



# HUMAN RIGHTS DEVELOPMENTS IN A WEEK

17 – 23 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.***

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



## LOCAL

**Monday**

17 Oct 2022

### **Lebanon – [Dozens Of Cholera Cases Are Recorded So Far In Lebanon](#)**

Lebanon has almost reached 50 cholera cases a few days after the first cholera death case was recorded, MP Abdul Rahman al-Bizri said in an interview with the Voice of Lebanon radio station on Monday. Bizri told the radio station that a meeting will be held on Monday to address the issue of the many new cholera cases. The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) published a report Monday on the recent spread of cholera in Lebanon. It stated that the disease broke out in Syria on September 10, 2022, and quickly spread to some of Lebanon's northern governorates. UNICEF has donated supplies to Lebanon to treat 5,000 cholera cases and symptoms.

**Tuesday**

18 Oct 2022

### **Lebanon – [‘Two thirds’ of female migrant workers in Lebanon survivors of sexual harassment](#)**

More than two thirds of female domestic migrant workers in Lebanon have experienced sexual harassment, according to a new study published this week by the Lebanese American University. The research, a collaboration of the university's Institute for Migration Studies and the migrant domestic worker-run Eгна Legna Besidet migrant rights organisation, found that the overwhelming majority of sexual harassment perpetrators are male employers in the home. For migrant workers confined to the homes of their employers, unwelcome touching, kissing and other inappropriate contact are a regular occurrence, the study found. It also noted cases of abduction, rape and taxi drivers exposing their genitals.

**Wednesday**

19 Oct 2022

### **Lebanon – [Lebanon warns deadly cholera outbreak ‘spreading rapidly’](#)**

Lebanon has warned that a deadly cholera outbreak is “spreading rapidly”, with cases rising after the virulent disease spread from neighboring Syria. The outbreak in the economically devastated country, which has left at least five dead, is the first since 1993. Health officials have blamed the country's financial and political struggles, which have left citizens with poor and crumbling sanitation infrastructure. “The epidemic is spreading rapidly in Lebanon,” caretaker Minister of Public Health Firass Abiad told reporters on Wednesday. Since October 6, Lebanon has recorded 169 cholera cases, almost half of them in the past two days, according to the health ministry.

**Thursday**

20 Oct 2022

### **Lebanon – [Cholera outbreak hits Syrian refugees sheltering in camps Lebanon](#)**

Syrian refugees in displacement camps are falling victim to a cholera outbreak in Lebanon, which is already suffering from an economic meltdown that has obstructed access to clean water and strained hospitals. Most cholera cases in Lebanon have been among Syrians who have taken refuge over the past decade, according to caretaker Health Minister Firass Abiad. He said the three-year economic crisis was partly to blame. The water in Lebanon's public mains was already unsafe to drink without treatment, and there is not enough fuel to run government-run water stations. Syrian refugees in Lebanon rely primarily on UN agencies and international NGOs to regularly truck in water and clear out sewage containers.

**Friday**

21 Oct 2022

### **Lebanon – [UN ‘urgently’ needs \\$13 million for Palestinian refugees in Lebanon](#)**

The United Nations Agency for Palestinian refugees (UNRWA) appealed Friday for \$13 million in funding to support Palestinians in Lebanon, as the country reels from an unprecedented economic crisis. “Palestine refugees, living in overcrowded camps... are at the end of their rope,” UNRWA chief Philippe Lazzarini said in a statement, adding that “almost every Palestine refugee in Lebanon lives in poverty.” He said UNRWA was “urgently appealing for \$13 million” in funding for cash assistance to families, primary health care services and to keep the agency's schools open until the end of this year. Palestinian refugees in Lebanon are “often unable to even scrape by,” he said, adding: “Our assistance is a drop in an ocean of despair.”



