



ARCHIVES AND HUMAN RIGHTS

Newsletter from the Section on Archives and Human Rights

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Commentary

Dear readers, please see a clarification to our September 2024 commentary.

Following the publication of the Commentary on the need to preserve the records of the international criminal courts, the chief archivist of the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia (ECCC) wrote to me asking for a clarification on the legal status of the ECCC and its archives. The Commentary focused on the records in the hands of international bodies, while our discussion pertained to the records that are in the custody of the Royal Government of Cambodia.

We discussed four issues. First, as to the nature of the ECCC as an international court, I was informed that the "ECCC was founded under national law" and receives "technical assistance from the international community through an international agreement [...]. At most, the ECCC can be described as an 'internationalized' tribunal due to the [international] assistance it receives, and the hybrid model of criminal procedure it employs."

Second, the ECCC "has completed its judicial docket" but is not considered "closed" as its organizational structure remains in place during the phase or residual functions, and legally new cases may be initiated at any time."

Third, I asked about the nature of the copy of the records that the UN is to receive, in accordance with the UN-Government of Cambodia Agreement. I was informed that the UN has already received a copy of the public archives and that "[u]pon completion of the residual functions all 'additional public documents and materials, as well as a complete set of classified documents and materials' will be handed over", per the Addendum to the UN-Cambodia Agreement.

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Fourth, the UN and the government "are investing immense resources" to preserve the legacy of the ECCC, which includes safeguarding storage of and access to the public archives. "A specialized, permanent repository has already been built [in Phnom Penh], judicial databases updated" and "a post-judiciary access policy is currently under review by the judges." I asked whether the access policy was intended to apply to the copy held by the UN and was informed that this will be a matter for the judiciary and/or UN to consider in due course.

I am grateful for the discussion with our colleagues at the ECCC and am pleased to learn of the ongoing work and significant resources that are being devoted to preserving the records in the custody of the Royal Government of Cambodia.

Trudy Peterson

Events

United States of America

Economic, Social and Cultural Rights: <u>Exhibition | Recent US Exhibitions Explore the Complexity</u> <u>of Puerto Rican Identity</u>. Gonzalez, Damaly, ArtNews, 2024-11-26.

Worldwide

Academia and Education: <u>CFP: Compelling Tensions in Library and Information Science, Library Trends special issue</u>. Cheryl Oestreicher, Publishing in the Archives Profession, 2024-12-12.

Academia and Education: <u>CFP: Critical Pedagogy Symposium: Decentering the West</u>. Cheryl Oestreicher, Publishing in the Archives Profession, 2024-12-02.

Academia and Education: <u>CFP: Minority Identities and Vernacular Visual Culture</u>
<u>Interdisciplinary Symposium</u>. Cheryl Oestreicher, Publishing in the Archives Profession, 2024-12-02.

Academia and Education: <u>CFP: Virtual International Conference on The Black Indian Ocean:</u> <u>Slavery, Religion, and Expressive Cultures (1400-1700)</u>. Cheryl Oestreicher, Publishing in the Archives Profession, 2024-12-10.

Economic, Social and Cultural Rights: <u>CFP: Item Not Found: Accounting for Loss in Libraries</u>. <u>Archives and Other Heritage and Memory Organizations</u>. Cheryl Oestreicher, Publishing in the Archives Profession, 2024-11-19.

Human Rights: A Human Rights View of the Past. Antoon De Baets, 2024-12-05.

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 <u>sahr-newsletter@ica.org</u> for upcoming publication.

Editor's Note

The newsletters and items are added to the Section's "Rights and Records Knowledge Base", available at https://rightsandrecords.ica.org.

If you would like to volunteer as a news collector, please send an email to <u>sahr-newsletter@ica.org</u>. We'd love to have you! We're currently looking for collectors who can focus on Latin America, South America, Africa, Oceania and Asia to ensure a more global coverage.

News by topic

Academia and Education

Worldwide: CFP: Compelling Tensions in Library and Information Science, Library Trends special issue. The field of library and information science (LIS) has compelling tensions similar to those explored by Thomas Kuhn in the fields of science. Many of these tensions have been a part of the discipline and profession for a long time, and others have emerged in the digital age with the explosion of information and the ways to access, manipulate, and share that information. Cheryl Oestreicher, Publishing in the Archives Profession, 2024-12-12.

Worldwide: <u>CFP: Critical Pedagogy Symposium: Decentering the West</u>. This year's Symposium is inspired by the pedagogies and practices of those thinking about colonialism, imperialism, transnationalism, epistemic injustice, and other frameworks for Decentering the West. Cheryl Oestreicher, Publishing in the Archives Profession, 2024-12-02.

Worldwide: <u>CFP: Minority Identities and Vernacular Visual Culture Interdisciplinary</u> <u>Symposium</u>. This interdisciplinary conference on The Black Indian Ocean: Slavery, Religion, and Expressive Cultures (1400-1700) seeks to explore new perspectives on the impact of slavery, religions, migration and displacement across the Indian Ocean on Afro-Asian communities and their expressive cultures in the early modern world (1400-1700). Cheryl Oestreicher, Publishing in the Archives Profession, 2024-12-02.

Worldwide: <u>CFP: Virtual International Conference on The Black Indian Ocean: Slavery, Religion, and Expressive Cultures (1400-1700)</u>. CFP Virtual International Conference on The Black Indian Ocean: Slavery, Religion, and Expressive Cultures (1400-1700) April 2-3, 2025 organized by Dr. Janie Cole (University of Connecticut). Cheryl Oestreicher, Publishing in the Archives Profession, 2024-12-10.

Censorship

United States of America: <u>America's Top Archivist Puts a Rosy Spin on U.S. History—Pruning the Thorny Parts</u>. Plans for new exhibits at the National Archives Museum included swapping a photo of Martin Luther King Jr. marching for Civil Rights for former President Nixon greeting Elvis. Ballhaus, Andrew Restuccia and Rebecca, WSJ, 2024-10-30.

