



Peace & Justice Update
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The countries for the Peace and Justice updates have been chosen as areas of focus at the Institute. The International Human Rights section is intended to focus on aspects of international law. For information on specific cases of human rights abuses, please visit www.hrw.org or www.amnesty.org

Source information: Information presented in this update is condensed from wire and newspaper reports from Lexis/Nexis and from electronic sites on the World Wide Web. Complete biographical information is unavailable from these services, but every attempt has been made to properly cite information and give credit to source materials. This update is intended for use by IPJ staff and associates for informational purposes only. As the material in this update is condensed, and does not directly quote the primary source, information from the update should not be quoted.

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UPDATE SUMMARY

AFGHANISTAN

U.S. soldiers attack civilians; Assassins kill vice president; Rocket blasts destroy munitions, kill 19; UN repatriations halted

CHECHNYA

Former Russian official supports calls for peace; Russia to scale down troops; Russian officer faces murder conviction; OSCE seeks to extend Chechnya mission

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO (DRC)

DRC, Rwanda discuss border security; UN announces results of Kisangani massacre

ERITREA-ETHIOPIA

Border setback for Ethiopia; Presidents to meet at summit; UNMEE requests assistance

GUATEMALA

Government proposal draws criticism

MACEDONIA

Sweden to send monitors to Macedonia; Macedonian police enter last rebel stronghold

MADAGASCAR

Former leader flees country; Donors release billions for economic recovery; Thousands demonstrate in Paris; OAU strips representation rights

NEPAL

King visits China; Bomb explodes in NC office; Government, rebels clash

INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS

ICC opens; Rwandan “hate media” on trial; Chile drops Pinochet trial

UPDATE SOURCE ABBREVIATIONS

AP	=	Associated Press (www.ap.org)
AFP	=	Agence France Presse (www.afp.com)
AllAfrica	=	AllAfrica Global Media (www.allAfrica.com)
BBC	=	British Broadcasting Corporation (http://news.bbc.co.uk)
CNN	=	Cable News Network (www.cnn.com)
DPA	=	Deutsche Presse-Agentur (www.dpa.com)
EFE	=	Agencia EFE (Spanish New Agency)
HRW News	=	Human Rights Watch News (www.hrw.org)
IRIN	=	Integrated Regional Information Network (www.irinnews.org) UN Dept. of Human Affairs Information Network (www.unog.ch)
JED	=	Journaliste En Danger
NCN	=	New Congo Net (www.marekinc.com/NCN.html)
PANA	=	Pan African News Agency (www.panapress.com)
UPI	=	United Press International (www.upi.com)
Xinhua	=	Xinhua News Agency (www.xinhuanet.com/english/index.htm)

AFGHANISTAN

U.S. soldiers attack civilians: American soldiers mistook celebratory gunfire at an ethnic Pashtun wedding July 2 in Kakarak, a village in the central province of Uruzgan, and responded by air raiding four villages in the province that killed 48 Afghans and wounded 117. The province of Uruzgan, where the incident occurred, was the ancestral home of Mullah Mohammad Omar, leader of the defeated Taliban, and Uruzgan has been the focus of U.S.-led assaults on Al-Qai'da fighters in recent months. The July 2 U.S. attacks in Uruzgan were not the first that human or mechanical error led to unintentional deaths and injuries in Afghanistan. Approximately 7,000 international troops have been deployed to Afghanistan, mostly searching for Al-Qai'da and Taliban soldiers and weapons caches. U.S. military forces have been in Afghanistan since the U.S. launched the "war on terrorism" in response to the September 11 attacks in New York City and Washington D.C that resulted in more than 3,000 deaths. (BBC, July 2, 8; National Post, July 2, 2002)

