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## THE WEEK IN RIGHTS

July 24, 2014

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# ISIS Abducting, Killing, Expelling Iraq's Minorities



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The Islamic State of Iraq and Sham (ISIS) is killing, kidnapping, and threatening religious and ethnic minorities in and around the northern Iraqi city of Mosul. Since capturing Mosul on June 10, 2014, the armed Sunni extremist group has seized at least 200 Turkmen, Shabaks, and Yazidis, killed at least 11 of them, and ordered all Christians to convert to Islam, pay "tribute" money, or leave Mosul.

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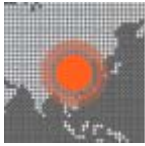
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## Iraqi Government Airstrikes Kill Civilians

Iraq's security forces have killed at least 75 civilians and wounded hundreds of others in indiscriminate air strikes on five cities since June 6. Aerial attacks hit areas surrounding mosques, government buildings, hospitals, and power and water stations.

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### [Thailand's First Two Months Under Military Rule](#)

Two months of military rule in Thailand has brought alarming setbacks in respect for basic human rights. While the military junta claims it's returning "happiness" to the nation, the junta is actually enforcing a regime of forced smiles by prohibiting criticism, imposing aggressive censorship, and arbitrarily putting hundreds in detention.

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### [Central African Republic: No Amnesty for Serious Crimes](#)

Mediators and participants at the Brazzaville forum to discuss the Central African Republic crisis should reject any calls for an amnesty for serious human rights crimes. Amnesty is often the first demand from leaders who have blood on their hands. Mediators need to make clear that lasting peace cannot be achieved without justice and that no one is above the law.

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### [Airstrike Deaths in Gaza Raise Concerns on Ground Offensive](#)

After Israeli missiles killed boys on a beach and repeatedly struck a well-marked hospital, one can only be gravely concerned for the safety of civilians caught up in the ground offensive. Israel needs to do more than try to explain away unlawful attacks – it needs to stop them.

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### [In the US, Terrorism Prosecutions Often An Illusion](#)

The US Justice Department and the Federal Bureau of Investigation have targeted American Muslims in abusive counterterrorism "sting operations" based on religious and ethnic identity. Take a closer look and you'll realize that many of these people would never have committed a crime if not for law enforcement encouraging, pressuring, and sometimes paying them to commit terrorist acts.

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