



**Peace & Justice Update**  
**August 13, 2004**  
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The countries for the Peace and Justice updates have been chosen as areas of focus at the Institute. The International Human Rights section is intended to focus on aspects of international law. For information on specific cases of human rights abuses, please visit [www.hrw.org](http://www.hrw.org) or [www.amnesty.org](http://www.amnesty.org). The Gender and Peace section highlights events in peacebuilding that pertain to gender and human rights.

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## UPDATE SOURCE ABBREVIATIONS

AFP	=	Agence France Presse ( <a href="http://www.afp.com">www.afp.com</a> )
AP	=	Associated Press ( <a href="http://www.ap.org">www.ap.org</a> )
AllAfrica	=	AllAfrica Global Media ( <a href="http://www.allAfrica.com">www.allAfrica.com</a> )
AI	=	Amnesty International ( <a href="http://www.amnesty.org">www.amnesty.org</a> )
Balkan News	=	Balkan News ( <a href="http://www.balkannews.net">www.balkannews.net</a> )
BBC	=	British Broadcasting Corporation ( <a href="http://news.bbc.co.uk">news.bbc.co.uk</a> )
BBC Monitoring	=	BBC Monitoring International Reports ( <a href="http://www.monitor.bbc.co.uk/">www.monitor.bbc.co.uk/</a> )
BCG	=	Balkan Crisis Group ( <a href="http://www.iwpr.net">www.iwpr.net</a> )
Channel NewsAsia	=	Channel NewsAsia ( <a href="http://www.channelnewsasia.com">www.channelnewsasia.com</a> )
DPA	=	Deutsche Presse-Agentur ( <a href="http://www.dpa.de">www.dpa.de</a> )
Economist	=	Economist ( <a href="http://www.economist.com">www.economist.com</a> )
EUObserver	=	EUObserver.Com ( <a href="http://www.euobserver.com">www.euobserver.com</a> )
ECHR	=	European Court of Human Rights ( <a href="http://www.echr.coe.int">www.echr.coe.int</a> )
FT	=	Financial Times ( <a href="http://www.ft.com">www.ft.com</a> )
GlobalSecurity	=	GlobalSecurity ( <a href="http://www.globalsecurity.org">www.globalsecurity.org</a> )
GlobalPolicy	=	Global Policy Forum ( <a href="http://www.globalpolicy.org">www.globalpolicy.org</a> )
GlobalSolutions	=	Citizens for Global Solutions ( <a href="http://globalsolutions.org">globalsolutions.org</a> )
Hirondelle	=	Hirondelle News Agency ( <a href="http://www.hirondelle.org/">http://www.hirondelle.org/</a> )
HRW	=	Human Rights Watch News ( <a href="http://www.hrw.org">www.hrw.org</a> )
ICC	=	International Criminal Court ( <a href="http://www.icc-cpi.int/php/index.php">www.icc-cpi.int/php/index.php</a> ).
ICG	=	International Crisis Group ( <a href="http://www.crisisweb.org">www.crisisweb.org</a> )
IPS	=	Inter Press Service ( <a href="http://www.ips.org">www.ips.org</a> )
IRIN	=	Integrated Regional Information Network ( <a href="http://www.irinnews.org">www.irinnews.org</a> )
IWPR	=	Institute for War and Peace Reporting ( <a href="http://www.iwpr.net">www.iwpr.net</a> )
Kantipur Online	=	Kantipur Online ( <a href="http://www.kantipuronline.com">www.kantipuronline.com</a> )
Latinnews Daily	=	LatinNews Daily ( <a href="http://www.latinnews.com">www.latinnews.com</a> )
Los Angeles Times	=	Los Angeles Times ( <a href="http://www.latimes.com">www.latimes.com</a> .)
Le Monde	=	Le Monde ( <a href="http://www.lemonde.fr">www.lemonde.fr</a> )
Le Jour	=	Le Jour ( <a href="http://www.lejour.ci">www.lejour.ci</a> )
Monitor	=	The Monitor ( <a href="http://www.monitor.co.ug">www.monitor.co.ug</a> )
Nepali Times	=	Nepali Times ( <a href="http://www.nepalitimes.com">www.nepalitimes.com</a> )
Nepal News.Com	=	Nepal News.Com ( <a href="http://www.nepalnews.com">www.nepalnews.com</a> )
NewKerala.Com	=	NewKerala.Com ( <a href="http://www.newkerala.com">www.newkerala.com</a> )
New Vision	=	The New Vision ( <a href="http://www.newvision.co.ug">www.newvision.co.ug</a> )
NYT	=	The New York Times ( <a href="http://www.nytimes.com">www.nytimes.com</a> )
Reuters	=	Reuters ( <a href="http://www.reuters.com">www.reuters.com</a> )
RSF	=	Reporters Sans Frontières ( <a href="http://www.rsf.org">www.rsf.org</a> )
Santiago Times	=	The Santiago Times ( <a href="http://www.tcgnews.com/santiagotimes">www.tcgnews.com/santiagotimes</a> )
Sudan Tribune	=	The Sudan Tribune ( <a href="http://www.sudantribune.com">www.sudantribune.com</a> )
UN News Center	=	UN New Center Homepage ( <a href="http://www.un.org">www.un.org</a> )
U.S. Dept. of State	=	U.S. Department of State ( <a href="http://www.state.gov">www.state.gov</a> )
UPI	=	United Press International ( <a href="http://www.upi.com">www.upi.com</a> )
Washington Times	=	The Washington Times ( <a href="http://www.washintontimes.com">www.washintontimes.com</a> )
Xinhua	=	Xinhua News Agency( <a href="http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/index.htm">www.xinhuanet.com/english/index.htm</a> )

