

COI Update Vol. 159

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 31 October and 13 November 2017.

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Legal Update

No UK Country Guidance cases were promulgated in the reporting period.

UK Home Office Publications Update

China

UK Home Office, [Country Policy and Information Note, China: Contravention of national population and family-planning laws](#), 6 November 2017

Country News and Publications

Global

Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre thematic series, [The Invisible Majority](#), 13 November 2017
Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre, [Quarterly Update: July-September](#), 31 October 2017

Afghanistan

Amnesty International news, [Norway: Parliament must seize opportunity to save Afghans from the horrors of war](#), 13 November 2017
Radio Free Europe, [Eight Afghan Police Killed In Suspected Taliban Attack](#), 13 November 2017
Amnesty International news, [Afghanistan: Deadly attack on TV station is a horrific crime](#), 7 November 2017
Amnesty International news, [Afghanistan: Victims of a horrific month of violence must get justice](#), 31 October 2017
Radio Free Europe, [At Least Four Killed In Kabul Suicide Attack, Say Officials](#), 31 October 2017

Albania

Human Rights Watch dispatches, [Sheltering Albania's Gay Youth from Virulent Homophobia](#), 7 November 2017

Bangladesh

Amnesty International research, [Bangladeshi Academic Whereabouts Unknown: Mubashar Hasan](#), 13 November 2017

Burma/Myanmar

Amnesty International news, [Myanmar: Military attempts to whitewash crimes against humanity targeting Rohingya](#), 13 November 2017
International Federation for Human Rights urgent appeal, [Burma/Myanmar: Murder of land rights defender Mr. HtayAung](#), 8 November 2017

Human Rights Watch news, [Rohingya Crisis: 10 Principles for Protecting Refugees](#), 7 November 2017

Cameroon

IRIN News, [Refugees warn of looming civil war in Cameroon](#), 9 November 2017

OHCHR press release, [Committee against Torture examines report of Cameroon](#), 9 November 2017
OHCHR press release, [UN Human Rights Committee publishes findings on Cameroon](#), 9 November 2017

UNHCR news briefing, [Thousands of Cameroonians seek refuge in Nigeria](#), 31 October 2017

China

Radio Free Asia, [China Carries Out 'Mass Detentions' of Ethnic Kazakhs in Xinjiang](#), 13 November 2017

Amnesty International research, [China: Forcibly Returned Activist At Greater Torture Risk: Dong Guangping](#), 10 November 2017

Human Rights Watch news, [China: Revise Draft National Supervision Law](#), 10 November 2017

Amnesty International research, [China: Further Information: Singer-Songwriter Activist Formally Arrested: Xu Lin And Liu Sifang](#), 9 November 2017

Amnesty International news, [China: Veteran democracy activist Yang Tongyan dies while on medical parole](#), 8 November 2017

Radio Free Asia, [Chinese Dissident Writer Yang Tianshui Dies of Cancer in Prison](#), 7 November 2017

Radio Free Asia, [Detained Sichuan Rights Activist in Stark Warning to Police After Beatings](#), 6 November 2017

Amnesty International research, [China: Rights Lawyer Detained Without Official Charge: Li Yuhan](#), 3 November 2017

Radio Free Asia, [Woman Tried on Public Order Charges in Shanghai Over Pension Complaint](#), 3 November 2017

China-Tibet

Radio Free Asia, [China Bans Major Prayer Festival at Larung Gar](#), 1 November 2017

China-Xinjiang

Radio Free Asia, [Prominent Uyghur Musician Arrested Amid Ideological Purge in Xinjiang](#), 2 November 2017

Radio Free Asia, [China's Mass Detention of Xinjiang's Ethnic Minorities Shows No Sign of Let-up](#), 1 November 2017

Radio Free Asia, [Uyghur 'Political Criminals' Jailed Without Trial in Xinjiang's Kashgar Prefecture](#), 31 October 2017

Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)

Human Rights Watch news, [Resolving the Political Crisis in DR Congo](#), 9 November 2017

OHCHR press release, [UN Human Rights Committee publishes findings on Democratic Republic of the Congo](#), 9 November 2017

Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre, [Raising the alarm in DRC](#), 2 November 2017

Human Rights Watch news, [DR Congo: Human Rights Watch Submission to the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights](#), 1 November 2017

IRIN News, [Rebellion fears grow in eastern Congo](#), 31 October 2017

Egypt

Amnesty International news, [Egypt: Draft bill to criminalize same-sex relations amid unprecedented homophobic crackdown](#), 9 November 2017

Amnesty International research, [Egypt: Prisoner Of Conscience Dies In Detention: Gamal Sorour](#), 7 November 2017

Eritrea

Human Rights Watch dispatches, [Mystery Shrouds Rare Protest in Eritrea](#), 3 November 2017

Ethiopia

IRIN News, [Ethnic violence displaces hundreds of thousands of Ethiopians](#), 8 November 2017

India

Amnesty International research, [India: Dalit Rights Activist Held Without Charge: Chandrasekhar Azad](#), 10 November 2017

Human Rights Watch commentary, [One-Stop Centres for Rape Survivors in India Are Now Resolving Marital Disputes](#), 10 November 2017

International Federation for Human Rights urgent appeal, [India: Renewed acts of police harassment and intimidation against Mr. Sanjit Mondal](#), 10 November 2017

OHCHR press release, [“Unprecedented commitment towards eliminating open defecation in India needs a human rights lens” - UN expert](#), 10 November 2017

Human Rights Watch commentary, [Doctors in India Continue to Traumatise Rape Survivors with the Two-Finger Test](#), 9 November 2017

