central bank chief's 'audit' claim](#)**

A financial review of Lebanon's central bank which Governor Riad Salameh described as an audit that clears him of corruption allegations was based solely on information he provided and "does not constitute an audit," documents seen by Reuters show. The review into whether Salameh embezzled central bank funds was undertaken by BDO, Semaan, Gholam and Co. between September and November 2021 at Salameh's request and spanned the period from 2002 to 2015.

Saturday and Sunday  
16 July and 17 July  
2022

**Lebanon – [Car accident kills family of 8 in Aرسال](#)**

The Civil Defense announced on Sunday the death of 8 people from one family after a truck loaded with rocks collided with a number of cars in the Wadi Atta locality in the town of Aرسال, while 5 others were injured, some of them critically. According to the details obtained, the truck's brakes failed, and it collided with a "pickup" car, killing a family of a father, mother, four children, and their son-in-law from the Al-Fulaiti family.

**Lebanon – [Armed Forces Retirees to hold sit-in, demonstration facing BDL premises in Baalbek on Monday](#)**

The armed forces retirees announced, in a statement on Sunday, their decision to hold a sit-in and demonstration as of seven in the morning on Monday, July 18, outside of the Banque du Liban building in Baalbek, to be followed by similar movements in all regions. This comes to demand an immediate cessation of the judges' salaries adjustment according to the exchange rate of LBP 8000/USD so that all public sector employees can be included, especially military personnel in service and retirement, in addition to providing medical coverage to all security apparatuses, restoring money deposits especially the end-of-service compensation of all retired military personnel, among several other demands.



## REGIONAL Middle East

**Monday**  
11 July 2022

**Iran – [Jafar Panahi is third film-maker in a week to be arrested in Iran](#)**

The award-winning director Jafar Panahi has become the third Iranian film-maker to be arrested in less than a week, the Mehr news agency has said, as he visited prosecutors over the detentions last week of Mohammad Rasoulof and Mostafa Aleahmad. Panahi, 62, has won a slew of awards at international festivals for films that have critiqued modern Iran, including the top prize in Berlin for Taxi in 2015, and best screenplay at Cannes for 3 Faces in 2018. He was previously arrested with Rasoulof after anti-government protests in 2010 and sentenced to six years in jail, after which neither were permitted to leave the country.

**Tuesday**  
12 July 2022

**Yemen – [US looking at new international body to record rights abuses in Yemen](#)**

The Biden administration is exploring the creation of a new international committee to document and report on human rights violations in Yemen, months after a Saudi lobbying campaign quashed an independent United Nations investigation into possible war crimes. The revelation comes on the eve of a tour of the Middle East by Joe Biden that will include a visit to Occupied Palestine and – controversially – Saudi Arabia, where the US president has said his aim is to strengthen the “strategic partnership” while also “holding true to fundamental American values”. Abdulrasheed al-Faqih, a prominent Yemeni human rights defender who is visiting the US, told the Guardian in an interview that he had discussed Washington’s plan to create a new “international mechanism” to investigate war crimes at a recent meeting at the US state department.

**Occupied Palestine – [Israel could be 'blacklisted' over killings of Palestinian children, says UN chief](#)**

Occupied Palestine should be added to a UN blacklist if its violence against Palestinian children is repeated this year, UN chief Antonio Guterres said on Monday. In its annual Children and Armed Conflict report, the UN said Israeli forces killed 78 Palestinian children, maimed another 982 and detained 637 in 2021.

**Wednesday**  
13 July 2022

**Yemen – [Missing Yemeni aid worker died in Houthi detention, rights group says](#)**

A Yemeni aid worker who was abducted by Houthis five years ago died while being detained by the Iran-backed militia, a local rights group said on Wednesday. Ishraq Al-Maqtari, a spokesperson for the National Committee for Allegations of Human Rights Violations in Yemen, told Arab News that the Houthis called the wife of 45-year-old Yasser Mohammed Al-Junaid, who went missing in 2017 in the Red Sea town of Khokha, to tell her to go to Sanaa to collect her husband’s body.

**Sudan – [Sudan woman faces death by stoning for adultery in first case for a decade](#)**

Maryam Alsayed Tiyrab, 20, was arrested by police in Sudan’s White Nile state last month. Tiyrab says she is appealing against the decision. The majority of stoning sentences, which are predominantly against women, are overturned in the high court. Campaigners worry the sentence is a sign that the military coup in October has emboldened lawmakers to roll back small gains for women’s rights made under the country’s transitional government.

**Thursday**  
14 July 2022

**Libya – [Sisters separated during Italian occupation reunited after 94 years](#)**

Al-Warfali sisters have not seen each other since they were little girls, and their reunion in eastern Libya’s Jalu has been celebrated by their tribe.

