



USEFUL SOURCES

Country of Origin Information Service

14 July 2011

SECURING OUR BORDER CONTROLLING MIGRATION

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Introduction

Useful sources is a collection of non-country specific source websites compiled to assist UK Border Agency officials involved in the asylum and human rights decision making process. The list is not exhaustive but provides a selection of useful sources that cover a range of themes and countries, complementing Country of Origin Information (COI) Service's existing range of products and information request service. Weblinks to the sources were accurate as of 13 July 2011. *Useful sources* was issued on 14 July 2011.

COI Service would welcome any comments regarding this document or suggestions for additional source material. Please submit these to the address/email below:

Country of Origin Information Service

UK Border Agency
St Anne House
20-26 Wellesley Road
Croydon, CR0 9XB
United Kingdom

Email: cois@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk

Website: <http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/policyandlaw/guidance/coi/>

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Note on usage

Some of the sources provide information that covers a range of human rights issues, and could be listed under several thematic headings. For example, the US State Department annual country human rights reports cover matters relating to ethnic and religious groups, women and children, political opposition and freedom of press, in a number of countries. Other sources such as Human Rights Watch and Amnesty International also provide annual human rights reports on countries but additionally publish documents that cover a variety of specific thematic issues. To avoid repetition, sources which cover countries' general human rights situations in a single document or provide multiple reports on a variety of specific issues are, for the most part, listed once under the heading, *Human rights – general*.

Additionally, there are a number of websites which are country of origin information (COI) databases, collating COI published by a variety of sources onto a single website. The two main databases are the UNHCR's *Refworld* and the Austrian Centre for Country of Origin and Asylum Research and Documentation's European Country of Origin Information network (ecoi.net). These two websites are listed under the heading, *General reference and COI databases*.

The sources that provide general human rights information and/or report on a variety of issues, and the COI databases, are useful starting points in searching for general or specific COI on human rights matters in countries of interest.

Armed forces

Conscription

Publisher **Central Intelligence Agency (CIA)**
 Web-link <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/fields/2024.html>

Publisher **War Resisters International**
 Web-link <http://www.wri-irg.org/>

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Children

Publisher **Child Rights Information Network**
 Web-link <http://www.crin.org/index.asp>

Publisher **Save The Children**
 Web-link <http://www.savethechildren.org/index.html>

Publisher **United Nations Children's Fund**
 Web-link <http://www.unicef.org/>

Publisher **UN Committee on the Rights of the Child**
 Web-link <http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/crc/>

Child Labour

Publisher **International Labour Organisation**
 Web-link <http://www.ilo.org/ipec/Regionsandcountries/lang--en/index.htm>

Publisher **US Department of Labor**
 2009 Findings on the Worst Forms of Child Labor
 Web-link <http://www.dol.gov/ilab/programs/ocft/pdf/2009OCFTreport.pdf>

Child Soldiers

Publisher **Coalition to Stop the use of Child Soldiers**
 Web-link <http://www.child-soldiers.org/home>

Publisher **UN Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict**
 Web-link <http://www.un.org/children/conflict/english/theoffice.html>

Publisher **Watch List on Children and Armed Conflict**
 Web-link <http://www.watchlist.org/>

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Age of Consent

Publisher **AVERT**
Web-link <http://www.avert.org/age-of-consent.htm>

Female Genital Mutilation

Publisher **Centre for Reproductive rights**
Female Genital Mutilation (FGM): Legal Prohibitions Worldwide
Web-link <http://reproductiverights.org/en/document/female-genital-mutilation-fgm-legal-prohibitions-worldwide>

Publisher **Human Rights Watch (HRW)**
Web-link Q&A on Female Genital Mutilation
<http://www.hrw.org/en/news/2010/06/10/qa-female-genital-mutilation>

Citizenship

Publisher **Richmond University (Virginia, USA)**
Web-link <http://confinder.richmond.edu/>

Publisher **US Citizenship and Immigration Service**
Web-link <http://www.uscis.gov/portal/site/uscis>

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Constitutions and national legislation

Publisher **International Labour Organisation**
Web-link http://www.ilo.org/dyn/natlex/country_profiles.byCountry

Publisher **Law Library of (US) Congress**
Web-link <http://www.loc.gov/law/help/guide/nations.php>

Publisher **Legislation online**
Web-link <http://www.legislationline.org/>

Publisher **Richmond University (Virginia, USA)**
Web-link <http://confinder.richmond.edu/>

Publisher **World Law**
Web-link <http://www.worldlii.org/catalog/215.html>

Death Penalty

Publisher **Amnesty International, Abolish the death penalty**
Web-link <http://www.amnesty.org/en/death-penalty>

