

COI Update Vol. 149

This document provides an update of UK Country Guidance case law, UK Home Office publications and developments in refugee producing countries (focusing on those which generate the most asylum seekers in the UK) between 16 May and 29 May 2017.

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Legal Update

[LC \(Albania\) v The Secretary of State for the Home Department & Anor \[2017\] EWCA Civ 351 \(09 May 2017\)](#)

The Home Office has relied on outdated guidance to determine asylum applications from Albanian nationals, the Court of Appeal has held. More information on the judgement can be found [here](#).

UK Home Office Publications Update

No Country Policy and Information Notes (CPINs) were published in the reporting period.

Country News and Publications

Global

Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre annual report, [Global Report on Internal Displacement](#), 22 May 2017

Afghanistan

Radio Free Europe, [Six Afghan Policemen Killed In Insider Attack](#), 28 May 2017

Radio Free Europe, [At Least 12 Killed In Afghan Car Bombing](#), 27 May 2017

Radio Free Europe, [Thirteen Afghan Soldiers Killed In Kandahar Fighting](#), 25 May 2017

Radio Free Europe, [Afghan Military Says Taliban Attack In Kandahar Province Kills 10 Soldiers](#), 23 May 2017

Radio Free Europe, [Militants Attack Afghan Forces In South As Gunmen Storm Kabul Guesthouse](#), 21 May 2017

Radio Free Europe, [Two Afghan Police Killed, More Than 30 People Wounded In Attack](#), 20 May 2017

Radio Free Europe, [Blast Kills 11 Family Members On Way To Wedding In Afghanistan](#), 19 May 2017

Human Rights Watch dispatches, [Will Afghanistan Prosecute Kandahar's Torturer-in-Chief?](#), 17 May 2017

Albania

OHCHR press release, [Freedom of religion: UN expert hails Albania, but notes new challenges and unresolved issues from the past](#), 17 May 2017

Algeria

Amnesty International news, [Algeria: Ensure Fair Trial for Minority Rights Activists](#), 29 May 2017

Human Rights Watch commentary, [Algeria Needs to Do More to End Domestic Violence](#), 23 May 2017

Angola

Amnesty International news, [Angola: Authorities must tolerate critical views amid pre-election protests](#), 19 May 2016

Bangladesh

Amnesty International campaigns, [Bangladesh: 28 Men Arrested, Suspected Of Being Gay](#), 22 May 2017

Burma/Myanmar

Human Rights Watch dispatches, [Burma's Muslims Face Long Walks to Pray during Ramadan](#), 26 May 2017

Human Rights Watch news, [Burma: Army Investigation Denies Atrocities](#), 24 May 2017

Cameroon

Amnesty International news, [Cameroon: Thousands worldwide demand release of students jailed for sharing Boko Haram joke](#), 23 May 2017

IRIN News, [Language of peace hard to find as Cameroon crisis festers](#), 16 May 2017

China

Radio Free Asia, [Veteran 1989 Democracy, Labor Rights Activist's Case Stalled: Lawyer](#), 29 May 2017

Amnesty International campaigns, [Further Information: China: Torture Fears For Activist Sentenced To Death: Xu Youchen](#), 26 May 2017

Amnesty International campaigns, [Further Information: China: Former Government Official Executed: Zhao Liping](#), 26 May 2017

Radio Free Asia, [China Formally Arrests Taiwan Activist Lee Ming-cheh on Subversion Charges](#), 26 May 2017

Amnesty International campaigns, [Further Information: China: Lawyer On Bail Remains Under Tight Surveillance: Xie Yang](#), 23 May 2017

China-Tibet

Radio Free Asia, [Teenaged Tibetan Self-Immolator's Parents Again Detained](#), 18 May 2017

China-Xinjiang

Radio Free Asia, [Restaurants Ordered to Remain Open in Xinjiang Amid Ramadan Fast](#), 26 May 2017

Radio Free Asia, [Uyghurs Forced to Undergo Medical Exams, DNA Sampling](#), 19 May 2017

Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)

IRIN News, [Congo's bad year is about to get worse](#), 24 May 2017

Secretary-General of the UN, [Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the political agreement of 31 December 2016 in the Democratic Republic of the Congo](#), 17 May 2017

