

SESSION 3

PLANNING & PREPARATION

International Protocol on Documenting Violations of Religious Freedom

RELIGIOUS FREEDOM INSTITUTE



THIS SESSION

1. Essentials steps of documentation
2. Basics of preparing to document
3. Harnessing technology
4. Going through the DP: Preparing a documentation plan, implementing an adequate system to record documentation steps, implementing an adequate system to record and preserve information collected, assessing and implement an adequate system for safety and security for everyone involved
5. Exercise in creating a documentation plan

The Documentation Protocol is designed for collecting material that *could be* used for legal proceedings. It is very demanding.

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HOW STRICTLY DO YOU NEED TO BE FOLLOWING THE PROTOCOL?

- Ethical obligations
- Legal standards and obligations
- Credibility
- Reliability
- Professionalism
- Methodology
- Due diligence
- Conflicts of interest
- Objectivity
- Fair
- Balanced
- Non-partisan

**REMEMBER OUR PREVIOUS
SESSION: KEY PRINCIPLES**

**RISK ASSESSMENTS NEED TO BE
ONGOING, NOT A ONE-OFF**

Four essential steps in documentation

1. Implementing an adequate system to record documentation steps
2. Implementing an adequate system to record and preserve information collected.
3. Preparing a documentation plan
4. Assessing and implement an adequate system for safety and security for everyone involved

PRELIMINARY CONSIDERATIONS



IS WHAT YOU WANT TO DO LAWFUL IN YOUR COUNTRY?

WHAT CAN YOU DO TO PREPARE FOR ANY CHALLENGES
TO YOUR DOCUMENTATION WORK?

DON'T THINK IN TERMS OF WHAT *YOU* WANT TO DO BUT ABOUT WHETHER YOU ARE BEING HELPFUL

Too many NGOs asking the same people the same questions about the same incidents can damage efforts to bring justice, and cause harm to the individuals concerned.

Map out similar initiatives by other individuals or organisations operating in the same environment.

Build relationships with these other individuals and organisations and coordinate activities with them.

Assess what information has already been collected by others and focus your activities.

STEPS TO PREPARE FOR DOCUMENTATION

Does your organisation have the
right skills and technical expertise for
this task?

Free courses at Advocacy Assembly: <https://advocacyassembly.org/en/courses?count=24>



Advocacy 40 mins

Human Rights in Practice: The Right to Freedom of Religion or Belief

CUNY BROOKLYN COLLEGE

ENROLL

Watch on

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Abstract: This course will provide human rights defenders with a working knowledge of the norms and standards that make up the right to Freedom of Religion or Belief (FoRB) under international human rights law.

About this course: International law guarantees the right to freedom of thought, conscience, and religion or belief (FoRB). Because it forms part of customary international law, the duty to promote and protect FoRB is binding on all states, regardless of whether they have signed international human rights treaties or not. But what is FoRB exactly? What does it protect? When may a state legally restrict it? In this course, several international experts will unpack the contents of this right. You will become acquainted with the UN mechanisms that monitor and report how much this right is respected, protected, and enjoyed worldwide.

What do I learn: This introductory course is designed to familiarise civil society actors with the international human rights standards relating to the right to freedom of religion or belief and the mechanisms that oversee their implementation.

COURSE INDEX

- 1. Introduction to the course
- 2. International Human Rights Law 101
- 3. Manifestation and Registration
- 4. FoRB and Religious Education
- 5. FoRB and National Security
- 6. Freedom of Religion or Belief and Other Rights
- 7. FoRB and Non-Discrimination (Religious Minorities)
- 8. FoRB & Non-discrimination Gender Equality
- 9. Mechanisms of oversight



Advocacy

Open source investigations for human rights: Part 2

October 5, 2020

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL



Advocacy

Open source investigations for human rights: Part 1

September 29, 2020

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL



Advocacy

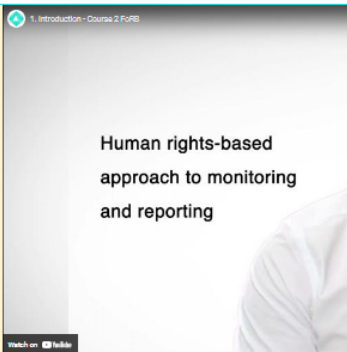
Researching human rights law for advocacy

August 8, 2019



Advocacy

Making an impact with the Universal Periodic Review



Advocacy 40 mins

Human Rights Monitoring, Reporting and Advocacy

CUNY BROOKLYN COLLEGE

ENROLL

Watch on

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Abstract: This course builds on the Human Rights in Practice – The Right to Freedom of Religion or Belief course. This course will provide human rights defenders with a working knowledge of human rights monitoring, reporting and advocacy as these relate to the right to freedom of religion or belief (FoRB).

