
ARCHIVES AND HUMAN RIGHTS

Newsletter from the Section on Archives and Human Rights

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Commentary

The [Annual Report 2026 of the Network of Concerned Historians](https://www.concernedhistorians.org/ar/26.pdf) (NCH) is now available (open access; pdf; 190 pages) at: <https://www.concernedhistorians.org/ar/26.pdf>.

It contains news from 121 countries about the domain where history and human rights intersect, especially about the censorship of history and the persecution of historians, archivists, and archaeologists around the globe, as reported by various human rights organizations and other sources. It mainly covers events and developments of 2025 and 2026.

SAHR and ICA News

The International Council on Archives (ICA), in partnership with the International Alliance for the Protection of Heritage (ALIPH), and with the support of the State Archival Service of Ukraine (SAS), has successfully concluded its part of the Emergency Digitisation and Preservation project supporting Ukrainian archival institutions affected by the ongoing war.

This project builds on an [earlier phase completed in 2023](#), which laid the foundations for emergency digitisation in Ukraine. That first phase delivered a dedicated [Manual on Emergency Digitisation](#), essential digitisation equipment, pilot digitisation projects in several key archival centres (including Kherson, Chernihiv, Mykolayiv, and the Central State Audiovisual and Electronic Archive of Ukraine), and specialised online training workshops. The lessons learned directly informed the design, scale, and practical focus of the project now concluded.

More here: <https://www.ica.org/international-council-on-archives-concludes-emergency-digitisation-project-supporting-ukrainian-archives/>

About the Newsletter

The SAHR Newsletter summaries of reports, news, updates, action alerts, media coverage, upcoming events, ongoing projects, reports from programs, resources, reviews of publications and information related to human rights issues from around the world.

Participation

Would you like to volunteer? We're currently looking for news collectors who can focus on South America or Asia to ensure a more global coverage - but everyone is welcome.

Would you like to promote your event (conference, webinar, exhibition, etc.) to an international audience? Ensure that you are sending event listings at least 6 weeks in advance of your event.

Access and Reuse

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

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News by topic

Archives & Archival Collections

Argentina: [The first Living Archive of AfroLGBTIQ+ Memory is born in Argentina](#). The collective initiative seeks to recover and transmit the memories of Afro-descendants and their struggles in the LGBT movement. Agustina Ramos, Agencia Presentes, 2026-07-06.

Czech Republic/Ukraine: [The Remnants Of Ukraine's 'Liberation Museum' In Prague](#). Decades after it was dissolved by Soviet-backed authorities, remnants of the Museum of the Liberation Struggle of Ukraine are held in two Czech archives. RFE/RL sourced some artifacts from the museum intended to be a safehouse for objects from Ukraine's early 20th century fight for independence. Chapple, Amos, Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty, 2026-07-11.

Europe: [Protecting diplomatic records focus of 2026 EU Diplomatic Archives group meeting](#). Archivist Mary Carr represented the Historical Archives of the European Union at the 2026 European Union Diplomatic Archives Group annual meetings in Cyprus,. European University Institute, 1900-01-00.

Germany/Israel: [Israel to assume one-year chairmanship of WWII Arlosen Archives](#). In 2025, the Arolsen Archives partnered with Israel's Central Zionist Archive to digitize over 1300 child tracing files, records originally created for unaccompanied Jewish children after the war. Sidney Blasco, The Jerusalem Post, 2026-07-12.

Guinea: [Lutte contre la fraude documentaire : la numérisation des archives de l'état civil officiellement lancée à Kindia](#). Le ministère de l'Administration du Territoire et de la Décentralisation (MATD), à travers l'Office national de l'état civil et de l'identification (ONECI). Zoumanigui, Joseph, GuinéeNews, 2026-07-16.

Moldova: [Archival records name thousands of Moldova's Soviet deportation victims](#). The National Archives Agency of Moldova released declassified nominal lists of individuals deported from the Moldavian Soviet Socialist Republic during the mass Soviet operations of June 13–14, 1941. The documents, originally declassified by the Ministry of Internal Affairs in 2010, are now accessible to the public and available for download in PDF format. 2026-06-27.

