



► 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
02 August 2021

Lebanon (Beirut) – [25,000 Beirut residents benefited from the support of NGO Impact Lebanon](#) More than 1800 houses have been rehabilitated thanks to funds raised by the NGO Impact Lebanon. A year after the Beirut blast, the NGO announced that most of its projects have been successfully carried out.

Lebanon – [A year on, Beirut blast victims still struggling to return home](#) Amid economic crisis and political dysfunction, many of Beirut's homes near the port remain in ruins and their tenants in limbo.

Tuesday
03 August 2021

Lebanon – [Lebanon: Evidence Implicates Officials in Beirut Blast](#) Evidence implicates senior Lebanese officials in the August 4, 2020, explosion in Beirut that killed 218 people, but systemic problems in Lebanon's legal and political system are allowing them to avoid accountability, Human Rights Watch said.

Wednesday
04 August 2021

Lebanon – [Families of Beirut blast child victims demand justice a year on](#) Exactly one year after deadly explosion in Lebanese capital, grieving families who lost their children continue to seek justice.

Lebanon – [Beirut explosion anniversary: Protesters march across Lebanon's capital in remembrance](#) Marches across Beirut remember the blast a year later, as anger remains over continued lack of accountability.

Lebanon – [Dozens hurt in Lebanon clashes on blast anniversary](#) Dozens of people were injured when Lebanese police clashed with protesters demanding accountability for last year's Beirut port explosion.

Thursday
05 August 2021

Lebanon – [Beyond mourning, Beirut's revival](#) All emotions were mixed in demonstrations for the tragic anniversary of August 4, a day of sadness, anger and venting.

Friday
06 August 2021

Lebanon – [Hezbollah fires rockets at Israeli-occupied Shebaa Farms in response to air raids](#) Hezbollah fired at least 20 rockets at Israeli-occupied Shebaa Farms in south Lebanon in response to two Israeli airstrikes a day earlier.

Saturday and Sunday
07 August and 08
August 2021

Lebanon – [Tensions in Shouaya between inhabitants and Hezbollah militants](#) In response to the interception by inhabitants of the Druze village of Hasbaya caza of a truck carrying a Shiite party rocket launcher, supporters of Hezbollah attacked Druze farmers.

Lebanon – [Several hospitals may lack power within hours due to lack of fuel](#) The private hospital owners' union warned that several hospitals were at risk of shutting down their generators, calling on officials to intervene immediately to save patients' lives.



REGIONAL Middle East

Monday
02 August 2021

Oman – [Oman adjusts electricity tariffs to ease burden on citizens](#) Oman has adjusted its electricity tariffs structure to offer consumers on lower rates more supply, following consumer complaints about steep summer bills.

Occupied Palestine – [Sheikh Jarrah: High court defers decision on expulsion of Palestinians from their homes](#) A final verdict on the expulsion of Palestinians from their homes in occupied East Jerusalem's Sheikh Jarrah has been deferred after the Israeli Supreme Court said it has not heard sufficient arguments from both sides.

Tuesday
03 August 2021

Turkey – [Turkey wildfires: Despair and questions as forests burn](#) Devastating wildfires have tore through forests and villages, killing at least eight people and burned through huge tracts of land.

Saudi Arabia – [Saudi Arabia ramped up executions in first half of 2021: Amnesty](#) The kingdom executed at least 40 people between January and July 2021, more than in whole of 2020, Amnesty International said.

Sudan – [Dozens of bodies found in river between Ethiopia's Tigray, Sudan](#) At least 30 corpses have washed up on the Sudanese banks of a river that abuts Ethiopia's northern region of Tigray.

Wednesday
04 August 2021

Sudan – [Sudan takes 1st step towards joining International Criminal Court](#) The Sudanese cabinet has voted to ratify the founding treaty of the International Criminal Court, a move bringing closer the possibility of former longtime President Omar al-Bashir facing trial for genocide.

Iraq – [Iraq: Iranian Kurdish refugees alarmed by 'assassination' of activist](#) The wife of an Iranian Kurdish activist assassinated in northern Iraq in mid-July says her life is under threat as killers of her husband have yet to be held accountable.

Saudi Arabia – [House Speaker Pelosi says US 'closely' monitoring rights abuses in Saudi Arabia](#) Nancy Pelosi highlighted the fate of Abdulrahman al-Sadhan, an aid worker who was jailed for 20 years in April for allegedly running an anonymous social media account.

Thursday
05 August 2021

Sudan – [Sudan sentences paramilitaries to death for killing protesters](#) A Sudanese court has sentenced 6 members of a paramilitary force to death for killing 6 protesters during a 2019 demonstration over food and fuel shortages.

Occupied Palestine – [The Israeli legal system: No place for justice](#) The struggle to save the occupied East Jerusalem neighborhood of Sheikh Jarrah from ethnic cleansing by state-backed Israeli settler organizations continued this week in the Israeli Supreme Court.

Occupied Palestine – [Israel demolishes buildings near Hebron and vows to 'purge' Palestinian Bedouins](#) Palestinian Authority condemned Israeli demolition spree, claiming it amounts to an 'ethnic cleansing operation' aimed to push Palestinians out of their land.

Saudi Arabia – [US intervenes in former Saudi spymaster's lawsuit to protect state secrets](#) The Justice Department files a motion to intervene in court case between Saad al-Jabri and Saudi companies accusing him of defrauding them.

Friday
06 August 2021

Occupied Palestine – [Israeli troops shoot dead Palestinian in occupied West Bank](#) Israeli troops have shot dead a Palestinian and injured others during a protest against illegal Israeli settlements in the occupied West Bank.

