

ICA HUMAN RIGHTS WORKING GROUP NEWS

INDEX, 2017

International and regional intergovernmental news.

African Commission on Human Rights. DRC responsible for massacre, government to investigate role of Anvil Mining 2017-08

Association of Southeast Asian Nations. Rights of migrants to work, no confiscation of passports 2017-11

European Bank for Reconstruction and Development. Failure to ensure labor standards at Turk Traktor 2017-04

European Commission. Proposed new rules on import cultural goods 2017-07

European Court of Human Rights. Ruled Macedonia lustration process violated rights 2017-04; government failed to protect evidence in Beslan, Russia, case 2017-04; dismissed case of Bosnians who died in Serbian camps, NGO Humanitarian Law Center said disappointed 2017-10

European Union. Agency for Fundamental Rights opinion on improving access to remedy in business 2017-04; Czech Republic gets EU documents from Italy and Belgium showing support for dissidents in Communist Czechoslovakia 2017-09

European Union Court of Justice. Individual information cannot be removed from official company register 2017-03; companies must tell employees if monitoring email 2017-09

Extraordinary African Chambers. Importance of archives 2017-12

Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia. Dismissed Im Chaen case 2017-02

Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic. Said Syrian government and allies committed acts amounting to war crimes 2017-03; Del Ponte resigned, comparison with work of Impartial and Independent Mechanism 2017-08; report said sarin used at Khan Sheikhoun 2017-09

Inter-American Commission of Human Rights. Ordered Argentina to respond to violations against Mapuche 2017-10

Inter-American Development Bank. Families displaced in Haiti on Bank-funded project 2017-04

International Atomic Energy Agency. Records management required at uranium bank Kazakhstan 2017-08

International Court of Justice. Ukraine sued Russia, violating treaties in annexation of Crimea, supporting separatists 2017-01; Bosnia appeal 2007 verdict on Serbia 2017-02, appeal rejected on technical grounds 2017-03; ordered Russia to protect Crimean Tatars rights 2017-04

International Criminal Court (ICC). African Union says members can withdraw from ICC 2017-01; Ntaganda trial introduced UN investigation reports and raw data 2017-02; Gambia decided not to withdraw 2017-02; Chiquita corporate officials added to Colombia case 2017-05; eastern Ukrainian commission sent more documents to ICC prosecutor re actions by Kiev 2017-06; Ntaganda trial documents entered by prosecution 2017-07; report on 23 Colombians who should be prosecuted for war crimes 2017-07; Mexican NGOs ask prosecutor open investigation into crime in the country 2017-07; arrest warrant Libya army commander Warfali used social media videos 2017-08; videos of general Haftar_(Warfali's commander) ordering war crimes 2017-09; Palestine human rights organizations submission alleging Israel war crimes in occupied West Bank including Jerusalem 2017-09; Burundi withdrew 2017-10; court document leaked on prosecutors Moreno-Ocampo and Bensouda 2017-10; researchers identify location of Warfali executions 2017-10; Burundi investigation authorized before withdrawal 2017-11; prosecutor asked to open investigation into crimes committed in Afghanistan conflict 2017-11; agreed with UNESCO to collaborate to protect cultural heritage 2017-11; Ntaganda trial documents 2017-12

International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia (ICTY). Plans for closure, lauds archives 2017-01; importance of documents as evidence 2017-06

International Labor Organization. Global estimate of slavery 2017-09

International Organization for Migration. Deaths recorded US-Mexico border 2017-08

Interpol. Released list of Islamic State fighters 2017-07

Kosovo Specialist Chambers. Judges named 2017-02

Mechanism for International Criminal Tribunals. Mladic convicted, Praljak took poison, Scorpions video played in Stanistic and Simatovic trial 2017-11

NATO. Released documentary on post-World War II Baltic partisan forest brothers 2017-07

Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development. Accepted complaint Survival International against World Wildlife Fund 2017-01; issued due diligence guidelines for supply chains in garment and footwear sector 2017-02

Permanent Court of Arbitration. Agreed to hear case on Bangladesh Accord violations of safety program 2017-10; Bangladesh Accord case settled 2017-12

UNESCO. U.S. and Israel withdrew 2017-10; Memory of the World asks for “dialogue” on nominations of documents on “comfort women” 2017-10; released report on world trends in freedom of expression and media development 2017-11; comprehensive review of Memory of the World Program 2017-12

UNICEF. Report on sexual violence against children 2017-11; children and AIDS 2017-12

United Nations. Proposed treaty on business and human rights, non-judicial mechanisms 2017-01; Syrian NGOs urge information collected in investigation of crimes in Syria be available for truth commissions, etc. 2017-01; Security Council resolution on protecting cultural heritage 2017-03; two staff members and interpreter killed Congo, identified by DNA and dental records 2017-03; Framework Convention on Climate Change on health risks 2017-04; UN has not apologized and compensated Roma who were in UNMIK camps in Kosovo 2017-04; Human Rights Watch (HRW) urges reconsideration of UN position on Roma camps 2017-06; head of Syria investigation appointed 2017-06; treaty banning nuclear weapons adopted 2017-07; index for Sustainable Development Goals 2017-07; Hammarskjold inquiry has not received all U.S., U.K., Belgium records 2017-07; report on murders in Congo, cellphone video evidence 2017-08; sex abuse by UN peacekeepers, Central African Republic prosecutor wants to reopen case against French 2017-08; Security Council agreed to create UN investigative team to collect evidence in Iraq 2017-09; Treaty on Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons opened for signing 2017-09; 5 UN organizations issued food security report 2017 2017-09; HRW called on UN to compensate lead poisoning victims from camp in Kosovo 2017-09; Code Blue campaign has UN case files on sexual abuse by peacekeepers in Central African Republic 2017-09; special prosecutor report on human rights defenders in business situations 2017-10; Algeria calls on UN to make public 1975 report on Western Sahara 2017-10; report on Hammarskjold death says external attack or threat plausible, Secretary General (SG) calls on governments to make archives available 2017-10; chair of non-UN Hammarskjold commission urged U.K. and U.S. give UN access to records 2017-11; Haitian women file paternity and child support claims against UN peacekeepers 2017-12; international migrant numbers doubled since 2000 2017-12

United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR). Published article on human rights and infrastructure development projects and need to collect data on coercion and reprisal 2017-03; partnership with Microsoft 2017-05; revised guidelines for investigating potentially unlawful killings (Minnesota Protocol) 2017-05; published advice on banking sector responsibilities for human rights 2017-06; review

of Israel and Palestine compliance with human rights norms 2017-06; 8 civil society organizations urged release of database on businesses in Israeli settler areas 2017-11

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). Announced 4.9 million Syrian refugees and 6.3 million Syrian IDPs 2017-03; annual trends report issued 2017-06

United Nations Human Rights Council. Creating archives on North Korea 2017-04; received 4 reports on business and human rights 2017-06; approved group of experts to monitor rights abuse in Yemen 2017-09

United Nations Office of Information and Communications Technology. Pilot project to use blockchain technology to combat child trafficking 2017-11

United Nations Special Rapporteurs. SRs on right to food and on toxics called for treaty to regulate hazardous pesticides 2017-03; SR on violence against women announced is building a global database on femicides 2017-11

World Bank. Report on impact of mining on social inequality 2017-02; later life stress measured from risk of military induction Vietnam War 2017-05; data from Pakistan used for consanguinity impact 2017-06; will begin reporting greenhouse gas emissions from projects financed 2017-12

World Health Organization (WHO). Report on child health and environment 2017-03; data on causes of death need improvement 2017-05; data on abuse of older people 2017-06; safe water report issued 2017-07

General.

