



► What are human rights?

Human rights represent a fundamental area of international law which developed following the atrocities committed during World War I and II. Amongst the first instruments is the 1948 Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) - championed by Eleanor Roosevelt – marking the first time that a statement existed that human rights do not simply belong to the national level but exist on the international plane as well. Subsequently, human rights were defined internationally as we know them today – rights inherent to all human beings, regardless of the nationality, place of residence, sex, national/ethnic origin, colour, religion, language or any other status without discrimination. These rights are all universal, inalienable, interrelated, interdependent and indivisible. They are subject to national implementation and international protection. Therefore, it remains the responsibility of states to act in certain ways or to refrain from certain acts, in order to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms of individuals or groups.



LOCAL

Monday
1 February 2021

Lebanon – [Lebanon reports 63 COVID-19 deaths, 2,020 cases](#)

Lebanon recorded 2,020 new coronavirus cases and 63 further deaths showing that the total lockdown along with an all-day curfew have successfully lowered the daily figures.

Lebanon – [Lebanese Army arrests 18 members of Daesh-linked cell](#)

The Army's Intelligence Unit arrested 18 people of Lebanese and Syrian nationalities linked to Daesh over the past two weeks in the town of Arsal. During their interrogation, the detainees confessed allegiance to the militant group as well as their intention to carry out any terrorist act.

Lebanon / Japan – [National News Agency - Japan extends urgent assistance to Lebanon with \\$16.13 million](#)

The Government of Japan decided to provide 16.13 million US Dollars for the implementation of 15 humanitarian and developmental initiatives in Lebanon in support of the vulnerable Lebanese people and the refugees residing in the country.

Beirut – [The activist Rabih Labaki has been released from detention at the Ramlet al-Baida police station](#)

Labaki was arrested on Saturday night following demonstrations in Beirut. A small number of protesters had been calling for his release.

Tuesday
2 February 2021

Lebanon – [Lebanon registers record virus deaths, but cases appear to be declining](#)

Lebanon recorded 81 coronavirus deaths and 2,770 further cases in 24 hours. According to the Health Ministry 2,358 patients were in hospital for COVID-19, with 942 in ICUs and 345 on ventilators.

Lebanon / United Arab Emirates – [Eight Lebanese detained in UAE return to Beirut after talks](#)

Eight Lebanese detained in the United Arab Emirates were released after Lebanon's security chief had lobbied Abu Dhabi. In custody from a few months to up to seven years, their charges were all related to allegedly "dealing with Hezbollah indirectly or directly."

Wednesday
3 February 2021

Lebanon – [Lebanon sees record COVID-19 deaths for second straight day](#)

The country registered a new record number of coronavirus-related fatalities for the second consecutive day with 89 deaths and 3,320 new cases.

Sidon – [Palestinian refugees shutter UNRWA's office in Sidon](#)

To protest against UNRWA's handling of the health situation, Palestinian refugees shuttered their office in Sidon. The coronavirus is spreading widely in Palestinian camps in Lebanon causing high numbers of deaths and infections and no health emergency has been declared yet.

Tripoli – [Tripoli, Lebanon's poorest city, on edge after curfew, protests](#)

Politicians and experts call for more support to people facing poverty and financial crisis worsened by the coronavirus restrictions.

Thursday
4 February 2021

South Lebanon – [Assassination of Activist Lokman Slim: Angel of murder is still here](#)

Lokman Slim, a prominent Lebanese publisher and political activist was found shot and killed in a car in Southern Lebanon. The murder was described by many as an attempt to suppress freedom of expression and civic activism. CLDH and other organizations call for an independent investigation and punishment of perpetrators.

Lebanon – [Lebanon sees 82 COVID-19 deaths, 3,107 cases](#)

Lebanon recorded 82 coronavirus-related deaths and 3,107 new contamination cases, while the Information Ministry launched a media campaign for the coronavirus vaccination program.

