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## ARCHIVES AND HUMAN RIGHTS

### Newsletter from the Section on Archives and Human Rights

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### Commentary

#### **50 years after the Civil and Military Coup d'état in Chile: Archives for Justice and Non-Repetition**

(Paulina Bravo, Karen Cea, Javiera Manzi and Valentina Rojas, LUISAS Archivist Collective)

On September 11, 1973, a civil and military coup d'état supported by the United States, the main power of the Western bloc in the context of the Cold War, overthrew the democratically elected socialist and transformative government of President Salvador Allende and Popular Unity installing a fierce dictatorship for 17 years. The Military Junta led by Augusto Pinochet used state terrorism to control society, persecute and exterminate its political opponents and impose the structural reforms of neoliberalism. Thousands of people were exiled, exonerated, executed, tortured and made to disappear, leaving an entire society crossed by fear, but at the same time, nourished by the hope of those who, in a fight of resistance against repression, grew bonds of solidarity and search for truth and justice.

During the post-dictatorship, although the State made some advances in matters of truth and justice – such as the development of two Truth and Reconciliation Commissions – it was, and have been, human rights organizations that continued their fight to achieve truth, justice and memory for the crimes perpetrated by the dictatorship. Thus, thanks to the work of the organizations and the

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testimony of former political prisoners, several former detention, torture and extermination sites were recognized and recovered to transform them into sites of memory; and there have also been advances in the recognition of repressors and the clarification of crimes against humanity. However, 50 years after the coup d'état, we continue to fight against the lack of reparation policies, impunity, denialism and the relativization of the crimes of the dictatorship.

In terms of archives, the judicial prosecution of those who committed crimes against humanity has been prevented, among other reasons, by the lack of evidentiary information found in archival documents linked to the dictatorial bureaucracy. In Chile, as in other countries, this is due, on the one hand, to dictatorial and post-dictatorial legislation that has established the existence of secret archives, as is the case of law 18,771 issued by Pinochet months before leaving power, which exempts the Ministry of Defense as well as the Armed Forces and the Police from transferring their documents to the National Archive, and article 15 of law 19,992 developed in 2004 during the government of Ricardo Lagos, which establishes secrecy for 50 years, even for the justice, of the documentation generated within the framework of the National Commission on Political Imprisonment and Torture. But it is not only the explicit barriers to access to documents that prevent access to the information contained therein: this is also the result of a lack of a general national policy that promotes archival treatment for the subsequent systematic study of public documents that are currently available in places such as the National Administration Archive and that, eventually, can provide evidentiary information that allows progress in truth, justice and non-repetition.

As is the case in many other places in the world, in Chile the extreme right has raised [denialist](#) speeches and [supporters](#) of the [dictatorship](#), which seek to roll back the political and social advances that have been achieved and reached consensus around human rights. How do we fight today against the denial of the events that occurred in Chile 50 years ago? How to advance in truth, justice, memory, reparation and guarantees of non-repetition? As archivists we have the ethical conviction that an indispensable path is to have archival policies that guarantee public access and preservation of documents from the past and present. It is necessary that this continues to be a demand from human rights organizations that have launched [campaigns against secret archives](#), but it must also be assumed as a responsibility of the State in the context of a country without an archives law. Along these lines, a few weeks ago a [National Search Plan](#) was launched, incorporating among its work axes the management of documents and information that makes it possible to clarify the truth and advance justice. Along with this, within the framework of the commemoration of the 50 years of the coup d'état, President Gabriel Boric announced the creation of a [National Archive of Memory](#), a measure that, although it has opened a debate in the local archival community (see articles [All archives are human rights archives](#) and [The National Memory Archive: a human rights policy](#)), is an advance in public recognition of the role of archives for the exercise of rights.

50 years after the civil-military coup, the state still has debts regarding its obligations in matters of truth, justice and reparation, at the same time that denialism and also indifference towards State terrorism is spreading among the population. In this context we are certain that access, protection and preservation of archives is a condition of possibility to deepen present and future democracy and non-repetition.

## **SAHR News**

- The SAHR Executive Committee met on 26 September 2023 and considered a number of issues. The 2024 programme for First Tuesday Talks (about which this newsletter carries regular reports) is beginning to take shape. Other projects, notably the Truth Commission Archives Locator project, are nearing completion. The activities scheduled to mark International Human Rights Day (10 December) are being programmed.
- On 8th September, the section submitted comments in response to the OHCHR call for input on Promoting Environmental Democracy. The text of the SAHR comment is available on the [SAHR webpage](#).
- The SAHR is also supporting an application to fund a high-level cataloging project at the Congolese National Archives, and to identify any material of relevance to Human Rights.
- A General Assembly for SAHR members will take place on 19 October 2023, at 5pm CET. All members are encouraged to attend.

## **Editor's Note**

To keep the items as concise as possible, we reduce the weblinks to just show the respective hostname. The target of the links, however, will still lead directly to the specific article.

## News by section

### Events

Canada: **Research Opportunity - Archival diplomatics' authentication techniques.** The research team, from the University of British Columbia in Canada, want to interview (in English or Arabic) individuals who verify YouTube videos captured in conflict-affected regions as part of their work in human rights, civil society organizations, or journalism. The research team designed, after two years of research and practice, a novel process to verify citizen journalism videos captured in conflict-affected regions. Their goal is to integrate the verification process of open-source investigators with the authentication process of archival science to expand the current workflow of open-source human rights investigators and better authenticate YouTube video evidence. To participate, contact via LinkedIn or email hodahamo@mail.ubc.ca. [webpage] [Hamouda, Hoda], 2023-09-04, LinkedIn, [www.linkedin.com](http://www.linkedin.com). [Human Rights]

United Kingdom: **Exhibition - Photographs that shaped the urban landscape.** Images of the often-brutal urban landscapes of late 1960s Britain - captured by photographers working for the Architectural Review - can now be seen at the Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA) in London until 24 February 2024, at RIBA Architecture Gallery in Portland Place, London. [newspaper article] [BBC News], 2023-09-12, BBC News, [www.bbc.com](http://www.bbc.com). [Right to Housing]

### International News

Africa: **Building the South-South Feminist Archive: An Interview with Ghiwa Sayegh of Kohl Journal.** Building the South-South Feminist Archive: An Interview with Ghiwa Sayegh of Kohl Journal [blog post] [Machirori, Fungai], 2023-09-15, African Arguments, [africanarguments.org](http://africanarguments.org). [Women's Rights]

Africa: **Mapping Africa's coups d'état across the years.** Majority of the world's coups in Africa with at least 106 coups across Africa since 1950 and 108 unsuccessful attempts. [newspaper article] [A]Labs], 2023-08-30, Aljazeera, [www.aljazeera.com](http://www.aljazeera.com). [Government]

Europe: **A flood of misinformation about migrants in Lampedusa.** Thousands of individuals, predominantly from sub-Saharan Africa, have recently arrived on the small Italian island of Lampedusa, reigniting the discussion on the EU and European states' approach to handling... [newspaper article] [Galle-Tesson, Elise], 2023-09-19, The Observers - France 24, [observers.france24.com](http://observers.france24.com). [Refugees]

Europe: **Harmful 'Prostitution' Resolution Passes.** The European Parliament passed a resolution against "prostitution" on September 14, 2023, but removed some of its most harmful parts, Human Rights Watch said today. Parliament adopted a non-binding report. Regulation of Prostitution in the EU: Its Cross-Border Implications and Impact on Gender Equality and Women's Rights, but rejected "calls for an EU-wide approach based on the Nordic/Equality model." [newspaper article] [Human Rights Watch], 2023-09-18, Human Rights Watch, [www.hrw.org](http://www.hrw.org). [Women's Rights]

Europe: **The Sámi people's struggles to preserve their tradition.** Europe's only indigenous people are demanding their rights in Brussels, which are threatened by the ecological transition and the lack of EU policies. [newspaper article] [Euro News], 2023-09-11, euronews, [www.euronews.com](http://www.euronews.com). [Indigenous Matters]

Worldwide: **Access to Justice.** In its 75 years, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights has helped many find justice -- either by changing laws or providing opportunities for people to claim their rights. But there are still places where accessing justice is difficult or impossible for those seeking it. In this episode, we hear from those who continue to uphold the promise of the Declaration. [audio recording] [Neistat, Anya; Jilani, Hina; Romero, Marianna], 2023-09, [podcasts.google.com](https://podcasts.google.com). [Human Rights]

Worldwide: **Advice from Archives for Black Lives.** How do you handle racist language in your archives? This is, unfortunately, a perennial issue. The Archives for Black Lives group in 2019 published Anti-Racist Description Resources. While you should read the whole thing (especially if you have materials pertaining to slavery), the blog author pulled out some practical bits. [blog post] [Brumfield, Sara], 2023-09-07, FromThePage Blog, [content.fromthepage.com](https://content.fromthepage.com). [Racism]

Worldwide: **Brazil, Mexico, Colombia, Indonesia and 13 other countries are calling on the EU to reconsider its anti-deforestation law.** Seventeen developing nations are calling for dialogue on a rule they call "punitive and discriminatory." Brazil, Indonesia and 15 other countries have written a joint letter to the highest authorities of the EU institutions in which they demand the bloc to reconsider the norm, which they criticize for its "punitive and discriminatory character", according to the text, released Monday by the Brazilian Foreign Ministry. [newspaper article] [Gortázar, Naiara Galarraga], 2023-09-11, El País, [elpais.com](https://elpais.com). [Environment]

Worldwide: **Climate-change-induced migration increases the risk of human trafficking and modern slavery, report finds.** Climate-change-induced migration has been linked to the risk of human-trafficking and modern slavery, a new study from the Rights Lab at the University of Nottingham has found. [journal article] [Nottingham, University of], 2023-09-04, Phys.Org, [phys.org](https://phys.org). [Climate Change]

Worldwide: **Data Privacy and Crowdsourcing.** This is an open access book which describes the most important legal principles of data privacy and data protection in China, Germany and the US. [book] [Hornuf, Lars; Mangold, Sonja; Yang, Yayun], 2023, [rd.springer.com](https://rd.springer.com). [Privacy]

Worldwide: **Freedom Fighter Maria Ressa on How Disinformation Degrades Democracy.** Nobel Laureate and legendary Filipino American investigative journalist Maria Ressa has been on the frontlines of the fight for democracy for decades. Ressa knows very well what happens when democracy is eroded, and disinformation is rampant. And she knows how not to let it become routine and numbing. And just last week she was acquitted of a contrived tax evasion charge by a court in the Philippines. It's the latest victory, not just for Maria Ressa herself, but for her country's fight for press freedom. [video recording] [Ressa, Maria], 2023-09-23, [www.msnbc.com](https://www.msnbc.com). [Disinformation]

Worldwide: **Hong Kong's top court ruling paves way for recognition of same-sex partnerships.** The court declared that the government must establish a legal framework for recognizing same-sex partnerships, marking a significant milestone for LGBTQ+ rights in the city. [newspaper article] [Le Monde; Associated Press], 2023-09-05, Le Monde.fr, [www.lemonde.fr](https://www.lemonde.fr). [LGBTQ+]

Worldwide: **More than a "Slap in the Face": ICA's Congress in Abu Dhabi Whitewashes the UAE's Reality.** Recently, there has been a uproar on social media about the location of The International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA)'s World Library and Information Congress (WLIC) in 2024. Set to occur in Dubai. What is not talked about as much is the congress/conference of the International Council on Archives (ICA) in Abu Dhabi, the UAE capital, set for October 9 to October

13. [blog post] [Hermann, Burkely], 2023-09-05, Issues & Advocacy, [issuesandadvocacy.wordpress.com](https://issuesandadvocacy.wordpress.com). [Human Rights]

Worldwide: **Opinion: De-dollarisation is the new decolonisation.** Opinion: Everyone, whether America's vassals or enemies, needs to move away from the dollar when their greenback-denominated assets can be taken from them on Washington's say-so. [newspaper article] [Lo, Alex], 2023-09-04, South China Morning Post, [www.scmp.com](https://www.scmp.com). [Decolonization]

Worldwide: **Opinion: The global human rights regime has collapsed.** Opinion: Amid a climate emergency, seemingly endless conflict, and consequent refugee crises, the glaring absence of an effective global strategy to safeguard the most fundamental rights of impoverished and marginalised populations across the world has made it clear that the concept of "human rights", as sacralised by the liberal West, has lost all meaning and purpose – for everyone, but especially for those of us in the Global South. [newspaper article] [Guesmi, Haythem], 2023-09-01, Al Jazeera, [www.aljazeera.com](https://www.aljazeera.com). [Human Rights]

Worldwide: **People of African descent facing 'immense challenges' in public square.** Members of the African diaspora continue to face immense challenges participating in public life in many countries, the UN human rights office (OHCHR) said in a new report on Tuesday. [newspaper article] [UN OCHCR], 2023-09-05, UN News, [news.un.org](https://news.un.org). [Human Rights]

Worldwide: **Privacy: Algorithms and Society.** Privacy: Algorithms and Society focuses on encryption technologies and privacy debates in journalistic crypto-cultures, countersurveillance technologies, digital advertising, and cellular location data. Important questions are raised such as: How much information will we be allowed to keep private through the use of encryption on our computational devices? What rights do we have to secure and personalized channels of communication, and how should those be balanced by the state's interests in maintaining order and degrading the capacity of criminals and rival state actors to organize through data channels? [book] [0], 2023-09-25, [www.routledge.com](https://www.routledge.com). [Privacy]

