



# HUMAN RIGHTS DEVELOPMENTS IN A WEEK

19 – 25 September, 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.***

***The articles shared in this brief are the liability of their respective news outlets and do not reflect the views of CLDH.***



## LOCAL

**Monday**  
19 Sept 2022

**Lebanon – [Lebanese banks close doors as protesters demand release of detainees](#)**

Lebanese banks announced a three-day closure starting Monday after the Association of Banks released a decision aimed at halting break-ins and holdups by depositors. The decision came following a series of high-profile incidents in bank branches, as depositors attempted to withdraw US dollar savings that have been frozen for three years. Caretaker Interior Minister Bassam Mawlawi described the bank break-ins in Beirut and other regions as “organized.” The Association of Banks demanded that “necessary measures be taken” in order to ensure the safety of employees and customers, and to preserve depositors’ rights. Some bank central departments remained administratively functional on Monday, while the central bank’s Sayrafa platform was unaffected by the strike. The black market US dollar exchange rate stood at 38,350 Lebanese pounds, despite assumptions that it would rise due to political and security turmoil in the country.

**Tuesday**  
20 Sept 2022

**Lebanon – [Lebanon: where drinking water has become a luxury](#)**

Lebanese residents have been paying extra money on black market water to keep the tanks in their apartments full. “We sometimes do not have access to water for 2 weeks,” explains resident Wafaa Fakhreddine. “And when it does arrive, it is not as clean as it should be.” Sometimes, people spend days without water as they wait for it to be delivered. Paying for these deliveries – which are three times more expensive – also constitutes a struggle due to the country’s economic crisis and the limits on the amount of money that can be withdrawn from banks. Activists have been calling on authorities to increase supply in order to drive down costs. The water crisis has also been exacerbated by the fuel crisis, since the pumps that transfer water to people’s homes require energy to function.

**Wednesday**  
21 Sept 2022

**Lebanon – [Instant folk hero: Lebanese woman who stole own savings says she’s not the criminal](#)**

After forcing a bank to release her family savings at gunpoint to treat her cancer-stricken sister and hiding from authorities, 28-year-old Lebanese interior designer Sali Hafiz insists she is not the criminal. “We are in the country of mafias. If you are not a wolf, the wolves will eat you,” she said, standing on a dirt track somewhere in Lebanon’s rugged eastern Bekaa valley where she has since been hiding. Hafiz held up a Beirut branch of BLOM Bank last week, taking by force some \$13,000 in savings in her sister’s account frozen by capital controls that were imposed overnight by commercial banks in 2019 but never made legal via legislation. Hafiz was the first of at least seven savers who held up banks last week, prompting banks to shut their doors and call for security support from the government.

**Thursday**  
22 Sept 2022

**Lebanon – [Lebanon banks will remain shut indefinitely after ‘heists’](#)**

Banks in Lebanon will remain shut indefinitely after the country’s banking association said a spate of bank heists had made opening branches too dangerous. “It is still not clear what indefinite means,” Al Jazeera’s Zeina Khodr reported from Beirut. “Banks are closed but, to a certain extent, they are maintaining services. For example, depositors are able to access money from ATM machines but only in the local currency.” She also added that “Many people are not finding any jobs and they really blame the banks for imposing these controls on the citizens.” People are additionally worried about accessing their money as public and private sector salaries are due to be paid next week.

**Friday**  
23 Sept 2022

**Lebanon – [Death toll from Lebanon migrant boat increases to 61](#)**

Syrian authorities have recovered the bodies of at least 61 individuals who were aboard a migrant boat that sank off its coast after leaving Lebanon, and search efforts continue, according to a Lebanese minister. 20 survivors were being treated in Syrian hospitals. Lebanon's deteriorating economic situation has led to a spike in migration as the majority of the population has plunged into poverty during the last three years. In addition to Lebanese, Syrian and Palestinian refugees have been among those trying to leave the country by sea. Syrian authorities began finding bodies off the coast of Tartus on Thursday afternoon. Its transport ministry has cited survivors saying the boat left from Lebanon's northern Minyeh region on Tuesday with between 120 and 150 people onboard, bound for Europe.