## REGIONAL

Middle East

**Monday**  
17 Oct 2022

**Iran – [Iran's Evin prison fire death toll climbs to eight](#)**

Four more inmates who were in critical condition after a fire in Tehran's Evin prison have died, bringing the death toll to eight in what Iran has described as a prison break attempt. Authorities said the first four inmates died of inhaling fumes from the massive fire on Saturday night, but a statement by the judiciary on Monday did not clarify the cause of death for the other four, saying they were "injured after fighting among prisoners and the fire." All eight deceased inmates were imprisoned for theft-related crimes, according to the judiciary, which said families had been informed but did not disclose the identities of the individuals. Its statement also said 70 inmates were rescued and six more remain hospitalized, but in stable condition and improving.

**Tuesday**  
18 Oct 2022

**Yemen – [HOUTHİ HORROR ATTACK: Gunmen slay mother as children watch on](#)**

A mother was murdered in front of her children after refusing orders of Houthi militiamen to leave her home, Saudi news channel Al Arabiya reported on its website. The woman in Sanaa's Bani Hashish district was killed for refusing to leave after armed Houthis surrounding her and her children, attempted to raid and loot their house. In a graphic video that claims to show the incident, men can be heard shouting, there's a banging sound, then a woman screams. The report citing Yemeni activists also spoke of another incident where children were left out of their home after Houthi gunmen, wearing military and civilian clothes, raided three homes.

**Syria – [Nearly 60 killed in 10 days of Syria rebel clashes: monitor](#)**

58 people, mostly combatants, have been killed after more than a week of inter-rebel fighting in Syria's Turkish-held north – a flare up that has allowed Al-Qaeda-linked fighters to gain ground, a war monitor said Tuesday. The clashes since October 8, in a volatile area near the Turkish border, have been among the deadliest in years, killing 48 rebel fighters and 10 civilians, the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said. Among the 48 combatants killed, 28 were members of the Hayat Tahrir Al-Sham alliance (HTS), which is led by Al-Qaeda's former Syria affiliate, according to the Britain-based war monitor, which relies on a wide network of sources inside Syria.

**Iran – [More protests in Iran after schoolgirl beaten to death](#)**

An Iranian schoolgirl has reportedly been killed after refusing to sing a song in favor of the regime in Tehran in her classroom. Sixteen-year-old Asra Panahi was allegedly beaten along with several classmates by security forces after Shahed girls high school in Ardabil was raided on Oct. 13 amid nationwide protests, according to the Coordinating Council of Iranian Teachers' Trade Association. Several of the girls were taken to hospital and a number arrested. Panahi is thought to have died of her injuries. Iranian state officials denied responsibility, and a man claiming to be her uncle later appeared on state TV following widespread anger at her death to claim she had died of a congenital heart condition.

**Tunisia – [Protests hit Tunisian town after migrant deaths](#)**

People took to the streets of a southern Tunisian coastal town amid growing anger over the fate of people who drowned in a migrant shipwreck last month, with some buried in unmarked graves. The powerful UGTT labor union called a general strike in Zarzis, bringing to a head days of smaller protests to demand authorities do more to find missing bodies and improve living conditions. Images showed the streets of Zarzis packed with protesters chanting anti-authority slogans with shops and government institutions closed. "Today the state continues to ignore us and does not even search for those drowned," said Salim Zreidat, whose 15-year-old son Walid was among the missing.

**Thursday**  
20 Oct 2022

**Iran – [Car bomb injures two in northern Iraq: security sources](#)**

Two people were injured in a car bombing in the northern Iraqi city of Sulaimaniya on Thursday, police and hospital sources said, a relatively rare attack in a major city in Iraq's semi-autonomous Kurdistan region. Police cordoned off a street in central Sulaimaniya where the parked car bomb had exploded and "an immediate investigation has been initiated" to determine the target of the attack, said a security source.