Assassins kill vice president: Vice President and Public Works Minister Hajji Abdul Qadir was assassinated July 6 as he left his office compound in the capital of Kabul. The unknown gunmen fired on Qadir in his car 36 times. The Afghan government and the International Security Assistance Force began an investigation of the assassination July 6, immediately after the event took place. Qadir was one of the few ethnic Pashtun's in the predominantly Tajik government elected at the Loya Jirga, or Grand Council, in June 2002. Qadir was the second Afghan cabinet official to be murdered this year after Abdul Rahman, minister of aviation and tourism in the country's interim government, was murdered by a politically motivated mob in February 2002. The current government of Afghanistan was elected June 2002 at the Loya Jirga, following a six-month interim government that began December 2001 and governed after the Taliban was ousted from power. (BBC, New York Times, June 8, 2002)

Rocket blasts destroy munitions, kill 19: An apprehended Taliban munitions storehouse in Spinboldak, approximately 298 miles southwest of Kabul, exploded June 28 after unidentified soldiers fired rockets at the site. In the explosions, 19 people were killed and nearby buildings were damaged, including a local government house that stored food and an office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees. An UN source said June 29 that Spinboldak was a principle entry point for Afghan refugees returning from Pakistan, and the explosions could delay the repatriation of approximately 32,000 Afghan refugees. Located close to the border with Pakistan, Spinboldak was a key avenue that Al-Qa'ida and Taliban soldiers used to flee the country. Approximately 300 Al-Qa'ida and Taliban soldiers have been arrested in the border region in recent months and approximately 1,000 more have been thought to be hiding in the area. (Calgary Herald, June 29, 2002)

UN repatriations halted: The UN suspended its program to return Afghan refugees to northern Afghanistan July 2. The suspension came as a result of increasing tensions between rival warlords Abdul Rashid Dostum and Atta Mohammad, which had created a security vacuum in northern Afghanistan. The UN had planned to repatriate refugees to the northern and central provinces of Balkh, Faryab, Jozjan and Samangan. Many non-governmental organizations have also begun reevaluating their operations in the north

due to increasing security and human rights problems. More than one million Afghan refugees have returned to Afghanistan since the Taliban was driven from power and the new Afghan government was elected June 2002. ([BBC](#), July 2; [HRW](#), June 27, 2002)

CHECHNYA

Former Russian official supports calls for peace: Former Russian Security Chief Ivan Rybkin stated July 1 that he supported Chechen rebel leader and former President Aslan Maskhadov's June calls for peace talks, and put himself forward as a possible negotiator in an open letter to Russian President Vladimir Putin. Rybkin said it would be possible to bring Maskhadov, Russian-appointed Chechen Administration Chief Akhmad Kadyrov, and Putin together for talks. Maskhadov wrote an open letter to the G8 summit June 25, which Putin was attending, proposing a cease-fire from July 15 and a resumption of contact between Chechen rebels and Moscow, and urged other G8 countries to convince Putin to accept this proposal. Russian Defense Minister Sergei Ivanov ridiculed the idea of negotiations with Maskhadov, and Putin's aide Sergei, Yastrzhembsky dismissed the possibility of any international mediation. Putin has refused to recognize the legitimacy of Maskhadov's government since Russian troops entered Grozny for a second time October 1 1999, in response to a string of apartment bombings in Russia, blamed on Chechen rebels, that left approximately 300 dead. ([Ekhvo Moskvyy News Agency](#), June 28; [Interfax News Agency](#), July 2; [Izvestia](#), [UPI](#), June 26).

Russia to scale down troops: Federal troops commander Vladimir Moltenskoi said July 1 that the withdrawal of Russian troops from Chechnya could be completed by December 2002, leaving a reduced force of 22,000 of a total 80,000. This reduced force would include a 14,000-strong permanent division and military commandant's offices. Moltenskoi said that rebel forces under former Chechen President Maskhadov's command were no longer able to mount serious resistance to Russian forces, despite reports of continued rebel raids. The Russian government has estimated that some 4,000 Russian soldiers have died since October 1999 when Russian troops reentered the southern region/ republic of Chechnya. ([AP](#), [Interfax News Agency](#), July 1, 2002)

