Human rights represent a fundamental area of international law which developed following the atrocities committed during World War I and II. Amongst the first instruments is the 1948 Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) - championed by Eleanor Roosevelt – marking the first time that a statement existed that human rights do not simply belong to the national level but exist on the international plane as well. Subsequently, human rights were defined internationally as we know them today – rights inherent to all human beings, regardless of the nationality, place of residence, sex, national/ethnic origin, colour, religion, language or any other status without discrimination. These rights are all universal, inalienable, interrelated, interdependent and indivisible. They are subject to national implementation and international protection. Therefore, it remains the responsibility of states to act in certain ways or to refrain from certain acts, in order to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms of individuals or groups.

**What are human rights?**

**Monday**
19 July 2021

**Lebanon** – *In crisis-hit Lebanon, celebrating Eid is for the ‘happy few’* For many Muslims, celebrating the Eid al-Adha holiday has become financially impossible in a crisis-hit Lebanon.

**Lebanon** – *“We have opened the door to emergency imports,” Health Department says* Addressing the issue of the partial lifting of subsidies on medicines, the Ministry of Health declared that he wants open the door to emergency imports to resolve the drugs crisis.

**Lebanon** - *Spike In Prices In Lebanon Is Turning Hygiene Products Into Luxury* Ongoing inflation has increased the prices of hygiene products (soap, dental hygiene, menstrual products) by ten times which has forced some to stop using them.

**Tuesday**
20 July 2021

**Lebanon** – *Emergency imports have raised concerns about the quality of drugs entering the country* After the ministry of health announced the introduction of emergency imports to resolve the ongoing medicine shortages, concerns have been raised regarding the quality of these products.

**Lebanon** - *Multiple resignations at the national commission for the Missing and Forcibly Disappeared* Four members of the National Commission recently resigned. The resigning members sent a WhatsApp message to alert their colleagues of their decision. A letter to this effect was also published in the magazine «Mahkama». 
Lebanon – Lebanon’s public ride-share drivers fear livelihood crash Fuel shortages and petrol price increases threaten to grind Lebanon’s public transport system to a halt.

Lebanon – Lebanon hospitals warn power cuts threaten ‘catastrophe’ Hospitals are suffering from the crisis in Lebanon and have warned of a looming “catastrophe” as some were only hours away from running out of fuel to keep life-saving equipment on during the state’s endless power cuts.

Lebanon – Expats fill suitcases with medicine, cash for families in Lebanon As shortages worsen in Lebanon, families now depend on expats to bring life-saving medicine, hygiene products, and cash.

Lebanon – Water supply could collapse within a month, warns UN Shortages and monetary crisis in Lebanon could lead to the collapse of water supply, leaving more than four million people, including one million refugees, without drinking water.

CLDH - MPs Obstructing Justice A number of MPs, including those belonging to the Parliamentary Human Rights Committee, have signed a petition to transfer the trial of the MPs and ministers accused of the Beirut blast, from the judiciary to the Supreme Council of Presidents and Ministers.

Lebanon – ‘Jeyetna’: The festival painting Lebanon red and tackling period poverty The documentary tells the story of 10 diverse women across Lebanon and exposes the different ways period poverty impacts their lives.

Lebanon (Tripoli) – Two Islamists of Joundallah group killed amid a settling of accounts in Tripoli Two members of the Islamist group Joundallah, led by Salafist Sheikh Kanaa Najj, were killed Saturday night in an apparent settling of accounts in Tripoli.
Monday 19 July 2021

**Occupied Palestine** – Israeli police clear Al-Aqsa worshippers for Jewish visitors Israeli police fired tear gas at Palestinians at the Al-Aqsa Mosque to clear Jerusalem holy site for visit of Jewish pilgrims.

**Yemen** – Yemen: UK cuts in humanitarian aid funding leaves families fearful for future After 6 years of war and a rampant economic crisis, 80 percent of the Yemeni population needs some form of humanitarian assistance to survive, including 14.3 million who are in acute need, according to the UN.