**Friday**  
21 Oct 2022

**Occupied Palestine – [Israeli forces kill Palestinian teen in Jenin raid](#)**

Israeli forces have killed a Palestinian teenager during a military raid on the northern occupied West Bank city of Jenin, according to officials. The Palestinian health ministry confirmed to Al Jazeera on Friday that Salah al-Braiki, 19, was shot in the neck and died shortly afterwards at the Jenin public hospital. Al-Braiki was pronounced dead at 1:45 am, less than an hour after the Israeli army and special forces raided the city of Jenin and its refugee camp, during which confrontations with unarmed youth and intense armed clashes with Palestinian fighters broke out. At least three other Palestinians were wounded by Israeli live ammunition, the ministry said.

**Saturday and Sunday**  
22 and 23 Oct 2022

**Syria – [A dozen bodies found in Syria mass grave: state media](#)**

Syrian authorities discovered a mass grave in Palmyra, state media said, unearthing 12 bodies in the ancient city that had been overrun by Daesh group fighters for two years. "Authorities found the remains of a number of civilians and soldiers in a mass grave near Palmyra's archaeological theater," Syria's official news agency SANA said. Twelve bodies were recovered and taken to hospital to be identified using DNA testing, SANA said.

**Occupied Palestine – [Israeli forces kill Palestinian in West Bank](#)**

Israeli forces have killed a Palestinian in the occupied West Bank, Palestinian health officials said, and the Israeli police shot another Palestinian after he stabbed an Israeli in occupied East Jerusalem, police said. The Palestinian Ministry of Health said Rabi Arafah Rabi, 32, died at a hospital on Saturday. The ministry said he was hit by "a bullet to the head" at a checkpoint southeast of the city of Qalqilya. The Israeli military said its troops were trying to detain a vehicle after its passengers had crossed illegally into Israel. It said the vehicle fled and hit a soldier, after which "the soldiers fired toward the vehicle".



Monday  
17 Oct 2022

## **Mali – [Bomb kills two peacekeepers in Mali, UN says](#)**

Two UN troops were killed and four others were badly injured by a roadside bomb in northern Mali on Monday, the UN peacekeeping mission said. They had been taking part in a search for mines in the Kidal region, the mission wrote on Twitter. “Two MINUSMA #peacekeepers were killed today, 17 October, when their vehicle hit an Improvised Explosive Device during a #mine search and detection patrol in #Tessalit, Kidal region,” MINUSMA said on Twitter. Four others were seriously injured, it said. The peacekeepers were part of MINUSMA’s Chadian contingent, an official at the mission’s camp in Kidal said. MINUSMA is one of the UN’s biggest peacekeeping operations, with 17,612 troops, police, civilians and volunteers deployed as of May, according to the mission’s website.

## **Greece/Turkey – [UN ‘distressed’ over 92 stripped refugees at Greece-Turkey border](#)**

The UN refugee agency (UNHCR) says “it is deeply distressed by the shocking reports and images” of 92 people found at the Greek-Turkish land border stripped of their clothes. “We condemn such cruel and degrading treatment and call for a full investigation into this incident,” the UNHCR said on Twitter on Sunday. Ankara and Athens traded accusations after Greek authorities found the 92 refugees close to its northern border with Turkey on Saturday. Turkish Deputy Minister of Interior Ismail Catakli denied his country’s involvement in the incident on Saturday evening after Greece blamed Ankara for it. Greece’s Citizen Protection Minister Takis Theodorikakos said on Sunday that refugees’ accounts suggested that they have been taken to Greece by the Turkish military police.

## **Sudan – [Renewed intercommunal clashes kill 13 in Sudan’s Blue Nile state](#)**

At least 13 people were killed and more than 24 wounded in renewed intercommunal violence that broke out this week in southern Sudan’s Blue Nile state, the United Nations has said. In a statement on Monday, the UN’s Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) said two Hamaji people were killed on Thursday near Dam Town 6 in the Wad al-Mahi area during a land dispute, according to unconfirmed reports. The killings triggered clashes between the Hausa tribe and other tribes in the Dam town areas that lasted for four days, the statement added. Unconfirmed reports said an estimated 1,200 people had been displaced due to the violence and were taking refuge in schools and a refugee camp in Dam Town 6, OCHA said.

