

LEBANON: CRISES ERODE HUMAN RIGHTS

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL:

SUBMISSION TO THE 51ST SESSION OF THE UPR WORKING GROUP, 19-30 JANUARY 2026

SUMMARY

This submission was prepared for the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) of Lebanon in January 2026. In it, Amnesty International evaluates the implementation of recommendations made to Lebanon in its previous review, including freedom of expression, the right to social security, the independence of the judiciary, accountability and migrant and refugee rights.

It also assesses Lebanon's national human rights framework with regard to freedom of expression, LGBTI people's rights, women's rights, the right to social protection, and torture and other ill-treatment.

Amnesty International raises concern about the increasing use of criminal defamation and insult laws to stifle freedom of expression, the state's failure to uphold the rights to social protection and health; ongoing violations against women, LGBTI people, migrant workers, and refugees; and the persistent lack of accountability for human rights abuses, as well as the impact of the conflict between Israel and Hezbollah on human rights in Lebanon.

It ends with a set of recommendations to Lebanon which, if implemented, would contribute to improving the human rights situation.

© Amnesty International [2025]; INDEX MDE 18/9566/2025, [July/2025] LANGUAGE: ENGLISH. Except where otherwise noted, content in this document is licensed under a Creative Commons (attribution, non-commercial, no derivatives, international 4.0) licence.

<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/4.0/legalcode>

For more information, please visit the permissions page on our website: www.amnesty.org

Where material is attributed to a copyright owner other than Amnesty International this material is not subject to the Creative Commons licence.

Amnesty International is a global movement of more than 10 million people who campaign for a world where human rights are enjoyed by all.

Our vision is for every person to enjoy all the rights enshrined in the universal declaration of human rights and other international human rights standards.

We are independent of any government, political ideology, economic interest or religion and are funded mainly by our membership and public donations.

FOLLOW UP TO THE PREVIOUS REVIEW

1. During its third UPR in June 2021, Lebanon accepted 179 recommendations, partially accepted 25 recommendations, and noted 49 recommendations.¹
2. Regrettably, Lebanon has failed to implement many of the recommendations it accepted, including in relation to protecting the rights to freedom of expression,² adopting and implementing laws to strengthen the independence of the judiciary,³ holding accountable those responsible for human rights violations, including the Beirut port explosion,⁴ respecting non-refoulment obligations,⁵ and affording migrant workers human rights protections without discrimination.⁶
3. During its last UPR review, Lebanon accepted recommendations to respect freedom of expression, take additional measures to further enhance the safety of journalists, and to uphold the right to freedom of expression, including by ending detention of people for expressing views critical of the government.⁷
4. However, since its review, Lebanese authorities and powerful individuals have repeatedly displayed intolerance towards criticism and weaponized criminal defamation and insult laws to harass, intimidate and silence human rights defenders, activists, journalists and others who criticize them or try to expose their alleged misconduct or corruption.
5. Disappointingly, in its last review, Lebanon did not accept a number of key recommendations which, if implemented, would significantly improve the human rights situation in Lebanon, including: repealing criminal defamation laws,⁸ prohibiting discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity,⁹ abolishing the abusive sponsorship (*kafala*) system,¹⁰ ratifying key treaties such as the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (ICMW),¹¹ or acceding to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (ICC).¹²

THE NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS FRAMEWORK

Freedom of Expression

6. Lebanese laws, namely the Penal Code, Publications Law and the Military Code of Justice, criminalize defamation and insults, including against public employees, officials, judges, the president, the flag, the army, and foreign states. Individuals accused of defamation can be tried in criminal courts, the Publications Court or military courts and can receive prison terms of up to three years and/or fines.¹³

LGBTI people's rights

7. Consensual same-sex conduct is not explicitly criminalized in Lebanon, and a series of court rulings between 2007 and 2018 note consensual same-sex relations are not illegal, but Penal Code Article 534 punishes "any sexual intercourse contrary to the order of nature" with up to one year in prison.¹⁴

Women's rights

8. Under the nationality law, children and spouses of Lebanese women do not have the same right to nationality as do children and spouses of Lebanese men.¹⁵
9. Personal status laws,¹⁶ which vary by religious affiliation, deny women equal rights in matters such as marriage, divorce, child custody, and inheritance.

