



IJCSL NEWSLETTER

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ANTI-CORRUPTION AND ANTI-TERRORIST LEGISLATION

INDIA – DIHAR ASSEMBLY PASSES RIGHT TO PUBLIC SERVICES BILL

On March 27, the Bihar Assembly unanimously passed the Right to Public Services Bill 2011, seeking to weed out corruption from utility services being provided to the public. State Energy Minister Vijendra Prasad Yadav introduced the Bill, in keeping with the promises made by Chief Minister Nitish Kumar in this regard. The House later adopted the Bill unanimously without any debate. After introduction of the Bill, Kumar said the new legislation would ensure delivery of public utility services like issuing of caste, income and character certificates as well as driving licences in a time-bound manner. "It will help uproot corruption in providing public utility services," he claimed, adding it was yet another revolutionary step taken by his government to check corruption.

<http://news.in.msn.com/national/article.aspx?cp-documentid=5085957>

JAMAICA—PARLIAMENT READY TO AMEND ANTI-TERRORISM LEGISLATION

Parliament has given the green light to amend the Terrorism Prevention (Amendment) Act, making the island compliant with certain provisions of the United Nations Financial Action Task Force (FATF). Foreign minister Kenneth Baugh, who piloted the bill, said that the law is being amended to allow the Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP), to apply to the Supreme Court for an order to list persons or entities as terrorists.

<http://www.jamaicaobserver.com/news/Parliament-green-lights-anti-terror-legislation>

PHILIPPINES – HOUSE OKS BILL STRENGTHENING MONEY LAUNDERING LAW

The House of Representatives has approved on third and final reading a bill strengthening the anti-money laundering law to make it compliant with international standards and a more effective tool against terror financing.

<http://www.ynetnews.com/articles/0,7340,L-4050391,00.html>

SAUDI ARABIA—NATIONAL ANTI-CORRUPTION COMMISSION ESTABLISHED

Among the raft of royal decrees issued by Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Abdullah Bin Abdulaziz was the establishment of a national commission to combat corruption. This new government department's will monitor and oversee all other governmental departments, with its sole mission being to locate and confront administrative and financial corruption in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. The royal decree establishing the "National Anti-Corruption Commission" also ensured that this governmental body reports solely and directly to King Abdullah, which reflects the Saudi monarchs concern with combating corruption and putting an end to this phenomenon.

<http://www.rai-see.org/news/world/1198-new-saudi-national-anti-corruption-commission-to-report-directly-to-king.html>

SYRIA --TO INTRODUCE ANTI-TERRORISM LAW

<http://www.ynetnews.com/articles/0,7340,L-4050391,00.html>



IJCSL NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 8 ISSUE 4

APRIL 2011

VIETNAM - PROPOSES ANTI-TERRORISM MEASURES AT REGIONAL FORUM

Vietnam proposed a number of measures to fight terrorism at the Jakarta International Defense Dialogue (JIDD) which took place in the Indonesian capital of Jakarta.

<http://english.vovnews.vn/Home/Vietnam-proposes-antiterrorism-measures-at-regional-forum/20113/125161.vov>

UKRAINE--ADOPTS NEW ANTI-CORRUPTION BILL

The new legislation will require key officials and their family members to declare their incomes and any expenses that exceed their incomes

<http://www.presstv.ir/detail/170602.html>

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION AND FREEDOM OF INFORMATION

BOLIVIA—MEMORANDUM ON DRAFT LAW FOR TRANSPARENCY AND ACCESS TO PUBLIC INFORMATION RELEASED BY ARTICLE 19

<http://www.article19.org/pdfs/analysis/bolivia-access-to-public-information.pdf>

CHINA—CONTINUED CRITICISM ABOUT LACK OF TRANSPARENCY FOR CHINA’S CHARITIES

According to a report in People’s Daily and posted in English on the Hauser Center website (available at <http://hausercenter.org/chinanpo/2011/02/charity-transparency-criticised/>), charitable organizations in China are still receiving harsh criticism from the general public because of the slow progress being made in making them more transparent despite the fact that people’s enthusiasm for philanthropy has risen ever since the 2008 Sichuan earthquake. A report unveiled by a subdivision of the Ministry of Civil Affairs (MOCA) showed that about 75 percent of charitable organizations in China have either no or limited disclosure of information, the 21st Century Business Herald newspaper reported. National charity donations totaled more than 54 billion yuan (\$8.2 billion) with the number of charitable organizations increasing to 435,000, but its level of transparency failed to improve, according to statistics released by an official authority in October.

“Although we expanded the sample this time, the findings are not grounds for optimism,” Liu Youping, vice-director of China Charity and Donation Information Center (CCDIC), which is responsible for the survey, was quoted as saying. The survey involved filling in a questionnaire and independent investigation, according to the report.

EL SALVADOR—FOI LAW ADOPTED

Freedominfo reports that the Legislative Assembly of El Salvador on March 3, 2011 gave definitive approval to the Law on Access to Public Information. The law, which was first passed in December of last year, received a series of [observations](#) from the president of the country. Congress had to either reject or incorporate them to the Act, but had no



IJCSL NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 8 ISSUE 4

APRIL 2011

established time for this revision, something that could have condemned the “almost” law to a legislative limbo. Civil society activism seems to have played an important role throughout this process: the coalition to promote the legislation ([Grupo Promotor](#)) got involved from the very beginning of the elaboration of the bill and pushed for final approval. Even while it is quite difficult to measure the impact of the group’s actions, the fact is that since last week El Salvador had entered the list of FOI countries that guarantee the right to know within their territories. See <http://www.freedominfo.org/2011/03/el-salvador-joins-the-list-of-foi-countries/> for more details on the new law.

