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## ARCHIVES AND HUMAN RIGHTS

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

*Winner of the Premio Internacional Derechos Humanos 2020 de la Asociación pro Derechos Humanos de España*

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### Commentary

2023 has been an eventful year, both for this newsletter and in the world at large. Close to home, Trudy Huskamp Peterson celebrated 14 years and 160 issues of the Section on Archives and Human Rights Newsletter (formerly the Human Rights Working Group Newsletter). In May, she handed over the reins to a group of volunteer news collectors, coordinators, and translators. We've spent the past several months creating processes, discussing taxonomies, wrestling with technology, and encouraging each other through many, many WhatsApp messages. It's been a privilege to carry on this work with such a dedicated and thoughtful group of people.

We've taken a look at the intersection of archives and [generative AI](#) and [bias in data](#), [restorative justice](#), [provenance of historical artefacts](#), [citizenship](#), the [1973 coup d'état in Chile](#), [universal jurisdiction](#), and [Indigenous identity](#).

We covered **a wide range of topics**, and with about 70 subject headings to choose from, the ones we used most often were:

- Indigenous Matters
- Women's Rights

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Send your suggestions for news items or comments to [sahr-newsletter@ica.org](mailto:sahr-newsletter@ica.org).

- Human Rights Defenders and Activists
- LGBTQ+
- Disinformation
- Freedom of Expression
- Israel-Gaza Crisis

The news came from over **200 publications**. We relied most heavily on:

- Amnesty International
- Human Rights Watch
- The Guardian
- UN News

We covered news from **40-60 countries and regions** each month.

The majority of our news selection is in **English**, typically about 60%-70% of the total coverage each month. Articles in **French and Spanish** make up between 15%-25% of the articles each month, although all article titles and abstracts that appear in the newsletter are translated into all three languages.

Thanks for your time and attention, your suggestions, and your contributions. We would love to hear from you through our email ([sahr-newsletter@ica.org](mailto:sahr-newsletter@ica.org)). We're always looking for news collectors who can help to broaden our geographical, language and subject areas - please get in touch if you'd like to contribute!

## **SAHR News**

- The celebration of the 75th anniversary of the Universal Declaration on Human Rights on December 10th was marked by ICA with a conference of Trudy Huskamp Peterson about the document and the various ways it makes presence in all archives and by the launch of the Rights and Records Knowledge Base. The database compiles references and, frequently, access to the full texts of articles and news about human rights and archives and is available through the SAHR web page on the ICA website or directly at <https://rightsandrecords.ica.org/bib/>.
- SAHR has been successful in attracting 5'000 Euros to cover the costs of the next stage of its Truth and Reconciliation Archives Project from the ICA's Programme Commission annual fund. This will enable the section to make the data it has accumulated on over 50 international truth commission archives much more accessible through a dedicated webpage. It will also enable the section to extend the coverage of the project, and ensure that these priceless archives are given the recognition they deserve.

## **Events**

*Would you like to promote your event (conference, webinar, exhibition, etc.) to an international audience? Please submit information, including title, description, date(s) and URL to [sahr-newsletter@ica.org](mailto:sahr-newsletter@ica.org) for upcoming publication.*

South Africa: **Exhibition - Nelson Mandela is Dead**. [Nelson Mandela Foundation; Mokgopa, Kneo], 2023-11-30, Nelson Mandela Foundation, [Human Rights Defenders and Activists]

Worldwide: [Conference - Journée d'étude "Archiver en temps de guerre" en partenariat avec les Archives Nationales du Monde du Travail](#). [Association des archivistes français], 2023-12-18, Association des archivistes français, [Armed Conflict and Groups]

Worldwide: [Conférence « présentation de l'ouvrage archives et droits humains à la mémoire de Louis Joinet »](#). [Archives nationales de France], 2024-01-05, Archives nationales de France on LinkedIn, [Human Rights]

Worldwide: [Conference Call for Proposals - Social justice and development in a polarising world](#). [Development Studies Association], 2023-12-20, Development Studies Association, [Human Rights]

Worldwide: [Conference Call for Proposals - The Politics of Libraries Conference VI is looking for submissions on this year's theme of \\*SOLIDARITY\\* in GLAM institutions](#). [Politics of Libraries Conference], 2023-12-14, PoL, [Labor Rights]

Worldwide: [ICA-SAHR First Tuesday Talk by Elena Zhemkova, Co-founder and Executive Director of Memorial, moderated by José Faraldo, professor at the Madrid University Complutense. Event link and details forthcoming](#). [International Council on Archives], 2024-02-06, [Human Rights]

Worldwide: [Training - Archives and Climate Change](#). [Tansey, Eira], 2023-12-18, UCLA California Rare Book School, [Climate Change]

