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## ARCHIVES AND HUMAN RIGHTS

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

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

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Written and compiled by

Catalina Concha, Aminata Kpewa, Nigel V. Nugawela, Joy Rowe, Dinza Tang-Irmi, Normand Charbonneau, Amanda Leinberger (News Collectors)  
Amanda Leinberger (Editor), Andreas Nef (Technical Lead)

### SAHR News

- The 2025 SAHR General Assembly will be held in Barcelona on 27 October 2025 (time to be confirmed). If you are able to come please do: we hope to run a hybrid session. Registration and call for papers can be found here: <https://icabarcelona2025.cat/>.
- Response of the ICA Section on Archives and Human Rights on the UN study on “Indigenous Peoples right to data, including data collection and disaggregation” can be found in the [Rights and Records database](#).
- Contribution of the ICA Section on Archives and Human Rights to the Call for inputs on 'Documentation of serious human rights violations in the context of transitional justice processes' issued by the UN Special Rapporteur on truth, justice, and reparation can be found in the [Rights and Records database](#).

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

## Events

**CFP: 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.

**SAHR Tuesday Talks - Managing UNHCR Records**. ICA, ICA, 2025-02-04.

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

## 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 [sahr-newsletter@ica.org](mailto:sahr-newsletter@ica.org). 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

United States of America: [AI, Human Collaboration Are Transforming University Archives](#). Colleges and universities are important record keepers for history and research. With the help of artificial intelligence, archivists can transcribe, search for and interact with records in new ways. Abby Sourwine, GovTech, 2025-01-09.

### Business

United States of America: [Ex-McKinsey partner pleads guilty to destroying records on opioids](#). Martin Elling pleads guilty to destroying records on advice provided to Purdue Pharma on how to 'turbocharge' sales. the Guardian, The Guardian, 2025-01-10.

Worldwide: [3M knew firefighting foams containing PFAS were toxic, documents show](#). Newly uncovered documents reveal chemicals giant was aware 'environmentally neutral' products did not biodegrade. Salvidge, Rachel; Hosea, Leana, The Guardian, 2025-01-15.

### Censorship

United Kingdom: [Fears grow over censorship of secret Queen Elizabeth and Philip papers](#). Critics flag 'worrying trend' of keeping royal files under lock and key as thousands set for release to public. Palmer, Richard, The Observer, 2025-01-11.

### Climate Change

United States of America: [91-Year-Old Photographer Loses Over 80,000 Images in LA Wildfires](#). He worked at JPL for nearly 50 years. Growcoot, Matt, PetaPixel, 2025-01-16.

### Colonialism

Africa: [At what cost are we bridging Africa's digital divide?](#). Beneath the promises of enhanced connectivity in Africa lies a complex narrative—a 21st-century iteration of colonial dynamics cloaked in the rhetoric of "connecting the unconnected". Muhammed Bello Buhari, Global Voices, 2025-01-18.

### Corruption

Venezuela: [Venezuela's Opposition Leader Is Forcibly Detained and Then Released](#). During her detention, an aide said, Maria Corina Machado "was forced to record several videos." She has garnered enormous support for her opposition to Nicolás Maduro. Turkewitz, Julie, The New York Times, 2025-01-09.

### Crimes Against Humanity

Belgium: [Court ruling on Belgium's conduct in colonial Africa hailed as turning point](#). Verdict of crimes against humanity for kidnap of mixed-race children could pave way for wider justice, activists say. Rankin, Jennifer, The Guardian, 2025-01-12.

Libya: [ICC arrest warrant against Osama Elmasry Njeem for alleged crimes against humanity and war crimes](#). On 18 January 2025, Pre-Trial Chamber I of the International Criminal Court ("ICC" or "the Court"), by majority, issued a warrant of arrest for Mr Osama Elmasry Njeem, also known as Osama Almasri Njeem, in the Situation in Libya. Mr Osama Elmasry Njeem, who is alleged to have been in charge of prison facilities in Tripoli, where thousands of persons were detained for prolonged periods, is suspected of crimes against humanity and war crimes, including murder, torture, rape and sexual violence, allegedly committed in Libya from February 2015 onwards. International Criminal Court, International Criminal Court (ICC), 2025-01-22.

