

# Education Under Attack

## Monthly News Brief

Insecurity affecting the provision of education

## Education

November  
2017

### Threats and incidents of violence against educational workers

#### Africa

##### *Burkina Faso*

27 November 2017: In Kain commune, Yatenga province, armed men killed a teacher, and wounded two more after attacking their homes. Source: [Koaci](#)

##### *Niger*

Update: 31 October 2017: In Diffa region, Boko Haram militants reportedly attack schools and teachers to deprive children of education. Source: [AFP](#)

##### *Seychelles*

07 November 2017: In Mont Fleuri district, Mahé island, three family members of a student who was subject to disciplinary measures for misbehaviour at Mont Fleuri Secondary School assaulted a Seychellois teacher, causing him a fractured skull and other head wounds. On 08 November, teachers took to the streets to protest this assault, demanding respect and more security on school premises. Source: [Seychelles News Agency](#)

09 November 2017: In Mont Fleuri district, Mahé island, two students attacked an expatriate teacher from the English River secondary school for unspecified reasons. On 11 November, a group of 200 teachers, colleagues and parents took to the streets to demand better working conditions, including security. Source: [Seychelles News Agency](#)

##### *Sudan*

09 November 2017: In Muglad town, West Kordofan state, unidentified gunmen stormed a teacher's dormitory at an unspecified school, shooting at and killing two teachers. Source: [Dabanga Sudan](#)

This monthly digest comprises threats and incidents of violence as well as protests and other events affecting education.

It is prepared by Insecurity Insight from information available in open sources.

All decisions made, on the basis of, or with consideration to, such information remains the responsibility of their respective organisations.

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**Suggested citation:**  
Insecurity Insight. 2017. The Aid in Danger Monthly News Brief, October 2017. Geneva: Insecurity Insight, Aid in Danger Project.

## Asia and Pacific

### *Afghanistan*

15 November 2017: In Charikar district, Parwan province, a roadside IED killed the provincial education director as he was on his way home. Source: [Khaama](#)

### *Pakistan*

21 November 2017: In Karachi city, Sindh province, police troops baton-charged a group of demonstrating teachers from Gothki district to disperse their protest outside the Sindh Assembly over non-payment of salaries in the last five years. Source: [Dunya News](#)

## Middle-East and North Africa

### *Iraq*

04 November 2017: In Nada basin, Diyala governorate, unidentified perpetrators kidnapped a school guard and his son. Their whereabouts remain unknown. Source: [Alsumaria](#)

### *Occupied Palestinian Territories*

06 November 2017: In Beit Hanina, East Jerusalem, West Bank, Israeli police raided Zahwat al-Quds school, and detained its principal and three teachers, before ordering the school to close, and telling the students to look for another school to attend. On 07 November, students and their families held a sit-in at the same school to condemn the raid, the detention of the faculty members, and the Israeli municipality's decision to shut it down. Source: [Wafa](#)

## The Americas

### *Brazil*

15 November 2017: In Belo Horizonte, Minas Gerais state, unidentified perpetrators stabbed a professor at the Federal University of Minas Gerais School of Medicine for no specified reason. The victim later succumbed to his wounds. Source: [Diario do Nordeste](#)

### *Colombia*

18 November 2017: In Bogota, police and security guards attacked an unspecified number of teachers, led by the District Association of Educators (ADE), who were protesting on the fourth floor of the Education Ministry. Source: [Extra](#)

### *Mexico*

15 November 2017: In Michoacán, Guerrero, Oaxaca, Puebla, Tabasco, Veracruz, Sinaloa and Tamaulipas states, organised criminal groups have, so far in 2017, killed at least 52 teachers and 40 doctors. Source: [Dossier Politico](#)

## Damage and destruction of educational facilities

### *Cameroon*

04 November 2017: In Jakiri town, Bui department, Northwest region, five unidentified armed men threatened two guards of Jakiri Bilingual High School, and later torched the administration block of the educational facility, causing damage. Source: [Cameroon-Info](#)

13 November 2017: In Vouzi town, Extreme Nord Province, Boko Haram militants burned down a school near the Church of Goledje. No further information available. Source: [L'Oeil du Sahel](#)

### **Malawi**

20 November 2017: In Mchinji city, Central region, villagers vandalised Magawa Secondary School, accusing students at the school of assaulting community members who trespass at the school. Source: [Malawi24](#)

### **Sudan**

09 November 2017: In Gireida IDP camp, South Darfur state, militiamen opened fire in the air, wounding three higher secondary school students in Abola area, where they were gathering building materials to reconstruct buildings that were destroyed by fire on 07 November. Source: [Dabanga Sudan](#)