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## **ANDES**

### **COLOMBIA**

Police seize explosives: The Colombian Anti-Narcotics Police confiscated four tons of explosives from two planes in Santodomingo, Colombia August 4. The planes were immobilized and three people arrested by the police. The planes were used to transport drugs and were allegedly owned by the United Self-Defense Forces of Colombia (AUC), a right-wing paramilitary group active in the region. The leftist-rebel groups the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) and the National Liberation Army (ELN) were also under suspicion due to recent raids throughout the country that had uncovered explosives and illicit substances. Colombian authorities were anticipating possible terrorist acts around the August 7 celebration of President Alvaro Uribe's second year in office due to his hard-line stance against paramilitary and rebel groups. The AUC, FARC and ELN have supported their activities during Colombia's 40-year civil war through the cultivation and trafficking of drugs. (BBC, August 4; Xinhua, August 5, 2004)

### **PERU**

Japan requests information for Fujimori extradition: The Japanese government requested additional information August 3 about murder charges against former Peruvian president Alberto Fujimori and clarification of Peru's citizenship laws. Peruvian authorities submitted a request for Fujimori's extradition from Japan in July 2003, but Japanese officials refused to honor the request because of Fujimori's dual Peruvian-Japanese citizenship and the absence of an extradition treaty between the two countries. The charges against Fujimori included involvement in the murder of 25 citizens in 1991 and 1992, the authorization of the torture of a journalist in 2000, the embezzlement of state funds, and dereliction of duty. The 66-year-old former president was born to Japanese parents in Peru and has been living in exile in Japan since November 2000. Fujimori ruled Peru between 1990 and 2000, and then fled the country amid charges of corruption, misappropriation of state resources, and violence against opposition groups. (AFP, August 6; BBC, August 4; Xinhua, August 8, 2004)

## **BALKANS**

### **BOSNIA**

Scientists uncover mass grave: Forensic experts discovered a mass grave containing an estimated 350 bodies in a coal mine outside the town of Foca. The bodies were believed to be those of Muslims who disappeared from a Bosnian Serb detention camp in 1992. According to the Bosnian Commission for Missing Persons the site was to be exhumed during the next two weeks. To date, the Commission has exhumed 16,500 bodies from more than 300 mass graves discovered since the end of the Bosnian war in 1995. The war left 250,000 people dead, 1.8 million displaced, and 20,000 reported missing. (AP, August 6; BBC, August 9, 2004)

## **GENDER AND PEACE**

## **UZBEKISTAN**

OSCE supports anti-human trafficking efforts: The Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) August 6 completed the first in a series of specialist trainings for Uzbek law enforcement agencies investigating human trafficking. The training, part of the OSCE's Anti-Trafficking Program, brought together 25 experts from different law enforcement bodies in Uzbekistan. Topics of the training program included a legislative overview, the current trafficking situation, victim identification, investigative principles and risk assessment, special needs of child victims, criminal justice conditions, phases of investigation, disruptive tactics and intelligence-gathering activity. Political analysts said that human trafficking and the sex industry has increased in Uzbekistan, Central Asia's most populous state, on account of its declining economy and rising poverty. In attempt to address this growing problem, the OSCE Center in Tashkent held a number of introductory training courses for law enforcement agencies, representatives of NGOs and journalists. (IRIN, August 6, 2004)

## **GREAT LAKES**

### **BURUNDI**

Main rebel group becomes political party: The Conseil National de Défense de la Démocratie-Forces de Défense de la Démocratie (CNDD-FDD), a rebel group that agreed to a cease-fire with the government in November 2003, voted to become a political party August 9. In accordance with the cease-fire agreement, the government would automatically approve the CNDD-FDD's status as a political party. Though it was part of the transitional government following the cease-fire agreement, CNDD-FDD backed out in May due to the government's delay in implementing a power-sharing agreement signed in November 2003. Receiving status as a political party would allow the CNDD-FDD to participate in talks about a power-sharing government that were set to reconvene in September. Internal fighting between ethnic Hutus and Tutsis from 1993 to 2003 left more than 300,000 people dead. (IRIN, August 9, 2004)

