

# The Aid in Danger Monthly News Brief

August  
2017

## Security Incidents

### Africa

#### Cameroon

13 August 2017: In Nkwen village, Bamenda city, Northwest region, unidentified perpetrators torched the Baptist Comprehensive College. Schools are reportedly being targeted for failing to participate in a strike to force the release of Anglophone activists from detention. Sources: [Cameroon Info](#) and [Cameroon Online](#)

22 August 2017: In Douala, Wouri department, Littoral region, burglars broke into a bilingual school library in Ndogpassi II neighbourhood and stole books and various other school supplies, estimated to be worth more than four million CFA francs (approximately 6,100 EUR). Source: [Cameroon Info](#)

#### Central African Republic

02 August 2017: On the road to Markounda, Ouham prefecture, several non-governmental organisations (NGOs), including the Danish Refugee Council (DRC), were reportedly targeted by anti-Balaka fighters who stole two DRC vehicles. Source: [aBangui](#)

03 August 2017: In Gambo town, Mbomou prefecture, unidentified perpetrators attacked Gambo Health Centre, killing an unspecified number of health workers and patients, including six Red Cross volunteers who were holding a meeting in the building. Sources: [AWSD<sup>1</sup>](#), [IFRC](#), [RFI](#), [RJDH I](#), [RJDH II](#), [The New York Times](#), [Thomson Reuters Foundation](#) and [VOA News](#). According to [DEVEX](#), nine (not six) volunteers were gunned down.

05 August 2017: In Lakouanga district, Batangafo town, Ouham prefecture, unidentified armed men stopped an eight-truck humanitarian convoy and looted 1,235 tons of cereals and 1,219 litres of oil from three vehicles. Source: [RJDH](#)

07 August 2017: In an unspecified location, ex anti-Balaka and ex-Seleka fighters, protested outside the United Nations (UN)' Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) office, over their dissatisfaction for delays in providing them with necessary resources to begin community and income-generating activities. Source: [RJDH](#)

This monthly digest comprises threats and incidents of violence affecting the delivery of humanitarian assistance. 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.

**Editorial team:**  
Christina Wille and Larissa Fast  
Insecurity Insight  
Andrew Eckert  
European Interagency Security Forum (EISF)

**Research team:**  
James Naudi  
Insecurity Insight

[Visit our website to download previous Aid in Danger Monthly News Briefs.](#)

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

Funded by  
European Union  
Humanitarian Aid



10 August 2017: In Batangafo town, Ouham prefecture, unidentified armed groups looted and burned a IDP camp, forcing residents to take refuge in the main hospital. Several unspecified aid groups were also looted. Sources: [RJDH](#) and [Thomson Reuters Foundation](#)

17 August 2017: In Obo city, Haut-Mbomou prefecture, suspected Lord's Resistance Army fighters broke into an unidentified hospital in Kadjemah village, stealing communications equipment and medication. Sources: [LRA Crisis Tracker](#) and [RJDH](#)

18 August 2017: In Zemio town, Haut-Mbomou prefecture, unidentified perpetrators broke into Zemio Hospital, stole unspecified equipment and damaged the building. Source: [RJDH](#)

19 August 2017: In Zemio town, Haut-Mbomou prefecture, Janjaweed fighters attacked an unidentified hospital and the NGO Jupedec. No further details are available. Source: [aBangui](#)

### **Chad**

08 August 2017: In N'Djamena city, N'Djamena region, a soldier shot and injured six teachers in front of the Education Ministry, where they had come to register their diplomas. The motivation behind this attack remains unclear. Source: [VOA Afrique](#)

### **Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC)**

12 August 2017: In Ituri province, a group of about 10 armed bandits fired shots at a pharmacy, seriously injuring one staff member. The perpetrators stole 80 USD (approximately 70 EUR) and two boxes of medicine. Source: [Radio Okapi](#)

16 August 2017: Update: A UN inquiry has found that two UN investigators were likely murdered by militia members from central DRC, but an absence of evidence does not preclude the possibility that others were involved. The two victims were killed on 12 March 2017. In a report, the UN largely absolved the organisation from responsibility over their deaths. To date, Congolese authorities have arrested nine suspects in the killings, but some Western governments and rights groups suspect that other individuals may be involved. Sources: [DEVEX](#), [Reuters](#), [The New York Times](#) and [The Wire](#)

