

## COI Update Vol. 167

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 7 March and 20 March 2018.

*Ctrl + click the hyperlinked text to access the documents*

### Legal Update

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

### UK Home Office Publications Update

*No Country Information and Guidance (CIG) reports or Operational Guidance Notes (OGNs) were published in the reporting period.*

### Country News and Publications

#### **Afghanistan**

Human Rights Watch dispatches, [No Shelter in Afghanistan](#), 19 March 2018

Radio Free Europe, [Three Killed In Blast Outside Hekmatyar Rally In Afghanistan](#), 19 March 2018

Radio Free Europe, [Suicide Car-Bomb Attack Kills At Least Three In Kabul](#), 17 March 2018

Radio Free Europe, [At Least 10 Afghan Security Forces Killed In Two Separate Attacks](#), 14 March 2018

#### **Algeria**

Human Rights Watch news, [Algeria: Feminist Groups Arbitrarily Suspended](#), 19 March 2018

Human Rights Watch news, [Algeria: Deported Migrants Robbed in Mali](#), 14 March 2018

Human Rights Watch news, [Algeria: 6 Face Trial for Peaceful Protest](#), 7 March 2018

#### **Bangladesh**

OHCHR press release, [Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights reviews the initial report of Bangladesh](#), 16 March 2018

#### **Burma/Myanmar**

Amnesty International news, [Myanmar: Military land grab as security forces build bases on torched Rohingya villages](#), 12 March 2018

Amnesty International research, [Myanmar: Remaking Rakhine State](#), 12 March 2018

Human Rights Watch news, [Myanmar: Accountability for Ethnic Cleansing Urgently Required](#), 12 March 2018

IRIN news, [Myanmar levels former Rohingya villages to build camp for returnees](#), 12 March 2018

OHCHR press release, [Human Rights Council discusses human rights situation in Myanmar](#), 12 March 2018

OHCHR press release, [Fact-finding Mission on Myanmar: concrete and overwhelming information points to international crimes](#), 12 March 2018

#### **Cameroon**

UNHCR briefing note, [Anglophone Cameroonians in Nigeria pass 20,000 mark](#), 20 March 2018

International Federation for Human Rights urgent appeal, [Cameroon: Ongoing judicial harassment against Mr. Musa Usman Ndamba](#), 15 March 2018

### **China**

Amnesty International news, [China: New Supervision Law a systemic threat to human rights](#), 20 March 2018

Amnesty International campaigns, [China: Further Information: Swedish Doctor Denied Access To Bookseller: Gui Minhai](#), 14 March 2018

Radio Free Asia, [Activists' Award Comes Amid Worsening Human Rights Climate in China](#), 14 March 2018

Amnesty International campaigns, [China: Rights Lawyer's Health Worsens In Jail](#), 9 March 2018

Radio Free Asia, [China Silences Its Feminists on International Women's Day](#), 9 March 2018

### **China-Tibet**

Radio Free Asia, [Tibetan Man Detained After Villagers Protest Chinese Mine Plans](#), 20 March 2018

Radio Free Asia, [Tibetan Monk Released After Serving 10-Year Prison Term, Two Others Detained](#), 13 March 2018

Human Rights Watch news, [China: Allow UN Rights Experts into Tibet](#), 8 March 2018

### **China-Xinjiang**

Radio Free Asia, [Xinjiang Authorities Up Detentions in Uyghur Majority Areas of Ghulja City](#), 19 March 2018

Amnesty International news, [Separated Souls: Uighur journalist's unbreakable resolve to help her detained family](#), 16 March 2018

Radio Free Asia, [Uyghur Teenager Dies in Custody at Political Re-Education Camp](#), 14 March 2018

### **Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)**

OHCHR press release, [Unlawful, unjustified and disproportionate use of force against protestors in DR Congo – UN report](#), 19 March 2018

UNHCR briefing note, [Congolese flee horrific violence for Uganda](#), 16 March 2018

