

Historical Dictionary of Human Rights and Humanitarian Organizations

Second Edition

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Editor's Foreword

All too often, international organizations appear remote and abstract to ordinary people. In one area, that is definitely not the case: Those dealing with human rights and humanitarian aid are very close to the lives of every one of us. Certainly, they are most noticeable in extreme cases of violation of human rights or human and natural disasters. But you never know when or where the next crisis or disaster will break out. And for those who are not afflicted, the very existence of an increasingly thick network of such bodies and the heightened awareness they generate contribute to a safer and more stable world community.

Not surprisingly, many of these organizations are grassroots bodies, created by active and concerned individuals in the hope of helping others in need. It is these bodies that usually uncover the violations, publicize the problems, and then prod the larger intergovernmental organizations to act. Many of the initiatives come from ordinary people and not politicians, and much of the progress derives from the base and not the summit. Unfortunately, so much remains to be done that genuine achievements often appear inadequate and fragile in the face of continuing problems. And practice hardly ever lives up to the exalted principles and theories. Still, rather than despair at how much remains to be done, it is healthy on occasion to consider how much has been achieved over a relatively short period.

Historical Dictionary of Human Rights and Humanitarian Organizations is a precious contribution to any such review. It provides information on many (although obviously not all) of the organizations, private and governmental, national and international. These include activists at the grassroots level as well as more established bodies within the United Nations family. Reference is also made to the various goals and activities of these bodies and some individuals who have played outstanding roles. The introduction and certain entries present

the goals and principles as well as the documents that enshrine them. The progress made in achieving goals can best be judged by following the course of important events. Further information on all aspects can be found in the books listed in a comprehensive bibliography.

This volume is coauthored by Robert F. Gorman and Edward S. Mihalkanin. Both are professors of political science at Texas State University. Dr. Gorman specializes in refugee questions, having previously worked as a refugee program officer for the U.S. Department of State. He has written *Historical Dictionary of Refugee and Disaster Relief Organizations* in this series, as well as *Mitigating Misery: An Inquiry into the Political and Humanitarian Aspects of U.S. and Global Refugee Policy* and other books and articles. Dr. Mihalkanin specializes in international relations, American foreign relations, and Third World politics, especially of Latin America. He is the author of *American Statesmen: Secretaries of State from John Jay to Colin Powell*.

Jon Woronoff
Series Editor

Preface

In the pages that follow, we sketch out for the user of this book the wide array of intergovernmental and nongovernmental organizations that are engaged in the global network of humanitarian and human rights work. Our efforts have been necessarily limited to those organizations and agencies most actively engaged in these endeavors. Our list of organizations, particularly in the nongovernmental sphere, is surely not exhaustive. We have also attempted to provide the reader with summaries of the chief humanitarian or human rights treaties and agreements, as well as prominent personages who historically advanced the practice, principles, and ideas of human rights and humanitarian aid. Since the 20th century movement toward strengthening human rights can be traced back to the antislavery and women's movements of the 19th century, we have seen fit to include important human rights figures from that period and even somewhat earlier.

Both authors wish to thank their students, with whom they have honed a sense of the importance of human rights over the years as well as a sense of hope concerning the fruitfulness of the enterprise. Ed Mihalkanin wishes to express particular thanks to Orlando Carter and J. P. Hymes for their research assistance.

Acronyms and Abbreviations

ADF	America's Development Foundation
ADRA	Adventist Development and Relief Agency International
AI	Amnesty International
AJWS	American Jewish World Service
AMIS	African Union Mission in Sudan
ANC	African National Congress
APRODEV	Association of Protestant Development Organizations in Europe
APT	Association for the Prevention of Torture
ASEAN	Association of Southeast Asian Nations
AU	African Union
CAP	Consolidated Appeals Process
CARE	Cooperative for Assistance and Relief Everywhere
CAT	Committee against Torture
CATW	Coalition against Trafficking in Women
CCF	Christian Children's Fund
CEC	Conference of European Churches
CEDAW	Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women
CERD	Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination
CERF	Central Emergency Revolving Fund
CESCR	Committee on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights
CFA	Committee on Food Aid
CHR	Commission on Human Rights
CI	Caritas Internationalis
CIDSE	International Cooperation for Development and Solidarity

CIREFCA	International Conference on Central American Refugees
CLONGD-EU	Liaison Committee of Nongovernmental Development Organizations to the European Union
CMW	Committee on Migrant Workers
COE	Council of Europe
COHRE	Centre for Housing Rights and Evictions
CRC	Committee on the Rights of the Child
CSCE	Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe
DATA	Debt, AIDS, and Trade in Africa
DHA	Department of Humanitarian Affairs
DRC	Democratic Republic of the Congo
EC	European Communities
ECHO	European Community Humanitarian Office
ECHR	European Court of Human Rights
ECOSOC	Economic and Social Council
ECOWAS	Economic Community of West African States
ENHR	European Network for Housing Research
ERC	Emergency Relief Coordinator
EU	European Union
EUROSTEP	European Solidarity towards Equal Treatment of People
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization
FEDEFAM	Fighting against Forced Disappearances in Latin America
FFH	Food for the Hungry
FIAN	FoodFirst Information and Action Network
FIDH	Fédération Internationale des Droits de l'Homme/ International Federation of Human Rights
GATT	General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade
GIST	Geographic Information Support Teams
HABITAT	United Nations Conference on Human Settlements
HAI	HelpAge International
HIAS	Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society
HRC	Human Rights Committee
HRF	Human Rights First
HRFT	Human Rights Foundation of Turkey