**Saturday and Sunday**  
24 and 25 Sept 2022

**Lebanon – [Death toll from Lebanon asylum seeker boat tragedy rises to 94](#)**

More bodies of refugees and migrants have been recovered from the sea off Syria after their boat sank on Thursday, raising the death toll to 94 as the Lebanese army said it arrested a suspected smuggler behind one of the deadliest boat disasters in the Eastern Mediterranean. More people are believed to be missing as up to 150 people were on board the small boat which sailed from crisis-hit Lebanon. Those on board were mostly Lebanese, Syrians and Palestinians, and included both children and the elderly, the United Nations said. Funerals were held for a second day in the Lebanese city of Tripoli for those who died.



**Monday**  
19 Sept 2022

**Occupied Palestine – [Palestinian schools in Jerusalem strike over Israel-imposed books](#)**

Palestinian schools in occupied East Jerusalem imposed a general strike to protest attempts by the Israeli Jerusalem municipality to cancel and edit Palestinian textbooks and impose an Israeli curriculum in classrooms. Hundreds of schools closed on Monday, following protests led by parents who refused the Israeli-imposed textbooks. The unified parents committee and the Palestinian National and Islamic Forces in Jerusalem called for a full strike in a joint press release and called on international institutions to step in and protect Palestinian education. Ziad al-Shamali, aged 56, head of the parents committee union, told Al Jazeera that if Israel's efforts succeed, it "will have control over the education of 90 percent of our students in Jerusalem."

**Egypt – [Egypt frees Al Jazeera journalist Ahmed al-Najdi](#)**

Al Jazeera journalist Ahmed al-Najdi has been released by Egyptian authorities after spending over two years in detention without trial. Al-Najdi works with Al Jazeera Mubasher, the Arabic-language live television unit of the Qatar-based network, and he has been detained since August 2020. The Egyptian journalist's health had been deteriorating, and al-Najdi said that he believed he was "on [his] way to the grave," in comments made shortly after his release. Al-Najdi said he suffers from diabetes, hypertension, and other chronic conditions and that he was denied healthcare during the initial period of his time in prison. He added that he had only appeared before the Egyptian judiciary three times during his detention, without being given the chance to make any statements. He had originally been arrested while he was in Egypt on holiday and was questioned about his work for Al Jazeera, according to rights groups. He was accused of membership in a "terrorist" group and spreading "false news".

**Iran – [Two killed in Iran protests over woman's death after 'morality police' arrest](#)**

Two men were killed in protests against the death of a Kurdish woman after her arrest by Iran's morality police, according to the Iranian human rights group Hengaw. "In Monday's protests in the town of Divandarreh, at least two citizens – Fouad Qadimi and Mohsen Mohammadi – died after being taken to Kosar Hospital in Sanandaj and 15 others were injured," Hengaw said on its Twitter account. There was no immediate official confirmation of the report. Demonstrations were held in the capital Tehran, including several of its universities, as well in Iran's second city, Mashhad, according to the Fars and Tasnim news agencies. "Several hundred people chanted slogans against the authorities, some of them took off their hijab," Fars said, adding that "police arrested several people and dispersed the crowd using batons and tear gas."

**Tuesday**  
20 Sept 2022

**Yemen – [Houthis kidnapped, jailed 1,700 women over 7 years, UN hears](#)**

The Houthi militia kidnapped 1,700 women in Yemen, mainly from the capital Sanaa, between 2015 and 2022, according to the Human Rights Association. The rights group accused the militia of torturing female inmates in Houthi prisons, urging international organizations to exert pressure on the militia to release the detained women and end violence against them. In its speech at the United Nations' Human Rights Council, the group cited the case of the Yemeni model Entisar Al-Hammadi, who was arrested at a Sanaa security checkpoint in 2021 and subjected to "horrific torture" to extract a forced confession from her. She was later sentenced to five years in jail in what the association described as "an illegal trial." The rights group also urged the international community to pressure the Houthis to end the siege on Taiz and stop crimes against civilians in the city.

**Occupied Palestine – [Joint investigation finds Abu Akleh's killing 'deliberate'](#)**

Further evidence has been uncovered that refutes Israel's account that the killing of veteran Al Jazeera journalist Shireen Abu Akleh was a mistake, according to a joint investigation by a London-based multidisciplinary research group and a Palestinian rights group. Forensic Architecture and Al-Haq said that Abu Akleh's killing was deliberate. Abu Akleh, who was with Al Jazeera for 25 years and known as the "voice of Palestine," was shot in the head and killed by Israeli forces on May 11 while she was covering an army raid in the Jenin refugee camp in the occupied West Bank. The probe examined the Israeli sniper's precise angle of fire and concluded that the sniper was able to clearly tell that there were journalists in the area. It also ruled out the possibility of confrontations between Israeli forces and Palestinians in Jenin at the time of the attack. According to the investigation, for which Al Jazeera provided material, the Israeli sniper shot for two minutes, and deliberately targeted those who tried to rescue Abu Akleh.