Child Abuse

New Zealand: Abuse in Care: Government prepares to formally apologise. New Zealand's Prime Minister has apologized to the hundreds of thousands of people abused while in state care, and acknowledged the "unimaginable suffering" inflicted in children's homes and psychiatric hospitals. RNZ News, RNZ News, 2024-11-12.

Children's Rights

Australia: 'Adult crime, adult time' - Row as Australian territory locks up 10-year-olds again. Most children jailed in the Northern Territory are Aboriginal, and the new government is reducing the age that can happen. Watson, Katy, BBC News, 2024-11-08.

Colombia: FARC leadership accused of war crimes over child soldiers. For years, the most visible former guerrilla leaders argued that the use of child combatants "was not a permanent practice" and that "one entered FARC consciously". Throughout 759 pages, Justice Rueda meticulously contrasts these arguments of former FARC leaders with victims' accounts, testimonies of hundreds of former rebels and even written reports from their own unit, in an eloquently narrated indictment despite its haunting anecdotes and the need to swap victims' names for numbers over security concerns. Liévano, Andrés Bermúdez, JusticeInfo.net, 2024-11-21.

New Zealand: <u>Chief Archivist Apology To Survivors Of Abuse In Care</u>. Over the course of the Abuse in Care Royal Commission of Inquiry, many survivors detailed how Care recordkeeping had failed them, including areas where the National Archives had a responsibility to make sure important records were protected and retained. Community Scoop, Community Scoop, 2024-11-20.

Civil Rights

United States of America: For one survivor, the 1920 Election Day massacre in Florida was 'the night the devil got loose'. Mose Norman, a Black registered voter, was ready to cast his ballot for presidential candidate Warren G. Harding. But when he arrived at his polling place on Election Day, Nov. 2, 1920, in the orange grove town of Ocoee, Florida, near Orlando, Norman was turned away by white election officials because of supposed unpaid poll taxes. His name and the names of hundreds of other registered Black voters had been removed from the rolls by white poll workers. Podair, Gerald, The Conversation, 2024-11-01.

United States of America: <u>Malcolm X's family sues US law enforcement agencies for \$170 million over allowing assassination</u>. The family of militant civil rights leader Malcolm X has filed a NZ\$170 million lawsuit that accuses law enforcement agencies of allowing his murder to be carried out almost 60 years ago. RNZ News, RNZ, 2024-11-16.

Climate Change

Philippines: Raising the roof: Building resilience through conserving historic homes in the Philippines. A team of 40 architects, engineers and other technical experts examined the Syquia Mansion and Cabildo House to document the extent of damage and develop recommendations for the proper repair and restoration of the structures. "The utmost challenge was making people realize that documentation is probably the most essential part of restoring historic structures. If you don't do documentation along the way, if you proceed directly to the restoration, there's a possibility that you will obliterate the attributes that are significant to that heritage structure,". Pamintuan, Jorica, UN News, 2024-11-16.

Worldwide: Access, signal, action: Data stewardship lessons from Valencia's floods. Improving data access means that communities need structured, real-time data that is reliable and accessible through multiple channels. Data stewards — whether people or digital systems — can play an essential role in curating and filtering relevant data to help citizens access high-confidence information, enabling them to take early preventive measures. Marta Poblet; Stefaan Verhulst; Anna Colom, Medium, 2024-11-13.

Colonialism

Cameroon/Equatorial Guinea: Experts use colonial archives to define the border between the two countries. A diplomatic meeting took place this week in Djibloho, an administrative town in Equatorial Guinea. The ad hoc commission responsible for demarcating the maritime and land borders between Cameroon and Equatorial Guinea worked for three days to resolve a complex territorial dispute. The delegations, led by Cameroon's Minister of Territorial Administration Paul Atanga Nji and Equatorial Guinea's Minister of the Interior Faustino Ndong Esono Eyang, opted for an original historical approach: using colonial documents to precisely define their territorial limits. KOACI, KOACI, 2024-11-30.

France/Senegal: Emmanuel Macron acknowledges 'a massacre' by colonial forces in 1944. French President Emmanuel Macron acknowledged on Thursday that French colonial forces had committed a 'massacre' against African riflemen in 1944 near Dakar, Senegalese President Bassirou Diomaye Faye said in an interview with AFP, hailing it as an 'important step' towards the truth. Rokhay Ba, Malick; Lozano, Laurent; Agence France-Presse, La Presse, 2024-11-28.

France/Senegal: Macron acknowledges 1944 'massacre' of West African troops by French army. French President Emmanuel Macron acknowledged that the 1944 killing of West African soldiers in a Senegalese fishing village by French forces was a massacre for the first time. The soldiers had fought alongside the French during World War II, but were killed by their French counterparts in what historians believe was a dispute over unpaid wages. Associated Press, France24, 2024-11-28.

Senegal: <u>Mamadou Diouf: 'Imperial history can no longer be articulated exclusively by France'</u>. The president of the commemoration committee for the Thiaroye massacre in Senegal believes that African countries must regain control of their historical narrative, and is calling on France to return all its archives. Le Monde, Le Monde, 2024-11-17.

Senegal: Thiaroye massacre: French MPs finally want to break the omerta. In the run-up to the 80th anniversary of the massacre of Senegalese infantrymen at the Thiaroye camp in Dakar, historians, lawyers and MPs gathered at the National Assembly for a plea conference. Ten years after President François Hollande referred to 'a bloody repression', they are calling for France to officially recognise the massacre and for a parliamentary commission of enquiry to be set up. Trouillard, Stéphanie, RFI, 2024-11-05.

Worldwide: Africans and people of African descent call on Europe to reckon with their colonial legacies. Experts from the African continent and its global diasporas called on European governments to address their colonial past and ongoing impacts at the Dekoloniale Berlin Africa Conference, a decolonial counter-version of the 1884/5 Berlin Africa Conference 140 years ago. Amnesty International, Amnesty International, 2024-11-18.

