
AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL NEWS FOR HEALTH PROFESSIONALS

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Summary

AI reports & statements: Bulgaria / Democratic Republic of Congo / Turkey

Further news: investigation into mass killings, Afghanistan / Kofi Annan speaks out on AIDS / visit UN Human Rights Rapporteur / organ trafficking Moldova / review death penalty sentences in Illinois

Lecture: Discourses of truth, trauma and reconciliation in post-conflict societies: psychologising the nation (31 October, London)

Vacancies: project director for health projects for Myanmar migrants, Doctors of the World / health advisor, Medical Emergency Relief International, London

Publications

Amnesty International reports & statements

Bulgaria: People with mental disabilities hidden far from the eyes of society. 10 October (EUR 15/017/2002).

Please click here for a press release with links to the report and appeal cases:

<http://web.amnesty.org/ai.nsf/recent/EUR150172002>

Also see an account by Amnesty International's campaigner on Bulgaria:

Bulgaria: A life worse than imprisonment: meeting Bulgaria's mentally disabled. 10 October (EUR 15/015/2002).

<http://web.amnesty.org/ai.nsf/recent/EUR150152002>

Democratic Republic of Congo: UN must take urgent steps to stop the escalation of ethnic killings. 17 October (AFR 62/022/2002).

<http://web.amnesty.org/ai.nsf/recent/AFR620222002>

Turkey: Sentencing of police officers is a positive step in the fight against torture. 16 October (EUR 44/052/2002).

<http://web.amnesty.org/ai.nsf/recent/EUR440522002>

Also see *BBC*, 'Turkish policemen jailed for torture' (16 October):

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/europe/2333843.stm>

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

Afghanistan - investigation into mass killings. Asma Jahangir, UN Special Rapporteur on Extrajudicial, Summary or Arbitrary Executions, is on mission in Afghanistan to investigate reports of mass killings, the *BBC* reported (13 October).
http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/south_asia/2324785.stm

China - Kofi Annan speaks out on AIDS. The *BBC* reported that during a mission to China Kofi Annan said the country stood "on the brink of an explosive AIDS epidemic" (14 October).
<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/asia-pacific/2325557.stm>

Myanmar - visit UN Human Rights Rapporteur. The *BBC* reported that UN Human Rights Rapporteur on the Situation of Human Rights in Myanmar, Professor Paolo Sergio Pinheiro, will undertake another mission to the country. Professor Pinheiro hopes to investigate reports of rape by the Myanmar army in the border region with Thailand (16 October).
<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/asia-pacific/2333753.stm>

Moldova - organ trafficking. A report by the Council of Europe on trafficking of organs in Eastern Europe will be prepared following a visit to Moldova by Mrs Gaby Vermot-Mangold, the Parliamentary Assembly's rapporteur on trafficking of organs in Eastern Europe.
<http://assembly.coe.int/Main.asp?link=http%3A%2F%2Fassembly.coe.int%2Fcommunication%2FTemporaryDocs%2FMoldova%25202%2520E.htm>

USA - review death penalty sentences in Illinois. The *Boston Globe* reported that the Illinois Prisoner Review Board will conduct a series of clemency hearings in which at least 140 death row inmates will be heard (15 October).
http://www.boston.com/dailyglobe2/288/nation/Illinois_to_conduct_review_of_death_row_sentences+.shtml

Lecture

Brandon Hamber, a South African psychologist, will present a lecture on "Discourses of truth, trauma and reconciliation in post-conflict societies: psychologising the nation" at the London School of Economics, 31 October 1.15pm to 2.30pm. For further details see
<http://www.lse.ac.uk/humanrights> or write to Sharon Shalev at human.rights@lse.ac.uk.

Vacancies

Doctors of the World USA is looking for a **project director for health projects for Myanmar migrants** along the Thailand-Myanmar border. For further information, e-mail: humanresources@dowusa.org or fax: +1.212.226.7026. The closing date for applications is 9 November 2002.

Merlin (Medical emergency relief international, London) seeks a **part time health adviser**. The successful candidate will have a good academic understanding of all issues relating to emergency public health with a practical grounding in relief work. Applications or requests for information should be sent to Annie Macklow-Smith (annie@merlin.org.uk). The closing date for applications is the 31st October 2002.

Publications

Baleta A. South Africa hints at HIV/AIDS policy rethink. *Lancet* 2002;360: 9341 (19 October).
<http://www.thelancet.com/journal/vol360/iss9341/full/Ilan.360.9341.news.22847.6>

BMA: The recommendations from *The Medical Profession & Human Rights: handbook for a changing agenda* are available online:
<http://www.bma.org.uk/ap.nsf/Content/The+Medical+Profession+and+Human+Rights+%2D+Recommendations>

Buist N R M. Experience of working in an Afghan camp. *BMJ* 2002;325:S127 (19 October).
<http://bmj.com/cgi/content/full/325/7369/S127>

Eaton L. BMA says world is ill prepared for bioterrorism. *BMJ* 2002;325:794 (12 October)
<http://bmj.com/cgi/content/full/325/7368/794/d>

Josefson D. Selling a kidney fails to rescue Indians from poverty. *BMJ* 2002;325:795 (12 October)
<http://bmj.com/cgi/content/full/325/7368/795/b>
Also see: *CNN*, 'Studying organ sales: short term profits, long term suffering' (10 October):
<http://www.cnn.com/2002/HEALTH/10/01/ethics.matters.selling.organs/index.html>
BBC, 'Indians selling human organs' (15 October):
<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/health/2331341.stm>

Price D. *Legal and Ethical Aspects of Organ Transplantation*, Cambridge University Press, 2000, pp 487. ISBN 0-521-65164-6
Reviewed by D Morgan in *J Med Ethics* 2002 28: 330. Subscribers to the journal can read the review at: <http://jme.bmjournals.com/cgi/content/full/28/5/330-a>

Schapowal AG, Baer HU. Medical ethics in peace and in the armed conflict. *Mil Med* 2002 Aug;167 (8 Suppl): 26-31[in PubMed].
http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/entrez/query.fcgi?cmd=Retrieve&db=PubMed&list_uids=12186301&dopt=Abstract

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