### **Gambia, the**

04 August 2017: In Eassau village, Lower Nuimi district, armed robbers broke into a local pharmacy, attacked a security guard, and stole cash and other valuables. The guard sustained severe injuries on the head, hand and other parts of the body. Source: [Freedom Newspaper](#)

### **Mali**

Undated: In Farandjireye district, Gao city, Gao Region, an unidentified armed individual hijacked a car belonging to the Danish Refugee Council, killing the driver and injuring another staff member. Source: [Bamada](#)

14 August 2017: In Ansongo town, Gao Region, unidentified gunmen hijacked an ambulance belonging to the Operational Coordination Mechanism. Source: [Bamada](#)

14 August 2017: In Timbuktu, unidentified gunmen attacked the Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (MINUSMA) headquarters, killing seven people, including five Malian private security guards working for MINUSMA, a civilian MINUSMA contractor and a police officer. In addition, one Malian private security guard and six peacekeepers were injured. Sources: [aBamako I](#), [aBamako II](#), [CNN](#), [DEVEX](#), [Reuters](#) and [VOA News](#)

14 August 2017: In Douentza town, Mopti region, suspected jihadists fired shots at peacekeepers and Malian troops at a MINUSMA camp, killing one peacekeeper and injuring another. A Malian soldier was also killed. Sources: [aBamako](#), [DEVEX](#) and [Mali Web](#)

15 August 2017: In Timbuktu region, unidentified armed perpetrators entered the regional hospital's morgue to try and recover the bodies of six assailants killed during an attack in Timbuktu on 14 August. Malian soldiers and Swedish peacekeepers responded to the incident. Source: [aBamako](#),

20 August 2017: In Taglit area, on the Aguelhoc-Tessalit axis, Kidal region, a MINUSMA logistics convoy vehicle ran over an improvised explosive device injuring nine peacekeepers. Source: [aBamako](#)

### ***Mauritius***

20 August 2017: In Port Louis, unidentified perpetrators broke into a clinic at Dr A G Jeetoo Hospital and stole medicine. Source: [Lexpress](#)

### ***Nigeria***

11 August 2017: In Maiduguri city, Borno state, the Nigerian military raided a UN compound and 30 other properties without prior authorisation, claiming that they had intelligence a Boko Haram leader was hiding in the area. Sources: [BBC](#), [News24](#), [Reuters](#) and [Vanguard](#)

18 August 2017: In northeast Nigeria, Boko Haram militants launched attacks on IDP camps. Source: [Thomson Reuters Foundation](#)

### ***Senegal***

25 August 2017: In Dakar, the president of the NGO Urgences Panafricanistes was detained at Rebeuss central prison, following a day in police custody, after intentionally burning a 5,000 CFA franc note at a 19 August rally. He was scheduled to appear in court on 29 August. Source: [Juene Afrique](#)

### ***South Africa***

10 August 2017: In KwaZulu-Natal province, a petrol bomb was thrown into an office on the Westville campus, University of KwaZulu-Natal, damaging a door. In addition, a door at the School of Accounting was burned. Source: [IOL](#)

15 August 2017: In Cape Town, Western Cape province, five men attempted to steal the firearms from police officers escorting an ambulance, prompting the driver and a paramedic to flee. Source: [News24](#)

### ***South Sudan***

29 August 2017: In Bul county, Northern Liech state, unidentified gunmen fatally shot a doctor who was returning from work at Agok Hospital, Abyei town, South Kordofan state, Sudan. Source: [Radio Tamazuj](#)

### ***Sudan***

06 August 2017: In El Fasher, North Darfur state, a human rights staff member at the African Union-UN Mission in Darfur (UNAMID) was stopped in the road by an unidentified armed group who threatened her before stealing her mobile phones and vehicle. Source: [Dabanga Sudan](#)

07 August 2017: In El Fasher, North Darfur state, unidentified gunmen hijacked a vehicle belonging to an unspecified NGO. The incident reportedly occurred in the presence of the Sudanese Vice-President, who was in the city to launch a campaign to collect weapons. Source: [Dabanga Sudan](#)

08 August 2017: In Tabeldiyat area, South Darfur state, a group of unidentified gunmen on camels opened

fire at an unspecified INGO food truck, wounding one teacher on board. Source: [Dabanga Sudan](#)

13 August 2017: In Kabkabiya town, North Darfur state, masked gunmen attacked El Masar Charity Development centre, stole an ambulance, several laptops and mobile phones. Source: [Dabanga Sudan](#)