Right to social security

10. Lebanon's social protection system has long been fragmented, limited, and inequitable.¹⁷ It relies heavily on contributory, employment-based schemes, which exclude many informal workers, unemployed individuals, and marginalized groups.

Torture and other ill-treatment

11. Although Lebanon's anti-torture law states that torture cases must be tried before regular courts, it does not explicitly prohibit military courts from investigating or prosecuting such cases—particularly when they involve

members of the security or military forces—undermining civilian oversight and accountability.¹⁸ The law also limits investigations to acts of torture that occur during specific judicial phases, such as pre-detention or trial, and sets a statute of limitations of three to ten years. International human rights law prohibits time limits on prosecuting acts of torture and upholds victims' rights to justice and remedy.

12. In July 2019, the government appointed the five members of the National Preventative Mechanism against Torture (NPM).¹⁹ Lebanon has yet to adopt the implementation decrees necessary for the mechanism to begin its work.

THE HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION ON THE GROUND

Freedom of Expression

13. Between 2023 and 2025, Amnesty International documented the cases of more than 15 individuals summoned for interrogation pursuant to criminal insult and defamation cases filed against them by powerful individuals.²⁰ Security and military agencies failed to follow standard procedures when summoning individuals and during interrogation, and often pressured individuals to sign silence pledges or remove posts or articles containing allegedly defamatory material. The General Directorate of the Internal Security Forces disclosed to Amnesty International that the Cybercrimes Bureau investigated 1,684 insult and defamation cases between January 2019 and March 2024.²¹ Even when defamation cases do not reach court, the process of being summoned and interrogated by security or military agencies is itself a form of intimidation and harassment of journalists and activists and has a chilling effect on freedom of expression. After interrogation, people are usually given no indication as to whether the charges against them will be dropped.
14. Some cases do reach court. On 11 July 2023, for example, journalist Dima Sadek was sentenced to one year in prison and fined on criminal charges of defamation and incitement after she criticized members of a political party on Twitter (now known as X).

Right to Social Security

15. In its previous UPR, Lebanon committed to intensify its efforts to extend comprehensive social protection to all sections of the population.²²
16. However, despite limited reforms, Lebanon remained far from having a universal social protection system that guaranteed the right to social security for all.²³ The government failed to ensure access to even minimal social protection during a series of overlapping crises. After the 2019 economic crisis, many people were left without access to key forms of social security, including affordable health insurance and basic income security for families with children, older people, and those unable to work.
17. In recent years, with donor support, Lebanon launched its first universally conceptualized social protection scheme, the National Disability Allowance, and enacted long-overdue reforms in the area of social insurance.²⁴ In February 2024, it adopted a National Social Protection Strategy (NSPS), outlining a human rights-based vision to social security,²⁵ but it is yet to be seen if it will be appropriately funded and implemented, and it excludes non-Lebanese populations such as migrants and refugees.²⁶

Right to health

18. Despite Lebanon's commitment in the previous UPR to adopt measures aimed at strengthening health services,²⁷ the government failed to alleviate the impacts of the economic crisis, and other crises, on people's right to health. After it lifted subsidies on most medications in 2021 and 2022, prices skyrocketed. As a result, demand for free or low-cost medication provided by public primary healthcare centres increased drastically, while government funding decreased, denying people access to vital medication.²⁸ Marginalized groups suffered disproportionately.²⁹
19. An Amnesty International investigation found that a rapid rise in the number of deaths in custody between 2019 and 2022 was partly due to a lack of adequate healthcare.³⁰ Prisons had too few medical staff and lacked basic medication, and the government failed to pay private and public hospitals to treat prisoners, sometimes leading hospitals to turn away prisoners even when emergency treatment was required.