MALAYSIA—FOI BILL PASSED BY SELANGOR STATE

The Selangor state assembly April 1 passed a freedom of information bill, the first state government in Malaysia to do so. The Center for Independent Journalism Malaysia, which leads the FOI Task Force of the Coalition for Good Governance, hailed an “historic step” while also noting that the final product was improved from the first version tabled in July 2010. In a [statement](#), the Center also said, “It is high time the Federal Government follow suit to show its commitment to combat corruption and promote good governance.” State executive councilor Elizabeth Wong, was quoted as saying: “No other states have dared to implement the Freedom of Information Enactment. This is a product of the people’s power.” Reports of passage can be seen in [The Sun Daily](#) and [The Star](#).

NIGERIA--SENATE PASSES FREEDOM OF INFORMATION BILL

The Bill will make it easier for Nigerians to have access to information on government activities. The House of Representative had earlier passed the bill .
<http://234next.com/csp/cms/sites/Next/News/National/5683645-146/story.csp>

FREEDOM OF ASSOCIATION AND PEACEFUL ASSEMBLY

EGYPT—

- **CABINET APPROVES CRIMINALIZING STRIKES, PROTESTS**

The Cabinet approved a decree banning strikes and demonstrations that impede the work of public institutions. The new law still needs to be approved by the Supreme Council of the Armed Forces, which took over following Mubarak’s fall from power

<http://www.speroforum.com/site/article.asp?id=51020&t=Egypt%3A+++Law+to+stifle+protest+and+demonstrations>

- **POLITICAL PARTIES LAW PASSED**



IJCSL NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 8 ISSUE 4

APRIL 2011

Egypt's ruling military council said the first parliamentary elections since the ouster of President [Hosni Mubarak](#) will be held in September and a new law has been passed easing some curbs on forming political parties. The vote won't be held under the decades-old state of emergency now in place, Major General Mamdouh Shahine, a member of the Supreme Council of the Armed Forces, told reporters in Cairo today, indicating emergency laws could be lifted before then. A date hasn't been set for a presidential vote yet, he said. He indicated presidential polls would be held after the legislative vote. Mubarak ceded interim authority to the council on Feb. 11 after weeks of protests demanding political freedoms. Egyptians voted on March 19 on a set of constitutional amendments. About 77 percent endorsed the changes, which include [term limits](#) for presidents, fuller judicial oversight of voting and fewer restrictions on presidential candidates. Backers said the amendments will help speed up the transition to civilian rule and help revive the economy. Opponents say the tight timetable will favor established groups such as the Muslim Brotherhood and members of Mubarak's former ruling party. <http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2011-03-28/egypt-passes-parties-law-sets-date-for-parliament-elections.html>

THAILAND—PUBLIC GATHERING LAW CONSIDERED

The Public Gathering Bill successfully crossed the first parliamentary hurdle when its general principles and themes were approved by the lower house on March 10. Now it is under the House Select Committee's grilling process. Considering the fact that mass demonstrations have been employed as a powerful leverage tool for disillusioned protesters against the government, this bill, once enacted, is set to become a compulsory list of do's and don't's about how to stage a "lawful" public gathering. <http://www.bangkokpost.com/news/local/228496/demystifying-the-bill-on-public-assembly>

USA - NHIO LEGISLATURE PASSES BILL CURBING UNION RIGHTS

Ohio's legislature on Wednesday passed a Republican measure to curb the collective bargaining rights of about 350,000 state employees, and Governor John Kasich said he will sign it into law. Its passage marks another success for Republicans who are pursuing measures in several states to limit the rights of public-sector unions. Unions are a key constituency of the Democratic Party. The bill, which also bans strikes by unions for public employees.

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2011/03/31/us-unions-ohio-idUSTRE72T6OM20110331?feedType=RSS&feedName=topNews>

FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION

BURMA (MYANMAR)—SOME CENSORSHIP ENDED

New government to lift censorship on some journals; not newspapers. Publishers and



IJCSL NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 8 ISSUE 4

APRIL 2011

journalists of most journals and magazines will not need to pass articles through the censor board prior to publication. However, the new policy only applies to publications focusing on sport, entertainment, general knowledge, health, children's literature, the supernatural and technology. Publications which print articles about politics, business and news will still need to pass articles through the censorship board prior to publication. Section 354 (a) of the '2008' Constitution says that if not contrary to the law enacted for Union security, prevalence of law and order, community peace and tranquility or public order and morality, every citizen can speak and publish freely.

<http://www.mizzima.com/news/inside-burma/5076-new-government-to-lift-censorship-on-some-journals-not-newspapers.html>

CHINA—IFJ REPORT ON CENSORSHIP

A new report by the International Federation of Journalists (IFJ) on press freedom in China highlights the battle by local censors to control media commentary on a wide range of topics throughout in 2009. Available here:

<http://www.ifj.org/en/articles/ifj-report-lists-chinas-secret-bans-on-media-reporting>

INDIA--GOVERNMENT CONSIDERING NEW LAWS ON TAPPING PHONE CALLS AND INTERCEPTING E-MAILS.

This includes making it mandatory for law enforcing agencies to destroy all recordings of individual conversation that are not relevant to the investigation. The new rules will also make it difficult for units monitoring tax frauds under the Department of Revenue to tap into individual's phones unless it is a case of public emergency.

<http://www.thehindubusinessline.com/industry-and-economy/info-tech/article1579030.ece?homepage=true>

HUNGARY—MEDIA LAW TO BE AMENDED TO MEET EUROPEAN STANDARDS

The Hungarian parliament has amended the country's controversial new media law in order to address criticisms it does not meet European requirements.