## **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 heading

### Armed Conflict and Groups

[Conference - Journée d'étude "Archiver en temps de guerre" en partenariat avec les Archives Nationales du Monde du Travail](#). La jour-née d'étude orga-ni-sée par la Section des archivistes des administrations centrales et des opérateurs de l'État se pro-pose de se pen-cher sur ce qu'archi-ver en temps de guerre recou-vre à dif-fé-ren-tes époques, sur dif-fé-rents conti-nents. La journée d'étude se déroule le 26 janvier 2024, à Roubaix, aux Archives nationales du monde du travail [Association des archivistes français], 2024-01-26, Association des archivistes français, [Worldwide]

### Censorship

[Censorship rises in Malaysia under Anwar despite his pro-reform pledge: report](#). The People Power Under Attack 2023 report cited an increase in censorship under Prime Minister Anwar Ibrahim's administration despite his pro-reform pledge. [Azmi, Hadi], 2023-12-06, South China Morning Post, [South-Eastern Asia]

[Censure littéraire : aux Etats-Unis, 3.362 livres interdits et retirés des écoles, facs et bibliothèques](#). Aux Etats-Unis, un phénomène inquiète : la censure des livres. Plus de 3.000 titres ont été retirés des bibliothèques au cours de l'année scolaire 2022-2023, que ce soit dans les écoles, les universités ou dans les établissements publics. [Fried, Aviva], 2023-12-25, Europe 1, [United States of America]

### Child Abuse

[Activists give 540.000 strong petition on online child abuse to MEPs](#). They are calling for the strongest possible measures when it comes to the EU's measures preventing and combating online child abuse. [Marques da Silva, Isabel], 2023-12-07, euronews, [Europe]

### Children's Rights

[L'Église flamande éclaboussée par un scandale d'adoptions forcées](#). En Belgique, de nouveaux témoignages de victimes relancent le scandale des adoptions forcées et éclaboussent une nouvelle fois l'Église catholique en Flandre. Près de 30 000 enfants auraient été retirés à leur mère par des religieux entre les années 1950 et 1980 et ils auraient parfois même été vendus à leur famille d'adoption. [RFI], 2023-12-16, RFI, [Belgium]

[Office of the Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court publishes new Policy on Children: Statement by ICC Prosecutor Karim A.A. Khan KC](#). As the suffering of children is witnessed worldwide, the Office of the Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court has launched a new Policy on Children to help remedy their historic underrepresentation and lack of engagement in international criminal justice processes. [International Criminal Court (ICC)], 2023-12-13, Office of the Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court, [Worldwide]

[Publication par le Bureau du Procureur d'un nouveau Document de politique générale relatif aux enfants](#). Alors que nous sommes témoins de la souffrance des enfants dans le monde entier, le Bureau du Procureur publie un nouveau document de politique générale relatif aux enfants afin de remédier à leur sous-représentation historique et à leur manque de participation dans les procédures

de justice pénale internationale. [International Criminal Court (ICC)], 2023-12-13, International Criminal Court (ICC), [Worldwide]

## **Climate Change**

[Climate Reparations Are Becoming a Reality. Here's What They Could Look Like.](#) Grist asked 10 countries how they would use the long-awaited “loss and damage” fund launched at COP28. [Doré, Gabrielle], 2023-12-25, Worth, [Worldwide]

[Training - Archives and Climate Change.](#) Climate change is one of the greatest contemporary threats to archives. This online course will run 5 August – 9 August, 2024. The tuition cost is \$1,200.00 [Tansey, Eira], 2023-12-18, UCLA California Rare Book School, [Worldwide]

## **Colonialism**

[Humiliation and violence in Kenya's colonial days – when old men were called 'boy' and Africans were publicly beaten.](#) Colonialists daily reinforced a hierarchy that allowed white people to abuse Africans. [Shadle, Brett], 2023-12-08, The Conversation, [Kenya]

[Kenya at 60: the shameful truth about British colonial abuse and how it was covered up.](#) Thousands of Kenyans were held in detention camps, and the British imperialist government tried to cover up brutal violations that occurred there. [Duffy, Aoife], 2023-12-08, The Conversation, [Kenya]

## **Corruption**

[Binder of classified material on Russia reportedly went missing in final Trump days.](#) Reported disappearance of 2,700 pages of classified material caused alarm in US intelligence circles. [Pengelly, Martin], 2023-12-15, The Guardian, [United States of America]

[The Qatargate Files: Hundreds of leaked documents reveal scale of EU corruption scandal.](#) Evidence from the European Parliament graft investigation provides a record of more than 300 alleged attempts to manipulate EU democracy. [Braun, Elisa; Volpicelli, Gian; Wax, Eddy], 2023-12-04, POLITICO, [Europe]

## **Crimes Against Humanity**

[Digitizing Vulnerable Community-Held Archives of Human Rights in Colombia.](#) A survey of organizational Archives in Colombia to preserve history of human rights activism and document crimes against humanity. [Modern Endangered Archives Program], 2023-12-21, UCLA Library, [Colombia]

[Peru braces for protests after former President Fujimori's release from prison.](#) The release from prison of the former authoritarian leader has triggered uproar in the Andean country. He had been serving a 25-year sentence for directing death squads against supposed subversives. [Tegel, Simeon], 2023-12-07, NPR, [Peru]

