



HUMAN RIGHTS DEVELOPMENTS IN A WEEK

07 November – 13 November, 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

Tuesday
08 Nov 2022

Lebanon – [EU allocates €800,000 to respond to rapid cholera outbreak in Lebanon](#)

The European Union announced on Wednesday an allocation of €800,000 for community water and sanitation and hygiene interventions in cholera-concentrated areas in Lebanon. The Union stressed that its ongoing humanitarian programs are working to redirect efforts to address this new emergency. Furthermore, European Commissioner for Crisis Management Janez Lenarčič stated that the situation in Lebanon is going from bad to worse, with nearly 80% of the population living in a state of poverty, considering that cholera is an indication of this deteriorating situation and could not come at a worse time. “EU funding will allow our humanitarian partners to deploy rapid response teams and ensure that affected communities consume safe water,” Lenarčič added.

Wednesday
09 Nov 2022

Lebanon – [Lebanon receives US food aid. Egyptian medical supplies to combat cholera](#)

The US has pledged more than \$72 million in emergency food assistance to Lebanon aimed at helping over 650,000 of the most vulnerable people in the country, including refugees from Syria. Samantha Power, the administrator of the US Agency for International Development, announced the aid during a visit to Lebanon on Wednesday. “Through the UN World Food Programme, this funding will provide food parcels including rice, lentils, and chickpeas for Lebanese families, and electronic food vouchers for Syrian refugees to use in local shops, which supports the Lebanese economy,” Power said.

Thursday
10 Nov 2022

Lebanon – [KSRelief provides healthcare services. voluntary programs to Syrian refugees in Lebanon, Jordan](#)

The King Salman Humanitarian Aid and Relief Center (KSrelief) provided healthcare services to Syrian refugees and their host community in Baalbek, Lebanon on Thursday. The initiative is part of the third phase of KSRelief’s project to enhance medical care in the area, wrote state agency SPA. In October, Aarsal Medical Center provided 14,087 services to 7,149 patients, of which 41 percent were males and 59 percent were females, whereas the percentage of refugees was 65 percent and residents 35 percent.

Saturday and Sunday
12 and 13 Nov 2022

Lebanon – [Lebanon launches first phase of cholera vaccine campaign](#)

Lebanon’s Ministry of Public Health launched a cholera vaccination campaign aimed at reaching 70 percent of the target population over the next three weeks. The World Health Organization assisted the ministry in obtaining a critical shipment of 600,000 doses of cholera vaccine. The campaign will target all refugees and host communities over the age of one with a weekly target of administering 200,000 doses. “These vaccines will be a key tool to boost our response as the cholera outbreak is fast spreading in the country. The arrival of these vaccines in the country is timely and thanks to our collective efforts with the Ministry of Public Health of Lebanon, UN agencies, and our partners on the ground,” WHO Representative in Lebanon Dr. Abdinasir Abubakar said. WHO is covering the full cost of doses, providing technical guidance on target area selection and micro plan development, and training the partners in charge of vaccine deployment.



REGIONAL

Middle East

Monday
07 Nov 2022

Egypt – [Hunger striker's sister to push for his release in Egypt COP27](#)

The sister of Egyptian-British hunger striker Alaa Abd el-Fattah has landed in Sharm el-Sheikh to campaign for his release as British Prime Minister Rishi Sunak and other world leaders began the COP27 climate summit. "I'm here to do my best to try and shed light on my brother's case and to save him," said Sanaa Seif, Abd el-Fattah's sister, after arriving in Sharm el-Sheikh in the early hours of Monday. The 40-year-old political activist rose to prominence during Egypt's 2011 uprising but has been jailed for most of the period since. Sentenced most recently in December 2021 to five years on charges of spreading false news, he has been on hunger strike for 220 days against his detention and prison conditions. Abd el-Fattah's family said he was only consuming minimal calories and some fiber to sustain himself earlier in the year. After family visits in October, Seif said, "He looks very weak. He's fading away slowly. He looks like a skeleton."

Occupied Palestine – [Frustration grows over Palestinian Authority's crackdown on political activists](#)

A crackdown on political activists by the Palestinian Authority has been condemned by human rights organizations and increased frustration among factions and popular groups. The PA security services arrested Omar Assaf, the coordinator of the Popular Alliance, on November 5 and accused him and his group of planning to create an alternative leadership for the Palestine Liberation Organization. The authority also banned activists from the Palestinian Popular Conference "14 million," which was due to discuss reform of the PLO by holding elections for its legislative body, the Palestinian National Council. The shutdown and arrest of Assaf followed a series of detentions of Hamas activists that began late last month across the West Bank.