<http://www.broadbandtvnews.com/2011/03/09/hungarian-media-law-amended/>

POLAND—MEDIA LAW AMENDMENT WOULD REGULATE INTERNET

The Polish Senate has approved amendments to the country's media law that omit any reference to internet-delivered on demand services. Industry experts believe that the current amendment could lead to censorship, for it would require all TV programs distributed over the Internet to be registered with the KRRiT (The National Broadcasting Council)

<http://www.broadbandtvnews.com/2011/03/18/polish-media-law-changes-raise-concerns/>

QATAR—NEW MEDIA LAW IN THE OFFING

Preliminary draft suggests that journalists will be free to write on issues except those concerning national security and friendly countries.



IJCSL NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 8 ISSUE 4

APRIL 2011

http://www.menafn.com/qn_news_story_s.asp?storyid=1093398170

UK--DRAFT DEFAMATION BILL PUBLISHED

Following an 18 month consultation, a draft Defamation Bill and consultation paper has been published by the Ministry of Justice. [According to the Ministry's website](#), the draft Defamation Bill and accompanying consultation paper contain provisions reforming the law in an effort to strike the right balance between protection of freedom of speech and protection of reputation. Link to the Draft bill:

<http://www.justice.gov.uk/consultations/docs/draft-defamation-bill-consultation.pdf>

FREEDOM OF RELIGION AND BELIEF

CHINA--FEARS OF MORE PRESSURE ON UNDERGROUND CHURCHES

Fears that a crackdown on underground churches is under way have increased, with one of the largest house churches on the mainland soon to be evicted, a Guangzhou house church ordered to stop meeting and another driven out of one of its rented premises. The Beijing-based Shouwang Church, with about 800 members, will have nowhere to worship after Sunday as its landlord has come under pressure to stop renting it a spacious film studio to host its services, pastor Jin Tianming said yesterday. It is not the first time the 18-year-old church has been under pressure to stop meeting - it has been evicted from rented premises many times in the past and the authorities have also used administrative measures, such as allegations that it breached fire regulations, to put pressure on the church to close. As it did the last time it was kicked out of its place of worship, in November 2009, the church plans to hold its Sunday worship outdoors. Two years ago the church was forced to worship in a park in a snowstorm. "We don't have a choice," said Jin, who said the church refuses to close.

<http://www.shwchurch1.com/files/guanyuwomen/gywmDetail.aspx?cDocID=20110327173821382101#>

EUROPE—EUROPEAN COURT OF HUMAN RIGHTS REVERSES “CRUCIFIX” DECISION

In a March 18, 2011 decision by the Grand Chamber, the European Court of Human Rights reversed its 2009 decision on an appeal from Italy. The case, *Lautsi and Others v. Italy* involved a mother and her two sons who attended public school, where crucifixes were present in the classrooms. The court revisited its earlier decision, holding that: “In deciding to keep crucifixes in the classrooms of the State school attended by [Ms. Lautsi’s] children, the authorities acted within the limits of the margin of appreciation left to the respondent State in the context of its obligation to respect, in the exercise of the functions it assumes in relation to education and teaching, the right of parents to ensure such education and teaching in conformity with their own religious and philosophical convictions.” For more information, see *Lautsi and Others v. Italy*, available at

<http://cmiskp.echr.coe.int/tpk197/view.asp?action=html&documentId=883169&portal=h>



IJCSL NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 8 ISSUE 4

APRIL 2011

[bkm&source=externalbydocnumber&table=F69A27FD8FB86142BF01C1166DEA398649.](http://www.forum18.org/Archive.php?article_id=1548)

RUSSIA—EUROPEAN COURT OF HUMAN RIGHTS “OBVIOUSLY IGNORED”

http://www.forum18.org/Archive.php?article_id=1548

Russian Jehovah's Witnesses and Armenian Catholics continue to struggle to gain registration - and so legal status - from the authorities of the capital Moscow, Forum 18 News Service has learned. A court has decided not to change a decision to close the Jehovah's Witnesses Moscow branch - despite a European Court of Human Rights (ECtHR) ruling against this. Jehovah's Witnesses lawyer Artur Leontyev said this "obviously ignored the ruling of the European Court", and said an appeal will be made. ECtHR mandated damages and costs have also not been paid to the Jehovah's Witnesses. Also Moscow's Armenian Catholic congregation continues to be unable to gain registration. A court hearing was postponed until 11 April, when the authorities failed to appear. The Armenian Catholics' lawyer, Vladimir Ryakhovsky of the Slavic Centre for Law and Justice, told Forum 18 beforehand that a negative ruling "would give us the chance to take the issue to the Constitutional Court and challenge the Religion Law". His colleague Inna Zagrebina told Forum 18 that nationwide illegal state interference in communities' internal life is "an integral part of life for religious organisations".

SOUTH AFRICA—MUSLIM MARRIAGE BILL CONSIDERED

Steps are underway to introduce legislation specific to Muslim marriages. The Muslim heritage here dates back centuries, and the Muslim community makes up a sizeable minority. The South African law guarantees the freedom of religion, but even so Muslim marriages are not recognized under South African law. The proposed introduction of a Muslim Marriages bill now is intended to both give recognition to such nuptials and regulate the results that flow from a divorce.

