

Written and compiled by Trudy Huskamp Peterson for the HRWG

Commentary.

Old news keeps appearing. Regular readers of *HRWG News* will know that in the past few issues news items about World War II records are grouped under the heading of the war, simply because there have been so many of them. But we are also seeing a lot of stories about old records that are not open. “Good reads” in this issue has a complaint by a Turkish historian over lack of access to Turkey’s World War I era-records, a complaint that would be echoed by researchers trying to understand what happened during the period of the Armenian genocide. Turkey is not alone, of course. For example, in November 2014 Spain’s defense ministry refused to declassify records from the 1930s Civil War and the Francisco Franco dictatorship, saying it had “insufficient resources to analyze their contents.” A case before the European Court of Human Rights was brought by Mikhail Suprun who, along with the archivist who provided him the records, was convicted in a Russian court for violating ‘personal and family secret’ information while studying cases of ethnic Germans who were repressed and committed to special settlements in Arkhangelsk oblast during and after World War II. The records of the Japanese military during World War II are only selectively available.

Other countries and international institutions are opening early twentieth century records without problems. In 2014, for example, the United Nations opened the WWII War Crimes Commission records; the World War II era records of the French railroad, which transported victims to roundups that led to German extermination camps, were opened; the Vatican promised to open its World War II records. The personnel and related records of the NSDAP(Germany’s Nazi party) and its affiliated organizations and activities from the founding of the Party in 1920 until 1945 have been open at the U.S. National Archives for two decades.

Think of the issues that could be at least somewhat clarified by the release of all government records through World War II. Today the intellectual actors behind the wars of the first half of the 20th century are long dead, and most of the participants still alive were youths hauled into service. If we could agree that the government records through World War II would be opened without further review, consider what would be available: we could better understand the slaughter of the Spanish Civil War, the Turkish point of view during the attacks against Armenians, the Japanese Army’s organization of the “comfort women” stations throughout Asia, the purges in the Soviet Union. Although we would not have the records of the often bloody end of colonialism, we would know more about the administration of the colonies than we do now. And even if we continue to close records relating to pensions for people who are still alive, we would know far more about the people who lived during those turbulent decades.

As Melanie Altanian points out in her recent publication for swisspeace, “Archives against Genocide Denialism?” opening records does not at all guarantee that the records will be understood or believed: there are both selective use of archival material and the denial of particular evidence to contend with. But surely, surely it is better to argue about records that everyone can use than hypothesize based on partial evidence and records we can’t see. Nearly a century since the end of World War I, 72 long years since the end of World War II, it is time that governments open all their records through 1945.

HRWG News.

The members of the HRWG are deeply saddened by the death of Cristina Bianchi. Her sparkling personality endeared her to everyone who knew her. Cristina translated nearly every issue of the *News* since 2009, and those she did not translate she reviewed to confirm the translation. It was a gift to the profession she did consistently and without complaint. We are enormously grateful.

The Human Rights Working Group will meet on Sunday afternoon, November 26, during the ICA annual conference in Mexico City. The meeting is open to the public; all are welcome. The Working Group is sponsoring a session “Principles and Practices: Everyday Challenges and the Basic Principles on the Role of Archivists and Records Manager in Support of Human Rights” on Tuesday, November 28, at 16:00. In addition, the session on Environment and Natural Disasters on Tuesday will feature a discussion of current work on safe havens for archives at risk, a project fostered by the Working Group.

HRWG is offering a workshop, “Human Rights and Archives in Latin America,” for Latin American archivists on Wednesday and Thursday, November 29 and 30. Participants must be registered for the ICA annual conference to join the workshop; we ask that you also register for the workshop but there is no additional fee to attend. The registration form is at the end of this issue of *HRWG News*.

The Working Group also calls attention to the keynote addresses on human rights by Frank LaRue, UNESCO’s Assistant Director-General Communication and Information, on Monday morning, November 27, and by Dra. Alicia Bárcena Ibarra, Secretaria Ejecutiva, Comisión Económica para América Latina y el Caribe, on Tuesday, and other sessions under the program heading “human rights.”

International news.

European Court of Human Rights (ECHR). In 2014 the Humanitarian Law Center (HLC) in Belgrade filled an application with the Court on behalf of Bosnians who died in camps in Serbia during the Balkan wars of the 1990s. In a puzzling decision in which the Court accepted that Serbia’s domestic War Crimes Prosecution “had no intention of investigating the events,” it said that the relatives of the victims waited too long to file the complaint and dismissed the case. HLC said in its press release that in the future it will consider going to “relevant UN committees” rather than to the ECHR on such cases of “serious human rights violations.” <http://www.hlc-rdc.org/?p=34402&lang=de>; for the decision [https://hudoc.echr.coe.int/eng#{"itemid":\["001-178293"\]}](https://hudoc.echr.coe.int/eng#{)

Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR). The Commission ordered the government of Argentina to respond to charges of human rights violations against members of the Mapuche community, reported *telesur*. After a demonstration on August 1, in which demonstrators protesting “the Italian fashion company Benetton’s exploitation of the Mapuche tribe’s ancestral land,” activist Santiago Maldonado disappeared; his body was found on October 20 in the Chubut river. According to *Clarín*, a judge had ordered the police to video the August 1 confrontation; the video should be evidence for IACHR.

https://www.telesurtv.net/english/news/-IACHR-Demands-Macri-Respond-to-Violence-Against-Mapuche-20171013-0003.html?utm_source=planisys&utm_medium=NewsletterIngles&utm_campaign=NewsletterIngles&utm_content=12 ; https://www.clarin.com/politica/otranto-sigue-frente-causa-desalojo_0_rksganjZ.html; <http://www.aljazeera.com/news/2017/10/santiago-maldonados-death-overshadows-elections-171022103135489.html>

International Criminal Court. Burundi became the first member state to leave the Court, exiting on 27 October. <http://www.justicetribune.com/blog/letting-burundi-go-icc-withdrawal-test-international-commitment-justice>

The French media group MediaPart obtained some 40,000 documents leaked from the Court, showing that former Chief Prosecutor Luis Moreno-Ocampo “routinely transferred confidential Court files from official e-mail to his private account” and that his successor as prosecutor, Fatou Bensouda, shared confidential information with him after he left the court. The Court’s Independent Oversight Mechanism is investigating, *EIC Network* reported. <https://theblacksea.eu/stories/article/en/icc-ocampo-bensouda-fallout>

“In August 2017, the International Criminal Court . . . issued its first ever arrest warrant solely based on social media evidence,” accusing Libyan army commander Werfalli of mass executions near Benghazi, Libya, *bellingcat*, an online investigation team, reported. Through crowdsourcing, the team was able to “geolocate” four of the seven locations shown on the social media video as sites where assassinations occurred. For background, see *HRWG News* 2017-08 and 09. <https://www.bellingcat.com/news/mena/2017/10/03/how-an-execution-site-was-geolocated/>