Yemen – [Yemeni female prisoner attempts suicide to escape Houthi mistreatment](#)

A Yemeni woman has attempted suicide inside a Houthi-held jail in Sanaa after being exposed to "severe" physical and psychological maltreatment by her captors, said a Yemeni human rights activist, an incident that has once again brought attention to the inhumane conditions in Houthi detention facilities. Amat Al-Salam Al-Hajj, the chairperson of the Abductees' Mothers Association, said that a female prisoner tried to kill herself by cutting the arteries of her hands to escape abusive and torturous treatment from Houthi captors inside the Central Prison. Other female prisoners saved their bleeding roommate by transporting her to a medical facility. "There is much violence inside Houthi prisons, which has prompted some prisoners to attempt suicide more than once," she said.

Tuesday
08 Nov 2022

Syria – ['Rampant violence' in Syrian camp for ISIL-linked detainees: MSF](#)

Residents of the al-Hol camp in northeastern Syria have experienced routine "violence and exploitation" with no formal legal policies to protect them in what they describe as a "death camp", a new report by Doctors Without Borders (MSF) has said. Al-Hol camp is located in a region controlled by the Kurdish Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF) and holds displaced refugees, as well as families of ISIL (ISIS) fighters, including thousands of foreigners. It is the largest camp in the war-torn country, housing some 60,000 people, the vast majority of women and children. Martine Flokstra, MSF's Syria operations manager, described the camp as "effectively a massive outdoor prison" where many young people are robbed of their childhoods and condemned to a life with no hope in sight.

Iraq – [US aid worker shot dead in Baghdad in rare attack](#)

Assailants have shot dead an American aid worker in Baghdad in a rare killing of a foreigner in the Iraqi capital in recent years, police officials said. The man was shot in his car on Monday as he entered the street where he lives in Karrada, a lively commercial district in the heart of the Iraqi capital. "Our initial investigation and eyewitnesses showed that armed men were trying to kidnap the American citizen," an Iraqi police major said. Two security officials confirmed a United States citizen who worked for an international aid organization had been killed without giving his name. Police sources also said that the man's wife and child were in the car with him but were not hurt.

Tunisia – [Rescuers search for five missing after migrant boat sinks off Tunisia](#)

A boat carrying at least 16 migrants who were trying to cross the Mediterranean to Italy sank off the Tunisian coast on Tuesday, with at least five people missing and one body recovered, a security official said. The official told Reuters 10 people had been rescued. Coast Guard units were continuing to search for the missing people who were on board the boat that capsized off the coast at the northern city of Bizerte. In recent months, dozens of people have drowned as the frequency of attempted crossings from Tunisia and Libya toward Italy has increased.

Wednesday
09 Nov 2022

Occupied Palestine – [Palestinian teenager killed as Israeli MPs hold event in Nablus](#)

A Palestinian teenager has been killed during armed clashes and confrontations with the Israeli army after it raided the northern occupied West Bank city of Nablus. The Palestinian health ministry identified him as 15-year-old Mahdi Hashash from the Balata refugee camp in Nablus. It said the youth succumbed to serious wounds from shrapnel in different parts of his body during the army's raid on Nablus at dawn on Wednesday. Government sources told Al Jazeera that Hashash died when a hand-made explosive he was holding blew up in his hand during the confrontations. At least three other Palestinians were injured during the raid, including one with serious injuries from live ammunition, and the rest from rubber-coated bullets, the official Wafa news agency reported. Dozens of others suffered tear gas inhalation.

Turkey – [House fire in Turkiye kills 8 Syrian refugee children, woman](#)

A house fire in northwestern Turkiye believed to have been caused by a heater has left eight children and a woman dead, an official said Wednesday. The victims were Syrian refugees. The fire broke out late on Tuesday in the first floor of a four-story building in the Yildirim district in Bursa province, Gov. Yakup Canbolat said. The victims were six siblings aged between 1 and 10, their 31-year-old mother, and two cousins aged 10 and 11. Their father, who was not at home when the fire broke out, tried to rescue his family members but was affected by the smoke and hospitalized, according to the governor.

Egypt – [One person dead and three injured as building collapses in Cairo](#)

At least one person was killed and three people injured when a residential building collapsed in Imbaba, Egypt on Tuesday, the Egyptian Ministry of Health and Population said. A civil defense official told Al-Hadath news channel "The five-floor property was occupied by six families and our teams continue the search for casualties and survivors." Video footage showed rescue teams and civilians searching the rubble of the building in northern Giza. Five ambulances were dispatched to the scene. One of the three injured people remained in the hospital, while the other two were discharged after treatment.

