



HUMAN RIGHTS DEVELOPMENTS IN A WEEK

16 December - 22 December 2024



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
16 December
2024

Detention of three activists for refusing to delete posts about MTV's coverage during the war

On December 16, 2024, activists Sahar Ghaddar, Ghina Ghandour, and Evelina Mahwass were interrogated by the Cybercrime Bureau under the supervision of Beirut's Public Prosecutor, Raja Hamoush. This was based on a complaint filed by Al-Murr Television (MTV) against a Hezbollah official and several journalists and activists, accusing them of defamation, incitement to murder, and fomenting discord. The complaint stemmed from social media posts by the activists criticizing the station's coverage of the Israeli aggression on Lebanon, which they deemed biased toward the Israeli narrative. While yesterday's summons marked the first step in this complaint, Judge Hamoush's decision to detain the activists sparked objections from numerous activists, citing it as a threat to the exercise of freedom of expression, according to a news report released by the Legal Agenda on December 16, 2024.

In this regard, the Alternative Press Syndicate released the following [statement](#) on December 16, 2024 on X: The Press Syndicate is following up on the issue of [summoning](#) colleague Rula Bahsoun, in coordination with the Syndicate's lawyer. In this context, we would like to remind you that the judicial police do not have the authority to [investigate](#) journalists, as the Publications Law limits the right to investigate, if required, to the investigating judge and prevents pre-trial detention. The group also considers the [arrest](#) of activists Sahar Ghaddar, Evelynna Mounes, and Ghina Ghandour to be a violation of the legally guaranteed freedom of expression and demands their release.

OCHA: More than 900,000 people have begun returning to their areas of origin since the announcement of a cessation of hostilities

More than 900,000 people have begun [returning](#) to their areas of origin since the announcement of a cessation of hostilities on 27 November, according to the International Organization for Migration. Nearly 179,000 people remain displaced. The situation is fluid, and movements are fluctuating. Reverse cross-border movements from Syria into Lebanon have also been observed. UNHCR [reports](#) that as of 13 December, the Lebanese authorities estimate that 30,000 people have returned from Syria to Hermel district – mostly Syrian, but also Lebanese nationals. Some temporary shelters have opened to host those without other options. Additionally, local authorities say that some 25,000 Lebanese have returned to Lebanon in the same area, but they have found private accommodation. The Lebanese authorities have recorded less than 10,000 Syrians returning to Syria since 8 December. Movements continue daily through both formal and informal border crossings. Some of these returns appear to be temporary, as individuals travel back to Syria to check on family members or assess the condition of their properties.

Tuesday
17 December 2024

[Israeli drone raid on Al-Najariyah](#)

The Public Health Emergency Operations Center of the Ministry of Public Health issued a statement on X on December 16, 2024 announcing that the Israeli drone raid on Al-Najariyah, Sidon District, resulted in three people being injured.

[Israeli Raid on Majdal Zoun](#)

The Public Health Emergency Operations Center of the Ministry of Public Health issued a statement on X on December 17, 2024 announcing that the Israeli enemy's drone raid on the town of Majdal Zoun resulted in three people being injured.

[Lebanon: About 760,000 people displaced by the conflict have returned home to find their neighbourhoods turned into rubble and their family homes flattened](#)

With the ceasefire in Lebanon comes a welcome respite from the air strikes and widespread fear, but the humanitarian crisis is far from over. About 760,000 people displaced by the conflict have returned home to find their neighbourhoods turned into rubble and their family homes flattened, according to a news report by UNFPA. Critical infrastructure has been destroyed and access to healthcare, water, and education have been severely disrupted.

[OCHA: 178,000 displaced civilians unable to return to south Lebanon](#)

The United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs ([OCHA](#)) said 178,817 Lebanese civilians are unable to return to their homes in the south of the country despite the ceasefire deal with Israel, *Anadolu* reported. An [OCHA report](#) issued yesterday on the situation in Lebanon between 6-12 December said 902,717 Lebanese civilians have returned to their homes while 178,817 people are still displaced. According to the report, 55,000 Syrians have also returned to their country after the ceasefire came into force on 27 November.

Wednesday
18 December 2024

[Israel violates ceasefire in Lebanon 12 times on Tuesday, bringing total violations to 248](#)

The Israeli occupation army committed another 12 [violations](#) of the ceasefire with Lebanon yesterday, bringing the total of [violations](#) since the deal was agreed on 27 November to 248, according to a news report by the Middle East Monitor released on 18 December 2024. At least 30 people have been killed by these [violations](#), with a further 36 wounded, *Anadolu* has reported. According to various news outlets, Tuesday's violations were concentrated in the south and east of Lebanon. They included a drone raid, houses being bombed, roads being dug up by bulldozers and artillery shelling.

[Israel army says settlers crossed into Lebanon's Maroun al-Ras in early Dec](#)

A group of Israeli [settlers briefly](#) crossed the border into Lebanon before they were removed by troops, the military acknowledged Wednesday. The settlers who crossed the border came from the Uri Tzafon movement, a group calling for Israeli settlement of southern Lebanon. Photos posted by the group online Saturday showed a small group of settlers holding signs and erecting tents inside Lebanon while Israeli soldiers were present, according to a news report by Naharnet released on December 18, 2024.