Business records. Canada rules in *Ecuador v. Chevron* that subsidiary assets not reachable 2017-01; U.K. court said Royal Dutch Shell not responsible for actions of Nigeria subsidiary 2017-01; U.S. court required private law firm hand over documents on Shell case to be used in Netherlands case 2017-01; lawyer advised coal plant owners on records retention 2017-01; report on community land rights and “tenure risk” to companies 2017-02; Colombia charging around 200 companies with crimes against humanity 2017-02; U.S. repealed rule on extractive companies disclosing payments to governments 2017-02; Corporate Human Rights Benchmark published 2017-03; launch of Defenders Database of attacks against human rights defenders working on corporate accountability 2017-03; report role of Scandinavian banks and Borneo 2017-03; LaFargeHolcin admitted pay to armed groups in Syria 2017-03; Shell Oil knew of climate change impacts since 1986 2017-03; Malian former slaves on cocoa plantations in Ivory Coast lost court case in U.S. on forced labor 2017-03; Volkswagen emissions on German cars lead to excess deaths in Europe 2017-03; Monsanto documents unsealed by court in cancer case 2017-03; Shell and Eni bribes in Nigeria could have paid famine costs 2017-04; ranking of telecommunications companies on freedom of expression and privacy 2017-04; corporate accountability bulletin 2017-04; trace machine gun sale from Serbia to Syria 2017-05; Tesla Motors high rate safety accidents 2017-05; Associated Press relationship to Nazis 2017-05; funders of Honduran dam withdraw 2017-06; France launched inquiry LaFargeHolcin 2017-06; widows of men hanged by Nigeria 1990s suing Shell 2017-06; French human rights groups submitted complaint to court against BNP (now BNP Paribas) for financing arms to Rwandan military before 1994 genocide 2017-06; tobacco documents leaked showing campaign against WHO anti-smoking treaty 2017-07; Ferrovial profits from Australia refugee camps Nauru, Manus Island 2017-08; timber sale Papua New Guinea land titles questioned 2017-08; Bangladesh Rana Plaza owner sentenced for failure declare personal wealth 2017-08; comparison Exxon Mobil internal and public relations documents show misled public on climate science 2017-08; Monsanto records show company knew PCBs harmed environment but kept selling 2017-08; South Africa NGO book on big business and apartheid regime 2017-08; German case against Volkswagen on emissions dismissed 2017-08; Facebook published anti-Jewish ads, removed 2017-09; large carbon producers emissions linked to rise in global carbon dioxide, surface temperature, sea level 2017-09; investors want 60 large banks take action climate change 2017-09; Human-Induced Earthquake Database points to mining and oil and gas drilling 2017-09; cyber-attack on Deloitte 2017-10; U.K. okays suit by Zambians against copper mining company for acts by subsidiary 2017-10; Chileans sue Swedish mining company over toxic waste not

processed by contractor 2017-10; Kobe Steel falsified materials quality data 2017-10; “Paradise Papers” leak of 13.4 million files 2017-11; video of Peru timber exporters acknowledging that export documents falsified 2017-11; EpiPens deaths reported 2017-11; Santa Cruz, California, filed lawsuits against 29 oil, gas and coal companies for climate change 2017-12; corporations hiring intelligence firms to spy on political campaigners 2017-12; France investigating LafargeHolcim sales and Amesys sales to Egypt 2017-12

Climate change. Level of CO2 highest in 800,000 years 2017-11

Corruption. 6 governments formed International Anti-Corruption Coordination Centre 2017-07

Data breach/data security. Average cost of breach in 2016 went down but average size went up 2017-11

Fingerprints. Automated print matching 2017-08

Guantanamo Bay prison records. U.S. not releasing videotapes of force-feeding 2017-04

Human trafficking. Machine learning identifies ads by traffickers 2017-08

Land mines. Casualties increased, highest level since 1999 2017-12

Land records. Link of big business to murders in 2000 violent land conflicts over title 2017-06; Global Witness report murders of people defending land 2017-07; International Land and Forest Tenure Facility created, study shows 61% of 288 land conflicts since 2001 not resolved 2017-10

Medical records. Original clinical data show half studies published leave out some adverse effects 2017-01; morning sickness drug Bendectin study flawed 2017-01, part of RIAT (restoring invisible and abandoned trials) initiative 2017-01; U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and university and private labs keeping information secret about incidents with dangerous bacteria and viruses 2017-01; Hylands’ baby teething gel harming babies, lack of enforcement 2017-02; link of air pollution to premature births 2017-02; genetic testing company can tell individuals of risk factors for medical conditions 2017-04; Hyland’s pulling gel from market 2017-04; DNA genetic difference breast cancers mortality black and white women 2017-05; almost 1/3 of new drugs approved by U.S. Food and Drug Administration later had safety warnings issued because of side effects or complications 2017-05; lack of data on sexual violence against men and boys 2017-05; medical records of woman gang raped in India obtained by Uber 2017-06; U.S. medical facilities not reporting problems with medical devices 2017-06; Holocaust survivors have higher cancer rate 2017-07; genetic data on cancer “vulnerabilities” 2017-07; doctors call for guidelines on when to have patients video appointments 2017-07; Netherlands IVF (in vitro fertilization) children seek information on father donors 2017-07; cholera in Yemen 2017-08; electronic records identify persons at risk of hypoglycemia 2017-08; DNA testing data vulnerable to hackers 2017-08; machine learning on photos identifies depression in humans 2017-08; trauma databases U.S. and India compared for mortality after assaults 2017-08; comparison of birth and agricultural chemical use shows link but poor birth records limiting 2017-08; big data and machine learning medical frontier 2017-08; drugs tested in developing countries may be less safe 2017-09; EpiPen manufacturer ignored complaints 2017-09; only 55% abortions safe 2017-09; clinical trial data obtained for Hepatitis C drugs 2017-09; pollution responsible for 16% of all global deaths 2017-10; data on Group B streptococcus a leading cause of infant deaths 2017-11; pill with sensor embedded approved 2017-11; guidance for use of indigenous health data 2017-11; Sugar Research Foundation secret funding research on heart disease, not released 2017-11; identify individuals by DNA in 3 minutes 2017-12; two studies of records to predict treatment for depression 2017-12; database mining to find best treatment for specific cancers 2017-12; dengue fever vaccine creates risk if person has not already had the fever, clinical trial records 2017-12; vital death records and health surveillance data show influenza rates higher than reported 2017-12

Missing persons. Australia released report on airplane MH370 disappearance 2017-10

Nuclear power. Isotopes detected in Chernobyl accident and weather data conclude started by nuclear reaction not steam explosion 2017-11; France detected release of ruthenium-106 from Russian source 2017-11

Police records. Filming police in Europe 2017-06; use of video from bodycams and auto dashboard cameras (dashcams) not as useful as hoped 2017-06

Privacy. Reasons health data stolen 2017-01; data-mining firms trade in patient medical data 2017-01; identification of persons from anonymous web browsing information 2017-01; Familytreenow.com data useful for harassers 2017-01; Facebook exposed its own workers 2017-06; companies embedding chips in employees 2017-07; machine learning on sample of facial images identify sexual orientation 2017-09; 3 billion Yahoo accounts “affected” by 2013 data breach 2017-10; Facebook identifies persons even if not “tagged” 2017-12

Refugees. List of over 33,000 registered refugees died trying to reach Europe since 1993 2017-11

Slavery. Annual global slavery index 2017-08; U.K. Salvation Army said 300% increase in victims of slavery found in England and Wales in past 6 years 2017-10; CNN video Libyan slave auction, UN Security Council resolution on better use of data and technology to deter 2017-11

Social media. U.S. military contractor left open 3 cloud-based storage “buckets,” 1.8 million scraped online posts 2017-11

Sports records. International Olympic Committee amended standard contract for host cities to protect human rights and counter corruption 2017-03

Surveillance. Ethiopia targeted malware against dissidents in the diaspora 2017-12

Terrorism. Global Terrorism Index said total numbers of global deaths from terrorism declined but spread to more countries 2017-11

Torture. Comparison of U.S. government records of interrogation of Abu Zubaydah with his recollection 2017-01; U.S. has not provided judges with copies of Senate report on Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) as ordered 2017-01; CIA claimed state secrets on records of torture program designed by two psychologists 2017-03; Iraqi interrogated at Abu Gharaib can sue private company CACI that provided the contractors who did the interrogations 2017-06; detainees in Afghanistan suing psychologists who developed interrogation protocol, one says he urged CIA destruction of videotapes of interrogations 2017-06; Physicians for Human Rights say CIA data from torture sessions used to determine further conduct of torture 2017-07; suit against CIA contractors settled 2017-08; description of acts in torture used CIA documents from contractor case 2017-10; CIA Inspector General candidate did not read torture report, sent copies back to Senate 2017-10

Violence against journalists. 42 killed worldwide, Iraq highest, Mexico highest “outside a conflict zone” 2017-12