HRIC	Human Rights in China
IACHR	Inter-American Commission on Human Rights
IACT	Inter-American Court of Human Rights
IADL	International Association of Democratic Lawyers
IASC	Interagency Standing Committee
IAW	International Alliance of Women
IBA	International Bar Association
IBRD	International Bank for Reconstruction and Development
ICAO	International Civil Aviation Organization
ICARA I	First International Conference on Assistance to Refugees in Africa
ICARA II	Second International Conference on Assistance to Refugees in Africa
ICC	International Criminal Court
ICEM	Intergovernmental Committee for European Migration
ICFTU	International Confederation of Free Trade Unions
ICHRP	International Council on Human Rights Policy
ICJ	International Court of Justice
ICM	Intergovernmental Committee for Migration
ICMC	International Catholic Migration Commission
ICRC	International Committee of the Red Cross
ICTR	International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda
ICTY	International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia
ICVA	International Council of Voluntary Agencies
ICW	International Council of Women
IDA	International Development Association
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
IFC	International Finance Corporation
IFRC	International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
IGCR	Intergovernmental Committee for Refugees
IHL	International Institute of Humanitarian Law
ILO	International Labour Organization
IMC	International Medical Corps

IMF	International Monetary Fund
INSARAG	International Search and Rescue Advisory Group
INSTRAW	International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women
IOM	International Organization for Migration
IPU	Inter-Parliamentary Union
IRC	International Rescue Committee
IRO	International Refugee Organization
ISHR	International Society for Human Rights
IWPR	Institute of War and Peace Reporting
LCHR	Lawyers Committee for Human Rights
LICROSS	League of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
LWF	Lutheran World Federation
LWR	Lutheran World Relief
MIGA	Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency
MINUSTAH	United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti
MONUA	United Nations Observer Mission in Angola
MONUC	United Nations Organization Mission in the Demo- cratic Republic of the Congo
MOSOP	Movement for the Survival of the Ogoni People
MRG	Minority Rights Group International
MRI	Migrants Rights International
MSF	Médecins sans Frontières/Doctors without Borders
MWL	Muslim World League
NAACP	National Association for the Advancement of Col- ored People
NATO	North Atlantic Treaty Organization
NGOs	Nongovernmental Organizations
NLD	National League for Democracy
OAS	Organization of American States
OAU	Organization of African Unity
OCCDP	Canadian Catholic Agency for Development and Peace
OCHA	Office for Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
OECD	Organization for Economic Cooperation and Devel- opment
OMCT	World Organization Against Torture
ONUB	United Nations Operation in Burundi

ONUC	United Nations Operation in the Congo
ONUMOZ	United Nations Operation in Mozambique
ONUSAL	United Nations Observer Mission in El Salvador
OSCE	Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe
OXFAM	Oxford Committee for Famine Relief
PAC	Pan-Africanist Congress
PCIJ	Permanent Court of International Justice
PHR	Physicians for Human Rights
PLO	Palestine Liberation Organization
QIPs	Quick Impact Projects
RUF	Revolutionary United Front
SACC	South African Council of Churches
SADC	Southern Africa Development Community
SAHRDC	South Asia Human Rights Documentation Centre
SARRED	Southern Africa Refugees, Returnees, and Displaced Persons Conference
SASO	South African Students Organization
SAWSO	Salvation Army World Service Office
SCA	Save the Children Alliance
SCF	Save the Children Federation
SHAEF	Supreme Headquarters of the Allied Expeditionary Force
TRC	Truth and Reconciliation Commission
UN	United Nations
UNAMET	United Nations Mission in East Timor
UNAMIC	United Nations Advance Mission in Cambodia
UNAMSIL	United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone
UNAVEM	United Nations Angola Verification Mission
UNCED	United Nations Conference on Environment and Development
UNDAC	United Nations Disaster Assessment and Coordination
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNDRO	United Nations Disaster Relief Organization
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization
UNFICYP	United Nations Forces in Cyprus

UNFPA	United Nations Fund for Population Activities
UNHCHR	United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF	United Nations Children’s Fund
UNIFEM	United Nations Development Fund for Women
UNITA	National Union for the Total Independence of Angola
UNITAF	Unified Task Force
UNITAR	United Nations Institute for Training and Research
UNMIH	United Nations Mission in Haiti
UNMIK	United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo
UNMIL	United Nations Mission in Liberia
UNMIS	United Nations Mission in Sudan
UNOCA	United Nations Coordinator for Humanitarian and Economic Assistance Programs Relating to Afghanistan
UNOCHA	United Nations Office for Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
UNOMIL	United Nations Observer Mission in Liberia
UNOMSIL	United Nations Observer Mission in Sierra Leone
UNOSOM	United Nations Operation in Somalia
UNPAAERD	United Nations Program of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development
UNPROFOR	United Nations Protection Force
UNRISD	United Nations Research Institute for Social Development
UNRRA	United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration
UNRWA	United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine
UNSMA	United Nations Special Mission in Afghanistan
UNTAC	United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia
UNTAET	United Nations Transitional Administration in East Timor
UNU	United Nations University
UNWCC	United Nations War Crimes Commission

