



HUMAN RIGHTS DEVELOPMENTS IN A WEEK

03 – 09 October, 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
03 Oct 2022

Lebanon – [Lebanon's economic collapse prompts rise in gender-based violence](#)

Women's rights advocates have highlighted how Lebanon's economic crisis exacerbated gender-based violence against women and girls. Calls to resources and organizations that provide assistance are also on the rise, according to Mohammad Mansour, deputy director of the Resource Center for Gender Equality (ABAAD). Mansour also stressed the increase in murders, with 14 women being killed by their partners in the first seven months of 2022, compared to 18 in the entirety of 2021. The number of individuals who received aid from the Lebanese NGO Kafa exhibited an upward trend over the last five years: 1,082 in 2017, 1,107 in 2018, 907 in 2019, 1,583 in 2020 (during COVID-19 lockdowns), and 1,396 in 2021. ABAAD said 1,090 women sought its services during the first half of this year, compared to 832 in the first six months of last year.

Tuesday
04 Oct 2022

Lebanon – [Armed depositors hold up more banks in Lebanon over restrictions](#)

Depositors, two of which were armed, have stormed three commercial banks across Lebanon amid hold-ups triggered by a national financial meltdown. On Tuesday, a Lebanese man armed with a pistol and a grenade entered the Chtaura branch of BLC Bank, demanding access to his \$24,000 in savings, according to Depositors' Outcry, a group campaigning for depositors. The group said in a statement that the man, identified as Ali al-Saheli, is in debt and also needed to wire money to his son, who is studying in Ukraine. "He had been trying to sell his kidney," the statement said. Al-Saheli was arrested before he could access his money. In Tripoli, a group of people employed at a state power station stormed the First National Bank due to delays in withdrawing their salaries as well as fees they were being charged for the process, their union representative, Talal Hajer, told reporters outside the bank. In a third incident, an armed depositor took hostages at Byblos Bank in the southern city of Tyre, according to the Depositors' Association, another advocacy group.

Lebanon – [Social network blackout: Lebanon's kafala workers are having their internet cut](#)

As telecom operators recently announced that internet costs would double, migrant workers are at risk of no longer having access to Wi-Fi and phone calls to source employment. Rising sim card prices have meant that domestic workers cannot afford to pay their phone bills, and activist groups and NGOs are unable to contact them to provide food, medicine, and clothing. "Domestic workers are barely surviving, living in appalling conditions. Most can only dream about sending money home," said Patricia Pradhan from the domestic worker protection project *This Is Lebanon*. Patricia also highlighted how vulnerable these women's living situations have become due to their inability to access the internet and freely use their mobile phones. Since the crisis, many employers have sent their domestic workers to the streets with no support as their monthly wage of \$150-\$400 became too expensive.

Wednesday
05 Oct 2022

Lebanon – [Fire burns scores of tents at Syrian refugee camp in Lebanon](#)

Dozens of tents were destroyed after a fire in a Syrian refugee camp in Lebanon. According to the Lebanese Civil Defense, 65 tents were burned at the Aarsal Camp in the Beqaa Valley area, and civil defense workers spent hours putting out the fire. The Lebanese newspaper *L'Orient Le Jour* gave a higher figure of 93 tents. Several refugees suffered minor injuries due to the incident, and the fire was completely put out. Tens of thousands of Syrian refugees live in the Aarsal camp in very poor conditions and lack of robust infrastructure. The conditions have become especially harsh with the onset of winter.

Thursday
06 Oct 2022

Lebanon – [Lebanon's hyperinflation continues to drive up purchasing costs](#)

Business conditions in Lebanon and the exchange rate continue to grow, giving rise to multiple conflicts across the state. Weak exchange rates continue to drive purchasing costs higher. Despite shrinking in the month of September, as the summer season draws to a close, Lebanon is seeing a noticeable decline in tourist spending arrivals. In addition, strikes by banks are exacerbating a situation that seems to have no short-term solution, according to Stephanie Aoun, research analyst at Blominvest Bank. Compared to the previous year, prices have risen by 7.6%, bringing inflation to 162%. The World Bank has described Lebanon's economic crisis as one of the worst in more than a century.