Worldwide: **Promoting Environmental Democracy: comments submitted by the SAHR towards the UN Human Rights Council in October 2023 | International Council on Archives.** ICA SAHR commends the preparation of a comprehensive report by the Special Rapporteur on Human Rights and the Environment on 'Promoting Environmental Democracy: procedural elements of the human right to a clean, health and sustainable environment' [webpage] [Section on Archives and Human Rights (SAHR)], 2023-09-08, International Council on Archives (ICA), [www.ica.org](https://www.ica.org). [Environment]

Worldwide: **Rights expert appeals for action to tackle elder abuse.** A UN-appointed human rights expert on Friday called for urgent action and better data to stamp out the widespread problem of elder abuse. [newspaper article] [UN Human Rights Council], 2023-09-15, UN News, [news.un.org](https://news.un.org). [Older People Rights]

Worldwide: **The Power of Documenting War Crimes — and How to Do It.** Reporting on war crimes is essential in building the proof that opens the door to accountability, but it also goes further, by preserving and protecting a society's memory and dignity. [newspaper article] [Villa, Santiago], 2023-09-22, Global Investigative Journalism Network, [gijn.org](https://gijn.org). [War Crimes]

Worldwide: **Trans-Inclusive Culture: Guidance on advancing trans inclusion for museums, galleries, archives and heritage organisations | Research Centre for Museums and Galleries (RCMG).** In the context of growing uncertainty and anxiety surrounding trans-inclusive practice in

the cultural sector, the University of Leicester's Research Centre for Museums and Galleries (RCMG) – working with a team of legal scholars and experts in inclusion, equality and ethics – has developed comprehensive guidance on advancing trans inclusion for museums, galleries, archives and heritage organisations. The book is downloadable for free. [book] [McLeod, Suzanne; Sandell, Richard; Cowan, Sharon; Scott, E.J.; Cuzzola, Cesare; Plumb, Sarah], 2023-09, [le.ac.uk](http://le.ac.uk). [LGBTQ+]

## National News

Afghanistan: **Afghan women.** Often reduced to the status of victims or instrumentalized in propaganda discourse, Afghan women rarely have the opportunity to speak on their behalf. This documentary gives voice to several women, aged between 17 and 70, from the city, the countryside, or living in exile. They share their intimate stories but also their reading of the events that punctuate Afghan history. [video recording] [Chalvon-Fioriti, Solène], 2023-09-05, [ici.tou.tv](http://ici.tou.tv). [Women's Rights]

Algeria: **Little space for dissent as Algeria sends researcher, journalist to jail.** Canadian-Algerian researcher among those sentenced for 'publishing sensitive information'. [newspaper article] [Simon Speakman Cordall], 2023-08-29, Al Jazeera, [www.aljazeera.com](http://www.aljazeera.com). [Freedom of the Press]

Argentina: **ESMA Museum and Site of Memory - Former Clandestine Center of Detention, Torture and Extermination.** This property is located within the complex of the Former Navy School of Mechanics in Buenos Aires, in the former Officers' Quarters. This was the Argentine Navy's principal secret detention centre during the civil-military dictatorship of 1976-1983. As part of a national strategy to destroy armed and nonviolent opposition to the military regime, the Officers' Quarters building at ESMA (Escuela Superior de Mecánica de la Armada) was used for holding captive opponents who had been abducted in Buenos Aires and interrogating, torturing and eventually killing them. [newspaper article] [UNESCO World Heritage Centre], 2023-09-19, UNESCO World Heritage Centre, [whc.unesco.org](http://whc.unesco.org). [Crimes Against Humanity]

Australia: **'Those kids belong to somebody': elders demand truth about unmarked Aboriginal graves.** Terrible conditions at Western Australia's missions led to devastating loss and trauma. Calls are growing to investigate hundreds of graves and burial sites [newspaper article] [Collard, Sarah; Allam, Lorena; Sharp-Wiggins, Blake], 2023-09-09, The Guardian, [www.theguardian.com](http://www.theguardian.com). [Indigenous Matters]

Australia: **Manchester Museum hands back 174 objects to Indigenous Australian islanders.** Return of items to Anindilyakwa community hailed as landmark example of cultural repatriation [newspaper article] [Brown, Mark; correspondent, Mark Brown North of England], 2023-09-05, The Guardian, [www.theguardian.com](http://www.theguardian.com). [Indigenous Matters]

Australia: **Recognising community truth-telling: An exploration of local truth-telling in Australia.** The case studies in this report show the many ways community truth-telling initiatives in Australia are being realised and how these efforts contribute to reconciliation. [book] [Reconciliation Australia; Deakin University's Alfred Deakin Institute for Citizenship and Globalisation], 2023-09-06, [www.reconciliation.org.au](http://www.reconciliation.org.au). [Reconciliation]

Bangladesh: **Bangladesh court jails prominent rights activists for two years.** Adilur Rahman Khan and Nasiruddin Elan of Odhikar group documented extrajudicial killings and enforced disappearances. [newspaper article] [Al Jazeera; News Agency], 2023-09-14, Al Jazeera, [www.aljazeera.com](http://www.aljazeera.com). [Human Rights Defenders]

Bosnia and Herzegovina: **War Crimes Trial Opens For Bosnian Serbs Accused Of Rapes, Torture At Prison Camps During 1992-95 War.** The Prosecutor-General's Office in the indictment said it has statements from 180 witnesses, including three experts, and has submitted more than 900 pieces of evidence. [newspaper article] [Radio Free Europe / Radio Liberty], 2023-09-05, Radio Free Europe / Radio Liberty, [www.rferl.org](http://www.rferl.org). [War Crimes]

Brazil: **'It's dangerous work': new generation of Indigenous activists battle to save the Amazon.** Campaigners in Brazil use drones to document work of self-defence teams trying to stop environmental destruction caused by illegal mining. [newspaper article] [Phillips, Tom], 2023-09-03, The Guardian, [www.theguardian.com](http://www.theguardian.com). [Indigenous Matters]

Brazil: **In Brazil, indigenous peoples are winning a victory for their lands.** On 21 September, the Supreme Court rejected a bill that would reduce the protection of indigenous ancestral lands and limit the recognition of new reserves. [newspaper article] [Reporterre], 2023-09-22, Reporterre, le média de l'écologie, [reporterre.net](http://reporterre.net). [Indigenous Matters]

Cameroon: **Civil Registry archives destroyed after Yaoundé VI town hall fire.** The town hall of the sixth district of Yaoundé was partially destroyed by the flames. [newspaper article] [Ougock, Armand], 2023-09-08, KOACI, [www.koaci.com](http://www.koaci.com). [Destruction of documents]

Canada: **Canada kept vast documents with the Chinese Exclusion Act. So why couldn't I find my great-grandpa?** When Teresa Wong went looking for information on her great-grandpa, she was surprised by what she couldn't find — and what she discovered in herself. [newspaper article] [Wong, Teresa], 2023-08-30, CBC News, [www.cbc.ca](http://www.cbc.ca). [Racism]

Canada: **Canada's Startling Claim Punctuates Tension With India Over Separatists.** The allegation that India was involved in the killing of a Sikh leader in Canada came after New Delhi had accused Western countries of inaction on secessionist groups. [newspaper article] [Mashal, Mujib; Kumar, Hari; Raj, Suhasini], 2023-09-19, The New York Times, [www.nytimes.com](http://www.nytimes.com). [Spying]

Canada: **Defriending Canada: Natural Disasters and Facebook's Information Scrub.** Canada has learned, much like Australia several years ago, that Facebook is willing to play hardball to scuttle legislation it doesn't like. [newspaper article] [Kampmark, Binoy], 2023-09-02, International Policy Digest, [intpolicydigest.org](http://intpolicydigest.org). [Technology]

Canada: **Redwashing, or how to buy a good conscience from Indigenous people.** Redwashing, in addition to greenwashing. This is what activists and Indigenous people are denouncing when they talk about the behaviour of the banks, the mining and oil industries. [newspaper article] [Jung, Dephine], 2023-09-12, Radio-Canada, [ici.radio-canada.ca](http://ici.radio-canada.ca). [Indigenous Matters]

Canada: **Online News Act could see Google, Meta pay combined \$234 million to Canadian media.** The federal government has put a price tag on what it would like to see Google and Facebook spend under an act requiring the tech giants to compensate media for news articles. [newspaper article] [Deschamps, Tara], 2023-09-01, CBC News, [www.cbc.ca](http://www.cbc.ca). [Freedom of the Press]

Canada: **Temporary foreign workers: A danger of modern slavery, warns a UN official.** Substandard or overcrowded housing, starvation wages and unpaid overtime, bondage to employer: UN Special Rapporteur on Contemporary Forms of Slavery was "disturbed" by the conditions in which temporary foreign workers live in Canada. [newspaper article] [Marquis, Mélanie], 2023-09-06, La Presse, [www.lapresse.ca](http://www.lapresse.ca). [Migration]



Chile: **An emblematic documentary salvaged during Chile's dictatorship has been restored.**

How a group of people took coordinated action to safeguard the tapes of the Chilean documentary "The Battle of Chile, the Struggle of an Unarmed People." [newspaper article] [Nájera, Jacobo], 2023-09-12, Global Voices, [globalvoices.org](https://globalvoices.org). [Human Rights]

Chile: **Chile marks 50 years since Pinochet's brutal coup.** A half-century on, the country struggles with revisionism and denial as survivors continue their quest for justice. [newspaper article]

[McGowan, Charis], 2023-09-11, Al Jazeera, [www.aljazeera.com](https://www.aljazeera.com). [Government]

Chile: **The National Archive of Memory: a human rights policy.** The authors of the column raise the need, 50 years after the coup d'état, for the creation of a National Archive of Memory, which in addition to contributing to the memory and support of human rights causes, can generate that the Chilean State complies with its international commitments in the matter, which are due. [newspaper article] [Maureira, Juan René; Miranda, Daniel; Ogass Bilbao, Claudio], 2023-09-28, Interferencia, [interferencia.cl](https://interferencia.cl). [Human Rights]

Chile: **The BBC's trip to Chile after the coup against Allende.** A few months after Augusto Pinochet's coup overthrew the government of Salvador Allende in Chile, a team from the BBC's Panorama programme travelled to the country to record the situation in the country. This valuable historical material taken from the BBC archive reflects the Chilean reality at the beginning of the military dictatorship, which would later extend 17 years, leaving more than 40,000 victims, including 3,000 dead and disappeared. [video recording] [BBC News Mundo], 2023-09-02, [www.youtube.com](https://www.youtube.com). [Civil Rights]

Chile : **The dictatorship behind a lens: the photographers who portrayed the different faces of Pinochet's Chile | EL PAÍS Chile.** Six photojournalists talk to EL PAÍS about the images that marked their careers between 1973 and 1990. [newspaper article] [Agouborde, María Victoria], 2023-09-11, El País, [elpais.com](https://elpais.com). [Human Rights]

Chile: **The Catholic Church defended human rights during Chile's dictatorship. An archive tells the story.** Dozens of shelves preserve an archive that gives account of a painful episode in Chile's history: 47,000 instances of human rights violations during the dictatorship of Augusto Pinochet. [newspaper article] [Hernández, María Teresa; The Associated Press], 2023-09-07, Toronto Star, [www.thestar.com](https://www.thestar.com). [Transparency]

Chile: **A contribution to truth and justice | An unpublished document with the identity of 19 kidnapped in Campo de Mayo.** The National Archive of Memory received a list with the names of illegal detainees of Chilean and Uruguayan origin who were in that military garrison and were later exiled. 47 years ago they were taken from a university headquarters in José C. Paz [newspaper article] [Bullentini, Ailín], 2023-09-24, PAGINA12, [www.pagina12.com.ar](https://www.pagina12.com.ar). [Reparation]

China: **China's concerning new strategy on human rights: unite the world behind a 'selective' approach.** China is seeking not merely to resist but to dismantle a foundational idea of the post-Cold War international order – the universality of human rights. [newspaper article] [Roberts, Geoffrey], 2023-09-07, The Conversation, [theconversation.com](https://theconversation.com). [Human Rights]

China: **State-backed disinformation fuelling anger in China over Fukushima water.** Reports of abusive behaviour towards Japanese citizens in China in response to wastewater release at nuclear site. [newspaper article] [Davidson, Helen], 2023-09-04, The Guardian, [www.theguardian.com](https://www.theguardian.com). [Disinformation]

Colombia: **ICA SAHR – The archives of the Colombian Truth Commission: Challenges and Achievements.** The archives of the Colombian Truth Commission: Challenges and Achievements. Mauricio Katz and Catherine Romero will present the story of how the archives of the Colombian Truth Commission were closed and handed over. This with the intention of informing the public where the archives are today for consultation, research, appropriation and other uses as part of a first measure of individual and collective reparation of the right to truth and non-repetition inherited by the Truth Commission in the framework of the transitional justice process that this country is currently going through. [video recording] [ICA International Council on Archives], 2023-09-01, [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com). [Reconciliation]