USCRI	U.S. Committee for Refugees and Immigrants
VOICE	Voluntary Organisations in Cooperation in Emergencies
WARC	World Alliance of Reformed Churches
WCC	World Council of Churches
WCIP	World Council of Indigenous Peoples
WCL	World Confederation of Labor
WFP	World Food Programme
WFTU	World Federation of Trade Unions
WHO	World Health Organization
WILPF	Women's International League for Peace and Freedom
WR	World Relief
YMCA	Young Men's Christian Association
YWCA	Young Women's Christian Association

Chronology

- 1824** Britain begins interdiction of the slave trade.
- 1863** U.S. President Abraham Lincoln issues the Emancipation Proclamation.
- 1864** The Red Cross is founded.
- 1893** New Zealand becomes the first country to recognize women's suffrage.
- 1899** The first Hague Peace Conference is held to revise laws of war.
- 1903** Emmeline Pankhurst founds the Woman's Social and Political Union.
- 1906** Finland becomes the first European country to grant woman's suffrage.
- 1907** The Hague Convention on the Laws of War is adopted.
- 1912–1914** Balkan Wars lead to significant refugee flows.
- 1914–1918** World War I and aftermath displace millions.
- 1915** Poison gas used for first time during World War I by German forces on the Western Front. Armenia experiences genocide.
- 1917** Russian revolution precipitates flight of hundreds of thousands, stimulates Red Terror and numerous summary killings.
- 1918–1921** Red Cross responds to Russian refugee situation.
- 1919** League of Nations is established. Constitution of the International Labour Organization (ILO) is adopted.

1920 League of Nations and the International Labour Organization (ILO) officially commence. Palmer Raids in the United States lead to arrest and deportation of thousands of immigrants and radicals. League of Woman Voters is established. Nineteenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution gives women the right to vote.

1921 Armenian/Greek refugee problem begins. Assyro-Chaldean, Assyrian, and Turkish refugee situations emerge with breakup of Ottoman Empire. **September:** League of Nations High Commissioner for Russian Refugees is established. **November:** International Labour Organization (ILO) Right of Association Convention is adopted. Famine assistance begins to Russia.

1922 Nansen passports for stateless persons initiated.

1923 Bulgarian refugee situation erupts.

1925 **June:** Protocol for the Prohibition of the Use in War of Asphyxiating, Poisonous or Other Gases, or of Bacteriological Methods of Warfare is adopted.

1926 Indian women given right to run for elective office. **September:** Convention to Suppress Slave Trade and Slavery signed in Geneva.

1927 International Relief Union is established.

1929 League of Nations replaces High Commissioner for Russian Refugees with Nansen International Office.

1930 Convention on Conflicts of Nationality Laws signed at The Hague. International Labour Organization (ILO) Forced Labor Convention adopted.

1932 La Matanza (massacre) occurs in El Salvador revolt.

1933 Concentration camps go into operation in Nazi Germany.

1934 Stalin-era purges of political opponents commence.

1936 South America's first fascist regime assumes power in Paraguay.

1937 Japan captures Nanjing, exposes population to brutalities. Spanish civil war begins, produces refugees and international concern.

1938 Nansen International Office is terminated. League of Nations High Commissioner for Refugees is established. Autonomous Office of

High Commissioner for Refugees Coming from Germany is established. International Conference on Refugees at Evians-les-Bains is held, leads to creation of Intergovernmental Committee for Refugees (IGCR).

1939 World War II breaks out in Europe, leading to six years of devastation and bloodshed, the brutalities of the Holocaust, the widespread violation of the laws of war, and the introduction of vastly destructive weaponry.

1941 August: Atlantic Charter is adopted.

1942 January: Declaration by the United Nations is adopted. Ethiopia outlaws slavery.

1943 United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration (UNRRA) is formed to deal with persons displaced by war. Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) is formed. **October:** United Nations War Crimes Commission is established in London, prepares groundwork for Nuremburg Trials.

1945 Charter of the International Military Tribunal (Nuremburg Tribunal) is established to try war crimes, crimes against peace, and crimes against humanity; superior orders defense plea is rejected. International Military Tribunal for the Far East established. **June:** United Nations Charter is signed. **August:** World War II comes to an end with atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki; Japanese surrender in the Pacific ending years of carnage. **November:** United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) is established. **December:** World Bank (International Bank for Reconstruction and Development [IBRD]) and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) are established.

1946 July: World Health Organization (WHO) is established. **October:** London Convention on travel permits for the benefit of refugees is signed. **December:** United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF) is established.

1947 United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration (UNRRA) and Intergovernmental Committee for Refugees (IGCR) functions consolidated into the International Refugee Organization (IRO). Indo-Pakistani partition leads to massive refugee flows.

1948 Israel is established as a Jewish homeland; first Arab/Israeli conflict produces hundreds of thousands of Palestinian refugees. Indian government bans discrimination against Untouchables. **April:** Organization of American States (OAS) Charter is adopted. **May:** Inter-American Charter of Social Guarantees is adopted. Inter-American Convention on the Granting of Political Rights to Women is adopted. American Declaration of the Rights and Duties of Man adopted by the ninth Pan-American Conference. **July:** Revised International Labour Organization (ILO) Night Work (Women) Convention is adopted. **December:** United Nations Relief for Palestinian Refugees (UNRPR) is established. Genocide Convention is adopted. Universal Declaration of Human Rights passed by United Nations General Assembly. Berlin blockade, crisis, and airlift lead to deepening of Cold War; refugees from Eastern Europe seek asylum in the West.