About this course: The course unpacks core principles and practicalities of undertaking effective reporting, monitoring and advocacy for the right to freedom of thought, conscience, and religion or belief (FoRB). To this end, the course first delves more generally into human rights-based reporting and monitoring, ensuring a *do no harm* approach and the criticality of verification. The security of gathering information – both physical and, increasingly, digital – is explored before diving into the role of indicators for evidence-based reporting.

What do I learn: We designed this introductory course to familiarise civil society actors with the basics of undertaking human rights monitoring, reporting and advocacy for FoRB.

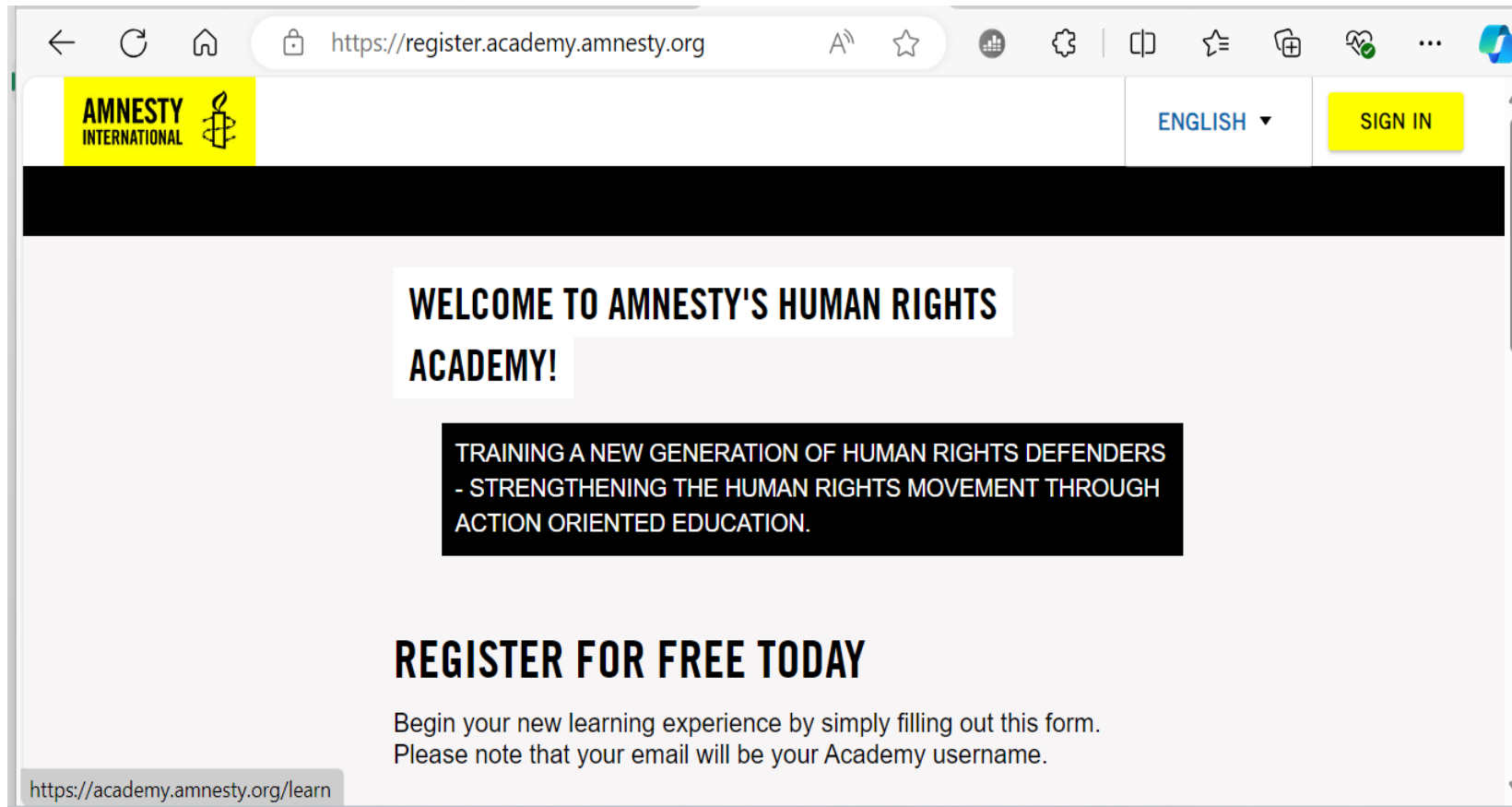
What do I need to know: As an introductory course, deep subject matter knowledge is not assumed at all. However, we