Worldwide: The crisis is always past. At The New Humanitarian, an internal working group has proposed defining a humanitarian crisis as occurring when "over time, a community's capacity to cope with human, physical, economic, or environmental challenges is progressively and severely undermined or overwhelmed by local and/or global policy factors". The idea is not just to focus on how events impact and immiserate large numbers of people, but to bring to mind why the vulnerability exists in the first place. A headshot of Patrick Gathara. He wears a white shirt and stands in front of a white background.; Patrick Gathara, The New Humanitarian, 2024-11-20.

Crimes Against Humanity

Myanmar: Myanmar: ICC Prosecutor Requests Arrest Warrant. The UN-backed Independent Investigative Mechanism for Myanmar – mandated to collect evidence and build case files for criminal prosecution of individuals responsible for serious crimes – reported in July 2024 that it "has accumulated and analysed a diverse range of evidence of serious international crimes committed in Myanmar, including evidence bearing on the criminal responsibility of specific individuals." The investigators noted that from July 2023 to June 2024, they had shared "an unprecedented volume of evidence and analysis" with the ICC, the International Court of Justice (ICJ), and authorities in Argentina who are investigating crimes against the Rohingya under the principle of universal jurisdiction. Human Rights Watch, Human Rights Watch, 2024-11-27.

Death in Custody

France: The rehabilitation of those executed by firing squad, 'the corpse in the wardrobe of the Great War'. One hundred and ten years after the outbreak of the First World War, stories continue to emerge from the shadows. To mark 11 November, France 24 invites you to discover the story of Frédéric-Henri Wolff, the only senior French officer to be shot as an example. The author Éric Viot, who has been fighting for years for his rehabilitation, has paid tribute to him in a book. Trouillard, Stéphanie, 2024-11-10.

Disability Rights

United States of America: <u>DWP hides historic 'fitness for work' papers from National Archives</u>. The Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) has stopped sending key records from a crucial period in the history of disability benefit reform to The National Archives so they can be viewed by researchers. John Pring, Disability News Service, 2024-11-21.

Disinformation

Asia: <u>The Pacific disinformation playbook</u>. A surge in connectivity has exacerbated the region's challenges, undermining trust in science and government. Meg Tapia, Lowy Institute, 2024-11-27.

Ghana: <u>Combating disinformation ahead of Ghana's December elections</u>. Ghanaian politicians are leveraging social media to misinform and sway public opinion, even paying influencers to promote their agendas. Some media literacy activists hope to stop them. Zita Zage, Global Voices, 2024-11-12.

Worldwide: <u>How Imran Khan Channels Russia's 'Firehose of Falsehood'</u>. The "Firehose of Falsehood" thrives on two pillars: volume and repetition. Russian disinformation campaigns unleashed an unrelenting flood of content, saturating the media landscape. By harnessing traditional media alongside digital platforms, they created a feedback loop of repetitive messaging. Khan, Shaheen, International Policy Digest, 2024-11-19.

Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

Iraq: <u>Preserving cultural heritage in times of war</u>. Post-doctoral fellow Nathaniel Brunt's field work in northern Iraq is shaped by present-day geo-political forces, human rights violations, and the urgent need to preserve at-risk community-based archives. Lisa Abram, UVic.ca, 2024-11-21.

Mexico: <u>Preserving the Ch'ol language through theatre and digital media</u>. Marlene Sánchez works with children to strengthen the Ch'ol language through theater. In the future, she would like to have a cultural center to document and represent the stories and knowledge of her community. Marlene Sánchez Guzmán, Global Voices, 2024-11-23.

Russian Federation: (Counter-)Archive: Memorial Practices of the Soviet Underground. Focuses on the archive as a form of art employed by various groups of the late Soviet underground, aiming to approach old archival materials related to the Soviet cultural underground on a meta-level of analysis to explore unofficial cultures, the history of state socialism, and topics of suppressed cultural memory. 2024-11.

Russian Federation: <u>Gulag History Museum in Moscow temporarily closed 'for safety reasons'</u>. Kremlin critics fear move is part of Russia's efforts to whitewash Soviet past and shut independent cultural institutions. Sauer, Pjotr, The Guardian, 2024-11-14.

United States of America: Exhibition | Recent US Exhibitions Explore the Complexity of Puerto Rican Identity. In a portrait from 1928, a Puerto Rican woman holds a devotional painting of the Virgin Mary and child. The work by Miguel Pou y Becerra is titled La promesa. The author mentions a feeling of the broken promise of salvation through Catholicism, forced upon Puerto Rico during Spain's colonization of the island. At the Rollins Museum of Art in Orlando, Florida (on view through January 5). Gonzalez, Damaly, ArtNews, 2024-11-26.

United States of America: Exhibition | Recent US Exhibitions Explore the Complexity of Puerto Rican Identity. Rollins Museum of Art in Orlando, Florida (on view through January 5). Gonzalez, Damaly, ArtNews, 2024-11-26.

Worldwide: <u>CFP: Item Not Found: Accounting for Loss in Libraries, Archives and Other Heritage</u> <u>and Memory Organizations</u>. Call for Book Chapter Proposals for Item Not Found: Accounting for Loss in Libraries, Archives and Other Heritage and Memory Organizations. Cheryl Oestreicher, Publishing in the Archives Profession, 2024-11-19.

Forced Medical Procedures

Canada: <u>Group looks to determine scope of forced sterilization</u>. Survivors Circle for Reproductive Justice hopes to of chronicle the history of First Nation, Inuit and Metis women and girls being forcefully sterilized and getting a better idea of how many people it affected. Molesh, Omar, The Toronto Star, 2024-11-01.

Freedom of Expression

Algeria: <u>'A woman's voice is a revolution': Digging into Algerian feminist radio creations</u>. An exploration of the sonic and creative production of the feminist movement in Algeria, between radio, podcasting, and social media. UntoldMag, Global Voices, 2024-11-24.

Malaysia: Stop introducing laws that infringe on freedom of expression and privacy. The proposed amendment would allow police officers to directly request data from platform providers to help law enforcers streamline investigations. The proposal leaves open serious questions about the right to privacy and due process, as required under international law. Article 19, ARTICLE 19, 2024-11-27.