Colombia: **Violence. Sixty environmental defenders murdered in 2022: "a disgrace" for Colombia.** According to a report by the NGO Global Witness, Colombia is once again at the top of the ranking of the most dangerous countries in the world for environmental defenders. [newspaper article] [Courrier international], 2023-09-15, Courrier international, [www.courrierinternational.com](http://www.courrierinternational.com). [Environment and Land Defenders]

Dominican Republic: **Sentenced to live without a country: 10 years without rights in the Dominican Republic.** 10 years ago, ruling 168/13 stripped the nationality of hundreds of thousands of people of Haitian descent in the Dominican Republic. Today, most remain in a legal limbo, with no possibility of regularizing their situation and in a climate of increasing persecution. To understand this complex scenario, we spoke with Telesur correspondent Deisy Toussaint. She lost her nationality for years because of anti-Haitian policies that preceded the sentence. Then, journalist Hogla Enecia explains the current situation of Dominicans of Haitian descent a decade after losing their nationality. [audio recording] [El Hilo], 2023-09-22, [elhilo.audio](http://elhilo.audio). [Civil Rights]

Egypt: **Sixty years of sound: The cassette's past, present and future in Egypt.** On its birthday, Al Jazeera looks beyond the cassette's invention in Europe and at its life in Egypt. Adawiya, Imam and Kishk used the technology to circumvent censorship and reach a mass audience in the absence of Egyptian radio, which came under state control in 1934 and refused to give them airtime. [newspaper article] [Simon, Andrew], 2023-08-30, Al Jazeera, [www.aljazeera.com](http://www.aljazeera.com). [Freedom of Expression]

Ethiopia: **Ethiopian Prince Alemayehu's lock of hair returned after 140 years in UK.** Prince Alemayehu, who was taken to the UK aged seven, died at 18 after an unhappy upbringing. [newspaper article] [Temuari, Hannah], 2023-09-22, BBC News, [www.bbc.com](http://www.bbc.com). [Colonialism]

France: **Coco Chanel exhibition reveals fashion designer was part of French resistance.** A major retrospective of Coco Chanel has unearthed evidence that the fashion designer was a documented member of the French resistance. The previously unseen documents will go on display, along with contradictory evidence that she operated as a Nazi agent. [newspaper article] [Cartner-Morley, Jess], 2023-09-09, The Guardian, [www.theguardian.com](http://www.theguardian.com). [World War II]

France: **Participatory democracy: a new survey provides lessons from the great national debate.** Results of a recent study on the great national debate and the limits of citizen consultations in terms of representativeness. [newspaper article] [Monnery, Benjamin; Wolff, François-Charles], 2023-09-11, La Conversation, [theconversation.com](http://theconversation.com). [Transparency]

Germany: **German intelligence employee and acquaintance charged with treason for passing secrets to Russia.** Prosecutors say an employee of Germany's foreign intelligence service and an acquaintance have been charged with treason for allegedly passing secret documents to Russia. [newspaper article] [Moulson, Geir], 2023-09-08, AP News, [apnews.com](http://apnews.com). [Spying]

Germany: **Germany Sees More Aggressive Russian Disinformation Campaigns Since Invasion Of Ukraine.** [newspaper article] [Radio Free Europe / Radio Liberty], 2023-09-05, Radio Free Europe / Radio Liberty, [www.rferl.org](http://www.rferl.org). [Disinformation]

Germany: **Holocaust Ground Zero review – it is the unfathomable suffering that stays with you.** This distressing documentary outlines in a clear and accessible way the beginning of the mass execution of Jews under Hitler's regime. [newspaper article] [Mangan, Lucy], 2023-09-04, The Guardian, [www.theguardian.com](http://www.theguardian.com). [World War II]

Germany: **Pius XII | The "Pope of Hitler" or "Savior of the Jews"?: Who was the pontiff and why his role in World War II continues to generate controversy.** The recent discovery of a letter, dated 1942, in which a German priest informed the Vatican about the extermination of the Jews in Poland revives the debate about the pontiff's actions during this historical period. [newspaper article] [Alonso, Juan Francisco], 2023-09-24, BBC News Mundo, [www.bbc.com](http://www.bbc.com). [World War II]

Guinea-Bissau: **50 years ago, the independence of Guinea-Bissau: little-known archives bring this moment to life.** Fifty years ago, Guinea-Bissau's independence movement, the PAIGC, unilaterally proclaimed the country's independence. Little-known archives of Radio Libert e, nicknamed "the voice of the PAIGC" at the time, allow us to look back at this episode. [audio recording] [RFI], 2023-09-24, [www.rfi.fr](http://www.rfi.fr). [Decolonization]

Holly See: **Letter suggests Pope Pius XII knew of mass gassings of Jews and Poles in 1942.** Letter from church source in anti-Hitler resistance reporting 6,000 daily killings undercuts Vatican's claims of lack of knowledge [newspaper article] [Associated Press], 2023-09-16, The Guardian, [www.theguardian.com](http://www.theguardian.com). [World War II]

India: **Fashion's unseen stories: the homeworkers of Tirupur – in pictures.** Homeworkers in an all-female cooperative in Tirupur, Tamil Nadu – known as India's knitwear capital – took part in a photography project where they were given cameras to document their work. All the women belong to the Anukatham union, which is fighting for recognition by the Tamil Nadu government, as well as better wages and conditions [newspaper article] [The Guardian], 2023-09-15, The Guardian, [www.theguardian.com](http://www.theguardian.com). [Labor Rights]

Iran, Islamic Republic of: **'White Torture' documents Iran's notorious prison methods.** Narges Mohammadi's book and documentary about the plight of imprisoned activists in Iran sheds light on human rights abuses suffered by those behind bars in the Islamic Republic. [newspaper article] [Mohammadi, Narges], 2023-09-27, dw.com, [www.dw.com](http://www.dw.com). [Torture]

Iran, Islamic Republic of: **"Woman, Life, Freedom": Bahareh Akrami tells the story of the Iranian revolution in comic strips.** The graphic novel "Woman, Life, Freedom", conceived under the direction of Marjane Satrapi, is released in bookstores this Thursday, September 14. One year after Mahsa Amini's death, the book tells the story of the year of revolution that Iran has just experienced. For cartoonist Bahareh Akrami, whom we met, it is crucial not to let this fight fall into oblivion. [video recording] [Akrami, Bahareh], 2023-09-14, [www.courrierinternational.com](http://www.courrierinternational.com). [Women's Rights]

Iran, Islamic Republic of: **What happened to Mahsa/Zhina Amini?.** In September 2022 Mahsa/Zhina Amini, a young woman from Iran's oppressed Kurdish minority, visited Tehran with her brother. She was stopped and arrested by Iran's "morality" police (gasht-e ershad), who routinely arbitrarily detain women who do not comply with the country's abusive and discriminatory

compulsory veiling laws. [newspaper article] [Amnesty International], 2023-09-15, Amnesty International, [www.amnesty.org](http://www.amnesty.org). [Women's Rights]

**Iraq: How Kurdish language divisions hinder access to information.** The ongoing disputes among Kurdish languages and their lack of standardization create obstacles to accessing online information, impedes the flow of information, and curtails active participation in the digital realm. [blog post] [Aziz, Tara], 2023-09-06, Global Voices, [globalvoices.org](http://globalvoices.org). [Human Rights]

**Israel: Israel Declassifies Massive Archive To Mark 50th Anniversary of Yom Kippur War.** Israeli history comes alive today like never before as the Israel State Archives releases thousands of documents related to the 1973 Yom Kippur War, including materials from the months leading up to and following the conflict. Most of these materials, previously confidential, have been examined, scanned, and made accessible in a new smart digital format that uses Google's search technology. [newspaper article] [Poris, Aaron], 2023-09-07, The Media Line, [themedialine.org](http://themedialine.org). [Transparency]

**Jamaica: 'Illicit 6' a threat to information sharing with foreign intelligence bodies.** The non-disclosure of the names of the six parliamentarians who are being investigated by the Integrity Commission (IC) for illicit enrichment could have a chilling effect on information sharing. [newspaper article] [Edmond Campbell], 2023-09-11, Jamaica Gleaner, [jamaica-gleaner.com](http://jamaica-gleaner.com). [Government]

**Lebanon: Attack on Freedoms Targets LGBTI People.** Lebanese authorities are systematically attacking the fundamental human rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and intersex (LGBTI) people, the Coalition to Defend Freedom of Expression in Lebanon, comprised of fifteen Lebanese and international organizations, said today. [newspaper article] [Human Rights Watch; Coalition to Defend Freedom of Expression in Lebanon], 2023-09-05, Human Rights Watch, [www.hrw.org](http://www.hrw.org). [LBGTQ+]

**Malaysia: Malaysian government told to stop playing 'Big Brother' to media.** What is more worrying is the fact that much of the so-called 'offending' content is mere reports and opinion pieces deemed critical of the government. [blog post] [Palatino, Mong], 2023-09-10, Global Voices, [globalvoices.org](http://globalvoices.org). [Censorship]

**Mexico: Mexico is criminalizing land, territory and environmental defenders.** The disproportionate use of criminal law is one of the main threats facing the right to protest peacefully in defense of land, territory and environment in Mexico, Amnesty International said today upon publishing a new report. Mexico: Land and Freedom? Criminalizing defenders of land, territory and environment documents the disproportionate use of the justice system to deter, punish and prevent defenders from protesting in demand of their rights. [newspaper article] [Amnesty International], 2023-09-13, Amnesty International, [www.amnesty.org](http://www.amnesty.org). [Environment]

**Mexico: Mexico's Supreme Court Orders Federal Decriminalization of Abortion.** Mexico's Supreme Court ruled this week that Congress must eliminate federal criminal penalties for abortion, which means all federal health facilities should provide abortion care, a massive victory for human rights. [newspaper article] [Tamés, Regina; Quijano Carrasco, Cristina], 2023-09-08, Human Rights Watch, [www.hrw.org](http://www.hrw.org). [Women's Rights]

**Namibia: Germany tried to make amends for Namibian genocide. It didn't work.** The genocide, carried out by Germans between 1904 and 1908 when they controlled the colony of South West Africa, was directed at the Herero and Nama people of modern-day Namibia. Germans have grappled with issues around reparations for the Holocaust for decades, too few Germans even know what

happened during colonial rule in Africa – a space overshadowed by the violent historic acts of France, Belgium, and the United Kingdom. [newspaper article] [Miller Llana, Sara; Chu, Lenora; Stetson Freeman, Melanie], 2023-09-19, CSMonitor.com, [www.csmonitor.com](http://www.csmonitor.com). [Reparation]

Pakistan: **Modern slavery: Pakistan's latest climate change curse.** Opinion: As Pakistan finds itself in another unpredictable monsoon season, vulnerable farming communities face a resurgence of indentured servitude and other forms of modern slavery. [newspaper article] [Fazli, Shehryar], 2023-09-01, Al Jazeera, [www.aljazeera.com](http://www.aljazeera.com). [Human Trafficking]

Poland: **Architects look to Warsaw for lessons on rebuilding Ukraine from rubble.** An exhibition highlights the Polish city's innovative reconstruction effort after the second world war. [newspaper article] [Walker, Shaun], 2023-09-02, The Guardian, [www.theguardian.com](http://www.theguardian.com). [Ukraine War]

Qatar: **The story of Qatari women's rights defender Noof Al-Maadeed.** Human rights defender Noof Al-Madeed disappeared after releasing a series of videos in March providing evidence of violations of her civil and human rights by the Qatari State security apparatus. [newspaper article] [Ibrahim, Khalid], 2023-09-10, Global Voices, [globalvoices.org](http://globalvoices.org). [Human Rights Defenders]

Russian Federation: **A Russian anti-LGBTQ+ group is spreading dangerous misinformation across the globe.** The group has managed to broaden its global reach by translating its anti-LGBTQ+ propaganda into more than 18 major languages. [newspaper article] [Russell, John], 2023-09-17, LGBTQ Nation, [www.lgbtqnation.com](http://www.lgbtqnation.com). [LGBTQ+]

Russian Federation: **In Russia, authorities filter information and algorithms help them.** Social networks want their users to spend more time on their platforms, to leave a more extensive digital footprint that can be used for various purposes. [newspaper article] [Holod.Media], 2023-09-02, Global Voices, [globalvoices.org](http://globalvoices.org). [Technology]

Russian Federation: **Kremlin's propaganda film about Ukraine war plays to empty cinemas.** The box-office flop, about a fictional violinist who gets caught up in the atrocities, is further evidence that Russians want to forget about the invasion. [newspaper article] [Sauer, Pjotr], 2023-09-02, The Observer, [www.theguardian.com](http://www.theguardian.com). [Ukraine War]

Russian Federation: **Russia is "trying to silence" a Nobel Peace Prize winner, the Nobel Committee denounces.** The winner of the prize in 2021, Dmitry Muratov, has been added to the list of "foreign agents" of the Russian authorities. [newspaper article] [Agence France-Presse], 2023-09-02, Le Devoir, [www.ledevoir.com](http://www.ledevoir.com). [Freedom of Expression]

