INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL ON ARCHIVES
CONSEIL INTERNATIONAL DES ARCHIVES

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SECTION ON ARCHIVES AND HUMAN RIGHTS
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ARCHIVES AND HUMAN RIGHTS

Newsletter from the Section on Archives and Human Rights

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Events

Far-Right Archives in the Digital Age

DATE: Friday 27 November 2026, 10.30am-4pm at Wiener Holocaust Library, London.

Improved digital access to far-right material at archives, libraries, and beyond has been benefitting researchers and anti-far right educators and activists. It also presents challenges, not least amidst a surge in public support for far-right parties and an increase in racist and antisemitic incidents.

Calls for Proposals

Applications open for Endangered Archives Grant Programme

DUE: 6 November, 2026

The Endangered Archives Programme offers grants to support the identification, preservation, and digitisation of archival materials that are at risk of loss or destruction. The programme supports projects that protect important documentary heritage and make archival collections more accessible for research and public benefit.

Archives and Resistance: A Virtual Symposium on Digital Preservation and Publication in the Context of African, African American, and Diaspora Studies

DUE: 20 November, 2026

We invite proposals for a virtual symposium on February 19–20, 2027, focused on archival preservation, digital publication, and community collaboration in projects that relate to African, African American, and Diaspora studies.

Creating, Narrating, Documenting, and Archiving Violence from Exile

DUE: 15 November, 2026

Exiled and diasporic communities develop practices of creation, documentation, and archiving from within spaces of exile. Today, these practices increasingly take place through social media, using smartphone images or born-digital archives. Yet these intrinsically volatile materials confront genuine "algorithms of oppression" (Noble, 2018), shaped by the logics of commercial surveillance and the invisible censorship of platforms that tend to erase traces of the violence endured.

MATTER & MEMORY: The Preservation of Cultural and Material Heritage

DUE: 10 December, 2026

Cultural heritage is continually interpreted, preserved and transformed through changing historical, social and artistic contexts. This session builds on this and examines how societies construct, transmit and reassess cultural memory through objects, monuments, artworks, archives and historic environments. We argue that within history and art history, such processes raise important questions about authenticity, authorship, representation and the changing meanings attached to cultural artefacts and sites.

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

Bangladesh: **Meta removes Bangladeshi community archivists' pages through false copyright claims**. Coordinated false copyright claims targeted Bangladeshi archivists, journalists, and activists, exploiting Meta's reporting system to remove evidence of abuses, disrupt documentation efforts, and undermine accountability linked to July 2024 uprising. Shoeb A, Global Voices Advox, 2026-05-06.

Hungary: **La Hongrie s'apprête à ouvrir un partie importante des archives des anciens services de sécurité communistes**. Le Parlement de Budapest a adopté en septembre une loi qui élargit considérablement l'accès aux archives sous l'ère communiste. La base de données bientôt accessible pourrait inclure entre #EuropeNews. Magyar Ádám, euronews, 2026-09-29.

Lebanon: **The fight to preserve Lebanon's history before it's lost**. As war displaces archives across Lebanon, archivists race to preserve the photographs, films, letters and records that tell the country's history. Davison, Tamara, The New Arab, 2026-09-17.

Palestine/United Kingdom: **Palestinian lawyer and writer's archive preserved at Edinburgh University**. Palestinian lawyer and human rights campaigner Raja Shehadeh's archive, documenting more than six decades of life in Palestine, has been preserved at the University of Edinburgh. Irish Legal News, 2026-09-02.

Poland/Ukraine: **Ukraine Transfers Soviet Secret Service Archives for Critical Study of Polish Ukrainian Conflict**. Ukraine's Foreign Intelligence Service has transferred newly declassified Soviet secret service documents to the Ukrainian Institute of National Memory, offering researchers additional evidence about the Polish-Ukrainian conflict while emphasizing the need for critical source analysis. Межа, 2026-09-08.

United States of America: **Federal Employees' AI Prompts Are Records ... in Narrow Circumstances**. If federal agencies fail to create records related to their AI interactions, they effectively insulate their decisionmaking from oversight. Mullins, Asad Ramzanali, Margaret, Just Security, 2026-09-21.