Wednesday  
21 Sept 2022

**Occupied Palestine – [Clashes with Palestinian security forces in Nablus leave one dead](#)**

A Palestinian man was killed during ongoing clashes between Palestinian fighters and Palestinian Authority (PA) security forces in the Israeli-occupied West Bank city of Nablus. Local media identified the man as 53-year-old Firas Yaeesh. His death was announced at dawn on Tuesday. Witnesses, as well as local journalists, have said that Yaeesh was killed by PA police fire, but this has not yet been confirmed. "Armed men had been shooting at the Nablus police center, then the police began shooting indiscriminately – a bullet from the police hit him and killed him in front of his home," Nablus-based journalist Hazem Nasser told Al Jazeera, citing witnesses.

**Iran – [Iranian activist gets 3-year sentence in prison for sharing video without hijab](#)**

Iranian activist Melika Qaragozlu has been sentenced to three years and eight months in prison for protesting the country's mandatory hijab rules, her lawyer said. Qaragozlu was arrested for appearing on a social media video without wearing the mandatory Islamic headscarf, according to [Radio Farda](#). Her lawyer, Mohammad Kamfiruzi, wrote on Twitter that the Islamic Revolutionary Court of Tehran recently handed down the sentence to his client "for publishing a few seconds of video herself without a headscarf on social media." In the video, Qaragozlu protested the compulsory Islamic headscarf in Iran as part of a nationwide anti-hijab campaign, where she was a participant, that started in July.

Thursday  
22 Sept 2022

**Turkey – [100,000 Syrian refugees in Turkey plan to form caravan and cross border into Greece](#)**

A large group of Syrian refugees is mobilizing in Turkey to try to form a convoy and enter the European Union through Greece, according to the Guardian. Around 100,000 out of more than 3.5 million Syrian refugees residing in Turkey are expected to join the so-called "Caravan of Light," according to the organizers. Plans to assemble the group have been ongoing for several weeks through Telegram – a messaging application. Participants have been advised to bring essentials for the journey, including tents, sleeping bags, and canned food. The starting point for the movement is Erdin in the northeast of Turkey. Refugees then hope to gain momentum to allow them to get into Greece. The main trigger for the caravan movement is the growing anger among refugees due to the way they are being treated in Turkey. Organizers criticized "abhorrent racism" that has led to deadly attacks on Syrians.

**Iran – [Iran restricts WhatsApp, Instagram as Mahsa Amini protests grow](#)**

Iran has restricted access to social media networks Instagram and WhatsApp following protests over the death of Mahsa Amini, who died in police custody, according to residents and internet watchdog NetBlocks. Millions of Iranians were also left offline after significant internet outages were seen across the country, with one of the biggest phone operators being disrupted. NetBlocks reported a "nation-scale loss of connectivity" on Iran's main mobile telephone provider and another company's network. WhatsApp's servers were disrupted on multiple internet providers, hours after Instagram's services were blocked, London-based NetBlocks said.

Friday  
23 Sept 2022

**Qatar – [Qatar fund launches initiative to support conflict-affected women](#)**

The Qatar Fund for Development (QFFD), along with other strategic partners, has launched a new global initiative that will back the empowerment of women and girls in conflict-affected areas through humanitarian aid and developmental assistance. The programme, called Women in Conflict Zones (WICZ), aims to change the lives of thousands of women and girls through access to social and economic services. Its projects include programmes that provide educational opportunities and vocational training for girls in Afghanistan. Lolwah Alkhater, Qatar's assistant foreign minister, highlighted how women are disproportionately affected by conflict and violence, pushing them into further vulnerability and poverty. "Women in fragile environments are often left behind," she said, noting how "between 1990 and 2017, most of the mediation efforts had zero women participation, despite the fact that they are the most affected."