20 August 2017: In North Darfur state, unidentified militiamen entered Sortony IDP camp next to the UNAMID base, and kidnapped two residents. Source: [Dabanga Sudan](#)

27 August 2017: In Central Darfur state, unidentified armed men raided Blocks 7 and 8 of Nierteti IDP camp, broke into shops and stole money and 22 mobile phones. One female resident was injured by shots fired into the air. Source: [Dabanga Sudan](#)

## Asia

### *Afghanistan*

14 August 2017: In Firuzkoh city, Ghor province, three Catholic Relief Services staff members were killed and two wounded by unidentified gunmen. No further information currently available. Source: [Reuters](#)

### *Cambodia*

16 August 2017: In Battambang city, Battambang province, a high school deputy principal and opposition supporter was dismissed for having political discussions with students in July 2017. Source: [The Phnom Penh Post](#)

### *China*

13 August 2017: In Yulin city, Shaanxi province, a Chinese human rights lawyer - under house arrest since his release from prison in August 2014 – was reported missing from his home. Source: [Radio Free Asia](#)

### *Indonesia*

Undated: In Palangka Raya city, Central Kalimantan province, unidentified perpetrators launched an arson attack against eight elementary and vocational schools across the region. Several suspects have been arrested and interrogated. Source: [Antara News](#)

## Middle-East and North Africa

### *Libya*

17 August 2017: In Tripoli, an unidentified armed group kidnapped four Libyan female students and a female professor from a campus at Tripoli University. Source: [Libya Herald](#)

20 August 2017: In Al Bayda city, Cyrenaica region, the dean of the Faculty of Theology at the University of Mohammed bin Ali al-Sanusi was reported missing. Source: [Alwasat](#)

### *Occupied Palestinian Territories*

14 August 2017: In Khashm Al-Daraj area, Yatta town, West Bank, Israeli forces demolished three European Union-funded homes for Palestinians. Source: [International Middle East Media Centre](#)

21 August 2017: In Jabal al-Baba village, West Bank, Israeli forces demolished the only kindergarten for the Palestinian Bedouin community on the basis that it had been built without Israeli permission. Sources: [Norwegian Refugee Council](#) and [Wafa](#)

22 August 2017: In Jubbet ad-Dib village, West Bank, Israeli forces demolished a primary school. Sources: [Norwegian Refugee Council](#) and [The New Arab](#)

22 August 2017: In Abu Nuwar village, West Bank, Israeli forces dismantled and confiscated solar panels of a primary school, leaving it without power. Source: [Norwegian Refugee Council](#)

22 August 2017: In Jib al-Deeb village, West Bank, Israeli forces seized mobile classrooms brought for an elementary school on the basis that it had been put up without permission. Source: [Wafa](#)

### ***Syrian Arab Republic***

02 August 2017: Near al Jesr al Qadim, Raqqa, Raqqa governorate, a male national dentist was killed by an ISIS-planted landmine. Source: [Syrian Network for Human Rights](#)

05 August 2017: In Raqqa, Raqqa governorate, international coalition warplanes reportedly fired a missile at the National Hospital, destroying parts of the building. The same hospital was further damaged on 25 August by Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF). Source: [Syrian Network for Human Rights](#)

06 August 2017: In Jam'iyet al Attiba Qais, Raqqa, Raqqa governorate, a male national gynaecologist was reportedly killed by missiles fired on his house by international coalition forces warplanes. Source: [Syrian Network for Human Rights](#)

06 August 2017: In Jam'iyet al Attiba Qais, Raqqa, Raqqa governorate, a male national dentist was reportedly killed by missiles fired on his house by international coalition forces warplanes. Source: [Syrian Network for Human Rights](#)

07 August 2017: In Ein Tarma town, Eastern Ghouta, Damascus, Syrian forces reportedly fired several "Pheel" rockets near a SCD, wounding one volunteer and damaging the building. Source: [Syrian Network for Human Rights](#)

08 August 2017: In al Ash'ari town, al Marj neighbourhood, Eastern Ghouta, Damascus, Syrian forces reportedly fired several shells at a SCD emergency medical point, damaging the building and equipment. Source: [Syrian Network for Human Rights](#)

08 August 2017: In Raqqa, Raqqa governorate, international coalition forces warplanes reportedly fired several missiles fired at al Salam Hospital, destroying it. Source: [Syrian Network for Human Rights](#)

09 August 2017: In Kafr Batna town, Eastern Ghouta, Damascus, Syrian forces reportedly fired several shells near a SCD ambulance, damaging it. Source: [Syrian Network for Human Rights](#)