### **Tanzania**

08 November 2017: In Ngara district, Kagera region, a grenade of unspecified origin exploded at Kihinga Primary School during the morning assembly, killing five pupils, and wounding 24 more. Unspecified damage reported. Source: [Daily News](#)

## **Asia and Pacific**

### **Bangladesh**

07 November 2017: In Rajshahi, police arrested a student and president of Islami Chhatra Shibir of Rajshahi University of Engineering and Technology department for planning subversive activities. Source: [The Daily Star](#)

### **India**

22 November 2017: In Chennai city, Tamil Nadu state, following the alleged suicide of a student, over 300 students participated in a violent protest across the Sathyabama University campus, burning furniture, and claiming that university staff had humiliated the student. Sources: [British Broadcasting Corporation \(BBC\)](#) and [Financial Express](#)

### **Nepal**

26 November 2017: In Kathmandu, during the first phase of federal parliamentary and provincial assembly elections, unidentified perpetrators set fire to a ballot box at Nepal Rastriya Secondary School in Aathbiskot Municipality-11, and another at Ratna Lower Secondary School in Baphikot Rural Municipality-5. Source: [Kathmandu Post](#)

26 November 2017: In Taplejung, Mechi zone, a bomb of unknown origin went off at Phungling-based Bhanujan Secondary School designated as a voting centre. Source: [The Himalayan Times](#)

### **Pakistan**

08 November 2017: In Jamshoro city, Sindh province, unidentified perpetrators planted five locally-made remote-controlled roadside IEDs near the entrance of Mehran University of Engineering and Technology (MUET). The bombs were later defused by the Personnel of Bomb Disposal Squad. Source: [Dawn](#)

## **Middle-East and North Africa**

### **Syrian Arab Republic**

Update: On 28 May 2017: Warplanes reportedly belonging to the international coalition forces fired several missiles at Ali al Dahham Elementary School which is located near the post building in al Der'iyah, Raqqa. The school building was destroyed, and it forced to close. On Wednesday, November 9, 2017,

SNHR confirmed this incident. Source: [Syrian Network for Human Rights](#)

07 November 2017: In al Minbatih village, Aleppo governorate, suspected Russian warplanes reportedly fired a missile at the Martyr Abdul Hadi al Eisa High School, known as Tal al Daman High School. The missile landed in the schoolyard, partially destroyed a fence and damaged the building and its furniture. Source: [Syrian Network for Human Rights](#)

08 November 2017: In Hamouriya, Eastern Ghouta, Damascus, Syrian regime forces warplanes reportedly fired a missile at al Tamyyuz al Namouthjiya Kindergarten for Children, destroying the building and damaging furniture. The school was forced to close. Source: [Syrian Network for Human Rights](#)

15 November 2017: In Qbasin, Aleppo governorate, an IED planted inside a car near al Khansaa school reportedly exploded, partially destroying the school fence. Source: [Syrian Network for Human Rights](#)

17 November 2017: In Irbeen, Eastern Ghouta, Damascus, Syrian regime forces warplanes reportedly fired a missile at al Mustaqbal School, partially destroying the building and damaging furniture. The school was forced to close. Source: [Syrian Network for Human Rights](#)

## The Americas

### Peru

11 November 2017: In Callao city, unidentified perpetrators broke into the unguarded Republica de Venezuela school in Argentina Avenue and stole 20 computers. The security guard was subsequently investigated for possible complicity. Source: [El Comercio](#)

## Strike and other events affecting the provision of education

## Africa

### Angola

10 November 2017: In Caxito town, Dande municipality, Bengo province, the Sindicato Nacional dos Professores (National Union of Teachers) threatened to call a strike at the beginning of next school year, if the executive fails to include the required pay structure on the agenda of its interim plan, to be executed from October 2017 to March 2018, as well as an updated statute of the teaching career of non-university teachers. Source: [Jornal de Angola](#)

### Burkina Faso

06 November 2017: Teachers and pedagogical supervisors led by the National Union of Teachers of Catholic Primary Schools in Burkina Faso announced a 72-hour walkout at Catholic primary schools with effect from 15 November. Their demands include, inter alia, the regularisation of their salary, the involvement of teachers in decision-making bodies, and the correction of residence allowances from 2009 to 2016. Source: [Burkina24](#)

16 November 2017: Education unions called upon their members, including teachers, to observe a 96-hour, national strike with effect from 27 November to protest delaying tactics of the Burkinabe government, and to press for the fulfilment of its demands. Source: [Koaci](#)