World War II. Investigation of brain tissue samples at Max Planck Institute Germany 2017-01; Poland published database of Auschwitz personnel 2017-01; U.K. National Archives opened last of Nazi persecution claim files 2017-03, 2017-06; German partnership to search for Mosse collection art and to help private collectors determine origins of art 2017-03; Yad Vashem identified names 4.7 of 6 million Jews killed in Holocaust 2017-04; European Shoah Legacy Institute released Immovable Property Restitution Study 2017-04; Germany can be sued for Nazi-era theft of medieval art treasures 2017-04; Max Planck announced research team on brain tissues 2017-05; Paris police give copies of “special brigades” records to Shoah Memorial and Holocaust Museum 2017-05; Russian Ministry of Defense

released records relating to Nazi acts in Kherson, Ukraine 2017-05; Chile declassified files on Nazi agents 2017-06; book published of photos of Jasenovac, Croatia, concentration camp after war 2017-06; project to discover names of all victims of Nazi medical experiments; photos of Lodz, Poland, ghetto viewed as “therapeutic photography” 2017-06; film footage of Korean comfort women in China 2017-07; Australia gave Japan records of trading company seized during war 2017-07; Argentina gave documentation to U.S. Holocaust Museum 2017-08; German Jewish marriage certificate found Netherlands 2017-08; German librarians looking for Nazi-stolen books 2017-08; German prosecutors using South American records 2017-08; Wallenberg relatives suing Russia to open records on fate 2017-08; Korea making public written and photo documents on forced mobilization during colonial rule 2017-08; South Korea court said Mitsubishi to pay compensation to former slave workers 2017-08; use of IBM computer technology by Nazis to register Jews 2017-09; documents found in Vilnius church from YIVO 2017-10; owner of painting in Gurlitt trove identified 2017-10; interviews with survivors of Ravensbruck camp posted online 2017-10; new investigation of who betrayed Anne Frank family 2017-10; French court ordered return of Pissarro painting from private owners who bought it at public auction 2017-11

Bilateral and multilateral

Afghanistan/Iraq/Syria/United States. U.S. statistics do not include all airstrikes, especially those with helicopters 2017-02

Afghanistan/United States. U.S. redacted key data from report on Afghan army and police 2017-10

Africa. African Liberation Heritage Programme center to be at Dodoma, Tanzania 2017-09

Algeria/France. French auditor says colonial records from Algeria not properly preserved at French national archives 2017-02

Al-Qaeda. U.S. released “final tranche” of documents seized from bin Laden compound 2017-01

Al-Qaeda/United States. U.S. Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) records of investigation of Abdulmutallab show Anwar al-Awlaki directed attempt to blow up airliner 2017-02

Argentina/France. France providing Argentina with copies of diplomatic documents on Argentine dictatorship 2017-04

Argentina/Germany/Israel. Argentina gave Israel 140,000 digital copies of its relationship with Nazi regime and officials 2017-09

Argentina/Italy/Peru/Uruguay. Rome court sentences Condor case 2017-01

Argentina/Vatican/Uruguay. Vatican declassifying documents on Argentina and Uruguay dictatorships 2017-04

Argentina/United States. U.S. documents show Condor planned field offices U.S. and Europe 2017-04

Armenia/Azerbaijan. Both post videos of attacks 2017-05

Armenia/Israel/Turkey. Copy of Turkish genocide trial document found in U.S. from copy in Israel 2017-04

Armenia/Turkey/Vatican. Vatican archives documents on Armenian genocide, copies given to Armenian Genocide Museum-Institute 2017-09

Australia/United Kingdom/United States. Film from Manus Island camp shown 2017-10

Balkans. Database of missing persons to be established by International Commission on Missing Persons 2017-12

Bangladesh/India. Inadequate land records in areas of border exchange 2017-04

Bangladesh/India (Jammu)/Myanmar. Jammu chamber of commerce threat to kill Rohingyas and Bangladeshis 2017-04

Bangladesh/Myanmar. Bangladesh registering Rohingya refugees from Myanmar 2017-09; Liberation War Museum report Rohingyas no identity cards, no documents, family photo required to monitor family size 2017-12; Medecins Sans Frontieres survey estimated nearly 12,000 died in Rakhine State in first 31 days of violence 2017-12

Belgium/Burundi/Congo/Rwanda/Vatican. Catholic Church Belgium apology on colonial child removals, called for release of archives 2017-04

Bosnia/Netherlands. Dutch court found Netherlands “partially liable” for Srebrenica deaths 2017-06; Netherlands government and Mothers of Srebrenica appeal the ruling 2017-09

Bosnia/Serbia. Identified Bosniak refugees given to Bosnian Serbs by Serbia 2017-07

Bosnia/Switzerland. Swiss politician convicted racial discrimination because said Srebrenica genocide a lie 2017-06

Bosnia/United States. Bosnian jailed for lying on U.S. citizenship application, deportee from U.S. convicted of crimes in Bosnia 2017-03; Bosnian Serb deported, had been in Srebrenica at time of massacres, lied on refugee application 2017-12

Burkina Faso/France. Burkinabe demand French records of Sankara assassination 2017-03; France promised to give Burkina Faso copies of Sankara documents 2017-12

Burkina Faso/Mali. Human Rights Watch report extrajudicial killings, Mali forces and Burkinabe across border 2017-09

Canada/Guatemala. Highbay security guard acquitted in Guatemala killing 2017-04; Supreme Court Canada allowed case against Tahoe mine to proceed 2017-06; report on Canadian mining companies in Guatemala and human rights 2017-06

Canada/Romania. Canadian court ordered Romanian site that downloaded “thousands of Canadian judicial and tribunal decisions, posted them online, and then demanded a ransom to remove them,” and Canada can ask Google to remove links 2017-02

Caribbean/Latin America. Report on growth of armed private security forces 2017-01

Caricom/France/Netherlands/United Kingdom. Caricom added Norway and Sweden to claims 2017-08; Caribbean Center for Reparations Research opened 2017-11

Central African Republic/Uganda. UN documented sexual abuse by Ugandan army in CAR 2017-05

Central America/Mexico/United States. MSF (Médecins Sans Frontières) report violence migrants encounter crossing Mexico 2017-05

Chile/Germany. Report on German archives information on Colonia Dignidad 2017-02

China/Hong Kong/United Kingdom. Lack of Hong Kong records required use of U.K. sources, argument for Hong Kong archives law 2017-01

Colombia/Ecuador/United States. No damages against DynCorp for spraying against coca 2017-04

Colombia/Switzerland. Swisspeace supporting Colombia’s Fiscalía to prepare investigation files 2017-01

Colombia/Venezuela. Wayuu people lack documentation in both countries 2017-03

Colombia/United States. U.S. Security and Exchange Commission released records on Chiquita payoffs to Colombian AUC paramilitaries 2017-04

Congo Basin. Survival International says wildlife charities supporting forest “eco guards” who attack people in national forests 2017-09

Croatia/Germany/Serbia. Widow of German killed in Croatia by Serb forces has video of commander’s admission 2017-02

Croatia/United States. Descendants of WWII victims in Croatia filed suit against Croatia in U.S. 2017-03

Cyprus/Greece. Greece gave copy of files on 1974 coup inquiry to Cyprus 2017-07; Greece open archives to help identify persons missing from Turkish-Cypriot war 2017-10

Egypt/France. NGOs ask France to investigate sale of surveillance technology to Egypt’s government 2017-11

Egypt/ISIS/Libya. Libya arrested suspect who filmed beheading of 20 Egyptians 2015 and found remains 2017-10

Egypt/Israel/Jordan/Syria. Israel’s release of 6 Day War records compared with those of opponents 2017-06

El Salvador/Spain/United States. Killer of Spanish Jesuit priests in 1989 in El Salvador, arrested in U.S., extradited to Spain 2017-11

El Salvador/United States. U.S. Congressmen asks Salvador's president open military archives on disappearances, says he will ask U.S. also 2017-02

Europe. Eurostat data show half of refugees in Europe don't know result a year after applying for refugee status 2017-09; Eastern Europe countries applaud Ukraine's opening of KGB archives 2017-10

Europe/Libya. Amnesty International said 20,000 people in Libyan detention centers, Europe's policy of aiding Libya to keep out refugees makes it "complicit" in harm to refugees 2017-12

Former Yugoslavia. Videos from 1992 of Croatian president questioning death toll Jasenovac concentration camp during WWII 2017-01

France/International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC). New law gives ICRC priority access to government information on fate of persons 2017-01

France/Ireland/United Kingdom/Northern Ireland. Remains of man killed by Irish Republican Army (IRA) recovered in France, 2017-06

France/Morocco. Documents on Ben Barka from French former espionage service to be released 2017-05; France gave Morocco copies of 43,000 documents relating to Moroccan Jews taken to France at end of colonial administration 2017-11

France/Rwanda. France urged to release all archives relating to Rwanda 1990-1994, Rwanda investigating French leaders 2017-04; former official says not all Rwanda-related records released by France 2017-06; Constitutional Court said French presidential papers on Rwanda could be closed for 25 years after death 2017-09; Rwanda government report accusing France, call for open archives 2017-12; researcher going to European Court of Human Rights against decision to keep French presidential records closed 25 years 2017-12

France/Spain. France will give Spain documents seized from ETA 2017-03

Georgia/Russia. Georgian national archives exhibit on Soviet repression, used personal items 2017-10