Women's Rights

20. In its previous UPR, Lebanon did not accept several recommendations to lift its reservations to Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) including adopting a unified personal status law.³¹
21. In December 2020, for the first time, Parliament passed a law criminalizing workplace sexual harassment; the law did not, however, set a complaints mechanism outside the criminal justice system.³²
22. Parliament also passed amendments addressing some of the shortcomings of the 2014 law on domestic violence against women but failed to criminalize marital rape.³³

LGBTI people's rights

23. In its previous UPR, Lebanon did not accept recommendations to decriminalize relationships between persons of the same sex or to prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation, sexual identity or gender expression.³⁴
24. Since June 2022, Lebanon's political and religious leaders have escalated hostile rhetoric and actions against the LGBTI community.³⁵ The interior minister banned all gatherings during Pride month saying it promoted "sexual perversion". In August 2023, Jnoud El-Rab, a far-right Christian group, attacked an LGBTI-friendly bar during a drag show, destroying furniture, beating people and threatening the owner with further violence if they continued to "promote homosexuality".³⁶ No one has been held accountable.

Migrant workers' rights

25. In its previous UPR, Lebanon failed to commit to abolishing the sponsorship (*kafala*) system³⁷ or to join the ICMW.³⁸
26. Migrant domestic workers in Lebanon, 99% of them women, continue to suffer discriminatory practices under the *kafala* system, which isolates workers, ensures workers are dependent on their employers, facilitates exploitation and other abuse, and limits worker's access to redress.³⁹
27. The economic crisis coupled with the COVID-19 pandemic meant many migrant domestic workers were dismissed without pay, their belongings or passports.⁴⁰ According to reports, many migrant domestic workers in Lebanon were abandoned by their employers during the war, with some left stranded without passports, the ability to seek refuge or to return home.⁴¹

Refugees' rights

28. For years, Lebanon has hosted the largest number of refugees per capita globally. In its previous UPR, Lebanon accepted recommendations to strengthen the protection of rights and freedom of refugees, including by respecting non-refoulement obligations.⁴² However, Lebanese authorities have increasingly subjected Syrian refugees to discriminatory policies, arbitrary detention, and forcible returns. As of 2024, over 90% of Syrian refugees in Lebanon were living in extreme poverty, with the vast majority lacking access to legal residency, making them highly vulnerable to exploitation and abuse.⁴³
29. Amnesty International has documented an array of violations committed by the Lebanese authorities against Syrian refugees in recent years.⁴⁴ These include unfair trials and acts of torture by Lebanese military intelligence, such as beatings with metal sticks, electric cables, and plastic pipes. In 2022, authorities scaled up a so-called voluntary return to Syria plan, which in practice amounted to constructive refoulement. The Lebanese Armed Forces and the General Security Office (GSO) also carried out widespread raids on Syrian refugee homes and camps—often targeting individuals registered with UNHCR—and forcibly deported scores of refugees without affording them the opportunity to challenge their deportation or seek protection.

Conflict's impact on human rights

30. The conflict between Israel and Hezbollah, which started in October 2023, has had profound and multifaceted impacts on human rights in Lebanon. According to Lebanon's Ministry of Public Health, over 4,000 people in Lebanon were killed—including more than 600 women, 200 children, and 190 health and rescue workers—and more than 17,000 injured.⁴⁵ During the conflict, more than one million people were displaced, thousands of buildings destroyed, entire border villages razed, and agricultural lands and olive groves destroyed. The World Bank estimated the total cost of physical damage and economic loss at USD 14 billion USD by March 2025.⁴⁶ Despite a ceasefire agreement in November 2024, Israel has continued to carry out attacks, preventing the safe return of many residents to southern villages.

31. Lebanon has failed to take consistent steps to ensure accountability and redress. While the Lebanese Council of Ministers initially authorized the submission of a declaration accepting the jurisdiction of the International Criminal Court (ICC) over crimes committed on its territory since 7 October 2023, the government later reversed this decision.⁴⁷ Lebanon has made several submissions to the United Nations Security Council, raising concerns about international law violations and calling for accountability.⁴⁸ Neither meaningful accountability nor meaningful redress have yet been provided to victims of abuses.