**Iran – [Iran leader cancels interview with CNN's Amanpour over headscarf](#)**

Veteran journalist Christiane Amanpour says an interview with Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi was canceled after he insisted she wear a headscarf. Amanpour, the chief international anchor of CNN who also has a show on United States public broadcaster PBS, said she was ready for the interview on Wednesday on the sidelines of the United Nations General Assembly when an aide to the president insisted she cover her hair. "I politely declined. We are in New York where there is no law or tradition regarding headscarves," Amanpour, who was born in the United Kingdom to an Iranian father, wrote on Twitter. "I pointed out that no previous Iranian president has required this when I have interviewed them outside Iran. I said that I couldn't agree to this unprecedented and unexpected condition." Amanpour later posted a picture of herself, without a headscarf, sitting in front of an empty chair where the Iranian President would have been.

Saturday and Sunday  
24 and 25 Sept 2022

**Occupied Palestine – [Palestinian comic fans denounce Marvel's 'Sabra' as propaganda](#)**

Marvel Studios' decision to feature an Israeli superhero called "Sabra" in its upcoming film has been met by outrage from Palestinian artists who say it is evidence of "racism" and "white-washing colonialism". Marvel announced late last week that the character, who operates as an Israeli intelligence (Mossad) agent, would be featured in the 2024 Captain America movie. Following the backlash, Marvel said in a statement that the character would be "freshly imagined for the screen and today's audience" and that the "filmmakers are taking a new approach." Artists in Palestine say the superhero and what it represents are an extension of western bias in favor of the Israeli regime. "Their policy is to distort the facts in their coverage by using a cultural weapon such as comics and movies – it is a process of feeding the audience with propaganda," 29-year-old Michael Jabareen, who produces comics among other forms of art, told Al Jazeera.





**Monday**  
19 Sept 2022

## **The Caribbean – [Hurricane Fiona leaves debris, destruction in Caribbean](#)**

Hurricane Fiona has led to a trail of destruction across Puerto Rico, obstructing the island's power and resulting in torrential rain and catastrophic damage before making landfall in the Dominican Republic. Landslides, blocked roads, fallen trees and power lines, as well as a collapsed bridge in the town of Utuado in the central mountainous region, were part of the destruction already caused by Fiona in Puerto Rico, Governor Pedro Pierluisi told an evening news conference. The hurricane carried maximum sustained winds of 144 km per hour as it hit the Dominican Republic on Monday morning, the US National Hurricane Center (NHC) said on Twitter. "Life-threatening flash and urban flooding is likely for eastern portions of the Dominican Republic," the NHC said in a morning advisory.

## **Ethiopia – [UN: Warring sides committing atrocities in Ethiopia's Tigray](#)**

UN experts stated that there are reasonable grounds to believe that "war crimes and crimes against humanity" have been committed by the Ethiopian government in the Tigray region, warning that renewed conflict there increased the risk of "further atrocity crimes." The International Commission of Human Rights Experts on Ethiopia said it found that violations, such as extrajudicial killings and rape, have been committed by warring sides in Ethiopia since fighting erupted in the northern Tigray region in [November 2020](#). The Council added that it had "reasonable grounds to believe that, in several instances, these violations amount to war crimes and crimes against humanity." The report was issued as [fighting resumed](#) between the Ethiopian government and its allies, and forces backing the Tigray authorities following a tense [five-month cessation of hostilities](#).

## **United States – [US judge frees Adnan Syed after more than 20 years in jail](#)**

A Maryland judge has vacated the 2000 murder conviction of [Adnan Syed](#) after prosecutors said there were two other possible suspects in the killing of his former girlfriend who were never disclosed to the defence at trial. 42-year-old Syed has always said that he was innocent and did not kill Hae Min Lee, who was 18 when she was strangled and buried in a Baltimore park in 1999. Judge Melissa Phinn of the Circuit Court in Baltimore ordered Syed to be released from prison and put on home detention. Prosecutors have 30 days to seek a new trial or dismiss the case.

**Tuesday**  
20 Sept 2022

## **Nigeria – [Nigeria battles worst floods in years; 300 killed in 2022](#)**

More than 300 people have been killed in Nigeria in 2022, including 20 this week, due to the worst floods that the country has seen in a decade, according to authorities. According to Nigeria's National Emergency Management Agency, half a million people, including 100,000 displaced, have been affected by floods in 27 out of Nigeria's 36 states and capital city. Additionally, more than 500 individuals have been injured. The floods have also impacted thousands of hectares of farmland, generating fears of a disruption of food supplies in the country. Since 2012, "this (the flood-related deaths) is the highest we ever had," said Manzo Ezekiel, a spokesperson for the disaster management agency. Nigeria's yearly flooding is a consequence of the lack of environmental guidelines and insufficient infrastructure. Authorities are blaming this year's floods on water overflowing from local rivers. Nigeria's disaster management agency has warned states of "serious consequences" in the upcoming weeks after two of the country's dams have begun to overflow.