Permanent Court of Arbitration (PCA). After the 2013 Rana Plaza disaster, in which more than 1100 people died in the collapse of a building housing garment workers, the Bangladesh Accord was signed between global fashion brands manufacturing in Bangladesh and trade unions. The brands promised to establish a fire and building safety program. The PCA accepted the claim brought by two labor union federations alleging that two fashion brands (names not revealed) “failed to compel their suppliers to improve their facilities within the mandatory deadlines, and did not help them to cover the costs to do so,” *Thomson Reuters Foundation* wrote. The case will go to arbitration in the first half of 2018, with hearings “to be held in private and any award . . . can only be made public with the consent of the Parties.” <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-bangladesh-garment-ruling/fashion-brands-in-the-hagues-dock-over-factory-safety-in-bangladesh-idUSKBN1CM2ET> ; <https://pcacases.com/web/sendAttach/2238>

United Nations. The Secretary-General sent the General Assembly a report by the Special Rapporteur (SR) on the situation of human rights defenders in the field of business and human rights. The SR “noted with concern the complicity of companies and business actors in various human rights violations against defenders and communities working to protect fundamental rights and freedom,” saying that in 2015-2016, 450 “such attacks were documented across the world,” with 25% connected to companies headquartered in Canada, China and the United States. He called this “only the tip of the iceberg.” The SR said that “the complexity of corporate structures in the globalized economy has created a number of layers and barriers to accessing information about business enterprises and their supply chains, making it challenging to reveal the links or operational connections between the business enterprises and the attacks.” He recommended that states “adopt legislation requiring companies to publicly disclose information, including information on their corporate structure and governance, contracts, licenses concessions, business relationships (investors, supplier and other trading parties included), scientific information about company operations, and company filings.” <http://undocs.org/a/72/170>

Control of the territory of the former Spanish colony of Western Sahara is disputed between Morocco and the POLISARIO independence movement supported by Algeria. The United Nations has been attempting to mediate ever since the 1970s. At a “debate on information” at the UN, the Algerian delegation “filed a request to dig up” a 1975 UN report on the Sahara dispute “which was digitized but not accessible to the public,” reported *Morocco World News*. The report presumably is in the UN Archives. <https://www.morocoworldnews.com/2017/10/232164/algeria-morocco-clash-western-sahara-un/>

Judge Mohamed Chande Othman, the Tanzanian jurist asked by the United Nations to review the evidence on the 1961 plane crash that killed UN Secretary General Dag Hammarskjöld and 15 other people, offered his report. He said it appeared plausible that an “external attack or threat” brought down the plane. After receiving the report, the current Secretary General called “on Member States to make available information and endorses the Eminent Person’s recommendation that Member States appoint an independent and high-ranking official to conduct a dedicated and internal review of their archives, in particular, their intelligence, security and defense archives, with a view to ensuring comprehensive access to relevant information and establishing what happened on that fateful night.” <https://www.un.org/sg/en/content/sg/statement/2017-10-25/statement-attributable-spokesman-secretary-general-report-eminent>

UNESCO. The United States announced its intention to withdraw from UNESCO, citing costs and alleging that UNESCO has an “anti-Israel bias.” The same day Israel said it plans to withdraw as well. The Society of American Archivists called on the U.S. Administration to reverse its decision. <https://www2.archivists.org/news/2017/saa-statement-on-us-intention-to-withdraw-from-unesco>

At its October meeting, the International Advisory Committee (IAC) of the Memory of the World Program recommended and the UNESCO Director General accepted inscribing 78 new nominations for the Memory of the World International Register, including the records of the 1963-65 trials in the city of Frankfurt,

Germany, that “confronted many Germans for the first time with their country’s Nazi past,” wrote *Deutsche Welle*. The IAC “postponed” a nomination from nongovernmental organizations in nine countries to list 2,744 documents relating to “comfort women” of the Japanese military during World War II and a nomination by Japan of documents regarding its Army’s discipline during the war. The IAC recommended “that UNESCO facilitates a dialogue among the nominators of the nominations ‘Voices of the ‘Comfort Women’ and ‘Documentation on ‘Comfort Women’ and Japanese Army discipline’ and concerned parties. The IAC also recommends setting a place and time convenient to the parties for this dialogue, with a view to leading to a joint nomination to encompass as far as possible all relevant documents.”

<https://en.unesco.org/news/international-advisory-committee-recommends-78-new-nominations-unesco-memory-world>;
<http://www.dw.com/en/auschwitz-trial-documents-and-recordings-awarded-special-unesco-status/a-41179113>

World/general news.

Business. *The Guardian* reported that a cyber-attack on the accounting company Deloitte compromised emailed information from at least four U.S. government departments, the United Nations, “four global banks, three airlines, two multinational car manufacturers, energy giants and big pharmaceutical companies” and international football’s FIFA. https://www.theguardian.com/business/2017/oct/10/deloitte-hack-hit-server-containing-emails-from-across-us-government?utm_source=esp&utm_medium=Email&utm_campaign=GU+Today+USA+-+Collections+2017&utm_term=247386&subid=22849866&CMP=GT_US_collection

The Court of Appeal in the United Kingdom ruled that Zambian villagers, who claim that “their land and livelihood has been destroyed by the pollution from the Nchanga Copper Mine owned by Vedanta Resources PLC, through their subsidiary KCM, going into the Mushishima river,” can be tried in a U.K. court. The Appeals Court judge said “there have been, as a matter of record, discharges of toxic effluent from the mine into the relevant waterways,” reported Leigh Day, the law firm that is representing the Zambian claimants. <https://www.leighday.co.uk/News/News-2017/October-2017/Court-of-Appeal-upholds-ruling-that-claims-by-Zamb>

A group of nearly 800 Chileans are in court against the Swedish mining company Boliden for serious illnesses caused by toxic waste. According to *Radio Sweden*, “In 1984 and 1985, 20,000 tons of toxic waste from Boliden’s smelting factory . . . in northern Sweden was shipped to Chile and the town of Arica.” The Chilean company Promel was to extract arsenic and gold ore from the waste, but the company went out of business and the waste was left “open in a big black pile close to a residential area.” Boliden would have its company records and Chile would have the government records of permission for import which would be relevant to the case, but it is not clear what happened to the records of Promel after it went out of business. <http://sverigesradio.se/sida/artikel.aspx?programid=2054&artikel=6799981>