Saturday and Sunday
07 August and 08 August 2021

Syria – [Fighting in Deraa displaces thousands of civilians, UN said](#) Recent fighting between Syrian regime forces and armed groups in the southern province of Deraa have displaced 18,000 civilians since July.

Syria – [Four children killed in northwest Syria government shelling](#) Syrian government artillery shells struck a village in the last rebel enclave in the country, killing four children from the same family.





INTERNATIONAL

Monday

02 August 2021

Cameroon – [Cameroon: New Abuses by Both Sides](#) Human Rights Watch denounced new human rights' abuses in Cameroon's Anglophone regions by both government security forces and armed separatists.

Poland – [Poland grants humanitarian visa to Belarusian Olympic athlete](#) Belarusian Olympian Krystsina Tsimanouskaya has been granted a humanitarian visa by Poland after her team was trying to force her on board the plane against her wishes.

United States – [US expands Afghan refugee programme amid escalating violence](#) The Biden administration has expanded its efforts to widen the scope of Afghans eligible for refugee status in the US as a Taliban offensive intensifies.

Nigeria – [Nigerian doctors strike over pay, inadequate facilities](#) Doctors in Nigeria's state-run hospitals have begun a strike over pay, insurance benefits and poor facilities as the country faces a third wave of coronavirus.

Tuesday

03 August 2021

Belarus – [Missing Belarus activist Vitaly Shishov found hanged in Kyiv park](#) Vitaly Shishov, who led a Kyiv-based NGO, was found hanged in a park in the Ukrainian capital, Kyiv.

Democratic Republic Congo – [More than dozen people killed by rebels in east DR Congo](#) At least 16 people were killed in an attack in the DRC conflict-plagued east, including two women, believed to be the work of rebels.

Afghanistan – [UN urges warring parties in Afghanistan to protect civilians](#) The UN has called on Afghanistan's warring parties to do more to protect civilians, warning that the impact of "indiscriminate" gunfire and air raids will be "catastrophic".

Kashmir – [Kashmiris working in Indian army, police continue to face attacks](#) Locals employed with region's police or Indian security forces and their families being targeted, with police blaming rebels for the killings.

Wednesday
04 August 2021

India – [Dalit girl allegedly raped, killed and forcibly cremated in India](#) A nine-year-old girl belonging to India's marginalised Dalit community has been gang-raped, murdered and forcibly cremated in capital New Delhi, her family alleges.

Ethiopia – [Claims of bias against aid workers in Tigray 'dangerous', says UN](#) The United Nations' new humanitarian chief has denounced "dangerous" accusations by Ethiopian government officials that aid workers were biased in favor of rebels in Tigray.

Germany – [Syria war: Germany detains Syrian for 2014 grenade attack on Yarmouk camp](#) Germany has detained a Syrian man in Berlin suspected of firing a grenade into a crowd of civilians waiting for food inside a Palestinian refugee camp near Damascus in 2014.

Colombia – [Colombia's ex-armed group leaders apologise for war atrocities](#) Two of Colombia's most prominent ex-rebel and paramilitary group leaders apologized to victims as part of a commission to deal with the country's decades-long civil war.

Thursday
05 August 2021

South Sudan – [South Sudan: African Union Disappoints on Justice](#) The African Union Commission's failure to advance justice for the countless victims of atrocities in South Sudan raises concerns about the regional body's commitment to accountability.

Afghanistan – [Afghanistan: Justice System Failing Women](#) The Afghan government's failure to provide accountability for violence against women and girls has undermined progress to protect women's rights, Human Rights Watch said.

Myanmar – [Myanmar diplomat alerts UN to alleged military 'massacre'](#) Myanmar's ambassador to the UN, who has refused to leave his post despite being fired after the military seized power in a coup six months ago, has alerted the world body to a "reported massacre" by the military regime.

United Kingdom – [UK arrests 11 over racist abuse targeting Black England players](#) Police in the UK have arrested 11 people in connection with the online racial abuse of 3 Black English football players following the team's performance in the Euro 2020 final last month.

Friday
06 August 2021

Sri Lanka – [Sri Lanka: Police Abuses Surge Amid Covid-19 Pandemic](#) Sri Lanka's police are increasingly killing and abusing people under cover of the Covid-19 pandemic measures and an anti-drug campaign, Human Rights Watch said.

Hong Kong – [Biden offers Hong Kong people in US temporary 'safe haven'](#) Following Beijing's crackdown on democracy in Hong Kong, the US will provide "safe haven" to Hong Kong citizens in the next 18 months.

Nigeria – [Over 2m children go hungry in conflict-hit northeast Nigeria: NGO](#) At least 2.3 million children and youth are going hungry in northeastern Nigeria where escalating violence has forced farmers to flee their fields and put the region on the brink of critical food shortages.

Mozambique – [Mozambique: Civilians Prevented from Fleeing Fighting](#) Many civilians are trapped by fighting in Cabo Delgado province, while the government is not helping them moving to safer areas.

**Saturday and
Sunday**

07 August and 08
August 2021

Thailand – [Police fire tear gas, rubber bullets at Bangkok protesters](#) Thailand police have fired tear gas and rubber bullets at demonstrators in Bangkok protesting against the government's failure to handle coronavirus outbreaks and its effect on the economy.

Afghanistan – [As fighting rages in Afghanistan, health workers are struggling](#) Fighting in urban areas has increased the number of civilians injured and made providing healthcare extremely difficult.