[Israeli Army bulldozers demolish Lebanese homes](#)

On day 20 of the ceasefire, the Israeli army continued its [attacks](#) on southern Lebanon, expanding its incursion into [Naqoura](#), where its [bulldozers](#) demolished Lebanese homes, according to a news report by Megaphone News released on December 18, 2024. The head of Naqoura's municipality, Abbas Awada, confirmed that the level of destruction had risen to 70% since the ceasefire began, compared to around 35% during the aggression.

Thursday
19 December
2024

ACHR: The Lebanese Authorities Must Cooperate to Prevent Impunity for Perpetrators of Human Rights Violations by the Former Syrian Regime

In a report released on December 19, 2024, ACHR emphasized that the Lebanese authorities must cooperate in ensuring that individuals accused of crimes against humanity and human rights violations against civilians in Syria, who are internationally wanted, do not escape accountability by fleeing through Lebanon during this critical transitional period.

Friday
20 December
2024

Israel's eviction orders on Lebanon 'grave breach' of international humanitarian law

Israel's eviction orders preceding [attacks](#) on Lebanon constituted a "grave breach" of international humanitarian law, a report released on Friday December 20, 2024 said. The joint report by ActionAid and Oxfam found that such orders, referred to by the authors as forced displacement orders, came with insufficient time to evacuate and often in the middle of the night. Typically they were issued with only 15 to 45 minutes' notice of strikes, while most – 62 per cent – came between 10pm and 5am. The report found that 223 towns across south Lebanon were subject to "mass forced displacement orders". "Customary international humanitarian law prohibits forced displacement by parties to the conflict and permits evacuation only under circumstances that provide robust protections for civilian welfare, including access to proper accommodation, hygiene, health services, nutrition and family unity," the report states. "Israel's forced displacement orders in Lebanon lacked these essential provisions. They failed to provide displaced populations with access to basic services or secure accommodation. Consequently, these actions amount not to lawful evacuation orders but rather to forced displacement – a grave breach of international humanitarian law," it adds.

Saturday and Sunday
21 and 22 December
2024

Lebanese civil defense recovers body of killed man in Khiam

On Saturday December 21, 2024, Lebanese Civil Defense teams recovered the body of Ali Zaher, a resident of Khiam in the Marjayoun district, who was killed by Israel during the last war, according to a news report by the National News Agency. This marked the eighth body recovered from Khiam since the Israeli army withdrew from the area and was replaced by the Lebanese Army on Dec. 11.

Israeli army continues its attacks on southern Lebanon

The Israeli army continued its attacks on southern Lebanon, expanding its activities in the town of Naqoura, where it bulldozed lemon groves near the UNIFIL headquarters today, and set up a fixed checkpoint at a former Lebanese army post near the fisherman's port, according to a news report by Megaphone News released on December 21, 2024. The Anadolu Agency counted [262](#) Israeli ceasefire violations since the agreement went into effect on November 27, resulting in 30 killed and 37 injured.

Israeli army hands over 7 Lebanese detainees to UN peacekeeping mission

The Israeli army handed over seven Lebanese citizens to the UN peacekeeping mission (UNIFIL) on Sunday December 22, 2024, according to Lebanese media. "The seven citizens, who were detained by the Israeli army after the cease-fire, were handed over to the UNIFIL forces," the National News Agency [NNA](#) said. The Lebanese Red Cross confirmed that its teams transported seven individuals from Ras Naqoura to the Lebanese-Italian Hospital in the city of Tyre in southern Lebanon. "This operation was carried out following communications and coordination between the UNIFIL liaison team and the Lebanese Red Cross," it added in a statement.

Israeli army blows up several homes in Lebanon, in new ceasefire violation

The Israeli army blew up several homes in southern Lebanon on Sunday, in the latest violation of a cease-fire agreement, Lebanese media said. The structures were detonated in the town of Hanin in Bint Jbeil district, the state news agency [NNA](#) reported. "Several towns in Bint Jbeil district are facing an Israeli demolition campaign since the start of the cease-fire," the broadcaster said. Lebanese authorities have reported at least 286 Israeli violations, including the death of at least 30 people and the injury of 37 others, since the ceasefire agreement came into force on Nov. 27, according to a news report by the Andalou Agency.

REPORTING A VIOLATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS TO CLDH

If you wish to report an incident that may potentially constitute a violation of human rights, kindly send an email to the following address: [**violations@cldh-lebanon.org**](mailto:violations@cldh-lebanon.org)

You can also report an incident anonymously through our [**website**](#).

When making a report, please ensure to include the following information:

- **WHERE:** City/village, governorate, additional details (e.g. what prison)
- **WHAT:** Nature of the violation
- **HOW:** A narrative description of what happened
- **WHEN:** Date of the episode (at least the year, if day and month are unknown)
- **TO WHOM:** Information regarding the victim (name, nationality, gender, date of birth, city of origin, phone number). Only share this information with the consent of the person.
- **WHO** is the person reporting (name, phone number) and how were they identified (e.g., victim him/herself, family member, eyewitness, journalist, humanitarian worker...)

The information referred will remain completely private. It will be fact-checked and registered into CLDH's internal system. No action will be undertaken without the explicit and written consent of the reporter.



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