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Amnesty International reports & statements:

18/10/2007 Open letter to Heads of State and Government of the European Union: There should be no "opt-out" from fundamental rights (REPORTS) IOR 61/024/2007
18/10/2007 Open Letter to Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress on the reform of Re-education through Labour (REPORTS) ASA 17/020/2007
18/10/2007 USA: Pause for thought, Another lethal injection halted by US Supreme Court (REPORTS) AMR 51/161/2007
17/10/2007 Palestinian refugees in Lebanon: Six decades of exile and suffering (REPORTS) MDE 18/006/2007
17/10/2007 USA: One year with the Military Commissions Act: four years without a lawyer; six years without justice (REPORTS) AMR 51/160/2007
16/10/2007 Death Penalty: Three death row survivors call for global moratorium on executions (NEWS)

16/10/2007 Iran: Amnesty International condemns continued repression of human rights defenders (NEWS)

16/10/2007 Singapore: International Bar Association urged to take action on restrictions on freedom of expression (NEWS) ASA 36/003/2007


12/10/2007 Kosovo (Serbia): The Ombudsperson should guarantee the human rights of all persons in Kosovo (NEWS) EUR 70/013/2007


10/10/2007 Open letter from Amnesty International Secretary General Irene Khan to UN member states calling for a global moratorium on executions (NEWS) ACT 50/019/2007

10/10/2007 Amnesty International releases its briefing on Tasers submitted to the US Justice Department (NEWS) AMR 51/154/2007


09/10/2007 Burundi: No protection from rape in war and peace (REPORTS) AFR 16/002/2007


09/10/2007 Amnesty International dismayed by execution of 15 in Afghanistan (NEWS) ASA 11/014/2007

09/10/2007 Sudan: Attack on north Darfur imminent (NEWS) AFR 16/061/2007

09/10/2007 Burundi: No protection from rape in war and peace (NEWS) AFR 16/004/2007


Asylum seekers/ internally displaced people (IDPs)/refugees:

Sudan: (UNHCR) – The UN Refugee Agency condemned the recent deportation by Sudan of at least 15 Ethiopian refugees. UNHCR News Stories. (11 October):

USA: An immigrant awaiting deportation was allegedly forcibly sedated despite having no history of psychological problems. This, his lawyers argue, may constitute torture and violates both the Bill of Rights and federal law regarding the medical treatment of detainees, according to Associated Press (10 October):

Children:

Kenya: One of Africa’s largest dumps is harming the health of children living nearby, according to a recent UN Environmental Programme (UNEP) report. Africa News (6 October):
**Mozambique:** HIV/AIDS is killing more than 1000 teachers each year adversely affecting the education of a generation of students, according to Aires Aly, the country’s education minister. *News Africa* (12 October): [http://english.aljazeera.net/NR/exeres/129A590D-4816-4379-8EFA-E79F0DD1EBB1.htm](http://english.aljazeera.net/NR/exeres/129A590D-4816-4379-8EFA-E79F0DD1EBB1.htm)

**UK:** Doctors are seeking legal approval to carry out a hysterectomy on a severely disabled teenager to stop her starting menstruation. *BBC* (7 October): [http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/health/7032736.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/health/7032736.stm)

**Death Penalty:**


**Elderly:**


**Ethics:**


**HIV and AIDS:**


**China:** Chinese AIDS activists face increased government surveillance and intimidation, in their efforts to openly meet and discuss AIDS, human rights and access to legal services. *Human Rights Watch* (September 27, 2007) [http://hrw.org/english/docs/2007/09/27/china16963.htm](http://hrw.org/english/docs/2007/09/27/china16963.htm)

**India:** Feature on the stigma faced by HIV and AIDS sufferers in the state of Bihar. *BBC News* (15 October): [http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/south_asia/7029324.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/south_asia/7029324.stm)

**Canada:** Canada issued compulsory licence for HIV/AIDS drug export for Rwanda, in the first test of WTO procedure, according to *Bridges* (26 September): [http://www.ictsd.org/weekly/07-09-26/story2.htm](http://www.ictsd.org/weekly/07-09-26/story2.htm)
Uganda: The recent statement by Yoweri Museveni, the President of Uganda, that ‘to die of Aids is an act of treason’, will further stigmatise HIV positive people, and drive the epidemic further underground, according to The International Community of Women Living with HIV/AIDS (ICW). New Vision (4 October):
http://allafrica.com/stories/200710050063.html