United States of America: **How the Supreme Court Locks Away Its Own History**. Though some justices in previous eras arranged for their papers to be released not long after their own deaths, the trend on the Roberts court has been to impose much tighter restrictions, serving to further obscure a branch of government that has resisted calls for more transparency. Jodi Kantor, New York Times, 2026-09-01.

United States of America: **Machine Capabilities at a Human Scale: Get to Know the Revolution Crossroads Initiative**. For the 2026 American Semiquincentennial year, the Library of Congress is working with the Smithsonian Institution to look at how artificial intelligence technologies can help make new discoveries about history. Dubbed "Revolution Crossroads," the initiative aims to demonstrate what AI could do to enable new insights and explorations with collections. An introductory video from Inside Smithsonian Digital and the Library of Congress asks, "Can AI Help Historians?" It explains how leaders, curators, and technology experts are coming together to explore and explain AI's capabilities to augment learning, research, and discovery. Weinryb-Grohsgal, Leah, The Library of Congress, 2026-09-04.

Worldwide: **Amnesty International Opens Virtual Museum Exploring More Than Six Decades of Human Rights Activism**. Amnesty International presents Stories That Resist, its first Virtual Museum—an immersive 360° experience that allows visitors to explore 65 years of campaigning, research and collective action in defence of human rights around the world. Across five thematic galleries, visitors can explore more than 50 historical items, including emblematic objects from Amnesty International's archives, campaigns that defined generations, photographs, videos, awards and testimonies from people who chose to act in the face of injustice. Amnesty International USA, 2026-09-03.

Atrocity Crimes

Bosnia and Herzegovina/Ukraine: **Srebrenica Memorial Center to expand cooperation with Ukraine on war crimes documentation**. Representatives of the Srebrenica Memorial Center, Bosnia and Herzegovina's leading memorial institution, have completed a seven-day working visit to Ukraine aimed at developing cooperation in documenting and investigating war crimes and memorialization. Ukrinform, 2026-09-19.

Israel/Palestine: **Israel and the Occupied Palestinian Territory, Sudan and Education Under Attack**. On 7 September UN Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Palestinian territory occupied since 1967, Francesca Albanese, warned that any large-scale removal of rubble in Gaza could lead to the destruction of evidence of "atrocity crimes," including "genocide," – as reports have suggested – and that any state or company supporting the destruction or removal "could incur international criminal responsibility in connection to those crimes.". Global Centre for the Responsibility to Protect, 2026-09-09.

Kosovo: **War Crimes Verdicts are a Step Toward Justice**. The convictions of Kosovo's former President Hashim Thaçi and three senior former Kosovo Liberation Army (KLA) leaders for war crimes on September 16, 2026, are an important step toward accountability for victims of the 1998-1999 Kosovo conflict, Human Rights Watch said today. Human Rights Watch, 2026-09-17.

Sudan: **Secret Dossier Adds to Evidence of Chemical Weapons in Sudan**. The documents bolster allegations that the Sudanese military developed and used toxic bombs to gain an edge in the country's devastating civil war. Much of the dossier — nearly 150 documents, images, videos, and voice notes, as well as several thousand text messages — appears to come from the cellphones of senior Sudanese officers. It was provided on the condition that its source not be identified. Walsh, Declan; Bergman, Ronen, The New York Times, 2026-09-05.

Civil Rights

Australia: **Language rights are human rights: Collecting Deaf history**. In collaboration with NFSA curator Jillian Mackenzie, Deaf historian Dr Breda Carty AO searches through the collection for moments from d/Deaf community, history and culture – asking what happens when stories are missing or told through someone else's perspective?. NFSA, 2026-09-21.

India: **No hope, no vote … how most of Delhi's sex workers are being struck off electoral rolls**. Modi's bid to 'purify' voter lists has affected a third of the city's residents. In the GB Road red light district, those who lack permanent homes and documents are among the hardest hit. Under the new rules, voters had to establish eligibility by proving their link to the relevant previous electoral roll or by producing prescribed documents such as a passport, birth or education certificate – a paper trail many struggle to reconstruct. Anuj Behal, The Guardian, 2026-09-18.