COURSE INDEX

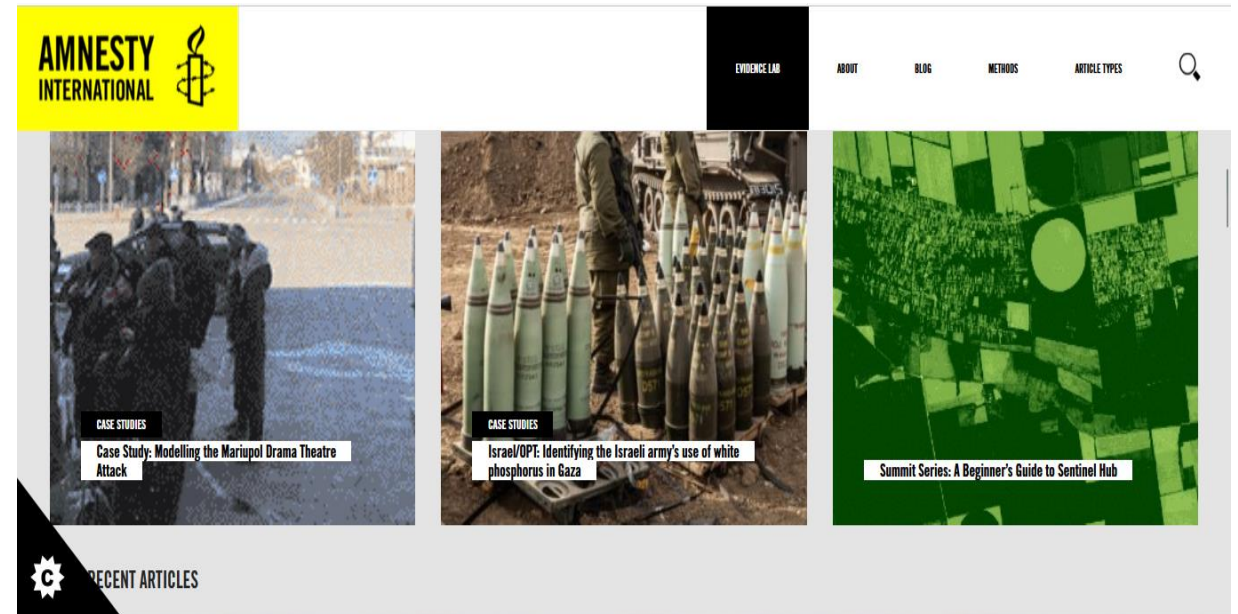
- 1. Introduction to the course
- 2. Human Rights-Based Approach to Reporting and Monitoring
- 3. Human Rights Based Approach to reporting and monitoring: Do No Harm Principle
- 4. Verification
- 5. Digital and Physical Security
- 6. Evidence Based Reporting
- 7. Mechanisms of Oversight
- 8. Writing for International Law Contexts
- 9. Structuring and Executing a Report

Free online courses at Amnesty International:

[https://www.amnesty.org/en/get-involved/online-courses/-
Amnesty International](https://www.amnesty.org/en/get-involved/online-courses/-Amnesty International)



Free courses at Amnesty International's Citizen Evidence Lab: <https://citizenevidence.org/>:



E Learning at the UN Office for Drugs and Crime:

<https://www.unodc.org/elearning/en/courses/course-catalogue.html>

عربي 中文 **English** Français Русский Español



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Public Courses

The UNODC global eLearning platform offers a number of self-paced online modules that are open to the public and free of charge. Anyone can access these modules after self-registering on the eLearning platform. Unless otherwise stated, a certificate will be issued upon the successful completion of a post-test.

otherwise stated, a certificate will be issued upon the successful completion of a post-test.



The Nelson Mandela Rules

This course contains seven self-paced modules that will assist the user in understanding and applying the Nelson Mandela Rules as the universally acknowledge minimum standard for the management of prisons and the treatment of prisoners. It consists of an introduction, five substantive modules as well as a final assessment. Each substantive module consists of a theoretical and a practical part, the latter exposing the user to concrete prison management scenarios. Resource sections throughout the course provide references to more in-depth technical guidance material. The course has been primarily designed as a practical training tool for prison officers and other officials working in prisons. It will be equally relevant for prison monitoring and inspection bodies and other (non-)governmental entities promoting prison reform in the line with international standards and norms..