### **DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO (DRC)**

Government closes radio station: Officers from the National Intelligence Agency raided a radio station August 4, seizing the transmitter and arresting seven employees. The Evangelical station was shut down for "inciting people to revolt against national authorities" after the station re-broadcast a sermon by its owner, Pastor Albert Lukusa. Following a June 30 sermon in which Pastor Lukusa criticized the government's unwillingness to respond to citizens' basic needs, he was arrested and detained three separate times. After his most recent arrest August 4, the radio station announced Lukusa's detainment and re-broadcast the sermon. Four journalists, two technicians, and a security guard for the station were arrested for replaying the broadcast. The DRC's transitional government has been in place since the end of the civil war between 1998 and 2002 in which more than 3 million people were killed. (AllAfrica, August 6, 9, 2004)

## **HORN OF AFRICA**

### **SOMALIA**

Officials delay inauguration of parliament: Mediators at the Kenyan peace talks announced August 4 that the inauguration of Somalia's parliament was to be postponed until August 19. The delay was caused by disagreements within clans over how to divide the number of seats allotted to them and who to nominate as their members. Each of Somalia's four major clans received 61 seats in the new parliament and 31 seats were given to an alliance of minority clans. The original deadline for the inauguration of parliament was set for July 30 but was postponed until August 4 because some clans had not yet nominated their members. Somalia has been without a functioning government since the 1991 overthrow of Muhammad Siad Barre's regime which left opposing factions fighting for control. The peace talks, begun by the Inter-Governmental Authority on Development in October 2002, have been plagued by walk-outs and delays. (AllAfrica, IRIN, August 6, 2004)

## **SUDAN**

Government agrees to AU peace talks: Sudan agreed August 9 to participate in renewed peace talks with the Darfur rebels. The talks were to begin August 23 in Nigeria and were to be hosted by the African Union (AU). The Justice and Equality Movement (JEM) and the Sudan Liberation Army (SLA), the two dominant rebel groups in Darfur, agreed July 23 to restart talks with the government after the first attempt failed July 18. Rebel groups left the initial talks due to the government's failure to meet their conditions, which included disarming the Janjawid militia and allowing an international inquiry into charges of genocide against non-Arabs. The JEM and SLA first took up arms against the government in February 2003 demanding greater political representation and access to resources. Attacks on the rebel groups by the Janjawid, a government-supported Arab militia, have resulted in the deaths of approximately 50,000 people. (AP, IRIN, August 9, 2004)

Sudan agrees to UN plan: The "Plan of Action for Darfur" was signed August 4 by the Sudanese Foreign Minister and a UN special representative. It required that, within 30 days, Sudan create safe areas in Darfur and halt all offensive military operations in the areas including those of the rebel groups. The safe areas would be zones where citizens could search for food and water and work their land without fear of attack. They were likely to be set up in camps where thousands of Darfur citizens had already taken refuge. Sudan's police forces would guard the areas and link them with secured roads. An estimated 1.2 million people have been displaced from their homes by the fighting in Darfur since February 2003. (AP, August 7, 8; IRIN, August 6, 2004)

Arab League rejects UN resolution: In an emergency meeting held August 8, the 22-member Arab League rejected the July 30 UN resolution which gave Sudan 30 days to disarm the Janjawid militia in Darfur or face economic and diplomatic "measures." The League disagreed with sanctions or foreign intervention as possible solutions in resolving the Darfur situation. It called on the UN to give Sudan more time to create stability in the region. The Arab League pledged financial, technical, and logistical support to Sudan and stated that Arab countries in northern Africa would be willing to participate in a peacekeeping force if necessary. (AP, August 8; BBC, August 9, 2004)

## **INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS**

## **INDONESIA**

Government dismisses calls for UN tribunal: The Government of East Timor rejected calls for the establishment of a UN tribunal to try Indonesian military personnel responsible for war crimes committed during the country's 1999 vote for independence. East Timor's foreign minister claimed that such a tribunal would undermine relations between Indonesia and East Timor. The establishment of an ad hoc UN tribunal similar to those created for the Former Yugoslavia and Rwanda was proposed amid criticism by the international community that Indonesia's own ad hoc human rights tribunal was ineffective. This criticism intensified August 6 as Indonesia's court of appeals overturned the conviction of four security officials found guilty of crimes against humanity. This meant that no Indonesian security official faced a jail sentence for the violence in East Timor that left 1,500 dead and 500 displaced. ([BBC](#), [GlobalPolicy](#), August 6; [GlobalPolicy](#), August 9, 2004)