## **Decolonization**

[Indigenous Archives in Postcolonial Contexts: Recalling the Past in Africa](#). Indigenous Archives in Postcolonial Contexts revisits the definition of a record and extends it to include memory, murals, rock art paintings and other objects. [Ngoepe, Mpho; Bhebhe, Sindiso], 2023-12-06, [Africa]

## **Destruction of documents**

[Poland's Media Transparency Under Threat: State Archives Allegedly Destroyed](#). The archives of public broadcasters, TVP (Telewizja Polska) and Polish Radio, have been allegedly destroyed according to the National Broadcasting Council of Poland (KRRiT). [Zylm, Wojciech], 2023-12-26, BNN Breaking, [Poland]

## **Economic, Social and Cultural Rights**

[Good morning, Mogadishu! Preserving Somalia's cultural history, one tape at a time](#). Historic audio recordings covering the recent history of Somalia are being preserved for future generations thanks to UN support. [UN News], 2023-12-25, UN News, [Somalia]

[How Environmental and Climate Racism Manifests in Cities](#). Given the impacts of climate change on the planet, environmental racism has expanded to encompass climate racism as well. However, the nations facing the most severe consequences of climate change are those in the global south. It's important to emphasize that the historical settlement of disenfranchised slaves is connected to its colonial past, with social structures based on the enslavement. [Ghisleni, Camilla], 2023-12-26, ArchDaily, [Worldwide]

[It's one of the biggest experiments in fighting global poverty. Now the results are in](#). The study focuses on a universal basic income and spans 12 years and thousands of people in Kenya. How did the money change lives? What's better: monthly payouts or a lump sum. [Aizenman, Nurith], 2023-12-07, NPR, [Kenya]

## **Environment**

[Interview with Eira Tansey about "A Green New Deal for Archives"](#). In a Green New Deal for Archives policy platform I think there's an important role for community archives to play in documenting watersheds and local environmental problems. Community and activist archives can do this in ways that government archives likely could not or would not. [Burkely Hermann,], 2023-12-01, Issues & Advocacy, [United States of America]

[WMO issues new guidelines on evaluation of weather and climate extremes](#). WMO has taken over responsibility for hosting the official Archive of Weather and Climate Extremes - the equivalent of the Guinness Book of records on heat, rainfall, wind, lightning and many other phenomena. It has also issued new guidelines on the evaluation of new records. [World Meteorological Organization], 2023-12-20, World Meteorological Organization, [Worldwide]

## Forced Labor

[Digital archive on forced labor of the Dutch during WWII visited over 400,000 times](#). The digital archive of Dutch people who had to perform forced labor in Germany during the Second World War was accessed more than 400,000 times in the first week. [ANP], 2023-12-10, NL Times, [Worldwide]

## Freedom of Expression

[La liberté d'expression](#). 'La liberté d'expression. Pour qui, pour quoi, jusqu'où?' explore les règles de contenu applicables à toute personne qui s'exprime, quels que soient le sujet et le mode de diffusion. [Hoebeke, Stéphane], 2023-12-05, [Worldwide]

[Senate Passes \\$886 Billion Military Bill That Extends Mass Spying Authorization](#). In an overwhelming bipartisan vote, the U.S. Senate passed a military policy bill that includes an extension of surveillance authority that the government has used — and heavily abused — to access the communications of activists, journalists, lawmakers, and others without a warrant. [Johnson, Jake], 2023-12-14, Truthout, [United States of America]

[Zimbabwe: Acquittal of imprisoned opposition leader shows growing cases of misuse of justice system to target critical voices](#). Responding to yesterday's High Court acquittal of opposition leader, Jacob Ngarivhume, who was sentenced in April to 48 months imprisonment for leading protests against government corruption, Khanyo Farisè, Amnesty International's Deputy Director for Southern Africa, said: "His imprisonment is a travesty, and an affront to Zimbabwe's constitution and the country's international human rights obligations. No [...]" [Amnesty International], 2023-12-12, Amnesty International, [Zimbabwe]

## Genocide

[« Ils sont les fondateurs d'une milice impitoyable à Kigali »](#). Lors de leur procès en Belgique pour génocide, deux hommes sont présentés par la procureure comme étant à l'origine d'un groupe Interahamwe meurtrier à Kigali, en 1994. [Ponselet, Gaelle], 2023-12-07, JusticeInfo.net, [Rwanda]

[« Sans preuve matérielle, quelle vérité judiciaire ? »](#). Les avocats des Rwandais Séraphin Twahirwa et Pierre Basabosé, accusés d'avoir participé au génocide de 1994, présentent leurs lignes de défense en Belgique. [Ponselet, Gaelle], 2023-12-11, JusticeInfo.net, [Rwanda]