## **Nigeria – [Nigeria flood death toll tops 600 as thousands evacuated](#)**

The death toll from floods in Nigeria this year has increased to 603 as local authorities race to provide relief to hundreds of thousands of people being evacuated from their submerged homes. More than 1.3 million people have been displaced by the disaster, which has affected people across 33 of Nigeria’s 36 states, the humanitarian affairs ministry said late on Sunday. At least 3,400sq km of land has been inundated, worsening fears of food supply disruptions. Conflict already has threatened production in the northwest and central regions of Nigeria, which produce much of what the country eats. President Muhammadu Buhari directed “all concerned to work for the restoration of normalcy”, according to a statement issued by his office.

## **Russia – [Russia war in Ukraine pushes 4 million children into poverty: UN](#)**

Russia’s invasion of Ukraine and rising inflation have pushed some four million children into poverty across Eastern Europe and Central Asia, according to the United Nations children agency. “Children are bearing the heaviest burden of the economic crisis caused by the war in Ukraine,” UNICEF said on Monday. The conflict “and rising inflation have driven an additional four million children across Eastern Europe and Central Asia into poverty, a 19 percent increase since 2021”, it said. UNICEF drew its conclusions from a study of data from 22 countries. Russian and Ukrainian children have been most affected since Moscow attacked its neighbor in February. “Russia accounts for nearly three-quarters of the total increase in the number of children living in poverty due to the Ukraine war and a cost-of-living crisis across the region, with an additional 2.8 million children now living in households below the poverty line,” UNICEF found.

## **Russia – [Deaths after fighter jet crashes into Russian building in Yeysk](#)**

At least 13 people, including three children, have been killed after a supersonic fighter jet crashed into a residential building in the southern Russian city of Yeysk, near the border with Ukraine, creating an inferno. Footage on social media showed a large fireball erupting from the nine-storey building on Monday, and as rescue efforts ended, the Interfax news agency said 13 bodies had been pulled from the ruins. “Rescuers have finished excavating the rubble (...) In total, 13 people died, including three children, while 19 people were injured,” according to the ministry of emergency situations, quoted by Russian agencies.



Tuesday  
18 Oct 2022

**France – [Paris murder: Killing of Lola, 12, sparks immigration row in France](#)**

A 12-year-old girl was found murdered and dumped in a plastic trunk in Paris, triggering grief and outrage that turned into political row over the migrant status of the suspect. Lola's body was found last Friday in a courtyard outside the apartment block where she lived. A 24-year-old woman has been remanded in custody on suspicion of murder, rape as well as acts of torture. It has also emerged she is an Algerian immigrant under orders to leave France. Shortly after President Emmanuel Macron met the murdered girl's parents at the Élysée Palace, political opponents on the right and far right accused the government of failing the family. Marine Le Pen of the far-right National Rally party condemned the government's "lax" migration policy. "The suspect in this barbaric act should not have been in our country; what's keeping you from finally putting a stop to this uncontrolled, clandestine immigration?" she said. Prime Minister Elisabeth Borne appealed to her to "show a little decency" and respect the parents' pain and Lola's memory, saying: "Let the police and judiciary do their job."

**Somalia – [Somalia faces worst famine in half a century. UN warns](#)**

Somalia faces famine on a scale last seen half a century ago, the United Nations has said as it set a new target of more than \$2bn in funding needs. "Things are bad and every sign indicates that they are going to get worse," James Elder, United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) spokesman, told reporters on Tuesday via video link from the drought-stricken Horn of Africa nation. In August, 44,000 children were admitted to health establishments with severe acute malnutrition, a condition that means a child is up to 11 times more likely to die from diarrhea and measles than a well-fed counterpart, Elder said. Somalia has suffered four successive failures in its rainy seasons since the end of 2020, and there are fears that a fifth failure is now under way. An estimated 7.8 million people – roughly half of the population – are now affected by drought, of whom 213,000 are at high risk of famine, according to the UN.