Georgia/Abkhazia/Russia. Abkhazia-Russia create joint information center 2017-05

Germany/Namibia/United States. Herero and Nama people sue Germany for reparations in U.S. court 2017-01

Germany/Poland/United States. Poland asked U.S. to extradite man accused of leading Nazi unit mass killings in Poland 2017-03

Guatemala/Spain (Catalunya)/Switzerland. Swisspeace and Catalunya archives analyzing work of Historical Archives of National Police of Guatemala 2017-11

Guatemala/United States. Member of Guatemala military unit Kaibiles arrested in U.S. 2017-01; another Kabile arrested in U.S. 2017-06

Gulf states/India. Gulf state visitors make "time pass" marriages, falsify documents 2017-10

Honduras/United States. Reporters used U.S. FOIA (Freedom of Information Act) to obtain records U.S. military role in 2009 coup 2017-08; video of 2012 shooting at a water taxi in Honduras by drug team does not show self-defense 2017-10

Indonesia/United States. U.S. release records of Jakarta embassy 1964-68, calls for Indonesia to release records 2017-10; victims of 1965-1966 purges ask Human Rights Commission to take into account the "implications" of U.S. documents released 2017-12; Papua pro-independence group said U.S. documents show crimes by Indonesian military against Papuans and U.S. role in denying self-determination 2017-12

Iran/United States. New York court said OK to seize Iran-owned skyscraper for compensation of 9/11 victims 2017-07; U.S. academic researcher in prison Tehran for copying documents 2017-11

Iraq/Islamic State (IS). Iraq established court in refugee camp to issue identity documents, does not recognize IS documents 2017-01; Kurdistan Regional Government committee to document crimes committed by IS in region 2017-01

Iraq/Israel/Libya/United States. U.S. to return Iraqi Jewish material to Iraq 2017-09; Libya wants U.S. to prohibit import of pre-1911 materials to U.S. including Jewish property seized 2017-09

Iraq/Kuwait. Kuwait asks UN for assistance in recovering national archives 2017-09

Iraq/Russia. Setting up joint database on Russian children in Iraq for repatriation 2017-09

Iraq/United Kingdom. 4 Iraqi men entitled to compensation for U.K. mistreatment during Iraq War 2017-12

Ireland/United Kingdom. Ireland not releasing reports on British police spies in Ireland because of working relationships with Irish police 2017-02; records show Ireland prime minister warned that U.K. MI5 ordered his assassination and 17 men killed using British information 2017-12

Ireland/United Kingdom/Northern Ireland. Northern Ireland historical investigation of Troubles will protect U.K. forces, Ireland objects 2017-02

Islamic State. Burned its archives in Tal Afar District west of Mosul, Iraq 2017-07

Israel/Lebanon/Palestine. Palestine Liberation Organization records seized by Israeli army in 1982 in Beirut, now opened at Israel's army archives, film made using 2017-12

Israel/Palestine. Palestinian civilians do not apply for compensation when Israeli soldiers kill or injure them 2017-03; Israel retains Palestinian remains, does not issue death certificates 2017-08; women documenting Palestinian records seized by Israel 2017-08; Israel court ruled cannot hold bodies of Palestinians as bargaining chips 2017-12

Israel/United States/Yemen. Unauthorized medical tests and autopsies on Yemenite children in Israel, U.S. asked for tests on Yemenites 2017-06

Jordan/Syria. Failure to register with UNHCR or leaving official camps harms Syrian refugees in Jordan 2017-02; Jordan will issue work permits to migrant workers and refugees 2017-08

Kosovo/Serbia. Humanitarian Law Center () report 110 people who helped hide Kosovar Albanian bodies in 1999 still free in Serbia, Serbian police not providing records 2017-01; HLC film on killings in Kosovo by Yugoslav Army 2017-02; Kosovo says Serbia not giving access to files on the missing 2017-03; Council of Europe urges Serbia open archives of army and police in search for missing 2017-04; HLC report on infringement of human rights of Kosovars during 1990s Serbian trials 2017-07; HLC opened documentation center Pristina 2017-09; HLC objected to decision not to prosecute Zivanovic of 125th Motorized Brigade 2017-11

Kosovo/Serbia/United States. U.S. denied it promised Serbia not recognize Kosovo, Serbia claimed no official copy Dayton Agreement 2017-08

Latin America. High rate of violence against women 2017-12

Lebanon/Syria. Documentation of Syrian death in Lebanese military custody 2017-07

Liberia/Netherlands/Sierra Leone. Dutch convict arms smuggler to Taylor regime in Liberia, Sierra Leone 2017-04

Liberia/United States. U.S. court found Liberian guilty of war crimes in Liberia, lied on U.S. immigration documents 2017-10

Libya/United Kingdom. Northern Ireland demand U.K. open archives on Libya supplying weapons to IRA 2017-05

Libya/United States. US "emergency import restrictions" against Libya, link to return of Iraqi Jewish materials 2017-12

Mexico/United States. DNA of migrant deaths, lack DNA to match from southern Mexico indigenous peoples 2017-05; destruction of Allende (town) due to U.S. information to Mexican police 2017-06; records of 3 U.S. court cases show organized crime capture of Mexico's institutions 2017-11

Middle East war (Afghanistan/Al-Qaeda/Iraq/IS/Syria/Yemen). U.S. military admit more civilian casualties Iraq and Syria 2017-05; Canada bombs missed targets in Iraq 2017-05; IS video beheading Russian 2017-05; IS burning archives in Iraq 2017-05; Russian forces supported Syria use chemical

weapons Khan Sheikhoun 2017-05; U.S. military raid Yemen to get Al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP) laptops and mobile phones 2017-05; modeling Coalition airstrike data and killing of civilians by *Airwars* and UN Syria inquiry 2017-06; Coalition “appears to have used white phosphorus” munitions Mosul and Raqqa 2017-06; Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) says sarin gas or similar used at Khan Sheikhoun 2017-06; U.S. raid got cellphones and data 2017-06; IS burning its archives 2017-07; U.K. Air Service alleged to cover-up killing unarmed Afghan civilians 2017-07; Australia allegations troops killing unarmed Afghan civilians 2017-07; Iraq army division executing prisoners Mosul 2017-07; 5 chemical attacks documented in Syria since April 2017-08; U.S. general wants to declassify location of unexploded ordnance in Mosul 2017-08; Syrian Network for Human Rights published total killed in Syria since September 2014 2017-09; history of sarin use in Syrian conflict 2017-09; UN and OPCW said Syria responsible for sarin at Khan Sheikhoun 2017-10; additional Osama bin Laden documents seized in raid released by U.S. CIA 2017-11; UN report on civilian casualties in retaking Mosul City, Iraqi, used 1033 interviews 2017-11; *New York Times* reported 1 in 5 air strikes by coalition forces in Iraq led to civilian deaths 2017-11; airstrikes and civilian deaths rose in Afghanistan 2017-12; opposition to return of Jewish material to Iraq 2017-12

Moldova/Romania/Russia. Russian president Putin gave Moldova copy of 1790 map, said half Romania is Moldovan 2017-01

Montenegro/Serbia. 83 mafia-related deaths last 5 year, 4 solved 2017-07

Myanmar/Thailand. Agree to issue documents to undocumented Myanmar workers in Thailand 2017-07

Palestine/United Kingdom. London reopen investigation into death Palestinian cartoonist 30 years ago 2017-08

Panama/United States. Panama supreme court giving access to records it holds to truth commission looking at U.S. invasion in 1989 2017-03

Poland/Russia. New report on 2010 plane crash analyzed cockpit conversation with air traffic control 2017-04

Russia/Syria. Syrian NGO says warplanes believed to be Russian dropping “incendiary weapons” on 4 districts 2017-01

Russia/Ukraine. Russia recognizes documents issued by Ukrainian separatists 2017-02; article on USSR use of archives, KGB archives in Ukraine 2017-05; former head Moscow Library of Ukrainian Literature given 4-year suspended sentence 2017-06

Saudi Arabia/United Kingdom/Yemen. London police considering case on Saudi war crimes in Yemen 2017-04

Saudi Arabia/Yemen. Leaked email says Saudi Arabia looking to end war 2017-08

Somalia/Uganda. Al-Shabaab in Somalia video of execution of Ugandan soldier 2017-01

South Korea/United States. Adopted children in U.S. without citizenship 2017-07

Spain/Syria. Spanish woman suing Syrian government for brother’s death, learned of through Caesar photos 2017-02

Sweden/Syria. Sweden convicted Syrian shown in Facebook posting with foot on corpse, identified by activists 2017-10

Syria/United States. U.S. confirms depleted uranium bullets used, video of raids taken down 2017-02

Syria war parties. Allegations of sarin gas attack and responses 2017-04; European states requiring documents from asylum seekers 2017-04

United Kingdom/Former colonies. Association of Commonwealth Archivists and Records Managers urges Migrated Archives be returned to former colonies 2017-12

United Kingdom/Northern Ireland/United States. Attorneys for oral interviewer, Troubles, get U.K.-U.S. correspondence 2017-05

United Kingdom/Vietnam. Vietnamese children missing from care facilities in U.K. 2017-10

United States/Vietnam. U.S. use of Agent Orange affected breastfeeding mothers and children, compensation to Vietnam urged 2017-09

National news.