Kenya: **This book was born in the streets**. Kenya's youth uprising was documented in real time through music, murals, memes, and essays. Publishing that history became an act of resistance in its own right. Gathanga Ndung'u, Africa is a Country, 2026-09-11.

Colonialism, Indigenous Rights & Decolonization

Australia/Palestine: **Australia and Palestine have a history to be recovered**. Long before Australia recognised a Palestinian state in 2025, "Palestine" has been present in news reports, archives and diplomatic records — this is a history that we should rediscover. Badra, Shamikh, ABC Religion & Ethics, 2026-09-22.

Ethiopia: **Rare Ethiopian manuscript stolen by British forces triggers restitution row**. The Gondar Gospel belonged to the library of Emperor Tewodros but was seized in a battle decades ago. Lawal, Shola, Al Jazeera, 2026-09-17.

Mauritius: **How UNESCO supports Mauritius in preserving the memory of slavery and indentured labour**. In Mauritius, UNESCO supported efforts to document, preserve and share the history of slavery and indentured labour, helping ensure that these experiences remain part of the country's collective. UNSECO, 2026-08-23.

Mozambique/Portugal: **Mozambique seeks access to Portugal's military archives on shared history**. Mozambique's Minister for Combatants, Nyeleti Mondlane, on Monday called for access to military archives in Portugal to investigate the shared history of the period of the national liberation struggle, with Portuguese Defence Minister Nuno Melo highlighting reconciliation. Mozambique, 2026-09-14.

United Kingdom/India: **English Museum to Repatriate Colonial-Era Human Remains**. After years of negotiations, a British museum has agreed to return a colonial-era collection of human remains to the Indigenous Naga people of the Indian subcontinent. "We bring back the light of our ancestors that was dimmed but never extinguished," said Ellen Konyak of the Forum for Naga Reconciliation in making the announcement. The nonprofit forum worked with the museum, which has the world's largest collection of Naga cultural objects, and Naga tribal groups on the repatriation effort. Pragati K.B., The New York Times, 2026-09-05.

United States of America: **3 National Archives Locations Are Set to Close. Tribal Docs' Fate Is Unclear**. Indigenous leaders say the US government's decision to close the sites was made without tribal consultation. Schafer, Amelia, Truthout, 2026-09-07.

Worldwide: **'A map is never neutral': meet the cartographers who took on centuries of western bias**. Three cartographers have spoken of their astonishment at the UN's near-universal adoption of a map they created to more accurately show the sizes of Africa and Europe, even though they have received a few complaints from some disgruntled diplomats. The creators of the Equal Earth projection aimed to provide an alternative to the dominant 16th-century Mercator display, which critics have long faulted for giving the impression that northern hemisphere nations are larger than they are – and therefore subtly reinforcing perceptions of where global strength lies. Holmes, Oliver; Paz, Ana Lucía González; Gutiérrez, Pablo, The Guardian, 2026-09-18.

Worldwide: **Nearly 4m records of enslaved people in 20 former British colonies now searchable online**. Collection's 300,000 pages record lives of enslaved people in countries including the Bahamas, Barbados, Jamaica, Mauritius, South Africa and Trinidad. Mohdin, Aamna, The Guardian, 2026-09-22.

Worldwide: **UN votes to adopt new world map that shows Africa's true scale**. Togo-sponsored resolution called to phase out traditional map that depicts continent as similar size to Greenland. Egbejule, Eromo, The Guardian, 2026-09-04.

Democracy & Governance

Tajikistan: **Tajikistan Developing a National Framework on Disaster Risk Data Governance**. The event brought together representatives of ministries and government agencies, development partners, and international organizations. The main objective of the workshop was to strengthen inter-agency cooperation and improve mechanisms for the collection, sharing, and management of disaster risk data including the development of a National Framework for Inclusive Disaster Risk Data Governance. The workshop also contributed to further expanding the ongoing collaboration of the Committee with ESCAP-APDIM, UNDRR, the Government of Switzerland and other partners, to strengthen disaster risk information governance and management in Tajikistan. 2026-09-24.

