
ARCHIVES AND HUMAN RIGHTS

Newsletter from the Section on Archives and Human Rights

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SAHR News

The ICA is pleased to share a [draft of the policy on Taking a Public Stand](#). This document outlines the principles, criteria, and processes guiding how ICA may respond publicly to situations affecting archives, records, and the broader archival profession.

This draft policy was developed by a group of ICA members led by Trudy Peterson. We invite all ICA members to review the draft and provide their feedback to help ensure the policy reflects the diversity and perspectives of our global community.

Please send your comments to ica@ica.org by *Friday, 5 June 2026, 23:59 CET (Paris time)*. In the subject line, include your ICA membership number followed by “ICA Policy on Taking a Public Stand”.

The ICA, with advisory status to UNESCO in the field of archives and documentary heritage, commends the call for input on [the 2026 report of the Secretary-General on the Rights of Persons belonging to National or Ethnic, Religious and Linguistic Minorities](#).

Supporting this initiative, the International Council on Archives, informed by the work of its Section on Archives and Human Rights (SAHR), is pleased to [share experiences and recommendations that relate to archives](#) in this context. Our perspective is grounded both in UN standards on minority and Indigenous rights and in archival ethics articulated within ICA, including the 2019 Tandanya-Adelaide Declaration arising from the ICA Indigenous Matters Summit.

Diversity becomes archival power when communities reclaim how they are remembered, and refuse to let silence define their histories. As part of [International Archives Week 2026 \(8-12 June 2026\)](#), we highlight one of this year's subthemes: Archives for Inclusion: Access, Participation, and Community Empowerment.

Published in [Flash No. 45: The Archivist-Activist](#), this reflection brings together Emma de Ramon Acevedo, Marco Enríquez, Jordi Padilla-Delgado and Ammel Sharon through the work and

conversations of ICA's Sex-Affective & Gender Diversity Archives & Archivists Working Group (SAGDAA-WG).

It draws on queer and community-led archival practices across Chile, France, Indonesia and beyond, highlighting how memory is actively created, protected and shared by those too often left outside institutional frameworks.

Learn more about [The UNRWA Archive of Palestine Refugee Family Files](#), part of SAHR's [Tuesday Talks series](#).

In 1950-51, the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) conducted a census to register those who had lost their homes and means of livelihood as a result of the 1948 war in Palestine – known in Arabic as al-Nakba, the catastrophe. Since then, the Agency has maintained and updated family files of registered Palestine refugees. These files now span up to five generations, documenting family composition, places of origin in pre-1948 Palestine, circumstances of displacement, and subsequent life events to the present day.

The scanning of all files was completed in 2025, following the rescue of those stored in Gaza City after the outbreak of hostilities and the transfer of those from East Jerusalem to Amman due to the Israeli Parliament's bills banning UNRWA. The digitization of file content has recently begun through a semi-automated workflow with human-in-the-loop oversight. The resulting digital records will be archived in a digital preservation system and made accessible via an online interface developed in accordance with cybersecurity best standards.

In the event of a political settlement, the digital preservation and accessibility of the archive will be instrumental in advancing the rights of Palestine refugees.

Archival Updates and Resources

The Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) is pleased to share with you the [ESCR Knowledge Hub](#). Explore comprehensive resources, practices, and insights for promoting and protecting economic, social, and cultural rights worldwide.

The Humanitarian Archive Emergency (HAE) coalition commissioned a census of humanitarian archives, records and dataset. The [HAE Discovery Survey](#) is now open for submissions and nominations. If you know about or manage repositories of humanitarian knowledge, please complete the survey, or help us by circulating it across the community. You can view and respond to the survey in Arabic, English, French or Spanish. It takes around five minutes to complete. More info here.

Events and Calls for Proposals

[CFP: Witnessing State Violence: Oral History and Liberatory Praxis \(OHMAR Conference 2026\)](#). Cheryl, Archives Publishing, 2026-03-03.

[Open Call: Protection of Victims and Preservation of War Memory](#). fundsforNGOs, 2026-04-13.

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

Belarus/United States of America: [Americans Digitized Trophy Documents from the Smolensk Archive. Taken by Nazis. Documents on the Belarusian Question Should Also Be Sought There.](#)

The National Administration of the Archives and Records of the United States laid out a full array of documents of the Smolensk Regional and City Committees of the Party for 1917-1941. This collection, captured during the Second World War, hides unique information about the policy of councils in the Smolensk region, during the period when the BSSR was proclaimed there, Belarusianization was carried out and the question of transferring the region of Belarus was raised. Famish Raubic, Nasha Niva, 2026-04-21.