Beirut – [No Justice 6 Months After Blast](#)

Human Rights Watch found out that Lebanese authorities have failed to deliver any justice for the explosion at Beirut's that happened six months ago. According to NGO, the serious due process violations reinforce the need for an independent international inquiry.

Beirut – [Where has the Beirut blast aid gone?](#)

Six months after the explosion, if non-governmental organizations say having hardly received anything, donors affirm that most of the emergency aid they pledged has been disbursed.

Friday
5 February 2021

Lebanon – [Lebanon hits new record virus deaths as it prepares to gradually reopen](#)

The country registered record 98 new coronavirus deaths and 3,071 more cases. According to the Health Ministry, 2,287 patients were in hospital for COVID-19, with 920 in ICUs and 327 on ventilators.

Lebanon / Egypt – [Egypt frees Jazeera journalist Mahmoud Hussein after 4 years jail](#)

Egypt has released an Egyptian national Al-Jazeera journalist Mahmoud Hussein after more than four years in preventive detention on accusations of publishing false news.

Saturday and Sunday
6 and 7 February 2021

Lebanon – [Lebanon registers 67 coronavirus deaths, 2,496 new cases](#)

Lebanon recorded Saturday 67 new COVID-19 related deaths and 2,496 more cases, as the country prepares to reopen gradually.

Lebanon – [National News Agency - Health Ministry: 2,081 new Corona cases, 54 deaths](#)

According to the Ministry of Health, 54 new corona deaths and 2,081 more cases have been registered on Sunday, thus raising the number of confirmed cases to-date to 319,917.

Beirut – [Activists in Beirut protest killing of Hezbollah critic Lokman Slim](#)

Around a hundred activists gathered in Downtown Beirut two days after the killing of prominent Hezbollah critic Lokman Slim demanding a transparent investigation into the crime.

Arsal – [Army arrests two more Daesh members in Arsal](#)

Two Syrian nationals who belong to Daesh were arrested during a raid in the town of Arsal, the Lebanese Army said.

Tripoli – [Thirteen persons arrested in Tripoli's Abi Samra area](#)

According to the Lebanese army, a patrol arrested 13 people in the area of Abi Samra for opening fire using military weapons and investigations began with the detainees.



Monday
1 February 2021

Afghanistan – [Taliban attacks increased in Afghan capital, says US watchdog](#)
Attacks in the Afghan capital of Kabul are on the rise, targeting government officials, civil society leaders and journalists.

Pakistan – [Pakistan receives first COVID vaccine shipment from China](#)
According to the health minister, China donated half a million doses of the Sinopharm vaccine.

Iraq – [IDPs say they are being threatened to leave camp](#)
Refugees say they are being forced to evacuate Jeda Camp that hosts nearly 24,000 families. Rights groups warned that the shutdown of the camp could leave hundreds without food and shelter in the middle of the coronavirus pandemic and winter.

Tuesday
2 February 2021

Syria – [Rights group urges fair Covid vaccine rollout in Syria](#)
In view of the restrictions to aid deliveries to the country's rebel-held northwest and Kurdish-held northeast Syria in the past years, Human Rights Watch urged support for an equitable distribution of coronavirus vaccines across all the country, warning against any discriminatory approach by Damascus.

Syria – [Kurds end siege of government-held areas in northeast Syria](#)
Two days after Kurdish fighters shot one person dead during a pro-government protest, the local Kurdish police announced in a statement they would end the siege on government-held cities of Hassakeh and Qamishli.

Occupied Palestine – [Palestinians begin Covid vaccinations in West Bank](#)
After receiving doses from Israel, the Palestinian Authority began vaccinating its health workers in the West Bank.

Wednesday
3 February 2021

Occupied Palestine – [Israel razes Palestinian Bedouin village for second time](#)
For the second time in three months, Israel began razing a Bedouin village allegedly constructed illegally on a military firing range in the occupied West Bank. According to a rights group it is an attempt to displace the entire Palestinian community from the area.