Egypt

Amnesty International news, [Egypt: Former presidential candidate Khaled Ali facing trial amid crackdown on political activists](#), 24 May 2017

International Federation for Human Rights urgent appeal, [Egypt: Mohamed Zaree, Egypt Director of CIHRS, summoned within the NGO Foreign Funding case](#), 17 May 2017

Ethiopia

Amnesty International news, [Ethiopia: Journalist's guilty verdict a further slap in the face for justice](#), 24 May 2017

Amnesty International news, [Ethiopia: Terrorism verdict for Facebook posts is a shameful affront to freedom of expression](#), 16 May 2017

Gambia

Human Rights Watch dispatches, [Talking Human Rights in the New Gambia](#), 25 May 2017

Human Rights Watch news, [Gambia: Using Guarantees of Non-Recurrence to Prevent Past Atrocities](#), 25 May 2017

Iran

Amnesty International news, [Execution of man arrested at 16 exposes Iran's disregard for child rights](#), 25 May 2017

Human Rights Watch news, [Iran: Women Face Bias in the Workplace](#), 25 May 2017

Amnesty International campaigns, [Iran: Further Information: Iran: Women's Rights Activist In Critical Health: Atena Daemi](#), 23 May 2017

Amnesty International campaigns, [Iran: Further Information: Reprisal For Speaking Out Against 1988 Massacre: Maryam Akbari Monfared](#), 22 May 2017

Amnesty International campaigns, [Iran: Further Information: Health Fears For Jailed Iranian Teacher Unionist: Esmail Abdi](#), 17 May 2017

Iraq

Human Rights Watch commentary, [Winning Battles but Losing the War for a United Iraq](#), 27 May 2017

Amnesty International news, [Iraq: Pentagon probe of Mosul airstrike underscores urgent need to protect civilians](#), 25 May 2017

Human Rights Watch news, [Iraq: Scores of Men Imprisoned in Schoolhouse](#), 22 May 2017

Human Rights Watch news, [Iraq: Families Who Fled Mosul Forced Back](#), 18 May 2017

Kenya

Amnesty International news, [Kenya: Ruling in Ogiek case gives hope to Indigenous peoples everywhere](#), 26 May 2017

Human Rights Watch news, [Kenya: Ensure Free, Fair August Poll](#), 24 May 2017

International Federation for Human Rights press release, [KENYA: Last warning from the court to implement the PBO Act 2013 within 30 days](#), 18 May 2017

Libya

Amnesty International campaigns, [Act Now: Libyan Professor Abducted by Militias](#), 17 May 2017

Mali

IRIN News, [What can save Mali?](#), 29 May 2017

Nigeria

IRIN News, [Boko Haram: Down but far from out](#), 24 May 2017

International Crisis Group briefing, [Instruments of Pain \(IV\): The Food Crisis in North East Nigeria](#), 18 May 2017

North Korea

IRIN News, [The real crisis in North Korea is not the one you've been hearing about](#), 18 May 2017

Occupied Palestinian Territories (OPTs)

Amnesty International news, [Palestine: Hamas must urgently halt executions of three men sentenced after unfair trial](#), 24 May 2017

Pakistan

OHCHR press release, [Sixty-first session of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights to take place in Geneva from 29 May to 23 June](#), 24 May 2017

Radio Free Europe, [Six Pakistani Police Killed In Attacks Claimed By Extremist Groups](#), 22 May 2017

Radio Free Europe, [Roadside Bomb Kills Five, Including Soldier In Northwestern Pakistan](#), 22 May 2017

International Federation for Human Rights urgent appeal, [Pakistan: Gunshot attack against Mr. Imran Anjum](#), 19 May 2017

Russia

Human Rights Watch news, [Russia: Anti-Gay Purge in Chechnya](#), 26 May 2017

Somalia

OHCHR press release, [UN rights expert urges the international community to support Somalia on all fronts](#), 26 May 2017

South Sudan

Amnesty International campaigns, [South Sudan: Further Information: Fate And Whereabouts Of Two Men Unknown: Dong Samuel Luak And Aggrey Idri](#), 24 May 2017