Worldwide: [Moving Ahead to a Crimes against Humanity Treaty](#). It has taken two years of consideration, discussion and debate, but the agreement necessary to draft an international treaty to prevent and punish Crimes Against Humanity has finally been reached. Dicker, Richard, Human Rights Watch, 2025-01-09.

## **Disinformation**

Europe: [Russia Is Spinning Up a New Barrage of Lies in Europe](#). European officials are in a long battle against disinformation. McGee, Luke, Foreign Policy, 2025-01-30.

Uganda: [Women's rights under threat in Uganda as conservative groups push disinformation campaign](#). The rise of the anti-rights conservative groups in Uganda and around the world has led to gendered disinformation that is threatening democracy and freedoms in the East African nation. Prudence Nyamishana, Global Voices, 2025-01-19.

Worldwide: [Meta Looks for the X Factor](#). What Mark Zuckerberg's change of heart on misinformation means for the world. Chakravorti, Bhaskar, Foreign Policy, 2025-01-20.

Worldwide: [Peacebuilding and disinformation](#). A non-governmental organisation supporting people in conflict in their efforts to achieve sustainable peace through conflict transformation and peacebuilding. Berghof Foundation, Berghof Foundation, 2025-01-30.

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

Iraq: [Uncovering Iraq's mass graves: the painstaking search for missing loved ones](#). The country has as many as one million missing people after decades of conflict. Forensic teams face huge challenges to document human remains as families wait in hope of closure. Mamo, Alessio, The Guardian, 2025-01-09.

## **Environment**

Worldwide: ['The risk of extinction is accelerating': world's botanic gardens raise alarm with space to protect endangered plants running out](#). University of Cambridge research suggests living collections have collectively reached peak capacity. Ferguson, Donna, The Observer, 2025-01-25.

## **Freedom of Expression**

Iraq: [Balgh platform marks two years as a tool of repression](#). Iraqi authorities continue to use the Balgh platform to monitor online speech and curtail freedom of expression. ARTICLE 19, ARTICLE 19, 2025-01-16.

Pakistan: [Authorities pass bill with sweeping controls on social media](#). The amendment Bill was presented in and passed by the National Assembly on 23 January 2025 and referred to the Standing Committee the next day by the Senate after backlash from opposition, media and civil society. The Prevention of Electronic Crimes Act passed in 2016 triggered widespread criticism from human rights organizations and activists for its potential for harmful impact on the right to freedom of expression and access to information in the country. The nine years since have confirmed these fears as journalists, human rights defenders and political opposition have been targeted under the law. Recently, the authorities have frequently imposed blanket bans on social media platforms and have blocked X, formerly Twitter, since February 2024. Amnesty International, Amnesty International, 2025-01-24.

## **Freedom of Information**

Europe: [EU asks X for internal documents about algorithms as it steps up investigation](#). Musk's company has been accused of manipulating systems to give far-right posts and politicians greater visibility. O'Carroll, Lisa, The Guardian, 2025-01-17.

Syria: ['We were raided regularly': with Assad gone, banned books return to Syria's shelves](#). Under the deposed dictator, books had to pass detailed scrutiny by government censors. Christou, William, The Guardian, 2025-01-27.

## **Freedom of the Press**

Malaysia: [Seizure of news organisation's laptop undermines press freedom](#). The Malaysian police recently confiscated a laptop from Malaysiakini as part of their ongoing investigation into former Health Minister Khairy Jamaluddin's comments regarding a purported royal addendum that could allow former Prime Minister Najib Tun Razak to serve his prison sentence under house arrest. ARTICLE 19, ARTICLE 19, 2025-01-28.

Palestine (Permanent Observer to the UN): [Uphold media freedom and protect journalists in the West Bank](#). The Palestinian Authority must comply with international human rights law and protect these freedoms while ensuring the safety of journalists. ARTICLE 19, ARTICLE 19, 2025-01-09.

Russian Federation: [Preserving the legacy of Russia's independent media](#). With independent journalism in Russia now virtually impossible, a group of exiled journalists has launched a Russian Independent Media Archive. The collection preserves the legacy of Russian journalism and underscores the current lack of freedom, but also functions as a valuable tool for research and education. Satchkova, Svetlana, RAAM, 2025-01-27.