<http://www.presstv.ir/detail/170137.html>

TAJIKISTAN—RELIGIOUS FREEDOM SURVEY RELEASED

Forum 18 News Service has released Religious freedom survey. The survey survey notes continuing violations of freedom of religion or belief and related fundamental human rights. All activity independent of state control, by Muslims, Christians, Jews, Jehovah's Witnesses and other religious believers, has been targeted by the state. New restrictions in a draft Parental Responsibility Law include a total ban on all participation by people under the age of 18 in all religious activity, apart from funerals. Other violations include but are not limited to: demolitions and closures



IJCSL NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 8 ISSUE 4

APRIL 2011

of mosques, churches, and the country's only synagogue; bans on the Jehovah's Witnesses and some Islamic and Protestant movements; arbitrary jailing of Muslims and criminal charges against Jehovah's Witnesses; a ban on all religious activity without state permission; sweeping limitations on the numbers of mosques permitted; limitations on the right to share beliefs; and tight government censorship. The authority's actions imply they think that the real threat they face is people exercising their human rights outside state control.

http://www.forum18.org/Archive.php?article_id=1553

TURKMENISTAN—IMPORT EMBARGO ON RELIGIOUS PUBLICATIONS

Literature import embargo lifted for Orthodox Christians, but not other denominations, according to Forum 18News.

http://www.forum18.org/Archive.php?article_id=1551

UNITED STATES—MISSOURI CONSIDERS CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT ON SHARIA

The Missouri House is considering a bill to ask voters in 2012 to amend the Missouri Constitution. At issue is whether or not Sharia law should be considered in Missouri's legal system.

http://news.yahoo.com/s/ac/20110316/tr_ac/8072072_missouri_house_considers_amendment_banning_sharia_law

LEGAL FRAMEWORK

AUSTRALIA—MODEL NPO LAW PROJECT LAUNCHED BY QUT; ICCSL JOINS AS EXPERT ORGANIZATION

Australia is a federal jurisdiction, which means that various states have laws with regard to the not-for-profit (NPO) sector that are dissimilar in many ways. Australia's Productivity Commission has identified the need for harmonization of NPO regulation. In view of this need, the Australian Centre for Philanthropy and Nonprofit Studies at Queensland University of Technology, is undertaking a Nonprofit Model Law Project, developing proposals for streamlined and seamless regulation of nonprofit organizations. The project's aim is to develop draft model legislation for a regulatory environment for NPOs that is based on evidence and international best practice. Legislation being considered by the project includes the law governing the variety of NPO legal structures together with those laws covering activities uniquely engaged in by NPOs especially fundraising and charitable gaming. The object of model legislation should be to enable nonprofit organizations to achieve their purposes effectively while at the same time enhancing social engagement in contemporary civil society. Further information about the project can be found on the website, available here



IJCSL NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 8 ISSUE 4

APRIL 2011

<https://wiki.qut.edu.au/display/nmlp/Project+Description>. ICCSL is teaming up with the Centre to assist in providing expert advice.

CHINA—FOUNDATION REGULATIONS EXPECTED THIS YEAR; TO ELIMINATE DUAL MANAGEMENT

According to the news story [基金会新紧箍咒：新管理条例或将年内颁布](http://finance.sina.com.cn) on finance.sina.com.cn, the Ministry of Civil Affairs is considering amendments to the SO and *min fei* regulations along with the foundation regulations. The ones on foundations are expected to be issued first, probably this year. One thing that seems certain is that dual management will be eliminated, but there are severe disagreements about two provisions in the draft. These include a new provision stating that 'all value-added investment should not exceed 10% of the balance of the previous fiscal year', in order to prevent risks caused by investments. Another new provision says 'donations from major donors of a non-public foundation should constitute at least 70% of the foundation's total donation annually.'

INDIA—MICRO FINANCE (DEVELOPMENT AND REGULATION) BILL TO BE TABLED IN PARLIAMENT

The Micro Finance (Development and Regulation) Bill likely to be tabled in the parliament in the monsoon session covers all kinds of MFIs (Micro finance institutions) including trusts and societies.

<http://www.business-standard.com/india/news/new-bill-to-cover-all-mfis/430137/>

ISRAEL –

- **KNESSET APPROVES NGO LAW**

The Knesset approved a law placing sanctions on individuals and companies involved in boycotts of Israel. The law, by Likud parliamentary faction chairman, MK Zeev Elkin, passed 32-12 in its first reading and will now be prepared in the Justice Committee for its final readings. The law will allow the authorities to levy heavy fines on those calling for or taking part in boycotts and limit the access of firms which refuse to work with Israelis and settlers to government contracts.

<http://www.thejc.com/news/israel-news/46387/knesset-approves-ngo-law>

- **New Law Demands Transparency for NGOs with Foreign Funding**

The Knesset passed a bill into law requiring non-governmental organizations to issue quarterly reports about funding they receive from foreign governments and to reveal on their websites and other promotional material that they are backed by other countries.



IJCSL NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 8 ISSUE 4

APRIL 2011

<http://www.indynewsisrael.com/new-law-demands-transparency-for-ngos-with-foreign-funding>

NEW ZEALAND—INFORMATION ON CASE LAW -- DEFINITION OF “CHARITABLE” -- PUBLISHED

The Charities Commission has reported in its Newsletter that to date nine appeals have been heard, with eight judgments having been received, upholding the Commission’s decisions. Three more appeals are still to be heard – two are scheduled in March, and a date has yet to be set for the third. All judgments received to date are published on the [Court judgments page](#), to assist wider understanding of what the law means by “charitable.” The Commission has received judgments from two recent appeals, now available on its website: [New Zealand Computer Society Incorporated](#) - 28 February 2011 and [Draco Foundation New Zealand Charitable Trust](#) - 15 February 2011. The Computer Society judgment relates to the Commission’s deregistration decision, and the Draco judgment to the Commission’s decision not to register the entity.