Right to truth, justice and reparation

32. A culture of impunity is entrenched in Lebanon. Amnesty International and other Lebanese and international human rights organizations have documented systemic political interference in the judiciary, flawed investigations into politically sensitive crimes, and a lack of judicial independence.⁴⁹
33. To date, no meaningful progress has been made in the investigation into the assassination of activist Lokman Slim, who was found shot dead in February 2021.⁵⁰
34. Authorities have similarly obstructed the domestic investigation into the Beirut port explosion that killed at least 235 people and devastated much of the capital.⁵¹ After two years of obstruction, the lead investigator, Judge Tarek Bitar, resumed the investigation by pursuing charges against 12 security officials and port staff, summoned for hearings that began in February 2025.⁵²
35. Authorities have failed to ensure justice and reparation for torture. Complaints filed under the 2017 anti-torture law rarely reached court and were often closed without effective investigation,⁵³ and Lebanon missed an opportunity for justice in a landmark case involving the death in custody of Syrian refugee Bashar Abd Saud.⁵⁴ In a positive step, on 5 December 2024, the State Shura Council, Lebanon's highest administrative court, issued a decision ordering the government to pay actor Ziad Itani reparations as a result of the Lebanese authorities failure to prohibit, prevent and adequately investigate his allegations of torture and other ill-treatment.⁵⁵

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ACTION BY THE STATE UNDER REVIEW

Amnesty International calls on the government of Lebanon to:

Freedom of expression

36. Immediately stop harassing and intimidating those exercising their right to freedom of expression and respect their due process rights.
37. Reform all laws that criminalize defamation and bring them in line with Lebanon's obligations under international law including through repealing all insult provisions in the Penal Code and repealing all articles criminalizing libel and slander and replacing them with new civil provisions that do not impose criminal penalties, and amending incitement laws to criminalize only statements that amount to advocacy of national, racial, or religious hatred that constitutes incitement to discrimination, hostility, or violence. The law should clearly define what is meant by each of these terms.
38. Ensure the new media law, currently being reviewed by the parliament, is in line with international standards, including by removing provisions that impose criminal sanctions on insults and defamation.

Right to social security

39. Take steps to progressively achieve comprehensive social protection that allows all people in Lebanon to access their human rights without discrimination, including by moving away from narrow poverty-targeting and towards a universal social protection system that includes social protection floors in line with ILO General Recommendation 202.

Right to Health

40. Ensure medication is available and affordable as required by international law and standards, including by increasing budget allocations for primary health care centres, including in areas that are traditionally underserved, to enable them to keep up with the demand for low cost or free medication.

Women's rights

41. Adopt an optional civil code that would ensure equal rights for all Lebanese who wish to marry under it and ensure that it complies with Lebanon's international human rights obligations.
42. Amend the nationality law to allow Lebanese women to pass their citizenship to their children and husbands.
43. Lift reservations to CEDAW.

LGBTI people's rights

44. Repeal or reform all laws, including Article 534 of the Penal Code, that discriminate on the grounds of sex, gender identity or sexual orientation.

Migrant workers' rights

45. Amend the Labour Law to extend legal protections to domestic workers equal to that afforded to other workers and to allow migrant domestic workers to join, elect and be elected to unions.
46. Reform the visa sponsorship system so that workers' visas are no longer tied to individual sponsors and they can terminate employment without sponsor consent.
47. Become a state party to ILO Convention No. 189 on Domestic Workers and the ICMW and implement their provisions in law, policy and practice.

Refugees' rights

48. Ensure suitable and dignified living conditions for Syrian refugees in the country as required by international law, with the assistance of, and in cooperation with, the international community.
49. Ensure that any Syrian refugee facing an order related to their legal status in Lebanon is able to challenge that in court, as required by international due process standards.
50. Allow refugees registered with UNHCR in Lebanon to be considered to have legal residency in the territory, and create transparent, accessible, and affordable pathways for Syrian refugees to regularize their status and apply these regulations without discrimination.

Conflict's impact on human rights

51. Explore all possible legal routes, including setting up a domestic reparation mechanism and demanding reparation from warring parties, to fulfil the right to reparation of victims for harms resulting from serious international law violations.
52. Accede to the Rome Statute of the ICC; issue a declaration accepting the ICC's jurisdiction since 1 July 2022; and incorporate the provisions of the treaty into domestic law.

Right to truth, justice and reparation

53. Enact a law on the independence of the judiciary in line with international standards and ensure that the independence of the judiciary is respected from undue interference.
54. Diligently and meaningfully enforce Lebanon's Anti-Torture Law and end the practice of trying civilians in military courts.
55. Ensure a transparent and independent domestic investigation into the Beirut port explosion, including by addressing any political and legal barriers that obstruct the investigation and adopting any legal amendments necessary, in line with international standards, that allow the investigation to proceed.