Russian officer faces murder conviction: Russian Colonel Yury Budanov, on trial for the murder of a young Chechen woman in March 2000, faced the renewed threat of a possible murder conviction July 2 after the court deferred its verdict and ordered a new psychiatric test for the defendant. Budanov admitted to the abduction and killing of Elsa Kungayeva, but his lawyers argued that he could not be found guilty because of a psychiatric assessment that found him to have been mentally disturbed at the time. The military prosecutor on the case backed this plea of diminished responsibility until his dismissal by the Russian defense ministry July 1, arguing that Budanov should only face charges of overstepping his rank and authority. These charges would carry a maximum three-year sentence, and a 2000 amnesty bill for Russian soldiers who have received military honors could guarantee Budanov's automatic release. The new prosecutor, Vladimir Milovanov, made it clear July 2 that the charges against Budanov would include murder. Budanov was the first Russian officer to face trial for crimes against civilians in Chechnya since the current conflict began in 1999. ([AFP](#), July 1, 2, 3, June 27; [The Financial Times](#), [The Guardian \(London\)](#), June 28, 2002)

OSCE seeks to extend Chechnya mission: The Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) requested an extension for its mission in Chechnya June 27, despite a 2001 agreement with Russia under which the Russian government could ask the OSCE to shut down operations by December 2002. OSCE representative Jorma Inki said the mandate would not be completed until civil institutions were formed and the humanitarian situation under control, processes which he said could take several years. Russian Foreign Minister Igor Ivanov said June 28 that Russia could not approve OSCE's request until the Russian government had completed its own assessment of the humanitarian situation in Chechnya. The OSCE mission in Chechnya was established in 1995 during the 1994 to 1996 Russian operations in Chechnya to monitor conditions and provide humanitarian assistance. (AFP, June 27, 28; Interfax News Agency, June 27, 2002)

THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO (DRC)

DRC, Rwanda discuss border security: Government officials from the DRC and Rwanda discussed the establishment of a buffer-zone July 9 between the two countries that would be monitored by Congolese, Rwandan, and UN troops. Rwandan President Paul Kagame met with President Joseph Kabila, UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan, and South Africa's President Thabo Mbeki on the sidelines of the first African Union summit that began July 9 in Durban, South Africa to discuss the border issue. The main task of the border forces would be to prevent Hutu rebels, who were formerly members of the Rwandan army and militias that carried out the 1994 genocide against Rwandan Tutsis and moderate Hutus, from leaving eastern Congo and entering Rwanda. Officials from both nations, who had been discussing the possible withdrawal of Rwandan troops from the DRC since July 4, drafted a document that was reviewed by both presidents during the Durban summit. Kagame described the talks as productive and constructive, however differences over the exact location of the border still remained. Kagame wanted the buffer-zone boundary drawn within the DRC, while Kabila wanted it at the actual DRC – Rwandan border. The civil war in the DRC began in August 1998 when President Laurent Desiré Kabila's main sponsors Rwanda and Uganda turned against him and began supporting an anti-government rebellion. Rwanda originally supported Kabila's movement to overthrow the DRC government of Sese Seko Mbutu who refused to extradite Hutus responsible for the 1994 Rwandan genocide. When Kabila came into power he too failed to extradite the genocidiaries causing Rwanda to turn against him. Kabila countered the rebellion with the assistance of troops supplied by Angola, Zimbabwe, and Namibia. More than three million people have died in the four-year war. (AFP, July 8; Business Day, July 10; IRIN, July 11, 2002)

UN announces results of Kisangani massacre: UN Special Rapporteur on Extrajudicial Killings Asma Jahangir announced June 27 that more than 150 people had been killed in Kisangani in mid-May by the Goma-based, Rwandan-backed Congolese Rally for Democracy (RCD-Goma) rebels who control the eastern region of the DRC. Jahangir conducted a five-day fact finding mission that began June 16 and resulted in the discovery of a May 14 radio announcement instructing the public to "kill Rwandans," which thereby inspired anti-RCD-Goma police and civilians to lynch six people. RCD-

Goma authorities responded by carrying out summary executions around the city targeting civilians, police personnel and rebels. Jahangir dismissed reports produced by RCD-Goma that exonerated the rebel group of any responsibility. (AFP, June 27, 28; Xinhua, June 27, 2002)