NIGERIA – PRESIDENT SIGNS HUMAN RIGHTS AMENDMENT BILL

After more than eight years of legislative advocacy and executive lobbying, Nigerian President finally signed into law the National Human Rights Commission Act (Amendment) Bill. Initiated in 2004, the NHRC Amendment Act, which got to the legislature in 2005 provides for the independence in the conduct of the affairs of the commission as well as its funding, which it seeks as a direct charge on the consolidated revenue fund of the Federation. The bill, among other things, also provides for the establishment of the Human Rights Fund, recognition and enforcement of the awards as well as recommendations of the commission as decisions of the High Court. A statement by the commission's Executive Secretary, Mr. Roland Ewubare said "the passage of the bill will strengthen the operational efficiency of the commission and upgrade the status of Nigeria at the International Coordinating Committee (ICC) of Human Rights Institutions."

<http://www.afriquejet.com/news/africa-news/nigeria-politics:-president-signs-human-rights-amendment-bill-201103286720.html>

SCOTLAND—LAUNCHES CHARITABLE INCORPORATION ORGANIZATION

The charitable incorporated organisation legal form, which will allow charities to operate in a similar way to companies without registering at Companies House, was made available in Scotland on 1 April. Under the new form, charities will be able to apply to the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator to be registered as corporate bodies with limited liability. They will not have to register with Companies House, as they do at present, and will not be subject to company law.

<http://www.thirdsector.co.uk/channels/Governance/Article/1056940/Scots-launch-charitable-incorporated-organisation-1-April/>

UK - AN NEW CHARITIES BILL, AIMED AT CONSOLIDATING EXISTING AREAS OF CHARITY LAW, HAS BEEN PUT BEFORE PARLIAMENT



IJCSL NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 8 ISSUE 4

APRIL 2011

THE Bill will bring together three separate Acts which relate to charity law - the Recreational Charities Act 1958, the Charities Act 1993 and the Charities Act 2006. <http://www.charitystar.org/?p=776>

MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS

CENTRAL ASIA--SHANGHAI PACT UNDERMINES HUMAN RIGHTS, CLAIMS CHINESE NGO

A Chinese non-governmental organization, Human Rights in China (HRIC), criticized the regional Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) security group for pursuing anti-terrorism policies that infringe upon the human rights of citizens in member states.

Quote: "The SCO's counter-terrorism policies and practices undermine the effectiveness and integrity of their international counter-terrorism framework, and enable SCO member states to target their own populations through repressive measures that compromise internationally-recognized human rights," HRIC said on its web site.

<http://centralasianewswire.com/Security/Shanghai-Pact-undermines-human-rights-claims-Chinese-NGO/viewstory.aspx?id=3690>

CHINA—

- **12TH FIVE YEAR PLAN MENTIONS SOCIAL ORGANIZATIONS AND GOVERNMENT SUPPORT FOR THEM:**

- 39 Social Organizations

- Adhere to the development and management oversight of social organizations to foster and promote their healthy and orderly development to play their role in the provision of services, reflecting their codes of conduct.

- 39 (1) Facilitating the Development of Social Organizations

- Foster improved management of social organizations, establish and improve a unified registration system so that they perform their duties, are coordinated, and have levels of responsibility, according to regulatory management system of social organizations. Focus on cultivating the priority of the categories of economic development, public charity, private non-enterprise units, and urban and rural community social organizations. Promote the reform and development of industry associations, chambers of commerce, to strengthen industry self-regulation, and to play a role in communicating between business and government. Improve policy support to promote the transfer of government functions to social organizations, to open more areas of public resources to social organizations, and to expand the type and scope of tax incentives.

- 39 (2) Strengthening Social Organization Governance

- Improve the legal supervision, government supervision, and social supervision of social organizations, monitoring them in combination with a self-regulatory



IJCSL NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 8 ISSUE 4

APRIL 2011

system. Improve laws and regulations and strict supervision according to law. Establish regulatory mechanisms for social organizations and management information platforms, including the development of social organizations, codes of conduct, and guidelines for activities to improve the effectiveness of government regulation. Social organizations are to implement an information disclosure and assessment system, to improve punishment and reward mechanisms, and strengthen social supervision. Guide social organizations to perfect their internal management structures and to improve their self-regulatory systems.

- **GRASSROOTS FOUNDATION TO BE CLOSED BECAUSE OF FRAUD**

A grassroots public foundation in East China's Zhejiang province is faced with closure. Due to scandals connected with alleged fraud and the failure to pay out the required percentage of amounts raised for charitable purposes, local authorities will soon ban the Ningbo Anti-cancer Health Foundation, the China Daily has reported (<http://www.cdeclips.com/en/nation/fullstory.html?id=58537>). According to the fanfare around its establishment in 2006 (<http://english.cri.cn/2946/2006/09/17/266@140286.htm>), the Zhejiang Charity Federation chairman Sun Jiabin hailed the Ningbo foundation as the first center of its kind to be set up with public donations in China. It was founded by local resident Lin Yincai and the Ningbo Cancer Recovery Association. In remission after a long and painful treatment period, Li Yincai felt obliged to set up a foundation to help economically disadvantaged people with cancer. The recent report said the foundation had gradually lost its credibility since it raised 1.5 million yuan (\$ 227,000) in 2007 but gave 45 percent of its donations to an advertising company involved in its fundraising campaign. Some additional alarming statistics about its spending practices can be found at <http://www.ningboguide.com/files/u1/Ningbo-Guide-09-2009.pdf>.