Syria: [RSF calls on Syria's new authorities to adopt seven priority measures in line with their promises to safeguard press freedom](#). On the first day of 2025, the Information Minister of Syria's new de facto government promised to improve press freedom in the country. Reporters Without Borders (RSF) welcomes this commitment while reminding the authorities of their responsibility for the journalists who were killed, abducted, or who disappeared since the start of the revolution in 2011. RSF calls on this transitional government to immediately implement seven recommendations, starting with the release of the 20 journalists still held by rebel groups. Reporters without Borders, Reporters without Borders, 2025-01-07.

## Genocide

Cambodia: [The Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia Court Report 2024](#). The Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia (ECCC) made strides in the second year of residual functions, significantly advancing judicial reclassification, outreach programs and legacy initiatives. A major milestone in 2024 was the reclassification of thousands of confidential documents from Case 002, making nearly 24,000 records accessible to the public. ECCC, 2024-12-31.

## Government

Argentina: [Judge orders operation of dictatorship memory sites be guaranteed](#). Federal judge Ariel Lijo has ordered Human Rights Secretary Alberto Baños to guarantee that dictatorship memory sites have the required staff and resources to operate properly. Herald, Buenos Aires, Buenos Aires Herald, 2025-01-15.

Burkin Faso: [Burkina Faso collecting Thomas Sankara's archives, artefacts](#). The Burkinabe government is leading an initiative to restore the memory of Thomas Sankara, who was the leader of the country from 1983 before being assassinated in 1987. Fellow revolutionaries in possession of materials associated with Sankara have been handing them over for national preservation. CGTN Africa, 2025-01-23.

Jamaica: [Police Commissioner apologises for exposure of CISOCA records](#). Police Commissioner Dr Kevin Blake has issued an apology following the exposure of sensitive records belonging to the police's Centre for the Investigation of Sexual Offences and Child Abuse (CISOCA). Jamaica Observer, Jamaica Observer, 2025-01-25.

Somalia: [Italy donates digital archive of Somali laws to aid legal and cultural recovery](#). Italy has donated a digital archive of Somali laws and official bulletins from 1950 to 1989, offering essential resources to bolster the country's legal system and cultural recovery. The digital archive was handed over by Italian Ambassador Pier Mario Daccò Coppi to Somali Minister of Justice Hassan Moalim Mohamud during a ceremony in Mogadishu, marking the anniversary of the 1948 massacre of Italians in the city. Hiiran Online, Hiiran Online, 2025-01-11.

South Korea: [Yoon supporters storm Seoul court after his detainment period is extended](#). Protesters smash windows after officials cite concerns the impeached president could destroy evidence if released. the Guardian, The Guardian, 2025-01-18.

Syria: [Call for the archives of the new Syria to be safeguarded and made accessible](#). On the morning of the regime's fall, Syria experienced a historic moment. Citizens flooded the prisons, governmental institutions and the former presidential palace – now renamed the People's Palace. The general atmosphere was marked by euphoria and collective celebration, driven by the hope of finding information about their missing loved ones. However, this popular surge quickly led to disorganization, which partly prevented the recovery and organization of the former regime's administrative documents for their preservation. Ginouvès, Véronique, Archives de la recherche & Phonothèque, 2025-01-06.

United States of America: [Ethics watchdog issues conflict of interest warning to Musk's Doge agency](#). American Oversight has raised concerns over 'department of government efficiency' using encrypted apps. Smith, David, The Guardian, 2025-01-23.

United States of America: [US supreme court curbed public scrutiny as it boosted security before Roe ruling](#). Memo obtained by the Guardian mandates that court would maintain 'exclusive' control of all security-related records. Wilson, Jason, The Guardian, 2025-01-12.

## **Human Rights Defenders and Activists**

Argentina: [Note of concern from the International Council on Archives](#). Note of concern from the International Council on Archives about its concern with regard to the measures adopted by the Argentinian government affecting the Human Rights Secretariat and its institutions. Almeras, Clemence, ICA, 2025-01-13.

Mexico: [Long-lost anti-fascist mural from 1930s restored and back on show in Mexico](#). A long-neglected 1930s mural in Mexico that warns about the rise of fascism has been revealed and restored – just as some historians say the world faces that threat once more. Graham, Thomas, The Guardian, 2025-01-31.

United States of America: [Archive of civil rights icon Myrlie Evers-Williams to go on display](#). The collection is among the largest received by Pomona College in recent years. Its donor is Myrlie Evers-Williams, the widow of NAACP field secretary Medgar Evers, who was assassinated by a white supremacist outside their Mississippi home in 1963. His death inflamed the then-nascent civil rights movement. Sally H. Jacobs, The Washington Post, 2025-01-09.