Russian Federation: **Russian war correspondents and Kremlin propaganda.** Some 150 Telegram channels, which have a large following in Russia, report on the war in Ukraine on a daily basis, with a very nationalistic point of view... sometimes too much for the Kremlin itself. [newspaper article] [Grimaud, Carole], 2023-09-12, The Conversation, [theconversation.com](http://theconversation.com). [Disinformation]

Russian Federation: **Liquidation of the SOVA Center for Information and Analysis.** The Observatory has been informed about the arbitrary dissolution of the SOVA Center for Information and Analysis (SOVA Center), a Moscow-based human rights organisation specialised in monitoring of hate crimes, nationalism, xenophobia and racism, freedom of religion and belief, as well as anti-extremism legislation. [newspaper article] [International Federation of Human Rights], 2023-09-01, International Federation for Human Rights, [www.fidh.org](http://www.fidh.org). [Human Rights Defenders]

Russian Federation: **Russian Taxi Law Requiring Companies To Share Data With FSB Goes Into Effect.** A law requiring taxi companies to provide the Federal Security Service (FSB) with data on riders' trips has come into force. [newspaper article] [Radio Free Europe / Radio Liberty], 2023-09-02, Radio Free Europe / Radio Liberty, [www.rferl.org](http://www.rferl.org). [Privacy]

Russian Federation: **LGBTphobic violence: Russia condemned by the ECHR.** A dozen applicants who had brought cases of LGBTphobic violence in Moscow, St Petersburg and Chechnya before the European court have won their cases. [newspaper article] [L'Obs; Agence France-Presse], 2023-09-12, L'Obs, [www.nouvelobs.com](http://www.nouvelobs.com). [LGBTQ+]

Saudi Arabia: **100 people executed as authorities continue relentless 'killing spree'.** Responding to the news that Saudi Arabia has already executed 100 people this year, Heba Morayef, Amnesty International's Middle East and North Africa Director, said: "In clear contrast to Saudi Arabia's repeated promises to limit its use of the death penalty, the Saudi authorities have already executed 100 people this year, revealing their chilling disregard for the right to life. [newspaper article] [Amnesty International], 2023-09-08, Amnesty International, [www.amnesty.org](http://www.amnesty.org). [Human Rights]

Saudi Arabia: **Twitter accused of helping Saudi Arabia commit human rights abuses.** Lawsuit says network discloses user data at request of Saudi authorities at much higher rate than for US, UK and Canada [newspaper article] [Kirchgaessner, Stephanie], 2023-09-04, The Guardian, [www.theguardian.com](http://www.theguardian.com). [Technology]

Saudi Arabia: **Vice Pulled a Documentary Critical of Saudi Arabia. But Here It Is.** Vice's coverage on Saudi Arabia changed after investment deals with the repressive kingdom. A deleted documentary is not completely gone. However it can be seen thanks to the videoplayback link displayed in the article. [newspaper article] [Mazurov, Nikita], 2023-09-09, The Intercept, [theintercept.com](http://theintercept.com). [Freedom of Expression]

Slovakia: **Slovak elections: How platforms counter political misinformation under DSA.** Slovak voted on 30 September, the first to take place since the EU's DSA enforcement which obliges social media platforms to combat electoral manipulation. [newspaper article] [Zmušková, Barbara; Hartmann, Théophane], 2023-09-05, Euractiv, [www.euractiv.com](http://www.euractiv.com). [Elections]

Spain: **The Barcelona prosecutor's office is calling for an investigation into a case of torture under Franco.** For the first time since the end of Franco's regime in 1975, the Spanish prosecutor's office is calling for an investigation into the torture suffered by a trade unionist during the dictatorship. A position that could set a precedent. [newspaper article] [Liberation; Agence France-Presse], 2023-09-21, Libération, [www.liberation.fr](http://www.liberation.fr). [Torture]

Spain: **The 23 kilometers of human conflicts that explain Spain from a ship in Vallecas: "A reef for historians and writers".** The Territorial Judicial Archive, which is already preparing for the digitization of its collections, houses treasures from the nineteenth century, such as marriage authorization certificates, to nearby history, such as the Carrero Blanco attack [newspaper article] [Díaz, Ruth], 2023-09-03, ELMUNDO, [www.elmundo.es](http://www.elmundo.es). [Government]

Sri Lanka: **"If We Raise Our Voice They Arrest Us".** The 39-page report, "If We Raise Our Voice They Arrest Us: Sri Lanka's Proposed Truth and Reconciliation Commission," documents abusive security force surveillance and intimidation of activists and campaigners from minority Tamil families of those who "disappeared" during Sri Lanka's civil war. The authorities are using draconian counterterrorism laws to silence dissenting voices, including those calling for truth and

accountability, while government-backed land grabs target Tamil and Muslim communities and their places of worship. [newspaper article] [Human Rights Watch], 2023-09-11, Human Rights Watch, [www.hrw.org](http://www.hrw.org). [Reconciliation]

Sri Lanka: **Accountability key to Sri Lanka's future.** The UN human rights office (OHCHR) on Wednesday emphasized the pressing need for Sri Lanka to address its accountability deficit, ranging from war crimes to rights violations, corruption and abuse of power. [newspaper article] [United Nations], 2023-09-06, UN News, [news.un.org](http://news.un.org). [War Crimes]

Switzerland: **Sexual abuse: the archives of the dioceses, from the worst to the best – Swiss Catholic Portal.** For each diocese, historians from the University of Zurich have made an inventory of the maintenance of ordinary and secret archives. The results are mixed between very good and mediocre. But all of them have shown an explicit willingness to collaborate. [blog post] [Page, Maurice], 2023-09-12, cath.ch, [www.cath.ch](http://www.cath.ch). [Sexual Violence]

Switzerland: **How the Church in Switzerland Failed in Dealing with Sexual Abuse – Swiss Catholic Portal.** The report of the pilot project on the history of sexual abuse in the Swiss Church identified 1,002 cases of sexual abuse between 1950 and 2022 involving 921 victims and 510 perpetrators. According to historians, this could only be the tip of the iceberg. The failure of the institution and the negligence of the bishops in the management of abuses are pointed out. [blog post] [Page, Maurice], 2023-09-12, cath.ch, [www.cath.ch](http://www.cath.ch). [Sexual Violence]

Syrian Arab Republic: **United Nations Targeted by Allegations of Complicity with the Assad Regime.** The brief highlights viral allegations claiming that the UN is part of an operation to hand over Syrian dissidents and refugees to the regime in Damascus. [newspaper article] [Insecurity Insight], 2023-09-13, ReliefWeb, [reliefweb.int](http://reliefweb.int). [Disinformation]

Tanzania, United Republic of: **Germany matches DNA from skulls stolen from African colony to living relatives.** Remains pillaged in colonial era for 'scientific' experiments are DNA matched to Tanzanian descendants [newspaper article] [Agence France-Presse], 2023-09-05, The Guardian, [www.theguardian.com](http://www.theguardian.com). [Colonialism]

Ukraine: **'Immense challenges' block justice for Ukrainian war victims, rights experts warn | UN News.** Justice and accountability for Ukraine's war victims were among the topics raised by the UN's Independent International Commission of Inquiry on Ukraine during its latest country visit, which concluded on Monday. [newspaper article] [Independent International Commission of Inquiry on Ukraine], 2023-09-04, UN News, [news.un.org](http://news.un.org). [Ukraine War]

Ukraine: **International Criminal Court Opens Field Office in Kyiv To Track Russian War Crimes.** The International Criminal Court (ICC) had opened a field office in Kyiv as part of efforts to hold Russian forces accountable for potential war crimes committed during its full-scale invasion of Ukraine. [newspaper article] [Radio Free Europe / Radio Liberty], 2023-09-14, Radio Free Europe / Radio Liberty, [www.rferl.org](http://www.rferl.org). [Ukraine War]

Ukraine: **New equipment enhances health data management in war-affected regions of Ukraine.** WHO has donated essential information technology equipment to Ukraine in a bid to bolster health data management in the country's most conflict-affected regions. [newspaper article] [World Health Organization], 2023-09-15, World Health Organization, [www.who.int](http://www.who.int). [Medical Records]

Ukraine: **Unmasked: Soldiers who 'enabled' mass torture at Ukrainian school.** Dozens of men from military units under Russia's command were unmasked as 'enablers' of unspeakable war crimes

in eastern Ukraine. [newspaper article] [Krasteva, Gergana], 2023-09-12, Metro, [metro.co.uk](https://metro.co.uk). [Ukraine War]

United Kingdom: **'Shut it all down': UK legacy bill threatens Troubles-era atrocity inquests.** Al Jazeera speaks to families who may not get justice after the UK adopts bill shutting down the Troubles inquests. [newspaper article] [Greene, Tommy], 2023-09-11, Al Jazeera, [www.aljazeera.com](https://www.aljazeera.com). [Police Violence]

United Kingdom: **Home Office secretly lobbied for facial recognition 'spy' company.** Officials reflected policing minister's enthusiasm to roll out controversial technology across the country, particularly in retail settings [newspaper article] [Townsend, Mark], 2023-09-02, The Observer, [www.theguardian.com](https://www.theguardian.com). [Spying]

United Kingdom: **MPs express anger after arrest of parliamentary researcher over alleged spying for China.** Man is known to have had unescorted access to large parts of the Westminster estate. [newspaper article] [Walker, Peter; Stacey, Kiran; Sabbagh, Dan], 2023-09-10, The Guardian, [www.theguardian.com](https://www.theguardian.com). [Spying]

United Kingdom: **UK government concedes on Online Safety Bill's controversial spy clause, companies optimistic.** Following concessions on the UK's Online Safety Bill, the government has conceded that their controversial wish for platforms to scan messages for harmful content, is not "technically feasible", leaving tech companies hopeful it will not be enforced. [newspaper article] [Tar, Julia], 2023-09-07, Euractiv, [www.euractiv.com](https://www.euractiv.com). [Spying]

United States of America: **'Vastly worse than other scandals': new film explores sexual abuse in Boy Scouts.** In a Netflix documentary, survivors of sexual abuse and the whistleblower who spoke out share harrowing testimonies [newspaper article] [Horton, Adrian], 2023-09-06, The Guardian, [www.theguardian.com](https://www.theguardian.com). [Child Abuse]

United States of America: **American Education Hurt Black Students. We Deserve Reparations.** The value of the educational harm inflicted on my generation of Black students exceeds \$2 trillion, writes Bettina L. Love. [newspaper article] [Love, Bettina L.], 2023-09-05, Education Week, [www.edweek.org](https://www.edweek.org). [Reparation]

United States of America: **An annual survey from the Census Bureau aims for better data on the LGBTQ+ population.** The Census Bureau wants to use an annual survey to ask people over the age of 15 about their sexual orientation and gender identity. This data could help enforce civil rights laws. [newspaper article] [Rascoe, Ayesha; Wang, Hansi Lo], 2023-09-24, NPR, [www.npr.org](https://www.npr.org). [LGBTQ+]

United States of America: **Elon Musk's X sues California over new social media transparency laws.** The company, formerly known as Twitter, argued an assembly bill violates its free speech rights under the first amendment. [newspaper article] [The Guardian], 2023-09-08, The Guardian, [www.theguardian.com](https://www.theguardian.com). [Transparency]

United States of America: **Google faces from Tuesday in the US the most important monopoly trial in two decades.** A Washington court analyzes whether the technology abused its dominant position in Internet searches [newspaper article] [Jiménez, Miguel], 2023-09-11, El País, [elpais.com](https://elpais.com). [Technology]

United States of America: **How auto executives misread the UAW and ignited a historic strike.** UAW president Shawn Fain's aggressiveness reflects the mood of the American worker: anxious



about job security and angry about a ballooning wealth gap. [newspaper article] [Welch, David], 2023-09-18, The Japan Times, [www.japantimes.co.jp](http://www.japantimes.co.jp). [Labor Rights]

United States of America: **How US immigration uses fake social media profiles across investigations.** Records from the Department of Homeland Security show it sought to expand undercover operations online despite pushback from Facebook. [newspaper article] [Bhuiyan, Johana; Levin, Sam], 2023-09-05, The Guardian, [www.theguardian.com](http://www.theguardian.com). [Spying]

United States of America: **New York plan to monitor Labor Day parties with drones prompts outcry.** Police accused of playing 'fast and loose' with New Yorkers' rights to due process and to freely hold peaceful gatherings [newspaper article] [Yang, Maya], 2023-09-02, The Guardian, [www.theguardian.com](http://www.theguardian.com). [Privacy]

United States of America: **Q & A: Why US advocates want more power to probe Indigenous boarding schools.** Ben Barnes, chief of the Shawnee Tribe, tells Al Jazeera that advocates do not want the truth 'sifted through a sieve'. Starting from around 1819 and continuing through the 1960s, generations of Indigenous children were separated from their families and sent to the institutions, run by government or missionary organisations. Washington released the results of a first-of-its-kind investigation into the boarding schools and their policies. [newspaper article] [Stepansky, Joseph], 2023-09-01, Al Jazeera, [www.aljazeera.com](http://www.aljazeera.com). [Indigenous Matters]

United States of America: **Republican senator says top federal officials should disclose medical records.** Suggestion comes after the competence of several legislators – both Democrat and Republican – has come into question [newspaper article] [Yang, Maya], 2023-09-11, The Guardian, [www.theguardian.com](http://www.theguardian.com). [Medical Records]