ETHIOPIA--FOUR NGOS GET GOVERNMENT BAN

Ethiopian authorities have revoked the licenses of four Non-Governmental Organizations (two local and two foreign). The government of the Horn of Africa country claims that activities carried out by the affected NGOs conflict with the Charities and Societies (CSO) proclamation, a law that came into force in January, 2009. Two non-governmental organizations, Ethiopian Women Lawyers Association (EWLA) and Ethiopian Human Rights Council, have been accused of earning more than 90 percent of their budget from foreign sources, an act that violates a legislation that was voted into law in January, 2009, under the Charities and Societies (CSO) proclamation of 2008. <http://www.afrik-news.com/article18945.html>

INDIA—WEALTHY ENCOURAGED TO BE MORE PHILANTHROPIC



IJCSL NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 8 ISSUE 4

APRIL 2011

India is behind only the United States and China in its number of billionaires. But by global standards, its charitable giving is miserly. According to a [report in the New York Times](#), a few wealthy American philanthropists — Bill and Melinda Gates and Warren E. Buffett — are hoping to change that, one rich Indian at a time. The three Americans met behind closed doors with about 70 of India's wealthiest people at the Taj Majal hotel in New Delhi, for a "giving discussion" meant to start gently preaching the gospel of philanthropy. "It is not a case where we passed around a tin cup or had a signup list," Mr. Gates said at a crowded news conference afterward. "Anything these people do will be their choice." None of the attendees, which included many of India's top business families, pledged immediately to give away most of their fortunes, as the Gateses and Mr. Buffett have done. "Philanthropy in India so far has been what we call feel-good philanthropy, instead of outcome or results-based philanthropy," said Parth J. Shah, the president of the Centre for Civil Society, a New Delhi [research organization](#). People give money to temples, or establish schools or hospitals, he said, but they tend not to focus on the impact of what they have set up or how that impact could be multiplied.

SAUDI ARABIA—TO HOLD MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS

Saudi Arabia announced Tuesday it will hold municipal elections next month after a delay of a year and a half that had angered rights activists. In a setback to reform advocates, the voting on April 23 will not be open to women. The kingdom held its first municipal elections in 2005, the first elections ever held under the absolute monarchy. The councils have little power, but many Saudis jumped at the chance for even a small voice in politics and saw the elections as a sign the conservative kingdom was ushering in a new era of reform. Half the seats are elected while the rest are appointed.

http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20110322/ap_on_re_mi_ea/ml_saudi_elections_2

UGANDA—CONSTITUTIONAL COURT AGAIN DOES NOT HEAR CASES

The constitutional court hearing for the petitions challenging the NGO and the Anti-Terrorism Acts were postponed on March 10, 2011 for lack of a quorum. This is the 5th time the court has not heard the cases, which have gone 3 years without being heard.

According to Peter Magaleh, Legal Reform Officer of Hurinet Uganda

(<http://www.hurinet.or.ug/>), "This is a sad development, and we need to act to ensure that court not only moves to hear our petition(s) but also other cases that have suffered the same fate."

RESOURCES

GLOBAL—COUNTING THE VOLUNTEERS THE WORLD COUNTS ON

The International Labour Organization (ILO) and the Johns Hopkins University Center for Civil Society Studies announced today the release of a new manual to help statistical agencies around the world track the amount, type and value of volunteer work in their



IJCSL NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 8 ISSUE 4

APRIL 2011

countries. The manual, drafted by the Johns Hopkins Center for Civil Society Studies in cooperation with the ILO and an International Technical Experts Group, and with the support of the United Nations Volunteers, represents the first-ever internationally sanctioned guidance to statistical agencies for generating reliable, official data on volunteer work using a common definition and approach. “Volunteer work is an enormous renewable resource for social, economic, and environmental problem-solving throughout the world, as we are sure to discover again in the wake of the Japanese earthquake and tsunami. But the lack of solid data on volunteering has left it undervalued and its full potentials unrealized,” noted Lester M. Salamon, director of the Johns Hopkins Center for Civil Society Studies. “This manual promises to change this fundamentally. The challenge now is to secure government commitments to implement it.” Previous work by the Johns Hopkins center has shown that, even conservatively estimated, the value of volunteer work in countries throughout the world is roughly double the value of contributions of cash or other valuables by individuals, corporations, and foundations together. “The ILO is pleased to be a partner in this effort to bring volunteer work into official labour statistics around the world,” noted Rafael Diez de Medina, director of ILO’s Department of Statistics, which guides the gathering and reporting of labor statistics around the world. “We see this as an integral part of ILO’s commitment to the concept of ‘decent work,’ that is, work that promotes human rights, social protection and solid social dialogue. Labor statisticians from all over the world agreed to having this important Manual done during the last International Conference of Labour Statisticians hosted by the ILO in 2008.” Completion of this manual coincides with the 10th anniversary of the 2001 United Nations International Year of the Volunteer (IYV), which called on governments to improve their measurement of volunteer work. It also coincides with the launch of IYV+10 and of the 2011 European Year of Volunteering. “This manual responds to a key mandate established by the U.N. General Assembly at the conclusion of the International Year of the Volunteer in 2001,” noted Flavia Pansieri, executive coordinator of the United Nations Volunteers, the U.N. agency charged with encouraging volunteer work and a major supporter of the ILO-Johns Hopkins Volunteer Measurement Project. “In the process, it will boost the visibility of volunteer work, encourage more volunteer involvement, provide a basis for gauging the effectiveness of volunteer promotion efforts, and create a more enabling policy environment for volunteer activity, all of which will allow volunteers to expand the already notable contributions they make to improving health, expanding educational opportunities, promoting economic growth, and responding to disasters throughout the world.” The new ILO manual provides a consensus definition of volunteer work and a cost-effective way to measure its overall scale and economic value using existing statistical systems. The manual was approved in concept at the 18th International Conference of Labour Statisticians in November 2008 convened by the ILO, a specialized agency of the United Nations, and a final draft was cleared by an international Technical Experts Group in October 2010. The ILO expects to issue a printed version of the manual in several months. The final approved pre-publication version of the Manual