[The landmark Genocide Convention has had mixed results since the UN approved it 75 years ago](#). While the Genocide Convention has helped raise awareness and prevent ethnic violence from escalating, it has not stopped many accusations of genocides, including violence in Darfur and in Ukraine. [Hinton, Alexander], 2023-12-08, The Conversation, [Worldwide]

## Health Records

[EU Parliament agrees position on digitalising health data](#). The European Parliament agreed on their position on digitalising EU health data, paving the way for the start of interinstitutional negotiations. Secondary use of data would be possible after being anonymised or pseudonymised. [Peseckyte, Giedre], 2023-12-13, www.euractiv.com, [Europe]

## Human Rights

[75 years after the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, a review](#). The Universal Declaration of Human Rights is 75 years old. What was so significant about this treaty and is it still relevant? [Ilaria, Federico], 2023-12-10, euronews, [Worldwide]

[After 75 years, what is the UN human rights system's theory of change?](#). While celebrating the 75th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights most commentaries have focused on the historical importance of the document, its relevance, and the fact that it would be impossible today for United Nations member states to adopt such an agreement. Yet two equally – if not more – crucial questions linger: what was the Universal Declaration's theory of change, meaning how did its authors intend for it [Limon, Marc], 2023-12-13, Geneva Solutions, [Worldwide]

[Conférence « présentation de l'ouvrage archives et droits humains à la mémoire de Louis Joinet »](#). Conférence « présentation de l'ouvrage archives et droits humains à la mémoire de Louis Joinet » le mardi 30 janvier 2024, 10 h-12 h. Site de paris – hôtel de... [Archives nationales de France], 2024-01-30, Archives nationales de France on LinkedIn, [Worldwide]

[Conference Call for Proposals - Social justice and development in a polarising world](#). Data are playing an increasingly important role in shaping patterns and trajectories of development. Data can be a powerful tool for challenging societal harms but can also reflect and reinforce existing relationships of power. Proposals to be submitted by 23 January 2024. Hybrid conference to be held at University of London 26-28 June 2024. [Development Studies Association], 2023-12-20, Development Studies Association, [Worldwide]

[ICA-SAHR First Tuesday Talk by Elena Zhemkova, Co-founder and Executive Director of Memorial, moderated by José Faraldo, professor at the Madrid University Complutense. Event link and details forthcoming](#). [International Council on Archives], 2024-02-06, [Worldwide]

[ICC: Combat Double Standards for Justice](#). Member countries of the International Criminal Court (ICC) should step up their political, practical and financial support so that the court can fully deliver on its mandate. [Human Rights Watch], 2023-12-04, Human Rights Watch, [Worldwide]

[L'essentiel sur la Cour européenne des droits de l'homme](#). La Cour européenne des droits de l'homme fait figure de dernier rempart lorsque les voies de recours nationales ont fait défaut pour reconnaître et réparer une violation alléguée d'un ou plusieurs droits et libertés contenus dans la Convention européenne des droits de l'homme. [Van Enis, Quentin], 2023-12-05, [Europe]

[Troubles legacy act: Ireland takes human rights case against UK](#). The Irish government is to begin a legal challenge against the UK government over its decision to offer immunity for Troubles-era crimes. The UK's controversial Troubles legacy act became law in September, despite opposition from Dublin and all Northern Ireland's main political parties. Critics argued the law gave an amnesty and removed access to justice. [O'Neill, Julian], 2023-12-20, BBC News, [United Kingdom/Ireland]

## Human Rights Defenders and Activists

[Dix ans de la mort de Nelson Mandela: «Il a éloigné la menace de la plus sanglante des guerres civiles d'Afrique»](#). À l'occasion du dixième anniversaire de la disparition de Nelson Mandela, RFI a interrogé le journaliste sud-africain Max Du Preez. Il est l'un de meilleurs connaisseurs de l'histoire



contemporaine de l'Afrique du Sud et de son évolution sous les gouvernements post-apartheid. [Chanda, Trithankar], 2023-12-05, RFI, [South Africa]

**Exhibition - Nelson Mandela is Dead**. Ten years after Nelson Mandela passing away. The thought-provoking Mandela is Dead exhibition curated by Kneo Mokgopa celebrates, as well as challenges, the legacy of a great Human Rights Activist and South Africa's first democratically elected president - Exhibition launched 30th of November 2023 at the Nelson Mandela Centre of Memory in Houghton South Africa [Nelson Mandela Foundation; Mokgopa, Kneo], 2023-11-30, Nelson Mandela Foundation, [South Africa]

**Young Chinese people are finding creative ways keep 'white paper' protest alive**. One year on from the "white paper protests", one of the biggest displays of civil disobedience in China since the 1989 Tiananmen massacre, young people are finding creative ways to express political dissent. [Asia Pacific Newsroom], 2023-12-01, ABC News, [China]

## **Humanitarian Aid**

**South Sudan: Education Cluster Information Management Strategy**. The strategy explicitly delineates processes related to data collection, management, visualization, analysis, and dissemination among the various actors involved as well as the frequency. This strategic approach to IM is geared to provide ongoing IM support to current and future Humanitarian Response Plans. [Education Cluster UNICEF], 2023-12-11, [South Sudan]