Economic & Social Rights

United States of America: **Key data missing for half of US child labor deaths, official report finds**. Over half of 260 workplace child fatalities between 2013 and 2023 lacked data on cause of death or the industry worked. A labor department survey and two other federal datasets that included child labor injury data have ended. Sainato, Michael, The Guardian, 2026-09-29.

Environment

Africa: **Charting Africa's path to climate resilience: Why the continent must confront its data deficits**. In the disaster risk management and financing landscape, data is the engine, from designing complex disaster risk models and defining parametric insurance triggers to implementing rapid payouts and targeting vulnerable populations. Each stage of ARC's unique value proposition - which integrates four critical elements of preparedness: capacity building, early warning, risk pooling, and risk transfer - is heavily dependent on the quality of data at our disposal. Jean Chrysostome Ngabitsinze, 2026-09-24.

United States of America: **Chemical industry backed laws in three US states to restrict use of air pollution data**. As public air monitors disappear, federal rollbacks and state laws are making it harder than ever to know what's in the air. Alexander, Ames; Racino, Brad, The Guardian, 2026-09-10.

Human Rights Defenders and Activists

Niger: **Prominent Niger Journalist Feared Forcibly Disappeared**. Three days have passed since the prominent Nigerien journalist Moussa Kaka went missing, raising fears that he may have been forcibly disappeared. Ilaria Allegrozzi, Human Rights Watch, 2026-09-03.

Worldwide: **Detention, torture and silence: SOS-Defenders' 2025 report on censorship by detention — 60 new defenders were jailed last year**. The 2025 edition of the Censorship by Detention report, released today, documents the use of arbitrary arrest across 14 countries with repressive regimes. The report reveals journalists and bloggers were the single most targeted group, accounting for 28 of the 60 documented detentions, followed by community leaders, academics, NGO members and lawyers. Afghanistan (16), Ethiopia (14) and Guatemala (10) recorded the highest numbers. International Federation for Human Rights, 2026-09-03.

Information Rights & Media Freedom

Africa: **Le grand invité Afrique - Mali: «avec l'intelligence artificielle, la désinformation russe passe à l'échelle industrielle», explique Bakary Sambe**. Au Mali, l'intelligence artificielle (IA) est de plus en plus sollicitée par les belligérants, dans la guerre de propagande, mais aussi dans la guerre des drones. C'est ce que révèle un rapport du Timbuktu Institute publie ce mercredi 9 septembre. Pourquoi l'intelligence artificielle risque-t-elle de faciliter le recrutement de jeunes sahéliens dans les rangs jihadistes ? Bakary Sambe est directeur du Timbuktu Institute et enseignant-chercheur a l'université Gaston Berger de Saint-Louis du Sénégal. RFI, 2026-09-09.

China/Nepal: **Punishment and Silence: China Pulls Out the Disaster Playbook in Tibet**. While journalists can report freely on grief and anger in Nepal, China's official media have presented a sanitized disaster aftermath in Tibet. Stevenson, Alexandra, The New York Times, 2026-09-01.

Eritrea: **'We demand the truth': Olga Tokarczuk and JM Coetzee lead calls for proof of life of disappeared Eritrean writers**. More than 180 writers sign letter renewing calls for information on 12 authors detained incommunicado since 2001 crackdown on free speech by Isaias Afwerki. Creamer, Ella, The Guardian, 2026-09-18.

Georgia: **Critics Jailed for Online Speech**. Georgian authorities are using vague administrative offenses to jail or heavily fine people for online speech, deepening the government's crackdown on freedom of expression. Human Rights Watch, 2026-09-18.

Iran: **Iran Moves To Tighten Grip On The Internet With New Bill**. A new draft bill designed to intensify online censorship and limit Internet access in Iran has been presented to lawmakers. Critics say the new proposed legislation mirrors an earlier bill that was abandoned after triggering controversy. Sharifi, Kian, Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty, 2026-09-03.

Philippines: **'Responding to Disinformation Can't Mean Giving the Government a Mandate to Police Truth'**. The Philippines' House of Representatives has approved the Digital Media Anti-False Information Act, which would criminalise the deliberate creation and spread of false information deemed to cause public harm or threaten national security. Its supporters describe it as a tool against disinformation and foreign interference, but civil society warns that vague definitions leave it open to being used to silence dissent. The bill now awaits Senate approval. Inter Press Service, 2026-09-11.