1949 Chinese refugees flee communist victory on mainland, establish the Republic of China on Taiwan. **May:** Council of Europe Statute is adopted. **July:** Revised International Labour Organization (ILO) Migration for Employment Convention is adopted. ILO Protection of Wages Convention is adopted. ILO Right to Organize and Collective Bargaining Convention is adopted. **August:** Geneva Red Cross Conventions Relative to the Treatment of Prisoners of War and to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War are adopted. **December:** Convention for the Suppression of the Traffic in Persons and of the Exploitation of the Prostitution of United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine (UNWRA) replaces United Nations Relief for Palestinian Refugees (UNRPR) to deal with Palestinian refugees.

1950 Korean War breaks out; United Nations intervenes. China occupies Tibet. United Nations Korean Reconstruction Agency is established as a temporary means of coordinating relief and reconstruction in war-torn Korea. **November:** European Convention on Human Rights is adopted, enters into force in 1953. **December:** United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) is established by the United Nations General Assembly.

1951 **January:** United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) commences operations, replacing International Refugee Organization (IRO). **June:** International Labour Organization (ILO) Equal Remuneration Convention is adopted. **July:** United Nations Convention

Relating to the Status of Refugees is adopted. **December:** Brussels Conference on Migration establishes the Provisional Intergovernmental Committee for the Movement of Migrants from Europe (PICMME).

1952 March: Protocol I of the European Convention on Human Rights is adopted. **June:** Revised International Labour Organization (ILO) Maternity Protection Convention is adopted. ILO Social Security Convention is concluded. **September:** Universal Copyright Convention (revised with protocols) is adopted. **November:** The Intergovernmental Committee for European Migration (ICEM) is established.

1953 United Nations General Assembly extends United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) mandate from three to five years. **October:** Protocol Amending the Slavery Convention of 1926 is adopted.

1954 United Nations General Assembly authorizes the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) to establish a Program of Permanent Solutions. One million Dien Bien Phu-era refugees resettled in Southeast Asia. Algerian civil war breaks out; over two million are uprooted prior to independence in 1962. **March:** Inter-American Conventions on Diplomatic and Territorial Asylum are adopted. **May:** United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict is adopted. **September:** Convention Relating to the Status of Stateless Persons is adopted.

1955 Civil war in Sudan leads to flight of thousands of refugees. United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) receives its first Nobel Peace Prize. **August:** Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners is adopted. **December:** Supplementary Convention on the Abolition of Slavery, the Slave Trade, and Institutions and Practices Similar to Slavery is adopted.

1956 Hungarian revolt begins, Soviet intervention and refugee flows occur; United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), Intergovernmental Committee for European Migration (ICEM), and International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) respond to humanitarian crisis.

1957 January: Convention on the Nationality of Married Women is adopted. **June:** International Labour Organization (ILO) Abolition of

Forced Labor Convention is adopted. **December:** European Agreement on Regulations Governing the Movement of Persons between Member States of the Council of Europe and the European Convention on Extradition are adopted.

1958 April: Convention on the High Seas is adopted. **June:** International Labour Organization (ILO) Discrimination Convention is adopted.

1959 Chinese invasion of Tibet precipitates refugee flows. Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR) is established. United Nations General Assembly authorizes United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) to assist Chinese refugees in Hong Kong. **November:** Declaration on the Rights of the Child is adopted. Victory of Fidel Castro forces in Cuba leads to refugee flows. Tutsi refugees flee from persecution in Rwanda.

1960 World Bank divided into three institutions—International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD), International Development Association (IDA), and International Finance Corporation (IFC)—and begins to focus more on long-term development in developing countries. **December:** United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) Convention against Discrimination in Education is adopted. Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples is adopted. Congo crisis precipitates Western intervention to protect foreign nationals, leads to refugee flows and substantial internal displacement; United Nations Operation in the Congo (ONUC) forces deployed by United Nations.

1961 Berlin Wall is constructed. Adolph Eichmann is tried by Israel for war crimes. Amnesty International is founded. War of independence leads to refugee flows into the Congo. Western governments establish the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) to enhance aid cooperation. The World Food Programme (WFP) is established by joint United Nations General Assembly and Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) resolutions; commences operations in 1963. **August:** Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness is adopted. **October:** European Social Charter is adopted.

1962 Year of crisis in flight of Chinese refugees to Hong Kong. **June:** International Labour Organization (ILO) Conventions on Social Policy

and on Equality of Treatment in Social Security are adopted. **November:** Convention on Consent to Marriage, Minimum Age for Marriage, and Registration of Marriages is adopted. **December:** United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) Declaration on Permanent Sovereignty over Natural Resources adopted.

1963 Martin Luther King Jr. delivers “I Have a Dream” speech. **May:** Protocols II, III, and IV of the European Convention on Human Rights are adopted. Organization of African Unity (OAU) is formed. **November:** Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination is adopted.

1964 U.S. Civil Rights Act is passed by Congress. **March:** United Nations Forces in Cyprus (UNFICYP) deployed to Cyprus to restore order and promote delivery of relief supplies. **April:** European Code on Social Security and Protocol are adopted. **July:** International Labour Organization (ILO) Employment Policy Convention is adopted. **October:** Cairo Declaration: Program for Peace and International Cooperation adopted.

1965 Indonesian crackdown on communists leads to many deaths. **November:** Inter-American Declaration on Racial Integration in the Americas adopted. **December:** International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination is adopted. Hutu refugees flee from persecution in Burundi.