China/United Kingdom: [V&A censored catalogues after demands by Chinese printer.](#) Victoria and Albert Museum has deleted maps and images deemed sensitive by Beijing censors from exhibition publications. Weaver, Matthew, The Guardian, 2026-04-14.

Europe: [Research on Victims of Nazi Persecution Reached New High in 2025.](#) Eighty years after the end of World War II, more people than ever before turned to the Arolsen Archives in search of information on victims of Nazi persecution. Most inquiries still come from the relatives of victims of Nazi persecution. "Each year, more families are seeking information about what happened to their relatives,". Arolsen Archives, 2026-04-16.

Guatemala: [Guatemala's Stolen Dead Speak.](#) As a human rights activist, Angélica Macario was used to the hubbub and noise of protests and to seeing her people take their clamor for justice from the mountains of El Quiché to the streets of Guatemala City. For the past 20 years, however, she has carried on that legacy in another way—one which began with her father and dozens of other community activists in the 1980s. Since 2003, she has safeguarded the archives of las Comunidades Étnicas Runujel Junam (Council for Ethnic Community Runujel Junam, CERJ), a community organization founded in 1988 to resist state-sponsored genocide. Angelica Macario; Emily Taylor, Sri Lanka Guardian, 2026-04-04.

Israel: ['Comfort My People': The Isaiah Scroll was removed from view due to the war, when Israel needs it more than ever.](#) With its poignant passages about beating swords into plowshares, this biblical manuscript is powerfully resonating. A rare exhibition of the Dead Sea Scrolls manuscript at the Israel Museum opened – and closed – within days. Gilad, Moshe, Haaretz, 2026-04-06.

Russian Federation/Ukraine: [Russia uses WWII archives to justify aggression against Ukraine.](#) The Russian Ministry of Defense has launched a propaganda campaign using WWII archival documents to portray Ukrainians as Nazi collaborators and to legitimize current military aggression, warns Ukraine's disinformation center. Mezha, 2026-04-19.

United Kingdom: [National Archives Releases Troubles Records.](#) The Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, Hilary Benn MP, has welcomed the publication today of approximately 1,000 Government records. Mirage News, 2026-04-21.

United States of America: [A Disappearing Data Chronology](#). The Disappearing Data Chronology documents fundamental changes to the federal information landscape under the Trump administration, including major data losses and restorations, legal challenges to information takedowns, and threats to archival collections. The purpose of this chronology is to keep the public—including journalists, researchers, litigators, and anyone concerned about their right to know—up to date on the current state of data and archival access across the federal government. Rachel Santarsiero, National Security Archive, 2026-03-30.

United States of America: [Justice Department says law requiring president to turn over records at end of administration is unconstitutional](#). The opinion from the Office of Legal Counsel said that because it believes the Presidential Records Act is unconstitutional, President Trump does not need to comply with it. Melissa Quinn, CBS News, 2026-04-02.

Worldwide: [23 Major News Sites Have Blocked the Wayback Machine – Digital History In Danger](#). Major news outlets are blocking the Wayback Machine, threatening your ability to verify claims and track editorial changes in digital journalism. Al Landes, Gadget Review, 2026-04-13.

Worldwide: [A Record for History](#). Last November, Harvard Law School made the nearly complete set of evidentiary documents and trial transcripts from all 13 Nuremberg Trials publicly available online. Walsh, Colleen, Harvard Law School, 2026-04-21.

Worldwide: [Content Authenticity and Provenance in the Age of Artificial Intelligence: A Call to Action for the Libraries, Archives and Museums Community](#). The white paper is not a “how-to” manual nor does it advocate for or against the use of AI. Rather, it examines the central question: Why should libraries, archives, museums and memory institutions and users care about content authenticity and provenance (CAP), especially for collections material impacted by AI? And more directly, what should my organization do? A few examples to ground the discussion are laid out in the introduction:.. Brador, Isabel, The Library of Congress, 2026-04-14.

Worldwide: [Take part: Help to identify humanitarian archives, records and datasets at risk around the world and map the scale of the Humanitarian Archive Emergency](#). Across the humanitarian sector, significant bodies of knowledge are under threat. Part of the Humanitarian Archive Emergency initiative, this survey seeks to identify repositories of humanitarian knowledge to understand the extent of the emergency. Elrha, 2026-04-16.