Amnesty International campaigns, [Democratic Republic Of Congo: Four Activists Arbitrarily Detained](#), 14 March 2018

IRIN news, [Tales of terror from Congo's Ituri province](#), 8 March 2018

UN Secretary-General, [Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Peace, Security and Cooperation Framework for the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the Region](#), 8 March 2018

### **Egypt**

International Federation for Human Rights urgent appeal, [Egypt: Ongoing judicial harassment of 32 Nubian human rights defenders](#), 16 March 2018

Amnesty International campaigns, [Egypt: Further Information: Prosecutor Calls For Death Penalty in Mass Trials: Mahmoud Abu Zeid \("Shawkan"\)](#), 13 March 2018

### **Eritrea**

OHCHR press release, [Eritrea: UN expert says more arrests, detentions after elderly school chief dies in custody](#), 14 March 2018

Amnesty International research, [Eritrea: Amnesty International Welcomes the Report of the Special Rapporteur on the Situation of Human Rights in Eritrea](#), 13 March 2018

Human Rights Watch news, [Eritrea: Rights Abuses Continue Unabated](#), 12 March 2018

## **Ethiopia**

Amnesty International campaigns, [Ethiopia: Two Men Held For Criticizing The Government: Seyoum Teshome And Taye Dendea](#), 19 March 2018

## **Gambia**

Amnesty International news, [Why Gambia's progress should spur abolition of the death penalty in Africa](#), 7 March 2018

## **Ghana**

Human Rights Watch news, [Ghana Should Implement Commitments on Mental Health Issues](#), 15 March 2018

OHCHR press release, [Human Rights Council adopts Universal Periodic Review outcomes of Gabon, Ghana and Peru](#), 15 March 2018

## **India**

Human Rights Watch commentary, [Security Forces in India Engage in Extrajudicial Killings, Then are Protected](#), 20 March 2018

Amnesty International campaigns, [India: Further Information: Kashmiri Photojournalist Released On Bail: Kamran Yousuf](#), 19 March 2018

International Federation for Human Rights urgent appeal, [India: Intimidation and harassment against Ms. Ranjeeta Sadokpam](#), 13 March 2018

## **Iran**

OHCHR press release, [UN experts alarmed by reports of human rights defenders beaten in Iran jail](#), 19 March 2018

Radio Free Europe, [Iran Sentences Sufi To Death Over Killing Of Three Police Officers](#), 19 March 2018

Human Rights Watch news, [Iran: Crackdown on Dervish Minority](#), 15 March 2018

Amnesty International research, [Iran: End Persecution of Families Seeking Truth and Justice for Detainees Who Have Died in Detention \(Joint Public Statement\)](#), 13 March 2018

Amnesty International research, [Iran: Joint NGO Letter on the Renewal of the Mandate of the Special Rapporteur on Iran](#), 12 March 2018

Amnesty International news, [Iran: New evidence of appalling treatment of women human rights defenders held in Shahr-e Rey prison](#), 9 March 2018

## **Iraq**

IRIN news, [Iraq's Yazidis return to a healthcare crisis](#), 16 March 2018

## **Jamaica**

Amnesty International news, [Jamaica: Amnesty International supporters take half a million actions to end impunity for unlawful police killings](#), 15 March 2018

## **Kenya**

International Crisis Group briefing, [After Kenya's Leaders Reconcile, a Tough Path Ahead](#), 13 March 2018

## **Liberia**

OHCHR press release, [Liberia: UN expert urges new Weah Administration to advance freedom of expression](#), 9 March 2018

## **Mali**

OHCHR press release, [Mali: UN expert to assess critical human rights picture amid worsening security situation](#), 8 March 2018

## **Nigeria**

Amnesty International news, [Nigeria: Security forces failed to act on warnings about Boko Haram attack hours before abduction of schoolgirls](#), 20 March 2018