09 August 2017: In Ein Tarma town, Eastern Ghouta, Damascus, Syrian forces reportedly fired several shells near a SCD-centre 103 ambulance, damaging it. Source: [Syrian Network for Human Rights](#)

09 August 2017: In al Tabni town, Deir Ez-Zour governorate, suspected Russian warplanes reportedly fired several missiles at a pharmacy, destroying it. Source: [Syrian Network for Human Rights](#)

12 August 2017: In Sarmin city, Idlib governorate, unidentified gunmen stormed a Syria Civil Defence (SCD) office, and shot dead seven volunteers (including an ambulance and fire services driver, a firefighter and a team director), whilst they were asleep. The centre was damaged and an ambulance and another emergency service vehicle, helmets and radio communications equipment were stolen. Sources: [BBC](#), [CNN](#), [The Guardian](#), [Syrian Network for Human Rights](#) and [UN News Centre](#)

13 August 2017: In Ein Tarma town, Eastern Ghouta, Damascus, Syrian forces reportedly fired several shells

near a SCD-centre 103 ambulance, damaging it. Source: [Syrian Network for Human Rights](#)

18 August 2017: In Raqqa, Raqqa governorate, a male national medical student at ISIS's Caliphate University was reportedly killed by missiles fired by international coalition forces warplanes at the National Hospital where he worked as a doctor. Source: [Syrian Network for Human Rights](#)

20 August 2017: In Talblisa city, Homs governorate, a male national hospital technician was reportedly killed by Syrian forces shelling. Source: [Syrian Network for Human Rights](#)

20 August 2017: In Raqqa, Raqqa governorate, international coalition forces warplanes reportedly fired several missiles fired at al Teb al Hadith Hospital, destroying it. Source: [Syrian Network for Human Rights](#)

24 August 2017: In Raqqa, Raqqa governorate, Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF) reportedly fired several shells at the National Hospital, severely damaging it. The hospital had already been damaged by a missile fired by international coalition warplanes on 05 August. Source: [Syrian Network for Human Rights](#)

26 August 2017: In Raqqa, Raqqa governorate, a male national orthopaedist was reportedly killed by missiles fired by international coalition forces warplanes. Source: [Syrian Network for Human Rights](#)

29 August 2017: In Raqqa, Raqqa governorate, international coalition forces warplanes reportedly fired several missiles fired at al Mwas Hospital, destroying it. Source: [Syrian Network for Human Rights](#)

31 August 2017: In Sana'a, the founder of the Red Crescent society reportedly died due to a lack of medical supplies available at a hospital. He had been denied air transport to neighbouring Egypt or Jordan for treatment due to Saudi-imposed restrictions on Yemeni airspace. Source: [The Guardian](#)

## The Americas

### Colombia

06 August 2017: In Caloto town, Caloto municipality, Cauca department, unidentified perpetrators attacked a UXO team from the UN Mission in Colombia, leading to the injury of one staff member of the Peacebuilding Unit (UNIPEP) of the Colombian National Police. Sources: [The Hindu Business Online](#) and [UN News Centre](#)