Palestine: [À Gaza, l'urgence pour sauver un patrimoine culturel en péril](#). Alors que les bombardements continuent dans la bande de Gaza, artistes, associations et habitants se mobilisent pour préserver un patrimoine historique et culturel ayant déjà subi de lourds dégâts. franceinfo, 2026-07-16.

Palestine: [How Palestinians Are Building a Digital Archive That Can't Be Erased](#). Distributed backups, cyber resilience and half a million records are preserving Palestinian history beyond any single building or border. Davison, Tamara, WIRED Middle East, 2026-07-01.

Palestine: [Un-erasable: This open-access digital archive is preserving evidence of war from Gaza](#). ArchiveGenocide brings together tens of thousands of videos and photographs, as researchers race to protect potentially important material from deletion, censorship and digital decay. Zarif Faiaz, The Daily Star, 2026-07-10.

Poland/Ukraine: [Ukraine to Grant Poland Access to Classified Files on Volhynia Tragedy](#). Zelenskyy announced Ukraine will open secret SBU and intelligence archives on the Volhynia tragedy and grant exhumation permits to improve ties with Poland. UNITED24 Media, 2026-07-17.

Rwanda: [The Kagame Regime Must Not Be Allowed to Seize the Archives of the ICTR](#). The records of the International Criminal Tribunal on Rwanda should not be surrendered to the Rwandan regime led by President Paul Kagame. Ann Garrison, Black Agenda Report, 2026-07-08.

Ukraine: [Ukrainian launches "Territorial Recruitment and Social Support Centers Crimes Archive" to preserve evidence of alleged violations during mobilization](#). Activist Stanislav Babunts announced on his Threads account the launch of the "Territorial Recruitment and Social Support Centers Crimes Archive." According to him, this is a public online archive for preserving "evidence of violence and unlawful detentions during mobilization." Tetiana Herasimova, Ukra News, 2026-07-24.

United States of America: [Chicago National Archives Closure Will Be Loss For Historians, Researchers, Even Deep-Sea Divers](#). The closure of the South Side center will take place "over the next few years." The records and documents will be relocated, but it's unclear where and how many employees are affected. Giangreco, Leigh, Block Club Chicago, 2026-07-06.

Vietnam: [Archived records help in search for fallen soldiers' identities](#). Trần Việt Hoa, director of the National Archives Centre III under the Ministry of Home Affairs' Bureau of State Records Management and Archives, speaks to Vietnam News Agency about the importance of archived records in the search for fallen soldiers' identities. vietnamnews.vn, 1900-01-00.

Worldwide: [Les archives humanitaires sont, elles aussi, en danger](#). Les coupes budgétaires, les fermetures de programmes et la lente dégradation des infrastructures numériques initiées depuis le début de 2025 ne remettent pas seulement en cause l'action humanitaire : elles aboutissent aussi à la destruction des archives, données et documents qui portent l'histoire du secteur et contribuent à sa redevabilité. Une nouvelle initiative mondiale vise à déterminer ce qui a déjà été perdu et ce qui peut encore être sauvé. Le secteur humanitaire perd la mémoire. Au début de l'année 2025, le principal site web de l'USAID, y compris ses archives, bases de données, évaluations de programmes et rapports opérationnels, a été mis hors ligne. Les comptes de messagerie du personnel de l'agence ont été désactivés, les systèmes internes verrouillés. Ce n'était pas l'œuvre de pirates informatiques hostiles, ni la conséquence d'une catastrophe exogène. C'était le résultat d'une décision politique, mise en œuvre avec une efficacité brutale tout entière contenue dans le simple acte de débrancher un serveur. Juilliard, Hélène ; Taithe, Bertrand ; Proudfoot, Philip, Alternatives Humanitaires, 2026-07-01.

Worldwide: [Pour l'Unesco «protéger la culture, c'est défendre l'identité des peuples»](#). Entretien avec le porte-parole de l'Organisation des Nations unies pour l'éducation, la science et la culture: «Si elle s'inscrit dans des stratégies plus larges de paix, d'éducation et de développement, la culture peut contribuer à reconstruire les sociétés de manière durable, tout en rouvrant la voie au dialogue, à la réconciliation et à la cohésion sociale». Mosquées, mausolées, bibliothèques: il ne s'agit pas seulement de dommages collatéraux, mais de cibles délibérées, visées pour effacer l'identité de communautés entières. S'en prendre au patrimoine culturel, c'est s'en prendre à l'âme d'un peuple. C'est pourquoi le patrimoine culturel est de plus en plus souvent la victime directe des conflits armés. Et c'est un défi

que l'Unesco relève chaque jour, entre protection juridique et reconstruction sur le terrain. Dionisi, Davide, Vatican News, 2026-07-13.