Publisher **Hands Off Cain**
Web-link <http://english.nessunotocchicaino.it/>

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Education

Publisher **Right to Education**
Web-link <http://www.right-to-education.org/node/271>

Publisher **Save the Children**
Web-link http://www.savethechildren.org.uk/en/docs/The_Future_is_Now_low_res.pdf

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Ethnic groups and minorities

Publisher **Ethnologue**
Web-link <http://www.ethnologue.com/web.asp>

Publisher **Minorities at Risk Project**
Web-link <http://www.cidcm.umd.edu/mar/>

Publisher **Minority Rights Group International**
Web-link <http://www.minorityrights.org/>

Publisher **Unrepresented Nations and Peoples Organization**
Web-link <http://www.unpo.org/>

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Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender and Intersex persons

Publisher **Behind the Mask**
Web-link <http://www.mask.org.za/>

Publisher **Gay Law Net**
Web-link <http://www.gaylawnet.com/>

Publisher	International Gay And Lesbian Human Rights Commission (IGLHRC)
Web-link	http://www.iglhrc.org/cgi-bin/iowa/home/index.html
Publisher	International Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans And Intersex Association (ILGA)
Web-link	http://ilga.org/
Publisher	Pink News
Web-link	http://www.pinknews.co.uk/
Publisher	Sodomy Laws
Web-link	http://www.sodomylaws.org/
Publisher	The Social Institutions and Gender Index
Web-link	http://genderindex.org/
Publisher	Diva
Web-link	http://www.divamag.co.uk/diva/default.asp

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General background information

Publisher	Central Intelligence Agency
	World Factbook
Web-link	https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/
Publisher	Department for International Development
Web-link	http://www.dfid.gov.uk/
Publisher	Foreign and Commonwealth Office
Web-link	http://www.fco.gov.uk/en/travel-and-living-abroad/travel-advice-by-country/country-profile/
Publisher	The Guardian
Web-link	http://www.guardian.co.uk/global/series/country-profiles
Publisher	UN General Assembly
Web-link	http://www.un.org/ga/
Publisher	US Department of State
	Background Notes
Web-link	http://www.state.gov/r/pa/ei/bgn/

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General reference and COI databases

Publisher	Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada
Web-link	Responses to Information Requests & National Documentation Packages http://www.irb.gc.ca/Eng/resrec/rirdi/Pages/index.aspx http://www.irb.gc.ca/Eng/resrec/ndpcnd/Pages/index.aspx
Publisher	Center for Strategic and International Studies
Web-link	http://csis.org/
Publisher	Eurasianet
Web-link	http://www.eurasianet.org/
Publisher	European Country of Origin Information Network
Web-link	http://www.ecoi.net/
Publisher	The Norwegian Country of Origin Information Centre - Landinfo
Web-link	http://www.landinfo.no/id/162.0
Publisher	The Organization for Security and Co-Operation In Europe (OSCE)
Web-link	http://www.osce.org/about/
Publisher	Reliefweb
Web-link	http://www.reliefweb.int/rw/dbc.nsf/doc100?OpenForm
Publisher	University of Minnesota
Web-link	http://www1.umn.edu/humanrts/
Publisher	UNHCR (Refworld)
Web-link	http://www.unhcr.org/cgi-bin/texis/vtx/refworld/rwmain
Publisher	The World Bank
Web-link	http://www.worldbank.org/

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Human rights information - general

Publisher	Amnesty International (AI)
Web-link	http://www.amnesty.org/
Publisher	Amnesty International (AI - USA)
Web-link	http://www.amnestyusa.org/

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Publisher Web-link	Asian Centre For Human Rights http://www.achrweb.org/about.htm
Publisher Web-link	Asian Human Rights Commission http://www.humanrights.asia/
Publisher Web-link	Freedom House http://www.freedomhouse.org/template.cfm?page=1
Publisher Web-link	The UN Human Rights Council http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/hrcouncil/
Publisher Web-link	International Bar Association Human Rights Institute http://www.ibanet.org/IBAHRI.aspx
Publisher Web-link	Human Rights Watch http://www.hrw.org/
Publisher Web-link	International Commission of Jurists http://www.icj.org/
Publisher Web-link	International Committee of the Red Cross http://www.icrc.org/eng
Publisher Web-link	International Crises Group http://www.crisisgroup.org/home/index.cfm
Publisher Web-link	International Federation for Human Rights http://www.fidh.org/-Acting-FIDH-
Publisher Web-link	International Organisation for Migration http://www.iom.int/jahia/jsp/index.jsp
Publisher Web-link	Institute for War and Peace Reporting (IWPR) http://www.iwpr.net/
Publisher Web-link	Mines Advisory Group (MAG) www.maginternational.org/
Publisher Web-link	Transparency International http://www.transparency.org/
Publisher Web-link	UN Committee Against Torture http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/cat/index.htm
Publisher Web-link	UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/cescr/