ANNEX 1

KEY AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL DOCUMENTS FOR FURTHER REFERENCE

Amnesty International, "Lebanon: Authorities must immediately dismiss complaint against independent media outlets", 14 April 2025, <https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2025/04/lebanon-authorities-must-immediately-dismiss-complaint-against-independent-media-outlets/>

Amnesty International, “Lebanon: Landmark Shura Council decision must mark a turning point in ending impunity for torture”, 12 March 2025, <https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2025/03/lebanon-landmark-shura-council-decision-must-mark-a-turning-point-in-ending-impunity-for-torture/>

Amnesty International, *Lebanon: Israeli attacks on healthcare providers must be investigated as war crimes* (Index: MDE 18/9062/2025), 5 March 2025, <https://www.amnesty.org/en/documents/mde18/9062/2025/en/>

Amnesty International, “Lebanon: Israeli air strikes that killed at least 49 civilians further evidence of war crimes”, 12 December 2024, <https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2024/12/lebanon-israeli-air-strikes-that-killed-at-least-49-civilians-further-evidence-of-war-crimes/>

Amnesty International, *Lebanon: “The Country is Dissolving and No One Cares”: Surging Need and Crashing Support for Social Security During Lebanon’s Economic Crisis* (Index: MDE 18/8685/2024), 2 December 2024, <https://www.amnesty.org/en/documents/mde18/8685/2024/en/>

Amnesty International, “Lebanon: Missed opportunity for justice in landmark case over torture and death in custody of Syrian refugee”, 5 November 2024, <https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2024/11/lebanon-missed-opportunity-for-justice-in-landmark-case-over-torture-and-death-in-custody-of-syrian-refugee/>

Amnesty International, “Lebanon: Attack on Freedoms Targets LGBTI People Repressive Legislation; Unlawful Crackdown”, 5 September 2024, <https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2023/09/lebanon-attack-on-freedoms-targets-lgbti-people-repressive-legislation-unlawful-crackdown/>

Amnesty International, *Lebanon: Defamation and insult laws weaponized to silence critics* (Index Number: MDE 18/7046/2023), 7 August 2023, <https://www.amnesty.org/es/documents/mde18/7046/2023/en/>

Amnesty International, *Lebanon: “We are not safe here”: Government fails people living in buildings at risk of collapse in Tripoli* (Index: MDE 18/7703/2024), 20 February 2024, <https://www.amnesty.org/en/documents/mde18/7703/2024/en/>

Amnesty International, “Lebanon: Comedian arrested for critical jokes”, 31 August 2023, <https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2023/08/lebanon-comedian-arrested-for-critical-jokes/>

Amnesty International, “Lebanon: Attack on LGBTI bar another ‘ominous sign’ of deteriorating rights situation”, 24 August 2023, <https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2023/08/lebanon-attack-on-lgbti-bar-another-ominous-sign-of-deteriorating-rights-situation/>

Amnesty International, “Lebanon: No accountability for security forces’ crackdown on protesters since 2019”, 14 March 2023, <https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2023/03/lebanon-no-accountability-for-security-forces-crackdown-on-protesters-since-2019-report/>

Amnesty International, *Lebanon: Government must ensure medication is available and affordable* (Index: MDE 18/6410/2023), 9 February 2023, <https://www.amnesty.org/en/documents/mde18/6410/2023/en/>

Amnesty International, “Lebanon: Stop the so-called voluntary returns of Syrian refugees”, 14 October 2022, <https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2022/10/lebanon-stop-the-so-called-voluntary-returns-of-syrian-refugees/>

Amnesty International, *Amnesty International Report 2021/22: The state of the world’s human rights* (Index Number: POL 10/4870/2022), 29 March 2022, <https://www.amnesty.org/en/documents/pol10/4870/2022/en/>

Amnesty International, *Lebanon: ‘Their house is my prison’: Exploitation of migrant domestic workers in Lebanon* (Index Number: MDE 18/0022/2019), 23 April 2023, <https://www.amnesty.org/en/documents/mde18/0022/2019/en/>