Friday
07 Oct 2022

Lebanon – [Cholera, hepatitis hit Lebanon already grappling with financial meltdown](#)

Lebanese health authorities fear that the country could be hit by its first cholera epidemic in nearly three decades after the confirmation of two cases close to the Syrian border. A Syrian in his 50s, who lives in a refugee camp, and a Lebanese woman caring for him were this week confirmed to have the disease in Akkar. The Syrian was said to be stable in hospital while the woman was with her family and stable. Health Ministry officials said that they had also recorded multiple cases of diarrhea in Akkar, which has poor sanitation services and a population swelled by refugees, and tests are ongoing to check whether any of the sufferers have cholera. Meanwhile, three to five daily cases of hepatitis are being recorded among villagers in the northern region of Danniyeh. Firas Abiad, Lebanon's caretaker health minister, said that he expected cases to rise due to the outbreak across the border.

Saturday and Sunday
08 and 09 Oct 2022

Lebanon – [A body was found on Sidon Tyre coastal highway, South Lebanon](#)

A body was found along the Sidon-Tyre coastal highway in the Jisr Al-Matareya area right before the Lebanese army checkpoint, Elnashra reported. The Lebanese military intelligence set up a security cordon around the area. While the body was transferred to Saida Governmental Hospital. Security forces confirmed that the body that was found belonged to the 17 years old Palestinian Shehadeh Khader Rajab that went missing about five days ago.



REGIONAL

Middle East

Monday
03 Oct 2022

Occupied Palestine – [Palestinians 'killed in cold blood' by Israeli army near Ramallah](#)

Israeli forces have shot dead two Palestinian men during a raid outside the Jalazone refugee camp north of Ramallah in the central occupied West Bank. The two men were identified as 18-year-old Bassel Qassem Basbous and 21-year-old Khaled Fadi Anbar, according to the Palestinian official news agency, Wafa. 19-year-old Raafat Habash was also present in the car and was wounded during the shooting. The bodies of the two men were taken by the Israeli army after they were killed, while Habash was arrested. News of the killings came in at about 7am. A witness, who wished to remain anonymous, said the shooting occurred outside his home. "The soldiers pulled them out of the car and put them on the side of the road. They were left to bleed on the ground for around 40 minutes. After that, they took their bodies," he said.

Tuesday
04 Oct 2022

Iran – [Schoolgirls across Iran remove hijabs in protest against government](#)

Iranian schoolgirls have joined the protests against the death of Mahsa Amini, sparking Iran's largest civil uprising in three years. Students across Iran have been seen waving their headscarves in the air and chanting anti-government slogans. In a viral video, groups of hijab-less girls in Karaj were filmed chasing an alleged government official out of their school on Monday. The girls appeared to be throwing empty water bottles at the man while yelling "shame on you" until he retreated through a gate. Similar protests were reported in Tehran and the northwestern cities of Saqez and Sanandaj. Meanwhile, a group of girls in their classrooms were photographed hijab-less and making obscene gestures at images of Khamenei and the founder of the Islamic Republic, Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini.

Wednesday
05 Oct 2022

Occupied Palestine – [Israeli soldiers kill Palestinian, wound two journalists](#)

One Palestinian man has been shot dead and at least two others have been injured by Israeli forces in the town of Deir al-Hatab, east of Nablus in the occupied West Bank, the Palestinian health ministry said. Alaa Zaghal, 21, "died of a bullet wound to the head fired by the occupation [Israeli] army," a statement read. At least six other Palestinians, including two journalists, were wounded by Israeli fire, medics at the scene said. The Israeli army confirmed it was conducting a military operation in the village of Deir al-Hatab. Local residents said the army had surrounded a house inside the village, killing Zaghal and shooting at a local media crew that was covering the incident. Two journalists from Palestine TV were shot by Israeli soldiers, one in the hand and another in the shoulder, pictures released by the television station showed.

Friday
07 Oct 2022

Iraq – [Car bombing in Iraq's Erbil kills one, wounds four](#)

One person was killed and four others were injured when a vehicle exploded in the northern Iraqi city of Erbil, the counterterrorism service of the semi-autonomous Kurdish region has said. An explosive device attached to the bottom of the car detonated at about 1pm on Friday, killing the driver and injuring two women and two children who were in the car, it said in a statement. The counterterrorism service has opened an investigation into the incident, the statement added.