Freedom of Information

China: How China censored its social media amid a wave of mass attacks. China has undergone three mass attacks in the past two weeks in which lone men, apparently unprovoked, attacked groups of civilians. While amateur images of the attacks were broadly shared outside of China, these images and related hashtags were quickly removed on Chinese social media, with critics accusing the Chinese government of using censorship in an attempt to control the narrative. Julia Rougié, The Observers - France 24, 2024-11-22.

Jamaica: <u>From shadows to sunlight: Why access to information matters in Jamaica</u>. As environmental defenders in the region face a range of challenges, there is an urgent need to highlight this information dilemma. This is where the Escazú Agreement comes in. Emma Lewis, Global Voices, 2024-11-28.

Pakistan: The great Pakistan firewall and use of religion as a tool for digital authoritarianism. Pakistan has implemented a national firewall to regulate online content and mandated the registration of lawful VPN usage, with a ban on unregistered VPNs set to take effect from December 1. Ramna Saeed, Global Voices, 2024-11-22.

United States of America: <u>National Security Archive Files Lawsuit Against 12-Year Freedom of Information Backlog</u>. National Security Archive staff filed a Freedom of Information request with the Bush Library over a year ago, in November 2023, listing the date and location of every conversation, whether on the phone or in person, between Bush and Putin. The total number of documents at issue is likely less than 150. In June 2024, the George W. Bush Library informed the Archive "our best estimate at this time is that it may be completed in approximately 12 years.". Tom Blanton and Svetlana Savranskaya, National Security Archive, 2024-11-21.

Freedom of the Press

Afghanistan: <u>UN Report Portrays Afghanistan's Destroyed Media</u>. Since the Taliban took power in August 2021, they have largely destroyed Afghanistan's media landscape, creating such a climate of fear that Afghan journalists cannot genuinely investigate or report. The Taliban have detained and tortured journalists, severely limited what the media can report, and worked directly in newsrooms to suppress any critical content. Human Rights Watch, Human Rights Watch, 2024-11-26.

Genocide

Rwanda: 30 years ago, the United Nations Security Council created the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda. Since then, 62 ministers, officers and militiamen have been convicted by the Tribunal for their part in the genocide of the Tutsis. The ICTR made history by handing down the first international judgment for genocide. It closed its doors in 2015, but the UN has set up a mechanism to close the remaining cases. Masson, Nina, 2024-11-10.

Rwanda: <u>Justice Info publishes the report supposedly behind the genocide plot in Rwanda</u>. For the 1st time, Justice Info publishes the full report of the Commission which was presented by the Prosecutor of the Tribunal for Rwanda (ICTR) as the birth certificate of the genocidal project. Cruvellier, Thierry, JusticeInfo.net, 2024-11-05.

Human Rights

Iraq: <u>Preserving cultural heritage in times of war</u>. Responsible for creating the Conflict Aftermath Digital Archive Project (CADAP), Nathaniel Brunt is working with librarians and historians to ethically preserve and make accessible at-risk, conflict-related visual material. Abram, Lisa, UVic News, 2024-11-21.

Sierra Leone: <u>Sierra Leone: Authorities must repeal colonial vagrancy laws following historic ECOWAS ruling</u>. The Sierra Leonean authorities must repeal vagrancy laws without delay, following a landmark ruling by the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) Court that the colonial-era legislation discriminates against poor people and other marginalized groups, Amnesty International said. The ruling, made on 7 November, found that Sierra Leone's vagrancy laws – which criminalize anyone [...]. Amnesty International, Amnesty International, 2024-11-13.

Worldwide: A Human Rights View of the Past. The idea of human rights has been much criticized from a historical perspective but curiously enough its theoretical and practical contributions to the study of time, memory, and history have never been systematically explored. How is it to look at the past from a human rights perspective? How can historical writing benefit from applying human rights logic? In tackling these questions, the book first clarifies what a human rights view of the past is. The constituent dimensions of the past – time, memory, and history – are then reviewed, indicating what a human rights perspective can add to the study of each. Finally, the benefits accruing from a human rights view of the past to historical theory and practice are highlighted. You can download it for free from the website of Cambridge University Press until 3 January 2025 (via the "Save pdf" button). Antoon De Baets, 2024-12-05.

Human Rights Defenders and Activists

Worldwide: Former ICC chief prosecutor says she faced threats and 'thug-style tactics'. Bensouda was of intense interest to Israel's intelligence agencies after she opened a preliminary inquiry in 2015 into allegations of crimes committed by Israel's armed forces and Palestinian militants. She said that it was in the context of the Palestine case, as well as a separate investigation into alleged war crimes in Afghanistan, including by US military personnel, that the ICC faced "unprecedented pressures". Davies, Harry, The Guardian, 2024-11-27.

Worldwide: <u>Handbook on data protection in humanitarian action</u>. A handbook on data protection in humanitarian action. International Committee of the Red Cross, International Committee of the Red Cross, 2024-11-11.

Worldwide: How to speed-up risk data collection, a collaboration between MapAction and Analytics for a Better World. The key step of any data and analytics project? Data, data, data, and did we mention collecting the right data? Easier typed than executed! A new partnership between MapAction and Netherlands-based Analytics for a Better World sought to give a new life to data trapped in PDFs – unlocking another data barrier for humanitarian response. Claudia Orellana-Rodriguez, Map Action, 2024-11-21.

Human Trafficking

Australia: <u>The Dark History of Australia's Blackbirding</u>. For more than 40 years, sugar barons practiced "blackbirding," removing thousands of South Sea Islanders from their homes to work on sugar cane plantations. Relli, Sarah, The Collector, 2024-11-10.

United Kingdom: <u>The Detached Papers: New records on the transatlantic slave trade on Discovery</u>. The National Archives has released over 8,000 new catalogue descriptions of documents related to the transatlantic slave trade. Hellawell, Phillipa, Records and Research, 2024-11-13.