- ¹ UN Human Rights Council, Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review: Lebanon, 23 June 2021, UN Doc. A/HRC/47/5.
- ² A/HRC/47/5, recommendations 150.150 (Canada), 150.153 (Greece), 150.155 (Australia), 150.160 (Netherlands), 150.161 (New Zealand), 150.162 (Norway), 150.163 (Republic of Korea), 150.164 (Slovakia), 150.166 (Ukraine).
- ³ A/HRC/47/5, recommendations 150.143 (Norway), 150.136 (France), 150.138 (Latvia), 150.148 (Palestine), 150.149 (Switzerland).
- ⁴ A/HRC/47/5, recommendations 150.136 (France), 150.137 (Germany), 150.147 (Slovakia).
- ⁵ A/HRC/47/5, recommendations 1150.105 (Netherlands), 50.106 (Norway).
- ⁶ A/HRC/47/5, recommendations 150.269 (Luxembourg), 150.261 (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland)
- ⁸ A/HRC/47/5, recommendations 150.46 (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland), 150.151 (Estonia), 150.154 (Ireland).
- ⁹ A/HRC/47/5, recommendations 150.72 (Canada), 150.75 (Ecuador), 150.76 (Fiji), 150.79 (Germany), 150.81 (Iceland), 150.83 (Italy), 150.84 (Australia), 150.85 (Latvia), 150.86 (Luxembourg), 150.89 (Norway), 150.92 (Sweden).
- ¹⁰ A/HRC/47/5, recommendations 150.281 (Finland), 150.282 (Finland), 150.283 (Italy), 150.284 (Sierra Leone), 150.285 (Slovenia).
- ¹¹ A/HRC/47/5, recommendations 150.7 (Philippines), 150.10 (Argentina).
- ¹² A/HRC/47/5, recommendations 150.32 (Cyprus), 150.32 (France), 150.42 (Paraguay), 150.43 (Poland), 150.44 (Latvia), 150.147 (Estonia).
- ¹³ Lebanon, Penal Code, 1948, Articles 317, 383, 384, 385, 386, 474, 582.
- ¹⁴ Lebanon, Penal Code, 1948, Article 534.
- ¹⁵ Lebanon, Decree No15 on Lebanese Nationality, 19 January 1925, (an unofficial English translation is available at <https://www.refworld.org/legal/legislation/natlegbod/1925/en/115994>).
- ¹⁶ Lebanon, Decree 60LR, 1936.
- ¹⁷ Amnesty International, *Lebanon: "The Country is Dissolving and No One Cares": Surging Need and Crashing Support for Social Security During Lebanon's Economic Crisis* (Index: MDE 18/8685/2024), 2 December 2024, <https://www.amnesty.org/en/documents/mde18/8685/2024/en/>
- ¹⁸ Amnesty International, "Lebanon has a new anti-torture law — finally", 26 June 2018, <https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2018/06/lebanon-new-anti-torture-law/>
- ¹⁹ Amnesty International, "Lebanon: Anti-Torture Body Named", 22 March 2019, <https://www.hrw.org/news/2019/03/22/lebanon-anti-torture-body-named>
- ²⁰ Amnesty International, *Lebanon: Defamation and insult laws weaponized to silence critics* (Index: MDE 18/7046/2023), 7 August 2023, <https://www.amnesty.org/es/documents/mde18/7046/2023/en/>
- ²¹ Amnesty International, "Lebanon: End use of defamation laws to target journalists and critics", 3 May 2024, <https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2024/05/lebanon-end-use-of-defamation-laws-to-target-journalists-and-critics/>