Kobe Steel, a large Japanese supplier of steel, aluminum and copper to manufacturers around the world, acknowledged that its employees had falsified data about the quality of the materials it sold. Buyers included automobile, airplane and train companies and Japan’s nuclear industry. At least 200 companies are trying to determine whether the materials they used present safety hazards. Kobe Steel said it was reviewing “its records to determine the full extent of the data falsification,” the *New York Times* reported. <https://www.nytimes.com/2017/10/12/business/kobe-steel-japan-trains.html>

Land title. The International Land and Forest Tenure Facility is a new “independent non-profit foundation registered in Stockholm, Sweden” that aims “to leverage support for implementation of land and forest rights.” *Thomson Reuters Foundation* reported on a study by the Rights and Resources Initiative (RRI) and TMP Systems, “a consultancy based in Britain,” that found “61% of 288 land conflicts since 2001 have not been resolved.” In Southeast Asia 88 % are not resolved, and of these 65% delayed business operations, 71% resulted in lawsuits, and nearly 75% have lasted more than six years. An RRI coordinator said the new Tenure Facility will help “local people to take advantage of existing laws and policies to establish their rights over land,” while “clear legal ownership and demarcation of indigenous land will in turn help companies to respect land rights.” <http://thetenurefacility.org/article/1941-2/>; <http://news.trust.org/item/20171003112902-4eo7u/>

Medical records. The *Lancet* commission on pollution and health published its findings. Using data from the World Health Organization and the University of Washington’s Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation, the commission found that in 2015 diseases caused by pollution were responsible for 9 million

premature deaths, which is 16% of all global deaths. “Nearly 92% of pollution-related deaths occur in low-income and middle-income countries,” and “the burning of biomass in lower-income countries accounts for 85% of airborne particulate pollution.” The “major emitters of carbon dioxide are coal-fired power plants, chemical producers, mining operations, and vehicles.” The commission noted that while it used the best sources available, “only a third of the world's population and only 5% of Africa has usable information on causes of death.” Consequently, it encouraged “governments to consider creation of a central data coordination system that acts as a focus and point of reference for all data on pollution—household, ambient, and occupational. This system should provide validated information and synthesised reports to the public and could be a basic source of raw data for regulators, researchers, and policy makers.”
http://www.thelancet.com/commissions/pollution-and-health?dgcid=email-etoc_email_pollution-comm17

Middle East war. The Joint Investigative Mechanism of the United Nations and the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) issued its report. It said it is “confident that the Syrian Arab Republic is responsible for the release of sarin at Khan Sheikhoun on 4 April 2017.” The attack killed at least 92 people and injured others. The panel used medical reports, chemical analysis reports, video of persons suffering from sarin, records held by OPCW on the type of sarin that Syria had stocked, and interviews to reach its conclusion. <https://www.alaraby.co.uk/english/indepth/2017/10/28/khan-sheikhoun-massacre-proof-beyond-doubt-whos-to-blame>

Missing persons. The Australian Transport Safety Bureau released its final report on the 2014 disappearance of Malaysian airliner MH370. It detailed the underwater search, the reconstruction of the flight path, “debris drift studies,” and a “re-analysis of satellite imagery,” but the *Guardian* said it had “little in the way of new evidence about the plane’s location.” https://www.theguardian.com/world/2017/oct/03/mh370s-location-an-almost-inconceivable-mystery-final-report?utm_source=esp&utm_medium=Email&utm_campaign=GU+Today+USA+-+Collections+2017&utm_term=246391&subid=22849866&CMP=GT_US_collection

Privacy. Yahoo said “all 3 billion of its user accounts were affected in a 2013 data theft,” *Thomson Reuters Foundation* reported. <https://www.aol.com/article/news/2017/10/03/yahoo-says-all-3-billion-accounts-hacked-in-2013-data-theft/23231714/>

Slavery. The Salvation Army (SA), a charity, is “contracted by the government to deliver all support services for adult victims of slavery in England and Wales.” The SA said that the number of victims of referred for support increased by 300% in the past six years, at least partly because of “improved identification of victims.” Of the 1,554 people referred to the SA in 2016, 48% were brought to the U.K. “for sexual exploitation,” 39% for “labour exploitation,” 13% for “domestic servitude,” and one person “trafficked for organ removal,” the *Guardian* reported. “The highest number of victims overall came from Albania, with 359 referrals, 346 of whom were women trafficked for sexual exploitation,” and 101 men from Vietnam were “trafficked to work in illegal cannabis farms.” See also United Kingdom/Vietnam, below. https://www.theguardian.com/world/2017/oct/16/uk-modern-slavery-referrals-up-due-to-better-identification?utm_source=esp&utm_medium=Email&utm_campaign=GU+Today+main+NEW+H+categories&utm_term=248100&subid=22849866&CMP=EMCNEWEM661912

Torture. Using “274 documents the CIA [U.S. Central Intelligence Agency] and the Pentagon were forced to declassify and release during pre-trial discovery” in the lawsuit against the two psychologists who designed the “enhanced interrogation techniques” the CIA used in Afghanistan in 2002-2007, the *Guardian* published a deep analysis of what went on inside the torture room. For background on the case, which was settled out of court, see *HRWG News* 2017-08. https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/ng-interactive/2017/oct/09/cia-torture-black-site-enhanced-interrogation?utm_source=esp&utm_medium=Email&utm_campaign=GU+Today+USA+-+Collections+2017&utm_term=247246&subid=22849866&CMP=GT_US_collection

In December 2014 the U.S. Senate committee investigating the “enhanced interrogation techniques used by the CIA” completed a 6,700 page report which it sent on computer disks to government agencies, including the CIA. Only the executive summary was published. In June 2017 the Chairman of the Senate Intelligence Committee demanded that all copies in agency hands be returned to the Senate, and the agencies are complying. The CIA’s acting Inspector General (IG) and nominee for permanent IG said he had not read the report, “only an unclassified executive summary,” which led the chairman of the group that wrote the report to retort, “The point of distributing it to the departments was in the hope that they would read it – not

look at it as some poison document – and learn from it.” For background, see *HRWG News* 2016-12. <http://mobile.reuters.com/article/amp/idUSKBN1CM2ZT>

World War II. During the war materials from YIVO (Yiddish Scientific Institute) in Vilnius, Lithuania, were hidden from the Nazis by a small group of Jewish scholars and after the war were “preserved for decades by the heroic efforts of Antanas Ulpis, a Lithuanian librarian, who saved the documents from the pulping mills and stored them in secret in the basement of St. George Church,” explained the New York-based YIVO Institute. At the end of the Soviet era in Lithuania, the existence of the documents was disclosed and they became part of the national library, with a digital copy made for the YIVO Institute. However, at that time documents in a room in the church apparently were missed, and more than 170,000 pages have now been found which will also be digitized. <https://vilnacollections.yivo.org/Discovery-Press-Release>

The team working to identify the original owners of paintings found in the apartments of Cornelius Gurlitt announced it has identified the family to whom one of the items belongs. This is only the sixth identification made, and it was due to an official claim filed at the end of the war describing the painting as having a repaired hole at a specific spot and a wartime document from the Political Archive of the Foreign Office in Berlin saying the apartment of the family was being searched. For background, see *HRWG News* 2016-01. <http://www.lootedart.com/news.php?r=SPKULS418751>

Lund University opened digital copies of 514 interviews conducted with women and children who were interned at the Ravensbrück camp in Germany, then were brought to Sweden at the end of the war. <https://www.thelocal.se/20171018/swedish-university-lund-digital-archive-of-testimonies-of-nazi-concentration-camp-survivors-voices-from-ravensbrck>

A team of forensic investigators opened research into who betrayed Anne Frank and her family in Amsterdam in 1944. <https://www.coldcasediary.com/about-the-case/>

Bilateral and multilateral news.