Armed Conflict

Colombia: [The technological transformation of Colombia's armed conflict](#). More than simply a uniform adoption of artificial intelligence, a technological innovation has emerged that is transforming the battlefield, decision-making processes, local narratives, and forms of social control. Mares, Kelly Chaib De, Global Voices, 2026-04-25.

Israel/Palestine: [La guerre contre l’Iran éclipse les violations croissantes des droits humains contre les Palestiniens](#). Le conflit déclenché le 28 février par les Etats-Unis et Israël contre l’Iran a relégué au second plan l’aggravation de la situation des Palestiniens dans les territoires occupés, où les attaques israéliennes ont fait au moins 200 morts à Gaza depuis cette date. Une commission d’enquête des Nations Unies dénonce la poursuite par Israël d’« actes génocidaires » et met en garde

contre une nouvelle loi sur la peine de mort, jugée discriminatoire à l'égard des Palestiniens. UN News, 2026-04-08.

Atrocity Crimes

Burkina Faso: [Crimes against humanity committed by all parties](#). The junta forces are carrying out ethnic cleansing of small communities. The Burkina Faso army with its allied militias, as well as an armed group linked to Al-Qaeda, have killed more than 1,800 civilians and forcibly displaced tens of thousands of people since 2023, Human Rights Watch said in a report released today. These atrocities, which include the ethnic cleansing of Peul civilians by the Government, constitute war crimes and crimes against humanity for which senior leaders in all camps could be held accountable. Human Rights Watch, 2026-04-02.

France: [Un collectif de jeunes Romani et Voyageurs appelle à faire reconnaître par la France le génocide des « Roms, Sintis, Gitans, Manouches et Yéniches »](#). L'association, représentée par l'avocate et écrivaine Anina Ciuciu, arrière-petite-fille de Roumains déportés pendant la seconde guerre mondiale, est à l'initiative d'une proposition de résolution adoptée le 8 avril en commission des affaires européennes de l'Assemblée nationale. Bos, Sarah, Le Monde, 2026-04-08.

Iran: [Options for justice in Iran: The need to preserve evidence and plan for accountability](#). It is not an exaggeration to say that Iranian civilians have been subjected to atrocities by every party involved in the conflict. The plight of Iranians demands accountability. But what options exist?. Kersten, Mark, Justice in Conflict, 2026-04-28.

Iraq: [En images. la difficile reconstruction des rescapés du génocide des yézidis dans les monts Sinjar : « Chaque jour qui passe est comme une année de douleur »](#). La justice française a reconnu et condamné pour la première fois, le 20 mars, le génocide perpétré par l'organisation Etat islamique contre la communauté yézidie, en Irak, en 2014. A cette occasion, « Le Monde » revient sur le travail du photographe Michel Slomka, qui a documenté la reconstruction de cette communauté, entre 2016 et 2021. Dunne , Odhran; Slomka , Michel, Le Monde, 2026-04-08.

Rwanda: [Génocide des Tutsis au Rwanda : l'ONU appelle à tirer les leçons du passé face à la montée des discours de haine](#). À l'occasion de la Journée internationale de réflexion sur le génocide de 1994 contre les Tutsis au Rwanda, l'Organisation des Nations Unies a mis en garde contre la résurgence de signaux alarmants, appelant les États à tirer les leçons de cette tragédie afin d'en prévenir toute répétition. UN News, 2026-04-07.

Ukraine: [How War Crimes are Documented in Ukraine](#). A Ukrainian human rights investigator explains how systematic detention, torture, and disappearances are documented and built into legal cases against perpetrators. Jacobsen, Scott Douglas, International Policy Digest, 2026-04-22.

Citizenship

United States of America: [The 'unregistered Americans': because of their parents, they do not exist](#). Hundreds in the United States have no birth certificate or Social Security number. Some covet this 'off-grid' status, but it means being barred from ordinary life. Spencer, Bailey, The Guardian, 2026-04-21.

Civil Rights

Burkina Faso: [Répression de la société civile, dissolution massive des organisations de la société civile, loi répressive](#). Le gouvernement militaire du Burkina Faso intensifie sa répression généralisée de la société civile à travers une législation restrictive, des pressions administratives et des mesures punitives ciblant les organisations nationales et internationales, ont déclaré aujourd'hui Human Rights Watch, la Fédération internationale pour les droits humains (FIDH) et l'Organisation mondiale contre la torture (OMCT) dans le cadre de l'Observatoire pour la protection des défenseur-es des droits humains, et l'Observatoire KISAL. Les autorités militaires devraient immédiatement cesser leur répression des voix indépendantes ainsi que des organisations humanitaires et de défense des droits humains, et respecter les droits et libertés fondamentaux. Human Rights Watch, 2026-04-20.