- ²² A/HRC/47/5, recommendations 150.182 (Gabon), 150.188 (Serbia), 150.192 (Maldives).
- ²³ Amnesty International, *Lebanon: "The Country is Dissolving and No One Cares": Surging Need and Crashing Support for Social Security During Lebanon's Economic Crisis* (Index: MDE 18/8685/2024), 2 December 2024, <https://www.amnesty.org/en/documents/mde18/8685/2024/en/>
- ²⁴ International Labor Organization (ILO), "The Ministry of Social Affairs introduces a social protection programme for people with disabilities in Lebanon", 26 April 2023, <https://www.ilo.org/resource/news/ministry-social-affairs-introduces-social-protection-programme-people>
- ²⁵ Work on the strategy began in 2019, including Lebanon's Inter-Ministerial Committee on Social Policy, led by the Ministry of Social Affairs, funding from the European Union and Netherlands, and technical support from the ILO and UNICEF. United Nations Lebanon, "The government of Lebanon launches its first National Social Protection Strategy", 13 Feb 2024, <https://lebanon.un.org/en/260616-government-lebanon-launches-its-first-national-social-protection-strategy>, p. 23.
- ²⁶ UNICEF, "National Social Protection Strategy for Lebanon: Towards a Rights-Based, Shock-Responsive and Sustainable System", October 2023, <https://www.unicef.org/lebanon/media/11136/file/National%20Social%20Protection%20Strategy%20-%20EN.pdf>, p. 5
- ²⁷ A/HRC/47/5, recommendations 150.195 (Saudi Arabia), 150.196 (China), 150.197 (Cuba), 150.198 (Egypt), 150.205 (Sri Lanka), 150.207 (Thailand).
- ²⁸ Amnesty International, *Lebanon: Government must ensure medication is available and affordable* (Index: MDE 18/6410/2023), 9 February 2023, <https://www.amnesty.org/en/documents/mde18/6410/2023/en/>
- ²⁹ Amnesty International, *Lebanon: Government must ensure medication is available and affordable* (Index: MDE 18/6410/2023), 9 February 2023, <https://www.amnesty.org/en/documents/mde18/6410/2023/en/>
- ³⁰ Amnesty International, *Lebanon: "Instead of rehabilitation, he found death": Death in custody doubled amidst four-year economic crisis* (Index: MDE 18/6476/2023), 7 June 2023, <https://www.amnesty.org/en/documents/mde18/6476/2023/en/>
- ³¹ A/HRC/47/5/Add.1, recommendations 150.36 (Bulgaria), 150.37 (Croatia) (Germany) (Turkey), 150.39 (Portugal), 150.41 (Norway).
- ³² Human Rights Watch, "Lebanon: Sexual Harassment Law Missing Key Protections", 5 March 2021, <https://www.hrw.org/news/2021/03/05/lebanon-sexual-harassment-law-missing-key-protections>
- ³³ Lebanon, Law No. 204/2020, 2020 (an unofficial English translation is available at <https://civilsociety-centre.org/actions/parliament-passes-law-no-204-amend-law-protection-women-and-other-family-members-domestic>)