## **Indigenous Matters**

**'The category of domestic animals': Aboriginal people named Hitler, Stalin and Bing Crosby**. Across northern Australia, some Aboriginal people have grown up bearing the names of Hollywood stars and fascist dictators. It's a link back to a dark chapter in history. [Parke, Erin], 2023-12-02, ABC News, [Australia]

**Heritage, Indigenous Doing, and Wellbeing: Voices of Country**. Heritage, Indigenous Doing and Wellbeing presents an Aboriginal Australian relational understanding of the world that offers a counter-narrative to the Western notion of heritage and new insights into the potential for sustaining the complex systems that support all life. From an Indigenous Australian perspective, the Western concept of heritage is intentionally exclusionary and supports social, political, economic, and environmental injustice. [0], 2024-12-15, [Australia]

**Notes, Letters, Diaries, Posters and Pamphlets: Narrating Ideas of Indigeneity in Jharkhand, India**. The collection of Bishop Nirmal Minz in Jharkhand, India illuminates the struggle for justice, dignity, and human rights through the voices of marginalized writers. [Modern Endangered Archives Program], 2023-12-21, UCLA Library, [India]

**Traditional Knowledge Database strengthening weather forecasting and observations in the Pacific**. There is a lot of data in our traditional knowledge. Our chants, songs, artefacts, and tattoos all hold data that only we can interpret and understand. However, there has been limited integration of this knowledge into our policies and decision-making processes. [Siosinamele Lu], 2023-12-01, Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme, [Oceania]

[\*\*Tribes in Maine Spent Decades Fighting to Rebury Ancestral Remains. Harvard Resisted Them at Nearly Every Turn.\*\*](#) The university's Peabody Museum exploited loopholes to prevent repatriation to the Wabanaki people while still staying in compliance with NAGPRA. The tribes didn't give up. [Hudetz, Mary; Ngu, Nash], 2023-12-04, ProPublica, [United States of America]

[\*\*Yellowhead Institute to end reports on TRC calls to action.\*\*](#) The 2023 report by the Yellowhead Institute found that no calls to action from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission were completed this year. It says that if Canada continues at this pace, it will not finish the work until 2081 [Passafiume, Alessia; Canadian Press], 2023-12-20, Vancouver Sun, [Canada]

## **Internet and Social Media**

[\*\*Privacy, Trust and Social Media.\*\*](#) The book examines the main issues and challenges associated with privacy and trust on social media in a manner relevant to both practitioners and scholars. [0], 2024-12-11, [Worldwide]

## **Israel-Gaza Crisis**

[\*\*'Israel destroyed Central Archives of Gaza City': Head of Gaza Municipality.\*\*](#) The head of Gaza Municipality said that Israel destroyed the "Central Archives" which contained thousands of historical documents dating more than 150 years. [Middle East Monitor], 2023-11-29, Middle East Monitor, [Palestine (permanent observer to the UN)]

[\*\*Archives From Oslo Era Reveal the US Press Wasn't Always in Lockstep on Israel.\*\*](#) A Truthout analysis of the archival material uncovers how mainstream papers portrayed the asymmetries of the accords. [Falcone, Daniel], 2023-12-24, Truthout, [Palestine (permanent observer to the UN)]

[\*\*How Israeli settler violence is forcing Palestinians to flee their homes – video.\*\*](#) After weeks of intense settler violence in the aftermath of the Hamas attack on Israel on 7 October, and despite the decades-long fight to remain in their homes, these communities are now being forced off their land. [McKernan, Bethan; Evangelou, Kyri; Doran, Temujin], 2023-12-14, The Guardian, [Palestine (permanent observer to the UN)]

[\*\*Human rights defenders in Gaza risk death and can no longer carry out their mission.\*\*](#) Staff from international organisations are left almost entirely inoperative: they cannot document the human rights violations that are currently being committed, which reinforces the cycle of impunity for international crimes. [International Federation for Human Rights], 2023-11-22, International Federation for Human Rights, [Palestine (permanent observer to the UN)]

[\*\*Images of Syrian Civil War Take on a Second Life in Gaza Conflict.\*\*](#) The avalanche of disinformation shared about Israel and Palestine amid the recent conflict has been well documented. There is also a trend of footage and images from Syria's long-running civil war being recycled and misattributed to the current Israel-Hamas conflict. [Koltai, Kolina], 2023-12-08, bellingcat, [Western Asia]

[\*\*Se reanuda juicio por corrupción a Netanyahu en medio de guerra con Hamas.\*\*](#) El juicio por corrupción a Netanyahu se reanudó este lunes luego de una pausa de dos meses tras los ataques de Hamas a Israel el 7 de octubre. [Halasz, Stephanie; Michaelis, Tamar], 2023-12-04, CNN, [Israel]