Afghanistan/United States. At the request of the U.S. military command in Afghanistan, the U.S. Special Inspector General for Afghanistan Reconstruction redacted from his quarterly report key data on such issues as “the number of people in the Afghan army and police force, how many of them have been wounded or killed and the state of their equipment,” reported the *New York Times*. The numbers have been released in previous reports; the Special Inspector said, “If they start classifying this stuff now, what are they going to do next month?” <https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2017/10/30/world/asia/document-sigar-october-2017-report.html>

Australia/United States. “Chauka, Please Tell us the Time,” a film shown at the London Film Festival, featured the plight of refugees marooned on Manus Island in the Pacific, *Thomson Reuters Foundation* reported. The refugee camp is managed by Australia; last year the U.S. agreed to accept up to 1200 of the refugees, but very few have been resettled. The images (most of which were secretly shot) came from a Kurdish journalist from Iran who has been held in the camp since 2013. He filmed using a mobile phone and sent the images “in short clips via WhatsApp” to a Dutch-Iranian film-maker who turned them into the film. <http://news.trust.org/item/20171008211711-g0d53/>

Cyprus/Greece. Greece announced that “archives that were locked away and sealed will be released to contribute in efforts to ascertain the fate of missing persons” from the 1974 Turkish-Cypriot war, *CNA* reported. <http://greece.greekreporter.com/2017/10/03/archives-in-greece-to-open-to-aid-efforts-on-the-fate-of-missing-persons-in-cyprus/>

Eastern Europe. *Euromaidan Press* reported that at a press conference in Ukraine following a seminar “Open access to the archives of the KGB: Ukrainian experience for the Eastern Partnership countries,” experts from Eastern European countries said “Ukraine’s opening of KGB archives is exemplary.” The Eastern Partnership is a forum of the 28 states of the European Union and 6 post-Soviet states in Eastern Europe (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova, Ukraine). <http://euromaidanpress.com/2017/10/24/eu-eastern-partnership-experts-say-ukraines-opening-of-kgb-archives-is-exemplary/#arvlbdata>

Egypt/ISIS/Libya. In February 2015 ISIS filmed its members beheading 20 Egyptians. At the end of September Libya said it had arrested a “suspect accused of filming the beheading” and subsequently announced that the remains of the victims had been found, reported *albawaba.com*.
<https://www.albawaba.com/news/remains-20-egyptian-copts-beheaded-isis-found-libya-1031164>

Honduras/United States. In May 2012 a joint Honduran-U.S. antidrug team shot at a water taxi and killed a man, two women, and a boy and wounded others; the team said it returned fire in self-defense after taxi passengers fired on it. A surveillance plane took a video of the encounter. The *New York Times* obtained the video following a freedom of information request; it says that any gunfire coming from the taxi “is strikingly difficult to discern.” <https://www.nytimes.com/2017/10/23/world/americas/drug-enforcement-agency-dea-honduras.html>

Georgia/Russia. The Georgian National Archives opened an exhibit on repression by the Soviet regime in Georgia in the 1920s and 1930s. Using items borrowed from families of victims, the exhibit includes “photographs, documents, and personal items of the victims exiled to remote labour camps or shot following arrest.” A “major part” of the items were displayed for the first time. <http://agenda.ge/news/89537/eng>

Gulf states/India. Police in Hyderabad, India, arrested about 30 people, charging them with human trafficking and sexual exploitation of children, *Thomson Reuters Foundation* reported. Prospective bridegrooms, “wealthy men from Gulf states,” would pay a broker to find a girl “under 18” for “time pass” marriages which would last only as long as the man was in the country. The age of the girl was falsified on the marriage certificate and “at the time of the marriage the men signed post-dated divorce documents, to be delivered to the brides after their new husbands had left the country.” “Government data underestimates the problem” of children in the “flourishing” sex tourism industry: only seven cases were recorded by the city’s child protection unit during the last three years. <http://news.trust.org/item/20171010114553-kz0cq/>

Indonesia/United States. The National Declassification Center, part of the U.S. National Archives, released some 30,000 pages of records from the U.S. Embassy in Indonesia between 1964 and 1968. The National Security Archive, a U.S. nongovernmental organization, posted 245 pages on line and wrote that the “U.S. government had detailed knowledge that the Indonesian Army was conducting a campaign of mass murder against the country’s Communist Party (PKI) starting in 1965.” Amnesty International’s Indonesia office urged the Indonesian government “to do the same” and release its archives. Indonesia’s Chief Security Minister told the *Jakarta Globe* that the U.S. documents “may not be included in legal proceedings before their veracity can be established” and it will be “difficult to find evidence and witnesses.”
<http://nsarchive.gwu.edu/briefing-book/indonesia/2017-10-17/indonesia-mass-murder-1965-us-embassy-files> <http://jakartaglobe.id/news/amnesty-international-urges-govt-to-reveal-archives-on-1965-mass-killings/>

Liberia/United States. A court in the U.S. state of Pennsylvania found Mohammed Jabbateh “guilty of charges related to atrocities committed during the first Liberian civil war (1989-96),” reported *Justiceinfo.net*. He was convicted for fraud and lying about his past on documents when he applied to enter the U.S. <http://www.justiceinfo.net/en/justice-reconciliation/34994-liberian-found-guilty-of-war-crimes-linked-charges-in-%E2%80%9CHistoric%E2%80%9D-us-case.html>

Sweden/Syria. On September 25 a district court in Sweden sentenced Muhammad Abdullah, a refugee who is a former member of the Syrian military, to eight months in prison for violating the dignity of a dead body, *Radio Sweden* reported. According to Human Rights Watch, the man posted a photograph on Facebook showing him standing over a pile of bodies, smiling, with his boot on a corpse clad in civilian clothes, and an “informal group of Syrian activists tracked Abdullah down in Sweden based on his Facebook postings and brought him to the attention of the prosecutors.”
<http://sverigesradio.se/sida/artikel.aspx?programid=2054&artikel=6784954>; <https://www.hrw.org/news/2017/09/15/move-restore-dignity-syrias-victims>

United Kingdom/Vietnam. The *Daily Mail* reported that more than 150 Vietnamese youngsters rescued in the U.K. from traffickers and put into government care “have gone missing from their care and foster homes since 2015.” Officials at nongovernmental organizations working with children fear that the children “have returned to traffickers.” *The Times* obtained the statistics “through freedom of information requests to 430 local authorities;” another 79 did not respond. <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-4976858/Fears-Vietnamese-children-missing-UK-council-care.html?ITO=1490>

National news.