1966 War for independence in Mozambique leads to refugee flows. **January:** Protocol V of the European Convention on Human Rights is approved. **November:** United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) Declaration on the Principles of International Cultural Cooperation is adopted. **December:** The International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights are adopted by the United Nations General Assembly. Biafran civil war in Nigeria leads to flight or displacement of millions and prolonged humanitarian crisis.

1967 Conference on the Legal, Economic, and Social Aspects of African Refugee Problems is held in Addis Ababa. Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) is formed. Tens of thousands of Eritrean refugees flee into Sudan from civil conflict in Ethiopia. **April:** European Convention on the Adoption of Children is adopted. **November:** Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination

against Women is adopted. **December:** Declaration on Territorial Asylum is issued.

1968 **May:** Proclamation of Teheran Human Rights Conference reaffirms principles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. **November:** Convention on the Nonapplicability of Statutory Limitations to War Crimes and Crimes against Humanity is adopted.

1969 United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA) is established. **May:** European Agreement Relating to Persons Participating in Proceedings of the European Commission and Court of Human Rights is adopted. **June:** International Labour Organization (ILO) Medical Care and Sickness Benefits Convention is adopted. **September:** Organization of African Unity (OAU) Convention Governing the Specific Aspects of Refugee Problems in Africa is adopted, incorporates a broader refugee definition. **November:** Inter-American Convention on Human Rights is adopted, enters into force in 1978. **December:** Declaration on Social Progress and Development is adopted.

1970 Lt. William L. Calley is court-martialed for My Lai massacre. The Moscow Human Rights Committee is founded, excites repression from Soviet government. **May:** European Convention on the Repatriation of Minors is adopted. **June:** International Labour Organization (ILO) Conventions on Minimum Wage Fixing and on Holidays with Pay are adopted. **October:** Declaration on the Occasion of the 25th Anniversary of the United Nations is adopted. **December:** Basic Principles for the Protection of Civilian Populations in Armed Conflicts is adopted. Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Seizure of Aircraft is adopted by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) at The Hague.

1971 United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) is established. United Nations Disaster Relief Organization (UNDRO) is established. Ten million Bengali refugees flee to India during the Indo-Pakistani War. **September:** Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Civil Aviation is adopted at Montreal.

1972 Ethnic violence in Burundi leads to refugee flows. Macias Nguema assumes presidency for life in Equatorial Guinea, commences a reign of terror until his overthrow in 1979. Sahelian drought brings famine emergency to Africa. **June:** Declaration of the United Nations

Conference on the Human Environment is proclaimed at Stockholm; United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) is established. **December:** European Convention on Social Security is adopted.

1973 Military takes over in Chile, Salvador Allende overthrown and killed. Military takes control of Uruguay; repression follows. **June:** International Labour Organization (ILO) Minimum Age Convention is adopted. **November:** International Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of Apartheid is adopted. **December:** Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of Crimes Against Internationally Protected Persons, Including Diplomatic Agents is adopted.

1974 Aleksander Solzhenitsyn is expelled from Soviet Union and has citizenship stripped. Cyprus dispute leads to displaced persons crisis; United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), Red Cross, World Food Programme (WFP), and UN peacekeeping forces respond with aid. Angolan civil war commences upon Portuguese withdrawal; refugee flows result, which last for two decades. **June:** International Labour Organization (ILO) Paid Educational Leave Convention is adopted. **November:** Universal Declaration on the Eradication of Hunger and Malnutrition is adopted. United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) Recommendation Concerning Education for International Understanding, Cooperation and Peace, and Education Relating to Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms is adopted. **December:** Declaration on the Protection of Women and Children in Emergency and Armed Conflict is adopted. World Food Council is created by the United Nations General Assembly.

1975 Repression by Indonesian government deepens in East Timor. Western Sahara dispute produces refugee flow into Algeria. Repression in Malawi produces refugees. Khmer Rouge takeover in Cambodia leads to egregious human rights abuses and policies of genocide. Soviet dissident Andrei Sakharov is awarded the Nobel Peace Prize. Indochinese boat people exodus begins. Rhodesian civil war leads to increase in violence and refugee flows. **June:** International Labour Organization (ILO) Conventions on Human Resources Development, Rural Workers' Organizations, and on Migrant Workers are adopted. **July:** Declaration of Mexico on the Equality of Women is proclaimed. **August:** Helsinki Accord: Final Act of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe is concluded. **October:** European Convention on Extradition

and the European Agreement on the Legal Status of Children Born Out of Wedlock are adopted. **December:** Declaration on the Protection of All Persons from Being Subjected to Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman, or Degrading Treatment or Punishment is adopted. Declaration on the Rights of Disabled Persons is adopted.

1976 Lebanese civil war begins; United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) entrusted with coordination of relief assistance. Military government of Argentina begins the “dirty war” against leftists; thousands killed. Soweto riots break out in South Africa. **June:** Vancouver Declaration on Human Settlements is proclaimed. **July:** Declaration of Abidjan calls for an end to apartheid, racial discrimination, colonialism, injustice, and inequality in Africa and the developing world. Asia’s deadliest earthquake kills more than 240,000 in China’s Tangshan Province; China’s communist government responds to disaster without international assistance. **November:** United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) Recommendations on the Development of Adult Education and Its Recommendation on Participation by the People at Large in Cultural Life are adopted.