Afghanistan. Virginity tests continue, although banned 2017-01; UN report of civilians killed 2017-02; women do not have identity cards 2017-03; child labor in coal mines 2017-04; UN report increase civilians killed 2017-07; mother's name not on birth certificates 2017-08; Afghan Film digitizing film hidden during Taliban years 2017-09; allegation Parliamentarians took records from national archives 2017-10

Albania. Independent authority helps people find files of secret police 2017-03; court records show criminal organizations have ties to politics and interfere with justice 2017-12

Algeria. Crackdown against Ahmadiyya Islamic sect 2017-07

Antigua and Barbuda. Governor urges Barbuda to abandon land in common and make individual title deeds 2017-12

Argentina. Destruction of government records without permission of national archives 2017-03; government suggests number of victims of dictatorship was 9,000, less than half the 22,000 the military reported it killed (in a 1978 communication to Chilean intelligence) 2017-04; judges convicted for failure to investigate petitions of habeas corpus 2017-07; Catholic church released documents of dictatorship era 2017-08; 125th stolen child identified through DNA records 2017-10; 127th stolen child identified 2017-12; judge rules death of prosecutor Alberto Nisman was a homicide 2017-12

Australia. Police New South Wales review death of 88 men as possible hate crimes 2017-01; documents declassified on "asylum seeker turnback missions" 2017-04; records for children in state care improvement project 2017-05; Batchelor Institute website on indigenous languages 2017-07; compensation to be paid to asylum seekers held on Manus Island 2017-09; report of Royal Commission into Institutional Response to Child Sexual Abuse made recommendation on recordkeeping 2017-12; same sex marriage legalized 2017-12

Austria. Same sex marriage legalized 2017-12

Bahrain. Amnesty International report on government repression of critics and human rights defenders 2017-09

Bangladesh. Human Rights Watch report on secret detentions and enforced disappearances, families not allowed to file crime report 2017-07; garment industry to map itself 2017-08

Belgium. Congo archives transferred to State Archives, intelligence and security services can hold records for 50 years before archives transfer 2017-06

Bolivia. Truth commission sworn in 2017-08

Bosnia. 911 people listed on register of missing are alive 2017-03; Srebrenica videotape 2017-07; few court cases on sexual violence during 1992-1995 wars 2017-09; Bosnia copy of Dayton Peace Agreement found in man's apartment 2017-11

Brazil. Half population cannot prove home ownership, government drive to provide title deeds 2017-01; DefeZap allows people in Rio to report state violence, successful 2017-02; names dropped from "dirty list" of employers profiting from human trafficking 2017-04; using blockchain to record property deeds 2017-04; wiretap of President, plea bargain approved 2017-05; UN and Inter-American Commission on Human Rights warned that indigenous and environmental rights are under attack 2017-06; impunity in domestic violence cases 2017-06; land registration by private agents abused 2017-07; reports of massacre by gold dredgers, documents of dredgers "being analyzed" 2017-09

Burundi. UN commission says crimes against humanity committed, asked for ICC investigation, gunmen forced entry to UN's OHCHR office 2017-09

Cameroon. Amnesty International report secret torture chambers 2017-07; fire at National Assembly building destroyed archives 2017-11

Canada. Privy Council 1951 order authorizing warrantless domestic spying released 2017-01; Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) poor recordkeeping 2017-02; newspaper sues Ontario for access to records of provincial tribunals 2017-02; Indian school survivors say withheld government records harmed their ability to get fair compensation, ask for inquiry 2017-03; Philip Morris tobacco to get anonymized government health database information 2017-03; RCMP acknowledges using cellphone surveillance devices 2017-04; Supreme Court hearing on Independent Assessment Process (IAP) records, different views 2017-05; need for records of people forced from military for being gay or lesbian 2017-06; internal record shows practice by security service of holding data 2017-06; Supreme Court said Google must remove search results on international basis 2017-06; child issued identification document with no stated gender 2017-07; Metis Nation ancestors records compiled 2017-08; Truth and Reconciliation Commission Web Archives launched 2017-09; database on Inuits taken for tuberculosis treatment 1953-1961 2017-09; Google revealing names of victims not in media 2017-09; RCMP needs until 2020 to finish nationwide criminal-record database 2017-09; Nova Scotia clarifying land titles to black U.S. escaped slaves or British loyalists 2017-09; IAP records ordered destroyed unless claimant asks that his file is saved 2017-10; settlement in lawsuits on forcible separation of Indigenous children, compensation process will use adoption and wardship records 2017-10; man cannot locate records relating to birth parents in Quebec 2017-10; map of Indian Residential Schools created 2017-11; prime minister formally apologized for past discrimination against LGBT, said on request criminal records will be destroyed 2017-11; Supreme Court said text messages private 2017-12 ; surveillance practices over Indigenous leaders and activities 2017-12; opposition to destruction of criminal records of same-sex activity 2017-12; government permitted Indigenous woman to donate her testimony to preservation center but needs Church approval 2017-12; census to be transferred to national archives in 92 years and will be open 2017-12

Central African Republic. Appointment of prosecutor for Special Criminal Court, which will share evidence with International Criminal Court 2017-02; OHCHR mapping violations 2003-2015 2017-05; judges appointed to Special Criminal Court 2017-05; deputy prosecutor of Special Court appointed 2017-06; UN mission MINUSCA mapping report on violations said 620 “serious incidents” 2017-06; 600 MINUSCA troops sent home to Congo-Brazzaville after accusations of their sexual abuse and misconduct 2017-06; Russia to ship weapons, give France and U.S. serial numbers 2017-12

Chile. Prosecution of state agents for their roles in forced disappearances 2017-06; reopened case Frei murder 2017-08; exhibit of declassified documents on U.S. role during Pinochet era 2017-09; Londres 38 filed case against destruction of records of Army intelligence agencies in 2000 2017-12

China. Lawyers for jailed human rights lawyer released transcripts of their meetings with him, alleged abuse 2017-01; police require all vehicles in Xinjiang to have satellite tracking devices 2017-02; air quality worse, companies falsifying data 2017-04; Communist Party new bureau for intelligence in Xinjiang 2017-05; DNA database for missing children 2017-08; Lu Yuyu prison sentence documenting worker protests 2017-08; government to create “Social Credit System” to rate citizen trustworthiness 2017-10; biometric data collected residents Xinjiang province between ages of 12 and 65 2017-12

China/Hong Kong. Records not being sent to archives, urge archives law 2017-09

Colombia. Human rights activist killed, was documenting attacks for truth commission 2017-01; transitional justice system approved by Congress, includes court, truth commission, missing persons unit 2017-03; OHCHR report urges protection of and use of archives, warns that military destroying documents 2017-03; truth commission launched 2017-04; FARC former rebel group handed over list of fighters in cantonments 2017-04; UN needs to give certificate of weapons handover 2017-07; social leader killed every day 2017-07; FARC census taken 2017-07; transitional justice system has 12,000 files alleged military war criminals 2017-08; FARC list of assets handed over to UN 2017-08; rare copy 1818 declaration of independence found in rubble of building FARC destroyed 2017-09; FARC registered as official political party 2017-10; cultural memorial center in Sierra Nevada to be created and managed by Arhuasa 2017-11; prosecutor said 1995 murder Alvaro Gomez Hurtado a crime against humanity 2017-12

Croatia. State Archives to provide records on state security operation Trs 2017-04; open state archives for the Yugoslav period 2017-05; journalist opened documentation center on International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia cases 2017-10

Cyprus. Commission on Missing Persons using GIS to link data 2017-06

Czech Republic. Court ruled no privacy for archival research on persons named in archival records of Nazi and Communist regimes 2017-01; records of StB security service secret agents digitized and accessible after registering with security force archives 2017-10