Russian Federation: **Russia Crackdown on Bypassing Online Censorship**. Russian authorities are doubling down on their efforts to quash freedom of expression, including access to information, by increasingly suppressing tools to circumvent draconian censorship laws. Virtual Private Networks (VPNs) services face intensifying blocking and takedowns from app stores. Human Rights Watch, 2026-09-24.

United Kingdom: **New UK agency to fight 'information warfare' from likes of Russia, Burnham tells UN**. PM aims to 'stem poisonous tide' of disinformation and deepfakes with National Centre for Information Defence. Crerar, Pippa, The Guardian, 2026-09-23.

United States of America: **Declassified CIA documents show clear warnings to presidents before 9/11**. CIA Director John Ratcliffe called the documents, drawn from daily intelligence briefings to Presidents Bill Clinton and George W. Bush, "the single largest release of CIA analysis related to 9/11 ever.". Dan De Luce, Tom Winter and Corky Siemaszko, NBC News, 2026-09-11.

United States of America: **Declassifying High-Priority 9/11 Records**. As our nation approaches the 25th anniversary of September 11, 2001, the Board hereby updates the public on its advocacy efforts, and explains its approach to advancing the review for potential declassification and public release of two sets of high-priority records compiled by the 9/11 Commission: the President's Daily Briefing (PDB) summary and a collection of Memorandums for the Record of high-ranking U.S. Government officials in the Clinton and Bush administrations. Brogers, Transforming Classification, 2026-09-01.

United States of America: **Excessive secrecy for Supreme Court-related records part of growing black hole engulfing access**. The multi-decade information embargoes are a supreme slap in the public's face to be unable to get such records in our lifetimes. Rubin, Ken, The Hill Times, 2026-09-09.

United States of America: **La bibliothèque assiégée : Comment l'administration Trump fait des rayonnages un champ de bataille culturelle**. Aux États-Unis, les bibliothèques sont prises en étau entre les menaces pesant sur leur financement et une offensive croissante contre des livres jugés « inappropriés » par divers groupes fondamentalistes. Derrière les retraits d'ouvrages, les pressions s'intensifient contre les bibliothécaires eux-mêmes, parfois victimes de harcèlement et d'intimidations. La « guerre des livres » est devenue un combat politique national : les exigences de collectifs religieux et de responsables publics supplantent les contestations individuelles tandis que la censure, auparavant concentrée sur les bibliothèques scolaires, gagne aussi les bibliothèques publiques. Touitou, Cécile, The Conversation, 2026-09-21.

United States of America: **Terrorism designation has global consequences for open internet and free expression**. On 26 August 2026, the US Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) sanctioned the Italy-based digital service and infrastructure provider Autistici/Inventati (A/I), designating the collective a Specially Designated Global Terrorist (SDGT). ARTICLE 19 warns that such action against an infrastructure provider violates international freedom of expression standards and sets a dangerous precedent. ARTICLE 19, 2026-09-09.

United States of America: **This data has helped fight workplace discrimination for 60 years. The Trump administration plans to delete it**. Enforcing civil rights without these reports will be difficult for the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, pushing US agency closer to Trump's agenda, experts warn. Qin, Amy, The Guardian, 2026-09-02.

United States of America: **Trump says he will consider releasing more 9/11 records after families' request**. Families have asked Trump to declassify records that could shed light on Saudi Arabia's alleged role in the 2001 attacks. The Guardian, 2026-09-14.

Worldwide: **Frontiers of Information Integrity in Climate Change and Climate-Related Disasters: Information Integrity Interventions Landscape Report**. This landscape report examines how misinformation, disinformation and other forms of information pollution are affecting climate action and responses to climate-related disasters, and how different actors are responding. It draws on a mapping of several hundred information integrity interventions across thematic areas, including almost fifty focused specifically on climate change and climate-related disasters, to identify patterns in the types of challenges addressed, approaches and strategies deployed, and actors involved. 2026-09-11.

Worldwide: **New UN system platform puts millions of data points at users' fingertips, says Guterres**. How do you make sense of a world facing interconnected crises, from poverty and

hunger to climate change, if the facts are scattered across dozens of different places?. UN News, 2026-09-17.