Afghanistan. “A number” of members of the lower house of Parliament claim that the first deputy speaker of the house and another Parliamentarian “forced their way into the National Archives recently and removed a number of documents,” *Tolo News* reported. The two confirmed they were at the National Archives but said did not use force to enter; they did not say whether they removed materials.

<https://www.tolonews.com/afghanistan/mps-accuse-colleagues-using-force-enter-archives>

Argentina. A woman identified publicly only as Victoria gave a sample of her DNA to seek a match in the National Bank of Genetic Data, *telesur* reported. She learned that she is the daughter of Lucia Rosalinda Tartaglia, a university activist who was kidnapped in 1977 when she was pregnant. The Grandmothers of the Plaza de Mayo announced the identification; this is the 125th child identified who was born to a missing activist in captivity and given to an unrelated family to raise. The Grandmothers of are still searching for at least 300 more such stolen children. <https://www.telesurtv.net/english/news/Argentina-Grandmothers-Find-125th-Disappeared-Grandchild-20171027-0016.html>

Brazil. Researchers in Brazil, Australia and the U.S. analyzed 10 years of deforestation data from Brazil’s Space Agency INPE. Looking at landscape changes around the Amazon’s 50 largest active mines, they found: “mining caused 9.2% of total deforestation in the Brazilian Amazon between 2005 and 2015,” “mining-related deforestation was 12 times greater outside [government granted] mine lease areas than within them and extended as far as 70 km away,” and deforestation “was significantly larger than previously assumed.” <http://www.uvm.edu/newsstories/news/new-amazon-threat-deforestation-mining>

Canada. The Supreme Court ruled that the records of the Independent Assessment Process (IAP), which heard testimony from former students at Indian residential schools in order to determine the financial compensation each should be awarded, should be destroyed unless the person specifically asks that his or her file be preserved. The Court said the IAP “was intended to be a confidential process, and both claimants and alleged perpetrators had relied on that assurance of confidentiality in deciding to participate.” The director of the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation called the decision “a blow to the country.” The chief adjudicator of the IAP told *CBC News* that it is working on “a process to contact survivors and inform them of their options.” <https://scc-csc.lexum.com/scc-csc/scc-csc/en/item/16797/index.do>; <http://www.cbc.ca/news/opinion/residential-schools-record-1.4344096>; <http://thestarphoenix.com/news/local-news/destruction-of-residential-school-records-called-a-blow-to-the-country>; <http://www.cbc.ca/news/politics/survivors-residential-schools-documents-1.4365207>

The government settled lawsuits over the forcible separation of First Nations children from their families and placement of them in non-indigenous homes in Canada, the United States and Europe between 1951 and 1991, *CNC News* reported. Although the government “said a final agreement still has to be reached,” it has “set aside \$750 million for individual compensation” and “\$50 million for a foundation dedicated to reconciliation initiatives.” Claims will have to be made by persons affected; the lawyer for the plaintiffs said “the form to apply for compensation will be ‘so simple you don’t need a lawyer’.” *CBC News* noted, “The federal government has retained most adoption records, and Crown wardship and temporary wardship records, while harder to get, are usually held by the respective provinces. Those documents will be used to validate a claim.” <http://www.cbc.ca/news/politics/ottawa-settle-60s-scoop-survivors-1.4342462>

CBC News published a story of one indigenous man’s long and so far unsuccessful search for information about his birth parents. He knew his biological mother’s name, where she lived in Quebec, and the name of the hospital where he was born, but with all that he still has hit a dead end. Quebec “is committed to unsealing adoption records” in 2018, but there is no plan to create a centralized registry to make it easier for people to “navigate the system.” <http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/montreal/how-one-man-s-search-for-quebec-adoption-records-turned-into-a-wild-goose-chase-1.4306144>

China. In 2020 the government plans to inaugurate a nationwide “Social Credit System to rate the trustworthiness” of citizens, reported *WIRED*. Currently pilot programs are in development; they will monitor specific electronic data, such as credit history, personal preferences (such as what a person chooses to buy), and interpersonal relationships. <http://www.wired.co.uk/article/chinese-government-social-credit-score-privacy-invasion>

Colombia. The leaders of the FARC, a former guerilla movement that is now a political party, announced that it has “officially registered with the National Electoral Council as a legal political party that will be able to participate in elections” and “all relevant legal documents have been delivered,” *telesur* wrote. <https://www.telesurtv.net/english/news/Colombias-FARC-Officially-Registers-As-Political-Party-20171010-0020.html>

Croatia. Sense Transitional Justice Documentation Centre opened in the town of Pula. Mirko Klarin, the founder, is the director of a news agency that covered the work of the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY). He told *BIRN* that the Centre “will house an archive with media reports on the ICTY cases it documented for over 20 years.” http://www.balkaninsight.com/en/article/brammertz-visits-opening-transitional-justice-centre-in-croatia-10-12-2017?utm_source=Balkan+Transitional+Justice+Daily+Newsletter+-+NEW&utm_campaign=7ce1755348-RSS_EMAIL_CAMPAIGN&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_a1d9e93e97-7ce1755348-319755321

Czech Republic. “The Czech security forces’ archive made another part of digitized documents of the former communist secret police StB, almost 1.65 million pages concerning the StB’s secret agents, accessible to researchers . . . extending the total number of online available papers to almost 4.7 million,” *CTK* reported. Researchers must register with the archives before gaining access to the digital copies. <http://www.praguemonitor.com/2017/10/03/czech-archive-opens-further-stb-files-online-researchers>

Guatemala. The criminal trial against former dictator Efraim Rios Montt and his chief of intelligence Mauricio Rodriguez Sanchez resumed, but now in separate proceedings. They both face charges of genocide and crimes against humanity during the civil war in Guatemala in the 1980s. In the case against Rodriguez Sanchez, the public prosecutor introduced as evidence a military document known as Plan Victoria 82; *International Justice Monitor* commented that “prosecutors may be relying on the military document to demonstrate the intentionality of actions carried out.” <https://www.ijmonitor.org/2017/10/the-guatemala-genocide-trial-resumes/>