Human Rights Watch news, [India: Rape Victims Face Barriers to Justice](#), 8 November 2017

Human Rights Watch news, [World Bank: Few Improvements on India’s Tea Plantations](#), 6 November 2017

Iraq

Radio Free Europe, [Deadly Bombings Hit Disputed Iraqi City Of Kirkuk](#), 5 November 2017

Human Rights Watch news, [Iraq: Anbar Displaced Barred from Going Home](#), 2 November 2017

Human Rights Watch news, [Iraq: Investigate Killing of School Principal, Cameraman](#), 2 November 2017

OHCHR press release, [UN report on liberation of Mosul: ISIL members should face “international crimes” charges](#), 2 November 2017

Kenya

Human Rights Watch dispatches, [Kenya, Again, Represses Civil Society](#), 7 November 2017

Human Rights Watch dispatches, [Another Kenya Election, More Abuses](#), 3 November 2017

OHCHR press release, [Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women considers report of Kenya](#), 2 November 2017

Kuwait

OHCHR press release, [Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women reviews the situation of women in Kuwait](#), 1 November 2017

Libya

Human Rights Watch news, [Libya: 16 Civilians Killed in Derna Airstrikes](#), 5 November 2017

IRIN News, [The Libyan migrant “prisons” of Europe’s making](#), 1 November 2017

Mali

OHCHR press release, [Mali: Senior UN official calls for human rights and justice to beat the heart of fight against terrorism](#), 7 November 2017

Human Rights Watch news, [Mali: Defense Ministry Promises Abuse Inquiry](#), 3 November 2017

Nigeria

Amnesty International news, [Nigeria: Investigate 'shocking' link between oil spills and baby deaths](#), 6 November 2017

North Korea

Human Rights Watch dispatches, [Facing a Prison Camp for Fleeing North Korea](#), 8 November 2017

OHCHR press release, [Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women examines the reports of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea](#), 8 November 2017

Human Rights Watch news, [UN: Expose Abuses of Women in Detention in North Korea](#), 6 November 2017

Pakistan

Radio Free Europe, [Bomber Targeting Senior Police Officer Kills Four in Pakistan](#), 9 November 2017

International Crisis Group commentary, [Bridging Pakistan's Gender Divide](#), 7 November 2017

Amnesty International research, [Pakistan: End enforced disappearances now](#), 6 November 2017

Russia

Human Rights Watch dispatches, [Russian Police Violently Arrest Critical Newspaper Editor](#), 7 November 2017

Human Rights Watch dispatches, [Singer Still Missing After Chechnya's Anti-Gay Purge](#), 7 November 2017

Radio Free Europe, [Moscow Police Hold Navalny Aide Lyaskin Without Explanation](#), 31 October 2017

Somalia

Human Rights Watch dispatches, [Shuttering Social Media During Somaliland's Elections](#), 10 November 2017

IRIN News, [US ramps up military strikes in Somalia](#), 8 November 2017

Syria

Amnesty International news, [Syria: 'Surrender or starve' strategy displacing thousands as amount of crimes against humanity](#), 13 November 2017

OHCHR press release, [Syria: Denial of care and food for civilians in Eastern Ghouta must stop - UN experts](#), 10 November 2017

UN Secretary-General, [Report of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons Fact-Finding Mission in the Syrian Arab Republic regarding an alleged incident in Latakia, Syrian Arab Republic, 30 March 2017](#), 6 November 2017

Human Rights Watch news, [Russia/Syria: Deadly Airstrikes on Trapped Civilians](#), 31 October 2017

Turkey

International Federation for Human Rights press release, [Turkey: Arbitrary arrest and subsequent release of IHD Turkey President Mr. Ozturk Turkdogan, and three IHD executives and members](#), 9 November 2017

Human Rights Watch news, [Turkey: Arrest of Civil Society Leader Arbitrary, Punitive](#), 2 November 2017

Ukraine

Amnesty International research, [Ukraine: Further Information: Crimean Tatar Leaders Released: Ilimi Umerov And Akhtem Chiygoz](#), 10 November 2017

OHCHR press release, [Ukraine: UN experts warn of chemical disaster and water safety risk as conflict escalates in East](#), 10 November 2017

EASO query response, [EASO publishes a query response on the Ukrainian asylum system](#), 9 November 2017

International Federation for Human Rights open letter, [Ukraine: Stop Persecution of Anti-corruption Activists](#), 9 November 2017

Amnesty International research, [Ukraine: Authorities Must Stop The Harassment Of Anti-Corruption Activists And Independent Civil Society Organizations](#), 7 November 2017

Vietnam

Radio Free Asia, [Vietnamese Dissidents Summoned by Police Two Days Before Trump Visit](#), 9 November 2017

Amnesty International research, [Viet Nam: Civil Society Organisations Call For The Immediate And Unconditional Release Of Mr. Nguyễn Bắc Truyển](#), 8 November 2017

OHCHR press release, [Viet Nam: UN expert launches mission to assess hunger and food insecurity](#), 8 November 2017

Human Rights Watch news, [Vietnam: Release All Political Prisoners](#), 3 November 2017

Radio Free Asia, [Vietnam to Try Formosa Activist on 'Abusing Democratic Freedoms' Charge](#), 1 November 2017

Yemen

IRIN News, [Yemen "starvation" warnings as Saudi Arabia shuts borders](#), 9 November 2017

Zimbabwe

Amnesty International news, [Zimbabwe: Drop absurd charges over Mugabe tweet](#), 9 November 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](#)