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Amnesty International reports & statements

See the following recent AI news releases [dates given in day/month/year format].

- 24/11/2006 [Domestic violence occurs in every Council of Europe member state: Let's take action together!](#) ACT 77/019/2006
- 22/11/2006 [Cambodia: Extraordinary Chambers must not rush to adopt flawed Rules](#) ASA 23/012/2006
- 22/11/2006 [EU: Show firmness on Russia's human rights responsibilities](#) EUR 46/065/2006
- 22/11/2006 [Russian Federation: Beating out "confessions" in police detention](#) EUR 46/060/2006
- 21/11/2006 [Burundi: Extrajudicial executions in Muyinga: former refugees were among the victims](#) AFR 16/019/2006
- 21/11/2006 [Israel/Lebanon: Further evidence of grave violations in Israel-Hizbullah conflict underlines urgent need for UN inquiry](#) MDE 02/035/2006
- 20/11/2006 [Amnesty International deplors 'No Action Motion' by Third Committee: urges governments to consider country situations on merit](#) IOR 41/024/2006
- 17/11/2006 [Sudan: Urgent need for effective peacekeeping to protect civilians](#) AFR 54/077/2006
- 16/11/2006 [Bosnia and Herzegovina: Roma and the right to education. Factsheet](#) EUR 63/014/2006
- 16/11/2006 [Croatia: The Roma and the right to education. Factsheet](#) EUR 64/001/2006
- 16/11/2006 [Israel/Occupied Territories: Governments at General Assembly must now put civilians before politics](#) IOR 41/023/2006
- 16/11/2006 [Italy: Abu Omar: Italian authorities must cooperate fully with all investigations](#) EUR 30/006/2006
- 16/11/2006 [Roma: Discrimination starts with primary education](#) EUR 05/004/2006
- 16/11/2006 [Slovenia : Roma and the right to education. Factsheet](#) EUR 68/002/2006

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

Asylum seekers/refugees

UK. The negative portrayal of asylum seekers in the press has a direct and immediate adverse impact on readers' assumptions about asylum seekers in general concludes a new study funded by the Economic and Social Research Council. See: <http://www.medicalnewstoday.com/medicalnews.php?newsid=56360>

Children

Swaziland. A joint initiative between the Swaziland government and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) to waive birth certificate fees for orphans and children in rural areas has boosted registration figures according to IRIN news, 21 November. See: <http://allafrica.com/stories/200611210425.html>

Death Penalty

Iran. Tehran's public prosecutor's office is seeking the death penalty for seven individuals accused of producing and distributing pornographic CDs. Iran focus 23 Nov

<http://www.iranfocus.com/modules/news/article.php?storyid=9282>

USA. Doctors key in killer's appeal. Judge may direct that Maryland check on their availability for lethal injections.

Baltimore Sun 15 November

<http://www.baltimoresun.com/news/local/bal-evans1115,0,6664946.story?coll=bal-local-headlines>

USA. The Texas Court of Criminal Appeals has rebuffed President Bush's order that Texas courts review the cases of Mexican foreign nationals who were sentenced to death without the benefit of their rights. DPIC 16 November

<http://www.deathpenaltyinfo.org/article.php?did=1973&scid=64>

USA. The annual number of death sentences in Texas has declined from 40 in 1996 to 14 in 2006, a drop of 65%.

DPIC. 21 November. <http://www.deathpenaltyinfo.org/article.php?did=1976&scid=64>

HIV/AIDS

UNAIDS/WHO. The global HIV/AIDS epidemic is expanding, according to new figures released on Tuesday by UNAIDS and the World Health Organisation (WHO). See the press release:

http://data.unaids.org/pub/PressRelease/2006/061121_2006_EPI_Update_en.pdf and the report:

http://www.who.int/hiv/mediacentre/2006_EpiUpdate_en.pdf. See also: Reuters Foundation. 21 November;

<http://www.alertnet.org/thenews/newsdesk/IRIN/133eaea431170b27b1903432f6fb90a8.htm>

Human rights

China. China has opened its first telephone support helpline for lesbians, state media has reported. BBC 23 Nov

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/asia-pacific/6173166.stm>

DR Congo. UN investigators have found a mass grave in an army camp in Congo's eastern Ituri district holding around 30 bodies, including women and children reports Reuters. See *Australian* 24 November;