Saturday and Sunday
08 and 09 Oct 2022

Occupied Palestine – [Israeli forces kill two Palestinian teens during West Bank raid](#)

Israeli soldiers have shot dead two Palestinian teenagers during a military raid in the Jenin refugee camp in the occupied West Bank, Palestinian officials said, in the latest confrontation that has made 2022 the deadliest year of violence in the occupied territory in nearly a decade. The Palestinian Ministry of Health identified the victims, both 17 years old, as Ahmad Mohammad Daraghme and Mahmoud as-Sous, according to the Wafa news agency. At least 11 others were wounded, three of them critically, in the latest Israeli raid, the ministry said. Palestinian officials said soldiers entered the camp early on Saturday and surrounded a house. In videos circulated on social media, exchanges of fire could be heard.



INTERNATIONAL

Monday
03 Oct 2022

India – [Four dead as avalanche hits group of mountaineers in India](#)

At least four climbers have been killed in an avalanche in the Indian Himalayas, with 26 others still missing at nightfall after poor weather hampered rescue operations, officials said. Media reports put the toll at 10 following the incident on Tuesday at about 4,880 meters in the northern state of Uttarakhand involving a group of several dozen climbing trainees. “We had 42 members who were trapped in the avalanche, out of which four are confirmed dead ... Twelve people have been rescued,” Ridhim Aggarwal from the State Disaster Response Force told AFP news agency. The Nehru Institute of Mountaineering said the group included 34 of its trainees and seven instructors. Vishal Ranjan, registrar with the institute confirmed the four deaths and that the rescue operation “has been stopped for now because of heavy rainfall and snowfall in the region.”

Bangladesh – [At least three women die after Rohingya boat sinks off Bangladesh](#)

At least three people have drowned and nearly 20 others are missing off the Bangladesh coast after a boat carrying Rohingya refugees sank in rough weather, authorities said. The fishing trawler left at dawn on Tuesday, bound for Malaysia, before it ran into trouble in the Bay of Bengal, with two coast guard search boats scrambling to rescue survivors. Local police inspector Nur Mohammad told Al Jazeera that at least three bodies of young Rohingya women had washed ashore at Shilkhali beach in the coastal town of Halbunga. “We went there after local fishermen informed us about the dead bodies. The women are aged between 18 and 20,” he said, adding that the bodies have been sent to a hospital in Cox’s Bazar town for post-mortem examinations.

Kyrgyzstan & Tajikistan – [Kyrgyzstan-Tajikistan conflict leaves children without education](#)

26 schools and 30 kindergartens in the Batken region closed as nearly 137,000 people evacuated since the fighting started on September 14, according to Kyrgyzstan’s Ministry of Education. Of the aforementioned, ten schools and seven kindergartens were damaged either by shrapnel or direct attacks. Currently, most schools have resumed full or partial functioning, except the two that were heavily damaged. One of these schools, located in Ak-Sai, was taken over by Tajik-affiliated forces on September 16 and used as a base for two days. In Tajikistan, at least one school educating 450 children was damaged by fire on September 16. In another school in Khojai A’lo, Tajikistan, a teacher, 51-year-old Bakhrom Khakimov, was reportedly killed while trying to protect his students. The Tajik authorities have confirmed that 200 civilians have been harmed in the hostilities.

Tuesday
04 Oct 2022

Haiti – [Haitian police use tear gas as thousands march in Port-au-Prince](#)

Haitian police have fired tear gas at thousands of people marching in the streets of the capital, Port-au-Prince, to protest against the government’s handling of crippling fuel shortages and soaring prices. Police also fired guns into the air to disperse the crowds. Haiti is experiencing a worsening public health and safety crisis as gangs have erected road blockades in and around Port-au-Prince in anger over fuel price hikes. The blockades have cut off residents and medical facilities from access to clean water and gas. Monday’s protest took place on the day schools were meant to reopen after the country’s economic woes caused a one-month postponement of the resumption of classes following the summer break.

Ecuador – [At least 15 killed in latest Ecuador prison riot](#)

At least 15 prisoners have been killed and many wounded in the latest riot to hit Ecuador’s troubled prison system. The rioting at the Cotopaxi No 1 jail in Latacunga left “15 people dead and 20 injured,” said a spokesperson for SNAI, the agency that manages Ecuador’s prisons. 14 of the injured have been transferred to the hospital, while authorities are working on identifying the bodies. More than 400 inmates have died in prison violence since February 2021, which the government of conservative President Guillermo Lasso has attributed to gang warfare over control of territory and drug trafficking routes.