**Egypt** – Egypt detains former al-Ahram editor after he called on Sisi to step down The former editor-in-chief of Egypt's leading state-owned newspaper al-Ahram was jailed pending investigations over alleged charges of “financing terrorism”.

Tuesday 20 July 2021

**UAE** – Women abused and detained in UAE accuse UK of ‘complicity’ Parents of a British woman detained in pre-trial detention in the UAE for 17 months have denounced the UK government's “complicity” in their daughter's continued incarceration.

**UAE** – Rights groups fear UAE political prisoner may face ‘retaliation' over prison letter Prominent Emirati human rights defender Ahmed Mansoor may face retaliation from the UAE after letters he wrote detailing his mistreatment in prison were published online.

**Morocco** – Moroccan court sentences dissident reporter Omar Radi to six years in jail A court in Morocco jailed dissident reporter Omar Radi for six years on sexual assault and espionage charges, accusations he denied, in a case that has alarmed rights groups.

Wednesday 21 July 2021

**Iran** – Iran: Policeman shot dead amid escalating protests over water shortages Street protests over water shortages in southwest Iran continued for a sixth night amid rising violence, while residents of Tehran chanted anti-government slogan.

**Turkey** – When Turkish authorities ban some anti-government protesters from traveling Many Turkish students took the streets to protest the interdiction to travel because they are opponents of the regime.

**Turkey** – Turkey: Erdogan vows not to deport Syrian refugees President Recep Tayyip Erdogan declared that his government would not return Syrian refugees back to their country, amid anger on social media over the arrival of Afghan refugees from the eastern border.
Turkey – Eight missing after boat carrying migrants sinks off Turkey Eight people remain missing after a boat carrying migrants and refugees sank off southwest Turkey, the Turkish defence ministry has said, with search and rescue efforts ongoing.

Iran – Iran water shortages: Khamenei says protesters not to blame Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei has said Iranians protesting over water shortages in the country’s drought-hit southwest cannot be blamed and called on officials to deal with the crisis.

West Bank – Dozens of Palestinians hurt in confrontations with Israeli forces More than 140 Palestinians have been injured in clashes with Israeli troops in the flashpoint village of Beita in the occupied West Bank during protests an illegal Israeli settlement outpost.

Saudi Arabia – Saudi Arabia: Collective Punishment for Ex-Official's Children Human Rights Watch denounced the unfair trial that led to the imprisonment of the children of a former Saudi intelligence official, Saad Al-Jabri.

Syria – Two Turkish soldiers killed in attack in northern Syria: Ministry Two Turkish soldiers have been killed and two wounded in an attack on their armoured vehicle in northern Syria, Turkey's defense ministry said.

Occupied Palestine – Israeli troops kill Palestinian teen in West Bank clash: Palestinian officials Israeli soldiers shot and killed a Palestinian teenager, Muhammad Munir al-Tamimi, during a clash in the occupied West Bank.
Japan – Japan: Prime Minister Should Back LGBT Equality Act The Japanese government’s failure to pass a national nondiscrimination law to protect LGBTQ+ people before the Tokyo 2020 Olympics and Paralympics was a lost opportunity to advance the rights of everyone in Japan, Human Rights Watch said.

United States – Biden administration transfers first detainee from Guantanamo The US transferred Moroccan prisoner Abdullatif Nasser back home, years after he was recommended for transfer.

Afghanistan – Foreign missions in Afghanistan call for Taliban ceasefire After representatives of the Afghan government and Taliban failed to agree on a ceasefire at a peace meeting in Doha, 15 diplomatic missions and NATO urged the Taliban to halt their military offensives.

Russia – Threat of Prosecution Forces Closure of Top Russian Rights Group Team 29, a leading association of Russian human rights lawyers, announced it was shutting down because its members, clients, and supporters faced imminent risk of prosecution.

Turkmenistan – Doctor Demanding Justice Detained in Turkmenistan Khursanai Ismatullaeva had worked at a neonatal clinic near Ashgabat, the Turkmen capital until she was fired in 2017. She has been fighting the dismissal since.