<http://www.theaustralian.news.com.au/story/0,20867,20815477-23109,00.html>

Vietnam. Government roundup campaigns to clear Hanoi's streets of "wanderers" and "vagrants" are landing street children in detention centres, where some are beaten and subject to other forms of abuse, Human Rights Watch said in a report. HRW 13 November

<http://www.hrw.org/english/docs/2006/11/13/vietna14543.htm>

report: <http://hrw.org/reports/2006/vietnam1106/>

Prisoners

USA. The Bush administration claims detainees can't disclose how they were treated says the *Washington Post* 21 November;

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2006/11/20/AR2006112001134.html>

Right to health

Australia. Using internet search engine Google can help doctors diagnose tricky cases, researchers have said. BBC 14 November

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/health/6132856.stm>

Germany. A nurse has been convicted and sentenced to life in prison for killing 28 of his patients at a hospital in southern Germany. China Daily 21 Nov http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/world/2006-11/21/content_738569.htm

Iraq. Around 1,600 bodies were taken to Baghdad's morgue in October an official at the morgue said. *NZ Herald* 13 November;

http://www.nzherald.co.nz/section/story.cfm?c_id=2&ObjectID=10410496

UK. British scientists have accused the UK government of failing to listen to expert advice in its preparations for a flu pandemic and of stockpiling a single drug to treat the population. *Guardian* 21 November

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/birdflu/story/0,,1953139,00.html>

WHO. Sub-Saharan Africa remains the most dangerous region in the world for a baby to be born — with 1.16 million babies dying each year in the first 28 days of life reports the World Health Organization. See the press release:

<http://www.who.int/mediacentre/news/releases/2006/pr70/en/index.html> and the report:

<http://www.who.int/pmnch/media/publications/africanewborns/en/index.html> See also: Reuters Foundation. 20

November, <http://www.alertnet.org/thenews/newsdesk/L20638204.htm>

WHO. Dr Margaret Chan of China is to be the next Director General of the World Health Organization. See the WHO press release: <http://www.who.int/mediacentre/news/releases/2006/pr66/en/index.html>

Torture

China. A senior Chinese official has made a rare admission about the extent of the use of torture in getting convictions in China's courts. BBC 20 November;
<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/asia-pacific/6164408.stm>

Mexico. Supporters of the Oaxaca People's Assembly allege they have been tortured, reports *The Herald*, 20 November
<http://www.eluniversal.com.mx/miami/22051.html>

Violence against Women

DR Congo. *Newsweek* (13 November) reports on the problem of rape-associated fistula in the Congo and the work of hospitals in addressing this problem. See: <http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/15704030/site/newsweek/>

Egypt. Associated Press report that an Egyptian conference of Muslim scholars from around the world has declared female circumcision to be contrary to Islam and an attack on women. See the Age, 24 November;
<http://www.theage.com.au/news/world/muslim-scholars-rule-female-circumcision-unislamic/2006/11/24/1163871589618.html>

PAHO. The Pan American Health Organization has called for an end to violence against women. See the press release and other materials at: <http://www.paho.org/English/DD/PIN/pr061121.htm>. See also the call to action sponsored by many agencies: <http://www.isis.cl/temas/vi/activismo/Ingles/calforactionBUENO.pdf>

Publications

John Cleland, Mohamed M Ali. Sexual abstinence, contraception, and condom use by young African women: a secondary analysis of survey data. *Lancet* 2006; 368:1788-1793
<http://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140673606697389/abstract>

Aaron Levin. Human-Rights Charges Lead Turkey to Alter ECT Practices. *Psychiatr News* November 17, 2006, Volume 41, Number 22, page 14
<http://pn.psychiatryonline.org/cgi/content/full/41/22/14>

Oyeyemi A, et al. Administering Medical Procedures to Patients Living With AIDS: How Comfortable Are Physicians? *J Int Assoc Physicians AIDS Care* 2006 Dec;5(4):163-9
http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/entrez/query.fcgi?db=pubmed&cmd=Retrieve&dopt=AbstractPlus&list_uids=17101810&query_hl=9&itool=pubmed_DocSum

Pols H. Waking up to shell shock: psychiatry in the US military during World War II. *Endeavour* 2006 Nov 9
http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/entrez/query.fcgi?db=pubmed&cmd=Retrieve&dopt=AbstractPlus&list_uids=17097731&query_hl=6&itool=pubmed_docsum

Homer C. Tien et al. Preparing Canadian military surgeons for Afghanistan. *CMAJ* November 21, 2006; 175 (11)
<http://www.cmaj.ca/cgi/content/full/175/11/1365>

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