

Yemen

The information below is based on the Report of the United Nations Commissioner for Human Rights on the situation of human rights in Yemen (A/HRC/30/31), issued on 7 September 2015¹

75. During the period under review, hundreds of men, women and children continued to be victims of human trafficking into and from Yemen. OHCHR discovered numerous cases of displaced persons, including children, reportedly kidnapped in camps and subsequently trafficked abroad. Refugee women and children are at particular risk, and are often kidnapped for ransom. Cases of physical and sexual violence against men and boys were also reported along the coast of the Red Sea. Smuggling and trafficking gangs have been reportedly operating with impunity in Yemen.

The information below is based on the Concluding Observations of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict (CRC/C/OPAC/YEM/CO/1), issued by 26 February 2014²

27. The Committee expresses its deep concern about the continuous recruitment and use of children in hostilities by the Ansar al-Sharia armed group. It is very concerned at reported instances of boys being recruited so they can be sexual exploited and abused, and at cases of sexual violence, including rape, against girls who have been forced into marriage with members of Ansar al-Sharia.

The information below is based on the Report of the Secretary-General on children and armed conflict in Yemen (S/2013/383), issued on 28 June 2013³

46. While it is difficult to estimate the extent, reportedly boys are also increasingly being recruited by Ansar al-Sharia for purposes of sexual abuse and exploitation. Three boys were verified as having been recruited by Ansar al-Sharia after having been stigmatized in their communities for being sexually abused by men on regular basis. The boys have been used as spies and logisticians by the armed group, in addition to being repeatedly sexually exploited. Two of them have since left the armed group to return to their families and are receiving appropriate assistance for their recovery. It is highly likely that this phenomenon is underreported owing to the social stigma.

The information below is based on the Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on the visit by the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights to Yemen (A/HRC/18/21), issued on 16 September 2011⁴

65. At least 63 children were reported killed at the time of the Mission's visit, and many more wounded. Children have been killed by bullets, but also by mortar and artillery attacks on their homes or vehicles in which they were travelling. The most commonly reported violations

¹ Full text available [here](#)

² Full text available [here](#)

³ Full text available [here](#)

⁴ Full text available [here](#)

involving children were incidents of suffocation due to exposure to gases used by security forces. The Mission received video material documenting such incidents. In addition, the Mission repeatedly heard allegations of torture of children. The Mission was given photographs of a 15-year-old boy bearing traces of torture. Another boy was reportedly raped by Government security forces in Aden in April 2011, after his mother accused security forces of killing