[Statement of the International Council on Archives on the Destruction of the Central Archives of the Municipality of Gaza.](#) The International Council on Archives (ICA) has learnt of the reported bombing of the Central Archives building in Gaza and the main public library, resulting in the destruction of historical documents dating back 100 years. [International Council on Archives], 2023-12-13, International Council on Archives, [Palestine (permanent observer to the UN)]

[Videos of stripped detainees in Gaza: A practice condemned under international law?](#) Israeli authorities say they undressed the detainees as a security measure, but that photos of them in their underwear "serve nobody". The images have sparked debate on the legality of the IDF's arrest procedures. Human Rights Watch told FRANCE 24 that sharing humiliating images of prisoners can amount to a war crime [Gallo, Nathan], 2023-12-14, The Observers - France 24, [Palestine (permanent observer to the UN)]

## **Labor Rights**

[Conference Call for Proposals - The Politics of Libraries Conference VI is looking for submissions on this year's theme of \\*SOLIDARITY\\* in GLAM institutions.](#) Politics of Libraries VI (PoL VI) seeks to generate a thoughtful discussion on solidarity between information workers. Some of the themes are: academic freedom, white supremacy, heteronormative patriarchy, and ableism in the GLAM sector. This is a virtual conference taking place from 5 April to 24 May, 2024 on Fridays at 12pm MST [Politics of Libraries Conference], 2023-12-14, PoL, [Worldwide]

[No Right to Medical Care. Compensation for Injuries or Time Off: How Immigrant Dairy Workers Go From Vital to Disposable.](#) Immigrant workers are essential to Wisconsin's dairy industry. But when they get injured, they're often cast aside. [Jameel, Maryam; Sanchez, Melissa], 2023-12-20, ProPublica, [United States of America]

## **LGBTQ+ Rights**

[Disney says in lawsuit that DeSantis-appointed government is failing to release public records.](#) Disney has filed a lawsuit claiming that the oversight government for Walt Disney World, which was taken over by appointees of Gov. Ron DeSantis earlier this year, has failed to release documents and properly preserve records in violation of Florida public records law. [Schneider, Mike], 1905-07-15, AP News, [United States of America]

[The shocking state of US LGBTQ rights in 2023.](#) State legislators in the US have spawned so many anti-LGBTQ+ bills in the past 12 months that it's easy to lose track. The independently researched trans legislation tracker puts the number at 589, across 49 states. By comparison, a conservative estimate of the number of bills filed against the LGBTQ+ community in 2022 is 174, meaning the count has increased by more than 230 per cent this year. [Hansford, Amelia], 2023-12-23, Pink News, [United States of America]

## **Migration**

[Tony Blair urged 'radical' measures to cut asylum, archive papers reveal.](#) Government records from 2003 released by the UK National Archives reveal the extent of "radical" measures discussed during the Blair premiership in order to prevent migrants from entering the UK. [Berg, Sanchia], 2023-12-29, BBC News, [United Kingdom]

## Privacy

[Surveillance technology is advancing at pace – with what consequences?](#). Plans for facial recognition searches across UK driving licence records could threaten idea of policing by consent. [Boffey, Daniel], 2023-12-20, The Guardian, [United Kingdom]

[The Fight for Privacy: Protecting Dignity, Identity, and Love in the Digital Age](#). Privacy is disappearing. Exploring why the law has struggled to keep up, the author reveals how our current system leaves victims—particularly women, LGBTQ+ people, and marginalized groups—shamed and powerless while perpetrators profit, warping cultural norms around the world. [Keats Citron, Danielle], 2023-11-14, [Worldwide]

[The Privacy Fallacy | Harm and Power in the Information Economy](#). Our privacy is besieged by tech companies. Companies can do this because our laws are built on outdated ideas that trap lawmakers, regulators, and courts into wrong assumptions about privacy, resulting in ineffective legal remedies to one of the most pressing concerns of our generation [Cofone, Ignacio], 2023-11, [Worldwide]

## Racism

[Aumenta el número de delitos de odio en el condado de Los Ángeles, según reporte](#). La Comisión de Relaciones Humanas del condado de Los Ángeles publicó sus observaciones sobre los delitos de odio reportados en 2022. Desde 1980 se realiza este reporte detallado con datos compilados por numerosas agencias de seguridad, instituciones educativas y organizaciones comunitarias. [Villarreal, Krecyté], 2023-12-05, [United States of America]

[Revised edition of 'Tintin in the Congo' aims to address racism, colonialism](#). A new version of the comic book "Tintin in the Congo" seeks to address accusations of racism and colonialism with a reworked cover, new preface and modifications to the story. But the response from anti-racism groups has been mixed. [RFI], 2023-12-17, RFI, [Worldwide]

[Tyla's racial identity: South African singer sparks culture war](#). The term "coloured" is a slur in the US, but for millions of South Africans it is part of their identity. Apartheid was a political system with a racial hierarchy and the Population Registration Act of 1950 required people to be registered into one of four racial categories - white, black, Indian or coloured. [Nesta Kupemba, Danai], 2023-12-09, BBC News, [South Africa]