Syria – [IS attack kills 19 in central Syria: opposition monitor](#)
The deadliest IS attack of the year killed 19 Syrian regime personnel and allied militia fighters in eastern Hama.

Occupied Palestine – [Covid denies Gaza cancer patients essential care](#)
The restrictions imposed because of the pandemic have made travelling from Gaza to the West Bank for treatment almost impossible.

Afghanistan – [Afghan judge killed in Jalalabad, third court official in a month](#)
Judge Hafizullah who has been shot dead in an ambush in the eastern city of Jalalabad, is the third court official killed in less than a month.

Iran – [Dual national Kameel Ahmady free after daring mountain escape](#)
The British-Iranian Kameel Ahmady unjustly imprisoned in Iran's Evin Prison had been released on temporary bail when he managed to escape the country by walking on foot across the Iranian mountains.

Thursday
4 February 2021

Turkey – [Erdogan compares Turkish student protesters to 'terrorists'](#)
Defying the government ban on demonstrations, students and teachers at Istanbul's Bogazici University have protested against Erdogan's appointment of the new rector. At least 250 people were detained in Istanbul this week and 69 more in Ankara.

Palestine – [Palestinians receive first shipment of Russia's Sputnik V vaccine](#)
In order to help jumpstart their COVID-19 inoculation campaign, the Palestinians received 10,000 doses of Russia's vaccine, allowing them to vaccinate 5,000 persons.

Friday
5 February 2021

Iran / Belgium – [Iranian diplomat jailed for planning attack on opposition](#)

A Belgian court convicted Assadollah Assadi an Iranian diplomat of masterminding a thwarted bomb attack against an exiled Iranian opposition group in France 3 years ago and sentenced him to 20 years in prison.

Yemen / United States – [Biden ends support for Saudi's Yemen war in foreign policy shift](#)

United State's president Biden announced an end to his country support for Saudi-led military offensive operations in Yemen and his willingness to play a more active role in ending the civil war in Yemen.

Occupied Palestine – [ICC's 'territorial jurisdiction' extends to Palestinian areas](#)

As the international community widely considers Israeli settlements to be illegal under international law, the International Criminal Court extended its jurisdiction to occupied Palestinian territories, paving the way for the tribunal's prosecutor to open a war crimes investigation.

Saudi Arabia / Yemen – [Al-Qaeda's leader in Yemen under arrest: UN report](#)

The UN assessment is the first official confirmation of the arrest of the leader of Al-Qaeda's Yemeni affiliate, Khalid Batarfi several months ago.

Libya – [Libyan coastguard intercepts more than 800 refugees](#)

More than 1,000 Europe-bound refugees were intercepted in the Mediterranean Sea off Libya's coast and taken into detention over the last 24 hours.

Occupied Palestine – [Palestinian shot dead by Israeli settlers in West Bank](#)

An unarmed 34-years-old Palestinian has been shot and killed by Israeli settlers in the occupied West Bank near the village of Ras Karkar.

Saudi Arabia – [Saudi Arabia frees two jailed Saudi Americans after 307 days](#)

Saudi Arabia has temporarily released Salah al-Haider and Bader al-Ibrahim two Saudi Americans who were jailed on alleged terrorism-related charges after more than 300 days of detention. The trial set for March 8 in Saudi's Specialized Criminal Court.

Iran – [Iran: alarming increase of arbitrary detention and execution of ethnic minorities](#)

The Centre for Human Rights Iran and 35 other civil society organizations raised concern for the lives of ethnic minorities in Iran and urged the international community to give urgent attention to the increasing arbitrary arrests, detentions, enforced disappearances and executions.

Turkey – [Turkish authorities accused of extraditing exiled Uighurs in bid to secure Chinese vaccines](#)

As the human rights violations in China's Xinjiang region continue, Turkish authorities have been accused of the forcibly repatriation of their Uighur refugee population.