1977 Shaba conflict in Zaïre precipitates flow of 200,000 refugees. Stephen Biko is murdered by his interrogators while in prison in South Africa. International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) is established. Amnesty International is awarded Nobel Peace Prize. Soviet Union cracks down on Helsinki Watch Group. Equatorial Guinea refugees flee into Gabon and Cameroon. **January:** European Convention on the Suppression of Terrorism is adopted. **June:** Geneva Conventions, Protocols I and II, are adopted, call for protection of victims of international armed conflicts and for victims of noninternational armed conflicts. International Labour Organization (ILO) Working Environment Convention is adopted. **August:** Lagos Declaration against Apartheid is adopted. **September:** Declaration on the Rights of Deaf-Blind Persons is adopted. **November:** European Convention on the Legal Status of Migrant Workers is adopted. **December:** International Declaration against Apartheid in Sports is adopted.

1978 **June:** International Labour Organization (ILO) Labor Relations Convention is adopted. **September:** United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) Declaration on Race and Racial Prejudice is adopted.

1979 Indochinese boat people crisis reaches its height. Repression and war in Nicaragua causes refugee flows into Honduras, Costa Rica, and Panama; Sandinista victory leads to flight of former government supporters. Civil war in El Salvador begins more than a decade of human rights abuses, forced migration, and displacement. Mariel boat lift of Cuban refugees leads to intensified flow of asylum seekers into the United States. Brutal regime of Idi Amin takes power in Uganda; Ugandan refugees flee into Zaïre and Sudan. Refugees flee from Ethiopia to Somalia. **May:** Arusha Conference convenes to discuss African refugee situation. **July:** International Conference on Refugees and Displaced Persons in Southeast Asia convenes. **December:** Soviet Union invades Afghanistan intensifying refugee flows into Pakistan and Iran; stiff, ultimately successful resistance to intervention commences. United Nations General Assembly adopts the Code of Conduct for Law Enforcement Officials. International Convention against the Taking of Hostages is adopted. Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women is adopted.

1980 Guatemalan government undertakes violent campaign against its indigenous Indian population. Solidarity Union leads strikes in Poland, demanding reforms. Chadian civil war leads to refugee flows. Lusaka Declaration establishes the Southern African Development Co-ordination Conference, later known as the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC). The International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (INSTRAW) is established. **May:** European Convention on the Custody of Children is adopted.

1981 United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) receives its second Nobel Peace Prize. **February:** Inter-American Convention on Extradition is adopted. **April:** First International Conference on Assistance to Refugees in Africa is held in Geneva. Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects is adopted with protocols. **June:** International Labour Organization (ILO) Conventions on Collective Bargaining, Occupation Safety and Health, and Workers with Family Responsibilities are adopted. African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights is adopted. **November:** Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and of Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief is

adopted. **December:** United Nations Declarations on the Inadmissibility of Intervention and Interference in the Internal Affairs of States, and on Prevention of Nuclear Catastrophe are adopted.

1982 Hundreds of Palestinian civilians are killed in raids on refugee camps in West Beirut. Civil war, human rights abuses in Guatemala lead to refugee flows. Canada adopts a new Constitution and Charter of Rights. **January:** European Recommendation Concerning International Cooperation in the Prosecution and Punishment of Terrorism is adopted. **April:** European Declaration on Freedom of Expression and Information. **December:** Declaration on the Participation of Women in Promoting International Peace and Cooperation.

1983 Klaus Barbie faces charges for Nazi war crimes in France. **April:** Protocol VI of the European Convention on Human Rights is adopted. **August:** Declaration of the Second World Conference to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination is adopted. **September:** Geneva Declaration on Palestine is proclaimed.

1984 Drought and famine spread through much of Africa; United Nations creates the Office for Emergency Operations in Africa to coordinate international assistance. **May:** Convention on International Civil Aircraft is adopted. Inter-American Convention on Conflict of Laws Concerning the Adoption of Minors is adopted. Safeguards Guaranteeing the Protection of the Rights of Those Facing the Death Penalty is adopted. **June:** United Nations General Assembly and Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women are adopted. **November:** Declaration on the Right of Peoples to Peace is adopted. Protocol VII of the European Convention on Human Rights is adopted. **December:** Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman, or Degrading Treatment or Punishment is adopted. Declaration on the Control of Drug Trafficking and Drug Abuse is adopted.

1985 Argentine government leaders are convicted of human rights abuses. Mikhail Gorbachev initiates glasnost (openness) policy in Soviet Union. Civil war in southern Sudan recurs; refugees flee to Ethiopia. Civil conflict in Sri Lanka causes significant refugee flows. Mozambique's civil war intensifies; refugee flows commence. Civil war and famine in Ethiopia precipitate massive refugee and displaced

person flows; Ethiopian resettlement of displaced persons attracts international criticism. **March:** Protocol VIII of the European Convention on Human Rights is adopted. **July:** Live Aid concert is organized by Bob Geldof and Midge Ure and held at Wembley Stadium in London, JFK Stadium in Philadelphia, with other performances in Sydney, Australia, and in Moscow, connected by satellite link-ups and TV broadcasts, in an unprecedented humanitarian aid fundraiser that attracted 1.5 billion viewers in 100 countries, raising about \$250 million in famine relief. **November:** Declaration of Basic Principles for Victims of Crime and Abuse of Power is adopted. **December:** Inter-American Convention to Prevent and Punish Torture is adopted. International Convention against Apartheid in Sports is adopted. Declaration on the Human Rights of Individuals Who Are Not Nationals of the Country in Which They Live is adopted.

1986 Muslim anti-Russian sentiment leads to riots in Kazakhstan. **December:** Declaration on the Right to Development is adopted.