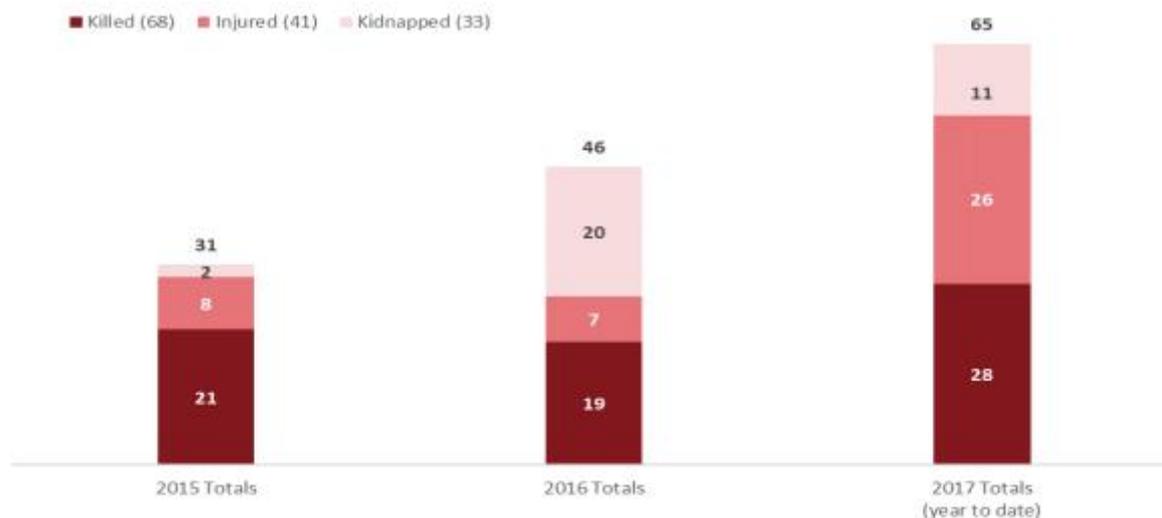
### Guatemala

29 August 2017: The Guatemalan President ordered the expulsion of the head of the UN's anti-corruption mission International Commission Against Impunity in Guatemala (CICIG), accusing him of meddling in domestic affairs. The move was temporarily halted by the Constitutional Court in Guatemala. Sources: [BBC](#), [Prensa Libre](#) and [VOA News](#)

## Trend Reporting: January 2015- June 2017

### Security in Numbers Database (SiND) reported KIK<sup>1</sup> incidents affecting Red Crescent Red Cross staff and volunteers

Open-source monitoring by Insecurity Insight identified 142 national RCRC<sup>2</sup> staff and volunteers reportedly killed, injured or kidnapped in 14 countries in 59 incidents between January 2015 and June 2017. A high number of incidents were reported in Syria (21 incidents affecting 42 staff), followed by Yemen (13 incidents affecting 21 staff).



<sup>1</sup> KIK: Any incident that resulted in an aid worker being killed, injured or kidnapped.

<sup>2</sup> RCRC includes ICRC, IFRC and all national societies of the Red Cross and Red Crescent movement.

Data collection is ongoing and these numbers may change as new information is made available. Where the number of people affected is unspecified, one is counted.

## Security-related access constraints

### Africa

#### Benin

27 August 2017: In Cotonou city, Littoral department, over 100 public health workers protested at the Health Ministry, demanding improvements to working conditions. Trade unions also announced a 48-hour warning strike for 30 August 2017. Sources: [Africatime](#) and [China](#)

#### Burkina Faso

09 August 2017: In Hauts-Bassins region, Houet province, the police detained two health workers over allegations of theft of drugs and other materials. The items had been gradually stolen from a hospital in Bobo Dioulasso city. Source: [Koaci](#)

#### Cameroon

16 August 2017: In Yaoundé, Mfoundi department, the Cameroonian NGO Movement for Human Rights, Justice, Peace and Humanitarian Action denounced Amnesty International's 2017 report and accused the group of trying to destabilise the morale of Cameroonian troops. In the report, Amnesty International alleges that Cameroonian soldiers had used tortured against suspected Boko Haram fighters. Source: [Cameroon Info](#)

#### Central African Republic

11 August 2017: In Zemio town, Haut-Mbomou prefecture, two armed men opened fire inside Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF)-supported Zemio Hospital, killing a baby. MSF has reduced its activities as a result of this incident. Source: [RJDH](#)

14 August 2017: Bishop Juan-José Aguirre Muñoz blamed MINUSCA for the massacre of 50 civilians attributed to ex-Seleka fighters in Gambo village on 04 August. He claimed peacekeepers had failed to disarm the perpetrators, and called for the removal of complicit Moroccan troops. Source: [Catholic Culture](#)

17 August 2017: The spread of violence in multiple unspecified locations has been challenging the operational capacity of the humanitarian community. Source: [OCHA](#)

### ***Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC)***

28 August 2017: In Équateur province, all health workers and administrative staff from general hospitals and health centres across the region continued their strike that began a month ago, suspending most services. The strike is expected to last until 02 September. Sources: [Media Congo](#) and [Radio Okapi](#)

28 August 2017: In Lubumbashi city, Haut-Katanga district, Katanga province, public sector doctors staged a sit-in at the Provincial Finance Division, demanding the last two months' wages. Source: [Radio Okapi](#)

29 August 2017: In Kinshasa, Kinshasa province, the Association of Professors of the University of Kinshasa continued a strike that began on 07 August. Source: [Media Congo](#)

### ***Guinea-Bissau***

28 August 2017: In Oio region, teachers threatened to strike and paralyse the start of the forthcoming school year, demanding to be paid for the past five months. Source: [Agnoticias](#)