Amnesty International campaigns, [South Sudan: Further Information: Health Concerns For Detainees Arbitrarily Held](#), 24 May 2017

OHCHR press release, [UN report exposes human rights violations and abuses against civilians in and around Yei, South Sudan](#), 19 May 2017

Sri Lanka

Amnesty International campaigns, [Sri Lanka: Priest Harassed Over Memorial To War Dead: Father Elij Rajendram](#), 25 May 2017

Amnesty International research, [Sri Lanka: Act Now To Prevent Further Anti-Muslim Violence](#), 25 May 2017

OHCHR press release, [Sixty-first session of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights to take place in Geneva from 29 May to 23 June](#), 24 May 2017

Amnesty International news, [Sri Lanka: The conflict's legacy of impunity endures](#), 18 May 2017

International Crisis Group report, [Sri Lanka's Transition to Nowhere](#), 16 May 2017

Sudan

Human Rights Watch commentary, ['Every Year, I Give Birth': Why War is Driving a Contraception Crisis in Sudan](#), 26 May 2017

Amnesty International campaigns, [Sudan: Further Information: Human Rights Defender Facing Death Penalty: Dr. Mudawi Ibrahim Adam](#), 25 May 2017

Human Rights Watch news, [Sudan: Obstruction of Aid Endangers Women's Lives](#), 22 May 2017

OHCHR press release, [Sudan / Human rights: UN expert calls on the Government to adopt urgent democratic reform](#), 22 May 2017

Secretary-General of the UN, [Special report of the Chairperson of the African Union Commission and the Secretary-General of the United Nations on the strategic review of the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur](#), 18 May 2017

Amnesty International campaigns, [Sudan: Further Information: Pastor, Missionary And Activist Released](#), 17 May 2017

Syria

OHCHR press release, [Airstrikes, ISIL causing civilian casualties in Syria — Zeid](#), 26 May 2017

Secretary-General of the UN, [Letter dated 18 May 2017 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council](#), 19 May 2017

Turkey

Amnesty International campaigns, [Turkey: Fear For Hunger Strikers' Wellbeing: Nuriye Gülmen And Semih Özakça](#), 24 May 2017

Amnesty International news, [Turkey: "Professional annihilation" of 100,000 public sector workers in post-coup attempt purge](#), 22 May 2017

International Federation for Human Rights urgent appeal, [Turkey: Developments in the trial against human rights lawyer Levent Pişkin](#), 19 May 2017

Uganda

Human Rights Watch news, [Uganda: Set Independent Inquiry in November Killings](#), 26 May 2017

Amnesty International campaigns, [Uganda: Further Information: University Lecturer Freed On Conditional Bail: Dr Stella Nyanzi](#), 22 May 2017

Vietnam

International Federation for Human Rights press release, [Lengthy jail sentences for two dissidents upheld as crackdown continues](#), 29 May 2017

Amnesty International research, [Viet Nam: Open Letter On Prisoner Of Conscience Trần Huỳnh Duy Thức](#), 23 May 2017

Yemen

Human Rights Watch news, [Yemen: Ramadan an Opportunity for Detainees](#), 26 May 2017

OHCHR press release, [Yemen must stop persecution of Bahá'í community, urges UN expert on freedom of religion](#), 22 May 2017

IRIN News, [A country 'on its knees': Cholera takes hold in war-weary Yemen](#), 17 May 2017

Zimbabwe

Human Rights Watch news, [Zimbabwe: Evictions, Beatings at Mugabe-Linked Farm](#), 23 May 2017

Sources consulted: Amnesty International; Human Rights Watch; European Asylum Support Office (EASO); Institute for War and Peace Reporting; Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC); International Crisis Group; International Federation for Human Rights (FIDH); International Partnership for Human Rights (IPHR); IRIN; Radio Free Asia news, Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty; UN Agencies, Committees, Special Rapporteurs and news.

Useful COI databases (non-exhaustive):

- [Asylos's research notes](#)
- [COI Forum](#)
- [EASO COI Portal](#) [European Asylum Support Office's portal]
- [Electronic Immigration Network](#) [Subscription only]
- [ECOI.net](#) [European Country of Origin Information Network]
- [Refworld](#) [UNHCR's portal]
- [ReliefWeb](#)