## Reconciliation

[A Verdict in South Africa Reveals an Unfinished Reckoning With Apartheid](#). Public recognition that the imam and activist Abdullah Haron was killed by security police in 1969 poses questions about the justice sacrificed at the modern nation's founding [Hussein, Tam], 2023-12-19, New Lines Magazine, [South Africa]

[Archives for Justice and Peace: The Project for the Recovery of Historical Memory \(REMHI\) and the National Reconciliation Commission \(CNR\)](#). This project will digitize the REMHI collection, which documents the human rights violations resulting from armed conflict in Guatemala from 1973 into the 1990s. [Modern Endangered Archives Program], 2023-12-21, UCLA Library, [Guatemala]

## Reparation

[\*\*A movement is growing across Africa and diaspora demanding reparations for the impacts of slavery and colonialism.\*\*](#) "The demand for reparations is not an attempt to rewrite history or to continue the cycle of victimization. It's a call to recognize the undeniable truth and rewrite the wrongs ..." [Zage, Zita], 2023-12-02, Global Voices, [Africa]

[\*\*Barbados PM says country owed \\$4.9tn as she makes fresh call for reparations.\*\*](#) Mia Mottley, Barbados PM, said during a visit in the UK that Barbados was owed \$4.9tn (£3.9tn) by slave-owning nations, noting that conversations over how this debt should be repaid would "be difficult and will take time" [Gentleman, Amelia], 2023-12-06, The Guardian, [Barbados]

[\*\*New York Gov. Kathy Hochul signs controversial legislation to create slavery reparations commission.\*\*](#) The new law authorizes the creation of a community commission that will study the history of slavery in New York state and what reparations could look like. [Duddridge, Natalie], 2023-12-19, CBS New York, [United States of America]

## Sexual Violence

[\*\*Burundi: Amend gender-based violence law.\*\*](#) Burundi's 2016 law against gender-based violence was a milestone achievement, bringing improved protection. However, it falls short of regional and international best practice, and in some instances undermines rather reinforces the fight against gender-based violence. This briefing proposes how to strengthen protections, including through revisions of the law. [Amnesty International], 2023-12-06, Amnesty International, [Burundi]

[\*\*Security forces used rape and other sexual violence to crush "Woman Life Freedom" uprising with impunity.\*\*](#) A report demonstrates that security forces in Iran used rape and other forms of sexual violence, amounting to torture and other ill-treatment, to intimidate and punish peaceful protesters during the 2022 "Woman Life Freedom" uprising. [Amnesty International], 2023-12-06, Amnesty International, [Iran, Islamic Republic of]

[\*\*Suspended sentences in Japan army sexual assault case.\*\*](#) Three Japanese ex-soldiers were found guilty Tuesday but given only suspended jail sentences for sexually assaulting a female colleague who won praise but also online hate for going public with her accusations. [Agence France-Presse; Charles, Frédéric], 2023-12-12, RFI, [Japan]

## Spying

[\*\*Netherlands accused of spying on Jews after World War II.\*\*](#) The secret services reportedly monitored members of the Netherlands Auschwitz Committee and infiltrated its meetings. [euronews], 2023-12-27, euronews, [Netherlands]

## Technology

[\*\*Deploying OSINT in armed conflict settings: law, ethics, and the need for a new theory of harm.\*\*](#) Explore the role of open-source information (OSINT) in 21st-century conflicts, its benefits in accountability and justice, and risks such as privacy violations. What are the legal frameworks and challenges in regulating OSINT's use by states and non-state actors in armed conflict settings? [Ed Millett], 2023-12-05, Humanitarian Law & Policy Blog, [Worldwide]

[\*\*In 2024 elections, we have to act against AI-aggravated bias.\*\*](#) Journalists must give a voice to the underrepresented and underprivileged communities at the receiving end of much of the misinformation that drives polarising narratives and undermines trust in democracy itself. [Selva, Meera], 2023-12-07, euronews, [Worldwide]

[\*\*Rite Aid facial recognition misidentified Black, Latino and Asian people as 'likely' shoplifters.\*\*](#) Surveillance systems incorrectly and without customer consent marked shoppers as 'persons of interest', a Federal Trade Commission settlement says [Bhuiyan, Johana], 2023-12-20, The Guardian, [United States of America]

## **Torture**

[\*\*After 50 years of global effort to abolish torture, much work remains.\*\*](#) The 1973 world's first conference on the abolition of torture drew more than 300 delegates representing over 70 countries and international organizations. It opened with the news that the United Nations General Assembly had passed a resolution condemning torture. More than three-quarters of the world's nations still engage in torture, which is notoriously difficult to study because it often occurs in secret. [Einolf, Christopher Justin], 2023-12-18, The Conversation, [Worldwide]

