
AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL NEWS FOR HEALTH PROFESSIONALS

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Amnesty International reports & statements

See a selection of recent AI news releases:

Ethiopia. Treason trial of prisoners of conscience opens in Addis Ababa (2 May).
<http://news.amnesty.org/index/ENGAFR250152006>

Growing network of arms brokers and transporters fuelling killings, rape, and torture (10 May).
<http://web.amnesty.org/library/Index/ENGPOL300132006>

Russian Federation. Racism and xenophobia rife in Russian society (4 May).
<http://news.amnesty.org/index/ENGEUR460182006>

South Korea. Thousands of riot police in bloody eviction for US base (4 May).
<http://news.amnesty.org/index/ENGASA250042006>

Unequal partners: not all women in Albania have the same rights as men (May 2006).
<http://web.amnesty.org/actforwomen/dv-albania-080506-editorial-eng>

US Government creating climate of torture (3 May).
<http://news.amnesty.org/index/ENGAMR510702006>

Uzbekistan. Andizhan one year on - the victims must not be forgotten (11 May).
<http://web.amnesty.org/library/Index/ENGEUR620112006>

These and other press releases and reports are accessible at:
<http://web.amnesty.org/library/eng-recent/index>

Children

Liberia. Save the Children UK has documented the exploitation of children by humanitarian workers, peacekeepers and local businessmen in Liberia (9 May).
<http://www.savethechildren.org.uk/scuk/jsp/resources/details.jsp?id=4167&group=resources§ion=news&subsection=details>

USA. "Virginity pledges" by adolescents may bias their reports of premarital sex. Most adolescents disavowed their pledge within a year, reported the Harvard School of Public Health (2 May).

<http://www.hsph.harvard.edu/press/releases/press05022006.html>

World. More than one quarter of all children under the age of five in developing countries are underweight, many to a life-threatening degree, says a UNICEF report (2 May).

http://www.unicef.org/media/media_33724.html

Death Penalty

Malaysia. The government is set to add more entries to its list of capital offences, reported IPS news agency (8 May).

<http://www.ipsnews.net/news.asp?idnews=33160>

Somalia. A teenager has stabbed to death his father's killer in a public execution ordered by an Islamic court, reported the BBC (2 May).

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/africa/4967108.stm>

USA. Texas Judge Wayne Salvant ruled that death row inmate Steven Kenneth Staley could be physically forced to take anti-psychotic medication that could render him competent enough to be executed, according to DPIC (1 May).

<http://www.deathpenaltyinfo.org/article.php?did=1762&scid=64>

USA. The execution of Joseph Lewis Clark took nearly 90 minutes after the team trying to deliver a lethal injection had trouble finding a suitable vein, reported the BBC (3 May).

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/americas/4968022.stm>

HIV/AIDS

Zimbabwe. The country is running out of drugs to treat Aids, the state-run Herald newspaper reports. The country has less than one month's supply of anti-retroviral drugs for the 20,000 people who receive them, according to the BBC (3 May).

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/africa/4969228.stm>

Prisoners

Libya. The retrial of five Bulgarian nurses and a Palestinian doctor accused of deliberately infecting hundreds of children at a Libyan hospital with HIV has been postponed until 13 June. See Swissinfo (11 May):

http://www.swissinfo.org/eng/international/ticker/detail/Libya_adjourns_foreign_medics_HIV_retrial.html?siteSect=143&sid=6707664&cKey=1147341184000

Right to health

Israel/OT. Physicians for Human Rights-Israel has published a report focusing on "the collapse of the Palestinian health system due to the freeze of the tax revenue by Israel" (May 2006).

<http://www.phr.org.il/phr/article.asp?articleid=336&catid=42&pcat=42&lang=ENG>

North Korea. Recent decisions by the North Korean government to suspend the operation of the World Food Programme, ban the private sale of grain, and reinstate the Public Distribution System could lead to renewed hunger for North Korea's already poor and destitute people, Human Rights Watch said in a new report (4 May).

<http://hrw.org/english/docs/2006/05/03/nkorea13292.htm>

report: <http://hrw.org/reports/2006/northkorea0506/>

Torture

Pakistan. The Supreme Court ordered Sindh Chief Secretary Fazal-ul-Rehman to appear before it to explain why he had transferred a deputy inspector general of police who had uncovered private police-run torture prison cells, according to the Daily Times (9 May).
http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/default.asp?page=2006%5C05%5C09%5Cstory_9-5-2006_pg7_22

UN/USA. For the first time since the Bush administration launched its global campaign against terrorism, the United States answered internationally for its record on torture, said Human rights Watch (4 May).
<http://www.hrw.org/english/docs/2006/05/04/usdom13311.htm>
In its answer, senior Bush administration officials told the UN Committee Against Torture that US law forbids torture under any circumstances anywhere and anyplace. See USINFO (9 May):
<http://usinfo.state.gov/xarchives/display.html?p=washfile-english&y=2006&m=May&x=20060509173829MVyelwarC1.984805e-02&t=dhr/hr-latest.html>

Zimbabwe. State security agents have increased the use of torture against government opponents, said a local rights group, according to Reuters (6 May).
<http://www.alertnet.org/thenews/newsdesk/L06384855.htm>

Women's rights

Romania. A BBC correspondent reports on a meeting with male and female traffickers who forced women into sex work (6 May).
http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/programmes/from_our_own_correspondent/4979936.stm

Vacancies

The Mines Advisory Group (MAG) is looking for a Country Programme Manager in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). MAG has been working in the DRC since August 2004 and is currently running mine action projects on behalf of Dfid, SIDA, UNMAS and the Belgium Government. Click here for further details of this and other vacancies:
<http://www.mag.org.uk/page.php?s=4&p=569>

The Mental Disability Advocacy Center (MDAC), Hungary, is looking for an Executive Director. MDAC promotes and protects the rights of people with mental health problems and/or intellectual disabilities in 28 countries of central and eastern Europe, NIS and central Asia. Click here for further details of the vacancy: <http://www.mdac.info/mdac/employment.htm>

Publications

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Betty A. Donoval et al. HIV-1 Target Cells in Foreskins of African Men With Varying Histories of Sexually Transmitted Infections. *AJCP.com* (7 May).
<http://www.ajcp.com/previews/abstracts/2005060220.html>

Editorial. China's human rights and our responsibilities. *Lancet* 2006; 367:1371 (6 May).
<http://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140673606685887/fulltext>

Editorial. Condoms and the Vatican. *Lancet* 2006; 367:1550 (13 May).
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Moreno A, et al. Characteristics and utilization of primary care services in a torture rehabilitation center. *J Immigr Minor Health* 2006 Apr;8(2):163-71.
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