Occupied Palestine – [Hundreds of Arab Israelis protest after death of student](#)

Hundreds of Arab Israelis defied corona restrictions and demonstrated in front of the police station in Umm al-Fahm after a student was killed in a reported police shootout.

Saturday and
Sunday
6 and 7 February
2021

Yemen – [US to revoke terrorist designation of Houthis citing famine](#)

In response to the country's humanitarian crisis, the United States intends to revoke the terrorist designation for Yemen's Houthi movement, reversing the order issued by the former president Donald Trump.

Occupied Palestine / United Arab Emirates – [UAE drastically cut funding for Palestinian refugees in 2020](#)

Along 2020, the United Arab Emirates drastically reduced its funding to UNRWA that provides vital services such as education and healthcare to some 5.7 million registered Palestinian refugees across the Middle East.

Occupied Palestine – [Netanyahu vows to fight 'anti-Semitic' ICC ruling](#)

Israel's Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu angrily rejected an International Criminal Court's ruling and condemned it as "pure anti-Semitism". This decision might pave the way for a war crimes probe into the Israeli-occupied Palestinian territories.

Tunisia – [Thousands protest in Tunis despite police blockade](#)

Thousands of protesters gathered in central Tunis in the country's biggest demonstration for years, defying the lockdown.



INTERNATIONAL

Monday
1 February 2021

Somalia – [Somalia's al-Shabab armed group attacks hotel in Mogadishu](#)

Al-Shabab armed group crashed a vehicle loaded with explosives into the entrance gate of Mogadishu's Afrik hotel, killing at least nine people.

Ethiopia / Sudan – [Rising tension as Ethiopia and Sudan deadlocked on border dispute](#)

Age-old territorial bickerings over strips of farmland have in recent weeks deteriorated into armed clashes.

Myanmar – ['Serious blow to democracy': World condemns Myanmar military coup](#)

Myanmar's military seized power in a coup and has detained the country's de facto leader Aung San Suu Kyi, President Win Myint and other senior figures from the governing party claiming fraud in election.

Croatia – [Croatia police 'blocked' MEPs investigating treatment of refugees](#)

Four Italian politicians have accused Croatian police of trying to prevent them from accessing an area on the border with Bosnia and Herzegovina to investigate the conditions faced by asylum seekers there.

United Kingdom – [Muslim Council of Britain elects its first female leader](#)

The British largest Muslim umbrella body has elected Zara Mohammad, 29, as its secretary general.

Latin America – [COVAX to send millions of AstraZeneca shots to Latin America](#)

According to the World Health Organization's regional office, the COVAX global vaccine sharing scheme expects to deliver 35.3 million doses to 36 Caribbean and Latin American states.

United States – [Biden faces tough road in push to reform US immigration: Experts](#)

President Joe Biden is set to unveil a raft of new immigration orders that will reverse harsh immigration policies championed by Donald Trump, including the reunification of migrant families.

India – [Indian journalists accused of sedition for farmer protest reports](#)

Several senior Indian journalists have been charged with sedition over their reporting and online posts about a farmers' protest last week, sparking criticism from media associations.

Zimbabwe – [UK slaps sanctions on four top Zimbabwe security officials](#)

The United Kingdom has slapped sanctions on four Zimbabwean security officials over alleged human rights abuses, including travel bans and assets freezes.

Russia – [Over 5,300 people detained in Russia protests](#)

Russian police detained more than 5,300 people after a second weekend of mass demonstrations over the arrest of President Vladimir Putin's most prominent opponent.

Tuesday
2 February 2021

United States – [Google to spend \\$3.8m to settle claims of underpaying women](#)

Google will spend \$3.8m to settle allegations that it underpaid women and unfairly passed over women and Asians for job openings.

India – [Twitter blocks accounts over India farmers protest on gov't order](#)

About 250 social media accounts and tweets temporarily blocked by Twitter at the Hindu nationalist government's request, over 'grave threat to public order'.

