



► 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

15 November 2021

Lebanon – [Caroline Hayek winner of the Albert-Londres Prize for her reports in Beirut after the explosion](#) The Albert-Londres Prize, which rewards the best journalistic reports each year, was awarded on Monday, November 15, 2021 to Caroline Hayek, journalist for L'Orient-Le Jour. Hayek was rewarded for her journalistic work following the Beirut port explosion in August 2020.

Tuesday

16 November 2021

Lebanon – [UK Advises against Non-Essential Travel to Lebanon](#)

The UK advised citizens to avoid nonessential travel to Lebanon, citing the ongoing economic crisis. The Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office warned of scarce commodities and electricity as well as lack of access to medical care.

Lebanon – [CLDH commemorates the death of activist Ghazi Aad](#)

CLDH commemorates the death of activist Ghazi Aad 5 years ago. Ghazi was the founder of the Support of Lebanese in Detention and Exile (SOLIDE) who dedicated his life to fighting for victims of enforced disappearances especially in Syria and their families' right to know the fate of their loved ones.

Lebanon – [The return of Syrian refugees key topic in Cavusoglu's talks in Lebanon](#)

At a press conference in Beirut, Turkish foreign minister Mevlut Cavusoglu spoke of facilitating the return of Syrian refugees, stating 'the brotherly Lebanese people should not have to pay the price of regional bargains.'

Wednesday
17 November 2021

Lebanon – [Lebanon Imposes Curbs For Belarus-bound Air Passengers](#)

Lebanon said Wednesday that only foreigners with Belarusian residency permits would be allowed to fly from Beirut to the ex-Soviet country, amid a migrant crisis on its border with Poland.

Lebanon – [Drug prices soar, catching Lebanese off guard](#)

The ministry of health lifted its subsidies for drugs treating chronic diseases including treatments for cancer, dialysis, and mental illness. The cost of insulin, for example, increased fourfold making it cost more than the monthly minimum wage.

Lebanon – [State of decay: How rubbish became Lebanon's latest dumpster fire](#)

Garbage is piling up as Lebanon's waste management system is buckling. Corruption and improper waste management methods have polluted the Mediterranean and have created a public health hazard.

Thursday
18 November 2021

Lebanon – [Patient Dies After Reported Neglect, Abuse At Santa Maria Health Center](#)

Lebanon's Santa Maria Health Center has come under extreme fire due to a video that was circulating on social media, showing emaciated patients suffering from extreme maltreatment and neglect. Some were tied to their beds and placed in filthy hospital rooms.

Lebanon – [Guterres draws up a worrying assessment of Lebanon](#)

In a recent report, UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres took stock of Lebanon's deteriorating situation, expressing concern over 'the polarization of political opinions regarding the investigation into the Beirut port explosion, as manifested during the deadly clashes of October 14,' condemning 'the unauthorized use of weapons outside state authority, as well as political pressure on the judiciary, and urging 'Lebanese political leaders to allow the effective functioning of legislative, executive and judicial authorities of the country without interference and with respect for the rule of law.'

Lebanon – [Lebanese Prisoners' Torture File in Swiss Court](#)

A Danish citizen of Lebanese origin filed a claim in Swiss court accusing former Lebanese defense minister Elias Murr, accusing Murr of "physical harm, kidnapping, and abuse of power," after he was arrested in 2007 in Tripoli and tortured by members of army intelligence and military police. The Prisoners' Rights Center is following up on dozens of accusations of torture in Lebanese prisons.

Friday
19 November 2021

Lebanon – [39 Palestinians with Lebanese Passports Stranded in Barcelona Airport](#)

A group of 39 Palestinians carrying Lebanese passports waited in the Barcelona airport for a fifth day Friday after they refused to board their flight during a stopover because they wanted to request asylum in Spain.

Lebanon – [Doctors fear 'surge in deaths' after Lebanon lifts drug subsidies](#)

Doctors at Rafik Hariri hospital fear a surge in deaths after the health ministry lifted subsidies on a wide array of medical treatments. The health sector has already suffered from medicine shortages, power outages, and a wave of medical professionals emigrating abroad.

Lebanon – [Lebanon stops 82 people attempting sea crossing to Europe](#)

Lebanese authorities claimed to stop 82 people from illegally crossing the Mediterranean to Europe on Friday. They claimed they raided a tourist resort and found men, women, and children attempting to pay 5,000 USD each to smuggle out of the country.

Saturday and Sunday
20 and 21 November
2021

Lebanon – [Lebanese navy rescues distressed boat carrying migrants](#)

Lebanon's navy rescued a boat carrying migrants that had left the country, heading west across the Mediterranean Sea, but broke down off the coast. The number of migrants intercepted is unknown.



Monday

15 November 2021

Iraq – [Iraq to repatriate citizens stranded at Poland-Belarus border](#)

The Iraqi government will begin repatriating its citizens stuck on the Poland-Belarus border, as people there face freezing conditions and lack vital supplies. Iraqi government officials confirmed repatriation flights would begin on Thursday for those who wish to return, on a “voluntary” basis.