Amnesty International news, [Nigeria: Amnesty activists uncover serious negligence by oil giants Shell and Eni](#), 16 March 2018

## **North Korea**

Amnesty International research, [North Korea: Hrc37: Interactive Dialogue With The Special Rapporteur On The Situation Of Human Rights In The Democratic People's Republic Of Korea](#), 12 March 2018

OHCHR press release, [Human Rights Council holds interactive dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea](#), 12 March 2018

International Crisis Group commentary, [The Modest Diplomatic Promise of North Korea's Charm Offensive](#), 11 March 2018

OHCHR press release, [North Korea detente: UN expert urges opening for human rights](#), 8 March 2018

## **Occupied Palestinian Territories (OPTs)**

OHCHR press release, [UN rights expert decries desperate state of right to health in Occupied Palestinian Territory](#), 20 March 2018

Amnesty International news, [Israel/OPT: Palestinian activist Munther Amira must be released immediately and unconditionally](#), 12 March 2018

## **Pakistan**

Amnesty International news, [Pakistan: Resolve hundreds of cases of enforced disappearances](#), 19 March 2018

Amnesty International campaigns, [Pakistan: Peaceful Pashtun Activists Face Criminal Cases](#), 19 March 2018

OHCHR press release, [Human Rights Council adopts Universal Periodic Review outcomes of Benin, Pakistan and Zambia](#), 19 March 2018

Radio Free Europe, [Five Killed In Pakistani Shelling In Disputed Kashmir](#), 18 March 2018

International Federation for Human Rights press release, [Government's lack of commitment at UN rights review a missed opportunity](#), 15 March 2018

Radio Free Europe, [Bomb Kills Four, Wounds 20 In Pakistan](#), 14 March 2018

EASO report, [EASO publishes a COI Meeting Report on Pakistan](#), 7 March 2018

## **Russia**

Human Rights Watch dispatches, [Waiting for Freedom in Chechnya](#), 20 March 2018

Amnesty International research, [Russian Federation: The Right To Freedom Of Peaceful Assembly – Freedom In All But Name](#), 15 March 2018

Amnesty International news, [Russia: Opposition activists face escalating crackdown as presidential election nears](#), 15 March 2018

Amnesty International campaigns, [Russian Federation: Further Information: Human Rights Defender's Extension Extended: Oyub Titiev](#), 13 March 2018

OHCHR press release, [UN disability rights experts issue findings on Russian Federation](#), 12 March 2018

International Federation for Human Rights press release, [Russia 2012 - 2018: 50 anti-democracy laws entered into force within last presidential mandate](#), 11 March 2018

International Federation for Human Rights urgent appeal, [Russian Federation: Ongoing judicial harassment and arbitrary detention of Mr. Oyub Titiev](#), 9 March 2018

Amnesty International news, [Russia: Mockery of sexual harassment claims against MP prompts protest on International Women's Day](#), 8 March 2018

### **South Sudan**

Amnesty International campaigns, [South Sudan: Further Information: Two Men Sentenced To Death By Hanging: James Gatdet And William Endley](#), 20 March 2018

Amnesty International news, [South Sudan: UN Mission must boost efforts to protect civilians amid ongoing violence](#), 14 March 2018

Amnesty International research, [South Sudan: Amnesty International Urges the UN Human Rights Council to Renew the Mandate of the Commission on Human Rights in South Sudan](#), 13 March 2018

OHCHR press release, [Human Rights Council holds interactive dialogue with the Commission on Human Rights in South Sudan](#), 13 March 2018

### **Sri Lanka**

Amnesty International research, [Sri Lanka: Provide Timeline For Full Implementation Of Resolution 30/1](#), 20 March 2018

OHCHR press release, [Human Rights Council adopts Universal Periodic Review outcomes of Japan, Ukraine and Sri Lanka](#), 19 March 2018

Human Rights Watch dispatches, [Sri Lanka Bans Cluster Munitions](#), 14 March 2018