## **Equatorial Guinea – [Equatorial Guinea abolishes the death penalty](#)**

Equatorial Guinea has abolished the death penalty after its President Teodoro Obiang Nguema Mbasogo signed a new penal code into law. The vice president, Obiang's son, announced the news on social media. "I am writing in capitals to seal this unique moment: 'EQUATORIAL GUINEA HAS ABOLISHED THE DEATH PENALTY'," Vice President Teodoro Nguema Obiang Mangue said on Facebook. A journalist on state television said that the abolishment was "historic for our country". The new decision will come into force 90 days after its publication in the official state journal and was approved in advance by parliament. According to Amnesty International, the last execution in New Guinea took place in 2014. Nevertheless, international non-governmental organizations and the United Nations frequently accuse the regime of forced disappearances, arbitrary detention, and torture.

Wednesday  
21 Sept 2022

### **Mexico – [Strong earthquake shakes Mexico's Pacific coast; 1 killed](#)**

At least one person was killed and a seismic alarm was set off in the capital following a 7.6 magnitude earthquake that shook Mexico's central Pacific coast on the anniversary of two earlier devastating quakes. The quake was centered 37 kilometers southeast of Aquila near the boundary of Colima and Michoacan states and at a depth of 15.1 kilometers. According to the US Geologic Survey, there were some early reports of damage to buildings from the quake. The victim was killed in the port city of Manzanillo, Colima when a wall at a mall collapsed. In Coalcoman, Michoacan, near the quake's epicenter, buildings were damaged, but there were no immediate reports of injuries.

### **Global – [Hunger now killing one person every four seconds, NGOs say](#)**

More than 200 NGOs have warned that one person is estimated to die of hunger every four seconds, urging the international community to take action to "end the spiraling global hunger crisis." 238 organizations from 75 countries wrote an open letter to world leaders gathering in New York for the United Nations General Assembly to express their outrage at skyrocketing hunger levels. The organizations included Oxfam, Save the Children, and Plan International. "A staggering 345 million people are now experiencing acute hunger, a number that has more than doubled since 2019," they said in a statement. "Despite promises from world leaders to never allow famine again in the 21st century, famine is once more imminent in Somalia. Around the world, 50 million people are on the brink of starvation in 45 countries."

### **Uganda – [Uganda confirms Ebola outbreak after patient dies](#)**

An Ebola outbreak was declared in Uganda after health authorities confirmed a case of relatively rare Sudan stain, according to the government and the World Health Organization (WHO). "We want to inform the country that we have an outbreak of Ebola, which we confirmed yesterday," Diana Atwine, the health ministry's permanent secretary, told a news conference. The patient with the confirmed case, a 24-year-old man in Uganda's central Mubende district, showed symptoms – including a high fever, diarrhea, abdominal pains, and vomiting blood – and later died. He had initially been treated for malaria. There are currently eight suspected cases receiving care in a health facility, and Uganda's health authorities are receiving assistance from the WHO's Africa office.

### **Cyprus – [Cyprus helps rescue 300 migrants aboard Italy-bound boat](#)**

Cyprus has helped rescue more than 300 migrants on a small wooden boat that was floating 203 kilometers west of the Island, a Cypriot official said. According to Cyprus Joint Rescue Coordination Center (JRCC) Commander Andreas Charalambides, the boat's captain sent out a distress call Monday afternoon after experiencing engine trouble. A helicopter and three naval and police patrol vessels were sent to offer assistance to the boat that Charalambides said had departed from Lebanon three days prior and was trying to reach Italy with many women and children aboard. All the migrants were safely transferred aboard the Marshall Islands-flagged cargo ship Paolo Topic, and none of them appeared to have experienced any health issues.

### **Afghanistan – [Appeal at UN for world leaders to protect Afghan girls' education](#)**

Somaya Faruqi, the former captain of the Afghan girls' robotics team, broke down in tears backstage after pleading with world leaders at the United Nations to protect the education and rights of women in Afghanistan a year after the Taliban took over. "I was in classroom last year, but this year girls are not in classroom. Classrooms are empty, and they are at their homes. So, it was too hard to control myself, control my feelings," Faruqi, aged 20, told the Reuters news agency. Faruqi, who now attends the Missouri University of Science and Technology, left Afghanistan in August last year when the Taliban seized power and the United States and allies withdrew forces after a 20-year war. Speaking at the UN General Assembly, she urged leaders to unite and demand the reopening of girls' schools and the protection of their rights.