IJCSL NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 8 ISSUE 4

APRIL 2011

on the Measurement of Volunteer Work is available at:

<http://www.ccss.jhu.edu/index.php?section=content&view=9&sub=12&tri=106>

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AND THE ANTITRAFFICKING REGIME



States have cooperated on combating trafficking in persons for over a century. As both the definition of groups of trafficked persons and their numbers have expanded, reasons for state cooperation to combat trafficking have also changed. This paper seeks to explain what has induced state cooperation in the negotiation processes of the anti-trafficking regime in 1949 and in 2000 by applying economic and neo-liberal institutionalist international relations theories of public goods. By explaining what benefits states expected to gain in the 1949 and 2000 cases, both publicly and privately through participation in negotiations on two anti-trafficking treaties, we can better understand the starting points of cooperation.

<http://www.rsc.ox.ac.uk/publications/working-papers/RSCworkingpaper71.pdf>

RESOLVING ETHICAL CHALLENGES IN AN ERA OF PERSISTENT CONFLICT



IJCSL NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 8 ISSUE 4

APRIL 2011



The character of irregular warfare has challenged the American “way of war” in a number of ways. Not only does it challenge how U.S. forces fight, it also brings into question the ethical norms that they employ to govern the fighting. The resulting confusion is especially evident in the public debate over the use of force in Iraq and Afghanistan. For example, traditional just war thinking has permitted collateral damage that has undermined the civil order that those military operations are intended to impose, while at the same time has prohibited Soldiers from killing or detaining the enemy who threatens that order in the first place. These counterintuitive outcomes suggest that the traditional view needs to be revised in light of the demands of combating irregular threats. Revising this view will have to take into account the emphasis that combating irregular threats places on populations rather than on military capability.

http://www.humansecuritygateway.com/documents/SSI_ResolvingEthicalChallengesinanEraofPersistentConflict.pdf.

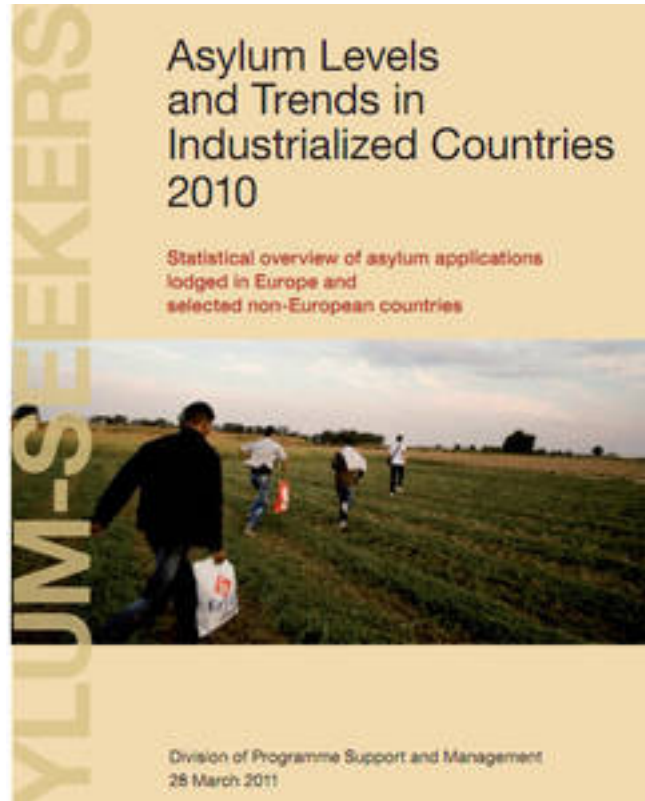
ASYLUM LEVELS AND TRENDS IN INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES 2010



IJCSL NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 8 ISSUE 4

APRIL 2011



UNHCR released the 2010 statistical overview of asylum applications lodged in Europe and selected non-European countries. In all, 44 industrialized countries* were covered in the report on new asylum claims. A total of 358,800 asylum applications were lodged in industrialized countries in 2010, which was 5 per cent fewer than in 2009. The latest number was the fourth lowest in the last decade and almost half (42 per cent) of the 620,000 applications filed in 2001. <http://www.unhcr.org/4d8c5b109.html>.

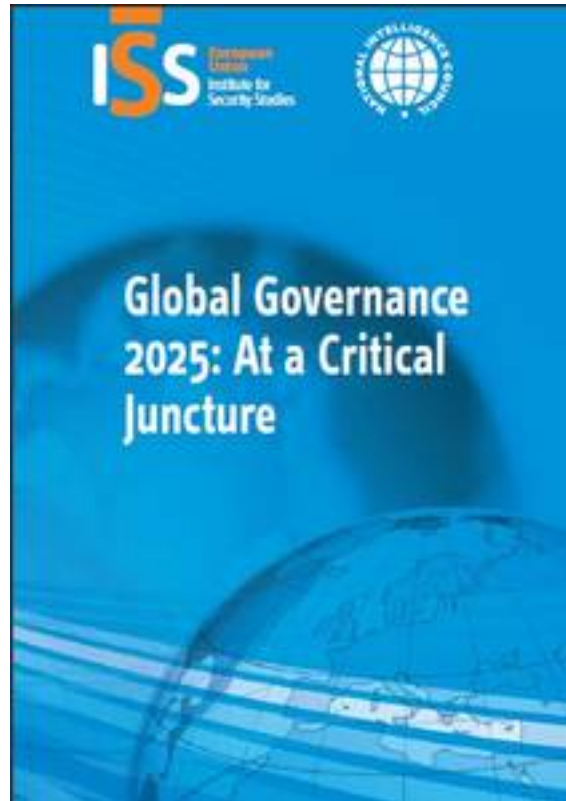
GLOBAL GOVERNANCE 2025: AT A CRITICAL JUNCTURE