**Venezuela – [At least 3 dead in another landslide in Venezuela](#)**

At least three people have been killed in northern Venezuela after another landslide swept away vehicles, trees and huge boulders, destroying everything in its path. The landslide in El Castano, a neighborhood in the town of Maracay, about 120km (75 miles) west of the capital Caracas, was caused by intense rain and flooding and came about a week after more than 50 people died in a similar incident in a central Venezuelan town. "I am informed that there are three dead in El Castano; it was a mudslide that came from the mountain," President Nicolas Maduro said on Monday. Locals shared videos of trees, big rocks and cars being dragged by the current of mud and water that left more than 50 houses damaged. Authorities said many residents had to be rescued, and that a total of around 50 families were impacted.

**Puerto Rico – [More than 100 Haitian migrants found on island near Puerto Rico](#)**

More than 100 Haitian migrants have been found on an uninhabited island near Puerto Rico, United States authorities said, as Haiti continues to reel from a humanitarian crisis brought on by surging gang violence. Park rangers working for the Puerto Rico Department of Environment and Natural Resources found the group on Mona Island, US Customs and Border Protection (CBP) spokesman Jeffrey Quinones said on Tuesday. It was not immediately clear if anyone in their group drowned before authorities were notified of the situation. Quinones said authorities are still interviewing the migrants. Anais Rodriguez, secretary of the Puerto Rico department that found them, said the group included 60 women, including three who are pregnant, as well as 38 men and five children ranging in age from five to 13 years old.

Wednesday  
19 Oct 2022

**France – [Workers take to streets across France for higher wages](#)**

Tens of thousands of workers took to the streets across France on Tuesday, striking to demand pay raises that keep up with rising inflation. The industrial action came after weeks of walkouts that have hobbled French oil refineries and sparked petrol shortages across the country. Rail and other transportation workers, trucking and bus companies, some high school teachers and public hospital employees have heeded a call by an oil workers' union to push for salary increases. For weeks, cars have been queuing at petrol stations across France, drivers waiting for hours to fill up at stations that, in some cases, had to close temporarily while awaiting deliveries. According to the interior ministry, more than 100,000 people marched in multiple protests in French cities on Tuesday. Thousands of others had taken to the streets on Sunday to march against rising prices.

**Ukraine – [UN finds Russian 'pattern of rape' and other abuses in Ukraine](#)**

Russian forces were responsible for the "vast majority" of human rights violations in northern Ukraine during the early weeks of the war, including attacks on civilians that qualify as war crimes, the United Nations has found. In a report published on Tuesday, the three members of the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on Ukraine said they had documented patterns of summary executions, unlawful confinement, torture, ill-treatment, rape and other sexual violence committed in areas occupied by Russian armed forces. The report includes several other references to reported rape cases, with victims said to be aged from four to 80 years old.

Thursday  
20 Oct 2022

**Myanmar – [At least 8 killed in Myanmar Insein Prison blasts: Media reports](#)**

At least eight people have been reported killed following two explosions inside Myanmar's high-security Insein Prison, according to media reports. The BBC's Burmese-language news service reported that two parcel bombs had detonated on Wednesday morning, killing three prison staff and five visitors and injuring at least another 10 people as the explosions ripped through the prison's mail room. Local news organizations Myanmar Now and Khit Thit Media also reported that eight people were killed and 15 injured. According to Myanmar Now, one of the bombs exploded in a building where staff receive care packages for prisoners and another detonated outside the building.

