

# Humanitarian evidence and discourse summary No.24




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Monthly Humanitarian Evidence and Discourse Summaries aim to signpost FCDO and other UK government departments to the latest relevant evidence and discourse on humanitarian action. It is structured around three themes:






- **Protect:** Protect civilians, IDPs, refugees, marginalised groups including women and girls, and humanitarian access.
- **Prioritise:** Prioritise effective humanitarian assistance to people in greatest need
- **Prevent:** Prevent and anticipate future shocks and rebuild resilience in protracted and recurring crises

Further detail on methodology, scope and resource hubs at the end. Click on the following hyperlinks to bring you down to the relevant literature.




## Protect









Publication date	Title/URL	Publication type (evidence, discourse or policy/guidance)	Summary	HoP Top reads
Mar 2022	Ways the international humanitarian system should harness global solidarity with Ukraine	John Byrant and Patrick Saez, Overseas Development Institute  Discourse 	Authors identify an extraordinary diplomatic response to protection of civilians concerns in Ukraine and suggest this outrage be used to reassert the obligation of all states to ensure International Humanitarian Law is respected in every conflict. By contrast they feel that the humanitarian response looks very familiar and with funding dominated by large UN agencies and with little support to local providers despite capacities among civil society and host Governments.	
February 2022	Counterterrorism, sanctions and war	International Review of the Red Cross  Evidence 	Large collection of articles and interview on the effects of counterterrorism measures on humanitarian action and international humanitarian law.	

February 2022	"Negotiating Survival" Book Symposium – Lessons and Questions for Humanitarian Access in Violent Contexts and author response	Armed Groups and International Law  Evidence 	Symposium on Ashley Jackson's recent book, <i>Negotiating Survival: Civilian-Insurgent Relations in Afghanistan</i> . Responses from Jori Bewslawski, René Provost, Romain Malejacq, Carla Suarez, and a response by the author.	
21 February 2022	Everyday Violence and Resistance in Europe's 'Migration Management' During the Covid-19 Pandemic	Marta Welander and Susanne Jaspars; Border Criminologies at Oxford University  Evidence 	Series of 10 blogs as part of the Border Criminologies research programme. The blogs explore everyday violence faced by migrants in a number of contexts.	
24 February 2022	The UK's approach to safeguarding in the humanitarian sector	Sir Hugh Bailey; ICAI  Evidence 	A review of the UK's approach to safeguarding in humanitarian sector. It finds that 'though the UK government is strongly committed to preventing sexual exploitation and abuse in humanitarian crises, its top-down approach means insufficient attention has been given to learning from the recipients of humanitarian aid on how to reduce the risks they face.'	
February 2022	Oslo SGBV Commitments 2021 Collective Progress Report	Adelicia Fairbanks; Humanitarian Outcomes  Evidence 	Report on progress on the Oslo commitments on the prevention, protection and response to sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) in humanitarian crises. Assesses financial commitments, policy changes and perceived results.	
10 February 2022	A new Solferino moment for humanitarians	Hugo Slim; ICRC Law & Policy blog  Evidence 	The blog looks back to Henri Dunant's foundational <i>Memory of Solferino</i> to reflect on how IHL and humanitarian action should adjust for current and future challenges: the use of artificial intelligence in war; relief for civilians (to make sure men and boys are not neglected); and investing in national humanitarian networks. Based on a recent book. Recording of Hugo Slim presentation of book at Oxford University ELAC available <a href="#">here</a>	
17 February 2022	Revisiting the history of the Geneva Conventions	Boyd van Dijk; ICRC Law & Policy blog  Evidence 	Reflects on the history of the Geneva Conventions to consider prospects for greater humanitarian protection today. Based on a recent book.	

3 February 2022	Carve-out in Kabul: hard won resolution lifts humanitarian roadblock in Afghanistan	Helen Durham and Christopher Harland; ICRC Law & Policy blog  Discourse 	Discusses the recent humanitarian 'carve out' in UN sanctions on Afghanistan, and outlines its implications for humanitarian assistance.	
8 February 2022	The Legality of Use of Ballistic Missiles on Cities: The Case of Armenia-Azerbaijan Armed Conflict	Nurlan Mustafayev; Blog of the European Journal of International Law  Discourse 	Based on the recent Azerbaijan-Armenia conflict, the blog argues that the use of ballistic missiles on cities is illegal under IHL and should be prosecuted.	
8 February 2022	The ambiguous politics of screening: NGOs as actors in the counterterrorism game?	Beata Paragi; Norwegian Centre for Humanitarian Studies  Discourse 	The blog discusses the use of technology for screening by NGOs. It notes the problems raised by using different criteria for terrorism, as well as data protection issues in contexts with weak data protection rules, and ethical problems with screening beneficiaries (see also an article in the ICRC counterterrorism edition).	
February 2022	Protecting internally displaced persons: a handbook for national human rights institutions	UNHCR  Policy/guidance 	Outlines legal frameworks for IDP protection globally and regionally, the roles of different actors, and the role of national human rights institutions in particular. Based on analysis of law and policy, and case studies.	