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Publisher	UN Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women
Web-link	http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/cedaw/committee.htm
Publisher	UN Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination
Web-link	http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/cerd/
Publisher	UN Committee on the Rights of the Child
Web-link	http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/crc/
Publisher	UN Human Rights Council Universal Periodic Review
Web-link	http://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/UPR/Pages/UPRMain.aspx
Publisher	UN Office of the High Commissioner of Human Rights
Web-link	http://www.ohchr.org/EN/Countries/Pages/HumanRightsintheWorld.aspx
Publisher	US Department of State Country Reports on Human Rights Practices
Web-link	http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/
Publisher	World Organisation Against Torture
Web-link	http://www.omct.org/

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Internally Displaced People (IDPs)/humanitarian issues

Publisher	The Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre
Web-link	http://www.internal-displacement.org/
Publisher	Irin News
Web-link	http://www.irinnews.org/
Publisher	Reliefweb
Web-link	http://www.reliefweb.int/rw/dbc.nsf/doc100?OpenForm
Publisher	Thomson-Reuters Alertnet
Web-link	http://www.trust.org/alertnet/
Publisher	United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
Web-link	http://www.unocha.org/
Publisher	US Committee for Refugees and Immigrants
Web-link	http://www.refugees.org/

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Internet filtering

Publisher **OpenNet Initiative**
Web-link <http://map.opennet.net/>

Publisher **Reporters Sans Frontières**
Web-link <http://www.rsf.org>

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Journalists and media

Publisher **Article 19**
Web-link <http://www.article19.org/>

Publisher **Committee to Protect Journalists**
Web-link <http://www.cpj.org/index.html>

Publisher **Freedom House**
Web-link <http://www.freedomhouse.org/template.cfm?page=16>

Publisher **International Federation Of Journalists**
Web-link <http://www.ifj.org/en>

Publisher **International Freedom Of Expression Exchange**
Web-link <http://www.ifex.org/>

Publisher **Reporters Sans Frontières**
Web-link <http://www.rsf.org>

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Maps

Publisher **Googlemaps**
Web-link <http://maps.google.com/maps>

Publisher **Multimap**
Web-link <http://www.multimap.com/>

Publisher **Reliefweb**
Web-link <http://www.reliefweb.int/rw/dbc.nsf/doc100?OpenForm>

Publisher **The Permanent Committee on Geographical Names for British Official**

Use (PCGN)

Web-link	http://www.pcgng.org.uk/Index.htm
Publisher	US National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency
Web-link	http://earth-info.nga.mil/gns/html/index.html
Publisher	University of Texas at Austin
Web-link	http://www.lib.utexas.edu/maps/

[Return to contents](#)**News**

Publisher	British Broadcasting Corporation News
Web-link	http://news.bbc.co.uk/
Publisher	Online Newspapers
Web-link	http://www.onlinenewspapers.com/
Publisher	Integrated Regional Information Networks
Web-link	http://www.irinnews.org/
Publisher	Reuters
Web-link	http://uk.reuters.com/
Publisher	UN News
Web-link	http://www.un.org/News/
Publisher	Voice of America
Web-link	http://www1.voanews.com/english/news/

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General Information

Publisher	European Observatory on Health Systems and Politics
Web-link	http://www.euro.who.int/observatory
Publisher	The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
Web-link	http://www.ifrc.org
Publisher	Medlineplus - US National Library of Medicine

Web-link <http://medlineplus.gov/>
Publisher

Web-link **Medecins Sans Frontières**
<http://www.msf.org.uk/>

Publisher **US Agency for International Development**
Web-link <http://www.usaid.gov/>

Publisher **World Health Organisation**
Web-link <http://www.who.int/en/>

Diabetes

Publisher **Los Angeles Chinese Learning Centre**
International directory of national diabetes associations.
Web-link <http://chinese-school.netfirms.com/diabetes-associations.html>

Publisher **World Diabetes Foundation**
Web-link <http://www.worlddiabetesfoundation.org/>

Kidney Dialysis

Publisher **Global Dialysis**
Web-link <http://www.globaldialysis.com/search-for-dialysis-centres.html>

Epilepsy

Publisher **International League Against Epilepsy (ILAE)**
Web-link <http://www.ilae-epilepsy.org/Visitors/Centre/AEDs/index.cfm>

HIV/AIDS

Publisher **AVERT**
Web-link <http://www.avert.org/>

Publisher **IRIN Plus News**
Web-link <http://www.plusnews.org/>

Publisher **Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS**
Web-link <http://www.unaids.org/en/CountryResponses/Countries/default.asp>

