Education in Danger Monthly News Brief

Attacks on education

October 2018

Threats and incidents of violence against educational facilities, teachers and students

Africa

Burkina Faso
02 October 2018: In Ouro-Aou village, Est region, a primary school was ransacked by Islamic State militants. No further details specified. **Source: ACLED**

Democratic Republic of the Congo
07 October 2018: In Butembo city, North Kivu province, a professor at the Catholic University of Graben was arrested for making comments that were critical of the government and collaborating with an armed Islamic group. He was later granted a provisional release following advocacy by his colleagues, students and others. **Sources: Actualite, La Voix de l'UCG, and MatinInfos**

20-21 October 2018: In Kiwanja town, North Kivu province, unidentified perpetrators kidnapped one student from the Bukoma Primary School and two others from the Jikaze Institute, prompting the schools to close down temporarily. **Source: Actualite**

31 October 2018: In Kilambo village, Bafuni region, Masisi territory, 10 IDPs, including teachers, were abducted by the Reformed Nduma Defence of the Congo militia. No further details specified. **Source: ACLED**

Cameroon
19 October 2018: In Bamenda, town, Mezam department, Northwest region, armed perpetrators stormed the Atiela Bilingual High School and kidnapped six students, one of whom escaped. The perpetrators were not identified. **Source: Cameroon-Info**

20 October 2018: In Jakiri town and commune, Bui division, Northwest region, unidentified perpetrators kidnapped the principal of the Jakiri Government Bilingual High School but later released him unconditionally on 23 October 2018. Their motivations were not specified. **Sources: Journal du Cameroun (a) and Journal du Cameroun (b)**

26 October 2018: In Bamenda, town, Mezam department,

Northwest region, suspected Ambazonian fighters shot and killed a professor of the University of Bamenda while he was traveling to work. A principle and teacher are also reported mutilated. **Source: News 24**

Côte d'Ivoire
21 October 2018: In Séguéla town and department, Worodougou region, Woroba district, bandits armed with knives attacked a professor of the Lycée Dominique Ouattara and stole his motorcycle. **Source: Koaci**

Ghana
30 September 2018: In Agogo town, Asante Akim North municipality, Ashanti region, at least 22 students staged a protest at the Agogo State College damaging college property including air conditioners, streetlights, standing pipes, tables and chairs. The protesters also attempted to set a school bus on fire. **Source: Ghana Web**

22 October 2018: In Kumasi city, Ashanti region, dozens of students held a violent protest at the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology, destroying offices, documents, files, windows, plasma televisions and other unspecified property. **Source: Ghana Web**

22 October 2018: In Kumasi city, Ashanti region, police and members of the security task force of the Tafo Municipal Assembly stormed the Afia Kobi Nursing School over the violation of sanitary regulations, destroying the main gate of the building in the process. Some students were reportedly manhandled and sustained several injuries as they attempted to prevent the arrest of the school director. **Source: Ghana Web**

Kenya
10 October 2018: In Mandera city and county, al Shabaab militants armed with guns, knives and grenades attacked the Arabia Boys Secondary School, hacking two foreign teachers to death as they tried to escape. **Source: The Star**

Mali
03 October 2018: In Koro town, Mopti region, a hand grenade was found outside the largest school in the area but was located and defused by the Malian army before any injuries occurred. **Source: ACLED**

Asia
Bangladesh
02 October 2018: In Pabna city and district, Rajshahi division, unidentified perpetrators vandalised a pillar of the Shaheed Minar at the Shalgariya Government Primary School. **Source: Dhaka Tribune**

India
01 October 2018: In Hojai district, Assam state, a rumour that a student had died after being administered the Measles Rubella (MR) vaccine led a group of rioters to assault and injure a female health worker and subsequently vandalize school property at the Pharmapar High School near Lanka city. **Source: ACLED**

Pakistan
30 September 2018: In Arandu town, Chitral district, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province, an IED of

unidentified origin exploded inside an unnamed primary school for girls, partially destroying it but causing no injuries. **Source: [The Express Tribune](#)**

19 October 2018: *Update:* In Diamer district, Gilgit-Baltistan region, out of 87 suspects taken into custody by the police in the wake of several incidents of schools being set on fire, 22 suspects were charged. The rest were found innocent. **Source: [Dawn](#)**

Thailand
01 October 2018: In Moo 3 village, Tambon Phor Ming, Panare district, the director of a local school narrowly escaped an ambush by alleged Southern Muslim Separatists while he was driving to his work at Ban Nam Bor school. **Source: [ACLED](#)**

Middle-East and North Africa

Iraq
28 October 2018: In Kirkuk city and governorate, the Directorate of Education cancelled classes at more than 50 unnamed kindergartens and schools due to a security operation in a number of neighbourhoods aimed at seizing unlicensed weapons and arresting wanted individuals. **Source: [NRT](#)**