1987 Jean-Bedel Bokassa, former ruler of the Central African Republic, convicted of human rights abuses. Palestinian *intifada* (uprising) begins in Israeli-occupied territories. **June:** European Convention for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment is adopted. **November:** European Social Charter Protocol is approved.

1988 Fifty thousand Kurdish refugees flee into Iran, escaping Iraqi military actions and use of poison gas. U.S. Congress apologizes to Japanese World War II internees; pays compensation to survivors. Civil war deepens in southern Sudan, tens of thousands starve. **March:** Khartoum Declaration is adopted by the International Conference on the Human Dimension of Africa's Economic Recovery and Development. **August:** Southern Africa Refugees, Returnees, and Displaced Persons Conference (SARRED) is held in Oslo. **November:** American Convention on Human Rights, Additional Protocol with Regard to Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights is adopted. **December:** Body of Principles for the Protection of All Persons under Any Form of Detention or Imprisonment is adopted. Armenian earthquake levels cities, killing tens of thousands and leaving half a million people homeless; United Nations estimates damage at about \$14 million, as international aid workers respond.

1989 Mass demonstrations held in Tienanmen Square, Chinese government eventually calls on military to suppress them. Kenyan government represses dissent. Berlin Wall is torn down as Germany moves toward reunification. **April:** United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) operation paves way for repatriation of Namibian refugees and movement toward Namibian independence. **May:** International Conference on Central American Refugees is held in Guatemala to discuss development impacts of refugees and displaced persons. **June:** International Labour Organization (ILO) Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention is adopted. **August:** Tallinn Guidelines for Action on Human Resources Development in the Field of Disability are adopted. **November:** International Convention on the Rights of the Child is adopted by the United Nations General Assembly. United Nations Security Council authorizes deployment of force to provide security in Central America and to demobilize and repatriate Contras. **December:** Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, Aiming at Abolition of the Death Penalty is adopted.

1990 Refugee flows from East Germany help to precipitate fall of communism in Europe and the reunification of Germany. Liberian civil war leads to humanitarian emergency; West African states intervene as refugees flee to neighboring states. Nelson Mandela is freed from prison in South Africa, heralding political reforms. **June:** Major earthquake devastates two provinces in northwestern Iran, killing 40,000, injuring 60,000, and leaving more than 105,000 families homeless; large amounts of international aid were made and international disaster teams fielded, but the Iranian government orders the departure of foreign disaster workers after a week. **August:** Persian Gulf Crisis erupts as Iraq invades Kuwait, displaces millions, and later provokes United Nations to authorize use of force to restore Kuwaiti independence. **September:** World Summit for Children is held in New York, adopts the World Declaration on the Survival, Protection, and Development of Children and a Plan of Action. **December:** United Nations General Assembly unanimously adopts the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families.

1991 Somali civil war leads to downfall of Siad Barre government; hundreds of thousands of Somali refugees flee insecurity and famine

during the next two years. Iraq evicted from Kuwait by United Nations Coalition; International Community steps in to avert Kurdish refugee crisis; Operation Provide Comfort is initiated by United States, United Kingdom, and France; no-fly zones are established to encourage Kurdish repatriation. **July:** United Nations Observer Mission in El Salvador (ONUSAL) begins. **October:** United Nations Advance Mission in Cambodia (UNAMIC) is authorized to prepare Cambodia for successful repatriation and elections.

1992 Dismemberment of Yugoslavia leads to massive refugee flows; United Nations (UN) humanitarian intervention is prompted with United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) taking lead. **February:** United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR) authorized by United Nations Security Council to protect humanitarian relief to needy and displaced in the Balkans. **March:** UN replaces United Nations Advance Mission in Cambodia (UNAMIC) with United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) peacekeeping force to ensure transition to democratic rule in Cambodia. **April:** United Nations Security Council authorizes deployment of United Nations Operation in Somalia (UNOSOM) forces to bring security to emergency relief operations in Somalia; Somali famine worsens. UN establishes the Department of Humanitarian Affairs with aim to improve coordination of UN disaster and humanitarian agencies. **June:** United Nations Conference on Environment and Development is held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, adopts Rio Declaration on Environment and Development and Agenda 21. **October:** United Nations Security Council establishes Commission of Experts to examine serious violations of international humanitarian law in the territories of the former Yugoslavia. **December:** United States undertakes Operation Restore Hope in Somalia with UN authorization to reestablish security for delivery of emergency famine aid. United Nations Operation in Mozambique (ONUMOZ) is authorized by United Nations Security Council to oversee peace agreements in Mozambique and ensure security for relief supplies.

1993 Fighting in former Soviet Central Asia prompts international relief work in Armenia, Azerbaijan, Tadjikistan, and Georgia. **January:** Fighting in Togo prompts the flight of 230,000 refugees into neighboring states. **April:** Second United Nations Operation in Somalia (UNOSOM II) takes over in Somalia from U.S.-led operation.

May: United Nations Security Council establishes the International Criminal Tribunal for Yugoslavia. **June:** World Conference on Human Rights is held in Vienna, adopts the Vienna Declaration and Program of Action for Human Rights. **August:** Oslo Accords signed, signaling willingness of Israel and the Palestinian leadership to explore end to violence at the heart of the Middle East conflict. **September:** Successfully completing its mission in Cambodia following election of a democratic government in May, the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) operation is terminated. **December:** United Nations General Assembly creates the new position of United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (UNHCHR). United Nations General Assembly adopts the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women.