Worldwide: <u>How the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade Continues to Impact Modern Life</u>. A new Smithsonian book reckons with the enduring legacies of slavery and capitalism. Sharpe, Christina, 2024-11-07.

Indigenous Matters

Canada: Ottawa to compensate Inuit in Nunavik for mass sled dog slaughter | CBC News. The federal government says it will offer financial compensation to Inuit in Nunavik for the devastation caused by the mass slaughter of their sled dogs decades ago. More than 1,000 of the dogs that Inuit relied on for their livelihoods were shot to death by Mounties, employees of the Hudson's Bay Company and other authorities during the mid-1950s and late 1960s across Nunavik, the Inuit region of northern Quebec. Stefanovich, Olivia, CBC News, 2024-11-17.

Norway: Norway apologises to Sami, Forest Finns and Kvens for forced assimilation policy | Norway | The Guardian. The Norwegian parliament has apologised unreservedly to minority groups and Indigenous people for more than a century of historical injustices committed against them as part of its "Norwegianisation" policy. Bryant, Miranda, The Guardian, 2024-11-12.

Norway: <u>The beginning of Norway's reconciliation process</u>. The apology was the first among 17 decisions passed by the Norwegian Parliament on November 12. Most of the Storting's decisions align with the Five Pillars of Reconciliation outlined by the TRC, namely Knowledge & Dissemination; Language; Culture; Prevention of Conflicts and Implementation of Laws and Regulations. Andersen, Astrid Nonbo, JusticeInfo.net, 2024-11-28.

Oceania: Walking with Wisdom: Whaia's Mission to Bring Indigenous Knowledge to COP 29. Kaitiaki! Whaia says she is at COP29 to bring indigenous wisdom to influence policy and to provide guardianship (kaitiaki) of the climate negotiations. Whaia, who now lives in Aotearoa, New Zealand, was raised as an Indigenous Aboriginal in Australia, where through her community she led a life of cultural practices that protect the environment. Aishwarya Bajpai, Inter Press Service, 2024-11-15.

Israel-Gaza Crisis

Israel: <u>Investigators Assess if Netanyahu's Aides Forged Oct. 7 Phone Records</u>. Aides to Benjamin Netanyahu are under investigation over accusations of leaks, record-doctoring and intimidation. The Israeli prime minister's office denies the claims. Kingsley, Patrick; Bergman, Ronen, The New York Times, 2024-11-14.

Lebanon: <u>'It is a crime to erase the memory of a people': archaeological heritage in danger in Lebanon</u>. More than a hundred Lebanese MPs have called on UNESCO to protect their country's

heritage from Israeli strikes. While the ancient sites of Baalbek and Tyre, listed as world heritage sites, are under threat, archaeologists are also warning of the destruction of smaller sites that form part of the identity and memory of the Lebanese people. Ilcinkas, Anne, FRI, 2024-11-11.

Lebanon/Palestine (Permanent Observer to the United Nations): <u>Fighting Erasure: Digitizing the Gaza Genocide & War on Lebanon</u>. A comprehensive project aimed at documenting the ongoing genocide in Gaza and fighting the erasure of local histories and communities, including the Palestinian and Lebanese people, their history and lands. Jamila Ghaddar, Fighting Erasure, 2024-11-01.

Palestine (Permanent Observer to the United Nations): <u>Nakba Animated Map</u>. This time animated map describes the chronological order of the systemic depopulation and then the erasing of more than 437 Palestinian cities and villages during the 1948 Nakba. Nisreen Zahda, VRJ Palestine, 2022-05-21.

Palestine (Permanent Observer to the United Nations): <u>Surveillance, Cartography, Aerial Imaging</u> and the Conquest of Palestine. In the context of the disastrous consequences of the ongoing war, this SAH CONNECTS panel will explore the entangled histories of aerial vision and the built environment in Palestine. What role do aerial vision and cartography play in casting light on the dispossession of Palestinians from Palestine, from their homes and territories? Although Palestine (especially Jerusalem) had been a favorite topic of pre-modern cartography due to its centrality to the three monotheistic religions, it was not until the nineteenth century that mapping the region became a significant military-scientific enterprise. Today Israel claims sovereignty over Palestinian airspace. This control has made it difficult to evaluate human loss, damage to archeological sites, infrastructure, environment, the residential fabric, and the land. Patricia A. Morton, Society of Architectural Historians, 2024-11-01.

Palestine (Permanent Observer to the United Nations): <u>Visualizing Palestine</u>: <u>History</u>. We use data and research to visually communicate Palestinian experiences to provoke narrative change. We envision a liberated future for Palestinians in a world free from oppression. Visualizing Palestine, Visualizing Palestine, 2024-11-01.

Labor Rights

Colombia: The Colombia Banana Massacre of 1928: The Shocking Story. A simple workers' strike led to the death of thousands as American fruit growers attempted to keep prices low with a looming Depression on the horizon. Dwyer, Cassandra, The Collector, 2024-11-25.

Medical Records

United States of America: <u>State Regulators Know Health Insurance Directories Are Full of Wrong Information. They're Doing Little to Fix It</u>. State agencies say they're holding insurers accountable for errors in provider directories. But ProPublica found that the actual actions taken so far do not match the regulators' rhetoric. Blau, Max, ProPublica, 2024-11-14.

Migration

United States of America: <u>The price America paid for its first big immigration crackdown:</u> <u>Planet Money: NPR</u>. The Chinese Exclusion Act is widely considered to be the first significant crackdown on immigration in American history. It's a riveting tale that parallels today and may

provide insights into the economic consequences of immigration restrictions and mass deportations. Rosalsky, Greg, NPR, 2024-11-26.

Privacy

Denmark: AI-powered welfare system fuels mass surveillance and risks discriminating against marginalized groups. The Danish welfare authority, Udbetaling Danmark (UDK), risks discriminating against people with disabilities, low-income individuals, migrants, refugees, and marginalized racial groups through its use of artificial intelligence (AI) tools to flag individuals for social benefits fraud investigations, Amnesty International said today in a new report. Amnesty International, Amnesty International, 2024-11-12.