## **UNITED STATES**

Guantanamo tribunals commence: A tribunal process set up to determine whether or not detainees in Guantanamo Bay were being held legally began August 6. Detainees were being held as enemy combatants and not as prisoners of war, which would have entailed additional rights. Prisoner of war status was said not to be applicable because no war was declared between the United States and Afghanistan, where the majority of prisoners were detained before being transferred to Guantanamo Bay. If the tribunal found that individual detainees did not qualify as enemy combatants, they could not legally continue to be detained. The detainees had access to "personal representatives," but not lawyers, as the tribunal process was to be an administrative, not a legal process. The tribunals were the result of the U.S. Supreme Court's June 28 ruling in *Rasul v. Bush*, which found that the approximately 600 detainees held in Guantanamo Bay had a right to challenge their detention. ([BBC](#), [DPA](#), August 6, 2004)

## **NEPAL**

Maoists call for blockade of the capital: Maoists released a statement August 9 and threatened to blockade Kathmandu for the first time. The blockade would prevent food and other supplies from reaching the capital. Maoist leaders urged people to stay off roads starting August 18. They demanded the release of detained guerrillas, a probe into alleged killings of Maoist activists and information about thousands of missing comrades. The government said they have made "adequate" preparations to deal with the blockade. The government also launched a major ground and air offensive against remote Maoist strongholds in western Nepal. The call for the blockade and the government's offensive came at a time when the government was attempting to build an atmosphere conducive to peace talks. About 9,000 people died since fighting began in 1996 between the Maoists, who want to replace the monarch with the rule of the proletariat, and the Nepali Government. ([AFP](#), [Nepalnews.com](#), August 12; [BBC](#), [Nepalnews.com](#), [Reuters](#), August 10; [Nepalnews.com](#), August 11, 2004)

Government forms peace committee: The Nepali government announced the formation of a peace committee August 12 to start talks with the Maoists. The committee includes top leaders from the political parties participating in the coalition government. The committee's goal was to draw up a common political agenda regarding cease-fire, peace

talks and other related issues. The government also announced that informal talks had been held with the Maoists to declare a cease-fire. ([Kantipur Online](#), [Nepalnews.com](#), August 12, 2004)

HRW criticizes arrests of homosexuals and transgenders: Nepali police detained 53 people after raiding three dance clubs in Kathmandu August 10. The raids were carried out in response to complaints that the clubs were promoting vulgarity in the society. Earlier in the week police detained approximately 40 homosexuals from different parts of the city. Human Rights Watch (HRW), a New York-based human rights organization, accused the authorities of intimidating sexual minorities and called for an investigation into alleged violence against them. Detainees were charged under a public offense act, however, HRW stated there was no provision in Nepalese law that explicitly criminalized homosexual conduct. ([BBC](#), [Nepalnews.com](#), August 12, 2004)

## **WEST AFRICA**

### **COTE D'IVOIRE**

Power-sharing cabinet meets: Cote d'Ivoire's Council of Ministers met August 9 for the first time since ministers from opposition parties walked out of the power-sharing government in March. Held following a peace summit in Ghana, 26 council members, including President Laurent Gbagbo, nine ministers representing the New Forces rebel movement, and 17 ministers from the four opposition parties in parliament, attended the meeting and discussed the implementation of the January 2003 Linas-Marcoussis Agreement. According to a statement from the Office of the President issued after the cabinet meeting, President Gbagbo passed three decrees including the reinstatement of three-previously dismissed ministers and the appointment of a new government spokesperson. The Council of Ministers was to meet August 12 and twice again the following week to discuss remaining issues including political reforms and implementation of a disarmament program. At the conclusion the peace talks in Ghana July 30, the government of Cote d'Ivoire and the leaders of opposition groups agreed to restart the peace process, which had faltered after opposition parties quit the country's interim government. ([IRIN](#), [UN News Center](#), August 9, 2004)

### **SIERRA LEONE**

Government to send a joint delegation to Yenga: The governments of Guinea and Sierra Leone were to form a joint team before August 21 that would investigate the controversy over the Guinean military presence in the border village of Yenga. In 1998, Guinea sent several hundred soldiers across the border into Yenga to assist the Sierra Leonean government in fighting the Revolutionary United Front (RUF) and to stop RUF rebels from crossing into Guinea. Recently, however, residents in Yenga have complained that the Guinean troops continued to remain in their village two years after the war officially ended. Dismissing the accusation, the Guinean Minister for Territorial Administration Kiridi Bangoura insisted that their military forces had not entered Sierra Leone's territory since 2002. The conflict in Sierra Leone, which claimed more than 50,000 lives and displaced an estimated one million people, included participation from neighboring states such as Guinea and Liberia. ([IRIN](#), August 9, 2004)