## **Cameroon**

16 November 2017: In Douala city, Wouri department, Littoral region, teachers led by the Syndicat National des Enseignants du Supérieur (SYNES) announced a strike at the University of Douala with effect from 21 until 26 November to protest against poor working conditions. Source: [Cameroon-Info](#)

27 November 2017: In Fada N'gourma city, Gourma province, Est region, a teachers' union of public and private primary, post-primary and secondary schools held a national, 96-hour strike, demanding that their concerns be addressed, including improved working conditions. Source: [aOuaga](#)

## **Chad**

02 November 2017: Teachers led by the Syndicat des Enseignants du Tchad (Union of Teachers of Chad) threatened strike action, if the Chadian government failed to meet their demands. Source: [DW](#)

06 November 2017: Throughout Chad, a new university enrolment fee rate intended to allow universities to meet the standards of the Central African Economic and Monetary Community (CEMAC) has discouraged students from enrolling, causing a delay in the resumption of courses. Source: [Africa Time](#)

20 November 2017: In N'Djamena, teachers and researchers led by the Syndicat des Enseignants et Chercheurs du Supérieur (SYNECS) launched a week-long strike at the University of N'Djamena in response to, inter alia, the non-payment of teachers' bonuses, and salaries of individual contractors. Source: [Tchad Pages](#)

## **Côte d'Ivoire**

11 November 2017: Throughout Ivory Coast, teachers led by the Syndicat National des Enseignants du Privé Laïc de Côte d'Ivoire (SYNEPPLACI) started a national, unlimited strike over a wage freeze that has been going on for 23 years. Source: [Koaci](#)

14 November 2017: In Bouaké city and department, Gbêkê region, Vallée du Bandama district, the National Union of Research and Higher Education of Côte d'Ivoire (SYNARES) and the National Coordination of Teachers of the Superior and Researchers of Côte d'Ivoire (CNEC) warned that there will be no resumption of courses at the University of Bouaké, if certain conditions are not met, including, inter alia, the payment of arrears of complementary hours. Source: [Koaci](#)

29 November 2017: SYNEPPLACI announced a sit-in and walks on the site of the EU-Africa Summit in Abidjan. Source: [Koaci](#)

30 November 2017: Teachers meeting with the Coordination Nationale des Enseignants-Chercheurs de Côte d'Ivoire (CNEC) announced an unlimited strike, with effect from coming 07 December, to claim the clearance of the additional hours of the academic year 2015-2016. Source: [Koaci](#)

## **Democratic Republic of the Congo**

08 November 2017: In Goma, North Kivu province, anti-government protests forced schools and universities to remain closed. Source: [Cameroon Voice](#)

## **Gabon**

20 November 2017: In Libreville, teachers led by the Syndicat National des Enseignants-Chercheurs (SNEC) paralysed the commencement of courses at Omar-Bongo University in protest against the non-payment of arrears owed to them by the Gabonese government. Source: [L'Union](#)

## **Guinea-Bissau**

06 November 2017: Teachers led by the Sindicato Nacional dos Professores (National Union of Teachers) and Sindicato Democrático dos Professores (Democratic Union of Teachers) started a national strike valid until 24 November to press for the enforcement of an agreement with the Bissau-Guinean government, including the payment of salaries in arrears, and improved working conditions. The strike was suspended by both unions on 26 November, following the government's six-week pledge to resolve teachers' claims. Sources: [ANG Noticias](#), [Observador](#) and [Radio France Internationale \(RFI\)](#)

07 November 2017: The Syndicat Libre des Enseignements et Chercheurs de Guinée (SLECG) invited all teachers and researchers to remain at home and observe a countrywide, unlimited strike with effect from 13 November. Source: [Guinee News](#), [Mundo ao Minuto](#)

13 November 2017: Teachers led by the SLECG started a countrywide, unlimited strike in all pre-university institutions, depriving students of education. Sources: [Africa Guinee \(a\)](#), [Africa Guinee \(b\)](#), [Guinee News \(a\)](#) and [Guinee News \(b\)](#),

## **Guinea-Conakry**

06 November 2017: Following a three-week boycott, assistants and research associates at the Julius Nyerere University of Kankan (UJNK) resumed teaching activities. Source: [Guinee News](#)

17 November 2017: In Conakry, Guinea gendarmes arrested three of four trade unionists from the SLECG for refusing to read a statement to suspend a countrywide strike in all pre-universities that started on 13 November. The other trade unionist managed to escape. Sources: [Guinee News \(a\)](#) and [Guinee News \(b\)](#)

27 November 2017: In Conakry, the call of some trade unions for the suspension of a countrywide strike remained unanswered, as numerous teachers and students from public and private schools, including Koloma College and Donka High School, failed to turn up in classrooms. Source: [Guinee News](#)