## Prioritise



Publication date	Title/URL	Publication type (evidence, discourse or policy/guidance)	Summary	Top reads
February 2022	Several new outputs from BASIC (Better Assistance in Crises) Research	BASIC Research  Evidence 	Recently published working papers and briefs on social assistance in crisis situations; the politics of social assistance in crises; cash and livelihoods in conflict and fragility; risks and outcomes of getting help for marginalised people; risks, accountability and technology; climate resilience and forcibly displaced people	
January 2022	Multi-Purpose Cash Assistance Strategic and Operational Revision workshop Linking Multi-Purpose Cash Assistance to Long-Term Solutions	CaLP network  Policy/guidance 	Summary of a workshop on multi-purpose cash assistance in Iraq. Issues discussed included linking cash to other sectors; operational components; and cross-cutting issues.	

February 2022	Lessons learnt from Latin America and practical guidance for multipurpose cash assistance (MPCA) integration	Maite Alvarez and Philippa Young; CaLP Policy/guidance 	Lessons on MPCA integration in Latin America to provide guidance on designing programmes that integrate MPCA across sectors.	
February 2022	A synthesis of research and learning on persistent global acute malnutrition in the Kenyan arid and semi-arid lands	Helen Young; Feinstein International Centre Evidence 	A synthesis of findings from the Nawiri research programme on child global acute malnutrition (GAM) in the Kenyan arid and semi-arid lands (ASALs), discussing causes, knowledge gaps and lessons.	
February 2022	The state of open humanitarian data 2022: assessing data availability across humanitarian crises	United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) Centre for Humanitarian Data Evidence 	Reports 'steady progress' in closing data gaps on humanitarian needs and responses, with 69% of relevant, complete data available. Provides overviews of completeness by country and sector. States that 'A priority for 2022 will be improving access to forecast, observational and impact data about hazards and shocks' and outlines these needs.	
February 2022	Dignity in Action – Key data and learning on cash and voucher assistance from across the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement	Cash Hub, ICRC, IFRC Evidence 	Lessons on cash assistance, structured around the following themes: 1. Measuring the transformation benefits of CVA 2. CVA preparedness 3. localisation of cash; national society leadership 4. CVA and social protection 5. cash, digital technology and data sharing 6. cash in conflict.	
17 February 2022	How to map Financial Service Providers	CaLP network; webinar Policy/guidance 	Recording of a webinar on mapping financial service providers to improve CVA delivery.	
3 February 2022	Racism & humanitarian action	Elba Rahmouni and Marc le Pape; MSF CRASH Discourse 	Blog listing MSF publications on racism and humanitarian action over the last few years.	
16 March, 2pm GMT	Prospects for establishing an accountability mechanism for the aid sector	Thea Hilhorst, Maryam Deloffre, Andrew Cunningham, Domenico Carole; Stirling University seminar. Discourse 	Seminar on accountability for humanitarian aid, accessible via Microsoft Teams.	

## Prevent

Publication date	Title/URL	Author(s)/Publication/Publication type (evidence, discourse or policy/guidance)	Summary	Top reads
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February 2022	Global Displacement Forecast 2022	Danish Refugee Council Evidence 	Provides forecasts based on a model using 120 indicators, suggesting an increase in the displaced population by 2.9 million in 2022 and 3.9 million in 2023. Conflict is forecast to be the main cause of increases in 2022. Includes a global overview and contextual analysis of nine countries.
31 January 2022	Programming Considerations for Humanitarian-Development-Peace Coherence: A Note for USAID's Implementing Partners	USAID Policy/guidance 	USAID thinking on Humanitarian-Development-Peace (HDP) coherence. Coherence is discussed according to 7 principles: respect humanitarian principles; plan jointly; create communication, coordination and learning platforms; strategically sequence, layer and integrate assistance; Promote shock-responsive programming and data-driven adaptive management; champion conflict integration; and work with local partners.
23 February 2022	In this age of climate crisis, humanitarians need to learn to love tech	Devorah West; The New Humanitarian Discourse 	Argues that technological solutions have only been used at small scale by humanitarians, because of safety fears, a lack of frameworks, and cost. It suggests more locally-led solutions, open-source tech, more integration of tech in NGO structures and culture; and more use in risk management.
February 2022	State of knowledge on gender and resilience	Gender, Climate Change and Nutrition Integration Initiative (GCAN) Evidence 	A literature review and case studies on the gendered dimensions of resilience.
February 2022	Climate change 2022: impacts, adaptation and vulnerability: summary for policymakers	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change Evidence 	Forecasts of the key risks and vulnerabilities to climate change.
February 2022	Special Issue: The Politics of Uncertainty: Producing, Reinforcing and Mediating (Legal) Uncertainty in Local Refugee Reception	Felix Maas, Sybille Münch, Miriam Schader, Hannes Schammann (eds.); Journal of Refugee Studies. Evidence 	Special issue theorising 'uncertainty as both a fundamental experience, a challenge as well as a governing tool' in refugee reception. Based mainly on examples from Europe.