Thursday
10 Nov 2022

Syria – [Poor access to safe water fuels cholera outbreak in Syria](#)

Poor access to safe water has exacerbated a cholera outbreak rampaging across Syria's war-battered provinces, where local authorities are struggling to contain the spread with chlorine tablets and vaccines. More than 35,000 suspected cases of cholera have been reported across the country, according to the United Nations' children's agency. UNICEF said only approximately 2,500 have been tested, of which nearly half were confirmed positive. "Finding a single case of cholera means you've got an outbreak," said Zuhair Al-Sahwi, the head of communicable and chronic diseases at the Syrian Health Ministry. He said the curve had largely flattened, with a slowdown in the number of confirmed new cases daily. Al-Sahwi said the ministry had recorded 46 deaths as a result of delays in accessing medical care and had requested cholera vaccines from the World Health Organization.

Friday
11 Nov 2022

Iran – [Iran protests rage on streets as officials renew threats](#)

Protests in Iran raged on streets into on Thursday with demonstrators remembering a bloody crackdown in the country's southeast, even as the nation's intelligence minister and army chief renewed threats against local dissent and the broader world. The protests in Iran, sparked by the death of a 22-year-old woman after her detention by the country's morality police, have grown into one of the largest sustained challenges to the nation's theocracy since the chaotic months after its 1979 Islamic Revolution. At least 328 people have been killed and 14,825 others arrested in the unrest, according to Human Rights Activists in Iran, a group that's been monitoring the protests for over 54 days. Iran's government for weeks has remained silent on casualty figures while state media counterfactually claims security forces have killed no one.

Saturday and Sunday
12 and 13 Nov 2022

Egypt – [COP27 protesters call for climate reparations, human rights](#)

Hundreds of activists at the COP27 climate summit in Egypt's Sharm el-Sheikh have marched calling on industrialized nations to pay for the impact of global warming and demanding freedom for political prisoners. Chants of "free them all" and "no climate justice without human rights" rang out as activists marched on Saturday through the conference's "Blue Zone", which is considered UN territory and ruled by international law. Many demonstrators, alongside several vulnerable countries, have called for "loss and damage" payments, or financing to help pay for climate-related harms, to be central to negotiations. While the Egyptian COP27 presidency mandated that demonstrations must be approved by organizing authorities and should take place only in a particular zone, activists said they got UN permission for their activities outside the designated area.

Egypt – [At least 21 killed in Egypt minibus crash](#)

At least 21 people have been killed when a minibus fell into a canal in northern Egypt's Nile Delta region, the health ministry said. The bus was carrying some 35 people when it derailed on a highway on Saturday and fell into Mansuriya canal in Aga town, in the northern governorate of Dakahlia, according to security sources. Dr Sherif Makeen, a health ministry official, said three children were among the dead. Egyptian media outlets reported the accident was caused by a malfunctioning steering wheel, without elaborating. Traffic accidents are common in Egypt where roads are often poorly maintained and driving rules flouted.

Yemen – [Houthi missile kills 6 in Yemen's Lahj province](#)

Four Yemeni troops and two civilians were killed on Friday in a Houthi missile strike on a village in the Yemeni province of Lahj, as the militia increased attacks on government-controlled regions in the province and elsewhere. A local military official told Arab News that a Houthi-launched guided missile targeted a military vehicle transporting troops and residents in Qadash village, north of Lahj province, killing six people – four soldiers and two civilians – and injuring numerous more. The strike spurred southern pro-independence troops to counterattack by heavily bombing Houthi-controlled sections of the province.



INTERNATIONAL

Monday
07 Nov 2022

Somalia – [10 dead as Al-Shabab attack Somali military base](#)

At least 10 soldiers were killed when Somalia's Al-Shabab militants assaulted a military base in the central Galgaduud region on Monday, a military officer said, days after government forces said they had regained control of the area. The army eventually pushed the militants out of the base in Qayib, a village captured from Al-Shabab last week, Defense Ministry spokesperson Abdullahi Ali Anod told the state news agency SONNA. Major Mohamed Farah, a military officer in the nearby town of Bahdo, said 10 soldiers and 20 Al-Shabab fighters were killed. Ahmed Hassan, another military officer in Bahdo, told Reuters the attack began with two suicide car bombs, followed by hours of heavy fighting.