Honduras. An international team of lawyers assembled by the family of murdered Honduran environmental activist Berta Caceres and the organization she led issued their report. The team said her 2016 killing “was the product of a coordinated plot that began four months earlier and suggested that leadership of a dam development company may have ordered her assassination,” report the *Associated Press*. “The report was based on dozens of interviews, criminal case files, independent reports and what the group described as partial access to evidence provided by government investigators, including ‘a fraction of’ the phone records that are at the core of the case.” <http://www.apnewsarchive.com/2017/A-new-report-alleges-that-the-2016-killing-of-Honduran-environmental-activist-Berta-Caceres-was-the-product-of-a-coordinated-plot-that-began-four-months-earlier-and-suggests-that-leaders/id-634d7d224f2e4a0980b22945cb115475>

India. After “three years of poring over maps, demarcating boundaries, and numerous petitions and visits to local officials,” the resident of Hastinapur village in the state of Rajasthan now have 35 hectares of land “registered to the community” where they can “safely graze their cattle, meet most of their need of fodder and firewood, and supplement their incomes,” reported *Thomson Reuters Foundation*. The nongovernmental Foundation for Ecological Security, which helped the villagers, is using “satellite imagery to map the commons in three states.” <http://news.trust.org/item/20171010114925-dwu85/>

India has a program to register all its citizens using fingerprints and iris scans and issue each person an “Aadhaar” identity card. The nongovernmental Right to Food Campaign told *Thomson Reuters Foundation* that in April the Indian state of Jharkand issued a directive saying that ration cards must be linked to Aadhaar cards and cancelled 1 million ration cards. An 11-year-old girl died of starvation “after her family was denied subsidized grain because their . . . Aadhaar was not linked to their ration card in government records.” State officials “said the girl died of malaria, not starvation,” but the state is investigating. <http://news.trust.org/item/20171018151546-vv114/>

Indonesia. At a “discussion” held at the Indonesian Parliament Complex, an historian complained that the national archives are incomplete and are accessible to the public: “In the New Order era it may be understandable when ‘de-Soekarno-ization’ occurred. However today is the era of reform” and key archives are still closed, reported *Netralnews.com*. The director of the national archives agreed that the

archives are not complete, “especially on the early days of independence.”

<http://www.en.netralnews.com/news/currentnews/read/13276/researchers.rue.on.the.difficulty.of.accessing.sources.from.national.archives>

Ireland. A report by a retired chief justice “found that Irish surveillance practices fail to comply with European law,” the *Irish Times* reported. He said the nation’s data retention law, which “forces telephone companies and ISPs to log details of everyone’s communications and movements and to store that information for up to two years” is “a form of mass surveillance of virtually the entire population of the state.” <https://www.irishtimes.com/opinion/state-s-approach-to-data-privacy-is-a-national-scandal-1.3246055>

The *New York Times* published a special report on the children and mothers who were housed at St. Mary’s Mother and Baby home in Tuam and the children who died there. It featured the work of Catherine Corless, who “purchased a random sample from the government of 200 death certificates for children who had died at the home,” compared them with the burials reported in the records of the Tuam cemetery, and found that only two children from the home had been buried in the cemetery. Using other records, she determined that 796 children had died at the home during its 36-year existence; the public reaction led to exhumation of children’s bones buried on the grounds of the now-closed home.

<https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2017/10/28/world/europe/tuam-ireland-babies-children.html>

In a lecture at Maynooth University, Catriona Crowe, the former head of special projects at the National Archives, said she is frustrated that “survivors of abuse in Ireland’s myriad of institutions like industrial schools, Magdalene Laundries and Mother and Baby Homes have to keep fighting and begging for access to records.” She urged the government to have “very high-level talks” with the Catholic Church that would lead to the church putting its records “into an independent repository” and making them available for use by “survivors, academics and genealogists,” reported the *Irish Examiner*. She also called for the National Archives act to be updated to expand its jurisdiction over “semi-State bodies.”

<http://www.irishexaminer.com/viewpoints/analysis/staying-off-the-record-on-access-to-archives-461103.html>

Latvia. At independence in 1991, persons who moved to Latvia “during the Soviet era” were given “non-citizen” status. They have “most of the rights and privileges of citizenship, with the exceptions of voting and working in the civil and security services,” reported the Foreign Policy Research Institute. Children born of “non-citizens” are also “non-citizens” unless the parents “register their child as a Latvian citizen at birth.” Older persons can choose to be naturalized. About 238,000 persons—11% of the population—are “non-citizens.” A recent proposal to automatically register children born to “non-citizens” as Latvians unless the parents choose not to (in effect, reversing the current presumption) failed.

<https://www.fpri.org/article/2017/10/non-citizen-non-question-latvia-struggles-leave-soviet-legacy-behind/>

Mexico. Mexico’s Congress adopted a General Law on Disappearances, creating a national search commission, a citizen’s council, and a national registry of disappeared people, *telesur* reported. According to the government’s official database, at least 33,000 people have disappeared in the country since 2007, the Washington Office on Latin America said. If the president signs the bill, the new institutions will create enormously important records.

https://www.telesurtv.net/english/news/Mexico-Approves-Law-Against-Forced-Disappearances-20171013-0011.html?utm_source=planisys&utm_medium=NewsletterIngles&utm_campaign=NewsletterIngles&utm_content=8 ;
<https://www.wola.org/2017/10/mexicos-new-disappearances-law-important-step-towards-ending-disappearances-impunity-crises-country/>

The earthquake in September killed 225 people in Mexico City. The *Guardian* found that the Environmental and Zoning Prosecutor’s Office, the “city watchdog for environmental and building compliance,” received nearly 6,000 complaints since 2012 about construction project violations. “Many of the buildings in question subsequently collapsed,” but there is “no public record of how many [complaints] were followed up” after the prosecutor referred them to the “relevant municipal agency.”

https://www.theguardian.com/cities/2017/oct/13/complaints-earthquake-scandal-mexico-city-dead-construction-collapse?utm_source=esp&utm_medium=Email&utm_campaign=GU+Today+USA+-+Collections+2017&utm_term=247833&subid=22849866&CMP=GT_US_collection

Myanmar. Following a mission to a Rohingya refugee camp in Bangladesh, where they “spent six days interviewing some of the 600,000 Rohingya” who fled from Myanmar and an advance team had been conducting “comprehensive interviews for weeks,” a team of three United Nations investigators said that a “consistent, methodical pattern” of killings, torture, rape and arson has taken place in the Rakhine area of