## **Niger**

Update: 30 October 2017: In Maradi city, five excluded students, belonging to the school trade union Section Collégienne et Lycéenne, and their comrades staged a walkout at colleges and high schools, paralysing classes until 04 November. Source: [aNiaméy](#)

## **Nigeria**

06 November 2017: In Abuja, the Academic Staff Union of Polytechnics announced an indefinite strike with effect from 13 November to press for the implementation of its agreement with the Nigerian government, including improved funding for polytechnic education. Source: [Punch](#)

06 November 2017: In Kaduna city, the Nigerian Union of Teachers (NUT) announced an indefinite strike with effect from 23 November to protest against the disengagement of 21,780 primary school teachers. Meanwhile, pupils of Local Government Education Authority Primary School, Kawo area, took to the streets to protest the dismissal of 77 teachers from their school, warning that they would not return to classrooms until such a decision is withdrawn. On 08 November, hundreds of civil servants led by the Nigeria Labour Congress (NLC) marched to the state House of Assembly to protest against the competency test used as an excuse to sack such teachers. Sources: [The News](#), [Vanguard](#)

## **Rwanda**

02 November 2017: In Ntungamo town, Western region, the management of Muntuyera High School-Kitunga suspended 81 senior students for causing a tribal clash between Rwandese and Bahima

students the previous week. Source: [Edge](#)

### **South Africa**

02 November 2017: In Cape Town, around 200 people, believed to be students, staged a protest at the University of Cape Town (UCT), and attempted to disrupt academic activities, prompting Western Cape police to use stun grenades to disperse the crowd, and to arrest a protestor who tried to vandalise the university's shuttle service. Source: [News24](#)

03 November 2017: In Johannesburg, Wits University was due to shut down owing to a possible student protest, but remained open following complaints from other students. Sources: [News 24 1](#), [News24 2](#),

### **Sudan**

10 November 2017: In West Kordofan state, teachers threatened to go on a strike, if they would not paid their dues from last October. Source: [Radio Tamazuj](#)

### **Togo**

Undated: Teachers from public primary and secondary schools announced a renewable, three-day country-wide strike with effect from 13 November to demand better working conditions. Source: [iciLome](#)

20 November 2017: Volunteer primary and secondary school teachers from the Regroupement des Volontaires Nationale de l'Education (VNE) of the National Agency for Volunteering in Togo (ANVT) announced a renewable, 48-hour country-wide strike with effect from 21 November to denounce precarious working conditions. Source: [iciLome](#)

## **Asia and Pacific**

### **Afghanistan**

29 November 2017: In Herat province, a high level of security threats has been preventing the provincial department of education from administering 219 schools across Adraskan, Ghoryan, Koshki Kohna, Obe, and Shindand districts. The Taliban undertakes monitoring instead. Source: [FDD's Long War Journal](#)

### **Bangladesh**

06 November 2017: In Dhaka, the Education Ministry ordered the Dhaka district administration to shut down Lakehead Grammar School's branches in Dhanmondi and Gulshan neighbourhoods on charges of harbouring militancy and inspiring extremism. Source: [BD News 24](#)

07 November 2017: In Chittagong, a faction of the student front Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) attacked the office of Chittagong University vice chancellor to protest against a university teacher who allegedly provided false information to journalists regarding a tax reassessment programme. The protesters vandalised a private car, a motorcycle and several flower pots, and assaulted a Bangla Vision television journalist. Source: [The Daily Star](#)

### **Mongolia**

13 November 2017: Throughout Mongolia, teachers led by the Mongolian Education and Science Trade Unions started an indefinite, national strike, demanding a 50-percent pay raise. Source: [The UB Post](#)

## Middle-East and North Africa

### *Algeria*

06 November 2017: In Béjaïa city, district and province, dozens of education assistants led by the Syndicat National des Travailleurs de l'Éducation (SNTE) observed a one-hour sit-in in front of the headquarters of the academy, after which they marched to the first-floor lobby of the Education Branch, demanding, inter alia, the unconditional reinstatement of one of the deputies of education, who had been arbitrarily dismissed by his or her director. Source: [Liberte Algeria](#)

13 November 2017: In Algiers, the National Union of Teaching and Training Personnel (UNPEF) announced a two-hour, national sit-in in all education institutions effective 15 November to protest decisions concerning, inter alia, the reduced budget of the Department of National Education. Source: [Liberte Algeria](#)

### *Morocco*

09 November 2017: Throughout Morocco, teachers and administrative staff from primary, preparatory, secondary and high schools led by several trade unions observed a national strike in protest against student-on-teacher violence in schools. Source: [Telquel](#)