Armed Conflict and Groups

Worldwide: [The ICRC's Digital Emblem – bringing humanitarian protection into the digital battlespace](#). As warfare moves deeper into the digital domain, the protections that have safeguarded hospitals, aid workers and humanitarian infrastructure for over 160 years risk becoming invisible. Professor Stuart Gordon argues that the ICRC's Digital Emblem Project, now entering its second phase, represents a vital and overdue attempt to carry the protective logic of international humanitarian. Stuart Gordon, LSE International Development, 2026-07-10.

Mali: [Evidence of war crimes by armed groups in Gao region](#). Killings of at least 19 Malian soldiers by armed groups in central Mali must be investigated as war crimes. Amnesty International, 2026-07-29.

Atrocity Crimes

Bosnia and Herzegovina: [31 Years On, Srebrenica Genocide Denial Resurges in Bosnia](#). Dehumanizing anti-Muslim rhetoric from Bosnian Serb leaders echoes wartime narratives and endangers Bosniaks today. Memišević, Ehlimana, Just Security, 2026-07-10.

Bosnia and Herzegovina: [Safeguard Truths of Srebrenica against Denial, Revisionism, Secretary-General Urges in International Day Message](#). Remembering Srebrenica means safeguarding these truths against denial and revisionism, pursuing accountability and recognizing the suffering of every victim. It also means confronting hate speech and discrimination, and renewing our resolve to make “never again” a reality for all. UN News, 2026-07-02.

Burkina Faso/Mali/Niger: [Le retrait du Statut de Rome consacre l'impunité et menace de priver les victimes de crimes de guerre de justice et de réparations](#). Réagissant à la décision du Burkina Faso, du Mali et du Niger de déposer des notifications officielles de retrait du Statut de Rome de la Cour pénale internationale, Marceau Sivieude, directeur régional d'Amnesty International pour l'Afrique de l'Ouest et l'Afrique centrale, a déclaré : « Cette décision des gouvernements du Burkina Faso, du Mali et du Niger menace de priver des milliers de victimes de la possibilité d'obtenir vérité, justice et réparations. Depuis plus d'une décennie, Amnesty International recense les crimes relevant du droit international commis contre des civil·e·s lors des conflits qui affectent chacun de ces pays. Bon nombre de ces crimes pourraient relever de la compétence de la CPI. Amnesty International, 2026-07-02.

Business

Nigeria: [Shell documents expose 'basket' pipeline, 'missing' wells and US\\$10.9bn decommissioning costs as pollution scandal grows](#). Shell documents reveal broken rules, failing infrastructure and unresolved clean-up costs leaving communities in Nigeria to pay the price. Amnesty International, 2026-07-28.

Civil Rights

New Zealand: [NZ legalised homosexuality 40 years ago – but even today, justice issues remain.](#) Same-sex marriages and an apology from the state followed the homosexual law reform, but gaps remain for some people trying to have historic convictions expunged. Gledhill, Kris, The Conversation, 2026-07-09.

Colonialism, Indigenous Rights & Decolonization

Africa: [From colonial storage to open access.](#) For a century, African musical heritage was recorded, boxed, and shipped to museums abroad. In Nairobi, a new generation of archives is bringing cultural memory home — and putting it online. Furaha Ruguru, Africa is a Country, 2026-07-16.

Asia: [Who was here first? Why maps, old compasses and history classes matter in South China Sea dispute.](#) Ancestral records continue to be amplified as claimant states entrench their arguments. The Straits Times, 2026-07-11.

Brazil: [Nhandeflix, una plataforma guaraní para luchar contra la colonización de las aplicaciones digitales globales.](#) En lugar de prohibir por completo internet, una comunidad indígena de Brasil propuso un servidor de contenido local con películas, podcasts y videos propios. Gutiérrez, Bernardo, El País América, 2026-07-10.