[\*\*We know who created Syria's torture programme and how | Opinions.\*\*](#) After 12 years of civil war, hundreds of thousands of people killed and tens of thousands missing, a glimmer of hope for the Syrian people came from the world's top court. The International Court of Justice (ICJ) ruled that the Syrian state must prevent torture of detainees and refrain from destroying evidence of these unlawful acts. [Jelacic, Nerma], 2023-12-18, Al Jazeera, [Syrian Arab Republic]

## **Ukraine War**

[\*\*Frédéric Mégret : « Le sort de la justice en Ukraine dépend de l'issue des combats ».\*\*](#) Grand entretien avec Frédéric Mégret. Un an après le début de l'invasion de l'Ukraine par la Russie, quel bilan peut-on faire des différentes initiatives de justice mises en place ? [Petit, Franck], 2023-02-23, JusticeInfo.net, [Ukraine]

[\*\*Klaus Hoffmann : "Le problème des collaborateurs n'est pas seulement juridique, mais aussi politique".\*\*](#) Entretien avec Klaus Hoffmann, un procureur allemand du Groupe consultatif pour les enquêtes sur les crimes internationaux les plus graves. En Ukraine, il aide le bureau du procureur à enquêter et poursuivre les crimes de guerre. [Zhuravel, Olga], 2023-12-04, JusticeInfo.net, [Ukraine]

[\*\*Russian Destruction Causes Loss of Ukrainian Archives.\*\*](#) Ukraine's state archives were under threat even before the full-scale invasion of 2022, because of a lack of funding and resources. Now Russian occupiers seem intent on destroying what's left. [Kyiv Post], 2023-12-01, Kyiv Post, [Ukraine]

[\*\*Why Ukrainian archives must be protected.\*\*](#) Many archives have been destroyed in Ukraine since the Russian invasion. Is Vladimir Putin trying to erase Ukraine's cultural memory? [Reymann-Schneider, Kristina], 2023-12-09, dw.com, [Ukraine]

## **War Crimes**

[\*\*Haxhi Shala arrested on charges of witness intimidation and transferred to the KSC Detention Facilities in The Hague – Initial Appearance scheduled for 13 December 2023.\*\*](#) Haxhi Shala was

arrested yesterday, 11 December 2023, in Kosovo by the Specialist Prosecutor's Office, pursuant to an arrest warrant, transfer order and a confirmed indictment issued by a Pre-trial Judge of the Kosovo Specialist Chambers. [Kosovo Specialist Chambers], 2023-12-12, Kosovo Specialist Chambers & Specialist Prosecutor's Office, [Serbia]

[\*\*The World remembers the Nanjing Massacre on anniversary as new evidence continues to surface.\*\*](#) An American pawnshop owner donated an album containing photos of atrocities committed by the Japanese Army in World War II in China, updating the complete electronic archive of the album. [Media OutReach Newswire], 2023-12-13, Zawya, [China]

[\*\*United States-born Pinochet hitman's "confessions" declassified.\*\*](#) Recently declassified notes reveal for the first time the entire scope of the role an agent in Chilean dictator Augusto Pinochet's secret police played in multiple assassinations and in a fatal 1976 Washington car bombing that shocked Americans. [Contreras, Russell], 2023-12-07, Axios, [Chile]

## **Women's Rights**

[\*\*2023 Women, Peace & Security Index.\*\*](#) The 2023 edition of the global Women Peace and Security Index (WPS Index) scores and ranks 177 countries in terms of women's inclusion, justice, and security. The WPS Index offers a tool for identifying where resources and accountability are needed most to advance women's status - which benefits us all. [Georgetown University's Institute for Women, Peace and Security; Security and Peace Research Institute Oslo.], 2023-12-00, [Worldwide]

[\*\*Embassies allegedly fail to investigate abuse of women migrant workers, incl. in care & garment sectors, showing need for greater protection of women migrants.\*\*](#) In recent years, a number of stories have been reported in the media about the awful sufferings and exploitation of Bangladeshi women migrant workers in some Middle East countries. Many of the victims returned home empty-handed, tortured or even dead, which posed questions about the protection of women migrant workers in those countries. [Business & Human Rights Resource Centre], 2023-12-13, Business & Human Rights Resource Centre, [Bangladesh]

[\*\*Read the letters from around the world calling on Mary Robinson to intervene in X Case.\*\*](#) Released confidential records reveal the concern expressed by organisations and individuals about the human rights implications of a 1992 Irish High Court injunction against a 14-year-old rape victim seeking to travel overseas for an abortion. [Riegel, Ralph], 2023-12-28, Irish Independent, [Ireland]

[\*\*Turkmenistan remains unsafe for women.\*\*](#) One in every six women experienced violence from their current or former partner, according to the first-ever national survey of domestic violence in 2020. [Tarp Nurmagambetova, Mia], 2023-12-05, Global Voices, [Turkmenistan]

## **World War II**

[\*\*The Remorse That Follows Wartime Actions Against Civilians.\*\*](#) The U.S. learned this lesson during World War II—and it should guide those countries at war in 2023. [Shore, Zachary], 2023-12-13, TIME, [United States of America]

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### International News

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