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**Onderwerp:** Witness: The "Innocent" Human Trafficker

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## THE WEEK IN RIGHTS

May 29, 2014

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### Witness: The "Innocent" Human Trafficker



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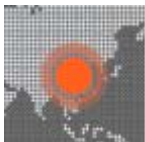
Most Yemenis were at home taking their afternoon siesta when Belkis Wille, Human Rights Watch's Yemen researcher, walked into the shop in Haradh for the meeting she had arranged with Nadim. The shop owner, a friend of Nadim's, took her to the back office to wait. The heat in the dusty desert town was stifling, and the shop was hardly better – Haradh had almost no electricity, and air conditioning wasn't an option. Shortly after Belkis arrived, a round man in his 40s walked through the door. He stood with his back to her, shifting his weight from one foot to the other. He seemed nervous, glancing frequently around the room.

Nadim (not his real name) had reason for both the jangled nerves and the caution. His line of business – human trafficking – meant that meeting with Belkis put him in peril.

"This could cost me my life," he said. "If the other traffickers find out that I am talking to you, they will kill me."

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## [In Thailand, Rights in 'Free Fall' After Coup](#)

Military rule has thrown Thailand's rights situation into a free fall. The army is using draconian martial law powers to detain politicians, activists, and journalists, to censor media, and to ban all public gatherings. This rolling crackdown needs to come to an end immediately.

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## [Rights at Risk in Spain Due to Housing Crisis](#)

The dream of owning one's own home has turned into a nightmare of foreclosures, evictions, and over-indebtedness. But it's not simply a question of crushed aspirations. It's about government responsibilities to guarantee basic human rights, including the right to adequate housing.

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## [Iraq's Government Attacking a Fallujah Hospital](#)

The government has been firing wildly into Fallujah's residential neighborhoods for more than four months, and ramped up its attacks in May. This reckless disregard for civilians is deadly for people caught between government forces and opposition groups.

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### PHOTOS



Boko Haram attacks, security force abuses, and spiraling violence in Nigeria (Published October 10, 2012).

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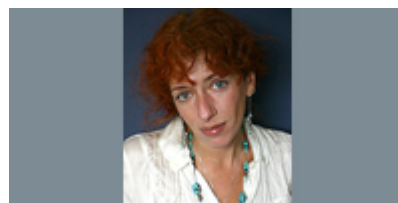
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### TWEET OF THE WEEK



Colleague and I @HRW just back from #Ukraine having documented abuses in southeast, as it was sliding into chaos:  
<http://t.co/V67QUDWhAI>

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