### ***Kenya***

15 August 2017: The Kenyan authorities de-registered the advocacy group Kenya Human Rights Commission a day before it was set to file a petition to challenge the re-election of the current Kenyan President. The authorities claim that the group had used illegal bank accounts, and neglected to pay its taxes, among other allegations. Sources: [Capital FM](#) and [DEVEX](#)

15 August 2017: The NGO Coordination Board urged the Directorate of Criminal Investigations to immediately shut down the pro-democracy group Africa Centre for Open Governance (AfriCOG), which had raised concerns over preparations for the 08 August General Elections, and to arrest its directors and members. The Board also advised the Central Bank of Kenya to freeze the bank accounts of the group on the basis that it had been operating illegally. Sources: [Capital FM](#) and [DEVEX](#)

15 August 2017: The Kenyan authorities suspended for 90 days all actions against AfriCOG and Kenya Human Rights Commission while talks were held. Sources: [Kampala Dispatch](#) and [Reuters](#)

### ***Mali***

07 August 2017: In northern Mali, escalating violence and a surge in attacks against humanitarian workers, including arrests, assaults, thefts and break-ins, reportedly restricted the delivery of food and healthcare to millions of people. Source: [VOA News](#)

20 August 2017: In Kidal town, Kidal region, protesters occupied the front of Kidal Airport and requested the transfer of the airstrip to the outskirts of the city, claiming ongoing works to renovate the airport by MINUSMA create dust that causes health problems. Source: [aBamako](#)

### ***Somalia***

23 August 2017: In Mogadishu, intermediaries who control access to land used by IDPs reportedly intercepted aid delivered by the government-run Somali National Drought Relief Committee and sold it on for profit. Source: [DEVEX](#)

### ***South Sudan***

10 August 2017: *Update:* In Ngap-Agok county, Tonj state, about 33 people were arrested for allegedly stealing relief food belonging to the WFP in July. Source: [Radio Tamazuj](#)

21 August 2017: In Juba, the South Sudanese authorities grounded aircraft belonging to the United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS) in a dispute over control of Juba International Airport. This decision was taken after UNMISS deployed Rwandan peacekeepers to Thongpiny base near the airport. The issue was resolved after the UN relocated those deployed to the Jebel base. Sources: [Radio Tamazuj](#) and [Thomson Reuters Foundation](#)

### ***Sudan***

Undated: In White Nile state, Sudanese authorities implemented new restrictions for South Sudanese refugees after violence erupted in Khor Al-Waral refugee camp. Source: [Radio Tamazuj](#)

29 August 2017: The UN reported progress in the opening of aid corridors by Sudan's military to get food and medicine into tightly-controlled areas of Darfur region. Source: [Reuters](#)

## **Asia**

### ***Cambodia***

01 August 2017: The Cambodian Prime Minister ordered an investigation, closure and expulsion of the anti-sex trafficking NGO, Agape International Mission, over a recent CNN report that included statements that the organisation believes that some mothers sell their daughters into prostitution. Source: [Cambodia Daily](#)

23 August 2017: The Cambodian authorities gave the US-funded National Democratic Institute seven days to shut down and make its foreign staff leave, claiming that the group had broken rules requiring political neutrality by working with the opposition to topple the ruling party. Source: [DEVEX](#)

31 August 2017: On at least three occasions, the Cambodian authorities warned the advocacy group Cambodian League for the Promotion and Defence of Human Rights that it is violating Cambodia's Law on Associations and NGOs, once for a website it created to keep track of the number of political prisoners in the country. Source: [DEVEX](#)

### ***China***

29 August 2017: The Taiwanese Mainland Affairs Council warned Taiwan-based NGOs operating in China to be on alert following Beijing's increased scrutiny of foreign NGO groups under a new law that came into effect on 01 January. Source: [Focus Taiwan](#)

### ***Mongolia***

30 August 2017: In Ulaanbaatar city, teachers from nine of the city's districts held a demonstration, demanding a salary increase. Source: [Mongolia Go Go](#)

### ***Myanmar***

07 August 2017: In Sittwe city, Rakhine state, residents announced that they would hold protests across the region on unspecified dates, asking international NGOs to leave, and requesting the Burmese government to increase security measures. Source: [Eleven Myanmar](#)

10 August 2017: In Rakhine state, the UN issued a precautionary security alert to approximately 300 employees, and to an unspecified number of international NGOs, warning them of an increased likelihood of civil unrest in the region, and the possibility of demonstrations targeting humanitarian offices. Sources: [Reuters](#) and [VOA News](#)