Mental Health:

USA: Opinion piece on the concept of ‘mental health courts’. The Moderate Voice. (16 October):

Organ Transplants:

UK: The UK Government is considering instituting a system of ‘presumed consent’ for organs to be used after death. The Press Association (19 October):
http://news.scotsman.com/topics.cfm?tid=1616&id=1506382007
For BMA briefing on presumed consent for organ donation see:

Prisoners:

China: A Chinese land rights activist imprisoned after circulating a petition opposing the Beijing Olympics has been chained for days in the same position and forced to clean up the waste of other inmates, according to his sister and an international network of activists and rights monitoring groups. Associated Press (8 October):
http://hosted.ap.org/dynamic/stories/C/CHINA_ACTIVIST_ARRESTED?SITE=WABEL&SECTION=HOME&TEMPLATE=DEFAULT

Right to health:

Egypt: Participants at Egypt’s first National Conference on the Right to health discussed the proposed health insurance law, which critics argue will increase inequalities regarding access to health care. Al-Ahram (17 October):

Sexual and Reproductive Health:

UK: Despite backing from several health professional organizations for women to be able to perform abortions at home, the Department of Health has indicated that there are no plans to change the law. BBC News (12 October):
http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/health/7041004.stm

Taser:

Canada: Opinion piece on the taser-related death of a Polish immigrant. Vancouver Sun (17 October):
USA: A study paid for by the Justice Department, and released by the American College of Emergency Physicians, has concluded that tasers and similar stun guns are generally safe for police to use. *The Olympian* (16 October):
http://www.theolympian.com/opinion/story/244455.html

Torture:

**Tunisia**: Tunisian officials denied the country permitted the use of torture, and criticized a U.S. judge for blocking the transfer of a Guantanamo prisoner on grounds that he could face ill-treatment. *Associated Press* (11 October):
http://hosted.ap.org/dynamic/stories/T/TUNISIA_GUANTANAMO?SITE=WABEL&SECTION=HOME&TEMPLATE=DEFAULT

USA: President Bush defended harsh interrogation of terrorism suspects, declaring, “This government does not torture people”, according to *The New York Times* (6 October):

USA: Three university psychology departments have expressed divergence from the American Psychologist Association’s position on psychologists’ role in interrogation. *Inside Higher Ed*. (12 October):

Violence Against Women:

**Democratic Republic of Congo**: Feature on sexual violence in the DRC which, according to the United Nations under secretary general for humanitarian affairs, is the ‘worst in the world.. [due to] the sheer numbers, the wholesale brutality [and] the culture of impunity.’
*The New York Times* (7 October):

UK: 21,000 girls are at risk of genital mutilation in the UK, according to campaigners pressing for action to prevent FGM, according to *The Guardian* (10 October):
http://www.guardian.co.uk/uk_news/story/0,,2187263,00.html

Employment Opportunities:

The Health & Human Rights Team in WHO is looking to recruit a Technical Officer
http://www.who.int/employment/vacancies/en/ (Vacancy Number: HQ/07/SDE/FT1,052)

Events:

Unite For Sight Fifth Annual International Health Conference
Building Global Health For Today and Tomorrow
April 12-13, 2008
Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut
Publications:

http://www.globalhealthequity.ca/about/labonte_CriticalPerspectives_cover.shtml

The Lancet – Women Deliver Special Issue
http://www.thelancet.com/online/focus/women-deliver/collection

‘Equitable Access to Health Care and Infectious Disease Control: Concepts, Measurement and Interventions.’
The Oswaldo Cruz Foundation (FIOCRUZ) in collaboration with the UNICEF/UNDP/World Bank/WHO Special Programme for Research and Training in Tropical Diseases (TDR), the World Health Organization (WHO) and the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development (UNRISD).
http://www.unrisd.org/80256B3C005BCCF9/(search)/85B229CD6C973919C125736F002862D8?Opendocument&highlight=2,travassos&fromsearch=yes&query=travassos


http://www.who.int/bulletin/volumes/85/10/00-035659/en/index.html

www.globalforumhealth.org/filesupld/MentalHealthRC/MHRC_FullText.pdf

http://www.who.int/bulletin/volumes/85/10/en/index.html


Zilberberg, J., ‘Sex Selection and Restricting Abortion and Sex Determination’, Bioethics, November 2007 - Vol. 21 Issue 9, pg. 517-519

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