- ³⁴ A/HRC/47/5/Add.1, recommendations 150.71 (Brazil), 150.72 (Canada), 150.73 (Chile), 150.74 (Czechia), 150.75 (Ecuador), 150.76 (Fiji), 150.77 (Argentina), 150.79 (Germany), 150.81 (Iceland), 150.83 (Italy), 150.84 (Australia), 150.85 (Latvia), 150.86 (Luxembourg), 150.88 (Netherlands), 150.89 (Norway), 150.90 (Spain), 150.92 (Sweden).
- ³⁵ Amnesty International, "Lebanon: Attack on Freedoms Targets LGBTI People Repressive Legislation; Unlawful Crackdown", 5 September 2024, <https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2023/09/lebanon-attack-on-freedoms-targets-lgbti-people-repressive-legislation-unlawful-crackdown/>
- ³⁶ Amnesty International, "Lebanon: Attack on LGBTI bar another 'ominous sign' of deteriorating rights situation", 24 August 2023, <https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2023/08/lebanon-attack-on-lgbti-bar-another-ominous-sign-of-deteriorating-rights-situation/>
- ³⁷ A/HRC/47/5, recommendations 150.281 (Finland), 150.282 (Finland), 150.283 (Italy), 150.284 (Sierra Leone), 150.285 (Slovenia).
- ³⁸ A/HRC/47/5, recommendations 150.7 (Philippines), 150.10 (Argentina).
- ³⁹ Amnesty International, *Lebanon: 'Their house is my prison': Exploitation of migrant domestic workers in Lebanon* (Index: MDE 18/0022/2019), 23 April 2023, <https://www.amnesty.org/en/documents/mde18/0022/2019/en/>
- ⁴⁰ Amnesty International, *Amnesty International Report 2021/22: The state of the world's human rights* (Index: POL 10/4870/2022), 29 March 2022, <https://www.amnesty.org/en/documents/pol10/4870/2022/en/>
- ⁴¹ The New Humanitarian, "Lebanon's migrant workers left stranded and homeless by Israeli attacks," 26 September 2024, <https://www.thenewhumanitarian.org/news-feature/2024/09/26/lebanons-migrant-workers-left-stranded-homeless-israeli-attacks>; Politico, "They were some of the lucky ones: Lebanon's migrant workers and the long journey home," 15 May 2024, <https://www.politico.eu/article/lebanon-migration-sierra-leone-africa-refugees/>; OCCRP, "Report: Migrant workers in Lebanon trapped in abusive system," 9 May 2024, <https://www.occrp.org/en/news/report-migrant-workers-in-lebanon-trapped-in-abusive-system>
- ⁴² A/HRC/47/5/Add.1, recommendation 150.105 (Norway).
- ⁴³ UNDP, *2024 Regional Strategic Overview*, Regional Refugee and Resilience Plan (3RP), 2024, <https://www.undp.org/arab-states/publications/3rp-regional-strategic-overview-2024>
- ⁴⁴ Amnesty International, *Lebanon: 'I Wished I Would Die'- Syrian refugees arbitrarily detained on terrorism-related charges and tortured in Lebanon* (Index: MDE 18/3671/2021), 23 March 2021, <https://www.amnesty.org/en/documents/mde18/3671/2021/en/>
- ⁴⁵ World Health Organization (WHO), *Lebanon: soaring needs for trauma treatment and rehabilitation*, 20 December 2024, <https://www.who.int/news/item/20-12-2024-lebanon--soaring-needs-for-trauma-treatment-and-rehabilitation>
- ⁴⁶ World Bank Group, "Lebanon - Rapid Damage and Needs Assessment (RDNA)", 7 March 2025, <https://documents.worldbank.org/en/publication/documents-reports/documentdetail/099030125012526525/p5063801f58e97062197c31ebf5a511c4e1>
- ⁴⁷ Reuters, "Lebanon backtracks on ICC jurisdiction to probe alleged war crimes", 29 May 2024, https://www.reuters.com/world/middle-east/lebanon-backtracks-icc-jurisdiction-probe-alleged-war-crimes-2024-05-29/?utm_source=chatgpt.com
- ⁴⁸ L'orient Today, "Lebanon submits new complaint to UN Security Council on Israeli aggression", 16 October 2024, <https://today.lorientlejour.com/article/1431546/lebanon-submits-new-complaint-to-un-security-council-on-israeli-aggression.html>
- ⁴⁹ Amnesty International, "Lebanon: Judiciary farce in Beirut blast investigation must end", 25 January 2023, <https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2023/01/lebanon-judiciary-farce-in-beirut-blast-investigation-must-end/>
- ⁵⁰ Amnesty International, "Lebanon: Killers of activist Lokman Slim must be brought to justice", 3 February 2023, <https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2023/02/lebanon-killers-of-activist-lokman-slim-must-be-brought-to-justice/>
- ⁵¹ Amnesty International, "Lebanon: Unacceptable lack of justice, truth and reparation three years after Beirut blast", 3 August 2023, <https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2023/08/lebanon-unacceptable-lack-of-justice-truth-and-reparation-three-years-after-beirut-blast/>
- ⁵² Human Rights Watch, "Beirut Blast Investigation Resumes", 21 January 2021, <https://www.hrw.org/news/2025/01/21/beirut-blast-investigation-resumes>
- ⁵³ Human Rights Watch, "Lebanon: Enforce Anti-Torture Law", 26 June 2023, <https://www.hrw.org/news/2023/06/26/lebanon-enforce-anti-torture-law-0>
- ⁵⁴ Amnesty International, "Lebanon: Missed opportunity for justice in landmark case over torture and death in custody of Syrian refugee", 5 November 2024, <https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2024/11/lebanon-missed-opportunity-for-justice-in-landmark-case-over-torture-and-death-in-custody-of-syrian-refugee/>
- ⁵⁵ Amnesty International, "Lebanon: Landmark Shura Council decision must mark a turning point in ending impunity for torture", 12 March 2025, https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2025/03/lebanon-landmark-shura-council-decision-must-mark-a-turning-point-in-ending-impunity-for-torture/?utm_source=chatgpt.com