20 August 2017: In Kachin state, the Myanmar military stopped cars driven by members of the civil society group 88 Generation Peace and Open Society Group from transporting bags of rice to ethnic Lisu people living in an IDP camp in Sadone area. Source: [Mizzima](#)

25 August 2017: In Rakhine state, UN agencies, including the UN Population Fund and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) were unable to deliver aid in the north part of the region, caused by the Myanmar military campaign against the country's Rohingya minority, as well as government field-visits restrictions. Source: [The Guardian](#)

28 August 2017: The UN Secretary-General called for humanitarian agencies to be granted access to affected communities in need of assistance and protection, with a special emphasis on Rakhine state. Source: [Business Insider](#)

29 August 2017: The State Counsellor Office posted, on its Facebook page, photos of a World Food Programme (WFP) box of biscuits, as well as United States (US) Agency for International Development (USAID) parcels, claiming that they were found in a terrorist camp in Rathedaung township, Rakhine state. WFP has requested more details from the authorities. At a meeting with diplomats, the National Security Adviser reiterated accusations of aid worker involvement, adding that ammonia and tubes used by development workers for construction are being turned into explosives. Source: [DEVEX](#) and [WFP](#)

31 August 2017: A consortium of international NGOs released a statement following allegations that humanitarian assistance is being provided as support to parties which have perpetrated violence, stated the allegations are an untrue representation of INGOs, and go against their common values and humanitarian principles. Source: [Mizzima](#)

### ***Nepal***

14 August 2017: In the floods-stricken districts of southern Nepal, the Home Affairs Ministry ordered development partners to hand over relief materials to the government-led Relief Collection Coordination Committee who would then oversee distribution, possibly hampering the delivery of aid to communities in need. Source: [DEVEX](#)

27 August 2017: The Minister for Women, Children and Social Welfare announced that her ministry is preparing to amend social welfare acts to manage and regulate the activities of local and foreign NGOs. Source: [The Himalayan Times](#)

### ***North Korea***

11 August 2017: The US State Department is planning to prohibit US citizens from travelling to North Korea beginning 01 September, thereby preventing American NGOs from operating in the country. Source: [International Affairs Review](#)

### ***Pakistan***

02 August 2017: In Punjab province, the Young Doctors Association staged a strike at several health facilities in Lahore and Faisalabad. Several surgeries at Services Hospital in Lahore were cancelled, and patients admitted for operations were forced to leave, leading to the death of 12 patients. Punjab Chief Minister ordered action against those deemed responsible for the deaths. Source: [Dunya News](#)

08 August 2017: Humanitarian agencies were forced to cut back services because of a new tax, introduced in June 2017, on NGOs that spend 15 percent or more of their budget on administrative costs. Source: [IRIN](#)

17 August 2017: In Badin city, Badin district, Sindh province, unemployed youths and members of civil society groups staged a sit-in to protest a number of NGOs working in the district, accusing them of ignoring locals in jobs, and warning them that if they do not recruit locals, they would start a campaign against them and would not allow them to work in the district. Source: [Dawn](#)

## Europe

### Italy

31 July 2017: *Update*: Five aid groups, including MSF, refused to sign onto a new code of conduct drafted by Rome for NGOs conducting rescue operations in the Mediterranean Sea. MSF objects to the presence of armed police aboard on grounds of principle, and to a requirement that their boats must take migrants to a safe port themselves. The Interior Ministry has warned that NGOs who fail to comply with the code of conduct risk not being given access to Italian ports. Sources: [The Associated Press](#) and [Reuters](#)

02 August 2017: In Lampedusa island, Italian coastguards seized a rescue boat operated by the German aid group Jugend Rettet, over suspicions of aiding illegal migration from Libya. The move was reportedly ordered by a Sicilian judge as a preventive seizure. Sources: [EU Observer](#), [Reuters](#) and [The Guardian](#)

08 August 2017: A rescue boat operated by Barcelona-based NGO Proactiva Open Arms, was left stranded in international waters after it was barred by both Italy and Malta from disembarking migrants it rescued two days earlier. Source: [Reuters](#)

## Middle-East and North Africa

### Egypt

18 August 2017: Egyptian authorities prevented an Algerian humanitarian aid convoy loaded with medicine, medical disposals, electricity generators and other equipment from entering the Gaza Strip through the Rafah crossing, despite having the required credentials and documents. Source: [Middle East Monitor](#)