Worldwide: [Don't Let Autocrats Erase the Internet](#). Preserving digital archives is a crucial weapon in discrediting and defeating authoritarian regimes. Nossel, Suzanne, Foreign Policy, 2025-01-24.

Worldwide: [Provision of Information Management and Analysis Organizational Review](#). The review focuses on OCHA's IM and Analysis function (including its role in the provision of IM and Analysis products and services to the humanitarian community). KonTerra Group, 2025-01-31.

Worldwide: [The artificial intelligence dilemma for peacebuilders and human rights defenders](#). Rights defenders must actively shape the discussion to mitigate the adverse human and environmental impacts of AI, particularly on the Global South. Heather Ashby, OpenGlobalRights, 2025-01-14.

## **Indigenous Matters**

United States of America: [Deb Haaland on Biden's efforts to preserve public land and recognize Indigenous history](#). One of the legacies President Biden leaves behind when he exits the White House is his record on conserving and protecting the country's public lands and water. Interior Secretary Deb Haaland played a key role in implementing Biden's policies over four years. Amna Nawaz spoke with Haaland about her achievements. Amna Nawaz, PBS News, 2025-01-16.

## **Israel-Gaza Crisis**

Israel/Palestine (Permanent Observer to the UN): [Israel must be added to UN's sexual violence blacklist](#). Palestinian sexual violence reports blocked from investigation by Israeli authorities. Euro-Med Human Rights Monitor, Euro-Med Human Rights Monitor, 2025-01-10.

Palestine (Permanent Observer to the UN): [Saving history: These archivists' mission to preserve social media record of war in Gaza](#). Archivists preserve social media posts from conflict zones —

but verifying and protecting the vast quantity of dynamic content presents huge challenges for the teams that attempt it. Charlie Bell; Agnes Ored, SBS News, 2025-01-28.

## **Police Violence**

Bangladesh: [Videos reveal new incidents of deadly brutality by Bangladesh police](#). 'Grotesque' footage shows previously undocumented incidents on day PM Sheikh Hasina fled country. Stacey, Kiran; Ellis-Petersen, Hannah, The Guardian, 2025-01-14.

## **Privacy**

China/United States of America: [Is TikTok a national security threat – or is the ban a smokescreen for superpower rivalry?](#). Washington looks happy for the video app to harvest users' data – as long as China does not reap the rewards. Sabbagh, Dan, The Guardian, 2025-01-23.

Europe: [The EU wants to scan every message sent in Europe. Will that really make us safer?](#). Lawmakers argue that mass surveillance will help to protect children. But the implications for our privacy and security are staggering, says journalist Apostolis Fotiadis. Fotiadis, Apostolis, The Guardian, 2025-01-24.

India: [Meta, WhatsApp win relief as India tribunal suspends data sharing ban](#). An Indian tribunal temporarily suspended a five-year data sharing ban between WhatsApp and owner Meta Platforms, a major relief for the U.S. giant which had warned its advertising business will be affected. Chaturvedi, Arpan; Chaturvedi, Arpan, Reuters, 2025-01-23.

Rwanda/United Kingdom: [Conservatives spent £134m on never-used IT systems for failed Rwanda scheme](#). Home Office official says data protection laws caused the cost of its forced removal programme to increase. Dearden, Lizzie, The Observer, 2025-01-18.

United States of America: [Microsoft's LinkedIn sued for disclosing customer information to train AI models](#). Microsoft's LinkedIn has been sued by Premium customers who said the business-focused social media platform disclosed their private messages to third parties without permission to train generative artificial intelligence models. Stempel, Jonathan, Reuters, 2025-01-23.

## **Racism**

Africa: [Fallen Black South African Soldiers From World War I Finally Remembered](#). Despite being the sons of Africa, the hundreds of soldiers who served in non-combat roles between 1914 and 1918 have been unrecognized for decades. Crystal Orderson, Inter Press Service, 2025-01-22.

## **Refugees**

Afghanistan/United States of America: [Afghans evacuated by US in chaos of withdrawal are languishing in foreign camps, documents reveal](#). Records show evacuees with pending applications to enter US 'forced to remain in limbo' in at least 36 countries, some in 'untenable conditions'. Speri, Alice, The Guardian, 2025-01-14.