### **Japan – [Man sets himself on fire near Japan prime minister's office](#)**

An unconscious man was transferred to the hospital after allegedly setting himself on fire next to the office of Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida, according to local media. There weren't many initial details about the incident, and the police and prime minister's office refused to comment. According to TV Asahi, the man set himself alight after telling police he was opposed to plans for a state funeral for assassinated former prime minister Shinzo Abe. The television station said a police officer who tried to extinguish the fire was injured in the process. Kyodo news agency and other outlets said police were called to the scene after reports a man was "engulfed in flames." It said a note was found near the man, expressing his opposition to the funeral. Abe, Japan's longest-serving prime minister, was shot dead on July 8 while campaigning, and a publicly funded state funeral honoring him will be held on September 27.



Thursday  
22 Sept 2022

### **Russia – [Hundreds arrested at anti-mobilisation protests in Russia](#)**

Demonstrators have taken to the streets in various Russian cities to protest against President Vladimir Putin's decree to partially mobilize reservists in the country's armed forces. According to an independent protest monitoring group, hundreds of individuals were arrested at anti-mobilization rallies in cities including Moscow and St Petersburg. Protesters in Moscow chanted "No to war!" and "Life to our children!" The Associated Press news agency reported. In St Petersburg, protesters chanted "No mobilization!", the AFP news agency reported. "Everyone is scared. I am for peace and I don't want to have to shoot. But coming out now is very dangerous, otherwise, there would be many more people," said protester Vasily Fedorov, a student wearing a pacifist symbol on his chest.

### **Thailand – [Thailand roadside bomb kills police officer, injures three others](#)**

A Thai policeman was killed, and four others injured after a roadside bomb detonated as their vehicles passed near a hospital in southern Thailand, according to the police. The police motorcycle and a patrol truck were traveling together when both were hit by the blast in front of a hospital in Mai Kaen town, Pattani province. The officer on the motorcycle died while the police truck veered off the road and crashed into an electrical pole. Three officers in the truck were rushed to the hospital for treatment. Police believe the bomb was planted in a rubbish bin in front of the hospital and that it was detonated remotely. Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) officers sealed off the area and monitored nearby streets for evidence.

### **United Kingdom – [England To End LGBQ+ Discrimination in Access to Fertility Services](#)**

The British government has put into action a 10-year plan to end discrimination against "female same-sex couples" seeking fertility services. The UK's Department of Health and Social Care published its first ever Women's Health Strategy for England, relying on language that supports reproductive rights for lesbian, bisexual, and queer women. It commits the government's health department to improving transparency and removing discriminatory policies to ensure "female same-sex couples are able to access [National Health Service] NHS-funded fertility services in a more equitable way." The new strategy asserts that female same-sex couples can expect NHS coverage to start with 6 cycles of artificial insemination. However, it was not entirely clear when the strategy would take effect. "Some queer couples told us this week they have already been put on fertility waiting lists for 2023, others were told they still don't qualify," Bacon-Evans told Human Rights Watch.

### **Global – [World leaders pledge billions to fight AIDS, TB, and malaria](#)**

The Global Fund to Fight Aids, Tuberculosis, and Malaria has secured \$14.25bn in new funding, after decades of progress against the diseases were halted by the COVID-19 pandemic. United States President Joe Biden, who hosted the conference in New York City on the sidelines of the annual high-level meeting of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA), said the funding – the highest amount ever pledged for a multilateral health organization – is crucial to combating the diseases. "This is an investment that will save another 20 million lives, reduce mortality from these diseases by another 64 percent in the next four years," said Biden. "What's happened today is actually an unparalleled mobilization of resources for global health," said Global Fund Executive Director Peter Sands.

### **El Salvador – [El Salvador landslides kill at least 7, including three children](#)**

At least 7 people have been killed in El Salvador after heavy rains triggered landslides south of the capital. The victims included two adults and three children whose house – approximately 17 km south of San Salvador – was buried due to the landslide, according to the country's civil protection agency. Another 2 people died and a child was injured after a landslide covered a house in the nearby town of Panchimalco. The deaths come amid heavy rainfall and flooding in several countries in Central America that began last week. According to FloodList, a European Union-funded research group monitoring floods around the world, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua and Costa Rica have all been impacted by prolonged heavy rainfall that has caused flooding and landslides.