Sudan / Ethiopia – [Sudan minister warns Ethiopia against filling dam without deal](#)

Sudan's Irrigation Minister Yasser Abbas has warned Addis Ababa against the planned filling of a controversial reservoir, a move threatening the safety of Sudanese citizens who live on the banks of the Blue Nile river.

Ethiopia – [Ethiopia: UN says 20,000 refugees missing in Tigray](#)

According to the United Nation, at least 20,000 refugees are missing after two camps in Ethiopia's war-torn Tigray region were destroyed.

Russia – [Navalny: Prosecutors seek lengthy jail sentence for Kremlin foe](#)

Call for protests after a Russian court convened to consider jailing the Russian opposition leader for up to 3 years and a half.

Wednesday
3 February 2021

North Korea – [UN report says torture, forced labour rife in North Korea prisons](#)
Citing interviews with former detainees, a new report by the United Nations human rights office claims torture and forced labour are common in North Korea's prisons, leading to possible crimes against humanity.

Myanmar – [Myanmar police file charges against Aung San Suu Kyi after coup](#)
After having seized the power, the Myanmar's army is detaining the Nobel Prize laureate Aung San Suu Kyi. The police have filed charges against her for illegally importing communications equipment and she will remain in custody until February 15 for investigations.

Ethiopia – [Ethiopia arrests 15 over UAE embassy attack plot: Reports](#)
According to The Ethiopian Press Agency, authorities arrested 15 suspects over a plot to attack the United Arab Emirates' embassy in the capital, Addis Ababa.

Pakistan – [Father of Pakistani rights activist arrested on 'terror' charges](#)
Pakistan court grants police custody of Muhammad Ismail on "terrorism" charges. According to rights groups this action is part of a broader campaign of harassment.

Mali – [At least 9 soldiers killed in latest central Mali attack](#)
According to the Malian army, at least nine soldiers were killed and six others wounded following an ambush in the in the Mopti region, a hotspot of recent violence.

Canada – [Canada declares far-right Proud Boys a 'terrorist' organization](#)
After having been pressured by lawmakers after the deadly riot at the Capitol, Canada added the far-right Proud Boys organization and 12 others to its list of "terrorist entities".

Mexico – [Mexico arrests 12 police in connection with migrant killing](#)
A dozen police officers arrested for suspected involvement in the killing of 19 people in the northeastern state of Tamaulipas last month, including Guatemalan migrants.

Bangladesh – [Rapid Action Battalion: Bangladesh's notorious paramilitary force](#)
Since it was established in April 2004, Bangladesh's paramilitary force, Rapid Action Battalion has been accused of serious human rights violations and abuse of power.

Thursday
4 February 2021

Uganda – [Dominic Ongwen convicted of war crimes for Uganda's LRA rebels](#)
The International Criminal Court convicted Dominic Ongwen, an Ugandan child soldier-turned-Lord's Resistance Army commander of war crime and crimes against humanity, including the first conviction by the ICC for the crime of forced pregnancy.

India – [US urges India to hold 'dialogue' with protesting farmers](#)
The United States has urged the Indian government to resolve its differences with the farmers who have been hunkering down at the Indian capital's fringes to demand the repeal of the agriculture laws.

Myanmar – [Myanmar military blocks Facebook, social media as pressure grows](#)
Myanmar's military government arrested at least three protesters after it blocked Facebook that became a key platform for opposition to Monday's coup.

United States – [California Black Freedom Fund: \\$100m to fight systemic racism](#)
More than two dozen United States philanthropic organizations and corporations will provide \$100 million to California Black Freedom Fund to address a 'history of underinvestment'.

United States – [Biden set to accept more refugees after years of Trump cuts](#)
Aiming to restore the US's historic role as a country that welcomes refugees, Biden will issue an executive order to build up the country's capacity to accept refugees.

United States – [Former cop indicted for murder in Andre Hill death](#)
A white Ohio police officer Former Columbus was charged with murder by a Franklin County grand jury for the shooting death of 47-year-old Andre Hill, an African-American.