Iraq – [‘No way I’m going back to Iraq’: Iraqi Kurds flee to Belarus](#)

Even as Iraqi Kurds suffer freezing temperatures on the Belarusian border, many refuse to return to Iraqi Kurdistan. Despite the relative stability in the region, a lack of employment opportunities bars many from leading a decent life and providing for their families.

Egypt – [US Advocate’s Father Held Incommunicado](#)

Human Rights Watch reports that ‘Egyptian authorities have held Salah Soltan in incommunicado detention since June 2020, in conditions that amount to enforced disappearance and may amount to torture or other ill-treatment, in likely retaliation for his son’s human rights activism.’

Tuesday

16 November 2021

Iran – [UN experts call on Iran to repeal ‘anti-abortion’ population law](#)

Iran implemented a new making carrying out abortions on a large scale punishable by death. The UN and rights groups condemned the law as a ‘contravention of international law’ saying it ‘puts women’s health and lives at risk and should be repealed immediately.’

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

Israeli forces have shot dead a 26-year-old man in the northern occupied West Bank city of Tubas after a confrontation broke out after Israeli troops raided the city overnight as part of a wider crackdown on areas in the West Bank.

Wednesday

17 November 2021

Sudan – [Several anti-coup protesters killed in Sudan as thousands rally](#)

Sudanese security forces have killed fifteen as thousands of demonstrators have taken to the streets to protest the military coup. Security forces fired live ammunition and tear gas in major cities after cutting mobile communications.

Occupied Palestine – [Two Israeli police officers stabbed, Palestinian assailant killed](#)

A 16-year-old Palestinian stabbed two Israeli police officers in Jerusalem’s walled Old City on Wednesday before he was shot and killed by security forces at the scene.

Egypt – [Egypt prepares to expand leaders’ powers in epidemics, adding prosecutions for disinformation](#)

Egypt is on the verge of passing a law that would allow people to be prosecuted if they publish something deemed to be fake news during an epidemic. Critics fear the law could be used to repress those who challenge government policies during public health crises.

Thursday

18 November
2021

Syria – [Syria: Death and distress for Idlib's children](#)

At least 60 children in Idlib have been killed in some 700 air raids and shelling in Idlib over the past five months.

Turkey – [Turkey detains Syrian singer Omar Souleyman on 'terror' charges](#)

Turkish authorities have detained internationally-known Syrian musician Omar Souleyman over alleged links to a banned Kurdish militia, his son, a local security source and Turkish media said.

Jordan – [Child labour on the rise among Jordan's most vulnerable](#)

In 2016, 76,00 children were found to be engaged in economic activity. This number is believed to have doubled particularly due to pandemic hardships.

Friday

19 November 2021

Iran – [Thousands protest in Iran's Isfahan to demand revival of river](#)

Thousands of protesters have gathered in Isfahan in central Iran to demand the revival of a major river that has dried up. The river's dryness is thought to directly affect the livelihoods of hundreds of thousands of farmers in the province in addition to adversely affecting the environment.

Saturday and Sunday

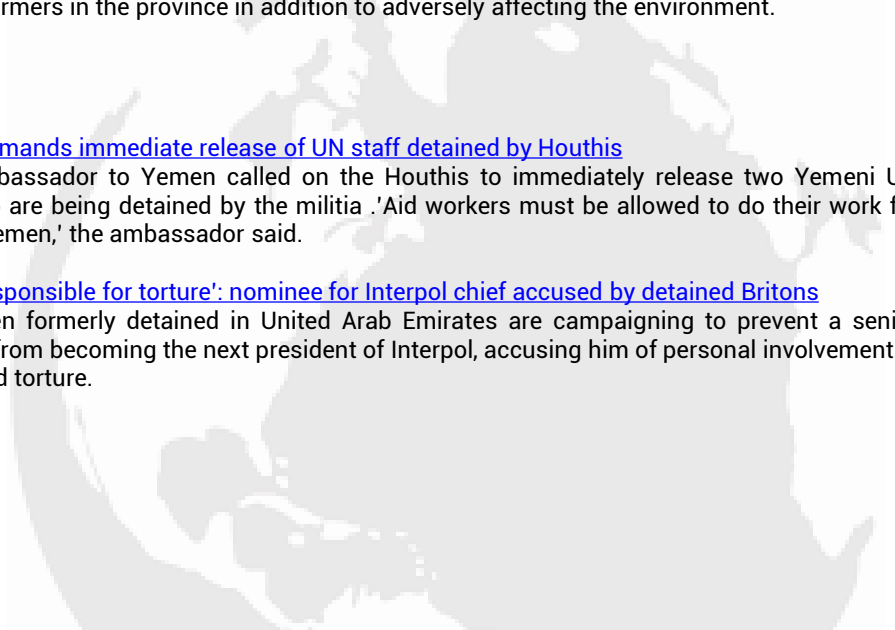
20 and 21 November
2021

Yemen – [UK demands immediate release of UN staff detained by Houthis](#)

The British ambassador to Yemen called on the Houthis to immediately release two Yemeni UN employees who are being detained by the militia. 'Aid workers must be allowed to do their work for the people of Yemen,' the ambassador said.

