
AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL NEWS FOR HEALTH PROFESSIONALS

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AI Index: ACT 84/010/2003

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Summary

AI reports & statements: annual report 2003, covering events from 2002 / AI Ireland report on mental illness and homelessness

Further news: access to medicine - MSF, Oxfam and HAI letter to WHO / India: mentally ill in the prison system / Kenya: 'Africa Aids drugs trapped in laboratory' / Washington Post: 2 part series on torture

Conferences: ICN 2003 conference / PHR-UK seminar: The Death Penalty - Is it torture?

Vacancies: PHR-USA: research associate, senior research associate

Publications

Amnesty International reports & statements

Amnesty International launched its annual report 2003, covering events from January - December 2002.

Press release: <http://web.amnesty.org/library/Index/ENGPOL100112003>

Summary: <http://web.amnesty.org/library/Index/ENGPOL100082003>

Facts and figures: <http://web.amnesty.org/library/Index/ENGPOL100052003>

Good news stories: <http://web.amnesty.org/library/Index/ENGPOL100042003>

Amnesty International Ireland published the report 'Mental Illness: The Neglected Quarter - Homelessness':

<http://www.amnesty.ie/news/2003/mentalillness2.shtml>

This is a small selection of Amnesty International reports and statements. For a comprehensive overview, please check Amnesty International's website:

<http://www.amnesty.org/>

Further news

Access to medicines - MSF/Oxfam/HAI letter to WHO. Médecins Sans Frontières, Oxfam and Health Action International sent an open letter to WHO member country delegations to the 56th World Health Assembly:

<http://www.accessmed-msf.org/documents/56WHAfinal.pdf>

India - mentally ill in the prison system. The *Hindu* reported that the National Human Rights Commission "found that as many as 10 states were holding mentally challenged people with no criminal record in their jails" (23 May).

<http://www.hinduonnet.com/thehindu/holnus/01231814.htm>

Kenya - 'Africa Aids drugs trapped in the laboratory'. The *Guardian* reported that generic copies of drugs used to delay HIV developing into AIDS are stuck in laboratory's 'stability rooms' (21 May):

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/international/story/0,3604,960106,00.html>

Torture - *Washington Post* 2 part series on torture: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/articles/A39072-2003May25.html> ('The Survivor', 26 May)
http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/articles/A42089-2003May26.html?nav=hptoc_c ('A Time for Healing', 27 May)

Conferences

The **International Council of Nurses** 2003 conference will be held in Geneva, Switzerland from 27-29 June. Click here for further information: <http://www.icn.ch/geneva/program.htm>

Physicians for Human Rights - UK is organising a seminar entitled **The Death Penalty -- Is it Torture?** on Thursday June 26, UN International Day in Support of Victims of Torture. Place and venue: The Board Room, The Middlesex Hospital, Mortimer Street, London WC1, 6.30-8.30 PM. Speakers: Dr Harold Hillman, Dr Rob Ferris
Further information from Dr Helen Bygrave: helenbygrave@hotmail.com

Vacancies

PHR-USA seeks a **research associate and a senior research associate**. Applications should be submitted by 13 June 2003. More information is available at:
http://www.phrusa.org/about/whats_new/index.html#re and
http://www.phrusa.org/about/whats_new/index.html#srre. For information on PHR see:
<http://www.phrusa.org/about/>

Publications

London L. Human rights, environmental justice, and the health of farm workers in South Africa. *Int J Occup Environ Health* 2003 Jan-Mar;9(1):59-68 [in Pub Med].
http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/entrez/query.fcgi?cmd=Retrieve&db=PubMed&list_uids=12749632&dopt=Abstract

ICRC. The Missing: Action to resolve the problem of people unaccounted for as a result of armed conflict or internal violence and to assist their families (report from 19-21 February Conference, Geneva).
[http://www.icrc.org/Web/eng/siteeng0.nsf/html/D2610FCE200D1006C1256D1D00558BA4/\\$File/TheMissing_Conf_03.2003_EN_90.pdf?OpenElement](http://www.icrc.org/Web/eng/siteeng0.nsf/html/D2610FCE200D1006C1256D1D00558BA4/$File/TheMissing_Conf_03.2003_EN_90.pdf?OpenElement)

Smith SS, Baxter VJ and Humphreys MS. Psychiatric treatment in prison: a missed opportunity? *Med Sci Law* 2003 Apr;43(2):122-6 [in PubMed].
http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/entrez/query.fcgi?cmd=Retrieve&db=PubMed&list_uids=12741655&dopt=Abstract

Turner SW, Bowie C et al. Mental health of Kosovan Albanian refugees in the UK. *British Journal of Psychiatry* 2003; 182: 444-448. See abstract at:
<http://bjp.rcpsych.org/cgi/content/abstract/182/5/444>. See also related editorial (Ommeren M van. Validity issues in transcultural epidemiology.
<http://bjp.rcpsych.org/cgi/content/full/182/5/376>)

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