**Sudan – [At least 150 killed in two days of fighting in Sudan's Blue Nile](#)**

At least 150 people were killed during two days of fighting in the latest ethnic clashes over land disputes in Sudan's southern Blue Nile state. The bloodshed is the worst in recent months and crowds took to the streets of Blue Nile's state capital Damazin in protest on Thursday, chanting slogans condemning a conflict that has killed hundreds this year. Clashes in Blue Nile broke out last week after reported arguments over land between members of the Hausa people and rival groups, with residents reporting hundreds fleeing intense gunfire and homes set ablaze. The fighting has centered around the Wad al-Mahi area near Roseires, 500 km south of the capital Khartoum. Eddie Rowe, the United Nations aid chief for Sudan, said he was "deeply concerned" about the continuing clashes, reporting "an unconfirmed 170 people have been killed and 327 have been injured" since the latest unrest began on October 13.

**Chad – [Dozens killed in Chad after protesters demand civilian rule](#)**

Dozens of people were killed after Chadian security forces opened fire on anti-government demonstrators in the country's two largest cities. Chadian government spokesman Aziz Mahamat Saleh said 30 people were dead in the capital, N'Djamena. Organizers of the march, however, placed the toll higher, at 40 on Thursday. A further 32 protesters were killed in Chad's second-largest city, Moundou, according to an official in the city's morgue. The official, who spoke on condition of anonymity because of the sensitivity of the matter, said more than 60 people were wounded. At the main hospital in N'Djamena, overwhelmed doctors tended to scores of people with gunshot wounds.

**Afghanistan – [Women protesters detail Taliban abuse](#)**

Three Afghan women detained for protesting Taliban abuses described torture and other severe mistreatment in custody, Human Rights Watch said today. The women said they were wrongfully detained with their families, including small children. They experienced threats, beatings, dangerous conditions of confinement, denial of due process, abusive conditions of release, and other abuses. The authorities assaulted and administered electric shocks to detained male relatives. The women's description of their experiences sheds light on the Taliban's treatment of women protesters in custody and the Taliban's efforts to silence the protest movement.

Friday  
21 Oct 2022

**Sudan – [Security forces fire tear gas at protesters in Sudan](#)**

Thousands of protesters marching in the Sudanese capital Khartoum faced tear gas on Friday as they demonstrated against an almost year-long military coup amid efforts to come to a political settlement. Sudan has slid further into political and economic turmoil since the Oct. 25, 2021 coup, but political parties said this week that discussions had begun, supported by international facilitators, to reach an agreement to form a new civilian government. Many of the protesters marching on Friday, however, rejected the settlement, carrying signs reading "No Compromise" and chanting "No negotiation, no partnership with killers." At least 117 people have been killed by security forces in the anti-coup protests. Military leaders have said investigations into the deaths are in place.

Saturday and Sunday  
22 and 23 Oct 2022

**Sudan – [Death toll in Sudan tribal clashes rises to at least 220](#)**

The death toll from days of tribal fighting in southern Sudan has risen to at least 220, making this one of the deadliest episodes of ethnic violence in recent years. Fighting in Blue Nile province, which borders Ethiopia and South Sudan, reignited this month over a land dispute. It pits the Hausa people, who have origins across West Africa, against the Berta community. The tensions escalated on Wednesday and Thursday in the town of Wad al-Mahi on the border with Ethiopia. The unrest added to the woes of a country mired in civil conflict and political chaos.

**Indonesia – [Indonesia says child deaths from acute kidney injury rise to 133](#)**

The number of children in Indonesia who have died from acute kidney injury (AKI) linked to harmful substances in medicinal syrups has risen to 133 from the previously reported 99 fatalities, the country's health minister said. Indonesian health authorities said this week they were investigating an unexplained rise since January in the number of children's deaths from AKI and had temporarily banned the sales and prescription of all syrup-based medications. The ban followed the discovery that some medicinal syrups available in Indonesia were found to contain ethylene glycol and diethylene glycol, ingredients that have been linked to child death from AKI in The Gambia. "We have identified 241 cases of acute kidney injury in 22 provinces, with 133 fatalities," Health Minister Budi Gunadi Sadikin told a press conference on Friday, noting most patients were children under the age of five.