Europe: <u>EU court rules against Bulgarian biometric data collection</u>. Police forces must prove that there is an "absolute necessity" for collecting biometric data in every case. Nikolov, Krassen, Euractiv, 2024-11-29.

United States of America: <u>Senator Slams Gun Industry's "Invasive and Dangerous" Sharing of Customer Data With Political Operatives</u>. In response to a ProPublica investigation, Sen. Richard Blumenthal demanded answers from the gun industry about its "covert program" to collect information on gun owners for political purposes. Johnson, Corey G., ProPublica, 2024-11-15.

Racism

United States of America: When White Supremacists Staged the Only Successful Coup in U.S. History. On November 10, 1898, white supremacists in Wilmington, North Carolina, massacred upwards of 60 Black people and overthrew the city's democratically elected government, instigating the only successful coup d'état in United States history. No one was brought to justice for the horrific violence, and over the next century, the event was largely ignored, whitewashed as a "race riot" if it was mentioned at all. Armstrong, Vanessa, Smithsonian, 2024-11-08.

Reconciliation

United Kingdom: <u>Access to Records | Independent Panel Truth Recovery</u>. The Truth Recovery Programme enacts the recommendations made in the Truth, Acknowledgment and Accountability Report. The integrated truth investigation will look further into the workings of Mother and Baby Institutions, Magdalene Laundries, and Workhouses in Northern Ireland, and the associated pathways and practices. Truth and Recovery Independent Panel, Truth and Recovery Independent Panel, 2024-10.

Spying

Israel: NSO – not government clients – operates its spyware, legal documents reveal. Details of emerge in sworn depositions by employees of Israeli company as part of lawsuit brought by WhatsApp. Kirchgaessner, Stephanie, The Guardian, 2024-11-15.

Russian Federation/Ukraine: What makes Russian spies tick? World's largest declassified KGB archive, in Ukraine, tells all. Ukraine holds the world's largest declassified KGB archive, a vast collection of unique materials stored by the Security Service of Ukraine (SBU). According to archive

director Andriy Kohut, these documents fundamentally challenge Western perceptions of the USSR. Olha Aivazovska, Euromaidan Press, 2024-11-05.

United States of America: <u>I wrote a book on the execution of the Rosenbergs for Cold War spying – and a recently declassified document has convinced me that Ethel was innocent</u>. Julius and Ethel Rosenberg were executed in 1953 for conspiring with the Soviets. A newly declassified memo debunks the government's case against Ethel, and her sons want their mother exonerated. Clune, Lori, The Conversation, 2024-11-26.

Technology

Saudi Arabia: <u>Saudi Arabia accused of modifying official Cop29 negotiating text</u>. News of changes to usually non-editable document 'risks placing climate summit in jeopardy'. Carrington, Damian, The Guardian, 2024-11-23.

Worldwide: <u>Building a Responsible Humanitarian Approach: The ICRC's policy on Artificial Intelligence</u>. Policy by the ICRC: "...is anchored in a purely humanitarian approach driven by our mandate and Fundamental Principles. It is meant to help ICRC staff learn about AI and safely explore its humanitarian potential. Verhulst, Stefaan, The Living Library, 2024-11-28.

Worldwide: <u>Safeguarding Human Rights and Information Integrity in the Age of Generative AI</u>. Together, we can ensure that generative AI is used appropriately, and that its benefits are achieved without endangering information integrity and human rights. United Nations, United Nations, 2024-11-25.

Worldwide: Towards Visibility and Inclusion in Global Development Data: Takeaways from the United Nations.... The 2024 United Nations World Data Forum (UNDWF), held in Medellín, Colombia, gathered approximately 3,000 participants, underscoring the growing commitment to using data to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals. Born in Cape Town in 2017, the Forum has now become a key platform for fostering partnerships, driving data innovation, and securing the political and financial support necessary to strengthen the global data ecosystem. Natalia Mejía Pardo, Medium, 2024-12-03.

Transparency

Worldwide: <u>Reading the Archival Revolution</u>. The opening of classified documents from the Soviet era has been dubbed the "archival revolution" due to its unprecedented scale, drama, and impact. With a storyteller's sensibility, Cristina Vatulescu identifies and takes on the main challenges of reading in these archives. Vatulescu, Cristina, 2024-11.

Ukraine War

Ukraine: A Thousand Days of War in Ukraine. Russian authorities have imposed Russian legal regulations over occupied areas, in violation of international humanitarian law. They suppress the Ukrainian language and education curriculum and impose Russia's state-sanctioned version of history. They pressure Ukrainian civilians to obtain Russian passports through intimidation and restricting access to essential social services. Gorbunova, Yulia; Kvitka, Kseniya, Human Rights Watch, 2024-11-19.

Ukraine: <u>Ukrainians battling for culture in the shadow of war</u>. Stalin killed hundreds of Ukrainian cultural figures in the 'Executed Renaissance'. Over 100 Ukrainian artists have been killed by Russia in the ongoing war, but a new cultural renaissance has been born of this turmoil. Verbeeck, Nicole, Euractiv, 2024-11-22.

War Crimes

Democratic Republic of the Congo: <u>The trial that brought down a warlord</u>. The court would consider 3,000 pieces of evidence and hear from 178 witnesses at 108 hearings. Their testimonies played a key role, representing the prosecution's "last resort" to prove that crimes had been committed. Eileen Travers, UN News, 2024-11-23.

Women's Rights

United Kingdom: <u>Mother-and-baby homes: Nursing homes used for 'secrecy', panel finds</u>. It is thought at least 10,500 women were sent to the institutions, commonly known as mother-and-baby homes, in Northern Ireland but incomplete records mean the figure may be higher. Page, Chris, BBC News, 2024-11-16.

United Kingdom: <u>UK Supreme Court hears landmark legal challenge over how a 'woman' is</u> <u>defined in law</u>. The United Kingdom Supreme Court on Tuesday began hearing a legal challenge focusing on the definition of "woman" in a long-running dispute between a women's right campaign group and the Scottish government. Opponents, including Amnesty International, say barring transgender people who hold a gender recognition certificate from protections against sex discrimination conflicts with human rights principles. The Gleaner, Jamaica Gleaner, 2024-11-26.