Friday
5 February 2021

Indonesia – [Indonesia bans forced religious attire in schools](#)
Arguing that "this is an individual's right" and "not the school's decision," Indonesia's Minister for Education and Culture Nadiem Makarim has given schools 30 days to revoke any existing rules.

Ethiopia – [UN warns situation in Ethiopia's Tigray now 'extremely alarming'](#)
Thousands of people are believed to have been killed and 950,000 others have fled their homes since fighting began in the region in early November and according to the UN most of the troubled region remains inaccessible for aid workers.

**Saturday and
Sunday**
6 and 7 February
2021

United States – [Yemen war: Joe Biden ends support for operations in foreign policy reset](#)

Biden administration is about to end its support for offensive operations by its allies in Yemen, which has been devastated by a six-year war in which more than 110,000 people are believed to have died.

Pakistan – [Pakistan PM: We would give Kashmiris 'right to independence'](#)

Pakistani Prime Minister Imran Khan said he is willing to allow Kashmiris the full right to self-determination if residents of the disputed Himalayan territory were to vote for joining Pakistan.

India – [Free speech under threat as India clamps down on farmer protests](#)

Critics say the government has committed unprecedented attacks on freedom of speech, arresting journalists and freezing Twitter accounts.

India – [Indian Muslim comic, jailed for jokes he never cracked, gets bail](#)

Top court has granted interim bail to Munawar Faruqi a Muslim stand-up comedian who was jailed for more than a month over jokes he did not tell but was 'going to'.

United States – [Virginia first US southern state set to abolish death penalty](#)

Governor Ralph Northam is set to sign a bill abolishing the death penalty in his state, Virginia becoming the first southern US state to do so.

United States – [Families affected by Trump 'Muslim ban' say process still stalled](#)

Despite Joe Biden's reversal of the Trump 'Muslim ban' on citizens from several Muslim-majority countries, families affected say the process remains stalled.

Myanmar – [Myanmar police step up arrests as anti-coup protests grow](#)

Another key aide of ousted leader Aung San Suu Kyi has been arrested and at least 30 more people had been detained.

India – [Indian farmers launch nationwide highway blockade](#)

Tens of thousands of protesting Indian farmers have blockaded highways across the country, demonstrating against laws they say benefit large private buyers at their expense.

Myanmar – [Myanmar generals shut down internet as thousands protest coup](#)

Myanmar generals shut down the internet in the country as thousands of people were demonstrating in Yangon to denounce the coup and demand the release of Aung San Suu Kyi.

Ethiopia – [UN, Ethiopia strike a deal over aid workers' access to Tigray](#)

World Food Programme says it has reached a deal with Addis Ababa to expand access for aid workers and plans to step up its operations in the country's conflict-hit Tigray region.

United States – [US to end deals to send asylum seekers back to Central America](#)

The United States has moved to end heavily criticized accords allowing Trump administration to deport asylum seekers at US border.

Honduras – [Honduras hardened its abortion ban. These women remain undeterred](#)

The Congress of Honduras put a lock on decades-old ban on abortion swelling the ranks of a feminist organisation that is campaigning for decriminalization of abortion.

Chile – [Protests erupt in Chile after police fatally shoot street juggler](#)

Hundreds of protestors set fire to municipal buildings in southern Chile prompting emergency government meeting after a street performer was fatally shot by police.

India – [Himalayan glacier bursts in India, dozens feared dead](#)

Dozens of people are feared dead after a Himalayan glacier broke apart and crashed into a dam. People have been hurriedly evacuated amid rising water levels on a nearby river.

CLDH's Emergency Response *Weekly Brief*

Despite the total lockdown restrictions in Lebanon, CLDH' team managed to hold 88 social intakes via phone calls, which adds to the total number of intakes to reach 622. Also, 134 services were provided, adding to the total number of provided services which reached 879 since the launching of the Emergency Response program.