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## THE WEEK IN RIGHTS

May 23, 2013

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## Moved to Make Way for Coal Mining in Mozambique



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Mozambique is one of the world's poorest countries, but its estimated 23 billion tons of coal could help lift it out of poverty.

Mozambique's government has been handing out mining licenses too quickly, though. Neither the government nor mining companies – like Australia's Rio Tinto or Brazil's Vale – have done enough to protect the communities uprooted for mining projects.

Before many of the 1,429 families in coal-rich Tete province were resettled, they supported themselves by growing staples like maize and sorghum. The families were given new farming plots, but the land is dry and dusty, and they struggle to grow enough food to eat. Many now depend on the mining companies for food assistance.

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## [In the US, Prosecuting Migrants is Hurting Families](#)

The US government is turning migrants into criminals by prosecuting many who could just be deported. Many of these migrants aren't threats to public safety, but people trying to be with their families.

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## [China Should End Violence Against Sex Workers](#)

In China, the police often act as if by engaging in sex work, women had forfeited their rights. The government must abandon its repressive laws against sex workers, discipline abusive police, and end the suppression of sex workers rights advocates.

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## [In Syria, Visit Reveals Torture Chambers](#)

The documents, prison cells, interrogation rooms, and torture devices we saw in the government's security facilities are consistent with the torture former detainees have described to us since the beginning of the uprising in Syria.

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