



# HUMAN RIGHTS DEVELOPMENTS IN A WEEK

19 - 25 December, 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.***



## LEBANON

**Monday**

19 Dec 2022

### **Lebanon – Irish soldier killed in Lebanon makes final journey as body flown home to be reunited with family**

The body of Irish UN peacekeeping soldier Sean Rooney has arrived in Dublin after being repatriated from Lebanon. A member of the Irish Defence Forces, Private Rooney, from Newtowncunningham, Co Donegal, was killed on active service when his convoy came under attack in Lebanon last week. The 23-year-old's remains left Beirut Airport on an Air Corps plane on Sunday afternoon after a solemn UN ceremony was held to honour the soldier ahead of his journey home. Pte Rooney's body arrived at Casement Aerodrome, Baldonnel, on the outskirts of Dublin on Monday morning ahead of being reunited with his family. His colleague, Private Shane Kearney, from Killeagh, Co Cork, was seriously injured in the incident and remains in a serious condition in hospital. Two other peacekeepers were treated for minor injuries. The soldiers were part of 121st Infantry Battalion, comprising 333 Irish troops, which was deployed in November to south Lebanon as part of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL).

**Tuesday**

20 Dec 2022

### **Lebanon – Women lack basics in crisis-hit Lebanon's crowded prisons**

Lebanese authorities have long struggled to care for the more than 8,000 people stuck in the country's jails. But three years of an unprecedented economic crisis mean even basics like medicines are lacking, while cash-strapped families struggle to support their jailed relatives. Moreover, a months-long judges' strike has exacerbated the situation in prisons, contributing to overcrowding. One prisoner, Nour, is raising her four-month-old daughter in Lebanon's most overpopulated women's prison, struggling to get formula and diapers for her baby. "Sometimes my daughter doesn't have formula for three days," said the 25-year-old, who was detained eight months ago on drug-related accusations. "We all make mistakes, but the punishment we get here is double," she added.

**Wednesday**

21 Dec 2022

### **Lebanon – Lebanon 'running out of medicine,' pharmacists' chief warns**

Lebanon is fast running out of medicines and infant formula, with deliveries at a standstill and supplies expected to run out within days, the head of the country's pharmacists' syndicate has warned. Joe Salloum said that the exchange rate crisis has led to an almost complete cessation of medicine and infant formula deliveries to pharmacies. He added, "Salvation begins with electing a new president to secure a minimum level of financial and economic stability, and to restore constitutional and legislative life so that we can take a path to recovery and develop executive plans, especially for the health sector." Salloum's warning came as economist Louis Hobeika told Arab News that the local currency, which has gradually depreciated over the past three years, was heading for further collapse.

**Thursday**  
22 Dec 2022

**Lebanon – [Parents of 2020 Beirut blast victim drive Christmas initiative to help feed Lebanon's poor](#)**

The memory of three-year-old Alexandra Najjar, one of the Beirut Port blast's youngest victims, continues to spread solidarity in Lebanon as the country grapples with a devastating economic crisis. Now in its third year, Alexandra's Christmas Initiative has helped raise more than \$70,000 and received food donations to help feed those in need during the holiday period. The initiative has been organised by Paul and Tracy Naggear, Alexandra's parents. They are two of the most prominent faces in the campaign for justice over the August 4 blast which killed more than 215 people, injured thousands, and destroyed large parts of Beirut. "It was difficult for us to come back to our apartment in Gemmayze, even back to the neighbourhood, after the blast," said Paul Najjar. "Tracy's idea was; let's do something positive and good that would allow us and the other people in our neighbourhood and in the neighbourhoods affected by the blast to come back."

**Friday**  
23 Dec 2022

**Lebanon – [France's Emmanuel Macron urges Lebanon to 'get rid' of leaders blocking reforms](#)**

French President Emmanuel Macron called on Lebanon Friday to "get rid" of its political leadership who have for months blocked reforms vital to save its stricken economy. "The problem with Lebanon is that we must solve people's problems and get rid of those who cannot do it," Macron said, referring to the country's entrenched political class. Macron said the priority now was to have "honest" people as president and as prime minister capable of moving swiftly to restructure Lebanon's failed financial system and help the people living in poverty. "I don't want to discuss names. If there isn't a plan and a strategy behind the name, they won't succeed," he said.