Colonialism, Indigenous Rights & Decolonization

France: [Après le vote de l'ONU sur la traite des esclaves africains, la France ne peut s'abstenir d'agir](#). Jean-Marc Ayrault et Aïssata Seck, président et directrice de la Fondation pour la mémoire de l'esclavage, appellent, dans une tribune au « Monde », la France à jouer un rôle moteur dans la question des réparations de l'esclavage. Vingt-cinq ans après la loi Taubira, les Nations unies ont qualifié le 25 mars la traite transatlantique de « plus grave crime contre l'humanité ». Ayrault, Jean-Marc; Seck, Aïssata, La Monde, 2026-04-07.

France: [Colonisation : la France vote \(enfin\) la loi sur les restitutions](#). L'Assemblée nationale française a adopté le 13 avril une loi visant à faciliter le retour de biens spoliés à des pays anciennement colonisés. Si les députés ont validé le texte à l'unanimité, tous n'étaient pas d'accord sur certains de ses articles. Gleiz, Damien, Jeune Afrique, 2026-04-14.

Germany: [L'Allemagne crée un conseil de restitution des biens culturels acquis à l'époque coloniale](#). L'Allemagne a dévoilé des projets visant à créer un organisme chargé de rapatrier des œuvres d'art, des artefacts et des restes humains acquis dans un contexte colonial. Le futur « Conseil de coordination pour le retour des biens culturels et des restes humains issus de contextes coloniaux » réunira des représentants du gouvernement fédéral, des 16 Länder du pays et de plusieurs municipalités. Anushka Roy, Euronews, 2026-04-02.

Oceania: [Bridging Knowledge Systems: How Pacific Communities Are Reclaiming Climate Solutions Through Nature](#). The Pacific region is long defined by resilience; solutions are not being remembered, strengthened, and scaled. Sefeti, Sera, Inter Press Service, 2026-04-17.

Worldwide: [« La reconnaissance de l'esclavage comme "crime le plus grave contre l'humanité" n'est pas une mise en concurrence mémorielle »](#). Dans une tribune au « Monde », l'historienne Aurélie Michel souligne l'importance symbolique et politique de la résolution des Nations unies sur la traite transatlantique, responsable d'un « ordre mondial construit sur une injustice organisée » qu'il est urgent de considérer sans y voir une dommageable hiérarchisation des mémoires. Michel, Aurelia, Le Monde, 2026-04-20.

Worldwide: [Language documentation needs community rights, consent, and recognition](#). Taukeer Alam, a writer of Van Gujjari, a vulnerable dialect with low documentation, shares the need

for audio-visual documentation and safeguards to protect against AI and other exploitations. Panigrahi, Subhashish, Global Voices, 2026-04-17.

Democracy & Governance

India: [Proposed changes to digital media regulation would facilitate abusive powers over users' content – new Amnesty legal analysis](#). Proposed amendments to India's digital regulation rules would grant authorities wide-ranging powers to police, censor and remove users' content, Amnesty International has warned in a new legal analysis of the proposals. The amendments to India's IT rules – which govern digital media content – are currently open for public consultation before they are debated in the country's parliament. Amnesty International, 2026-04-16.

Israel/United Kingdom: [Foreign Office unit tracking Israel's potential breaches of international law closes due to cuts](#). Exclusive: Officials warn department will also lose access to database of 26,000 verified incidents due to cuts. Wintour, Patrick; Campbell, Sinéad, The Guardian, 2026-04-23.

Nicaragua: [El crimen contra los "apátridas" nicaragüenses](#). Una condena a la dictadura de Ortega-Murillo en la CIJ puede ser el primer paso para convocar a una alianza internacional para apoyar una transición democrática. Chamorro, Carlos F., El Pais, 2026-04-02.

United States of America: [A justice department opinion arguing the Presidential Records Act is unconstitutional could revert the nation to a time when presidents freely burned their papers](#). Presidential records are the public's property. The Justice Department wants to change that and revert to a time when presidents could do what they wanted with their papers, including burning them. Sarat, Austin, The Conversation, 2026-04-14.