Tuesday
08 Nov 2022

Uganda – [Uganda to close schools early after eight children die of Ebola](#)

Schools across Uganda will close two weeks before the scheduled end of term after 23 Ebola cases were confirmed among pupils, including eight children who died. Education Minister Janet Kataha Museveni said on Tuesday that the cabinet had taken the decision to close preschools, primary schools, and secondary schools on November 25 because densely packed classrooms were making students highly vulnerable to infection. "Closing schools earlier will reduce areas of concentration where children are in daily close contact with fellow children, teachers, and other staff who could potentially spread the virus," the minister said in a statement. Students in Uganda are currently in their third and final term of the calendar year.

Wednesday
09 Nov 2022

Haiti – [Another journalist killed in Haiti as violence continues](#)

An eighth journalist has been killed in Haiti so far this year, the Inter American Press Association (IAPA) reported, as the Caribbean nation grapples with surging gang violence and targeted attacks against members of the media. The association said that Fritz Dorilas, who worked with Radio Tele Megastar, was shot dead near his home in Tabarre, northeast of the capital Port-au-Prince, on November 5. Violence continues to surge across the capital, where increasingly powerful criminal gangs have been battling for control in the political vacuum created by last year's assassination of President Jovenel Moise. Haiti is suffering from a continuing security and humanitarian crisis as a weeks-long blockade on a key petrol terminal has led to electricity and water shortages, and exacerbated already-high rates of hunger.

Nepal – [Six dead after earthquake hits Nepal, tremors felt in New Delhi](#)

A magnitude 6.6 earthquake has struck Nepal, killing at least six people, injuring several others, and destroying multiple houses in the northwestern district of Doti, officials said. The earthquake, which hit at about 2 am local time on Wednesday, sent tremors into northern India. Bhola Bhatta, deputy superintendent of police in Doti, said that four children were among the fatalities that occurred when eight houses collapsed after the earthquake struck the mountainous western region. The deceased included an 8-year-old boy, a 13-year-old girl, two 14-year-old girls, a 40-year-old woman, and a 50-year-old man, Bhatta said, according to The Kathmandu Post news outlet. A ground rescue team has been rushed to the site, and two helicopters were on standby in nearby Surkhet and Nepalgunj towns, a spokesperson for the Nepali army, Brigadier-General Narayan Silwal, said.

Nigeria – [Blast kills four in popular southeast Nigerian market](#)

At least four people have been killed and a dozen more injured following a blast at a popular market in Nigeria's southeastern state of Anambra, a witness and official said. Emeka Umeagbalasi, who heads the civil society group Intersociety and witnessed Tuesday's incident, said the blast occurred in a section of the market that sells chemicals, leading to a fire that razed shops in the Onitsha market, one of the largest outdoor markets in West Africa. Onitsha South local government area Chairman Emeka Orji confirmed the death toll to reporters, adding that at least 12 people were injured as they stampeded to leave the market. The cause of the blast was not immediately known.

Thursday
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United Kingdom and France – [London, Paris cope with transport strikes as workers seek raises](#)

Commuters in London and Paris have scrambled for alternatives – or simply stayed home – as public transport workers went on strike for higher pay, the latest industrial action seeking relief from soaring prices in Europe. Spreading labor unrest poses a problem for governments that are already spending billions trying to blunt the worst effects of rising prices, at least for the most vulnerable. Thursday's action in Britain, by members of the Rail, Maritime and Transport (RMT) and Unite unions, follows several prior walkouts this year amid a long-running dispute over job cuts, pensions, and working conditions.

United Kingdom – [‘Enough’: Nurses in UK to go on strike for first time in history](#)

Tens of thousands of nurses in the United Kingdom will go on strike for the first time demanding better pay as the cost of living soars. Nurses at most of the state-run National Health Service (NHS) employers across the country have voted for the action, the Royal College of Nursing (RCN) said. The RCN, which has more than 300,000 members, said industrial action would begin before the end of the year, after the first vote on strike action in its 106-year-old history. “Anger has become action – our members are saying enough is enough,” RCN General Secretary Pat Cullen said in a statement. “This action will be as much for patients as it is for nurses. Standards are falling too low.” NHS nurses have seen their salaries drop by up to 20 percent in real terms over the last 10 years, leaving members struggling to feed their families and pay their bills. The union is asking for a pay rise of 5 percent above inflation.