Democratic Republic of Congo. UN documents 5190 human rights violations 2016 2017-01; video of army killing civilians 2017-02; 7 army officers charged based on video 2017-03; killings in Kasai province, documents on computer of UN expert killed 2017-05; UN Human Rights Council sending investigation team to Kasai regions 2017-06; corruption in mining sector 2017-07; International Crisis Group urged UN to focus UN mission MONUSCO on deterring and documenting violence 2017-07; court convicted soldier for videotaped murder 2017-07; OHCHR report extrajudicial killings Kasai 2017-08

Egypt. Police shut al Nadeem Center 2017-02; IS released video targeting Coptic Christians 2017-02; video police killing in Sinai 2017-04; Jewish registers taken to National Archives, not accessible 2017-04; women experience violence from husbands 2017-06; neighbors video emissions from cement plant 2017-07; human rights groups 25 years documenting torture, 424 websites blocked by government 2017-09

El Salvador. Police data said murder rate fell by a fifth in 2016 2017-01; 7 military leaders to be tried for El Mozote massacre 2017-03; case of killing of Archbishop Romero reopened 2017-05; annual report 800 cases human rights abuse involving police and army and 22 extrajudicial killings 2017-07; commission to search for missing from civil war launched 2017-09; investigative report shows police participation extrajudicial killings 2017-09

Estonia. Security risk to information technology used by half population for identity cards 2017-09

Ethiopia. Mapping deaths in Oromia region 2017-06

Finland. Truth commission between government and Sami people 2017-05; EU rules on privacy force archives reappraisal of social benefits database 2017-09

France. Adopted “Corporate Duty of Vigilance Law” 2017-02; government opened archives relating to Klaus Barbie 2017-07; repository created for LGBT (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender) archives 2017-09, 2017-10

France/Guadeloupe. Missing records 1967 riot and killings 2017-04; France said to add 25 more years before release riot records 2017-06

Gambia. Truth commission to be set up 2017-03

Georgia. Abkhazia providing limited residence permits ethnic Georgians 2017-01; Abkhazia issuing residence permits with limited rights 2017-04; registering land titles with blockchain 2017-04

Germany. Bundestag quashed convictions of gay men sentenced under Nazi-era law, pay compensation 2017-06; Stasi commercial espionage found to have no long-term benefit 2017-07; increase in outstanding arrest warrants for right-wing extremists 2017-07; Open Data law in effect 2017-08; piecing together regional Stasi records 2017-08; constitutional court said must create official third sex category or drop gender entries in official documents 2017-11

Ghana. Police will build archival facility 2017-02

Guatemala. 5 military officers to be tried for Theissen disappearance and torture 2017-03; Rios Montt to be tried for Dos Erres massacre 2017-04; feature article police archives 2017-08; military document key in Rodriguez Sanchez trial 2017-10; statistical sampling of police records shows variations of terms for “death” 2017-11; documents in Sanchez trial 2017-12

Haiti. New UN mission, urge building a data base on official government documents 2017-11

Honduras. Deadliest country for environmental activists 2017-01; digitizing land records 2017-08; private investigative team says Berta Caceres killing likely ordered by leadership of dam development company 2017-10

India. Telangana state told priests to get proof of age before marrying to stop child marriage 2017-03; satellite images to study land use in Madhya Pradesh 2017-03; video of man tied in front of jeep as human shield 2017-04; missing files on disciplinary action found after man spent 16 month in jail for “misappropriated” them 2017-05; no documents sent to Jammu and Kashmir archives in 30 years 2017-07; land records in peril in north Andhra 2017-07; government sent more Chandra Bose records to national archives 2017-07; Supreme Court said privacy fundamental right 2017-08; links between climate change and suicide rate 2017-08; Andhra Pradesh and Telangana may use blockchain for land records 2017-08; people killed and harassed for using Right to Information Act 2017-09; slavery in brick kiln industry 2017-09; NGO using satellite imagery to map commonly held lands in 3 states 2017-10; link of Aadhaar card and rations eligibility problem, girl died of starvation 2017-10; land records Maharashtra 30% maps “torn or illegible” 2017-11; Muslim man videotaped while being killed for planning to marry Hindu woman 2017-12; human trafficking cases underreported 2017-12; government denies female genital mutilation exists, campaigner say secret practice so no data 2017-12

Indonesia. Central Kalimantan to review palm oil company permits in area of forest fires 2015 2017-04; national archives incomplete, particularly for period of early independence 2017-10

Iraq. Special court to try IS members for crimes against Yazidis, Kurds hope to also establish court 2017-06; exhumations to prepare death certificates 2017-12

Ireland. Child welfare agency sent false charge of rape to police 2017-02; “Grace” foster abuse scandal, commission of inquiry on government cover-up 2017-03; increase in homeless 2017-03; Limerick records do not help determine if burial site exists at mother and baby home 2017-03; Garda recorded phone calls in prisons 2017-04; Galway government asks if all records re Tuam mother and baby home released 2017-04; UN Human Rights Committee said Ireland must compensate women not allowed abortion in Ireland, should change law 2017-06; UN committee against torture said state investigation of Magdalene laundries inadequate use of archives 2017-08; will hold referendum on abortion law 2017-09; report that surveillance practices do not comply with European law 2017-10; *New York Times* report on mother and baby home in Tuam 2017-10; archivist urges Catholic Church records be available, national archives law revised 2017-10

Israel. Release records related to Six-Day War 2017-05; attorney general requires permission from body that created records to get access to archives even if unclassified 2017-08; Knesset member says Bedouins being stripped of citizenship because didn’t or couldn’t register in 1948-1951 2017-09

Jordan. Lack of accurate database on work-related injuries 2017-04

Kazakhstan. Muslims fined for saying “amen,” Baptists arrested, police records created, fined 2017-06

Kenya. 5% land title deeds held by men and women and 1% by women 2017-01; relocation in Mui Basin for Chinese coal company 2017-01; only 34% of persons arrested lead to court charges 2017-01; disabled mothers neglected due to lack of data 2017-02 ; senior prosecutor admits did not follow up allegations of sex crimes reported to 2007 election investigations commissions 2017-04; video appears to show policemen executing gang member 2017-04; Nubian identity card issues 2017-05; Nubians given title to part of colonial Kibera military reserve 2017-06; audit found “irregularities” in voter lists, including listing dead people 2017-06; presidential election overturned 2017-08; National Commission on Human Rights said 92 people killed and 86 cases of sexual or gender-based violence during election period 2017-12

Kosovo. President announced consultation on new truth commission 2017-02; women subjected to sexual violence in 1998-99 war can file for reparations, excludes victims revenge attacks by Kosovars 2017-05; Specialist Chamber of Kosovo Court adopted rules of procedure and evidence 2017-06

Latvia. “Non-citizen” status inherited 2017-10

Lebanon. International Committee of the Red Cross calls for action: collect DNA samples and clarify fates of missing 2017-04

Liberia. Photos useful to arrest perpetrators of civil war crimes 2017-06; “irregularities” in voter rolls 2017-06; national archives creating presidential archives and digitizing land records 2017-11

Libya. Army found books and manuscripts damaged and destroyed by alleged IS affiliate 2017-02

Malawi. UNESCO and government using drones for humanitarian emergencies 2017-06

Malaysia. Investigation of 2015 discovery of human trafficking camps and mass graves, DNA records on remains 2017-12

Mexico. Supreme Court says families of disappeared can have official list 2017-02; internal investigation says the case of the 43 missing students from Iguala handled properly 2017-02; police records said homicides rose 22 % in 2016 2017-02; bills on justice and internal security dangerous to human rights, add powers to military 2017-03; National Commission on Human Rights reports 30,000 disappeared 2017-04; video of soldiers killing man 2017-05; data on clandestine graves 2017-06; record number homicides in May 2017-06; statistical prediction on hidden graves 2017-07; homicides increased in June 2017-07; judge orders investigation of military order in shooting 22 suspected criminals 2017-08; NGOs say 106 human rights activists killed during Pena Nieto presidency 2017-09; congress passed law on disappearances, create search commission, national registry if president signs 2017-10; building complaints before earthquake, no record of follow-up by responsible agencies 2017-10; 505 criminal investigations of crimes by military, only 16 led to convictions 2017-11; arrest man who approved construction of building that collapsed in 2017 earthquake killing 2 people 2017-12

Montenegro. Country will pay compensation to victims of war crimes during wars of 1990s (part of actions to gain full EU membership) 2017-09