ERITREA-ETHIOPIA

Border setback for Ethiopia: The Eritrea-Ethiopia Boundary Commission (EEBC) announced July 1 that Ethiopia's request for a review of the border ruling, which had been issued April 13, was "inadmissible." An EEBC spokesperson said that no further action would be taken on Ethiopia's request for "interpretation, correction, and consultation" of the ruling. After the border ruling, the two neighboring states both claimed they had been awarded the disputed village of Badme and accused the EEBC of failing to identify the confluence of key rivers used to mark the border. Under the December 2000 Algiers peace accord, which ended a two-year border war that resulted in 80,000 deaths, both parties had agreed to accept the commission's decision as "binding and final." The EEBC was established in December 2000 as part of the Algiers peace accord and was responsible for drawing the new border. (BBC, IRIN, July 1, 2002)

Presidents to meet at summit: The presidents of Eritrea and Ethiopia have scheduled a meeting July 16 entitled "set the pace for peace" at the EEBC headquarters in the Hague, based in the Netherlands. The summit has been organized for the presidents to discuss the complex physical demarcation of the 605-mile border. The UN Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea (UNMEE) has been de-mining areas where border posts should be placed marking out the final boundary between the two nations. The meeting would be the second time the presidents have met in The Hague since the border decision was announced. (IRIN, July 1, 2002)

UNMEE requests assistance: The UN issued a plea to the international community July 1 for trained dogs and equipment to help quicken the de-mining of the Eritrean-Ethiopian border, after several people suffered serious injuries. Dave Edwards, a mine expert with UNMEE, stated that casualties have increased at a high rate with blasts between June 26 and July 2 killing one and injuring four others. The equipment requested to identify and defuse mines would be expensive, but necessary to carry out the de-mining of the border. Tens of thousands of mines and units of unexploded ordnance litter both Eritrea and Ethiopia following the two-year border war. (AFP, June 28, IRIN, July 2, 2002)

GUATEMALA

Government proposal draws criticism: Human rights organizations have criticized the government for its proposal to pay settlements to former paramilitaries for their participation in the government's counter insurgency campaigns during the nation's 36-year civil war. The government has considered imposing a new, special tax to generate money to pay former paramilitaries who have been demanding monetary compensation for their participation in the civil war. The government has reportedly been considering the tax in order to gain support in the upcoming elections from the 260,000 former paramilitaries. During Guatemala's civil war, paramilitaries, also known as Civil Auto-Defense Patrols, were trained and worked with the army to attack Mayan villages that

allegedly supported leftist guerrillas. Both the Civil Auto-Defense Patrols and leftist guerrillas were responsible for war atrocities, which left more than 200,000 people, mostly civilians, dead during the civil war. The Civil Auto-Defense Patrols were disbanded in 1996, just before the signing of a peace agreement, that ended the war. (AP, July 7, 2002)

MACEDONIA

Sweden to send monitors to Macedonia: The Swedish government decided July 4 to send 23 election observers to Macedonia as part of a European mission to monitor parliamentary elections scheduled for September 15. They would be part of an 800-member observer team from the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe. Swedish Ministry Spokeswoman Maria Tengroth said that three of the Swedish observers would stay in Macedonia for approximately two months following the elections to monitor the situation and assess the results of the elections. The elections, scheduled to take place in 2002, are part of a larger framework of the Western-brokered Orhid Accord that was signed August 2001, ending a seven-month civil war in Macedonia. The conflict began in February 2001 after ethnic Albanian rebels, the National Liberation Army, took up arms against the Macedonian government to fight for the rights of ethnic Albanians. (AP, July 4, 2002)

Macedonian police enter last rebel stronghold: The Macedonian multi-ethnic police force July 5 entered the village of Tanusevci, the last rebel stronghold of the now disbanded National Liberation Army (NLA) in the northwest region of the country. Macedonian police forces entered Tanusevci, one of 140 villages that were under the control of the NLA during the civil war, near the border of the UN-administered Kosovo province. The entrance of Macedonian police into Tanusevci paved the way for complete administrative control over all Macedonian territory by police and government forces. During the deployment of the police, many villagers who had deserted the village during the civil war returned with representatives from the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. During the civil war, Tanusevci witnessed violent clashes between the Macedonian government forces and ethnic Albanian rebels. (AFP, July 6, 2002)