Myanmar, *Reuters* reported. The records of interviews will be important evidence for future justice and for history. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-myanmar-rohingya-un-rights/consistent-pattern-of-crimes-against-myanmars-rohingya-u-n-experts-say-idUSKBN1CW1GH> <http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Countries/MM/CXBMissionSummaryFindingsOctober2017.pdf>

Niger. A group of 20 students and young professionals are using an “app that allows users to collect geo-referenced information” to plot the location of properties and buildings in flood-prone areas of the capital Niamey. They send the data, which they collect on smartphones, to the interior ministry “so it can better target its relief efforts in times of flowing,” reported *Thomson Reuters Foundation*. Outside the city, a project led by the aid agency Catholic Relief Services has “set up an information network among 136 villages,” each of which has a disaster committee. The project manager said, “Whenever a disaster strikes, the committee secretary fills in a survey and sends it through one of our vehicles to our office and the government in Niamey, so we know exactly what is needed in terms of relief efforts.” They hoped to send the information “via text alerts,” he said, but they could not “reach an agreement with the telecom operator, who was too expensive.” <http://news.trust.org/item/20171002001812-u6mli/>

Rwanda. Human Rights Watch (HRW) issued a report on the “systematic patterns of torture, enforced disappearances, illegal and arbitrary detention, unfair trials, and other serious human rights violations in military detention centers in Rwanda from 2010 to 2016.” HRW said it “confirmed” 104 cases of people illegally detained but believes “the actual number of cases is likely much higher.” The findings are based on interviewing more than 230 people, observing trials of seven groups of people, and reviewing court statements. In response, Rwanda’s parliament “recommended that the government re-evaluate its relationship with Human Rights Watch so that ‘ignominious acts tarnishing the image of Rwanda and Rwandan people could not continue’.” <https://www.hrw.org/report/2017/10/10/we-will-force-you-confess/torture-and-unlawful-military-detention-rwanda>; <https://www.hrw.org/news/2017/11/01/rwanda-cover-negates-killings>

South Africa. In a landmark case, the judge ruled that “Ahmed Timol, an anti-apartheid activist who died in custody in October 1971, did not kill himself as authorities have long claimed but was murdered by police officers,” the *Guardian* reported. The judge “called for families who lost relatives in circumstances similar to Timol’s to be assisted in reopening their cases, particularly when suicide was recorded as the cause of death.” Police and morgue records would be useful evidence. For background, see *HRWG News* 2017-06. <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2017/oct/12/south-africa-judge-rules-police-murdered-anti-apartheid-activist-in-1971>

South Korea. A special investigation committee of the Ministry of National Defense is looking into the Gwangju uprising of 18-27 May 1980, *JoongAng Daily* reported. The chairman of the committee said the regime in power at the time distorted the facts: a commission had “manipulated military records on the Gwangju democratization movement,” deleted parts of statements by demonstrators, and said it created a “white paper” that was not made public. He said that “key military data is either missing or distorted” and the committee is using “new records offered by the U.S. Embassy and Japanese Embassy” as well as Korean records and statements from witnesses to develop its report. Meanwhile, based on “military records and an earlier fact-finding mission by the Defense Ministry,” excavation has begun at a suspected secret burial site for persons who died in the Gwangju prison. <http://koreajoongangdaily.joins.com/news/article/article.aspx?aid=3039791&cloc=joongangdaily>

Thailand. On 6 October 1976, military, paramilitary and police forces surrounded the campus of Thammasat University and killed “scores of student activists who had gathered to oppose the return” of Thailand’s former dictator. Now a group of former student activists and academics have create an “online archive” relating to the massacre “to fight against attempts by authorities to erase the tragedy from the history books,” *Bangkok Post* reported. <https://www.bangkokpost.com/news/general/1338131/archive-showcases-horrors-of-thammasat-massacre>

United Kingdom. The government released a report and website called the “Race Disparity Audit.” According to *The Times*, the report aimed “to show how people of different backgrounds are treated within the public sector.” The government promised to update it “periodically as more data becomes available and to allow comparisons over time.” <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/race-disparity-audit> ; <https://www.thetimes.co.uk/edition/news/theresa-mays-race-disparity-audit-reveals-divided-nation-g9wx8z27g>

According to statistics released by the Home Office, “there was a 29% spike in recorded hate crimes—which include any crime motivated by religion, race, sexuality, disability or transgender identity—in the 12 months before March 2017 (80,393 offenses) compared to the same period between 2015-16 (62,518 offenses),” *TIME* reported. <http://time.com/4985332/hate-crime-uk-2017/> ; https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/652136/hate-crime-1617-hosb1717.pdf

The National Health Service (NHS) issued guidance that, starting in 2019, a person over the age of 16 visiting a medical professional “may be asked to confirm whether they are straight, gay, bisexual or other,” reported the *Independent*. Furthermore, the medical institution will “apparently . . . keep a record of the patient’s answer.” NHS said, “The information standard is designed to help NHS bodies be compliant with the law by . . . collecting, only where relevant, personal details of patients such as race, sex and sexual orientation. They do not have to do it in every area, people do not have to answer the questions and it will have no impact on the care they receive.” <http://www.independent.co.uk/news/health/nhs-lgbt-gps-doctors-ask-patients-sexual-orientation-a8001086.html>

A report from the Business and Human Rights Resource Centre, a nongovernment organization, said that based on the first full year of business reports to the government as required by the U.K.’s Modern Slavery Act, “43 of the top 100 listed companies [on the London stock exchange] were assessed as having failed to meet even the minimum requirements of the Act.” <https://business-humanrights.org/sites/default/files/FTSE%20100%20Report%20Public.pdf>

The *Guardian* reported that an investigation by Her Majesty’s Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire and Rescue Services found that “police forces are failing to tackle modern slavery and human trafficking because the cases are too difficult and senior officers believe the public lack sympathy for the victims.” The Inspectorate said, “The serious problems we encountered as part of our review of case files supports the view that officers in some forces seek to close these cases quickly rather than investigate them properly.” https://www.theguardian.com/world/2017/oct/24/police-forces-failing-to-tackle-modern-slavery-in-uk-report-shows?utm_source=esp&utm_medium=Email&utm_campaign=GU+Today+main+NEW+H+categories&utm_term=249236&subid=22849866&CMP=EMCNEWEML661912

United Kingdom/Northern Ireland. The High Court in Belfast, Northern Ireland, “ordered the Police Service of Northern Ireland to reopen the 1971 ‘hooded men’ case and said that its original investigation, which ended in 2014, was ‘seriously flawed,’” reported *The Times*. The case involved 14 men who said they were tortured at a secret detention site in rural Derry by British soldiers and police officers. <https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/hooded-men-torture-row-harms-hopes-of-northern-ireland-political-deal-rc92ztjw>