Philippines – [Filipino journalist Percival Mabasa shot dead in ‘brazen’ attack](#)

Journalist Percival Mabasa was fatally shot near his home in the Philippines’ capital, an act that was condemned by media groups and press freedom activists in the country. The 63-year-old radio broadcaster, who was also known as Percy Lapid, was killed by two assailants on a motorcycle at the gate of a residential compound in the Las Pinas area of suburban Manila on Monday night, according to the police. In a statement, the National Union of Journalists of the Philippines said Mabasa’s killing showed that “journalism remains a dangerous profession” in the country. Mabasa had been critical of “red-tagging” – accusing someone of being a communist sympathizer – as well as online gambling operations and misinformation around martial law, the union said. He was also an outspoken critic of former President Rodrigo Duterte as well as policies and officials in the government of his successor, Ferdinand Marcos Jr.

Wednesday
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Global – [Goal of ending extreme poverty by 2030 out of reach, report says](#)

The world is unlikely to meet its goal of ending extreme poverty by 2030 due to the “extraordinary” shocks to the global economy, including COVID-19 and the war in Ukraine, according to the World Bank. The World Bank said higher food and energy prices had hindered a quick recovery after COVID-19 dealt the “biggest setback” to global poverty in decades. It added that it expected the pace of poverty reduction to further stall this year as global growth prospects fade following Russia’s invasion of Ukraine, an economic slowdown in China and rising inflation. “Given current trends, 574 million people – nearly 7 percent of the world’s population – will still be living on less than \$2.15 a day in 2030, with most in Africa,” the Poverty and Shared Prosperity report said.

Kazakhstan – [Families struggle to enjoy basic rights](#)

Vulnerable populations in Kazakhstan are not able to secure their basic social and economic rights, according to Human Rights Watch. Almost a million people are receiving help from Kazakhstan’s main social assistance program, Targeted Social Assistance (TSA), but the program is failing to protect many people who need assistance. Human Rights Watch interviewed 17 women who had sought or received help through the program and consulted with social workers and other professionals, activists, and nongovernmental groups that work with people in need of assistance. About half the women interviewed said that the payments help them to cover only a portion of their families’ basic needs and that they have to seek support from other sources, including charities and help from mosques or relatives. Some have taken on debt to cover basic needs.

Afghanistan – [Four killed in bombing at Afghan Interior Ministry mosque](#)

Four people were killed and 25 wounded following a suicide bombing in a mosque at a government ministry in Afghanistan’s capital Kabul, according to a ministry spokesman. The explosion took place as workers and visitors were praying inside a mosque of Afghanistan’s Interior Ministry, which is responsible for security and law enforcement in the country. The ministry is on Kabul’s main road next to Kabul International Airport and is in its own fortified compound. A Taliban-appointed spokesman for the ministry, Abdul Nafi Takor, said in a tweet: “Unfortunately this afternoon, about 1:30pm [09:00 GMT], there was an explosion in a sub mosque at the Ministry of Interior, as a result four worshippers were martyred and 25 others were wounded. The incident is under investigation, we will share the details with the media when it is done.”

Central African Republic – [Roadside bomb kills 3 UN peacekeepers in Central African Republic](#)

A roadside bomb killed three United Nations peacekeepers from Bangladesh and injured several others in the northwestern Central African Republic, according to the UN. The attack occurred near the village of Kaita, close to the border with Cameroon, in an area rife with militia activity, the peacekeeping mission MINUSCA. No militia was directly blamed for the attack, although MINUSCA head Valentine Rugwabiza condemned “the use of explosive devices by armed groups”. MINUSCA, officially known as the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the Central African Republic, said it has launched an investigation into the explosion.

India – [Dozens killed in India after wedding party bus plunges into gorge](#)

At least 25 people have been killed after a bus carrying wedding guests veered off the road and fell into a deep gorge in northern India, police said. The vehicle was traveling along a treacherous mountain highway in Uttarakhand state’s Pauri Garhwal district on Tuesday evening when it careened over the edge and plunged at least 500 meters with about 45 people onboard. Prime Minister Narendra Modi said that “all possible assistance” would be given to the survivors. “In this tragic hour my thoughts are with the bereaved families,” he tweeted.

Greece – [At least 18 dead after two refugee boats crash off Greece](#)

At least 18 people seeking new lives in Europe by crossing the Mediterranean have died in a pair of unrelated boat accidents, according to Greek officials. One boat sank off the island of Lesbos after encountering strong winds. There were 40 people on board, reportedly all women. By Thursday morning, 16 of them had been found dead, the Greek coast guard said. Nine were reportedly saved, while boat and helicopter searches continued for 15 other women. Meanwhile, a sailboat carrying about 95 refugees and migrants crashed into a rocky cliff amid strong winds late on Wednesday off the island of Kythira. Rescue crews reported that 80 people had been rescued, but that two had been found dead by Thursday morning.