Israel
28 October 2018 (DoA): In Sha'ar HaNegev regional council, Negev region, Southern district, a rocket of unknown origin found by an Israeli soldier in the yard of an unnamed high school prompted the evacuation of students and suspension of classes. **Source: [Ma'an News Agency](#)**

Libya
28 October 2018: In Bani Walid town and district, Tripolitania region, insecurity and threats against staff of the Faculty of Education of the Bani Walid University by unspecified perpetrators forced the faculty directorate to suspend its academic programme until further notice. **Source: [Alwasat](#)**

Occupied Palestinian Territories
25 October 2018: In Hebron city, West Bank, dozens of Palestinian students were left injured after the IDF fired tear gas and stun grenades at a school in Hebron. IDF soldiers claimed the attack was in response to students throwing stones at soldiers. **Source: [ACLED](#)**

Syrian Arab Republic
04 October 2018: In Jarablus city, Aleppo governorate, a landmine exploded next to the Sadeq Henday Elementary School, injuring three civilians but resulting in no damage to the school. **Source: [SNHR](#)**

24 October 2018: In Kafr Hamra village, Aleppo governorate, Syrian regime forces allegedly fired a shell at the Kafr Hamra Elementary School, severely damaging school furniture as well as partially destroying both the school's fence and a classroom wall. No casualties reported. **Source: [SNHR](#)**

Tunisia
02 October 2018: In Sidi Bouzid city and governorate, an unspecified number of parents stormed the Abdullah Jalameh School and prevented students from entering the building as a protest against the appointment of teachers from outside regions. **Source: [Radio Gafsa](#)**

Yemen
06 October 2018: In Sana'a city, Amanat al-Asemah district, a group of students from the University of Sana'a were allegedly attacked and detained by Houthi militiamen. Later the same day, the militia

shut down the University of Sana'a by deploying military vehicles across the campus. **Sources: [Reuters](), [Middle East Eye](), and [Al Arabiya]()**

The Americas

Chile
31 October 2018 (DoA): In Santiago, students threw incendiary objects at the Liceo Manuel Barros Borgoño and then broke into the institution. Police subsequently detained four suspects. **Source: [Elmostrador]()**

31 October 2018 (DoA): In Santiago, unidentified perpetrators threw Molotov cocktails at the Barros Arana National Boarding School. No further details specified. **Source: [Elmostrador]()**

Colombia
27 October 2018 (DoA): In Medellín city, Antioquia department, Aburrá Valley region, unidentified perpetrators sent serious threats by phone to the staff of the National University. The intention behind the threats is unclear at this time. **Source: [El Tiempo]()**

Mexico
02 October 2018: In Villa Bonita sub-division, Cajeme municipality, Sonora state, strangers hanged a narcomanta – a cloth banner with a threat on it often used by cartels – on an unnamed school, prompting the administration of the institution to suspend classes. The police denied the existence of the said narcomanta. **Source: [Diario del Yaqui]()**

Strikes and other events of education insecurity

Africa

Chad
01 October 2018: In N'Djamena, an ongoing strike of public officials over wage cuts prevented unnamed primary and secondary schools from opening their doors. **Source: [Tchad Pages]()**

Côte d'Ivoire
16 October 2018: In Agboville town and department, Agnéby-Tiassa region, Lagunes district, a demonstration by residents over electoral results forced schools to remain shut. **Source: [Koaci]()**

Middle-East and North Africa

Algeria
28 October 2018: In Tizi Ouzou city, district and province, an appeal for mass student demonstrations by an unspecified source prompted Algerian authorities to deploy police officers to the front of some unnamed high schools and colleges in order to dissuade students from leaving such institutions. **Source: [TSA]()**

Turkey
17 October 2018: In Istanbul, a faculty member from Koç University who signed a petition criticising the government was sentenced to a year and three months in prison for allegedly 'propagandizing for a terrorist organisation'. The sentence comes amidst a number of arrests of academics who speak out against the Turkish government. **Sources: [Bianet]() and [Scholars at Risk]()**

25 October 2018: In Ankara, authorities have issued warrants for the detention of 19 academics from Gazi University, alleging that they are members of the Gülen movement – a group which the Turkish

government claims was responsible for a violent coup attempt in 2016. Authorities have allegedly detained seven current and nine former academics from the list. **Sources: [Stockholm Center for Freedom](#) and [Hürriyet](#)**

The Americas

Brazil

20 - 28 October 2018: In the run up to the national election on the 28 October, Brazilian authorities allegedly acting to enforce a law prohibiting political advertising in election time conducted raids at universities across the country. Police interrogated professors, confiscated allegedly illegal political materials, and ordered the cancellation of certain lectures. On the 28 October the Brazilian Supreme Federal Court granted an injunction against the campus raids and stressed the importance of freedom of expression. **Sources: [Brasil de Fato](#), [Vox](#), and [ISTOÉ Dinheiro](#)**

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

Insecurity Insight is a member of

All Aid in Danger reports are available to download on ReliefWeb and on H2H

Selective datasets and quick charts are available on HDX Insecurity Insight.