MADAGASCAR

Former leader flees country: Former President Didier Ratsiraka fled Madagascar July 5 for Seychelles as government troops approached Ratsiraka's last stronghold in the eastern town of Toamasina. Troops loyal to the new President, Marc Ravalomanana, encountered no resistance as forces loyal to Ratsiraka surrendered at the Toamasina airport and various military barracks just hours after Ratsiraka fled the country. From Seychelles, Ratsiraka traveled July 7 to Paris, France with approximately 25 family members, aides and bodyguards where they each received political asylum. The French grant of asylum shortly after their official recognition of Ravalomanana caused concern for international leaders. Ratsiraka told reporters in France "if democracy returns and we

prepare for new elections, then I will go back.” Ratsiraka’s departure was the most recent development in the ongoing crisis that emerged when Ratsiraka refused to relinquish his power after Madagascar’s high court declared Ravalomanana president April 29 following a recount of votes in the December 2001 elections. (BBC, Madagascar Tribune, July 8; News 24, July 7, 2002)

Donors release billions for economic recovery: President Ravalomanana announced at a press conference in the capital of Antananarivo July 8 that international funding institutions would release \$2 billion for use in Ravalomanana’s national recovery program designed to focus on economic recovery, fighting government corruption, and increasing national sovereignty. Ravalomanana declared the need for a total of \$7 billion to complete his program, but also expressed his gratitude towards the World Bank and other international funding institutions for their agreement to release the funds. Ravalomanana also announced the planned meeting of the “Friends of Madagascar,” which would take place July 26 in Paris, France. The purpose of the meeting would be to attract and encourage international funding investors from all countries to invest in Madagascar. (BBC, Madagascar Tribune, July 9, 2002)

Thousands demonstrate in Paris: More than 5,000 Malagasy nationals and supporters marched in support of President Marc Ravalomanana June 29 in Paris, France. The demonstration included supporters waving banners disparaging Ratsiraka’s actions and France’s position on the political situation in Madagascar. Long-time activist in the struggle against poverty in Madagascar and media icon Brother Pedro led the procession. This demonstration followed a similar protest that took place June 15 in front of the Malagasy embassy in Paris. (AFP, June 26; BBC, July 1, 2, 2002)

OAU strips representation rights: Despite the departure of Ratsiraka, the Organization for African Unity (OAU) remained steadfast to its position to refuse recognition of either Ratsiraka or Ravalomanana as the legitimate leader of Madagascar. The Central Organ, an OAU Mechanism for Conflict Prevention, Management, and Resolution, adopted a resolution June 21 at the OAU summit in Ethiopia that stripped Madagascar of any representation in the continental body. OAU special spokesperson Desmond Orjiako reported June 28 that the organization was committed to helping Madagascar achieve peace. Orjiako also announced that reports that stated that the OAU had called for outright elections were incorrect. He also stated the organization instead had called for a transitional government to be followed in the future by presidential elections that would be monitored by the international community. The continued refusal to recognize a leader resulted in the non-participation of Madagascar in the OAU’s summit in Durban, South Africa where the organization held its last meeting as the OAU and launched the African Union. (AFP, Africa News, July 8; allAfrica, July 5; BBC, June 28, July 1, 2, 2002)

NEPAL

King visits China: King Gyanendra of Nepal began a 10-day visit to China July 9 seeking cooperation and support for Nepal's fight against the Maoist rebels. Gyanendra was scheduled to hold talks with Chinese President Jiang Zemin and other Chinese officials and would likely sign several economic cooperation agreements throughout his visit. China pledged support to the government of Nepal June 9 to help fight the Maoist rebels. The government of Nepal has been fighting the Maoist rebels since 1996 when they staged a "people's revolution" in an attempt to overthrow the constitutional monarchy and create a "people's republic." More than 4,700 people have been killed since the conflict began in 1996. (BBC, July 9, 2002)