Worldwide: **The Wikipedia Edits Shaping UN Secretary-General Candidates' Public Records - PassBlue**. Three days after Macky Sall, a former president of Senegal, joined the race in March to become the next secretary-general of the United Nations, an editor on. Banjo, Damilola, Pass Blue, 2026-08-31.

Migration, Displacement & Trafficking

Slovenia: **The spectre of 'remigration' is haunting Europe. Slovenia in 1992 gives us a blueprint for this state terror**. So much of your daily life – your job, your health, your home – hinges on the fact that your name is in a government database. Are you a legal citizen of your country, with everything that entails? You are, until an anonymous bureaucrat hits a key one night and strips it all away, turning you into an illegal immigrant. It happened in Slovenia in 1992. In February that year, the Slovenian government officially deleted 25,000 citizens, turning them overnight into illegal immigrants. Mazzini, Miha, The Guardian, 2026-09-18.

United States of America: **Trump officials push to exclude undocumented immigrants from US census**. In a proposed rule published in the Federal Register, the Census Bureau also announced it was considering changes to the data it collects about race and ethnicity, amid the Trump administration's push to rid the government of diversity, equity and inclusion programs. Conducted decennially, the census historically counts the "whole number of persons" in the United States specified in the 14th amendment, regardless of citizenship or immigration status. The data is used by states to draw congressional maps that are crucial in determining which party controls the House. Stein, Chris, The Guardian, 2026-09-09.

Policing, Detention & State Violence

Ecuador: **Militarization Continues and the Armed Forces Still Refuse to Cooperate**. One year after "It Was the Military. I Saw Them," Amnesty International warns that militarization and a lack of cooperation continue to obstruct justice in Ecuador. Amnesty International, 2026-09-22.

Türkiye: **The people behind the numbers: Bringing the reality of Turkish prisons to light**. In late 2025, prisons in Türkiye became more visible than they had been in a long time. The 11th Judicial Package, a legislative reform that became law in December, was debated for days on television, in newspapers, and on social media. Sentencing regulations, claims of early release, and changes to the penal system were at the forefront of public discourse. However, as the debates intensified, another issue came to light: Many people discussing the same topic did not actually have the same information. Global Voices, 2026-09-12.

Privacy & Data Protection

Australia: **Australia heading for world-first 'right to be forgotten'**. The Privacy Amendment (Personal Data Protection) Bill 2026 is now out for public comment, together with a consultation paper. It is the second instalment (or "tranche") of privacy reform , and it is the one that matters most. The bill contains dozens of new measures, such as stronger consent requirements and a "right to be forgotten", but at its heart is a world-first test that could bypass many loopholes companies use to justify what they do with personal data. Rob Nicholls, Newsreel, 2026-09-02.

Canada/Europe: **The EU must act now to protect privacy and encryption from Canada's overreaching Bill C-22**. The highly criticised Bill C-22, threatens end-to-end encryption, carries

sweeping surveillance capabilities and blanket data retention mandates, and is not just a domestic privacy and data issue in Canada. Bill C-22 puts the privacy and data of millions of people in Europe, and elsewhere, at risk as it also applies to certain service providers and people outside of Canada. It allows Canadian authorities to compelEuropean-based companies to comply with demands relating to security and data of their customers based in Europe without oversight or transparency. Access Now, 2026-09-28.

Myanmar: **Ignore human rights risks, face the consequences: Telenor under investigation for crimes against humanity in Myanmar**. For years, Access Now and civil society have raised the alarm over Telenor's hasty and irresponsible departure from Myanmar and the potential human rights abuses should Telenor sell its Myanmar enterprise to the military-linked M1 Group. Access Now, 2026-09-22.

South Africa: **DA to report e-Panic data breach to Information Regulator**. The Democratic Alliance says it will report the Gauteng e-Panic Button data breach to the Information Regulator. This follows our report last week that the database behind the provincial government's emergency app was left unsecured. It exposed crime reports, including reports of domestic violence and assault, along with the names, phone numbers, locations and movement histories of the people who filed them. Cedras, By Joel, GroundUp News, 2026-09-28.