### **Mexico – [Two killed after 6.8 magnitude earthquake rattles Mexico](#)**

A powerful 6.8 magnitude earthquake has struck Mexico, killing at least two people in the nation's capital, causing damage to buildings and setting off landslides. The earthquake struck on Thursday, only three days after a 7.6 magnitude quake shook western and central Mexico, killing two people. Mexico City Mayor Claudia Sheinbaum said on Twitter that two people died – a woman who fell down the stairs of her home and a man who had a heart attack. Residents huddled in streets as seismic alarms blared. Michoacan's state government said the quake was felt throughout the state. It reported damage to a building in the city of Uruapan and landslides on the highway that connects Michoacan and Guerrero with the coast.

Friday  
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**South Sudan – [Sex abuse allegations against aid workers in South Sudan UN camp](#)**

Accounts of sexual abuse committed by aid workers at a camp run by the UN in South Sudan first surfaced in 2015, two years after the country's civil war erupted. Seven years on, such reports have not only continued, but they recently increased, an investigation by The New Humanitarian and Al Jazeera found. The revelations come at a tense time, with the UN estimating that as many as 5,000 displaced people may be headed towards the camp in Malakal soon and current residents worrying that this influx may increase the incidents of sexual abuse and exploitation (SEA). They say these incidents have gone largely unchecked despite a UN-led task force charged with tackling the problem.

**India – [India warns its citizens in Canada of 'increase in hate crimes'](#)**

The Indian government has advised its nationals in Canada to exercise caution, citing "a sharp increase in incidents of hate crimes, sectarian violence and anti-India activities" in the North American country. In an advisory issued on Friday, the Indian foreign ministry asked the Indians in Canada to "remain vigilant". "In view of the increasing incidences of crimes ... Indian nationals and students from India in Canada and those proceeding to Canada for travel/education are advised to exercise due caution," it said. The advisory additionally stated that the country asked Canadian authorities to investigate the crimes and take proper action.

**Afghanistan – [Bomb goes off as worshippers exit Kabul mosque, kills at least 7](#)**

Several people were killed and dozens more wounded when a car bomb went off at a mosque in Afghanistan's capital, Kabul, as worshippers streamed out of afternoon prayers. A column of black smoke rose into the sky on Friday and gunshots rang out several minutes after the explosion in Wazir Akbar Khan, an area formerly home to the city's "Green Zone", the location of many foreign embassies and NATO but now controlled by the ruling Taliban. The Associated Press news agency quoted a Taliban official as saying that at least seven people were killed and 41 wounded. Afghan media reports put the death toll at nine. "After prayers, when people wanted to come out from the mosque, a blast happened," said Kabul police spokesman Khalid Zadran. "All casualties are civilians." There was no immediate claim of responsibility.

Saturday and Sunday  
24 and 25 Sept 2022

**India – [Heavy rains, lightning kill at least 36 in northern India](#)**

At least 36 people have been killed in northern India in the last 24 hours, including 12 who died after being struck by lightning, due to hazardous weather. Officials have also warned of heavier downpours in the upcoming days. 24 people died in the northern state of Uttar Pradesh after their houses collapsed due to unrelenting rains, according to Relief Commissioner Ranvir Prasad. 15-year-old Mohamed Usam was on his friend's roof in the city of Prayagraj when he instantly died after being struck by lightning. His friend was injured and is being treated in the hospital. "As soon as they set foot on the roof, they were hit by lightning and my son died," said Mohammad Ayub, Usman's father. Officials said 39 people in the state have died from lightning in the last five days, prompting the state government to issue new guidelines for how people can protect themselves during a thunderstorm.

**Iran – [Over 700 protesters arrested in Iran, including 60 women](#)**

Iranian police in one province have arrested more than 700 individuals during more than one week of protests after the death of Mahsa Aini – a 22-year-old Kurdish woman who died after falling into a coma following her detention by morality police enforcing hijab rules on women's dress. General Azizollah Maleki, police chief of Guilan province, announced "the arrest of 739 rioters including 60 women," according to Tasnim news agency. Thirty-five people have been killed in the weeklong demonstrations, according to Iran's state television, with protests spreading to most of the country's 31 provinces.