Mexico – [Attack in Mexican town kills 20, including mayor, officials say](#)

Gunmen allegedly affiliated with a drug gang have killed 20 people, including a mayor, in an attack in the southern Mexican state of Guerrero, local officials said. According to security officials, gunmen burst into a meeting between the mayor and city officials on Wednesday in the town of San Miguel Totolapan and left the building riddled with bullet holes. “This act occurred in the context of a dispute between criminal gangs,” Ricardo Mejia, Mexico’s assistant secretary of public safety, said on Thursday.

Thursday
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Friday
07 Oct 2022

Thailand – [Thailand children’s daycare mass shooting death toll rises to 35](#)

35 people, mostly children, were killed in Thailand after a former police officer opened fire at a daycare center, before turning a weapon on his family and then himself. The attacker was armed with a shotgun, pistol, and knife. He began the killing spree in Nong Bua Lam Phu province before fleeing the scene in a pick-up truck. The dead included at least 23 children, said police Colonel Jakkapat Vijitraithaya. The gunman forced his way into a locked room where children were sleeping at the time, according to a witness. After the attack, the gunman went home and killed his wife and child, Jakkapat said. The attacker was named as former police officer Panya Khamrab, 34, and Jakkapat said he was dismissed from the force last year for drug use.

Libya – [Libyan authorities find 15 bodies after fire on refugee boat](#)

At least 15 bodies were found on the coast in Libya’s Sabratha, including a number burned in a boat and others on the beach, a member of the Red Crescent in the city said. A spokesman for Libya’s Red Crescent, Tawfik Al Shukri, said on Friday that local authorities had informed the aid group of bodies washing up onshore after a shipwreck off the country’s western coast. He said they were retrieved and transported to a hospital, where the remains would be examined to determine the cause of death. A security source in Sabratha, 70km west of the capital Tripoli, also said that the dead people were migrants caught in a dispute between two rival groups of people smugglers in the northwest city.

Saturday and Sunday
08 and 09 Oct 2022

Ireland – [Explosion kills 10 at petrol station in County Donegal](#)

10 people were killed in a petrol station explosion in a small village in northwest Ireland. Irish police said no one remained missing after Friday’s explosion in Creeslough, County Donegal. Police are investigating the cause of the blast, and Superintendent David Kelly said evidence “is pointing toward a tragic accident.” Ireland’s police force, An Garda Siochana, said the explosion killed four men, three women, two teenagers and a girl of primary school age. Eight people were admitted to hospital – one in critical condition – after the blast destroyed the Applegreen service station in the community of about 400 people near Ireland’s rugged Atlantic coast. Photographs from the scene showed a residential unit above the petrol station’s store with walls blown out and a partially collapsed roof, and debris scattered across the forecourt where several cars were parked.

India – [Deadly bus-truck collision in western India’s Maharashtra state](#)

At least 12 people were killed in India when a bus caught fire after hitting a truck on a highway in western India early on Saturday, an official said. Another 43 people with serious burns were taken to a hospital in Nashik, a city in Maharashtra state, said police officer Bhagwan Adke. Most passengers were sleeping when the bus caught fire at about 5am local time and the vehicle was completely burned, the Press Trust of India news agency said. Some people living near the highway reached the spot but could not help as the raging fire engulfed the vehicle. The rescue work started after the fire service and police doused the blaze, Adke said.

Ukraine – [Deadly Russian missile attack hits Ukraine’s Zaporizhzhia city](#)

At least 12 people have been killed in overnight Russian missile attacks in the Ukrainian city of Zaporizhzhia, according to Ukrainian officials, in the latest attack that President Volodymyr Zelenskyy called “absolute evil”. Zelenskyy and regional official Oleksandr Starukh provided a death toll of 12, with the latter saying that more victims may be under the rubble as a search and rescue operation was launched. Earlier, Anatoliy Kurtev, secretary of Zaporizhzhia city council, said 17 were killed in missile attacks. “After night missile attack on Zaporizhzhia, at least 20 houses and about 50 multi-storey buildings were damaged,” he wrote on Telegram on Sunday.