United States of America: **Schiele artworks believed stolen during Holocaust seized from US museums.** Three artworks believed stolen during the Holocaust from a Jewish art collector and entertainer have been seized from museums in three different states by New York law enforcement authorities. [newspaper article] [Associated Press], 2023-09-15, The Guardian, [www.theguardian.com](http://www.theguardian.com). [World War II]

United States of America: **Texas was state with most book bans in 2022, report shows.** Number of book challenges nationwide doubled from 2021 as book ban movement gathers speed in Republican-led states. [newspaper article] [Salam, Erum], 2023-09-14, The Guardian, [www.theguardian.com](http://www.theguardian.com). [Censorship]

United States of America: **The Kids on the Night Shift.** For Marcos Cux — and thousands of other migrant children — working dangerous jobs that violate child-labor laws is the only American dream there is. [newspaper article] [Dreier, Hannah; Kohut, Meridith], 2023-09-19, The New York Times, [www.nytimes.com](http://www.nytimes.com). [Child Labor]

United States of America: **The US can rebuild trust abroad – by declassifying incriminating intelligence.** But the United States can only secure cooperation if it builds from a foundation of trust – and that trust can only be won through transparency about the past actions of the US government that continue to haunt our neighbors. [newspaper article] [Adler, David; Rebik, Misty], 2023-09-11, The Guardian, [www.theguardian.com](http://www.theguardian.com). [Spying]

United States of America: **The US election campaign heats up, so could the market for misinformation.** Twitter is not the only platform inviting political adverts back, as tech giants from

Meta to YouTube compete for marketing money and eyeballs. [newspaper article] [Paul, Kari], 2023-09-05, The Guardian, [www.theguardian.com](http://www.theguardian.com). [Elections]

Yemen: **Met Returns Two Antiquities To Yemen, Retains Possession For Now | Barron's.** The Metropolitan Museum of Art on Tuesday announced it had transferred ownership of two antiquities to Yemen, but that the war-torn country had agreed to leave them in New York for safe-keeping. [newspaper article] [Agence France-Presse], 2023-09-19, Barron's, [www.barrons.com](http://www.barrons.com). [Restitution]

Zimbabwe: **Arrest and detention of human rights lawyers an attack on the legal profession.** Amnesty International strongly condemns the arrest and detention of human rights lawyers simply for discharging their functions. [newspaper article] [Amnesty International], 2023-09-05, Amnesty International, [www.amnesty.org](http://www.amnesty.org). [Human Rights Defenders]

## News by heading

### Censorship

Malaysia: **Malaysian government told to stop playing 'Big Brother' to media.** What is more worrying is the fact that much of the so-called 'offending' content is mere reports and opinion pieces deemed critical of the government. [blog post] [Palatino, Mong], 2023-09-10, Global Voices, [globalvoices.org](https://globalvoices.org). [National News]

United States of America: **Texas was state with most book bans in 2022, report shows.** Number of book challenges nationwide doubled from 2021 as book ban movement gathers speed in Republican-led states. [newspaper article] [Salam, Erum], 2023-09-14, The Guardian, [www.theguardian.com](https://www.theguardian.com). [National News]

### Child Abuse

United States of America: **'Vastly worse than other scandals': new film explores sexual abuse in Boy Scouts.** In a Netflix documentary, survivors of sexual abuse and the whistleblower who spoke out share harrowing testimonies [newspaper article] [Horton, Adrian], 2023-09-06, The Guardian, [www.theguardian.com](https://www.theguardian.com). [National News]

### Child Labor

United States of America: **The Kids on the Night Shift.** For Marcos Cux — and thousands of other migrant children — working dangerous jobs that violate child-labor laws is the only American dream there is. [newspaper article] [Dreier, Hannah; Kohut, Meridith], 2023-09-19, The New York Times, [www.nytimes.com](https://www.nytimes.com). [National News]

### Civil Rights

Chile: **The BBC's trip to Chile after the coup against Allende.** A few months after Augusto Pinochet's coup overthrew the government of Salvador Allende in Chile, a team from the BBC's Panorama programme travelled to the country to record the situation in the country. This valuable historical material taken from the BBC archive reflects the Chilean reality at the beginning of the military dictatorship, which would later extend 17 years, leaving more than 40,000 victims, including 3,000 dead and disappeared. [video recording] [BBC News Mundo], 2023-09-02, [www.youtube.com](https://www.youtube.com). [National News]

Dominican Republic: **Sentenced to live without a country: 10 years without rights in the Dominican Republic.** 10 years ago, ruling 168/13 stripped the nationality of hundreds of thousands of people of Haitian descent in the Dominican Republic. Today, most remain in a legal limbo, with no possibility of regularizing their situation and in a climate of increasing persecution. To understand this complex scenario, we spoke with Telesur correspondent Deisy Toussaint. She lost her nationality for years because of anti-Haitian policies that preceded the sentence. Then, journalist Hogla Enecia explains the current situation of Dominicans of Haitian descent a decade after losing their nationality. [audio recording] [El Hilo], 2023-09-22, [elhilo.audio](https://elhilo.audio). [National News]

### Climate Change

Worldwide: **Climate-change-induced migration increases the risk of human trafficking and modern slavery, report finds.** Climate-change-induced migration has been linked to the risk of

human-trafficking and modern slavery, a new study from the Rights Lab at the University of Nottingham has found. [journal article] [Nottingham, University of], 2023-09-04, Phys.Org, [phys.org](https://phys.org). [International News]

## Colonialism

Ethiopia: **Ethiopian Prince Alemayehu's lock of hair returned after 140 years in UK.** Prince Alemayehu, who was taken to the UK aged seven, died at 18 after an unhappy upbringing. [newspaper article] [Temuari, Hannah], 2023-09-22, BBC News, [www.bbc.com](https://www.bbc.com). [National News]

Tanzania, United Republic of: **Germany matches DNA from skulls stolen from African colony to living relatives.** Remains pillaged in colonial era for 'scientific' experiments are DNA matched to Tanzanian descendants [newspaper article] [Agence France-Presse], 2023-09-05, The Guardian, [www.theguardian.com](https://www.theguardian.com). [National News]

## Crimes Against Humanity

Argentina: **ESMA Museum and Site of Memory - Former Clandestine Center of Detention, Torture and Extermination.** This property is located within the complex of the Former Navy School of Mechanics in Buenos Aires, in the former Officers' Quarters. This was the Argentine Navy's principal secret detention centre during the civil-military dictatorship of 1976-1983. As part of a national strategy to destroy armed and nonviolent opposition to the military regime, the Officers' Quarters building at ESMA (Escuela Superior de Mecánica de la Armada) was used for holding captive opponents who had been abducted in Buenos Aires and interrogating, torturing and eventually killing them. [newspaper article] [UNESCO World Heritage Centre], 2023-09-19, UNESCO World Heritage Centre, [whc.unesco.org](https://whc.unesco.org). [National News]

## Decolonization

Guinea-Bissau: **50 years ago, the independence of Guinea-Bissau: little-known archives bring this moment to life.** Fifty years ago, Guinea-Bissau's independence movement, the PAIGC, unilaterally proclaimed the country's independence. Little-known archives of Radio Liberté, nicknamed "the voice of the PAIGC" at the time, allow us to look back at this episode. [audio recording] [RFI], 2023-09-24, [www.rfi.fr](https://www.rfi.fr). [National News]

Worldwide: **Opinion: De-dollarisation is the new decolonisation.** Opinion: Everyone, whether America's vassals or enemies, needs to move away from the dollar when their greenback-denominated assets can be taken from them on Washington's say-so. [newspaper article] [Lo, Alex], 2023-09-04, South China Morning Post, [www.scmp.com](https://www.scmp.com). [International News]

## Destruction of documents

Cameroun: **Civil Registry archives destroyed after the fire at the Yaoundé VI town hall.** The town hall of the sixth district of Yaoundé was partially destroyed by the flames. [newspaper article] [Ougock, Armand], 2023-09-08, KOACI, [www.koaci.com](https://www.koaci.com). [National News]

## Disinformation

China: **State-backed disinformation fuelling anger in China over Fukushima water.** Reports of abusive behaviour towards Japanese citizens in China in response to wastewater release at nuclear

site. [newspaper article] [Davidson, Helen], 2023-09-04, The Guardian, [www.theguardian.com](http://www.theguardian.com). [National News]

Germany: **Germany Sees More Aggressive Russian Disinformation Campaigns Since Invasion Of Ukraine.** [newspaper article] [Radio Free Europe / Radio Liberty], 2023-09-05, Radio Free Europe / Radio Liberty, [www.rferl.org](http://www.rferl.org). [National News]

Russian Federation: **Russian war correspondents and Kremlin propaganda.** Some 150 Telegram channels, which have a large following in Russia, report on the war in Ukraine on a daily basis, with a very nationalistic point of view... sometimes too much for the Kremlin itself. [newspaper article] [Grimaud, Carole], 2023-09-12, The Conversation, [theconversation.com](http://theconversation.com). [National News]

Syrian Arab Republic: **United Nations Targeted by Allegations of Complicity with the Assad Regime.** The brief highlights viral allegations claiming that the UN is part of an operation to hand over Syrian dissidents and refugees to the regime in Damascus. [newspaper article] [Insecurity Insight], 2023-09-13, ReliefWeb, [reliefweb.int](http://reliefweb.int). [National News]

Worldwide: **Freedom Fighter Maria Ressa on How Disinformation Degrades Democracy.** Nobel Laureate and legendary Filipino-American investigative journalist Maria Ressa has been on the frontlines of the fight for democracy for decades. Ressa knows very well what happens when democracy is eroded and disinformation is rampant. And she knows how not to let it become routine and numbing. And just last week she was acquitted of a contrived tax evasion charge by a court in the Philippines. It's the latest victory, not just for Maria Ressa herself, but for her country's fight for press freedom. [video recording] [Ressa, Maria], 2023-09-23, [www.msnbc.com](http://www.msnbc.com). [International News]

## Elections

Slovakia: **Slovak elections: How platforms counter political misinformation under DSA.** Slovak voted on 30 September, the first to take place since the EU's DSA enforcement which obliges social media platforms to combat electoral manipulation. [newspaper article] [Zmušková, Barbara; Hartmann, Théophile], 2023-09-05, Euractiv, [www.euractiv.com](http://www.euractiv.com). [National News]

United States of America: **The US election campaign heats up, so could the market for misinformation.** Twitter is not the only platform inviting political adverts back, as tech giants from Meta to YouTube compete for marketing money and eyeballs. [newspaper article] [Paul, Kari], 2023-09-05, The Guardian, [www.theguardian.com](http://www.theguardian.com). [National News]

## Environment

Mexico: **Mexico is criminalizing land, territory and environmental defenders.** The disproportionate use of criminal law is one of the main threats facing the right to protest peacefully in defense of land, territory and environment in Mexico, Amnesty International said today upon publishing a new report. Mexico: Land and Freedom? Criminalizing defenders of land, territory and environment documents the disproportionate use of the justice system to deter, punish and prevent defenders from protesting in demand of their rights. [newspaper article] [Amnesty International], 2023-09-13, Amnesty International, [www.amnesty.org](http://www.amnesty.org). [National News]

Worldwide: **Brazil, Mexico, Colombia, Indonesia and 13 other countries are calling on the EU to reconsider its anti-deforestation law.** Seventeen developing nations are calling for dialogue on a rule they call "punitive and discriminatory." Brazil, Indonesia and 15 other countries have written a joint letter to the highest authorities of the EU institutions in which they demand the bloc to

reconsider the norm, which they criticize for its "punitive and discriminatory character", according to the text, released Monday by the Brazilian Foreign Ministry. [newspaper article] [Gortázar, Naiara Galarraga], 2023-09-11, El País, [elpais.com](https://elpais.com). [International News]

Worldwide: **Promoting Environmental Democracy: comments submitted by the SAHR towards the UN Human Rights Council in October 2023 | International Council on Archives.** ICA SAHR commends the preparation of a comprehensive report by the Special Rapporteur on Human Rights and the Environment on 'Promoting Environmental Democracy: procedural elements of the human right to a clean, health and sustainable environment' [webpage] [Section on Archives and Human Rights (SAHR)], 2023-09-08, International Council on Archives (ICA), [www.ica.org](https://www.ica.org). [International News]

## Environment and Land Defenders

Colombia: **Violence. Sixty environmental defenders murdered in 2022: "a disgrace" for Colombia.** According to a report by the NGO Global Witness, Colombia is once again at the top of the list of the most dangerous countries in the world for environmental defenders. [newspaper article] [Courrier international], 2023-09-15, Courrier international, [www.courrierinternational.com](https://www.courrierinternational.com). [National News]

## Freedom of Expression

Egypt: **Sixty years of sound: The cassette's past, present and future in Egypt.** On its birthday, Al Jazeera looks beyond the cassette's invention in Europe and at its life in Egypt. Adawiya, Imam and Kishk used the technology to circumvent censorship and reach a mass audience in the absence of Egyptian radio, which came under state control in 1934 and refused to give them airtime. [newspaper article] [Simon, Andrew], 2023-08-30, Al Jazeera, [www.aljazeera.com](https://www.aljazeera.com). [National News]