25 February 2022	10 economic characteristics of refugee arrivals and returns	Harun Onder; Brookings Institute  Evidence 	Blog summarises recent World Bank and UNHCR research on the economics of refugee returns from large-scale displacement in Iraq, Jordan, Kenya, Lebanon and Syria.	
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## Resource Hubs

Title/URL	Author/Organisation	Summary
COVID-19 Armed Non-State Actors' Response Monitor	Geneva Call	Resource tracking Covid-19 responses by armed non-state actors globally.
Global Database of Humanitarian Organisations	Humanitarian Outcomes	Database of humanitarian providers and resources.
Evidence database	Anticipation Hub	Database of evidence on the effectiveness of early actions.
Covid-19: tracking local humanitarian action and complementary partnerships	Overseas Development Institute, Humanitarian Policy Group	Map of complementary partnerships and local humanitarian action across the globe.
Social protection responses to compounding risks: Lessons from Covid-19 and climate-related disasters	Red Cross and Red Crescent Climate Centre	A data dashboard of social protection responses to covid-19, at the national and international level.
COVID-19 Data Explorer: Global Humanitarian Operations	Humanitarian Data Exchange (HDX)	World map of covid cases and various vulnerability and socio-economic risk factors (including vaccine rollout, food security, school closures, CERF allocations etc.).
Covid-19 and Humanitarian Crises	Johns Hopkins Center for Humanitarian Health, Health in Humanitarian Crises Centre, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine and Geneva Centre of Humanitarian Studies, The Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies and the University of Geneva	Website for the exchange of field-based COVID-19 programme adaptations and innovations.
Covid-19 Mobility Impact Reports	UN IOM	Frequently updated reports on migration restrictions.
<a href="#">IDMC Internal Displacement Updates</a>	Internal displacement monitoring centre	Global data on internal displacement

ACAPS Crisis in Sight	ACAPS	Global overview of crisis, including covid and conflict; as well as access constraints.
CVA and COVID-19: resources, guidance, events and questions	CaLP	Guidance and resources on covid and cash transfers
IASC: COVID-19 Outbreak Readiness and Response guidance	Inter-Agency Standing Committee	IASC principles and protocols adapted to covid-19
OCHA COVID19 Resource Material	Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs	A wide range of guidance and resources from WHO, IASC, the EU, IFRF and others, as well as country-specific information.
Humanitarian Data Exchange: COVID-19 Pandemic in Locations with a Humanitarian Response	Humanitarian Data Exchange (HDX)	Global data on infections and deaths; a list of data sets on cases and prevention/mitigation measures.
Humanitarian Data Exchange: Government Measures Dataset	Humanitarian Data Exchange (HDX)	Global data on government covid-19 measures under 5 categories: Social distancing; Movement restrictions; Public health measures; Social and economic measures; Lockdowns.
IEG Lesson Library: Evaluative Resources and Evidence to inform the COVID-19 Response	World Bank Independent Evaluation Group	A library of Evaluative Resources and Evidence to inform the COVID-19 Response
Relief Web: regional topic pages for Covid-19 and global topic pages	Relief Web	Regional and global reports and resources on humanitarian needs and response.
IASC Accountability and Inclusion Resources Portal	Inter-Agency Standing Committee	A library of resources on accountability and inclusion.
Attacked and Threatened: Health care targeted in conflict and COVID-19	Insecurity Insight	Map of violence and threats against health care across the world.
Conflict and Health	Conflict and Health	Open-access journal on the health impacts of conflict.
International Journal of Disaster Risk Reduction	International Journal of Disaster Risk Reduction	An interdisciplinary journal of DRR.
Journal of Refugee Studies	Journal of Refugee Studies	Research on forced migration and responses to it.
Disasters	Disasters	Focuses on disaster management and policy from academic and field perspectives.
International Review of the Red Cross	International Review of the Red Cross	Journal focusing on international humanitarian law, policy and action in situations of conflict.

#### Methodology:

Given the wide range of topics covered, this monthly summary includes guidelines, blogs, news articles, dashboards, data, and editorials, in addition to policy and academic literature. Resources are selected based on their relevance to the themes of protect, prioritise and prevent. Entries are categorised as **evidence** (academic peer-reviewed articles or reports that have gone through a quality assurance process); **discourse** (opinion and discussion of key issues in the humanitarian sector); and **policies and guidelines** (newly published policies and guidelines on humanitarian response). The sources included are found through searches of academic literature, humanitarian think tanks, resource hubs and NGO websites. The searches are restricted to articles published in the previous month, in English. This is complemented by email recommendations from FCDO advisors and leading experts. It is the result of 1 day of work per month and is not intended to be a comprehensive summary of available evidence on humanitarian action but aims to make original documents easily accessible to decision-makers. This is trial and error approach, which will be refined and changed over the coming weeks. If you have literature to include in the weekly summary, please email – [luke.kelly@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:luke.kelly@manchester.ac.uk)

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### About this report:

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