United States of America: [What Public Records Reveal That Official Statements Don't](#). Public statements shape perception. Public records reveal sequence, internal concern, and institutional reality that official messaging often leaves out. HPR Online, 2026-04-18.

Disinformation

Europe: [Chernobyl at 40: Secret Stasi files reveal extent of Soviet misinformation campaign over nuclear disaster](#). Once classified files from East Germany reveal the extent of Soviet actions to hide the true extent of the Chernobyl catastrophe. Cassidy, Lauren, The Conversation, 2026-04-22.

Economic & Social Rights

Nepal: [Transgender Rights Progress Stalls](#). Nepali authorities have stopped processing applications for transgender people to change their legal gender on identity documents, regressing on years of progress and undermining the fundamental right of recognition before the law. Policymakers in Nepal should reject attempts to undermine the fundamental rights of sexual and gender minorities. Human Rights Watch, 2026-04-29.

Environment

Africa: [Hindou Oumarou Ibrahim : « Il est temps que les peuples autochtones participent aux prises de décision »](#). La militante tchadienne Hindou Oumarou Ibrahim, présente au sommet

ChangeNOW, organisé du 30 mars au 1er avril au Grand Palais, à Paris, et dont Jeune Afrique est partenaire, a porté une exigence devenue urgente : que les peuples autochtones cessent d'être de simples observateurs du destin climatique mondial. Maïga, Aïssata, JeuneAfrique, 2026-04-10.

Europe/United States of America: [US tech firms successfully lobbied EU to keep datacentre emissions secret](#). Legally questionable confidentiality clause adopted almost word for word from demands of Microsoft and trade groups. Niranjana, Ajit; Schmidt, Nico; Joyner, Ella, The Guardian, 2026-04-17.

Human Rights Defenders and Activists

Burkina Faso: [Des archivistes citoyens documentent les disparitions forcées au Burkina Faso](#). Une plateforme participative permet de recenser anonymement les victimes d'arrestation ou de détention extrajudiciaires, afin d'accumuler des preuves et demander l'ouverture d'une enquête auprès de la Cour pénale internationale. Roger, Benjamin, Le Monde, 2026-04-21.

Humanitarian Aid

Worldwide: [Information as aid 2.0: lessons from Lebanon, Sudan and Myanmar](#). CDAC Network's work in Lebanon, Sudan and Myanmar in 2025 shows a consistent pattern: when trusted information breaks down, humanitarian outcomes deteriorate. This policy brief identifies four major trends in the information environment in crises and makes recommendations for humanitarian systems. CDAC Network, 2026-04-21.

Worldwide: [Tech gaps and budget cuts threaten global efforts to track and help the vulnerable](#). Digital tools are changing the way countries manage everything from tracking refugees to caring for the elderly. Conor Lennon, UN News, 2026-04-13.

Indigenous Matters

Canada: [The RCMP's surveillance of Indigenous groups exposes a centuries-long pattern in Canada](#). To be Indigenous in Canada has often meant living under continuous observation. Indigenous Peoples in Canada have been heavily monitored for hundreds of years in ways that non-Indigenous Canadians might find shocking. Sims, Daniel, The Conversation, 2026-04-09.

Information Rights & Media Freedom

Africa: [Meet three journalists from the Central Sahel who have been silenced by military authorities: "We're in a dark hole"](#). Amnesty International spoke to journalists from the Central Sahel who described what journalism has become since the military took power. Amnesty International, 2026-04-30.

Argentina: [Milei cierra la Casa Rosada a la prensa acreditada en medio de escándalos de corrupción](#). El Gobierno argumenta que se trata de una decisión preventiva tras la denuncia por espionaje ilegal contra dos periodistas televisivos. La guerra de Javier Milei contra los medios argentinos ha escalado hasta cerrar las puertas de la Casa Rosada a todos los periodistas acreditados. Es una decisión inédita, repudiada por todas las organizaciones de prensa locales, que llega tras miles de insultos y ataques verbales del presidente argentino a periodistas y la suspensión previa de

algunas acreditaciones a quienes informan sobre el Poder Ejecutivo. Ceptenera, Mar, El Pais, 2026-04-23.

Kuwait: [Journalist detained in Kuwait acquitted of 'spreading false information', says press monitor](#). Committee to Protect Journalists says Ahmed Shihab-Eldin was found innocent after 52 days in detention. Betts, Anna, The Guardian, 2026-04-23.