World War II

Canada: Why Is Canada Protecting the Names of Suspected Nazis?. The concept of a secret registry of names kept by the federal government feels at odds with our perception of Canada. But there is at least one such list—reportedly about 900 names long—that is one of the government's most closely guarded secrets. It is a record of alleged or suspected war criminals and collaborators who were believed to have found refuge in Canada after the Second World War. Noakes, Taylor, The Walrus, 2024-11-19.

United States of America: National Archives Aids in Tulsa Riot Mass Burial Identification. By Cara Moore Lebonick | National Archives News ST. LOUIS, November 4, 2024 — On the 100-year anniversary of race riots erupting in the predominantly Black-populated and affluent Greenwood District in the city of Tulsa, OK, the city launched an investigation into unmarked graves in likely mass burial sites resulting from the riots. The laboratory assisting Tulsa, Intermountain Forensics, turned to the National Archives for records to help identify individuals from those graves. Lebonick, Cara Moore, National Archives, 2024-11-01.

News by country/region

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Asia

Disinformation: The Pacific disinformation playbook. Meg Tapia, Lowy Institute, 2024-11-27.

Europe

Privacy: **EU court rules against Bulgarian biometric data collection**. Nikolov, Krassen, Euractiv, 2024-11-29.

Oceania

Indigenous Matters: <u>Walking with Wisdom: Whaia's Mission to Bring Indigenous Knowledge to COP 29</u>. Aishwarya Bajpai, Inter Press Service, 2024-11-15.

Worldwide

Climate Change: <u>Access, signal, action: Data stewardship lessons from Valencia's floods</u>. Marta Poblet; Stefaan Verhulst; Anna Colom, Medium, 2024-11-13.

Colonialism: <u>Africans and people of African descent call on Europe to reckon with their colonial legacies</u>. Amnesty International, Amnesty International, 2024-11-18.

Colonialism: <u>The crisis is always past</u>. A headshot of Patrick Gathara. He wears a white shirt and stands in front of a white background.; Patrick Gathara, The New Humanitarian, 2024-11-20.

Disinformation: <u>How Imran Khan Channels Russia's 'Firehose of Falsehood'</u>. Khan, Shaheen, International Policy Digest, 2024-11-19.

Human Rights Defenders and Activists: <u>Former ICC chief prosecutor says she faced threats and 'thug-style tactics'</u>. Davies, Harry, The Guardian, 2024-11-27.

Human Rights Defenders and Activists: <u>Handbook on data protection in humanitarian action</u>. International Committee of the Red Cross, International Committee of the Red Cross, 2024-11-11.

Human Rights Defenders and Activists: <u>How to speed-up risk data collection</u>, <u>a collaboration</u> <u>between MapAction and Analytics for a Better World</u>. Claudia Orellana-Rodriguez, Map Action, 2024-11-21.

Human Trafficking: <u>How the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade Continues to Impact Modern Life</u>. Sharpe, Christina, 2024-11-07.

Technology: <u>Building a Responsible Humanitarian Approach: The ICRC's policy on Artificial Intelligence</u>. Verhulst, Stefaan, The Living Library, 2024-11-28.

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Technology: <u>Towards Visibility and Inclusion in Global Development Data: Takeaways from the United Nations...</u>. Natalia Mejía Pardo, Medium, 2024-12-03.

Transparency: Reading the Archival Revolution. Vatulescu, Cristina, 2024-11.

National News

Afghanistan

Freedom of the Press: <u>UN Report Portrays Afghanistan's Destroyed Media</u>. Human Rights Watch, Human Rights Watch, 2024-11-26.

Algeria

Freedom of Expression: <u>'A woman's voice is a revolution': Digging into Algerian feminist radio</u> <u>creations</u>. UntoldMag, Global Voices, 2024-11-24.

Australia

Children's Rights: 'Adult crime, adult time' - Row as Australian territory locks up 10-year-olds again. Watson, Katy, BBC News, 2024-11-08.

Human Trafficking: <u>The Dark History of Australia's Blackbirding</u>. Relli, Sarah, The Collector, 2024-11-10.

Cameroon

Colonialism: Experts use colonial archives to define the border between the two countries. KOACI, KOACI, 2024-11-30.

Colonialism: <u>Différend frontalier, des experts utilisent les archives coloniales pour définir la frontière entre les deux pays</u>. KOACI, KOACI, 2024-11-30.

Canada

Forced Medical Procedures: **Group looks to determine scope of forced sterilization**. Molesh, Omar, The Toronto Star, 2024-11-01.

Indigenous Matters: Ottawa to compensate Inuit in Nunavik for mass sled dog slaughter | CBC News. Stefanovich, Olivia, CBC News, 2024-11-17.

World War II: <u>Why Is Canada Protecting the Names of Suspected Nazis?</u>. Noakes, Taylor, The Walrus, 2024-11-19.

China

Freedom of Information: <u>How China censored its social media amid a wave of mass attacks</u>. Julia Rougié, The Observers - France 24, 2024-11-22.

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Children's Rights: <u>FARC leadership accused of war crimes over child soldiers</u>. Liévano, Andrés Bermúdez, JusticeInfo.net, 2024-11-21.

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War Crimes: The trial that brought down a warlord. Eileen Travers, UN News, 2024-11-23.

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Privacy: <u>AI-powered welfare system fuels mass surveillance and risks discriminating against marginalized groups</u>. Amnesty International, Amnesty International, 2024-11-12.

Equatorial Guinea

Colonialism: Experts use colonial archives to define the border between the two countries. KOACI, KOACI, 2024-11-30.

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Colonialism: Emmanuel Macron acknowledges 'a massacre' by colonial forces in 1944. Rokhay Ba, Malick; Lozano, Laurent; Agence France-Presse, La Presse, 2024-11-28.