## Religious Archives

Europe: ['Abuse, corruption, dark dealings': Pope Benedict handed scandal documents to Francis](#). Pope Francis says in his autobiography he received a 'large white box' relating to 'difficult and painful situations'. Giuffrida, Angela; Pepinster, Catherine, The Guardian, 2025-01-14.

Italy: [Italian church probe reveals scores of abuse cases in a single diocese](#). Dozens of sex abuse cases committed by members of the clergy over six decades emerged on Monday from an independent report into a northern Italian diocese that dug deeper into the past than others produced by the Italian Catholic Church. Armellini, Alvise, Reuters, 2025-01-21.

## Spying

United Kingdom: [MI5 files suggest queen was not briefed on spy in royal household for nine years](#). Documents indicate monarch was informed Anthony Blunt was Soviet agent in 1973, though he confessed in 1964. Davies, Caroline, The Guardian, 2025-01-14.

United Kingdom: [Secret UK files detailing confessions of Cambridge Five spies released](#). Top secret MI5 files detailing first-hand accounts of confessions of three of Britain's most notorious double agents including Kim Philby and Anthony Blunt who spied for the Soviet Union were released for the first time on Tuesday. Holden, Michael, Reuters, 2025-01-14.

United States of America: [Archives of the Surveilled](#). The FBI's recording of Arthur Huff Fauset's life undermined its own goals by essentially archiving his speeches, which would have otherwise been lost to history and even the author's own memory. In these words written at the end of his life, there is a poignancy to his sarcasm: He may leave a legacy after all, but only through the institutions that silenced him in the first place Archives open up the possibility to read around the official political and literary history that government repression has constructed. Rosen, Charlotte, Public Books, 2025-01-22.

United States of America: [Ethel Rosenberg's family pushes Biden to exonerate her decades after her execution](#). In 1953, Ethel and Julius Rosenberg were executed after being convicted as Soviet spies in a sensational Cold War espionage case. Now, a recently declassified document is seen as the strongest evidence yet of Ethel's innocence. John Yang; Harry Zahn, PBS NewsHour, 2025-01-20.

United States of America: [The Vigil Files: Government Surveillance in the Civil Rights Movement](#). In part one of Ernesto B. Vigil Freedom of Information Act papers (WH2496), we looked at some of the early actions the FBI took to surveil the civil rights movement. In part two, we will look at how such actions would escalate and even some cross-border actions taken by J. Edgar Hoover. Alejandro Hernández, Denver Public Library Special Collections and Archives, 2025-01-21.

Worldwide: [Secret police tricked Carlos the Jackal into fleeing Prague, archives reveal](#). New book casts doubt on accepted picture of communist bloc support for violent radicals during cold war. Walker, Shaun, The Guardian, 2025-01-27.

## Technology

United States of America: [Zuckerberg approved Meta's use of 'pirated' books to train AI models, authors claim](#). Sarah Silverman and others file court case claiming CEO approved use of dataset despite warnings. Milmo, Dan, The Guardian, 2025-01-10.

## Ukraine War

Ukraine: [ICC welcomes Ukraine as a new State Party](#). Today, 1 January 2025, the Rome Statute, founding treaty of the International Criminal Court (ICC), enters into force for Ukraine. Ukraine formally becomes the 125th State Party to the ICC, and the 20th State from the Eastern Europe region. International Criminal Court, International Criminal Court (ICC), 2025-01-02.

## War Crimes

Afghanistan/United Kingdom: [U.K. Special Forces Allowed to 'Get Away With Murder' in Afghanistan, Inquiry Told](#). Evidence released by an official inquiry into alleged war crimes painted a disturbing picture of an elite fighting force with a culture of impunity. Landler, Mark, The New York Times, 2025-01-08.

Sudan: [Sudani oversees handover of Baath crime archives in London](#). Prime Minister Mohammed Shia' al-Sudani on Thursday oversaw the handover of archival documents on Baathist era crimes to an Iraqi documentation center during his visit to London, his office said. The archive, previously held by an Iraqi human rights organization, was transferred to the Iraqi Center for Documenting Extremist Crimes, which is affiliated with the al-Abbas Holy Shrine located in Karbala, according to a statement from Sudani's office. Rudaw, Rudaw, 2025-01-17.

