
AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL NEWS FOR HEALTH PROFESSIONALS

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Summary

- AI reports & statements
- Death Penalty
- HIV/AIDS
- Human Rights
- Right to health
- Torture
- Courses
- Publications

Amnesty International reports & statements

Amnesty International Report 2005 (25 May). <http://web.amnesty.org/report2005/index-eng>

Related information: USA: Response to President Bush (31 May).

<http://web.amnesty.org/library/Index/ENGAMR510872005>

Also see the following recent AI news releases:

Afghanistan: Women still under attack - a systematic failure to protect (30 May).

<http://web.amnesty.org/library/index/engasa110072005?open&of=eng-373>

China: Tragedy of Tiananmen remains alive (3 June).

<http://news.amnesty.org/index/ENGASA170182005>

Nigeria: Unheard voices (31 May). <http://web.amnesty.org/library/Index/ENGAFR440042005>

Zimbabwe: Thousands of forced evictions and arrests in violent crackdown (1 June).

<http://web.amnesty.org/library/Index/ENGAFR460122005>

Further recent press releases and reports are accessible at:

<http://web.amnesty.org/library/eng-recent/index>

Death Penalty

US. The Texas Court of Criminal Appeals has ruled that a man whose attorney slept through portions of his 1992 death penalty trial should not get a new trial because he had another less experienced attorney who remained awake, wrote *DPIC* (24 May).

<http://www.deathpenaltyinfo.org/article.php?did=1453&scid=64>

Also from *DPIC* (27 May): "By a vote of 104-37, members of the Texas House of Representatives tentatively approved the sentencing option of life-without-parole in death penalty cases, a historic action that puts the state closer to including a sentencing alternative offered in nearly every death penalty state".

<http://www.deathpenaltyinfo.org/article.php?did=1458&scid=64>

HIV/AIDS

South Africa. The South African Medical Association criticised a supermarket franchise for selling a home test kit for HIV/AIDS. *Yahoo news* (24 May)
http://story.news.yahoo.com/s/afp/20050524/hl_afp/safricahealthaids

Human rights

Japan. *Japan Today* reported that the National Police Agency plans to distribute a six-language booklet to human trafficking victims to urge them to go to Japanese authorities to seek shelter and help. (26 May)
<http://www.japantoday.com/e/?content=news&cat=2&id=338359>

Nigeria. One year after clashes between Muslims and Christians, the Nigerian government has failed to prosecute those responsible for the killings, *Human Rights Watch* said in a report. (25 May)
<http://www.hrw.org/english/docs/2005/05/23/nigeri10993.htm>
Report: <http://hrw.org/reports/2005/nigeria0505/>

Sudan. Charges are to be dropped against two humanitarian aid workers in Darfur, who were arrested following accusations by the government that the organization's report on mass rape in the Darfur region was false. *BBC* (1 June)
<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/africa/4600337.stm>

Right to health

Iraq. Iraqi doctors leave their jobs and their country due to fear of violence and kidnapping. *New York Times* (29 May)
<http://www.nytimes.com/2005/05/30/international/middleeast/30doctor.html?oref=login>

Sub-Saharan Africa. One third of doctors practising in the UK have been trained overseas: this brain drain from sub-Saharan countries severely affects their healthcare systems. *BBC* (27 May)
<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/health/4582283.stm>
See also: JB Eastwood et al. Africa: Loss of health professionals from sub-Saharan Africa: the pivotal role of the UK. *The Lancet* 2005; 365:1893-1900.
<http://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140673605666238/fulltext>

Torture

Pakistan. U.S. FBI agents operating in Pakistan repeatedly interrogated and threatened two U.S. citizens of Pakistani origin who were unlawfully detained and subjected to torture by the Pakistani security services, *Human Rights Watch* said. (24 May)
<http://hrw.org/english/docs/2005/05/24/pakist11005.htm>

US. The *Boston Globe* reported on a Berkeley law professor who wrote memos for the Bush administration defining torture. (29 May)
http://www.boston.com/news/nation/washington/articles/2005/05/29/berkeley_law_professor_defends_work_on_memos_defining_torture/

Courses

2005 International Human Rights Academy, Cape Town, South Africa 15-29 October 2005. The various intensive courses that make up the Academy are designed to provide high quality legal education in comparative international human rights and in humanitarian law, with emphasis on the practical aspects in the various fields including health. Application closing date 15 June 2005. <http://www.ifhro.org>

Courtroom skills and report writing for mental health professionals. A one day workshop run jointly by the Institute of Psychiatry and the Prison Health Research Network. Wednesday 15 June 2005, Manchester Conference Centre.
<http://www.iop.kcl.ac.uk/iopweb/events/?event=197>

Publications

Adebayo Adejumo, Prisca Olabisi Adejumo. Time to act against medical collusion in punitive amputations. *BMJ* 2005;330:1277 (28 May),
<http://bmj.bmjournals.com/cgi/content/full/330/7502/1277>

Kapp C. Court case shines spotlight on South African AIDS policy. *The Lancet* 2005;365:1916-1917
<http://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140673605666433/fulltext>

Kishore RR. Human organs, scarcities, and sale: morality revisited. *J Med Ethics* 2005;31:362-365
<http://jme.bmjournals.com/cgi/content/abstract/31/6/362>

Wessely S. Risk, psychiatry and the military. (Series of papers). *Br J Psychiatry* 2005 186: 459-486.

<http://bjp.rcpsych.org/cgi/content/abstract/186/6/459>

Going to war does not have to hurt: preliminary findings from the British deployment to Iraq. *Br J Psychiatry* 2005 186: 536-537

<http://bjp.rcpsych.org/cgi/content/abstract/186/6/536>

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