Morocco. Truth commission records given to national archives 2017-12

Myanmar. Video by security forces showing abuse Rohingya 2017-01; OHCHR, HRW reports on violence in Rakhine state against Rohingya 2017-02; advisory commission interim report urges swift birth registration and citizenship verification 2017-03; UNICEF report on children’s health 2017-05; UN Human Rights Council appointed 3 persons to fact-finding mission 2017-05; government said UN report wrong, welcomed Kofi Annan report on Rohingya 2017-08; satellite photos show destruction Rohingya settlement 2017-09; UN mission said “consistent, methodical” pattern of Rohingya killings 2017-10; 2 journalists and 5 villagers arrested for photos and documents on village in Rakhine where mass grave and destruction occurred 2017-12; International Crisis Group report on Arakan Rohingya Salvation Army 2017-12

Nepal. Terms of truth commissions extended by 1 year 2017-02; mixed views on truth commissions 2017-05; problem changing persons declared dead to missing so commission can investigate 2017-05; truth commission sent complaints to regional offices 2017-06

New Zealand. May create inquiry on abuse in state care system 2017-07

Nicaragua. Land conflict over documentation, Miskito people 2017-03

Niger. Using phone apps to locate flood-prone areas in Niamey, relief organization using vehicles to transport information for emergency operations because telecoms too expensive 2017-10

Nigeria. Audio recording by Boko Haram leader admitting killing 2017-02; lawyer says lack of documentation hurts ability to combat crime, Army says serious about recordkeeping, archives association offers help to police 2017-05; Taraba State governor established truth commission 2017-06; Chibok girl released by Boko Haram brings out diary 2017-09; new military “Intelligence Fusion Center” in north 2017-12

North Korea. NGO in South Korea mapping human rights violations in North Korea 2017-08; International Bar Association War Crimes Committee judges say government’s prisons responsible for ten of eleven crimes against humanity that are judged by the ICC 2017-12

Pakistan. NGOs registration cancelled 2017-01; issued passport with a transgender identity 2017-06; death sentence issued for blasphemy 2017-06; convictions and acquittals for killing Benazir Bhutto 2017-08; census needed army protection, shows 50% gain in population 2017-09; Rohingya have difficulty renewing Pakistani national identity cards 2017-09

Paraguay. Digital copy of “Archivo del Terror” to national archives 2017-03; records from Archive of Terror used in case against 10 former security officials 2017-07

Peru. Woman appealed to UN Forum on forced sterilization 2017-05; extensive new evidence of human rights violations by former president Humala while in military 2017-09; farmers in Amazon killed, land titles falsified, illegal logging and palm oil issues 2017-09

Philippines. Police records show over 7000 killed in war on drugs 2017-01; court ordered police to disclose evidence in drug killing case 2017-02; NGO tells UN special rapporteur is documenting extrajudicial killings 2017-04; Manila police had 12 persons in secret detention, not recorded in logbook 2017-05; schools of higher education encouraged to drug test students 2017-08; widespread human abuses and war crimes during siege of Marawi 2017-11

Poland. 12 victims of communist era killings identified 2017-04

Portugal. Persons born 1981-2006 to parents without “regular” immigration status lack citizenship, especially people from former colonies 2017-03

Romania. Archives of Securitate generally open but no access to army and ministry of justice archives 2017-05

Russia. Collection of personal diaries from Stalin years 2017-03; Dimitriyev arrest, personal papers disappear 2017-04; Open Russia offices searched 2017-04; Putin expresses support for access to military archives 2017-04; state archives prepared to make Hitler skull available for examination 2017-04; email of corporate lawyer leaked, related to Magnitsky case 2017-06; museum on post-1917 persecutions 2017-06; few family archives 2017-07; starting July 2018 IM and social media to report on users to FSB (Federal Security Service) 2017-08; UN monitoring report says grave human rights abuses in Crimea 2017-09; crimes against LGBT doubled in 5 years, of 250 hate crimes 200 are murders 2017-11

Russia/Chechnya. UN panel urged end to persecution of gay and bisexual people 2017-04

Rwanda. Conference on multi-institution Genocide Archive 2017-03; man whose case transferred from International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda convicted 2017-04; HRW says at least 104 people illegally detained, Rwanda denies 2017-10

Saudi Arabia. Hate speech documented against Shia, Jews, Christians, Sufis, Zoroastrians, others 2017-09

Serbia. Former state security official says service destroyed records from “all over Serbia” after Milosevic overthrown 2017-04; Humanitarian Law Center challenges Serbia’s UN report on prosecution of war crimes 2017-04; military medical facilities issuing documentation of illness to delay trials for war crimes 2017-09; prosecutor’s office would not give media copy of indictment of men who hid Mladic 2017-11; indictment of men who hid Mladic released heavily redacted 2017-12

Sierra Leone. Nigerian pastor arrested, video of anti-Islamic preaching 2017-12

Somalia. Boys posted video of themselves raping two girls, arrested 2017-01

South Africa. Government closed file on village damaged by closed mine environmental risks 2017-01; report on deaths of mental patients in Gauteng Province 2017-02; Marikana Massacre evidence put on line by lawyer for families of victims 2017-03; demand records on 1971 death anti-apartheid campaigner Ahmed Timol 2017-06; court documents inaccessible because vendor dispute 2017-08; urge declassification of apartheid era documents 2017-08; respiratory ailments in people living near mine dumps, also living on radioactive uranium 2017-09; judge ruled Timol murdered by police, calls on reopening similar cases from apartheid era 2017-10; OPERA tool developed to support litigation 2017-12

South Korea. National archives to prepare law so it can prohibit destruction of records on critical incidents, already banned destruction on 1980 pro-democracy movement records 2017-09; Ministry of Defense committee investigating Gwangju uprising, excavating at alleged secret burial site 2017-10

South Sudan. Commission on Human Rights said should establish hybrid court and if not done By government African Union should and UN should establish an investigation into serious crimes 2017-03; UMN said arbitrary killing by armed militias 2017-05

Spain. Urge preservation of records of repression of homosexuals in Huelva province jail during Franco regime 2017-03; Francisco Franco National Foundation has secret documents 2017-04; Catholic church and government to open archives for research on stolen babies 2017-05; lawsuit against torturers of Franco era 2017-06; excavation of mass grave used cemetery records, one set of remains identified in error 2017-06

Sri Lanka. UN Special Rapporteur found culture of torture, urges better records 2017-01; OHCHR report criticized slow progress, urged restitute land seized by military, establish hybrid court, truth commission, office on missing persons 2017-03; new investigations into secret detention centers announced 2017-05; families of missing persons made demands, President promised to release lists 2017-06; Office of Missing Persons created 2017-07

Sudan. Use of cyanide in gold mining threat to villagers 2017-04

Sweden. Compensate transgender people who were sterilized 2017-03; Roma to be compensated for listing on police “Roma Register” 2017-05; data breach of Transport Authority records 2017-07

Syria. Reports by UN, HRW and Atlantic Council on prison, chlorine bombs, attacks against hospitals 2017-02; UNICEF report on children killed 2017-03; Syrian Archive verified videos of human rights violations, says Syrian and Russian forces responsible for largest amount 2017-03; Creative Memory website to preserve artistic expressions of Syrians 2017-03; Syrian Justice and Accountability Center issued statement on its decisions on indexing documentation 2017-06; YouTube restored some deleted videos, more need to be restored 2017-09; U.S. Holocaust Museum preserving pieces of fabric with names of Syrian prisoners written in blood 2017-12

Taiwan. Committee will investigate human rights cases 1945-1992 2017-03; President said would declassify 2017-06

Thailand. International Labor Organization urged remedies to abuses of fishing vessel employees 2017-04; man killed baby live on Facebook 2017-04; former activists and academics creating online archive of Thammasat massacre 2017-10

Tunisia. Writer argues open archives of political police 2017-02; conference on 2 cases of deaths under torture, allegations falsified medical records 2017-02; Ben Ali’s party records from Kasserine transferred to national archives 2017-03

Turkey. UN Human Rights Office report on human rights violations, mostly against Kurds, in southeast July 2015 to December 2016 2017-03; Turkish citizens outside Turkey being deprived nationality papers 2017-07; violence between Turkey and Kurds killed nearly 3000 people since July 2015 2017-07; trial of 481 alleged coup participants, 4000-page indictment 2017-09

Turkmenistan. Prosecutor fired, show trial for 50 officials from prosecutor’s office 2017-05

Uganda. Corruption in mining sector documented 2017-06; cholera map created 2017-12

Ukraine. Director of security service archives says KGB purged records in 1990 after Stasi records “captured” by citizens 2017-04; UN report on situation in eastern Ukraine 2017-06