## Women's Rights

Afghanistan: [Statement of ICC Prosecutor Karim A.A. Khan KC: Applications for arrest warrants in the situation in Afghanistan](#). Today, I can announce that my Office has filed two applications for warrants of arrest before Pre-Trial Chamber II of the International Criminal Court in the Situation in Afghanistan. International Criminal Court, International Criminal Court, 2025-01-23.

United States of America: [Women's Rights Advocates Light Up National Archives to Push for ERA Publication](#). Last night, the U.S. National Archives Building was illuminated with a bold and urgent message from Women's Rights organizations across the country, calling on President Biden to take immediate action to enshrine the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) into the U.S. Constitution. This powerful projection highlighted the critical need to address sex discrimination and ensure equality under the law. Equality Now, Equality Now, 2025-01-16.

## World War II

Canada: [A new Vancouver archive aims to keep alive the memory of the Holocaust](#). As per his mother's wishes, Taylor has donated his grandfather's archives to the Vancouver Holocaust Education Centre (VHEC) and the UBC Library. The digitization of the archive is set to be completed in August, and it will be open to researchers worldwide. On Monday, Taylor also launched a six-episode podcast called The Hidden Holocaust Papers. Wendy Cox, The Globe and Mail, 2025-01-28.

Europe: ['New way of bearing witness': one of biggest Holocaust archives goes online](#). Wiener Holocaust Library has digitised more than 150,000 items including letters, pamphlets and photos. Bakare, Lanre; Arts, Lanre Bakare, The Guardian, 2025-01-27.

Europe: [Dutch online archive identifies suspected WW2 Nazi collaborators](#). A Dutch project called 'War in Court' digitally released a list of names of nearly half a million suspected wartime Nazi collaborators on Thursday after the expiry of a law that had restricted public access to the archive. Campenhout, Charlotte Van, Reuters, 2025-01-02.

Europe: [Newly discovered photos of Nazi deportations show Jewish victims as they were last seen alive](#). Descendants of survivors helped researchers identify 279 deportees and tell their stories. 'We give previously faceless victims a voice,' says project's co-founder. Gruner, Wolf, The Conversation, 2025-01-24.

Europe: [Poland, Ukraine move on exhumations deal of WWII-era massacre victims](#). The historical dispute has repeatedly been raised by Poland as a key obstacle to Kyiv's progress toward EU accession. Brzozowski, Alexandra, Euractiv, 2025-01-15.

Germany: [Call for 'censorship culture' to end as Unity Mitford's German diary is revealed](#). Extracts from Mitford's papers published but many more archives concerning British fascists remain concealed. Tapper, James; Thorpe, Vanessa, The Observer, 2025-01-19.

The Netherlands: [National archive warns of mistakes in list of WWII collaborators](#). The Dutch national archive has warned that some of the names included in a new listing of people suspected or convicted of collaborating with the Nazis during World War II may have been added in error. The list of some 425,000 names has been public since last week, and demand for more information has been so high that no more appointments are currently being made for people who want to view the actual files. However, according to the Telegraaf, some... Pascoe, Robin, DutchNews.nl, 2025-01-06.

The Netherlands: [National Archives knew that victims were in files of potential Nazi collaborators in WW2](#). The National Archives already knew last year that the names of innocents or even victims appear in a sensitive archive with files about Dutch people who were accused of collaborating with the German forces during the Second World War. Yet the institution only published a warning after the media reported on this, NU.nl reported. NL Times, Netherlands Times, 2025-01-09.

The Netherlands: [New legislation will open WWII collaboration archive: minister](#). Education and culture minister Eppo Bruins is preparing new legislation which will open controversial digital archives on possible collaborators during World War II to the general public, he told current affairs programme Buitenhof at the weekend. The archives should have been fully online from January 1, but that plan was halted because of privacy concerns. Instead, only the list of names of suspects was made available – even though many were never investigated. The records from the Centraal Archief Bijzondere... Quell, Molly, DutchNews.nl, 2025-01-21.

## News by country/region

### International News

#### Africa

Colonialism: [At what cost are we bridging Africa's digital divide?](#). Muhammed Bello Buhari, Global Voices, 2025-01-18.

Racism: [Fallen Black South African Soldiers From World War I Finally Remembered](#). Crystal Orderson, Inter Press Service, 2025-01-22.

