

This document provides an overview of open-source-reported new laws or regulations affecting NGOs, and a summary of reported administrative decisions that affected their ability to operate. Links to the relevant **Aid in Danger Monthly News Brief** (in brackets in each sentence) provide further information.

Newly introduced laws or regulations affecting the delivery of aid, as reported in open sources (January-December 2016)

Insecurity Insight's open source monitoring identified six new laws or regulations introduced or passed into the legislative process by state bodies in 2016. Some observers fear these laws may be used to obstruct the delivery of aid.

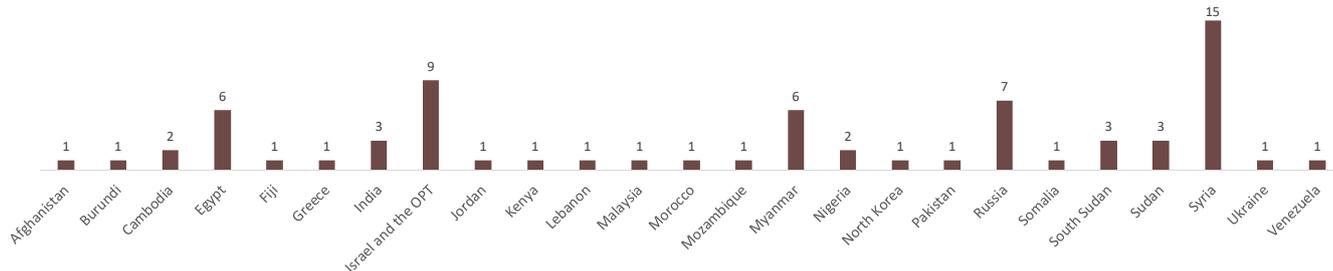
In **Bangladesh, China** and **Israel** new laws and regulations related to aid funding were reportedly introduced.

In **Egypt, Poland** and **South Sudan** new regulations on aid activities were reported in open sources.



Open source reports on administrative decisions affecting the delivery of aid, by region (January-December 2016)

In 2016, open sources reported 71 occurrences of specific measures based on existing laws and regulations used to affect the work of aid organisations or their local partners. A high number of cases were reported in Syria (15), Israel and the OPT (9), Russia (7), and Egypt and Myanmar (6 each).



Africa: **Burundian** authorities withdrew permits from the Association for the Protection of Human Rights and Detained Persons (I). **Kenyan** authorities closed the operations of the International Foundation for Electoral Systems (I). The **Moroccan** government requested the withdrawal of 84 civilian UN staff from Western Sahara after accusing the UNSG of not being neutral in the Western Sahara referendum (I). **Nigerian** authorities began closing 18 IDP camps in Adamawa and Yobe States and set up a committee to oversee the process claiming residents had voluntarily returned home (I, II). **Somalian** authorities closed several unnamed NGOs (I). The **South Sudanese** government blocked aid convoys and suspended WFP air drops for unspecified reasons (I, II, III). The **Sudanese** government prevented UN access to Nertiti IDP camp and closed Tearfund's offices for unspecified reasons (I, II). West Darfur authorities banned UNAMID vehicles from entering El Geneina (I). The IMF suspended aid to **Mozambique** after discovering hidden debt (I).

Asia: **Afghan** authorities raided an unnamed health LNGO (I). **Cambodian** police closed a UNHRC meeting and labelled several rights groups threats to national security (I, II). **Fijian** authorities cancelled a meeting organised by the civil society LNGO Dialogue Fiji (I). **Indian** authorities revoked the international funding licences of 25 LNGOs, placed 744 NGOs on a watch list for alleged violations of the FCRA Act 2010, and declared the Islamic Research Foundation an alleged violator of the UAPA Act (I, II, III). **Malaysian** authorities stopped UNHCR from issuing refugee cards to Burmese nationals (I). In **Myanmar**, authorities prevented MSF, SwissAid and WFP from operating in certain conflict areas, prevented aid reaching KIA-controlled IDP camps, investigated the Myanmar Ethnic Rohingya Human Rights Organisation, delayed aid permits to the Malaysian Advisory Council of Islamic Organisations and required authorisation for aid to Lung Tsut IDP camp (I, II, III, IV, V, VI). Internationally imposed sanctions affected aid delivery to **North Korea** (I). **Pakistani** police raided the offices of three LNGO advocacy groups and restricted their aid programmes (I).

Europe: **Russian** authorities declared the LNGOs Andrey Rylkov Foundation, Golos, and Memorial national security threats and labelled them "foreign agents" under the Foreign Agent Law (I, II, III); designated seven foreign NGOs "undesirable" under the Undesirable Organisation Law; and closed the premises of Amnesty International and the human rights LNGO Agora (I, II, III, IV). Greek authorities prohibited the use of beacon lights on Lesbos Island to guide boats ashore (I). Donetsk separatist in **Ukraine** banned the INGO People in Need from the region (I).

Middle East: **Egyptian** authorities investigated the LNGO Nazra for Feminist Studies and Caritas Germany over alleged foreign funding (I); raided Islamic Relief offices over alleged Muslim Brotherhood links (I); froze assets belonging to several civil society LNGOs over alleged foreign funding (I, II) and ordered the closure of the LNGO El Nadeem Centre for unspecified violations and froze its bank accounts over alleged non-NGO registration (I, II). **Jordanian** authorities blocked food aid and restricted water deliveries to Syrian refugees stranded at the Jordan-Syria border (I). The Palestinian Popular Committees closed UNRWA operations at Ain al-Hilweh IDP camp in **Lebanon** (I). In **OPT**, Israeli authorities imposed access restrictions on Hebron and froze WVI's bank account (I, II), Palestinian authorities closed 66 mostly LNGOs and the NRC's headquarters in Gaza (I, II, III), the US suspended financial aid to the PNA, and Australia and Germany suspended WVI funding (I, II). The Israel-imposed cement importation ban delayed Gazan reconstruction efforts. In **Syria**, Western anti-terrorism laws caused delays to aid delivery (I, II); USAID suspended financial aid (I, II) and Syrian authorities barred aid to treat malnutrition. Aid delivery denials or delays by Syrian authorities were publicly reported ten times (I, II, III, IV, V, VI, VII, VIII, IV, X). For further information on the denial of access in Syria please see the latest **Physicians for Human Rights: Access Denied** report.

The Americas: **Venezuelan** authorities refused medical aid import permits to organisations including Caritas (I).