United Kingdom: **Sensitive UK police data vulnerable to 'compromise' by US government and foreign actors**. Official UK security assessment found Microsoft cloud platform storing files was at potential risk from hostile hackers. Down, Aisha, The Guardian, 2026-09-18.

United States of America: **Justice department orders US states to expand how they report undocumented immigrants**. New DoJ opinion says entire state government has duty to report, not just agencies responsible for welfare programs. Gedeon, Joseph, The Guardian, 2026-09-02.

United States of America: **US supreme court lifts restrictions on controversial voter database**. Trump and officials claimed database combats noncitizen voting but critics said it could disenfranchise eligible voters. Goups sued to block the use of the Save database, arguing that it was riddled with inaccuracies, and that taking social security numbers from the Social Security Administration violation of the Privacy Act, Social Security Act, and the Administrative Procedure Act. Chidi, George, The Guardian, 2026-09-25.

Worldwide: **WFP defends new 5-year Palantir deal to staff**. WFP has come under fire for its secretive relationship with Palantir, often seen as an AI arms dealer that espouses a techno-fascist, US-dominated worldview. While governments and the public in several countries are questioning or breaking ties with Palantir, mostly over data sovereignty fears, WFP has largely refused to discuss or even acknowledge basic details about its partnership. Internally, some staff have described a culture of silence when it comes to Palantir. The 30 August message was a rare example of WFP management engaging with the unease about Palantir, said a staff member who shared the note with us. Irwin Loy, The New Humanitarian, 2026-09-03.

Worldwide: **Your robotic vacuum is a witness: What home robots mean for evidence, privacy and the law**. Laws against surreptitiously recording someone extend to home devices like robot vacuums, but those recordings can still be used against you in court. Grispos, George; Fradella, Henry F.; Joun, Jihun, The Conversation, 2026-09-17.

Surveillance & Monitoring

Georgia/Russian Federation: **Seen and silenced: How Russian surveillance software suppresses Georgian civilians rights**. Over the two years, the Georgian government built a comprehensive face recognition enforcement system, procured by a Moscow-based company with ties to the FSB. The impact on demonstrators is appalling. Global Voices, 2026-09-01.

Russian Federation/United States of America: **US Firm Hid Russian Ownership While Selling Phone-Hacking Software To Pentagon, Officials Say**. A US company that provided digital forensics and data-extraction software to the Pentagon and other government agencies was in fact owned by a Russian company that also sold software to Russian spy agencies, US authorities charged. Eckel, Mike, Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty, 2026-09-24.

Serbia: **Serbians targeted with spyware in country's 'largest documented wave of surveillance'**. Student protesters among those hacked, says digital rights group, though Aleksandar Vučić's government denies spying. Down, Aisha, The Guardian, 2026-09-03.

Worldwide: **Tackling Spyware Abuse: What States Must Do Under International Law to Protect Journalists and Strengthen Security**. States should treat spyware governance as a top-tier political priority and work toward a binding, enforceable regulatory framework. Amirfar, Catherine, Just Security, 2026-09-17.

Transitional Justice

Argentina: **70 years on, Argentine court declares 'Operation Massacre' a crime against humanity**. The court has ordered remedial measures that the families have been waiting for for too long. Fabricio Cordido, Global Voices, 2026-07-19.

Chile: **Patricio Guzman, cinéaste et documentariste du Chili d'Allende à Pinochet, est mort**. Multirécompensé, le réalisateur était connu pour avoir réalisé, entre 1972 et 1973, « La Bataille du Chili », trilogie de cinq heures sur le gouvernement de l'ancien président socialiste chilien Salvador Allende. Il est mort à l'âge de 85 ans. Le Monde, 2026-09-15.

Mexico: **Las mexicanas valientes que desafiaron al ejército para buscar a sus desaparecidos**. En Nuevo Laredo, una de las regiones más crueles y silenciadas de México, un grupo de mujeres se lanzó a la búsqueda de decenas de desaparecidos, a pesar de las amenazas de los militares y el olvido del Gobierno. Esta es una de las historias que recoge el periodista Jacobo García en 'Años luz. García, Jacobo, El País, 2026-09-08.