### Libya

11 August 2017: Libyan authorities declared that its search-and-rescue area in the Mediterranean Sea would extend beyond the 12 nautical miles that European countries consider the limit of its territorial waters. Save the Children temporarily docked one of their rescue ships in Malta in response. Sources: [ABC News](#) and [DW](#)

12 August 2017: MSF was forced to temporarily suspend its rescue operations for migrants in the Mediterranean Sea because of alleged threats from the Libyan Coast Guard. Sources: [Reuters I](#), [Reuters II](#) and [The New York Times](#)

13 August 2017: The INGO Save the Children and Germany-based Sea Eye suspended rescue operations for migrants in the Mediterranean Sea, citing threats from the Libyan authorities. Several other unspecified charity groups were considering doing the same. Sources: [ABC News](#) and [Reuters](#)

24 August 2017: In Derna city, Cyrenaica region, a successful delivery of medical supplies to Al Wahda Hospital was made by the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), following the permission of conflict parties. Source: [ICRC](#)

27 August 2017: In Cyrenaica region, staff at the Mohammed bin Ali al-Sanusi University and Tobruk University protested the newly-passed Law of Universities. The strike was suspended on 27 August after the Speaker of the House of Representatives informed that the law would be frozen and presented to universities for their review. Sources: [Alwasat I](#) and [Alwasat II](#)

## **Morocco**

29 August 2017: In Zoumi town, Ouezzane province, Tanger-Tetouan-Al Hoceima region, a protest organised by the National Association of Persons with Disability was held in front of the town's health centre to express dissatisfaction with the regional health services. Source: [Hespress](#)

29 August 2017: In Dahkla city, Western Sahara territory, citizens held a protest in front of Hassan II Hospital for the lack of health facilities and services. Source: [Dahkla Now](#)

## **Occupied Palestinian Territories**

20 August 2017: The Swiss Foreign Ministry announced it had stopped funding the Ramallah-based NGO Human Rights and International Humanitarian Law Secretariat due to alleged links to terrorism. Source: [Middle East Monitor](#)

22 August 2017: The Palestinian Authority reduced the number of medical referrals for Palestinians in Gaza territory by 80 percent in an attempt to put pressure on Hamas, putting thousands of patients' lives at risk. Source: [Middle East Monitor](#)

22 August 2017: According to Al Jazeera, in East Jerusalem city, health workers are becoming increasingly harassed by Israeli forces who enter hospitals to arrest Palestinian suspects, jeopardising treatment of patients during raids. Source: [Al Jazeera](#)

23 August 2017: In the West Bank, around 55 schools were threatened with demolition and stop-work orders by the Israeli authorities. Source: [Norwegian Refugee Council](#)

28 August 2017: In Gaza, Palestinians holding placards gathered in front of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights to protest Israel's refusal to return the bodies of their relatives who died in detention. Source: [Middle East Monitor](#)

## **Yemen**

01 August 2017: In Yemen, humanitarian workers continue to struggle to overcome access obstacles, from obtaining visas to physically reaching people in need, to adequately respond to the deteriorating crisis situation around food insecurity and health. Source: [DEVEX](#)

09 August 2017: In Sana'a, Yemen's main international airport remains closed. The airport was closed a year ago which hinders aid deliveries and prevents thousands of patients from flying abroad for life-saving treatment. The Yemeni government estimates that 10,000 Yemenis have died from critical health conditions for which they were seeking international medical treatment. Sources: [ABC News](#), [Reuters](#), [The Guardian](#) and [The New York Times](#)

## **The Americas**

### **Brazil**

24 August 2017: In Rio de Janeiro city, Rio de Janeiro state, mounting violence between armed criminal gangs is on the rise, and many schools are trapped in the crossfire. Source: [BBC](#)

28 August 2017: In Palmas city, Tocantins state, the Tocantins State Workers' Union of Education unanimously approved a municipal school strike for an indefinite period, starting from 05 September. The workers are demanding, inter alia, progressions and entitlements. Source: [Conexao Tocantins](#)

## **Guatemala**

30 August 2017: In Guatemala City, members of the Union of Education Workers of Guatemala gathered in front of the Obelisk and walked towards the Congress to demand the fulfilment of collective agreements.

Source: [El Periodico](#)

<sup>1</sup> The AWSO database does not include the names of individual victims or the agencies affected by an incident. This is done in consideration of the victims and their families who may not wish to have the names publicised in this format and to afford equal respect to the many victims for whom this information is not available.