Russian Federation: **Russia is "trying to silence" a Nobel Peace Prize winner, the Nobel Committee denounces.** The winner of the prize in 2021, Dmitry Muratov, has been added to the list of "foreign agents" of the Russian authorities. [newspaper article] [Agence France-Presse], 2023-09-02, Le Devoir, [www.ledevoir.com](https://www.ledevoir.com). [National News]

Saudi Arabia: **Vice Pulled a Documentary Critical of Saudi Arabia. But Here It Is.** Vice's coverage on Saudi Arabia changed after investment deals with the repressive kingdom. A deleted documentary is not completely gone. However, it can be seen thanks to the videoplayback link displayed in the article. [newspaper article] [Mazurov, Nikita], 2023-09-09, The Intercept, [theintercept.com](https://theintercept.com). [National News]

## Freedom of the Press

Algeria: **Little space for dissent as Algeria sends researcher, journalist to jail.** Canadian-Algerian researcher among those sentenced for 'publishing sensitive information'. [newspaper article] [Simon Speakman Cordall], 2023-08-29, Al Jazeera, [www.aljazeera.com](https://www.aljazeera.com). [National News]

Canada: **Online News Act could see Google, Meta pay combined \$234 million to Canadian media.** The federal government has put a price tag on what it would like to see Google and Facebook spend under an act requiring the tech giants to compensate media for news articles. [newspaper article] [Deschamps, Tara], 2023-09-01, CBC News, [www.cbc.ca](https://www.cbc.ca). [National News]

## Government

Africa: **Mapping Africa's coups d'état across the years.** Majority of the world's coups in Africa with at least 106 coups across Africa since 1950 and 108 unsuccessful attempts. [newspaper article] [AJLabs], 2023-08-30, AlJazeera, [www.aljazeera.com](http://www.aljazeera.com). [International News]

Chile: **Chile marks 50 years since Pinochet's brutal coup.** A half-century on, the country struggles with revisionism and denial as survivors continue their quest for justice. [newspaper article] [McGowan, Charis], 2023-09-11, Al Jazeera, [www.aljazeera.com](http://www.aljazeera.com). [National News]

Jamaica: **'Illicit 6' a threat to information sharing with foreign intelligence bodies.** The non-disclosure of the names of the six parliamentarians who are being investigated by the Integrity Commission (IC) for illicit enrichment could have a chilling effect on information sharing. [newspaper article] [Edmond Campbell], 2023-09-11, Jamaica Gleaner, [jamaica-gleaner.com](http://jamaica-gleaner.com). [National News]

Spain: **The 23 kilometers of human conflicts that explain Spain from a ship in Vallecas: "A reef for historians and writers".** The Territorial Judicial Archive, which is already preparing for the digitization of its collections, houses treasures from the nineteenth century, such as marriage authorization certificates, to nearby history, such as the Carrero Blanco attack [newspaper article] [Díaz, Ruth], 2023-09-03, ELMUNDO, [www.elmundo.es](http://www.elmundo.es). [National News]

## Human Rights

Canada: **Research Opportunity - Archival diplomatics' authentication techniques.** The research team, from the University of British Columbia in Canada, want to interview (in English or Arabic) individuals who verify YouTube videos captured in conflict-affected regions as part of their work in human rights, civil society organizations, or journalism. The research team designed, after two years of research and practice, a novel process to verify citizen journalism videos captured in conflict-affected regions. Their goal is to integrate the verification process of open-source investigators with the authentication process of archival science to expand the current workflow of open-source human rights investigators and better authenticate YouTube video evidence. To participate, contact via LinkedIn or email [hodahamo@mail.ubc.ca](mailto:hodahamo@mail.ubc.ca). [webpage] [Hamouda, Hoda], 2023-09-04, LinkedIn, [www.linkedin.com](http://www.linkedin.com). [Events]

Chile: **An emblematic documentary salvaged during Chile's dictatorship has been restored.** How a group of people took coordinated action to safeguard the tapes of the Chilean documentary "The Battle of Chile, the Struggle of an Unarmed People." [newspaper article] [Nájera, Jacobo], 2023-09-12, Global Voices, [globalvoices.org](http://globalvoices.org). [National News]

Chile: **The National Archive of Memory: a human rights policy.** The authors of the column raise the need, 50 years after the coup d'état, for the creation of a National Archive of Memory, which in addition to contributing to the memory and support of human rights causes, can generate that the Chilean State complies with its international commitments in the matter, which are due. [newspaper article] [Maureira, Juan René; Miranda, Daniel; Ogass Bilbao, Claudio], 2023-09-28, Interferencia, [interferencia.cl](http://interferencia.cl). [National News]

Chile: **The dictatorship behind a lens: the photographers who portrayed the different faces of Pinochet's Chile | EL PAÍS Chile.** Six photojournalists talk to EL PAÍS about the images that marked their careers between 1973 and 1990 [newspaper article] [Agouborde, María Victoria], 2023-09-11, El País, [elpais.com](http://elpais.com). [National News]

China: **China's concerning new strategy on human rights: unite the world behind a 'selective' approach.** China is seeking not merely to resist but to dismantle a foundational idea of the post-Cold War international order – the universality of human rights. [newspaper article] [Roberts, Geoffrey], 2023-09-07, The Conversation, [theconversation.com](https://theconversation.com). [National News]

Iraq: **How Kurdish language divisions hinder access to information.** The ongoing disputes among Kurdish languages and their lack of standardization create obstacles to accessing online information, impedes the flow of information, and curtails active participation in the digital realm. [blog post] [Aziz, Tara], 2023-09-06, Global Voices, [globalvoices.org](https://globalvoices.org). [National News]

Saudi Arabia: **100 people executed as authorities continue relentless 'killing spree'.** Responding to the news that Saudi Arabia has already executed 100 people this year, Heba Morayef, Amnesty International's Middle East and North Africa Director, said: "In clear contrast to Saudi Arabia's repeated promises to limit its use of the death penalty, the Saudi authorities have already executed 100 people this year, revealing their chilling disregard for the right to life. [newspaper article] [Amnesty International], 2023-09-08, Amnesty International, [www.amnesty.org](https://www.amnesty.org). [National News]

Worldwide: **Access to Justice.** In its 75 years, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights has helped many find justice -- either by changing laws or providing opportunities for people to claim their rights. But there are still places where accessing justice is difficult or impossible for those seeking it. In this episode, we hear from those who continue to uphold the promise of the Declaration. [audio recording] [Neistat, Anya; Jilani, Hina; Romero, Marianna], 2023-09, [podcasts.google.com](https://podcasts.google.com). [International News]

Worldwide: **More than a "Slap in the Face": ICA's Congress in Abu Dhabi Whitewashes the UAE's Reality.** Recently, there has been a uproar on social media about the location of The International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA)'s World Library and Information Congress (WLIC) in 2024. Set to occur in Dubai. What is not talked about as much is the congress/conference of the International Council on Archives (ICA) in Abu Dhabi, the UAE capital, set for October 9 to October 13. [blog post] [Hermann, Burkely], 2023-09-05, Issues & Advocacy, [issuesandadvocacy.wordpress.com](https://issuesandadvocacy.wordpress.com). [International News]

Worldwide: **Opinion: The global human rights regime has collapsed.** Opinion: Amid a climate emergency, seemingly endless conflict, and consequent refugee crises, the glaring absence of an effective global strategy to safeguard the most fundamental rights of impoverished and marginalised populations across the world has made it clear that the concept of "human rights", as sacralised by the liberal West, has lost all meaning and purpose – for everyone, but especially for those of us in the Global South. [newspaper article] [Guesmi, Haythem], 2023-09-01, Al Jazeera, [www.aljazeera.com](https://www.aljazeera.com). [International News]

Worldwide: **People of African descent facing 'immense challenges' in public square.** Members of the African diaspora continue to face immense challenges participating in public life in many countries, the UN human rights office (OHCHR) said in a new report on Tuesday. [newspaper article] [UN OCHCR], 2023-09-05, UN News, [news.un.org](https://news.un.org). [International News]

## Human Rights Defenders

Bangladesh: **Bangladesh court jails prominent rights activists for two years.** Adilur Rahman Khan and Nasiruddin Elan of Odhikar group documented extrajudicial killings and enforced



disappearances. [newspaper article] [Al Jazeera; News Agency], 2023-09-14, Al Jazeera, [www.aljazeera.com](http://www.aljazeera.com). [National News]

**Qatar: The story of Qatari women's rights defender Noof Al-Maadeed.** Human rights defender Noof Al-Madeed disappeared after releasing a series of videos in March providing evidence of violations of her civil and human rights by the Qatari State security apparatus. [newspaper article] [Ibrahim, Khalid], 2023-09-10, Global Voices, [globalvoices.org](http://globalvoices.org). [National News]

**Russian Federation: Liquidation of the SOVA Center for Information and Analysis.** The Observatory has been informed about the arbitrary dissolution of the SOVA Center for Information and Analysis (SOVA Center), a Moscow-based human rights organisation specialised in monitoring of hate crimes, nationalism, xenophobia and racism, freedom of religion and belief, as well as anti-extremism legislation. [newspaper article] [International Federation of Human Rights], 2023-09-01, International Federation for Human Rights, [www.fidh.org](http://www.fidh.org). [National News]

**Zimbabwe: Arrest and detention of human rights lawyers an attack on the legal profession.** Amnesty International strongly condemns the arrest and detention of human rights lawyers simply for discharging their functions. [newspaper article] [Amnesty International], 2023-09-05, Amnesty International, [www.amnesty.org](http://www.amnesty.org). [National News]

## Human Trafficking

**Pakistan: Modern slavery: Pakistan's latest climate change curse.** Opinion: As Pakistan finds itself in another unpredictable monsoon season, vulnerable farming communities face a resurgence of indentured servitude and other forms of modern slavery. [newspaper article] [Fazli, Shehryar], 2023-09-01, Al Jazeera, [www.aljazeera.com](http://www.aljazeera.com). [National News]

## Indigenous Matters

**Australia: 'Those kids belong to somebody': elders demand truth about unmarked Aboriginal graves.** Terrible conditions at Western Australia's missions led to devastating loss and trauma. Calls are growing to investigate hundreds of graves and burial sites [newspaper article] [Collard, Sarah; Allam, Lorena; Sharp-Wiggins, Blake], 2023-09-09, The Guardian, [www.theguardian.com](http://www.theguardian.com). [National News]

**Australia: Manchester Museum hands back 174 objects to Indigenous Australian islanders.** Return of items to Anindilyakwa community hailed as landmark example of cultural repatriation [newspaper article] [Brown, Mark; correspondent, Mark Brown North of England], 2023-09-05, The Guardian, [www.theguardian.com](http://www.theguardian.com). [National News]

**Brazil: 'It's dangerous work': new generation of Indigenous activists battle to save the Amazon.** Campaigners in Brazil use drones to document work of self-defence teams trying to stop environmental destruction caused by illegal mining. [newspaper article] [Phillips, Tom], 2023-09-03, The Guardian, [www.theguardian.com](http://www.theguardian.com). [National News]

**Brazil: In Brazil, indigenous peoples are winning a victory for their lands.** On 21 September, the Supreme Court rejected a bill that would reduce the protection of indigenous ancestral lands and limit the recognition of new reserves. [newspaper article] [Reporterre], 2023-09-22, Reporterre, le média de l'écologie, [reporterre.net](http://reporterre.net). [National News]

Canada: **Redwashing, or how to buy a good conscience from Indigenous people.** Redwashing, in addition to greenwashing. This is what activists and Indigenous people are denouncing when they talk about the behaviour of the banks, the mining and oil industries. [newspaper article] [Jung, Dephine], 2023-09-12, Radio-Canada, [ici.radio-canada.ca](http://ici.radio-canada.ca). [National News]

Europe: **The Sámi people's struggles to preserve their tradition.** Europe's only indigenous people are demanding their rights in Brussels, which are threatened by the ecological transition and the lack of EU policies. [newspaper article] [Euro News], 2023-09-11, euronews, [www.euronews.com](http://www.euronews.com). [International News]

United States of America: **Q & A: Why US advocates want more power to probe Indigenous boarding schools.** Ben Barnes, chief of the Shawnee Tribe, tells Al Jazeera that advocates do not want the truth 'sifted through a sieve'. Starting from around 1819 and continuing through the 1960s, generations of Indigenous children were separated from their families and sent to the institutions, run by government or missionary organisations. Washington released the results of a first-of-its-kind investigation into the boarding schools and their policies. [newspaper article] [Stepansky, Joseph], 2023-09-01, Al Jazeera, [www.aljazeera.com](http://www.aljazeera.com). [National News]

## Labor Rights

India: **Fashion's unseen stories: the homeworkers of Tirupur – in pictures.** Homeworkers in an all-female cooperative in Tirupur, Tamil Nadu – known as India's knitwear capital – took part in a photography project where they were given cameras to document their work. All the women belong to the Anukatham union, which is fighting for recognition by the Tamil Nadu government, as well as better wages and conditions [newspaper article] [The Guardian], 2023-09-15, The Guardian, [www.theguardian.com](http://www.theguardian.com). [National News]