Bomb explodes in NC office: A bomb exploded in a Nepali Congress (NC) party office in the capital of Kathmandu July 5 injuring 10 people. The office belonged to congressmen loyal to Prime Minister Sher Bahadur Deuba. NC President Girija Prasad Koirala expelled Deuba from the NC June 17, 2002 when Deuba tried to extend the county's national state of emergency for six months without support from the party. The Election Commission has been expected to rule on which faction would be allowed to campaign with the party name in November's parliamentary elections. (AP, BBC, DPA, July 5, 2002)

Government, rebels clash: Approximately 26 Maoist rebels have been killed by the government of Nepal's security forces and as many as 12 rebels have surrendered in various locations across the country. Security forces killed another 12 rebels and wounded many others during an aerial attack July 2 on a shelter and training camp in a jungle in Dang, approximately 217 miles west of Kathmandu. In western Nepal security forces killed four rebels in Ramshikar Jahal July 1 and another five rebels July 5 at Latinath area of the Darchula district. Also July 5 in the Sindhupalchok District, one rebel was killed and 11 others surrendered voluntarily to security forces. Security forces recovered arms caches, explosives, and Maoist literature and logistics from the sites of the clashes. (BBC, July 2, 3, 7, 2002)

INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS

ICC opens: The International Criminal Court (ICC), the world's first permanent war crimes tribunal, officially opened July 1, accepting submissions of claims of genocide, war crimes, and crimes against humanity. There were no judges, prosecutors, courtrooms, or budget yet in place to try these claims, but the ICC advance team said the court would be fully operational by the end of 2003. The ICC would not have retroactive jurisdiction, allowing only those crimes committed after July 1, 2002 to be tried. The ICC could try crimes committed on the territory of a state signatory to the Rome Statute, by a citizen of such a state, or on the referral of the UN Security Council, but only if a national court was unable or unwilling to deal with the case. Established by the 1998 Rome Statute and now ratified by 74 states, 14 more than the minimum 60 required, the ICC has received strong support from the EU member countries. However, the U.S., along with China, Russia, India and Israel, has opposed the court, arguing that its citizens could be the targets of politically motivated prosecution. The U.S. withdrew its signature from the Rome Statute in May 2002, and vetoed the renewal of a UN force in Bosnia on

the eve of the court's launch to protest the Security Council's refusal to exempt peacekeepers from prosecution. (AFP, Xinhua, July 1, 2002)

Rwandan "hate media" on trial: The trial of three media executives charged with genocide and crimes against humanity began July 1 at the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda (ICTR), based in Arusha, Tanzania. Two of the defendants, Professor Ferdinand Nahimana and Jean-Bosco Barayagwiza, were key figures in establishing a private radio station accused not only of spreading anti-Tutsi propaganda, but also of directing Hutu militia to Tutsi hiding places, thus enabling Tutsi murders. The third defendant edited a newspaper described as a "hate sheet," which allegedly demonized its Tutsi targets. The trial would be the first to use the Genocide Convention to try journalists, setting a precedent for defining the legal distinction between aggressive propaganda and incitement to commit genocide. The ICTR was established in 1995 to prosecute those responsible for crimes against humanity and genocide during the 1994 massacre of 800,000 Tutsis and moderate Hutus in 100 days, that took place before Paul Kgame's Rwandan Patriotic Front seized power in late 1994. (BBC, July 1, 2, 2002)

Chile drops Pinochet trial: Chile's former dictator Augusto Pinochet had all charges against him dropped July 1, after the Supreme Court upheld a controversial verdict that found the 86-year-old mentally unfit to stand trial for human rights crimes allegedly committed during his 17-year rule. The ruling was a disappointment to human rights lawyers, who had exhausted the appeals process in an attempt to reopen the trial. First arrested in London under a Spanish warrant in 1998, Pinochet was permitted to return to Chile in 2000 for health reasons, where he was stripped of parliamentary immunity and placed under house arrest. Pinochet, who seized power from elected Marxist Salvador Allende in a violent 1973 coup, was accused of participating in the execution of political opponents by a military squad known as the "Caravan of Death," as well as ongoing human rights abuses during his 1973 to 1990 rule. (AFP, BBC, July 1, 2002)