IJCSL NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 8 ISSUE 4

APRIL 2011



Global governance – the collective management of common problems at the international level – is at a critical juncture. The United States’ National Intelligence Council (NIC) and the European Union Institute for Security Studies (EUISS) have joined forces to produce this assessment of the long term prospects for global governance frameworks. This exercise builds on the experience of the two institutions in identifying the key trends shaping the future international system.

http://www.iss.europa.eu/uploads/media/Global__Governance_2025.pdf

THE IMPORTANCE OF SELF REGULATION OF THE MEDIA IN UPHOLDING FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION



This publication written by Andrew Puddephatt, focuses on different angles of self-regulation applied to the media sector. This publication summarizes the intersections of the theme with the practice of journalism, the editorial principles and strategies for corporate social responsibility.



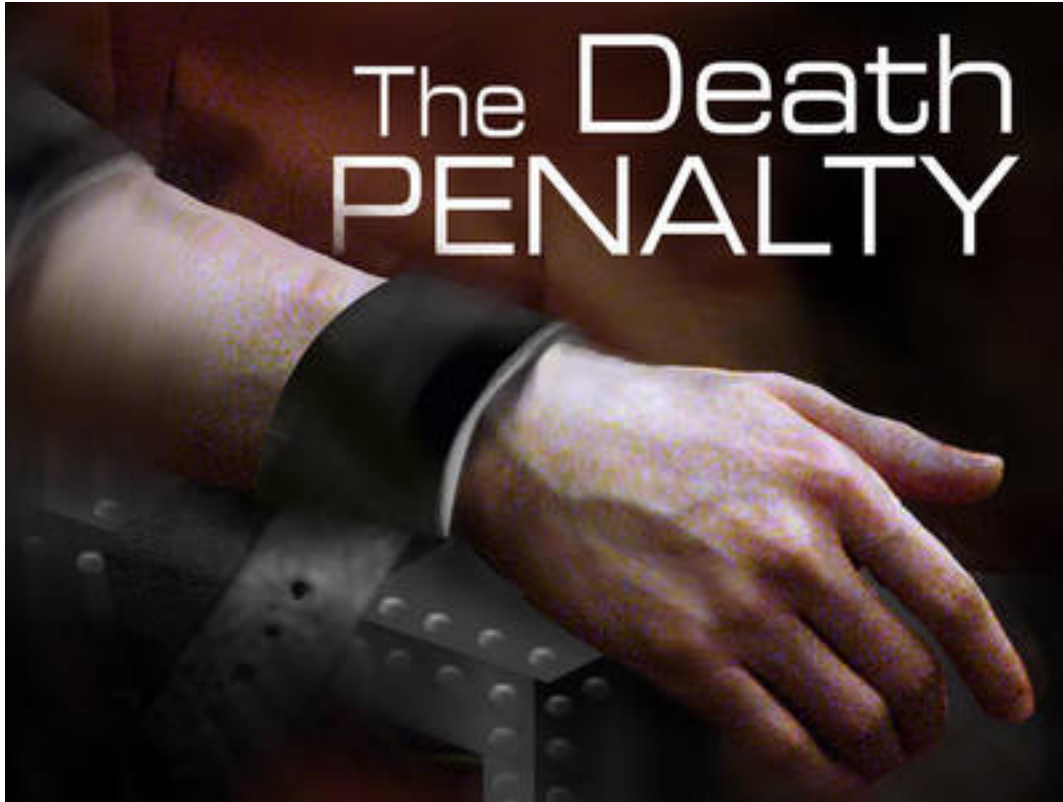
IJCSL NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 8 ISSUE 4

APRIL 2011

<http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0019/001916/191624E.pdf>

THE GLOBAL MOVEMENT TO KILL THE DEATH PENALTY



In 1977, when Amnesty International began its global campaign against the death penalty, it had been abolished by only 16 countries. Now, as the organization's annual report *Death Sentences and Executions 2010* shows, nearly a hundred countries have stopped using it for all crimes, with 139 ending it in law or practice. And there are other encouraging milestones. Mongolia implemented a moratorium on executions and Gabon abolished the death penalty in law in the past year. Even in countries where support for the death penalty remains strong, such as China, Kenya, Guyana and Bangladesh, positive steps are being made towards bringing its use in line with human rights standards. More states than ever before voted at the UN in favour of a worldwide moratorium on executions. And in 2011, in the United States, Illinois became the 16th state to abolish the death penalty. But the state-sanctioned killings continue. There were at least 527 executions in 22 countries in 2010, not including the thousands thought to have been executed in China. And more than 2,000 new death sentences are known to have been handed down, bringing the total to nearly 18,000 people on death row worldwide. In 2010, prisoners were



IJCSL NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 8 ISSUE 4

APRIL 2011

beheaded, electrocuted, hanged, given lethal injections or shot at close range to the back of the head or the heart or by firing squad. Sometimes the sentences were carried out in public. Countries that insist on using the death penalty continue to claim that they use it only in accordance with international law. But most of their actions blatantly contradict these claims.

<http://livewire.amnesty.org/2011/03/28/the-global-movement-to-kill-the-death-penalty/>

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