United States of America: **How auto executives misread the UAW and ignited a historic strike.** UAW president Shawn Fain's aggressiveness reflects the mood of the American worker: anxious about job security and angry about a ballooning wealth gap. [newspaper article] [Welch, David], 2023-09-18, The Japan Times, [www.japantimes.co.jp](http://www.japantimes.co.jp). [National News]

## LBGTQ+

Lebanon: **Attack on Freedoms Targets LGBTI People.** Lebanese authorities are systematically attacking the fundamental human rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and intersex (LGBTI) people, the Coalition to Defend Freedom of Expression in Lebanon, comprised of fifteen Lebanese and international organizations, said today. [newspaper article] [Human Rights Watch; Coalition to Defend Freedom of Expression in Lebanon], 2023-09-05, Human Rights Watch, [www.hrw.org](http://www.hrw.org). [National News]

Russian Federation: **A Russian anti-LBGTQ+ group is spreading dangerous misinformation across the globe.** The group has managed to broaden its global reach by translating its anti-LBGTQ+ propaganda into more than 18 major languages. [newspaper article] [Russell, John], 2023-09-17, LGBTQ Nation, [www.lgbtqnation.com](http://www.lgbtqnation.com). [National News]

Russian Federation: **LGBTphobic violence: Russia condemned by the ECHR.** A dozen applicants who had brought cases of LGBTphobic violence in Moscow, St Petersburg and Chechnya before the European court have won their cases. [newspaper article] [L'Obs; Agence France-Presse], 2023-09-12, L'Obs, [www.nouvelobs.com](http://www.nouvelobs.com). [National News]

United States of America: **An annual survey from the Census Bureau aims for better data on the LGBTQ+ population.** The Census Bureau wants to use an annual survey to ask people over the age of 15 about their sexual orientation and gender identity. This data could help enforce civil rights laws. [newspaper article] [Rascoe, Ayesha; Wang, Hansi Lo], 2023-09-24, NPR, [www.npr.org](http://www.npr.org). [National News]

Worldwide: **Hong Kong's top court ruling paves way for recognition of same-sex partnerships.** The court declared that the government must establish a legal framework for recognizing same-sex partnerships, marking a significant milestone for LGBTQ+ rights in the city. [newspaper article] [Le Monde; Associated Press], 2023-09-05, Le Monde.fr, [www.lemonde.fr](http://www.lemonde.fr). [International News]

Worldwide: **Trans-Inclusive Culture: Guidance on advancing trans inclusion for museums, galleries, archives and heritage organisations | Research Centre for Museums and Galleries (RCMG).** In the context of growing uncertainty and anxiety surrounding trans-inclusive practice in the cultural sector, the University of Leicester's Research Centre for Museums and Galleries (RCMG) – working with a team of legal scholars and experts in inclusion, equality and ethics – has developed comprehensive guidance on advancing trans inclusion for museums, galleries, archives and heritage organisations. The book is downloadable for free. [book] [McLeod, Suzanne; Sandell, Richard; Cowan, Sharon; Scott, E.J.; Cuzzola, Cesare; Plumb, Sarah], 2023-09, [le.ac.uk](http://le.ac.uk). [International News]

## Medical Records

Ukraine: **New equipment enhances health data management in war-affected regions of Ukraine.** WHO has donated essential information technology equipment to Ukraine in a bid to bolster health data management in the country's most conflict-affected regions. [newspaper article] [World Health Organization], 2023-09-15, World Health Organization, [www.who.int](http://www.who.int). [National News]

United States of America: **Republican senator says top federal officials should disclose medical records.** Suggestion comes after the competence of several legislators – both Democrat and Republican – has come into question [newspaper article] [Yang, Maya], 2023-09-11, The Guardian, [www.theguardian.com](http://www.theguardian.com). [National News]

## Migration

Canada: **Temporary foreign workers: A danger of modern slavery, warns a UN official.** Substandard or overcrowded housing, poverty wages and unpaid overtime, servitude to the employer: the United Nations Special Rapporteur on Contemporary Forms of Slavery has been "disturbed" to see the conditions in which temporary foreign workers live in Canada. [newspaper article] [Marquis, Mélanie], 2023-09-06, La Presse, [www.lapresse.ca](http://www.lapresse.ca). [National News]

## Older People Rights

Worldwide: **Rights expert appeals for action to tackle elder abuse.** A UN-appointed human rights expert on Friday called for urgent action and better data to stamp out the widespread problem of elder abuse. [newspaper article] [UN Human Rights Council], 2023-09-15, UN News, [news.un.org](http://news.un.org). [International News]

## Police Violence

United Kingdom: **'Shut it all down': UK legacy bill threatens Troubles-era atrocity inquests.** Al Jazeera speaks to families who may not get justice after the UK adopts bill shutting down the Troubles

inquests. [newspaper article] [Greene, Tommy], 2023-09-11, Al Jazeera, [www.aljazeera.com](http://www.aljazeera.com).  
[National News]

## Privacy

Russian Federation: **Russian Taxi Law Requiring Companies To Share Data With FSB Goes Into Effect.** A law requiring taxi companies to provide the Federal Security Service (FSB) with data on riders' trips has come into force. [newspaper article] [Radio Free Europe / Radio Liberty], 2023-09-02, Radio Free Europe / Radio Liberty, [www.rferl.org](http://www.rferl.org). [National News]

United States of America: **New York plan to monitor Labor Day parties with drones prompts outcry.** Police accused of playing 'fast and loose' with New Yorkers' rights to due process and to freely hold peaceful gatherings [newspaper article] [Yang, Maya], 2023-09-02, The Guardian, [www.theguardian.com](http://www.theguardian.com). [National News]

Worldwide: **Data Privacy and Crowdsourcing.** This is an open access book which describes the most important legal principles of data privacy and data protection in China, Germany and the US. [book] [Hornuf, Lars; Mangold, Sonja; Yang, Yayun], 2023, [rd.springer.com](http://rd.springer.com). [International News]

Worldwide: **Privacy: Algorithms and Society.** Privacy: Algorithms and Society focuses on encryption technologies and privacy debates in journalistic crypto-cultures, countersurveillance technologies, digital advertising, and cellular location data. Important questions are raised such as: How much information will we be allowed to keep private through the use of encryption on our computational devices? What rights do we have to secure and personalized channels of communication, and how should those be balanced by the state's interests in maintaining order and degrading the capacity of criminals and rival state actors to organize through data channels? [book] [0], 2023-09-25, [www.routledge.com](http://www.routledge.com). [International News]

## Racism

Canada: **Canada kept vast documents with the Chinese Exclusion Act. So why couldn't I find my great-grandpa?** When Teresa Wong went looking for information on her great-grandpa, she was surprised by what she couldn't find — and what she discovered in herself. [newspaper article] [Wong, Teresa], 2023-08-30, CBC News, [www.cbc.ca](http://www.cbc.ca). [National News]

Worldwide: **Advice from Archives for Black Lives.** How do you handle racist language in your archives? This is, unfortunately, a perennial issue. The Archives for Black Lives group in 2019 published Anti-Racist Description Resources. While you should read the whole thing (especially if you have materials pertaining to slavery), the blog author pulled out some practical bits. [blog post] [Brumfield, Sara], 2023-09-07, FromThePage Blog, [content.fromthepage.com](http://content.fromthepage.com). [International News]

## Reconciliation

Australia: **Recognising community truth-telling: An exploration of local truth-telling in Australia.** The case studies in this report show the many ways community truth-telling initiatives in Australia are being realised and how these efforts contribute to reconciliation. [book] [Reconciliation Australia; Deakin University's Alfred Deakin Institute for Citizenship and Globalisation], 2023-09-06, [www.reconciliation.org.au](http://www.reconciliation.org.au). [National News]

Colombia: **ICA SAHR – The archives of the Colombian Truth Commission: Challenges and Achievements.** The archives of the Colombian Truth Commission: Challenges and Achievements.

Mauricio Katz and Catherine Romero will present the story of how the archives of the Colombian Truth Commission were closed and handed over. This with the intention of informing the public where the archives are today for consultation, research, appropriation and other uses as part of a first measure of individual and collective reparation of the right to truth and non-repetition inherited by the Truth Commission in the framework of the transitional justice process that this country is currently going through. [video recording] [ICA International Council on Archives], 2023-09-01, [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com). [National News]

Sri Lanka: **“If We Raise Our Voice They Arrest Us”**. The 39-page report, “If We Raise Our Voice They Arrest Us’: Sri Lanka’s Proposed Truth and Reconciliation Commission,” documents abusive security force surveillance and intimidation of activists and campaigners from minority Tamil families of those who “disappeared” during Sri Lanka’s civil war. The authorities are using draconian counterterrorism laws to silence dissenting voices, including those calling for truth and accountability, while government-backed land grabs target Tamil and Muslim communities and their places of worship. [newspaper article] [Human Rights Watch], 2023-09-11, Human Rights Watch, [www.hrw.org](http://www.hrw.org). [National News]

## Refugees

Europe: **A flood of misinformation about migrants in Lampedusa**. Thousands of individuals, predominantly from sub-Saharan Africa, have recently arrived on the small Italian island of Lampedusa, reigniting the discussion on the EU and European states' approach to handling... [newspaper article] [Galle-Tesson, Elise], 2023-09-19, The Observers - France 24, [observers.france24.com](http://observers.france24.com). [International News]

## Reparation

Chile: **A contribution to truth and justice | An unpublished document with the identity of 19 kidnapped in Campo de Mayo**. The National Archive of Memory received a list with the names of illegal detainees of Chilean and Uruguayan origin who were in that military garrison and were later exiled. 47 years ago they were taken from a university headquarters in José C. Paz [newspaper article] [Bullentini, Ailín], 2023-09-24, PAGINA12, [www.pagina12.com.ar](http://www.pagina12.com.ar). [National News]

Namibia: **Germany tried to make amends for Namibian genocide. It didn't work**. The genocide, carried out by Germans between 1904 and 1908 when they controlled the colony of South West Africa, was directed at the Herero and Nama people of modern-day Namibia. Germans have grappled with issues around reparations for the Holocaust for decades, too few Germans even know what happened during colonial rule in Africa – a space overshadowed by the violent historic acts of France, Belgium, and the United Kingdom. [newspaper article] [Miller Llana, Sara; Chu, Lenora; Stetson Freeman, Melanie], 2023-09-19, CSMonitor.com, [www.csmonitor.com](http://www.csmonitor.com). [National News]

United States of America: **American Education Hurt Black Students. We Deserve Reparations**. The value of the educational harm inflicted on my generation of Black students exceeds \$2 trillion, writes Bettina L. Love. [newspaper article] [Love, Bettina L.], 2023-09-05, Education Week, [www.edweek.org](http://www.edweek.org). [National News]

## Restitution

Yemen: **Met Returns Two Antiquities To Yemen, Retains Possession For Now | Barron's**. The Metropolitan Museum of Art on Tuesday announced it had transferred ownership of two antiquities to Yemen, but that the war-torn country had agreed to leave them in New York for safe-keeping.

[newspaper article] [Agence France-Presse], 2023-09-19, Barron's, [www.barrons.com](http://www.barrons.com). [National News]

## Right to Housing

United Kingdom: **Exhibition - Photographs that shaped the urban landscape.** Images of the often-brutal urban landscapes of late 1960s Britain - captured by photographers working for the Architectural Review - can now be seen at the Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA) in London until 24 February 2024, at RIBA Architecture Gallery in Portland Place, London. [newspaper article] [BBC News], 2023-09-12, BBC News, [www.bbc.com](http://www.bbc.com). [Events]

## Sexual Violence

Switzerland: **Sexual abuse: the archives of the dioceses, from the worst to the best – Swiss Catholic Portal.** For each diocese, historians from the University of Zurich have made an inventory of the maintenance of ordinary and secret archives. The results are mixed between very good and mediocre. But all of them have shown an explicit willingness to collaborate. [blog post] [Page, Maurice], 2023-09-12, cath.ch, [www.cath.ch](http://www.cath.ch). [National News]

Switzerland: **How the Church in Switzerland Failed in Dealing with Sexual Abuse – Swiss Catholic Portal.** The report of the pilot project on the history of sexual abuse in the Swiss Church identified 1,002 cases of sexual abuse between 1950 and 2022 involving 921 victims and 510 perpetrators. According to historians, this could only be the tip of the iceberg. The failure of the institution and the negligence of the bishops in the management of abuses are pointed out. [blog post] [Page, Maurice], 2023-09-12, cath.ch, [www.cath.ch](http://www.cath.ch). [National News]

## Spying

Canada: **Canada's Startling Claim Punctuates Tension With India Over Separatists.** The allegation that India was involved in the killing of a Sikh leader in Canada came after New Delhi had accused Western countries of inaction on secessionist groups. [newspaper article] [Mashal, Mujib; Kumar, Hari; Raj, Suhasini], 2023-09-19, The New York Times, [www.nytimes.com](http://www.nytimes.com). [National News]

Germany: **German intelligence employee and acquaintance charged with treason for passing secrets to Russia.** Prosecutors say an employee of Germany's foreign intelligence service and an acquaintance have been charged with treason for allegedly passing secret documents to Russia. [newspaper article] [Moulson, Geir], 2023-09-08, AP News, [apnews.com](http://apnews.com). [National News]