China – Subway passengers trapped waist-high in floodwaters as Chinese river banks burst Heavy rain pounded the central Chinese province of Henan, bursting the banks of major rivers, flooding the streets of a dozen cities and trapping subway passengers in floodwaters.

Afghanistan - Rockets land near Afghan presidential palace during Eid prayers Rockets, claimed by the ISIS group, landed near an outdoor prayer in Kabul's presidential palace.

Ecuador - Ecuador at critical crossroads in push for abortion rights New protests took place calling for more reproductive freedom and the right to abortion in Ecuador. In the largely conservative nation, women can be sentenced to up to two years in prison for having an abortion.
Wednesday 21 July 2021

Germany – German Flood Deaths Highlight Climate Change Risks for People with Disabilities 12 people with disabilities living in a group home drowned in floods in Sinzig, Germany, because they did not manage to evacuate in time.

Myanmar – Myanmar: Junta Tribunals Impose 65 Death Sentences The Myanmar junta’s military tribunals have sentenced 65 people to death following unjust trials since the military coup on February 1, 2021, Human Rights Watch said.

Hong Kong – Hong Kong: Drop Charges Against Vigil Organizer 72 international organizations and individuals asked the Hong Kong government to drop all charges against Chow Hang-tung, the organizer of the annual Victoria Park Vigil that commemorates the 1989 Tiananmen Massacre.

Nigeria – Nigeria: 100 kidnapped villagers freed after 42-day captivity Police in Nigeria’s northwestern state of Zamfara have said they secured the release of 100 villagers kidnapped in early June following negotiations with their abductors.

United States – Biden Border Expulsions Continue to Harm Asylum Seekers President Joe Biden’s administration may continue to keep in place abusive policies adopted by former president Donald Trump against asylum seekers.

Thursday 22 July 2021

Tanzania – Tanzanian Opposition Leader, Supporters Arrested Police in Mwanza, northern Tanzania, surrounded the hotel occupied by members of the country’s main opposition party, Chadema, and arrested 11 party members, including the party chairman, Freeman Mbowe.

Greece – Greek Authorities Target NGOs Reporting Abuses against Migrants Greek authorities are using criminal investigations to harass and intimidate groups that investigate abuses against migrants at Greece’s border.

France – France: Class Action Lawsuit against Ethnic Profiling 6 French and international human rights organizations started a class action lawsuit against the French state as it has failed to take necessary steps to prevent and remedy ethnic profiling by the police during identity checks, a form of systemic discrimination.

Colombia – At least 70 arrested in latest round of Colombia protests The demonstrations against the right-wing administration of President Ivan Duque have led to at least 70 people arrested in the latest round of anti-government protests, according to police.

Friday 23 July 2021

United States – Biden Tells Central American Asylum Seekers to Stay Home President Joe Biden declared that asylum seeker should stay home and ask for asylum in their country, a statement which opposes the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

Kyrgyzstan – Kyrgyzstan: A Year On, Demand for Justice for Azimjon Askarov’s Death Askarov was arrested in 2010 while documenting inter-ethnic violence in southern Kyrgyzstan. He has been unjustly held in prison for 10 years.

Azerbaijan – Azerbaijan jails 13 Armenian military personnel for six years An Azerbaijan court has sentenced 13 members of Armenia’s armed forces to 6 years in prison, finding them guilty of illegally crossing the border, weapons possession and terrorism offences.

Madagascar – Nothing left: A catastrophe in Madagascar’s famine-hit south In the famine-stricken region of Anosy, more than one million people need emergency food and nutrition assistance.
World – Amnesty seeks moratorium on surveillance technology Allegations that governments used phone malware supplied by an Israeli firm to spy on journalists, activists and heads of state have “exposed a global human rights crisis”, Amnesty International said.

Nigeria – Kidnappers release another 28 abducted children in Nigeria Gunmen who seized 121 students at a high school in northwestern Nigeria in early July have released another 28 teenagers, a school official said.

Kashmir – Two activists killed in tightly fought vote in Pakistan’s Kashmir Two political activists were killed in an exchange of fire between supporters of two major Pakistani parties during a tight race to elect the regional assembly in Pakistan-administered Kashmir.