UAE – ['He is responsible for torture': nominee for Interpol chief accused by detained Britons](#)

Two British men formerly detained in United Arab Emirates are campaigning to prevent a senior Emirati official from becoming the next president of Interpol, accusing him of personal involvement in their arrests and torture.





INTERNATIONAL

Monday

15 November 2021

Myanmar – [US journalist Danny Fenster on way home after Myanmar release](#)

American journalist Danny Fenster was released from six months imprisonment in Myanmar on Monday. He had been convicted on charges of spreading false or inflammatory information, contacting illegal organisations and violating visa regulations, and was sentenced last week to 11 more years behind bars.

Cuba – [As Cuba Crushes Dissent, a Nationwide Protest Fizzles](#)

Police, state security agents, and civilians fanned out across the country, preventing people from leaving their homes and joining a highly anticipated nation wide protest. After a wave of marches in July where young activists demanded food, medicine, and liberty, the government has utilized its vast security apparatus to quash dissent.

US / Syria – [Pentagon Chief Orders Briefing on 2019 Syria Airstrike That Killed Dozens](#)

Defense Secretary Lloyd J. Austin III has ordered the military's top commander in the Middle East to brief him on details of a U.S. airstrike in Syria in 2019 that killed dozens of women and children. The strike was one of the largest civilian casualty incidents of the yearslong war against ISIS, but had never been publicly acknowledged by the U.S. military.

Tuesday

16 November 2021

Denmark – [With dozens in limbo, Denmark pressured to reverse refugee policy](#)

Denmark began declaring parts of Syria safe as early as 2019, and has told 90 refugees to return. If the refugees refused, they were held in facilities, 'unable to work, study, or even cook their own meals.'

Belarus / Poland – [Video: State Media Show Polish Forces Using Water Cannons on Migrants](#)

Polish border police used water cannons to force back migrants as they tried to escape being marooned in the freezing cold on the Belarus side of the border.

Belarus – [Europe Adopts New Sanctions Against Belarus](#)

A 19-year-old Syrian man died in a freezing river in October in the border region between Belarus and Poland. The Belarusian government stranded thousands of migrants at the border to force them to try to break across the border and into the EU.

Wednesday

17 November 2021

Ethiopia – [Mass Detentions of Civilians Fan 'Climate of Fear' in Ethiopia](#)

The Ethiopian government has detained hundreds, potentially thousands, of Ethiopians of Tigrayan descent in the capital in recent weeks. Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed declared a state of emergency earlier this month, and is rounding up Tigrayans regardless of their connection to rebels.

China – [Furor Over Peng Shuai's #Metoo Accusation Challenges China](#)

Tennis player Peng Shuai accused former Chinese vice premier of sexual assault. She disappeared soon after. Chinese authorities released an email they claim to be written by Shuai, but is widely believed to be a fraud. International furor has erupted just months before the winter Olympics in Beijing.

Thursday

18 November 2021

Belarus – [Belarus Clears Migrant Camp, Easing Border Standoff With Poland](#)

Belarusian authorities have cleared the migrant camps at the Polish border and moved the migrants to a warehouse. Clearing the camps eased the rising tensions over Belarusian president Aleksander Lukashenko's tactics, but leaves questions over what is to be done with migrants held in Belarus.

Belarus – [Elusive Migrants Leave Haunting Traces in Polish Forests](#)

Aid workers patrolling the forested border regions of Belarus find objects left behind by people who have passed through and disappeared. A backpack filled with documents written in Arabic, one page carefully folded into a green-and-red jewelry box. Warm shoes scattered at the edge of the forest.

Friday
19 November 2021

Croatia – [Croatia violated rights of Afghan girl who was killed by train, court rules](#)

The European court of human rights (ECHR) held the Croatian police responsible for the death of a six-year-old Afghan girl when they denied her family the opportunity to seek asylum and forced her family to return to Serbia via train tracks where the little girl, named Madina Hussiny, was struck and killed by a train.

Cameroon – [Cameroon: Lethal Force Against Protesters](#)

Human Rights Watch said Friday that 'Cameroon's armed forces used excessive and lethal force against protesters. The protesters were calling for justice for the police killing that day of Brandy Tataw, an 8-year-old schoolgirl.'

**Saturday and
Sunday**
20 and 21 November
2021

Cameroon – [Intersex Person Victim of Horrific Attack in Cameroon](#)

A violent mob sexually assaulted a 27-year-old intersex person in Cameroon's capital. The perpetrators filmed the attack in two horrific videos circulated on social media. Police arrested a man in connection with the attack, but released him 48 hours later. Between February and April 2021, security forces arrested at least 27 people, including a child, for alleged consensual same-sex conduct or gender nonconformity, beating and subjecting some to forced anal examinations in detention, recognized as a form of ill-treatment or torture, according to Human Rights Watch.