1994 Death of Rwandan president sets off months of ethnic violence in Rwanda; Tutsi population decimated by Hutu government policy; Rwandese Patriotic Front, dominated by Tutsi forces, defeats Hutu government, precipitating massive refugee flows into neighboring countries. **May:** World Conference on Natural Disaster Reduction is held in Yokohama, Japan. **July:** United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) spearheads massive emergency response to head off humanitarian disaster in Rwanda; assistance activities continue throughout the year. United Nations Security Council authorizes the use of “all necessary means” to secure removal of the military government of Haiti. **September:** Restoration of democracy in Haiti, human rights monitoring begins under U.S. military supervision, which paves way for eventual transfer to United Nations Mission in Haiti. International Conference on Population and Development is held in Cairo, Egypt. United Nations General Assembly establishes United Nations Human Rights Verification Mission in Guatemala. **October:** Mozambique holds first successful democratic election. **November:** United Nations Trusteeship Council is terminated, having successfully overseen granting of independence to all 11 trust territories; UN Security Council establishes the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda. Taliban forces emerge as a factor in Afghanistan civil war. **December:** United Nations Operation in Mozambique (ONUMOZ) mandate is terminated after successful implementation of security, humanitarian aid, and elections in Mozambique; United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) completes withdrawal from Cambodia ending one of

the United Nations's most ambitious and successful multidimensional peace-building operations.

1995 February: Civil war in Chechnya deepens, leading to refugee flows, humanitarian emergency as United Nations Human Rights Commission calls for a cease-fire. **March:** World Summit for Social Development is held in Copenhagen, Denmark. Second United Nations Operation in Somalia (UNOSOM II) forces leave Somalia after failed effort to resolve civil war. **April:** United Nations Observer Mission in El Salvador (ONUSAL) forces leave El Salvador on successful completion of elections. **September:** Fourth World Conference on Women is held in Beijing. **October:** International Conference on Families meets in New York. **November:** World Ministerial Conference on Organized Transnational Crime meets in Naples. Dayton Accords are signed by warring parties in Bosnia, paving the way for deployment of international peacekeeping forces and cessation of human rights abuses.

1996 March: United Nations Department of Humanitarian Affairs (DHA) launches major appeal to provide humanitarian aid to Bosnia in wake of the Dayton Accords. **July:** Rwandan refugees in Burundi begin returning to Rwanda. **August:** Liberian factions agree to peace plan and elections. **September:** Taliban forces in Afghanistan capture Kabul and Jalalabad, provoking flight from cities; begin consolidating power in a five-year reign that involves substantial human rights abuse. **October:** Rebellion in the eastern parts of the Congo leads to reduction of refugee camps, flight and repatriation of Hutu refugees, and to the eventual overthrow of President Mobutu Sese Seko. **November:** Humanitarian situation in eastern Zaire deteriorates. World Food Conference meets in Rome. **December:** United Nations Security Council approves controversial oil-for-food program to meet humanitarian needs in Iraq. Military coup deepens humanitarian crisis in Sierra Leone.

1997 United Nations Security Council deploys the United Nations Verification Mission in Guatemala to supervise the peace agreement reached between the government and its opposition, to disarm and demobilize combatants. **March:** Hutu refugees in the Congo flee into jungle, fearing forced repatriation to Rwanda; United Nations (UN) bodies intensify effort to rescue and assist them. **May:** Military coup in Sierra Leone overthrows elected government. **June:** Civil war in Tajikistan

comes to an end with peace accord. **September:** Liberia holds successful elections, bringing to a temporary close its civil war; UN forces are withdrawn. **August:** Security Council condemns National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA) forces in Angola and invokes sanctions against the rebel group as the humanitarian situation there deteriorates. **October:** International Conference on Child Labor meets in Oslo. **December:** United Nations General Assembly adopts the International Convention for the Suppression of Terrorist Bombings.

1998 United Nations Department of Humanitarian Affairs (DHA) is replaced by newly established United Nations Office for Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA), as part of reorganization of the United Nations Secretariat. Famine intensifies in North Korea, leading to international appeal to avert widespread starvation. **February:** Newly formed UNOCHA issues humanitarian aid appeals for Sierra Leone and Sudan. **April:** A Draft Statute for the International Criminal Court is produced by the United Nations Preparatory Committee. **June:** United Nations General Assembly Special Session on Countering the World Drug Problem convenes. **July:** Security Council authorizes deployment of the United Nations Observer Mission in Sierra Leone; United Nations Diplomatic Conference in Rome establishes the International Criminal Court. **August:** Resistance to new Laurent Kabila government in the Democratic Republic of the Congo intensifies as rebels capture Goma. **September:** Human rights violations and civil war in Kosovo provoke Security Council decision to demand a cease-fire, but conflict persists. International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda issues first judgment by an international court concerning punishment of the crime of genocide. **December:** United Nations Security Council expresses grave concern about violations of human rights in Afghanistan, authorizing the establishment of a civil affairs unit to promote respect for human rights.

1999 **January:** Operation Life Line Sudan appeals for nearly half a billion dollars in emergency aid to combat worsening situation in Sudan. **February:** United Nations (UN) forces permanently pull out of Angola as it continues to be embroiled in civil war with widespread human rights abuses and humanitarian assistance needs. **March:** Ottawa Treaty on Prohibition of Land Mines enters into force. North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) begins bombing of Serbia, precipitating a new