Nicaragua: [Dos décadas sin libertad de prensa en Nicaragua bajo la dictadura de Ortega y Murillo](#). El colectivo Las Exiliadas Nicas y RSF España presentan un informe que expone la complicada situación de los medios nicaragüenses, dentro y fuera del país. Slack, Hannah, El Pais, 2026-04-13.

Russian Federation: [Kremlin forcing big firms to join 'witch-hunt' against internet rebels, claims report](#). Campaigners say banks and web platforms are being told to collect data on customers visiting blocked sites. Down, Aisha, The Guardian, 2026-04-21.

Russian Federation/United Kingdom: [Britain becoming 'soft target' for Russian propaganda, says security expert](#). Fiona Hill tells MPs UK is 'vulnerable' because it does not educate people on how to deal with information warfare. Sabbagh, Dan, The Guardian, 2026-04-27.

Sudan: [Flooding the zone: how inauthentic networks weaponise information in Sudan – and what humanitarians can do](#). In 2025, CDAC launched a new initiative in collaboration with Valent to use AI to identify inauthentic networks and monitor manipulation of online narratives in Sudan's war. This report examines the project's co-design ambitions, and reviews the integration of AI into humanitarian response. CDAC Network, 2026-04-15.

Sudan: [Sudanese journalists awarded UNESCO press freedom prize](#). An independent organization for journalists in Sudan has been honoured for its commitment "to deliver accurate, lifesaving information" amid the ongoing civil war, the UN educational and cultural agency UNESCO announced. UN News, 2026-04-30.

Türkiye: [Turkey Passes Legislation Barring Children Under 15 From Social Media](#). The government says the measure, which must be signed into law by the president, will protect minors. Critics worry it will threaten free speech and privacy online. Hubbard, Ben; Timur, Safak, The New York Times, 2026-04-24.

United States of America: [Inspiring the Authentic Journalist: The Pentagon's Renewed Attack on Press Credentials](#). A federal judge struck down the Pentagon's restrictive press credential policy as unconstitutional, even as officials moved to tighten control over journalists' access and information flow. Kampmark, Binoy, International Policy Digest, 2026-04-01.

United States of America: [US saw record high of 5,668 books banned in libraries in 2025, says agency](#). Most-banned book was Sold, a 2006 novel by Patricia McCormick about sex trafficking in India. Loffhagen, Emma, The Guardian, 2026-04-22.

Western Asia: [L'ONU dénonce le durcissement de la répression de la liberté d'expression](#). La liberté d'expression et l'espace civique subissent un recul alarmant à travers le Moyen-Orient, sur

fond d'escalade militaire liée aux frappes américaines et israéliennes contre l'Iran, a averti mercredi le Haut-Commissaire des Nations Unies aux droits de l'homme, Volker Türk. UN News, 2026-04-01.

Worldwide: [AI in advertising risks fuelling information crisis, UN warns](#). With spending on advertising topping \$1 trillion a year worldwide, the United Nations on Wednesday highlighted the untapped power of major brands to shape the future of Artificial Intelligence, warning that a failure to act could deepen a global information integrity crisis. UN News, 2026-04-29.

LGBTQ+ Rights

Australia: [Should We Compensate LGBTQIA+ Victorians Who Are Victims Of Historic Gay Hate Crimes?](#). A new report has put forward ways Victoria might reckon with its history of criminalisation, discriminatory policing, violence and institutional prejudice directed at the LGBTQIA+ community. Lenton, Patrick, Star Observer, 2026-04-14.

Worldwide: [CFP: Witnessing State Violence: Oral History and Liberatory Praxis \(OHMAR Conference 2026\)](#). Witnessing State Violence: Oral History and Liberatory Praxis Oral History in the Mid-Atlantic Region (OHMAR) Conference 2026 Dates: May 7-8, 2026 Location: Arlington, Virginia. Cheryl, Archives Publishing, 2026-03-03.

Worldwide: [Open Call: Protection of Victims and Preservation of War Memory](#). Deadline: 11-May-2026 The Protection of Victims and Preservation of War Memory Grant supports Ukrainian civil society organizations working to assist war victims and document war-related crimes. The program funds activities such as victim support, archival preservation, transitional justice, and war memory initiatives. fundsforNGOs, 2026-04-13.

Migration, Displacement & Trafficking

Europe: [Children disappearing from migration data face increased danger on Balkans Route](#). Official migration data may be significantly undercounting the number of people travelling on the Balkans route, putting thousands of children at greater risk of abuse and exploitation without systems to protect them, according to a new Save the Children report. Save the Children International, 2026-04-30.