Afghanistan – [Afghan women barred from gyms. Taliban official says](#)

The Taliban has banned women from using gyms in Afghanistan, according to a senior Taliban official, in the latest edict by the group cracking down on women's rights and freedoms. The Taliban has banned girls from middle school and high school, restricted women from most fields of employment, and ordered them to wear head-to-toe clothing in public. The ban on women using gyms and parks came into force this week, according to Mohammed Akef Mohajer, a Taliban-appointed spokesman for the ministry. The group has “tried its best” over the past 15 months to avoid closing parks and gyms for women, ordering separate days of the week for male and female access, and imposing gender segregation, he said. “But, unfortunately, the orders were not obeyed and the rules were violated, and we had to close parks and gyms for women,” said Mohajer.

Ukraine – [Russia's unlawful transfer of civilians a war crime and likely a crime against humanity](#)

Russian authorities forcibly transferred and deported civilians from occupied areas in Ukraine in what amounted to war crimes and likely crimes against humanity, Amnesty International said in a new report. The report, “Like a Prison Convoy”: Russia's Unlawful Transfer of Civilians in Ukraine and Abuses During ‘Filtration’, details how Russian and Russian-controlled forces forcibly transferred civilians from occupied Ukraine further into Russian-controlled areas or into Russia. Children have been separated from their families during the process, in violation of international humanitarian law. Civilians told Amnesty International how they were forced to go through abusive screening processes – known as ‘filtration’ – which sometimes resulted in arbitrary detention, torture, and other ill-treatment, including being beaten, electroshocked, and threatened with execution. Others had been denied food and water, with many held in dangerous and overcrowded conditions. Victims included children, older people, and people with disabilities.

Friday
11 Nov 2022

India – [India urged to improve its human rights record at the UN](#)

UN member states have urged India to take a tougher stand on sexual violence and religious discrimination as they raised New Delhi's human rights record during a Universal Periodic Review (UPR) at the United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC). The UPR held every four years is a mechanism to examine the human rights records of member states. Any member state can ask questions and make recommendations to the state under review. During India's fourth UPR review on Thursday, member states also asked New Delhi to reduce the broad application of “anti-terror” laws. India's Hindu nationalist government led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi has been under scrutiny for the use of the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA), particularly targeting minority groups and human rights activists, without allowing them an opportunity for a fair trial.

Bulgaria – [Thousands protest in Bulgaria over wages as inflation levels rise](#)

Thousands of protesters have taken to the streets in Bulgaria to demand higher salaries as rising inflation levels hit the country. The demonstration, organized by the country's two largest trade unions, saw protesters gather in front of the parliament building holding banners and chanting requests for better pay. The unions gave the government a joint declaration to speed up the adoption of next year's budget to avoid the risk of freezing the minimum wage at its current level despite inflation. The declaration also called for support for large groups of people that were exposed to energy poverty before winter and the protection of labor rights. The protest continued with a procession of more than 1,000 cars, passing along the main boulevards in the capital, Sofia, causing significant traffic jams.

Saturday and Sunday
12 and 13 Nov 2022

Ethiopia – [Ethiopia's Tigray still awaiting humanitarian aid, agencies say](#)

Aid to Ethiopia's war-ravaged Tigray region is yet to resume despite a recent truce, international humanitarian agencies have said, even as the United States has urged Addis Ababa to respect the agreement and allow assistance. Under a ceasefire agreement signed between Ethiopia's government and the Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF), the party that controls Tigray, the federal government pledged to work with humanitarian agencies to expedite the provision of aid. But it did not commit to a specific timeline and it has denied blocking aid. Ethiopia's chief negotiator said essential services were being restored and humanitarian aid was flowing into the region of some 5.5 million people, half of them in severe need of food after the two-year conflict. The two sides are currently negotiating the implementation of that agreement, including the resumption of aid deliveries. International aid agencies say they have been blocked from sending assistance into Tigray for much of the conflict.

Ethiopia – [Ethiopia's rival sides agree on humanitarian access for Tigray](#)

Ethiopia's government and Tigrayan rebels have agreed to facilitate immediate humanitarian access to "all in need" in war-ravaged Tigray and neighbouring regions. Saturday's agreement followed talks in the Kenyan capital Nairobi this week on the full implementation of a deal signed between the warring sides 10 days ago in South Africa to end the brutal two-year conflict in northern Ethiopia. "The parties have agreed to facilitate unhindered humanitarian access to all in need of assistance in Tigray and neighbouring regions," a joint statement said. The agreement was signed by Field Marshal Berhanu Jula, chief of staff of the Ethiopian Armed Forces, and General Tadesse Werede, commander-in-chief of the Tigray rebel forces. African Union mediator Olusegun Obasanjo said the deal would take "immediate effect".