**Occupied Palestine – [Palestinian President Abbas to meet France’s Macron in Paris](#)**

Palestinian president Mahmoud Abbas will hold talks with French President Emmanuel Macron in Paris next week focusing on the “peace process” and elections, the Palestinian foreign ministry said Thursday.

**Friday**  
15 July 2022

**Palestine – [US commits \\$100 million to support Palestinian hospitals](#)**

US President Joe Biden promised an additional \$100 million to support Palestinian hospitals in East Jerusalem on Friday but offered no new proposals to revive the stalled political dialogue between Palestinian and Occupied Palestine leaders.

**Iraq – [Iraqi cleric Sadr's supporters throng Baghdad streets in show of strength](#)**

Hundreds of thousands of Iraqi cleric Moqtada al-Sadr's followers thronged the streets of Baghdad on Friday, answering the populist leader's call to a mass prayer in a show of strength to his political rivals. Al-Sadr, a Shia Muslim whose party came first in a general election in October, has vowed to disband powerful Iraqi militia groups loyal to Shia Iran and to hold corrupt Iraqi politicians to account.

**Saturday and Sunday**  
16 July and 17 July  
2022

**Iran – [Several arrests at protest over dying Iranian lake](#)**

Police in Iran have arrested several people at protests against the near disappearance of what was once the world's second largest salt lake. Lake Urmia was Iran's main domestic tourism resort before it began shrinking in 1995 due to extreme drought, agriculture and dam building. These days, hotels and boats lie abandoned, with no water in sight. Many locals in the remote northwest, where the lake is located, blame authorities for its disappearance.

**Sudan – [Sudan troops deploy ahead of pro-democracy protests](#)**

Sudanese police and soldiers deployed in large numbers Sunday across the capital Khartoum, ahead of mass protests planned by pro-democracy groups against coup leader General Abdel Fattah al-Burhan.



## INTERNATIONAL

**Monday**

11 July 2022

**USA – [US: End Texas Assault on Migrants; Cut Funds](#)**

The United States should immediately end federal funding for the agencies and counties engaged in Texas Governor Greg Abbott's abusive Operation Lone Star border initiative, even as the Justice Department conducts an inquiry into the operation, Human Rights Watch said today. Operation Lone Star is a discriminatory and abusive operation that targets suspected migrants for arrest, prosecution, and incarceration on state misdemeanor offenses.

**Global – [Thousands of children endure 'horrific conditions' in conflict zones: UN report](#)**

The dangers outlined in the report range from conflict escalation, military coups, and takeovers, protracted and new conflicts, as well as violations of international law. Cross-border conflict and intercommunal violence also impacted the protection of children, especially in the Lake Chad Basin and Central Sahel regions. The report highlights almost 24,000 verified grave violations against children, an average of some 65 violations every day. The killing and maiming of children was the most verified grave violation followed by the recruitment and use of children and the denial of humanitarian access. The places where most children were affected by grave violations in 2021 were Afghanistan, the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), Occupied Palestinian Territory, Somalia, Syria, and Yemen.

**Tuesday**

12 July 2022

**USA – [Floating abortion clinic proposed for US South to bypass bans](#)**

A California doctor has proposed setting up a floating abortion clinic in the Gulf of Mexico as a way to circumvent abortion bans in the US South. The idea is to provide a clinic aboard a ship in federal waters and out of reach of state laws, offering first trimester surgical abortions, contraception and other care, said Meg Autry, an obstetrician, gynecologist and professor at the University of California San Francisco.

**Haiti – [Gang violence in Port-au-Prince threatens more than a million food-insecure Haitians](#)**

Surging and deadly gang violence in the Haitian capital has contributed to runaway food insecurity for well over one million people there, the UN World Food Programme (WFP) said on Tuesday.

**Wednesday**

13 July 2022

**Poland – [End Prosecution of Abortion Activist](#)**

Poland's Justice Ministry should drop all charges against the abortion rights activist Justyna Wydrzyńska and stop targeting reproductive rights defenders, Human Rights Watch said today. Wydrzyńska is accused of helping a woman in an abusive relationship access pills for a self-managed medication abortion in 2020. She is being prosecuted for assisting someone to have an abortion and illegally "marketing" medication without authorization. The prosecution of Wydrzyńska is part of the government's sustained attack on sexual and reproductive rights including access to abortion, and is designed to further curb Poland's already extremely restricted abortion access. In this hostile environment, women and girls rely on civil society initiatives to provide access to evidence-based sexual and reproductive health care and information. A hearing in Wydrzyńska's case will take place on July 14, 2022 in Warsaw's Praga Południe District Court.

