



HUMAN RIGHTS DEVELOPMENTS IN A WEEK

02 - 08 January, 2023



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

02 Jan 2023

Lebanon – Two refugees die, 232 rescued after boat capsizes off Lebanon

Two migrants and refugees died and 232 others were rescued after the boat they were traveling in capsized off the coast of Lebanon, the Lebanese army has said. The army stated that three naval vessels and a ship operated by the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) took part in a rescue operation off Selaata, north of the Lebanese capital, Beirut. Reports from the northern city of Tripoli – Lebanon’s second-largest and most impoverished – said Lebanese, Syrian and Palestinian men, women, and children were on the boat that left northern Lebanon after midnight on Friday. Residents of Tripoli who are in contact with survivors said the dead were a Syrian woman and a Syrian child. Earlier, the army said a naval patrol had been dispatched to rescue the vessel packed with people attempting to “illegally leave Lebanese waters”.

Wednesday

04 Jan 2023

Lebanon – Lebanon's children face growing hunger crisis

The dire situation in Lebanon means the number of children dealing with “crisis” levels of hunger could surge by 14 percent if rapid action is not taken, Save the Children said. Already four out of 10 Lebanese and Syrian refugee children are living with “high acute food insecurity,” defined as level three or above in the IPC Acute Food Insecurity index. Stage three is deemed “crisis,” stage four “emergency,” and stage five “catastrophe/famine”. Research in the last quarter of 2022 showed that 37 percent of Lebanon’s population faced level three or above food insecurity on the IPC classification. This number will rise to 42 percent if no action is taken in the first quarter of 2023, while the number of people living in “emergency” food insecurity will rise by nearly 50,000 people to 354,000. “The crisis in Lebanon is increasingly a children’s crisis. The first five years of a child’s life are critical, and we fear that without enough nutritious food to eat, an increasing number of children will become malnourished, or even face starvation,” said Save the Children’s country director Jennifer Moorehead. “Families are telling us they’re forced to skip meals or reduce the number of nutritious meals for their children. More needs to be done to prevent Lebanon from becoming the next tragic hunger emergency.”

Thursday

05 Jan 2023

Lebanon – Power struggle: Political row threatens Lebanon with total shutdown

Lebanon’s only functioning power plant has been shut down as a result of a worsening political dispute between caretaker Prime Minister Najib Mikati and the Free Patriotic Movement, which controls the country’s energy ministry. The closure threatens to plunge Lebanon into almost complete darkness. Electricite du Liban, known as EDL, urged the authorities to solve the issue by opening the necessary credits to unload fuel ships after a row over advanced payments led to a delay in gas oil shipments. The company’s plea came as a shortage of gas oil, the fuel used to power the plants, forced it to shut down the Al-Zahrani site. EDL also said that about 6,000 tons of fuel left in the Deir Ammar power plant could only be used for general maintenance work for the installation’s steam turbine. A political source said that a settlement is unlikely amid the deepening political dispute, with renders further government paralysis and threats to other essential services a growing possibility.

Friday
06 Jan 2023

Lebanon – [Lebanon suffers from water shortage as electricity crisis dwells on](#)

Lebanon's water shortage crisis has worsened with the lack of rain and will further be exacerbated due to a total power outage. Power outages have started to affect water resources as electricity supply continues to fall to its lowest point. The South Lebanon Water Establishment announced a complete stoppage of water pumping due to the disruption of electricity affecting the corporation's facilities, main production stations, wells, and all distribution stations. The Establishment of The Water of Beirut and Mount Lebanon (EBML) reported a total water supply loss due to more than 40 hours of continuous total power outages at its main stations, which depend on electricity to pump water. One of the large water pumping stations in Mount Lebanon has also been turned off due to a lack of power. It is worth mentioning that some small stations have private generators that buy diesel from oil facilities to operate at a minimum capacity. As a result, citizens are paying three bills: a water subscription bill, a bill for water tanks, and a drinking water bill.

Saturday and Sunday
07 and 08 Jan 2023

Lebanon – [Qatar Charity continues winter aid distribution in Lebanon's refugee camps](#)

Qatar Charity's (QC) delegation, currently visiting Lebanon, continues to deliver urgent aid to Syrian refugees and underprivileged Lebanese families, as part of the 'Qatar Relief Convoys' organized within the framework of its 'Warm Hearts' winter campaign. The aid aims to meet the winter needs of the beneficiaries by providing shelter kits, food items, and fuel in Arsal, Beqaa, and Akkar. The delegation, headed by Yousef Fakhroo, CEO's assistant for the Resources Development and Media sector at QC, consists of other officials, many social activists, and social media influencers, in addition to donors. The aid, distributed to Syrian refugees in the camps of Akkar in northern Lebanon, included 225 tent sheets, 300 food packages, and 1,500 winter kits, as well as heating materials for 300 families. The delegation also distributed food packages to 250 families of orphans and the needy, in addition to giving gifts to the children of 50 families.