United Kingdom. School teachers wear body cameras 2017-02; inquiry into child abuse may ask for access to royal archives 2017-03; only 5% slavery compensation given to victims 2017-04; National Archives released 24 MI5 security service files 2017-04; child abuse website hacked, names of Britons given to police 2017-05; Football Association inquiry into child sex abuse 2017-05; police indicted for 1989 Hillsborough Stadium disaster 2017-06; National Health Service gave Google medical records 2017-07; control over release of records on miners’ strike in 1984-85 2017-07; serious incidents at mental health trusts 2017-08; drug and sex ring criminals convicted, telephone records used 2017-08; risk of suicide compared with injury reports 2017-08; no charges in Rotherham sexual abuse scandal, recordkeeping faulted 2017-09; government released “Race Disparity Audit” 2017-10; Home Office said in past year 29% rise in hate crimes; National Health Service said medical service may ask persons over

16 years old their race, sex and sexual orientation 2017-10; report that 43 of top 100 FTSE companies failed to comply with minimum requirements of Modern Slavery Act 2017-10; constabulary inspectorate said case files show police forces not adequately tackling slavery and human trafficking 2017-10; 1000 files loaned back to government departments not returned 2017-12 ; London police to review all digital evidence in child abuse and sexual offense cases 2017-12; mothers' names to be included on marriage certificates 2017-12

United Kingdom/Northern Ireland. Historical Institutional Abuse inquiry said widespread instances of sexual abuse by priests and lay people in 22 NI child care institutions 2017-01; no prosecution in Kingsmill killing 2017-02; Stakeknife spy revealed 2017-04; Omagh bomb victim relatives sue over "investigative failings" 2017-08; court ordered Police Service of Northern Ireland to reopen 1971 "hooded men" case 2017-10

United Kingdom/Scotland. Lack of records to investigate historical abuse of children 2017-06; first minister formal apology for past convicted of LGBT sexual behavior, said will allow convictions removed from criminal records 2017-11

United States. Society of American Archivists (SAA) statement on immigration Executive Order 2017-01; asylum-seekers lack documents, need written evaluations by health professionals for judges to use 2017-01; Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) said higher rates of death in rural areas 2017-01; National Human Trafficking Hotline got 7500 cases reported 2016 2017-01; workplace injury study shows minorities at most risk 2017-02; nursing homes sexual abuse report 2017-02; drug overdoses increase says CDC 2017-02; Dakota Access Pipeline map created 2017-02; judge orders release of all Justice Department requests for collections of data from Americans' telephone, email and internet activity 2017-02; National Academies says Department of Veterans' Administration (VA) hazards registry not adequate for health research 2017-02; government plans to deport undocumented persons leading to rush to register births of children in U.S. and Mexican consulate 2017-03; doctor not recording all information about undocumented to protect their records 2017-03; National Registry of Exonerations shows blacks targeted 2017-03; CIA scale of digital efforts shown in Wikileaks release 2017-03; last Rosenberg grand jury transcript released 2017-03; bill to give Federal recognition to Virginia Native American tribes who lack records 2017-03; report on health inequalities 2017-04; immigrants in detention database released names of children, asylum seekers 2017-04; Ramapoughs lack Federal recognition as Native American nation, New Jersey census did not allow designation 2017-04; racial disparities in mortality in black and white Americans, overall death rates decline 2017-05; military service dismissals 60% had mental health problems 2017-05; National Security Agency captured 151 million US phone calls in 2016 2017-05; Senate committee demands return of copies of CIA torture report 2017-06; test of oxygen limits for premature infants poor records 2017-06; Environmental Protection Agency records on metals in baby foods 2017-06; Standing Rock Sioux spied on by TigerSwan private security company during pipeline protest 2017-06; Zika data from islands show danger in trimesters 2017-06; data on child deaths by gunshots 2017-06; difficulty of acquiring identity documents 2017-06; analysis of body camera footage show less respectful language when encountering black persons 2017-06; survey data on drinking water contaminants 2017-07; resistance to giving state voter data to presidential commission 2017-07; UN Committee on Rights of Child said U.S. has no adequate national data collection system on sale of children, child prostitution, child pornography 2017-07; health survey shows Pacific islanders worse health 2017-07; Department of Defense (DoD) disposing munitions harms environment and health 2017-07; Laotians who fought with U.S. seek documentation, military burials 2017-07; worry about Immigration and Customs Enforcement records proposed destruction 2017-08; Internal Revenue Service "critical deficiencies" handling electronic records 2017-08; Justice ordered to release FBI records on purge of LGBT employees 2017-08; descendants of 1917 black soldiers hung seek Trump pardon 2017-08; web-hosting company must provide records of use by inauguration protesters 2017-08;

households with housing needs “ballooned” 2017-08; mortality rates in Appalachia higher than rest of U.S. 2017-08; “justifiable” homicides greater when black man killed 2017-08; audit finds abuse in nursing homes 2017-08; opioid-related deaths underreported because death certificates don’t report which drug used 2017-08; drug overdose rates adolescents increased 2015 2017-08; mosquito data not shared 2017-08; GPS sensors show link between road-related ozone and asthma 2017-08; Uber suit settled, will protect information better 2017-08; data breaches in health care industry greater from hacking than “insider” breach in July 2017-08; Aetna insurance company mailing showed HIV status 2017-08; optical scanning recovering indigenous languages on wax cylinders 2017-08; former slaves of Cherokee Nation have all rights of members of the Nation 2017-09; lawsuits against people making Freedom of Information requests 2017-09; DACA (Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals) youths fear information they gave for DACA status will be used for deportation 2017-09; drug deaths rose by 22%, 2016 over 2015 2017-09; comparison of *Guardian* statistics and those of CDC show 55.2% police killings “misclassified” 2017-10; two of three hospitals can “find, send and receive” electronic records from other care providers 2017-10; NGOs protest U.S. storing social media information in “Alien Files” 2017-10; fire-arm injuries in California related to gun show sales in Nevada 2017-10; killer in Texas should not have been able to buy gun but Air Force did not enter criminal record into background-check database 2017-11; FBI deleted names of fugitives from justice from background-check database 2017-11; military “lost or deleted a majority of its field records” during first 10 years of wars in Iraq and Afghanistan 2017-11; Biloxi tribe identifying museum materials, hope for official recognition as Nation 2017-11; 700 Vietnam War veterans have a rare cancer, not recognized by VA, comes from eating fish with parasites 2017-11; toxic air affects mental health, particularly for black men and white women 2017-11; Murder Accountability Project collecting information on all killing in U.S. to run linking algorithm 2017-11; SAA issues briefs on police mobile camera footage and classified information 2017-11; life expectancy fell 2017-12; UN special rapporteur report on extreme poverty 2017-12; mothers living close to fracking site had more low-birth weight babies 2017-12; guidelines for sentences in Federal courts based on “flimsy” data 2017-12

United States/California. Historian given access to records of sterilizations, created database 2017-01; university system released anonymized records of sexual misconduct allegations against faculty and staff 2017-03

United States/Florida. After stand-your-ground law passed homicide increased 2017-01; 2009-2014 one person shot by police every 2 ½ days 2017-04; deaths in nursing home, facility inspection reports said poor recordkeeping, governor destroyed related voicemails 2017-09

United States/Guam. Catholic Church accused of sexual assaults by priests, fear records destroyed 2017-02

United States/Illinois. U.S. Department of Justice review of Chicago police 2017-01; dashcam footage death Laquan McDonald compared with written reports, indictments of police for conspiring to cover up 2017-06

United States/Maryland. Suicides rates 1/3 higher rural areas, guns used 2017-08

United States/New York. Fight over whether to destroy New York City records of documents submitted to get a city ID 2017-01; court said law prohibits release of disciplinary records of police 2017-03

United States/Oklahoma. Shadow Mountain psychiatric hospital violence documented 2017-04

United States/Pennsylvania. File found after 23 years in prison, shows man not involved in murder 2017-05

United States/Puerto Rico. Not using criteria for recording Zika cases 2017-05

United States/Texas. After hurricane industries in Texas released dangerous air pollutants 2017-09

Uruguay. Appointment to research Catholic Church archives related to the dictatorship 2017-02

Vanuatu. Right to information law adopted 2017-02

Venezuela. Election board requires parties to re-register under difficult conditions 2017-02; company supplying voting machines said balloting “tampered with” but Constituent Assembly sworn in 2017-08; truth commission established 2017-08; impact of economic crisis on health, few statistics, doctors warned not to include malnutrition in children’s medical records 2017-12

Vietnam. Agreement between rubber company and 11 ethnic minority villages awaits land titling 2017-08; government report shows persons on death row and executions increased 2016 2017-08

Yemen. UN said child soldiers used by Houthi rebels 2017-02

Zambia. Copper mine not complying with orders to cease polluting 2017-04

Zimbabwe. Diamond company ordered to stop mining until environmental impact assessment filed and certificate issued 2017-08