Canada: ['I can still hear the children': Canada's residential schools survivors welcome chance to reclaim sites.](#) Former Mohawk Institute in Ontario latest to become a museum, as survivors hope preserving sites will prevent horrors they witnessed from being forgotten. Bowden, Olivia, The Guardian, 2026-07-02.

France/Guinea: [Guinea asks France to return colonization-era looted manuscripts.](#) Conakry seeks the return of the Quran of Samory Touré, one of Guinea's leading figures of resistance against the French colonial conquest. Balde, Diarouga Aziz, Le Monde, 2026-07-20.

Israel/Palestine: [Israel seizing West Bank heritage sites 'piece by piece'.](#) The army is expropriating thousands of dunams in Sebastia and Nabi Samwil, using archaeology as a pretext to further isolate Palestinian communities. Reiff, Ben, +972 Magazine, 2026-07-24.

Israel/Palestine: [L'Autorité Palestinienne Saisit L'UNESCO Pour Tenter De Limiter Le Contrôle Israélien Des Sites Historiques En Judée-Samarie.](#) Ramallah accuse Israël de chercher à imposer sa propre lecture de l'histoire en mettant en avant les liens anciens du peuple juif avec les sites archéologiques de la région. L'Autorité palestinienne a lancé une nouvelle initiative auprès de l'UNESCO afin de contester la gestion par Israël de sites archéologiques et historiques en Judée-Samarie, a annoncé samedi son représentant auprès de l'organisation onusienne. Adel Attieh a expliqué à la radio Voice of Palestine que cette démarche visait à pousser l'UNESCO à intervenir contre des mesures israéliennes qui porteraient, selon Ramallah, atteinte au patrimoine culturel palestinien. Il a notamment évoqué le Caveau des Patriarches à Hébron, inscrit par l'organisation sur la liste du patrimoine mondial. i24NEWS, 1900-01-00.

Palestine: [« C'est une forme de résistance » : il reconstruit le musée d'histoire naturelle de Palestine.](#) Mazen Qumsiyeh est le fondateur du musée d'histoire naturelle de Bethléem, en Cisjordanie. Pour lui, la colonisation de la Palestine et la guerre à Gaza sont aussi une catastrophe

environnementale et climatique, qui concerne l'humanité dans son ensemble. Il a classifié la faune et flore sauvage de Palestine, mais aussi étudié les conséquences environnementales de la guerre à Gaza, ou encore la résistance palestinienne historique, tout en bravant les interdictions de voyage pour rencontrer des activistes du monde entier. Pernot, Philippe, Reporterre, 2026-07-14.

United States of America: ['A first step to fascism': critics denounce Trump administration replacing slavery exhibit at George Washington's home](#). Replacement of panels with version that's sympathetic to enslavers comes amid effort by Trump to dismantle diversity initiatives. Hellmann, Melissa, The Guardian, 2026-07-16.

Democracy & Governance

United States of America: [Trump tries to undermine trust in elections, but documents don't support his claims](#). The Trump administration escalated efforts to exert control over the nation's elections. DHS Secretary Markwayne Mullin threatened local election officials with jail time if they refuse to cooperate with requests for voter data. It follows the president's prime-time address reviving debunked claims about the integrity of American elections. Liz Landers, PBS News, 2026-07-17.

Economic & Social Rights

Lebanon: [Overview and Status of Property Surveying, Registration and Digitization in the South and Nabatiyeh](#). Since the re-escalation of hostilities in Lebanon beginning on 2 March 2026, several governmental institutions responsible for land administration and property documentation have faced operational disruption, in particular in the South and Nabatiyeh Governorates. This may have a profound impact on affected property owners, who may be displaced, who have lost housing land and property documents, as well as whose homes, agricultural lands, commercial premises or other properties have been destroyed. ReliefWeb, 2026-07-01.

Human Rights

Venezuela: [Venezuela's Dead: A Seaport Is Now a Morgue](#). As the death toll mounts, thousands of bodies have overwhelmed Venezuela's forensic system, turning a seaport into a temporary morgue. Romero, Tibisay; Herrera, Isayen; Ferré-Sadurní, Luis; Glatzky, Genevieve, The New York Times, 2026-07-01.

