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## THE WEEK IN RIGHTS

August 14, 2014

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## Interview: The Unraveling of South Sudan



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It's still not clear exactly what happened on December 15 in the Juba barracks of South Sudan's presidential guard. The government claimed it was an attempted coup, but has struggled to provide any evidence. Others say soldiers loyal to President Salva Kiir Mayardit, a Dinka, disarmed soldiers loyal to the former vice president, Riek Machar, a Nuer. What we do know is that the presidential forces split – broadly down the lines of Dinka and Nuer, South Sudan's two largest ethnic groups.

They fought furiously, plunging Juba, the capital, into violence. The conflict spread like wildfire, and two weeks later much of the eastern part of the country had unraveled into deadly fighting. Thousands of civilians have been killed, often because of their ethnicity, and an estimated 1.5 million have been displaced. Now, South Sudan faces a new imminent threat – famine. Researcher Skye Wheeler speaks about her new report, how alleged war crimes have contributed to this humanitarian disaster, and how the lack of justice after South Sudan's recent civil war brought us to where we are today.

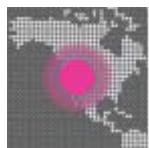


## [In Egypt, Rab'a Killings Likely Crimes against Humanity](#)

The systematic and widespread killing of at least 1,150 demonstrators by Egyptian security forces in July and August 2013 probably amounts to crimes against humanity. In Rab'a Square, Egyptian security forces carried out one of the world's largest killings of demonstrators in a single day in recent history. This wasn't merely a case of excessive force or poor training. It was a violent crackdown planned at the highest levels of the Egyptian government.

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## [Dispatches: Tracking US Police Brutality](#)

By Alba Morales

Over the past month in the United States, police officers have killed three unarmed black men in circumstances that raise serious human rights concerns. The latest killing happened on August 9, when police in Ferguson, Missouri, shot and killed Michael Brown, an 18-year-old due to start college two days later. Police allege that Brown assaulted an officer, but witnesses say he was 35 feet away from the police car when he was shot. The US Federal Bureau of Investigation has opened an investigation into the shooting as a possible violation of federal civil rights laws.

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## [Cambodia: Khmer Rouge Convictions 'Too Little, Too Late'](#)

The convictions of Nuon Chea and Khieu Samphan – two former Khmer Rouge leaders – are too little and too late to save the Khmer Rouge tribunal from being regarded as a failure. The goal of justice for Khmer Rouge victims has been irrevocably tarnished by Prime Minister Hun Sen's political interference, the failure to bring more cases, long delays, and pervasive corruption.

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### VIDEO



### INTERACTIVE MAP



### TWEET of the WEEK



**Mass killings** by Egypt's security forces one year ago, during then-

**Stages of a Massacre:** Interactive map of Egypt's Rab'a Square. [View now >>](#)

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deadly force. <http://www.hrw.org/the-day-in-human-rights> ... #Ferguson

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