### *Occupied Palestinian Territories*

15 November 2017: In West Bank, an Israeli court threatened to seize and destroy two new EU-funded schools in Wadi as Seeq and Al Muntar, which serve over 100 pupils, warning students not to attend classes in one of them. Source: [The New Arab](#), [The Palestine Chronicle](#)

15 November 2017: In West Bank, more than 60 schools remain at risk of demolition by Israel, depriving children across the territory of their right to education. Source: [The New Arab](#)

## The Americas

### *Brazil*

02 November 2017: In Fundão island, North zone, Rio de Janeiro state, a suspected ex-convict shot dead a security guard on the campus of the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro in an attempted robbery. The Civil Police arrested the suspect on the scene. Source: [O Globo](#)

08 November 2017: In São Paulo, police arrested eight persons suspected of involvement in a gang that reportedly robs universities in the region, and recovered, at the address of the culprits, stolen cell phones, valued at 10,000 Brazilian real (BRL) (approximately 2,560 euro), as well as passports. Source: [Globo](#)

### *Colombia*

22 November 2017: In Neiva Huila city, Huila department, Andean region, unidentified perpetrators hid a bomb under the ground in La Espiga village, threatening the lives of students at a nearby school. Source: [La Nacion](#)

27 November 2017: In Cartagena city, Caribbean region, Bolivar department, the hardware company Consorcio Proescolares that won the tender of the School Feeding Programme of Cartagena took advantage of the needs of the community, and increased the prices of the products. Source: [El Colombiano](#)

### *Guatemala*

08 November 2017: In Villa Nueva municipality, Guatemala department, a shootout by gang members

in front of a school forced teachers to suspend classes. The perpetrators also consumed drugs in front of students. Source: [Chapin TV](#)

### **Honduras**

07 November 2017: In Tegucigalpa, police and military personnel are reportedly being deployed at Central Vicente Caceres, Technico Honduras and Saul Zelaya Jimenez Institutes to protect the educational facilities from gang violence. Source: [El Heraldito](#)

### **Mexico**

07 November 2017: In Guerrero state, threatening messages via Facebook and WhatsApp from criminal groups toward principals and teachers since last 19 or 22 September have led to the closure of more than 673 elementary schools across Atlixac, Ahuacuotzingo, Chipala, José Joaquín Herrera and Zitlala municipalities, depriving 59,649 children of education. Educators have been ordered to suspend classes due to armed confrontations, and warned that they would be raped and killed. Parents are keeping their children away from schools. In Chipala, the provincial education secretary stated that the number of schools closed is 70, and not 673. Sources: [El Universal 1](#), [El Universal 2](#), [El Universal 3](#), [Noticieros Televisa](#)

11 November 2017: In Juárez, Chihuahua state, dozens of medical students held a demonstration in front of the Faculty of Medicine of the Autonomous University of Chihuahua to protest against violence across the region that is preventing them from performing their duties in villages of the regional highlands. Source: [Televisa](#)

11 November 2017: In Chihuahua state, medical students organised a protest march to highlight the lack of security provision in several municipalities across the region. Source: [Televisa](#)

14 November 2017: In Chipala municipality, Guerrero state, the Guerrero Coordination Group launched a security operation in 100 schools, so that they could reopen their doors, and to protect teachers and students from violence. However, teachers kept the schools closed on the basis that they continued receiving threats from drug traffickers. Sources: [El Universal](#), [Reforma](#)

17 November 2017: In Guerrero state, a circular issued by the provincial education secretary ordered principals of elementary schools across Atlixac, Ahuacuotzingo, Chilapa, José Joaquín Herrera and Zitlala municipalities to summon the teachers, and resume classes on the basis that conditions were in place for their return. Nevertheless, in Chilapa municipality, only a few children showed up in schools, only to be sent back home. Source: [El Universal](#)

### **Panama**

07 November 2017: In David city and district, Chiriquí province, gang members launched a shootout in front of Los Abanicos Primary School, endangering the lives of students. Subsequently, the school administration suspended classes for safety concerns. Source: [El Siglo](#)

### **Peru**

08 November 2017: In Mariscal Cáceres neighbourhood, San Juan de Lurigancho district, Lima, a shooting in front of the private school Bernhald Bolzano presumably by an extortionist who threatened the school owner prompted a group of parents to stage a sit-in on 11 November to demand security in the area. Source: [El Comercio](#)

This document is part of the Aid in Danger project. It is published by Insecurity Insight and funded by European Union Humanitarian Aid, Save the Children and USAID.

# Aid in Danger



This report is funded by

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