Human Rights Defenders and Activists

Australia: [Robodebt whistleblower was told her royal commission evidence 'could cost you your job', court hears](#). Jeannie-Marie Blake is suing the Australian government over alleged threats, which her department denies making. Knaus, Christopher, The Guardian, 2026-07-17.

Mexico: ['Our Call for Justice for Our Missing Loved Ones Must Reach the World Just as World Cup Goals Do'](#). Enforced disappearances in Mexico hit migrant families particularly hard, as their precarious immigration status compounds the lack of state support. Families and search groups are taking advantage of the fact that international attention is currently focused on the World Cup being played in Mexico to raise awareness of this crisis and demand that the Mexican government search for and find the disappeared. Inter Press Service, 2026-07-13.

Humanitarian Aid

Chad/Libya: [Across Borders and Prison Walls: Keeping Families Connected During the Libya–Chad Conflict](#). One important chapter began during the Libya–Chad conflict, which lasted from 1978 to 1987. The conflict was shaped by territorial dispute, military confrontation and shifting regional alliances. But for the families affected, its consequences were much more immediate: separation, uncertainty, detention, injury, displacement and, for many, years of not knowing whether a loved one was alive. International Committee of the Red Cross, 2026-07-16.

Nigeria: [Red Cross Movement continues tracing 17,000 missing persons cases as families await answers](#). As of July 2026, the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement records 17,000 active tracing cases of missing persons in Nigeria, down from close to 24,000 cases worked on over the years, following a comprehensive review aimed at ensuring the Movement maintains regular contact with the families it supports. International Committee of the Red Cross, 2026-07-24.

South Sudan: [Finding Loved Ones Again Through the Power of Digital Connectivity](#). Abubaker Ali Adam had never been so worried. In 2023, he fled the civil war raging on in his native Sudan, ending up at the Gorom Refugee Settlement on the edge of the South Sudanese capital Juba. He came with nothing except memories of his once serene and bustling village in the western region of Darfur. His dream was to begin a new and quiet life in a country that was itself still reeling from decades of conflict and violence. International Committee of the Red Cross, 2026-07-20.

Worldwide: [Measuring the Humanitarian Information Landscape](#). Project developed by iMMAP, CartONG, HOT and Kobo with the formal support and endorsement of ICVA Network, InterAction, H2H Network and Sphere: “... Humanitarian Information Landscape Assessment (HILA) is an innovative framework designed to measure the health of humanitarian information ecosystems and identify the systemic barriers that prevent evidence-based decision-making on the ground. The Living Library, 2026-07-15.

Information Rights & Media Freedom

Algeria: [Freedom of expression is essential to democratic elections](#). In the run up to the legislative elections on 2 July 2026, Algeria is at a decisive moment for freedom of expression. The elections will take place in a context marked by persistent restrictions on critical voices and opposition groups, while plans to reform the country’s media framework and to ensure pluralism of information remain pending. These issues raise important questions about the conditions of public debate during the election period. ARTICLE 19, 2026-07-01.

Germany: [Government Curbing Freedom of Information Act](#). The German government should abandon its plans to gut Germany’s Freedom of Information Act, Human Rights Watch said today. The proposed amendments will threaten core human rights essential to transparency and public participation in a democracy based on the rule of law. Human Rights Watch, 2026-07-08.

India: [Why India Has Spent Years Blocking the Release of Diljit Dosanjh’s ‘Satluj’](#). Censors demanded 127 cuts to the film that explores a dark period of police brutality in Punjab state. Filmmakers say it’s the latest, chilling example of entrenched censorship. Mashal, Mujib; K.B, Pragati, The New York Times, 2026-07-09.

Iran: [How the NYT Reported on Khamenei's Funeral in Iran](#). Even before the current war, Iran was among the hardest places in the world to report on. Much of the work of The New York Times happens from the outside, through conversations with contacts inside, verified visual material and social media posts. Mike Abrams, The New York Times, 2026-07-16.

Malaysia: [Freedom of Information Bill 2026 betrays people's right to know](#). The FOI Bill 2026 is not the landmark reform the Malaysians have long been promised. It is a deeply flawed and regressive Bill that falls far short of international human rights standards and further undermines the fundamental principles of the right to information. ARTICLE 19, 2026-07-13.