United Kingdom: **Home Office secretly lobbied for facial recognition 'spy' company.** Officials reflected policing minister's enthusiasm to roll out controversial technology across the country, particularly in retail settings [newspaper article] [Townsend, Mark], 2023-09-02, The Observer, [www.theguardian.com](http://www.theguardian.com). [National News]

United Kingdom: **MPs express anger after arrest of parliamentary researcher over alleged spying for China.** Man is known to have had unescorted access to large parts of the Westminster estate. [newspaper article] [Walker, Peter; Stacey, Kiran; Sabbagh, Dan], 2023-09-10, The Guardian, [www.theguardian.com](http://www.theguardian.com). [National News]

United Kingdom: **UK government concedes on Online Safety Bill's controversial spy clause, companies optimistic.** Following concessions on the UK's Online Safety Bill, the government has conceded that their controversial wish for platforms to scan messages for harmful content, is not

“technically feasible”, leaving tech companies hopeful it will not be enforced. [newspaper article] [Tar, Julia], 2023-09-07, Euractiv, [www.euractiv.com](http://www.euractiv.com). [National News]

United States of America: **How US immigration uses fake social media profiles across investigations.** Records from the Department of Homeland Security show it sought to expand undercover operations online despite pushback from Facebook. [newspaper article] [Bhuiyan, Johana; Levin, Sam], 2023-09-05, The Guardian, [www.theguardian.com](http://www.theguardian.com). [National News]

United States of America: **The US can rebuild trust abroad – by declassifying incriminating intelligence.** But the United States can only secure cooperation if it builds from a foundation of trust – and that trust can only be won through transparency about the past actions of the US government that continue to haunt our neighbors. [newspaper article] [Adler, David; Rebik, Misty], 2023-09-11, The Guardian, [www.theguardian.com](http://www.theguardian.com). [National News]

## Technology

Canada: **Defriending Canada: Natural Disasters and Facebook’s Information Scrub.** Canada has learned, much like Australia several years ago, that Facebook is willing to play hardball to scuttle legislation it doesn't like. [newspaper article] [Kampmark, Binoy], 2023-09-02, International Policy Digest, [intpolicydigest.org](http://intpolicydigest.org). [National News]

Russian Federation: **In Russia, authorities filter information and algorithms help them.** Social networks want their users to spend more time on their platforms, to leave a more extensive digital footprint that can be used for various purposes. [newspaper article] [Holod.Media], 2023-09-02, Global Voices, [globalvoices.org](http://globalvoices.org). [National News]

Saudi Arabia: **Twitter accused of helping Saudi Arabia commit human rights abuses.** Lawsuit says network discloses user data at request of Saudi authorities at much higher rate than for US, UK and Canada [newspaper article] [Kirchgaessner, Stephanie], 2023-09-04, The Guardian, [www.theguardian.com](http://www.theguardian.com). [National News]

United States of America: **Google faces from Tuesday in the US the most important monopoly trial in two decades.** A Washington court analyzes whether the technology abused its dominant position in Internet searches [newspaper article] [Jiménez, Miguel], 2023-09-11, El País, [elpais.com](http://elpais.com). [National News]

## Torture

Iran, Islamic Republic of: **'White Torture' documents Iran's notorious prison methods.** Narges Mohammadi's book and documentary about the plight of imprisoned activists in Iran sheds light on human rights abuses suffered by those behind bars in the Islamic Republic. [newspaper article] [Mohammadi, Nargers], 2023-09-27, dw.com, [www.dw.com](http://www.dw.com). [National News]

Spain: **The Barcelona prosecutor's office is calling for an investigation into a case of torture under Franco.** For the first time since the end of Franco's regime in 1975, the Spanish prosecutor's office is calling for an investigation into the torture suffered by a trade unionist during the dictatorship. A position that could set a precedent. [newspaper article] [Liberation; Agence France-Presse], 2023-09-21, Libération, [www.liberation.fr](http://www.liberation.fr). [National News]

## Transparency

Chile: **The Catholic Church defended human rights during Chile's dictatorship. An archive tells the story.** Dozens of shelves preserve an archive that gives account of a painful episode in Chile's history: 47,000 instances of human rights violations during the dictatorship of Augusto Pinochet. [newspaper article] [Hernández, María Teresa; The Associated Press], 2023-09-07, Toronto Star, [www.thestar.com](http://www.thestar.com). [National News]

France: **Participatory democracy: a new survey provides lessons from the great national debate.** Results of a recent study on the great national debate and the limits of citizen consultations in terms of representativeness. [newspaper article] [Monnery, Benjamin; Wolff, François-Charles], 2023-09-11, La Conversation, [theconversation.com](http://theconversation.com). [National News]

Israel: **Israel Declassifies Massive Archive To Mark 50th Anniversary of Yom Kippur War.** Israeli history comes alive today like never before as the Israel State Archives releases thousands of documents related to the 1973 Yom Kippur War, including materials from the months leading up to and following the conflict. Most of these materials, previously confidential, have been examined, scanned, and made accessible in a new smart digital format that uses Google's search technology. [newspaper article] [Poris, Aaron], 2023-09-07, The Media Line, [themedialine.org](http://themedialine.org). [National News]

United States of America: **Elon Musk's X sues California over new social media transparency laws.** The company, formerly known as Twitter, argued an assembly bill violates its free speech rights under the first amendment. [newspaper article] [The Guardian], 2023-09-08, The Guardian, [www.theguardian.com](http://www.theguardian.com). [National News]

## Ukraine War

Poland: **Architects look to Warsaw for lessons on rebuilding Ukraine from rubble.** An exhibition highlights the Polish city's innovative reconstruction effort after the second world war. [newspaper article] [Walker, Shaun], 2023-09-02, The Guardian, [www.theguardian.com](http://www.theguardian.com). [National News]

Russian Federation: **Kremlin's propaganda film about Ukraine war plays to empty cinemas.** The box-office flop, about a fictional violinist who gets caught up in the atrocities, is further evidence that Russians want to forget about the invasion. [newspaper article] [Sauer, Pjotr], 2023-09-02, The Observer, [www.theguardian.com](http://www.theguardian.com). [National News]

Ukraine: **'Immense challenges' block justice for Ukrainian war victims, rights experts warn.** Justice and accountability for Ukraine's war victims were among the topics raised by the UN's Independent International Commission of Inquiry on Ukraine during its latest country visit, which concluded on Monday. [newspaper article] [Independent International Commission of Inquiry on Ukraine], 2023-09-04, UN News, [news.un.org](http://news.un.org). [National News]

Ukraine: **International Criminal Court Opens Field Office in Kyiv To Track Russian War Crimes.** The International Criminal Court (ICC) had opened a field office in Kyiv as part of efforts to hold Russian forces accountable for potential war crimes committed during its full-scale invasion of Ukraine. [newspaper article] [Radio Free Europe / Radio Liberty], 2023-09-14, Radio Free Europe / Radio Liberty, [www.rferl.org](http://www.rferl.org). [National News]

Ukraine: **Unmasked: Soldiers who 'enabled' mass torture at Ukrainian school.** Dozens of men from military units under Russia's command were unmasked as 'enablers' of unspeakable war crimes



in eastern Ukraine. [newspaper article] [Krasteva, Gergana], 2023-09-12, Metro, [metro.co.uk](https://metro.co.uk). [National News]

## War Crimes

Bosnia and Herzegovina: **War Crimes Trial Opens For Bosnian Serbs Accused Of Rapes, Torture At Prison Camps During 1992-95 War.** The Prosecutor-General's Office in the indictment said it has statements from 180 witnesses, including three experts, and has submitted more than 900 pieces of evidence. [newspaper article] [Radio Free Europe / Radio Liberty], 2023-09-05, Radio Free Europe / Radio Liberty, [www.rferl.org](https://www.rferl.org). [National News]

Sri Lanka: **Accountability key to Sri Lanka's future.** The UN human rights office (OHCHR) on Wednesday emphasized the pressing need for Sri Lanka to address its accountability deficit, ranging from war crimes to rights violations, corruption and abuse of power. [newspaper article] [United Nations], 2023-09-06, UN News, [news.un.org](https://news.un.org). [National News]

Worldwide: **The Power of Documenting War Crimes — and How to Do It.** Reporting on war crimes is essential in building the proof that opens the door to accountability, but it also goes further, by preserving and protecting a society's memory and dignity. [newspaper article] [Villa, Santiago], 2023-09-22, Global Investigative Journalism Network, [gijn.org](https://gijn.org). [International News]

## Women's Rights

Afghanistan: **Afghan.** Often reduced to the status of victims or instrumentalized in propaganda discourse, Afghan women rarely have the opportunity to speak on their behalf. This documentary gives voice to several women, aged between 17 and 70, from the city, the countryside, or living in exile. They share their intimate stories but also their reading of the events that punctuate Afghan history. [video recording] [Chalvon-Fioriti, Solène], 2023-09-05, [ici.tou.tv](https://ici.tou.tv). [National News]

Africa: **Building the South-South Feminist Archive: An Interview with Ghiwa Sayegh of Kohl Journal.** Building the South-South Feminist Archive: An Interview with Ghiwa Sayegh of Kohl Journal [blog post] [Machirori, Fungai], 2023-09-15, African Arguments, [africanarguments.org](https://africanarguments.org). [International News]

Europe: **Harmful 'Prostitution' Resolution Passes.** The European Parliament passed a resolution against "prostitution" on September 14, 2023, but removed some of its most harmful parts, Human Rights Watch said today. Parliament adopted a non-binding report. Regulation of Prostitution in the EU: Its Cross-Border Implications and Impact on Gender Equality and Women's Rights, but rejected "calls for an EU-wide approach based on the Nordic/Equality model." [newspaper article] [Human Rights Watch], 2023-09-18, Human Rights Watch, [www.hrw.org](https://www.hrw.org). [International News]

Iran, Islamic Republic of: **"Woman, Life, Freedom": Bahareh Akrami tells the story of the Iranian revolution in comic strips.** The graphic novel "Woman, Life, Freedom", conceived under the direction of Marjane Satrapi, is released in bookstores this Thursday, September 14. One year after Mahsa Amini's death, the book tells the story of the year of revolution that Iran has just experienced. For cartoonist Bahareh Akrami, whom we met, it is crucial not to let this fight fall into oblivion. [video recording] [Akrami, Bahareh], 2023-09-14, [www.courrierinternational.com](https://www.courrierinternational.com). [National News]

Iran, Islamic Republic of: **What happened to Mahsa/Zhina Amini?.** In September 2022 Mahsa/Zhina Amini, a young woman from Iran's oppressed Kurdish minority, visited Tehran with her brother. She was stopped and arrested by Iran's "morality" police (gasht-e ershad), who routinely

arbitrarily detain women who do not comply with the country's abusive and discriminatory compulsory veiling laws. [newspaper article] [Amnesty International], 2023-09-15, Amnesty International, [www.amnesty.org](http://www.amnesty.org). [National News]

Mexico: **Mexico's Supreme Court Orders Federal Decriminalization of Abortion.** Mexico's Supreme Court ruled this week that Congress must eliminate federal criminal penalties for abortion, which means all federal health facilities should provide abortion care, a massive victory for human rights. [newspaper article] [Tamés, Regina; Quijano Carrasco, Cristina], 2023-09-08, Human Rights Watch, [www.hrw.org](http://www.hrw.org). [National News]

## World War II

France: **Coco Chanel exhibition reveals fashion designer was part of French resistance.** A major retrospective of Coco Chanel has unearthed evidence that the fashion designer was a documented member of the French resistance. The previously unseen documents will go on display, along with contradictory evidence that she operated as a Nazi agent. [newspaper article] [Cartner-Morley, Jess], 2023-09-09, The Guardian, [www.theguardian.com](http://www.theguardian.com). [National News]

Germany: **Holocaust Ground Zero review – it is the unfathomable suffering that stays with you.** This distressing documentary outlines in a clear and accessible way the beginning of the mass execution of Jews under Hitler's regime. [newspaper article] [Mangan, Lucy], 2023-09-04, The Guardian, [www.theguardian.com](http://www.theguardian.com). [National News]

Germany: **Pius XII | The "Pope of Hitler" or "Savior of the Jews"?: Who was the pontiff and why his role in World War II continues to generate controversy.** The recent discovery of a letter, dated 1942, in which a German priest informed the Vatican about the extermination of the Jews in Poland revives the debate about the pontiff's actions during this historical period. [newspaper article] [Alonso, Juan Francisco], 2023-09-24, BBC News Mundo, [www.bbc.com](http://www.bbc.com). [National News]

Holly See: **Letter suggests Pope Pius XII knew of mass gassings of Jews and Poles in 1942.** Letter from church source in anti-Hitler resistance reporting 6,000 daily killings undercuts Vatican's claims of lack of knowledge [newspaper article] [Associated Press], 2023-09-16, The Guardian, [www.theguardian.com](http://www.theguardian.com). [National News]

United States of America: **Schiele artworks believed stolen during Holocaust seized from US museums.** Three artworks believed stolen during the Holocaust from a Jewish art collector and entertainer have been seized from museums in three different states by New York law enforcement authorities. [newspaper article] [Associated Press], 2023-09-15, The Guardian, [www.theguardian.com](http://www.theguardian.com). [National News]