Kenya/Somalia: [Stateless at Home: Kenyan Somalis Struggle to Reclaim Citizenship from Refugee Records](#). Thousands of Kenyan Somalis living in refugee camps are trapped in a painful paradox of officially being recorded as refugees. Okata, Jackson, Inter Press Service, 2026-04-08.

Mexico: [Adelanto, el centro de detención diseñado para que los migrantes se rindan en el que han muerto cuatro mexicanos](#). El lugar ha sido señalado desde hace tiempo por faltas graves a la seguridad y salud de los internos como la segregación excesiva y la falta de atención médica oportuna.[...] Una demanda presentada a principios de 2026 por un grupo de organizaciones de defensa de migrantes denunció negligencias médicas y condiciones inadecuadas de la comida y el agua. El Centro de los Defensores de los Inmigrantes en California aseguró que Adelanto estaba diseñado “para hacer que la gente se rindiera en sus casos legales” y sostuvo que “el sistema estaba hecho para hacer que las personas se quebraran”. Flores Ramírez, Paulina, El País, 2026-04-01.

United States of America: [À San Diego, la violence d'État brise des vies - et le pire reste à venir.](#) Aux États-Unis, Donald Trump déverse des moyens records pour traquer les personnes immigrées. Reportage à San Diego, en Californie, où des réseaux locaux s'organisent pour alerter, documenter, et parfois empêcher les rafles de l'ICE et de la police aux frontières. Lefèvre, Florian, Blast, 2026-04-12.

Worldwide: [Global Leaders in Ankara Tackle Digital Identity Gaps for Migrants.](#) More than 70 leaders and experts from around the world gathered in Ankara, Türkiye, on 14–15 April to address a critical gap in migrant protection: access to legal identity. International Organization for Migration, 2026-04-15.

Policing, Detention & State Violence

Burkina Faso: [Au Burkina Faso, plus de 1 800 civils tués depuis 2023 par l'armée burkinabée, ses supplétifs et des djihadistes, selon HRW.](#) Alors que la violence s'intensifie au Burkina Faso, HRW pointe la responsabilité directe de hauts responsables militaires et djihadistes dans des massacres de civils à grande échelle. AFP, Le Monde, 2026-04-02.

Chile: [La historia de Luis Pino Soto, desaparecido a los 15 años en la dictadura de Pinochet: "En nuestra casa nunca más se celebró nada. Ni los cumpleaños".](#) Hans Pino tenía siete años cuando se perdió el rastro de su hermano el 1 de julio de 1986 en Arica, en el norte de Chile: admiraba sus dibujos y figuras de naves espaciales. Recién a finales de febrero, Luis fue reconocido en el listado oficial de víctimas. Sanhueza Ana María, El País, 2026-04-12.

Mexico: [Desapariciones en México podrían equivaler a crímenes de lesa humanidad, señala un Comité de la ONU.](#) La entidad solicita a la Asamblea General que considere tomar medidas y cita el hallazgo de 4500 fosas clandestinas en el país, donde se han encontrado unos 72.000 restos humanos no identificados. UN News, 2026-04-02.

Mexico: [El Comité contra la Desaparición Forzada de la ONU pide llevar la crisis de México a la Asamblea General.](#) El Gobierno mexicano rechaza el informe, que señala complicidad entre fuerzas del Estado y los grupos criminales, y lo califica de "parcial y sesgado" por "omitir los esfuerzos institucionales". Sánchez-Vallejo, María Antonia Varela, Micaela, El País, 2026-04-02.

Privacy & Data Protection

China/United Kingdom: [More private health records of UK Biobank volunteers appear on Chinese website.](#) Patrick Vallance says government working with Chinese officials to remove postings from Alibaba after Biobank data breach last week. Devlin, Hannah, The Guardian, 2026-04-29.

Worldwide: [Sexual, Reproductive Healthcare Data Collection, Planning Must Be Based on Human Rights, Equity, Speakers Tell Population and Development Commission.](#) While expanding data systems, it is crucial to protect privacy and prevent exploitative data practices. The speaker highlighted the phenomenon of "data colonialism", where data from Global South communities is extracted and monetized without meaningful consent or equitable benefit sharing. Young persons today also face technology-facilitated violence, from doxxing to hate speech. In many countries, "we are still waiting for laws that reflect the realities of our digital lives". UN Meetings Coverage and Press Releases, 2026-04-14.