South Korea: [South Korea Strengthens Law to Curb Spread of Fake News](#). An amendment to South Korea's communications act will clamp down on purveyors of false information online. Critics worry it could threaten freedom of speech. Young, Jin Yu, The New York Times, 2026-07-07.

United States of America: [Trump administration can remove history and climate info from US parks, court says](#). In latest legal twist, appeals panel rules US does not have to reinstate signage on climate, immigration and slavery. Ede-Osifo, Uwa, The Guardian, 2026-07-02.

United States of America: [Trump administration sought phone records of New York Times journalists and their relatives](#). Officials sought identity of sources 'long before' reporters wrote about the president's Air Force One jet from Qatar. The Guardian, 2026-07-21.

Worldwide: [Hate speech and misinformation are creating real-world harm for displaced people](#). UNHCR, the UN Refugee Agency, is concerned that the spread of misinformation, hate speech and deepfakes is exacerbating and inciting real-world harm to refugees and humanitarians. Artificial Intelligence is intensifying these risks to the integrity of our information ecosystem and undermining trust, but it can also be part of the solution if managed in the right way. UNHCR, 2026-07-07.

Migration, Displacement & Trafficking

Americas: [En Jamaïque, levée de boucliers contre l'accueil de ressortissants de pays tiers expulsés des Etats-Unis](#). Un accord conclu entre Washington et Kingston, dont les termes n'ont pas été publiés, prévoit d'envoyer sur l'île caribéenne plusieurs dizaines d'étrangers par mois. ONG et Eglises se mobilisent contre ce procédé, déjà adopté par une trentaine de pays à travers le monde. Hauteville, Jean-Michel, Le Monde, 2026-07-12.

Policing, Detention & State Violence

Israel/Palestine: [Photo of bound Palestinian detainee corroborates Israeli torture reports, say rights groups](#). Image of man in underwear, blindfold and bound to iron rod has been widely shared on social media. Graham-Harrison, Emma, The Guardian, 2026-07-08.

Pakistan: [Pakistan accused of fatally shooting 30 unarmed protesters in Kashmir](#). Local civil rights group alleges authorities removed evidence of killings amid communications blackout. Baloch, Shah Meer, The Guardian, 2026-07-28.

United States of America: [ICE officers to use body cameras during vehicle stops, Trump 'border czar' says](#). Tom Homan's comments come amid scrutiny over federal immigration agents' fatal shooting of two men in six days. The Guardian, 2026-07-19.

Worldwide: [Lessons from 5 Years of Principles for Interrogation Without Torture](#). The Mendez Principles, drafted to end the use of torture in interrogations, are being implemented variously across regions and institutions. Barela, Juan E. Méndez, Steven J., Just Security, 2026-07-28.

Privacy & Data Protection

Australia: [Doctors' soaring use of AI scribes prompts Australian government warning over privacy](#). With the technology fast becoming popular in GP surgeries, regulators are monitoring its implementation and potential pitfalls. Taylor, Josh, The Guardian, 2026-07-04.

Australia: [Patient records stolen in cyber-attack on Australian healthcare provider](#). Partnered Health says personal information and medical details and notes were breached in the attack on 21 clinics. Australian Associated Press, The Guardian, 2026-07-15.

Jamaica: [Data defence delay - Staffing shortages, technology gaps and training needs slow move towards full enforcement of personal information protection law](#). The regulatory body responsible for Jamaica's national data protection regime has said it will require another two years before it is in a position to fully enforce the Data Protection Act (DPA), which was passed by Parliament in 2020. Established under the DPA, the Office of the Information Commissioner (OIC) is responsible for overseeing the use of personal data and addressing breaches as outlined in the law. Jamaica Gleaner, 2026-07-30.

Jamaica: [NIDS ID gaining traction... but privacy concerns and public trust issues persist](#). For Jamaicans who have already signed up for the new national identification (ID) card, one question has loomed larger than most: Can I actually use it? At least where the country's banks are concerned, within the last month, the answer is increasingly becoming yes. The Jamaica Bankers Association (JBA) says all of its member institutions have now added the National Identification System (NIDS) card to the list of government-issued photo identification cards accepted when conducting business. Jamaica Gleaner, 2026-07-12.