United States. Comparing data assembled in 2015 by the *Guardian* on police killings with data in the National Vital Statistics System (NVSS) maintained by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, researchers found that NVSS data “misclassified 55.2% of all police killings, with the errors occurring disproportionately in low-income jurisdictions.” https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2017/oct/11/police-killings-counted-harvard-study?utm_source=esp&utm_medium=Email&utm_campaign=GU+Today+USA+-Collections+2017&utm_term=247529&subid=22849866&CMP=GT_US_collection

A new study reported by *Reuters* found that “less than one in three U.S. hospitals can find, send, and receive electronic medical records for patients who receive care somewhere else.” http://www.reuters.com/article/us-health-medicalrecords-sharing/few-u-s-hospitals-can-fully-share-electronic-medical-records-idUSKCN1C72UV?utm_source=STAT+Newsletters&utm_campaign=4873271e8d-MR&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_8cab1d7961-4873271e8d-149736437

Twenty-seven nongovernmental organizations, including the Society of American Archivists, sent a letter to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security protesting its decision to “store social media information in ‘Alien Files’ (which include the official record of an individual’s visa and immigration history).” The Alien Files are preserved indefinitely, even after the person has become a citizen. The groups say that retention of social media posts “will chill freedom of speech and association, invite abuse in exchange for little security benefit, and will reduce naturalized citizens to second-class citizenship.” https://www2.archivists.org/sites/all/files/Coalition%20Letter%20Opposing%20DHS%20Social%20Media%20Retention_.pdf

A study published in the *Annals of Internal Medicine* used “rates of firearm-related deaths, emergency department visits and inpatient hospitalizations” records in California to measure whether sales at gun

shows “are associated with short-term increases in local firearm injuries.” California has “some of the most restrictive firearm laws in the country, including a comprehensive set of statutes regulating gun shows,” and the researchers found little impact of California gun show sales on firearm injuries to the local population. However, gun shows in neighboring Nevada, with no restrictions on sales, resulted in increased firearm injuries across the border in California.

<http://annals.org/aim/article/2659346/state-interstate-associations-between-gun-shows-firearm-deaths-injuries-quasi>

Conference, publications.

“Data Justice: An international conference exploring research on, and practices of, social justice in an age of datafication” will be held 21-22 May 2018 at Cardiff University, Cardiff, U.K.: [Data Justice 2018](#)
Deadline for submitting abstracts is 27 November: <https://easychair.org/conferences/?conf=dj2018>

disClosure: A Journal of Social Theory is seeking submissions (manuscripts, book reviews, and artwork) for the 27th volume of the journal on the theme of “Archives, broadly conceptualized. We're looking for topics that include, but are in no way limited to, memory-work, institutions of memory, (post)colonialism and archives, race and archives, queer archives, archival practices, and archives and affect, among many others.” Deadline for submissions is December 1: disclosurejournal@gmail.com<<mailto:disclosurejournal@gmail.com>>.

Good reads. Work in Australia to preserve indigenous languages: <https://pursuit.unimelb.edu.au/articles/preserving-precious-indigenous-languages>

“Killed for their bones: On the trail of the trade in human body parts” in Malawi:

https://interactive.aljazeera.com/aje/2017/malawi-killed-for-their-bones/index.html?utm_source=Al+Jazeera+English+Newsletter+%7C+Weekly&utm_campaign=02a11925b7-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2017_08_13&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_e427298a68-02a11925b7-225638537

Blog post from the National Archives U.K. on the records of the 1937 Inter-Departmental Committee on Abortion: <http://blog.nationalarchives.gov.uk/blog/inter-departmental-committee-abortion/>

“How the Stasi archive handles potentially incriminating information” including some comparisons with other countries’ practices: <https://www.timeshighereducation.com/features/how-stasi-archive-handles-potentially-incriminating-information#survey-answer>

Control of information throughout Turkish history, including destruction and closure of archives: <https://philosproject.org/turkey-uncensored-printing-press-state-archives-wikipedia-history-censorship-bans/>

A former CIA officer’s retention of records relating to the death of Che Guevara and their sale to a private bookdealer: <https://www.thenation.com/article/the-death-of-che-guevara-declassified/>

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**HRWG Workshop (Mexico City, November 29 and 30)
Workshop del Grupo de Trabajo de Archivos y Derechos Humanos
(Ciudad de México, 29-30 Nov. 2017)**

*Human Rights and Archives in Latin America
Derechos Humanos y Archivos en Latinoamérica*

Registration form / Planilla de registro

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In which sessions do you want to participate? / ¿En qué sesiones desea participar?

- Session 1: *The Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the archives. A broad closing look at the many types of archives that can be used to protect and advance human rights.*

Sesión 1: La Declaración Universal de Derechos Humanos y los archivos. Ampliando la mirada sobre los diferentes tipos de archivos que pueden ser utilizados para la protección y el cumplimiento de los derechos humanos.

Trudy Huskamp Peterson, discussion leader / coordinadora de la discusión

(November 29 2017, from 9:00 to 10.00 at the ICA Conference venue / 29 de noviembre, de 9:00 a 10.00 hs, espacio Conferencia ICA)

- Session 2: *The records of business as evidence of human rights violations.*

Sesión 2: *Los archivos empresariales como evidencia de violaciones de derechos humanos.*

Lilian Lizbeth Barrientos Hernández and Antonio González Quintana, discussion leaders / coordinadores de la discusión

(November 29 2017, from 10:15 to 12.30 at the ICA Conference venue / 29 de noviembre, de 10:15 a 12.30 hs, espacio Conferencia ICA)

- Session 3: *The records of Latin American dictatorships and civil wars: the status today*

Sesión 3: *Archivos vinculados a las dictaduras latinoamericanas y las guerras civiles: su situación hoy*

Vitor Fonseca, Mariana Nazar, discussion leaders / coordinadores de la discusión

- Session 4: *The “Basic Principles on the Role of Archivists and Records Managers in Support of Human Rights.”*

Sesión 4: *Los “Principios básicos sobre el papel de los archiveros en la defensa de los Derechos Humanos”*

Giulia Barrera and Hans von Ruetten, discussion leaders / coordinadores de la discusión

The sessions 3 and 4 will be held at the at the Spanish Cultural Centre from 9:00 to 15:30 / Las sesiones 3 y 4 serán realizadas en el Centro Cultural de España en México, de 9:00 a 15:30 hs (Guatemala 18- Donceles 97 Colonia Centro Delegación Cuauhtémoc)

The Spanish Cultural Center is in the historic center of Mexico City, next to the cathedral. Metro stations: Zócalo y Allende. Línea 2.

El Centro Cultural de España en el Centro Histórico de la Ciudad de México, justo a espaldas de la Catedral Metropolitana, Metro: estaciones Zócalo y Allende. Línea 2

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