Surveillance & Monitoring

Africa: [AI: 'African Governments Are Using "smart City" Systems to Monitor Dissent and Consolidate State Control'](#). CIVICUS discusses the spread of AI-powered surveillance in Africa with Wairagala Wakabi, executive director of the Collaboration on International ICT Policy for East and Southern Africa (CIPESA). Inter Press Service, 2026-04-17.

Myanmar/Norway: [Norway's state telecoms firm accused of helping Myanmar regime seize activists](#). Lawsuit in Norway alleges Telenor passed on data helping Myanmar military arrest 1,200 activists, some in safe houses. Ahmed, Kaamil, The Guardian, 2026-04-16.

Technology

Iran/Israel/United States of America: [L'utilisation de l'intelligence artificielle dans la guerre en Iran : que dit le droit international ?](#). Le conflit en cours en Iran montre la dépendance avancée des armées états-unienne et israélienne à l'IA militaire, notamment pour le ciblage et la planification des frappes. Le bombardement d'une école à Minab, le 28 février, présenté comme une erreur de ciblage et ayant causé la mort de 168 civils, principalement des enfants, met en lumière les risques juridiques, les failles des systèmes et les problèmes de responsabilité. Perez, Louis, The Conversation, 2026-04-24.

Iran/United States of America: [Ce que les frappes iraniennes sur des centres de données Amazon changent – ou non – à la conduite de la guerre](#). L'intelligence artificielle est devenue un outil central des opérations militaires, notamment pour l'armée des États-Unis. Les centres de données qui la font fonctionner, principalement basés dans la région du Golfe, constituent donc des infrastructures cruciales. Et comme tout dispositif critique, ils deviennent des cibles potentielles en temps de guerre. Murphy, Dennis, The Conversation, 2026-04-04.

Transitional Justice

Chile: [Au Chili, le nouveau président suspend la création d'un site de mémoire dans l'ancienne Colonia Dignidad](#). Revenant sur une promesse de son prédécesseur, le président ultraconservateur José Antonio Kast met en avant des raisons budgétaires pour maintenir en l'état ce lieu, théâtre de sévices sexuels infligés à des enfants et d'exactions sous la dictature de Pinochet. Depuis l'arrivée au pouvoir de l'ultraconservateur José Antonio Kast, le 11 mars, les associations chiliennes de défense des droits humains craignaient qu'il n'utilise l'arme financière pour démanteler les politiques de mémoire sur les crimes de la dictature (1973-1990). Un premier pas a été franchi en ce sens dimanche 29 mars, avec l'annonce de la révocation de l'expropriation de l'ancienne Colonia Dignidad. Montoya, Angeline, La Monde, 2026-04-01.

Colombia: [Día Nacional de la Memoria y Solidaridad por las Víctimas del Conflicto Armado: la agenda de actividades y lanzamientos](#). El Gobierno de Colombia ha programado varios eventos para escuchar las voces de la resistencia durante el conflicto armado. El Pais, 2026-04-09.

Colombia: [Nuevo gobierno, misión reestructurada y violencia: Colombia ante un momento decisivo para la paz](#). El Consejo de Seguridad analizó el estado del proceso de paz a diez años del Acuerdo de 2016, con las elecciones presidenciales del 31 de mayo como telón de fondo. Colombia

atraviesa un momento de transición. En menos de dos meses elegirá un nuevo presidente, la Misión de Verificación de la ONU ha sido reestructurada y varias regiones del país siguen golpeadas por la violencia de grupos armados. En ese contexto, el Consejo de Seguridad se reunió hoy para analizar el estado del proceso de paz. UN News, 2026-04-21.

Hungary: [Hungary's next government vows to open communist-era secret police archives.](#)

Hungary's new government will open up the historical archives of its communist-era secret police, according to the man who will run the office of Peter Magyar, winner of this month's parliamentary election, who is expected to become prime minister on May 9. Reuters, 2026-04-22.

Syria: [Les avancées en matière de justice pourraient s'essouffler sans soutien international.](#) La

Syrie a accompli des progrès « remarquables » en matière de justice transitionnelle au cours de l'année écoulée, faisant naître l'espoir d'une redevabilité et d'un relèvement après plus d'une décennie de conflit civil. Si la détermination des Syriens à reconstruire leur pays après la chute du régime de Bachar al-Assad en décembre 2024 a été largement saluée, des experts avertissent qu'un engagement international soutenu est indispensable pour maintenir la transition sur la bonne voie, dans un contexte de défis humanitaires persistants. UN News, 2026-04-18.

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