**USA – [US Supreme Court allows Biden to end Trump-era 'Remain in Mexico' policy](#)**

The US Supreme Court on Friday allowed President Joe Biden's administration to end a Trump-era migrant programme that sent people looking to apply for asylum in the US back to Mexico while their cases were reviewed. In a 5-4 ruling, the US high court held that Mr. Biden's administration's decision to end the policy did not violate federal immigration law. The White House had argued that many of the applicants could be released into the US while they await their hearings. Under the Migrant Protection Protocols, or the "Remain in Mexico" policy, federal officials sent asylum seekers back to Mexico where they remained while their cases were reviewed.



Thursday  
14 July 2022

**USA – [Man arrested in rape of 10-year-old US girl that led to abortion](#)**

A man from the US state has been charged with raping a 10-year-old girl whose case drew national attention following a doctor's comments that the child had to travel to Indiana for an abortion, an account that had led some prominent Republicans – including Ohio's attorney general and a congressman – to suggest it was fabricated. President Joe Biden highlighted the case last week criticizing the US Supreme Court decision eliminating a nationwide right to abortion.

**Ukraine – [Ukraine war crimes investigation receives support of 45 nations](#)**

More than 40 countries have agreed to work together to investigate suspected war crimes by Russian forces in Ukraine as the latest shelling of a civilian area killed at least 20 people in the city of Vinnytsia in central Ukraine. The pledge to coordinate international efforts to bring Russia's military forces to justice came on Thursday when 45 nations signed a political declaration during a conference at the headquarters of the International Criminal Court (ICC) in The Hague.

**Sweden – [Swedish Court Finds Iranian Guilty Over Mass Executions](#)**

"We are not looking for revenge, we came here for justice." Those were the words of Mohammad Azami, a former prisoner in Iran, who lost 14 members of his family in Iran's mass execution of prisoners during the summer of 1988. Today, Azami heard the court issue its guilty verdict against Hamid Noury, an Iranian national, for crimes, including war crime and murder, committed in 1988. The judges sentenced Noury, an assistant prosecutor during these mass executions, to life in prison.

**Ukraine – [Russia: Forcible Disappearances of Ukrainian Civilians](#)**

Russian forces in Ukraine have forcibly disappeared civilians and illegally transferred them to Russia.

Friday  
15 July 2022

**Srilanka – [Sri Lankan president resigns, Parliament to convene](#)**

Sri Lanka's Parliament speaker said President Gotabaya Rajapaksa has resigned effective Thursday. Speaker Mahinda Yapa Abeywardana said Friday that the Parliament will convene Saturday to start the process of electing a new president. He expects to complete the process within seven days. Rajapaksa fled the country Wednesday amid mounting protests for him to resign over an economic crisis. Protesters who had occupied government buildings retreated Thursday, restoring a tenuous calm. The protesters accuse Rajapaksa and his powerful political family of siphoning money from government coffers for years and his administration of hastening the country's collapse by mismanaging the economy.

**Ukraine – [Ukraine strikes significantly reducing Russia's offensive potential, Kyiv says](#)**

Ukrainian rocket strikes have destroyed more than 30 Russian military logistics centres in recent weeks and significantly reduced Russia's attacking potential, Ukraine's defence ministry spokesperson said on Friday. The official, Oleksandr Motuziyanuk, singled out the role played by U.S.-produced HIMARS rocket systems, one of several types of long-range weapon supplied by the West to help Ukraine fight back against Russia.

**Belgium – [EU executive will sue Hungary over LGBT law, radio broadcaster](#)**

The European Commission decided on Friday to sue Hungary over an anti-LGBT law and its refusal to renew the license of Klubradio, a broadcaster critical of the government, in the latest clash over values that risks damaging the European Union's cohesion. The two lawsuits add to a long list of increasingly bitter standoffs between Hungary's nationalist Prime Minister Viktor Orban and the liberal core of the EU over human rights and democratic standards.

Saturday and Sunday  
16 July and 17 July  
2022

**France – [French public figures accuse new minister of homophobic comments](#)**

More than 100 French public figures have signed an open letter denouncing what they said were homophobic remarks by a recently appointed government minister. Caroline Cayeux, appointed minister for territorial cohesion as part of France's new government formed on July 4, was asked by the Senate on Tuesday whether she maintained her opposition to the law for same-sex marriage and adoption in 2013. At the time, she called the reform a "caprice" and "plan that goes against nature".

**South Africa – [Nine killed in separate shootings in two provinces of South Africa](#)**

Police are on the hunt for suspects after nine people were fatally shot in separate shooting incidents in two provinces of South Africa on Saturday night, police said on Sunday. The latest slew of shootings come on the heels of an uptick in violent deaths in a country with one of the world's highest murder rates.