



HUMAN RIGHTS DEVELOPMENTS IN A WEEK

04 - 10 DECEMBER 2023



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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LEBANON

Monday
4 December 2023

[Israel's Intelligence Agency "Shin Bet" vows to hunt down and murder Hamas operatives in Lebanon, Qatar, Turkey](#)

Ronen Bar, the director of Israel's Intelligence Agency "Shin Bet" said, "The cabinet has set us a goal, in street talk, to eliminate Hamas. We will do this everywhere, in Gaza, in the West Bank, in Lebanon, in Turkey, and Qatar." Hamas reportedly responded that it is unfazed by the threats and that for Israel to carry them out would be a violation of allied countries' sovereignty.

Tuesday
5 November 2023

[Urgent Statement by Access Center for Human Rights \(ACHR\): ACHR documented 1027 cases of arbitrary detention of refugees from the beginning of 2023 until November 30](#)

ACHR documented 1027 cases of arbitrary detention of refugees from the beginning of 2023 until November 30. Out of these, 761 were forcibly deported by Lebanese authorities. This brings the cumulative number of refugees forcibly deported and registered with ACHR to 1,007 over the past five years. Among the cases documented were civil activists, politicians and Syrian army defectors, some of whom suffered serious violations in Syria, with the fate of some remaining unknown. The statement also commented on an update released by UNHCR on the data-sharing agreement between UNHCR and the Lebanese government. The update emphasized that the UNHCR would not directly share "specific personal information." However, the update lacked critical details, including the nature of the information to be shared and the transparent disclosure of the agreement's terms. ACHR also called upon the UNHCR to fulfill its responsibilities in cases where the Lebanese government violates its commitment to the non-refoulement principle and to publicly and transparently disclose the terms of the agreement, specifying the nature of the information that will be shared with the General Directorate of General Security.

[Families of the victims of the Beirut port explosion carried out their monthly vigil in front of the statue of the expatriate opposite the port](#)

Families of the victims of the Beirut port explosion carried out their monthly vigil in front of the statue of the expatriate opposite the port, under the slogan "So that August 4 doesn't become a memory". In part of the statement released, the families of the victims of the port explosion said, "For three and a half years, we have come on the fourth of every month and stand in front of the port to light candles to comfort the souls of our victims because we are certain that those who came before us hear us more than the people of the earth, and because we have not forgotten as many have forgotten and lived with the crime. They have forgotten." The capital exploded in the third largest non-nuclear explosion in the world.

Wednesday
6 December 2023

Minister Abdullah Bou Habib to submit a new complaint to the UN Security Council

Minister Abdullah Bou Habib will submit a new complaint to the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) in response to the targeting of the Lebanese army and the fall of a martyr and wounded soldiers, in response to the messages of the Israeli delegate to the UNSC. The complaint explained that “the Israeli raids led to the deaths and injury of a large number of civilians, journalists, paramedics, and children, and to the displacement of more than thirty thousand Lebanese citizens from their homes. The Israeli army’s use of internationally banned white phosphorus shells on civilian areas also caused severe environmental and material damage.” In addition, Israel threatened the safety of civil aviation by using Lebanese airspace with the aim of attacking the sovereignty of a neighboring country.

Thursday
7 December 2023

Israel: Strikes on Journalists in Lebanon Apparently Deliberate

The Israeli strike on Lebanon on October 13, 2023, that killed Reuters journalist Issam Abdallah and injured six other journalists was an apparently deliberate attack on civilians and thus a war crime. Human Rights Watch verified witness accounts, video, and photo evidence that indicate that the journalists were well removed from ongoing hostilities, clearly identifiable as members of the media, and had been stationary for at least 75 minutes before they were hit by two consecutive strikes. Human Rights Watch found no evidence of a military target near the journalists’ location. Human Rights Watch interviewed seven witnesses, including three of the injured journalists, and analyzed 49 videos and dozens of photos, in addition to satellite images. Human Rights Watch also interviewed a United Nations Interim Forces in Lebanon (UNIFIL) representative and consulted military, video, and audio experts.

Friday
8 December 2023

Netanyahu Threatens to Devastate Beirut If Hezbollah Enters War

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu threatened devastation in Beirut and southern Lebanon if Hezbollah opens a second front in Israel’s war with Hamas. Netanyahu delivered the warning during a visit to the headquarters of the Israel Defence Forces’ northern command, which oversees units that have traded fire with Hezbollah along the border with Lebanon in the weeks since Hamas militants attacked Israel on October 7. “If Hezbollah chooses to start an all-out war then it will, by its own hand, turn Beirut and southern Lebanon, not far from here, into Gaza and Khan Younis,” Netanyahu said while visiting troops near the border.

Saturday and Sunday
9 and 10 December
2023

Israeli raids destroyed an entire neighborhood in the town of Aitaroun

Reports show that the Israeli army escalated its attacks on Lebanon on Sunday afternoon. Israeli raids launched by its warplanes led to the destruction of an entire neighborhood in the town of Aitaroun, where many houses were leveled to the ground and a large number of others were damaged.



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