Palestine: [WFP restarts Gaza aid registration app, but cyber-attack questions linger](#). WFP restarts Gaza aid registration app, but cyber-attack questions linger - The New Humanitarian puts quality, independent journalism at the service of the millions of people affected by humanitarian crises around the world. Irwin Loy, The New Humanitarian, 2026-07-29.

Worldwide: [The Crypto Entrepreneur Linked to a Forum Trading in 'Leaked' Nudes](#). Mahoney and Rocket agreed that current laws were limited in their effectiveness against sites like LeakedBB. "The fact of the matter is there are places where ... until there is an enforceable international law, that content is going to be available forever, which means there is a risk of it being shared forever," Rocket said. Kolina Koltai, bellingscat, 2026-07-16.

Surveillance & Monitoring

United Kingdom: [Alarm over launch of facial recognition in UK shops that instantly alerts police](#). Civil liberties groups say Facewatch system in stores such as Sainsbury's and B&M is 'dangerous escalation'. Murray, Jessica, The Guardian, 2026-07-10.

United States of America: [FBI Has Looked at Using AI to Review Signatures on Seized Mail-In Ballots](#). The FBI has explored using artificial intelligence to assess the validity of signatures on tens of

thousands of mail-in ballot envelopes seized from Fulton County, Georgia, the latest push in the Trump administration's unprecedented reinvestigation of the 2020 vote. Jeremy Kohler and Doug Bock Clark, ProPublica, 2026-07-15.

United States of America: [Police say Flock cameras help solve crimes, but critics call them an invasion of privacy](#). Law enforcement agencies in the U.S. use AI-powered cameras to scan billions of vehicles each month, often without drivers ever realizing. Supporters say the technology is a tool for solving crimes. But critics warn it's creating a nationwide surveillance network, raising urgent questions about how much privacy Americans are willing to sacrifice in the name of safety. Paul Solman reports. Fecteau, Mary, PBS News, 2026-07-15.

United States of America: [U.S. Used the World Cup to Test New Surveillance Tech](#). Long before fans watched Qatar and Switzerland take the field that day, the stadium watched the fans: tracking faces at the gates, flagging suspicious sounds in the crowd, and feeding a constant stream of data to an on-site control center, where it then became accessible to a network of local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies coordinating security for the event. John Klopotoski, Foreign Policy, 2026-07-17.

Technology

Worldwide: [Making Public AI reality: How cultural heritage can lead the way](#). After months of collaborative development and iteration with the data space community and the Europeana Initiative, we are excited to share the newly published paper, 'The case for Public AI: making it happen with cultural heritage'!. Lorena Aldana, Common European Data Space For Cultural Heritage, 2026-07-22.

Transitional Justice

Bangladesh: [Fair Trial Concerns at Tribunal](#). Bangladesh authorities are failing to uphold international legal standards at the country's International Crimes Tribunal. Human Rights Watch, 2026-07-28.

Guatemala: [UN Urges Guatemala to Open Military Archives](#). The Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances urged Guatemala to open archives and military installations to search for. News, Mirage, Mirage News, 2026-07-08.

Israel/Lebanon: [Volker Türk, haut-commissaire des Nations unies aux droits de l'homme : « Au Liban, les victimes ont besoin de s'exprimer et que leurs paroles soient validées »](#). En visite à Beyrouth les 26 et 27 juillet, le haut-commissaire est revenu, dans un entretien au « Monde », sur les violations commises pendant la guerre qui a opposé Israël au Hezbollah entre mars et juin, sur les perspectives de justice pour les victimes et sur ses inquiétudes concernant le retrait de la Finul à la fin de l'année. Stephan, Laure, Le Monde, 2026-07-29.

Spain: [Guerre d'Espagne : « Comment j'ai retrouvé la trace de mon arrière-grand-père républicain, oublié des fosses communes »](#). Comme plus de 100 000 autres républicains, José Molina Lopez a été jeté dans l'anonymat d'une fosse et sa mémoire confisquée par le récit national imposé par Franco. La journaliste Garance Muñoz a exhumé le passé de son arrière-grand-père. Un pèlerinage en forme de réparation rendu possible grâce aux lois de mémoire successives votées depuis 2007. Muñoz, Garance, Le Monde, 2026-07-28.

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