Myanmar: **As armed conflict rages and military rule continues, critical measures can be taken towards eventual justice and accountability for victims of Enforced Disappearance**. As enforced disappearances and other human rights atrocities continue in Myanmar, there is a great deal that can and must be done to address these cases with a view to bringing justice to victims and their survivors, according to participants at a webinar convened on 28 August 2026 by the International Commission of Jurists (ICJ). The event, on "the Right to Know the Truth: Remembering Victims of Enforced Disappearance in Myanmar," held just ahead of the 30 August International Day of the Victims of Enforced Disappearances, heard from speakers of the Karen Human Rights Group (KHRG), Chin Human Rights Organization (CHRO), and the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR). Velez, Juan, International Commission of Jurists, 2026-09-10.

Palestine: **À Gaza, des milliers de disparus toujours recherchés par leurs proches**. À Gaza, l'impasse persiste. Les Palestiniens n'ont toujours pas les moyens de reconstruire avant l'hiver, ni de retrouver leurs disparus, dont certains pourraient être détenus en Israël ou ensevelis sous les décombres depuis bientôt trois ans. Thibault Lefèvre, franceinfo, 2026-09-06.

Peru: **El temor de la reescritura de la historia del Perú**. En un país con un pasado reciente y un presente violentos es necesario cultivar una memoria crítica y justa de los hechos. Yacila, Rosa Chávez, El País América, 2026-09-01.

Peru: **Ll'inquiétude des familles de victimes et disparus du régime d'Alberto Fujimori**. Au Pérou, le retour du nom Fujimori à la tête de l'Etat est un séisme politique. Vingt-six ans après son père Alberto, c'est Keiko qui a été élue. Mais tout juste un mois après son entrée au palais présidentiel, le doute plane sur ce qu'elle fera ou dira sur les crimes commis par le gouvernement de son père. Les familles des victimes sont déjà très inquiètes. Martin Chabal, RFI, 2026-08-31.

Russian Federation: **ECtHR decision to strike out more than 800 complaints denies victims truth, justice and reparation and should be reversed**. The European Court of Human Rights' decision is deeply disappointing. It deprives hundreds of individuals of what for many of them is their last hope of seeing justice for the violations they have suffered. Amnesty International, 2026-09-04.

South Africa: **'We continue to suffer': victims of apartheid-era Sharpeville massacre demand compensation**. Claim relating to 1960 attack on hundreds of protesters part of wave of litigation over apartheid crimes in South Africa. This claim is part of a wave of litigation demanding justice for apartheid-era crimes, amid widespread disillusionment with ANC-led governments that have failed to rectify South Africa's huge racial inequality and poverty since the end of apartheid over three decades ago. Savage, Rachel, The Guardian, 2026-09-03.

South Africa: **« Je voulais que ma douleur soit connue » : en Afrique du Sud, les victimes des crimes de l'apartheid se battent pour rouvrir les dossiers**. Trois décennies après la chute du régime ségrégationniste et la mise en place d'une commission vérité et réconciliation, des familles attendent toujours des réponses ou des réparations. Et elles n'hésitent plus à saisir la justice pour forcer la main au gouvernement. Bargelès, Claire, Le Monde, 2026-09-08.

South Korea: **Shame is a poor archivist: Korea's unfinished reckoning with the past**. Every family edits itself. Mine had more to cut than most: a collaborator, a disappearance and a child sent abroad and quietly erased. When the actress Ha Young learned this summer that her great-grandfather's name appears on a 1916 roster of a pro-Japanese organization, I read the news from Denmark with a strange calm. My own great-great-grandfather Lee Ha-young is on Korea's official list of pro-Japanese collaborators. Susan Vinzents Jensen, The Korea Times, 2026-09-02.

United States of America: **Jewish heirs of Holocaust victims sue California museum over Nazi-looted art**. Pasadena's Norton Simon Museum holds 16th-century paintings stolen by the Nazis during the second world war. The issue of Nazi-looted art is an emotionally, legally and ethically charged topic that pits Jewish families that have suffered intergenerational trauma against museums that say they are trying to preserve a painful, yet important, chapter of history. The Guardian, 2026-09-19.

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