Colonialism: <u>Macron acknowledges 1944 'massacre' of West African troops by French army</u>. Associated Press, France24, 2024-11-28.

Death in Custody: <u>The rehabilitation of those executed by firing squad, 'the corpse in the wardrobe of the Great War'</u>. Trouillard, Stéphanie, 2024-11-10.

Ghana

Disinformation: <u>Combating disinformation ahead of Ghana's December elections</u>. Zita Zage, Global Voices, 2024-11-12.

Iraq

Economic, Social and Cultural Rights: <u>Preserving cultural heritage in times of war</u>. Lisa Abram, UVic.ca, 2024-11-21.

Human Rights: **Preserving cultural heritage in times of war**. Abram, Lisa, UVic News, 2024-11-21.

Israel

Israel-Gaza Crisis: <u>Investigators Assess if Netanyahu's Aides Forged Oct. 7 Phone Records</u>. Kingsley, Patrick; Bergman, Ronen, The New York Times, 2024-11-14.

Spying: <u>NSO – not government clients – operates its spyware, legal documents reveal</u>. Kirchgaessner, Stephanie, The Guardian, 2024-11-15.

Jamaica

Freedom of Information: <u>From shadows to sunlight: Why access to information matters in Jamaica</u>. Emma Lewis, Global Voices, 2024-11-28.

Lebanon

Israel-Gaza Crisis: <u>'It is a crime to erase the memory of a people': archaeological heritage in danger in Lebanon</u>. Ilcinkas, Anne, FRI, 2024-11-11.

Israel-Gaza Crisis: <u>Fighting Erasure: Digitizing the Gaza Genocide & War on Lebanon</u>. Jamila Ghaddar, Fighting Erasure, 2024-11-01.

Malaysia

Freedom of Expression: **Stop introducing laws that infringe on freedom of expression and privacy**. Article 19, ARTICLE 19, 2024-11-27.

Mexico

Economic, Social and Cultural Rights: <u>Preserving the Ch'ol language through theatre and digital</u> <u>media</u>. Marlene Sánchez Guzmán, Global Voices, 2024-11-23.

Myanmar

Crimes Against Humanity: <u>Myanmar: ICC Prosecutor Requests Arrest Warrant</u>. Human Rights Watch, Human Rights Watch, 2024-11-27.

New Zealand

Child Abuse: **Abuse in Care: Government prepares to formally apologise**. RNZ News, RNZ News, 2024-11-12.

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Children's Rights: <u>Chief Archivist Apology To Survivors Of Abuse In Care</u>. Community Scoop, Community Scoop, 2024-11-20.

Norway

Indigenous Matters: Norway apologises to Sami, Forest Finns and Kvens for forced assimilation policy | Norway | The Guardian. Bryant, Miranda, The Guardian, 2024-11-12.

Indigenous Matters: <u>The beginning of Norway's reconciliation process</u>. Andersen, Astrid Nonbo, JusticeInfo.net, 2024-11-28.

Pakistan

Freedom of Information: <u>The great Pakistan firewall and use of religion as a tool for digital authoritarianism</u>. Ramna Saeed, Global Voices, 2024-11-22.

Palestine (Permanent Observer to the United Nations)

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Israel-Gaza Crisis: Nakba Animated Map. Nisreen Zahda, VRJ Palestine, 2022-05-21.

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Israel-Gaza Crisis: <u>Visualizing Palestine: History</u>. Visualizing Palestine, Visualizing Palestine, 2024-11-01.

Philippines

Climate Change: Raising the roof: Building resilience through conserving historic homes in the **Philippines**. Pamintuan, Jorica, UN News, 2024-11-16.

Russian Federation

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Economic, Social and Cultural Rights: <u>Gulag History Museum in Moscow temporarily closed 'for safety reasons'</u>. Sauer, Pjotr, The Guardian, 2024-11-14.

Spying: What makes Russian spies tick? World's largest declassified KGB archive, in Ukraine, tells all. Olha Aivazovska, Euromaidan Press, 2024-11-05.

Rwanda

Genocide: <u>30 years ago, the United Nations Security Council created the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda</u>. Masson, Nina, 2024-11-10.

Genocide: <u>Justice Info publishes the report supposedly behind the genocide plot in Rwanda</u>. Cruvellier, Thierry, JusticeInfo.net, 2024-11-05.

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Colonialism: <u>Thiaroye massacre: French MPs finally want to break the omerta</u>. Trouillard, Stéphanie, RFI, 2024-11-05.

Sierra Leone

Human Rights: <u>Sierra Leone: Authorities must repeal colonial vagrancy laws following historic ECOWAS ruling</u>. Amnesty International, Amnesty International, 2024-11-13.

Ukraine

Spying: What makes Russian spies tick? World's largest declassified KGB archive, in Ukraine, tells all. Olha Aivazovska, Euromaidan Press, 2024-11-05.

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United Kingdom

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Women's Rights: <u>UK Supreme Court hears landmark legal challenge over how a 'woman' is</u> <u>defined in law</u>. The Gleaner, Jamaica Gleaner, 2024-11-26.

United States of America

Censorship: <u>America's Top Archivist Puts a Rosy Spin on U.S. History—Pruning the Thorny</u> <u>Parts</u>. Ballhaus, Andrew Restuccia and Rebecca, WSJ, 2024-10-30.

Civil Rights: <u>For one survivor, the 1920 Election Day massacre in Florida was 'the night the devil got loose'</u>. Podair, Gerald, The Conversation, 2024-11-01.

Civil Rights: <u>Malcolm X's family sues US law enforcement agencies for \$170 million over allowing assassination</u>. RNZ News, RNZ, 2024-11-16.

Disability Rights: <u>DWP hides historic 'fitness for work' papers from National Archives</u>. John Pring, Disability News Service, 2024-11-21.

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Medical Records: <u>State Regulators Know Health Insurance Directories Are Full of Wrong Information</u>. <u>They're Doing Little to Fix It</u>. Blau, Max, ProPublica, 2024-11-14.

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