#### Europe

Disinformation: [Russia Is Spinning Up a New Barrage of Lies in Europe](#). McGee, Luke, Foreign Policy, 2025-01-30.

Freedom of Information: [EU asks X for internal documents about algorithms as it steps up investigation](#). O'Carroll, Lisa, The Guardian, 2025-01-17.

Privacy: [The EU wants to scan every message sent in Europe. Will that really make us safer?](#). Fotiadis, Apostolis, The Guardian, 2025-01-24.

Religious Archives: ['Abuse, corruption, dark dealings': Pope Benedict handed scandal documents to Francis](#). Giuffrida, Angela; Pepinster, Catherine, The Guardian, 2025-01-14.

World War II: ['New way of bearing witness': one of biggest Holocaust archives goes online](#). Bakare, Lanre; Arts, Lanre Bakare, The Guardian, 2025-01-27.

World War II: [Dutch online archive identifies suspected WW2 Nazi collaborators](#). Campenhout, Charlotte Van, Reuters, 2025-01-02.

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World War II: [Poland, Ukraine move on exhumations deal of WWII-era massacre victims](#). Brzozowski, Alexandra, Euractiv, 2025-01-15.

#### Worldwide

Business: [3M knew firefighting foams containing PFAS were toxic, documents show](#). Salvidge, Rachel; Hosea, Leana, The Guardian, 2025-01-15.

Crimes Against Humanity: [Moving Ahead to a Crimes against Humanity Treaty](#). Dicker, Richard, Human Rights Watch, 2025-01-09.

Disinformation: [Meta Looks for the X Factor](#). Chakravorti, Bhaskar, Foreign Policy, 2025-01-20.

Disinformation: [Peacebuilding and disinformation](#). Berghof Foundation, Berghof Foundation, 2025-01-30.

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Human Rights Defenders and Activists: [Don't Let Autocrats Erase the Internet](#). Nossel, Suzanne, Foreign Policy, 2025-01-24.

Human Rights Defenders and Activists: [Provision of Information Management and Analysis Organizational Review](#). KonTerra Group, 2025-01-31.

Human Rights Defenders and Activists: [The artificial intelligence dilemma for peacebuilders and human rights defenders](#). Heather Ashby, OpenGlobalRights, 2025-01-14.

Spying: [Secret police tricked Carlos the Jackal into fleeing Prague, archives reveal](#). Walker, Shaun, The Guardian, 2025-01-27.

## **National News**

### **Afghanistan**

Refugees: [Afghans evacuated by US in chaos of withdrawal are languishing in foreign camps, documents reveal](#). Speri, Alice, The Guardian, 2025-01-14.

War Crimes: [U.K. Special Forces Allowed to 'Get Away With Murder' in Afghanistan, Inquiry Told](#). Landler, Mark, The New York Times, 2025-01-08.

Women's Rights: [Statement of ICC Prosecutor Karim A.A. Khan KC: Applications for arrest warrants in the situation in Afghanistan](#). International Criminal Court, International Criminal Court, 2025-01-23.

### **Argentina**

Government: [Judge orders operation of dictatorship memory sites be guaranteed](#). Herald, Buenos Aires, Buenos Aires Herald, 2025-01-15.

Human Rights Defenders and Activists: [Note of concern from the International Council on Archives](#). Almeras, Clemence, ICA, 2025-01-13.

### **Bangladesh**

Police Violence: [Videos reveal new incidents of deadly brutality by Bangladesh police](#). Stacey, Kiran; Ellis-Petersen, Hannah, The Guardian, 2025-01-14.

### **Belgium**

Crimes Against Humanity: [Court ruling on Belgium's conduct in colonial Africa hailed as turning point](#). Rankin, Jennifer, The Guardian, 2025-01-12.

### **Burkin Faso**

Government: [Burkina Faso collecting Thomas Sankara's archives, artefacts](#). CGTN Africa, 2025-01-23.

### **Cambodia**

Genocide: [The Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia Court Report 2024](#). ECCCC, 2024-12-31.

## **Canada**

World War II: [A new Vancouver archive aims to keep alive the memory of the Holocaust](#). Wendy Cox, The Globe and Mail, 2025-01-28.

## **China**

Privacy: [Is TikTok a national security threat – or is the ban a smokescreen for superpower rivalry?](#). Sabbagh, Dan, The Guardian, 2025-01-23.

## **Germany**

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