Mental Health

Publisher **World Health Organisation**

Web-link	http://www.who.int/mental_health/evidence/atlas/en/
Publisher	PSYCOM
Web-link	http://www.psycom.net/depression.central.drugnames.html

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Non-Governmental Organisations

Publisher	Amnesty International
Web-link	http://www.amnesty.org/
Publisher	Freedom House
Web-link	http://www.freedomhouse.org
Publisher	Human Rights Watch
Web-link	http://www.hrw.org/
Publisher	International Crisis Group
Web-link	http://www.crisisgroup.org/home/index.cfm
Publisher	The World Association of Non-Governmental Organizations (WANGO)
Web-link	http://www.wango.org/resources.aspx?section=ngodir
Publisher	World Organisation Against Torture
Web-link	http://www.omct.org/

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Political leaders & parties

Publisher	Central Intelligence Agency
Web-link	https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/world-leaders-1/index.html
Publisher	Political Resources on the Net
Web-link	http://www.politicalresources.net/
Publisher	Rulers
Web-link	http://www.rulers.org/

Prisons

Publisher	Kings College London
Summary & Contents	World Prison Brief

Web-link <http://www.kcl.ac.uk/schools/law/research/icps>

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Refugees

Publisher **The Danish Immigration Service**
Web-link <http://www.nyidanmark.dk/en-us/frontpage.htm>

Publisher **International Organisation for Migration**
Web-link <http://www.iom.int/jahia/jsp/index.jsp>

Publisher **Irin News**
Web-link <http://www.irinnews.org/>

Publisher **Information on Return and Reintegration in Countries of Origin**
Web-link <http://irrico.belgium.iom.int/>

Publisher **Asylum Aid**
Web-link <http://www.asylumaid.org.uk/>

Publisher **Refugees International**
Web-link <http://www.refugeesinternational.org/>

Publisher **UNHCR - Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees**
Web-link <http://www.unhcr.org/cgi-bin/texis/vtx/home>

Publisher **US Committee for Refugees and Immigration (USCRI)**
Web-link <http://www.refugees.org/>

Religious groups

Publisher **Christian Solidarity Worldwide**
Web-link <http://www.csw.org.uk/portal.htm>

Publisher **Forum 18**
Web-link <http://www.forum18.org/>

Publisher **US Department of State**
Religious Freedom
Web-link <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/irf/index.htm>

Publisher **US Commission on International Religious Freedom**
Web-link <http://www.uscirf.gov/>

Publisher **Women Living Under Muslim Laws**
Web-link <http://www.wluml.org/>

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Security

Publisher **European Strategic Intelligence and Security Center**
Web-link <http://www.esisc.org/esisc.php>

Publisher **International Institute for Strategic Studies**
Web-link <http://www.iiss.org>

Publisher **The Fund for Peace**
Web-link <http://www.fundforpeace.org/>

Publisher **UN Security Council**
Web-link <http://www.un.org/Docs/sc/>

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Social Security

Publisher **US Social Security Administration**
Web-link <http://www.ssa.gov/policy/docs/progdesc/ssptw/index.html>

Trafficking

Publisher **Childtrafficking.com**
Web-link <http://www.childtrafficking.com/>

Publisher **The National Multi-Cultural Institute**
Web-link <http://www.humantraffickingsearch.net/>

Publisher **US Department of State**
Trafficking in Persons Report
Web-link <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/index.htm>

Women

Publisher	Center for Reproductive Rights
Web-link	http://reproductiverights.org/
Publisher	International Center for Research on Women
Web-link	http://www.icrw.org/
Publisher	The Social Institutions and Gender Index
Web-link	http://genderindex.org/
Publisher	UN Women - United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women
Web-link	http://www.unwomen.org/
Publisher	UN Commission on the Status of Women
Web-link	http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/csw/
Publisher	World Health Organisation
	Women's health
Web-link	http://www.who.int/topics/womens_health/en/

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Domestic Violence

Publisher	Hot Peach
Web-link	http://www.hotpeachpages.net/index.html
Publisher	PeaceWomen
Web-link	http://www.peacewomen.org/

Female Genital Mutilation

Publisher	Centre for Reproductive rights
	Female Genital Mutilation (FGM): Legal Prohibitions Worldwide
Web-link	http://reproductiverights.org/en/document/female-genital-mutilation-fgm-legal-prohibitions-worldwide
Publisher	Human Rights Watch (HRW)
Web-link	Q&A on Female Genital Mutilation http://www.hrw.org/en/news/2010/06/10/qa-female-genital-mutilation

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