Human Rights Watch dispatches, [State of Emergency Declared in Sri Lanka](#), 7 March 2018

International Crisis Group commentary, [Buddhist Militancy Rises Again in Sri Lanka](#), 7 March 2018

### **Sudan**

International Federation for Human Rights urgent appeal, [Sudan: Ongoing arbitrary detention of Mr. Osman Salih, Mr. Salih Mahmoud Osman and Mr. Amjed Fareed](#), 13 March 2018

OHCHR press release, [UN disability rights experts issue findings on Sudan](#), 12 March 2018

### **Syria**

IRIN news, [How Afrin became Syria's latest humanitarian disaster](#), 19 March 2018

Amnesty International news, [Syria: Seven years of catastrophic failure by the international community](#), 15 March 2018

Amnesty International campaigns, [Syria: Further Information: 35 Ill And Injured Evacuated From Eastern Ghouta](#), 15 March 2018

International Federation for Human Rights press release, [Syria, in search of justice](#), 15 March 2018

OHCHR press release, [UN Commission of Inquiry on Syria: Sexual and gender-based violence against women, girls, men, and boys a devastating and pervasive feature of the conflict and must end now](#), 15 March 2018

EASO report, [EASO publishes a COI Meeting Report on Syria](#), 13 March 2018

Human Rights Watch news, [Syria: Need to Address Disappearances, Wrongful Detentions, Disregard for Civilian Lives](#), 13 March 2018

OHCHR press release, [Human Rights Council holds interactive dialogue with the Commission of Inquiry on Syria](#), 13 March 2018

International Federation for Human Rights press release, [War crimes against journalists in Homs: FIDH and victims' families call for charges to be brought](#), 12 March 2018

Human Rights Watch commentary, [A Year On, Fog of War Not Lifting Over Deadly Raqqa Strikes](#), 9 March 2018

### **Turkey**

Amnesty International news, [Turkey: European Court decision gives hope for those arbitrarily detained](#), 20 March 2018

OHCHR press release, [Turkey: UN report details extensive human rights violations during protracted state of emergency](#), 20 March 2018

Amnesty International news, [Turkey: Release of Cumhuriyet journalists “provides glimmer of hope”](#), 9 March 2018

### **Uganda**

IRIN news, [After conflict, cholera](#), 8 March 2018

### **Ukraine**

Amnesty International research, [Ukraine: Amnesty International Urges Ukraine To Ensure Greater Protection Against Violence For Women, Children, Journalists And Activists](#), 19 March 2018

Human Rights Watch news, [Ukraine: Justice Needed for Former Secret Prison Detainees](#), 19 March 2018

OHCHR press release, [Human Rights Council adopts Universal Periodic Review outcomes of Japan, Ukraine and Sri Lanka](#), 19 March 2018

Amnesty International news, [Ukraine: Authorities failing women’s rights activists by pandering to far-right groups](#), 14 March 2018

### **Vietnam**

OHCHR press release, [Vietnam: UN experts concerned by threats against factory workers and labour activists](#), 20 March 2018

Radio Free Asia, [Attack on Hmong Christians Underscores Vietnam Religious Freedom Shortcomings](#), 20 March 2018

Amnesty International campaigns, [Vietnam: 10 Year Death Row Case Pushed For Execution: Ho Duy Hai](#), 14 March 2018

### **Yemen**

International Crisis Group op-ed, [Saudi Arabia’s Leader Could Tell a Better Story if He’d End His Vicious, No-win War](#), 19 March 2018

UN News Centre, [UN Security Council calls for all Yemen’s ports to remain fully open to all aid imports](#), 15 March 2018

### **Zimbabwe**

Human Rights Watch commentary, [Zimbabwe: Mnangagwa Must Show Commitment](#), 15 March 2018

Amnesty International news, [Zimbabwe: Authorities must honour their promise to find Itai Dzamara](#), 9 March 2018

*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](#)