Available in: [English](#), [Arabic](#), [Bangla](#), [French](#), [German](#), [Indonesian](#), [Kazakh](#), [Malay](#), [Portuguese](#), [Russian](#), [Spanish](#), [Thai](#), [Vietnamese](#)

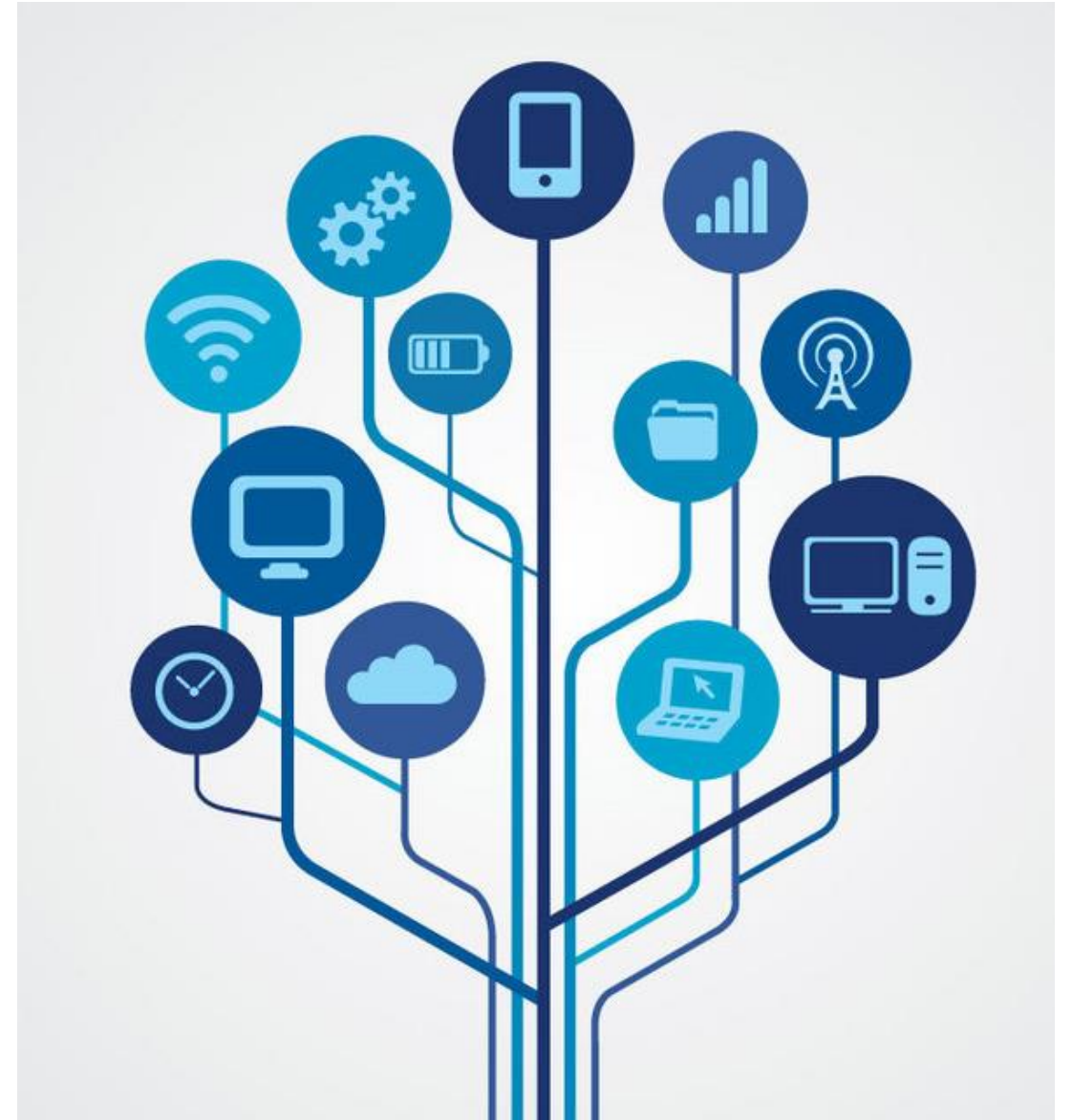
Duration: 30 min. each



Organized Crime

This self-paced module focuses on understanding organized crime, organized criminal groups and provisions of UN convention on organized crime. It also focuses on the social and criminal justice

**HARNESS THE
BENEFITS OF
TECHNOLOGY!**



Do you need a database?



Microsoft 365

Products ▾

Plans and pricing

More ▾

All Microsoft ▾



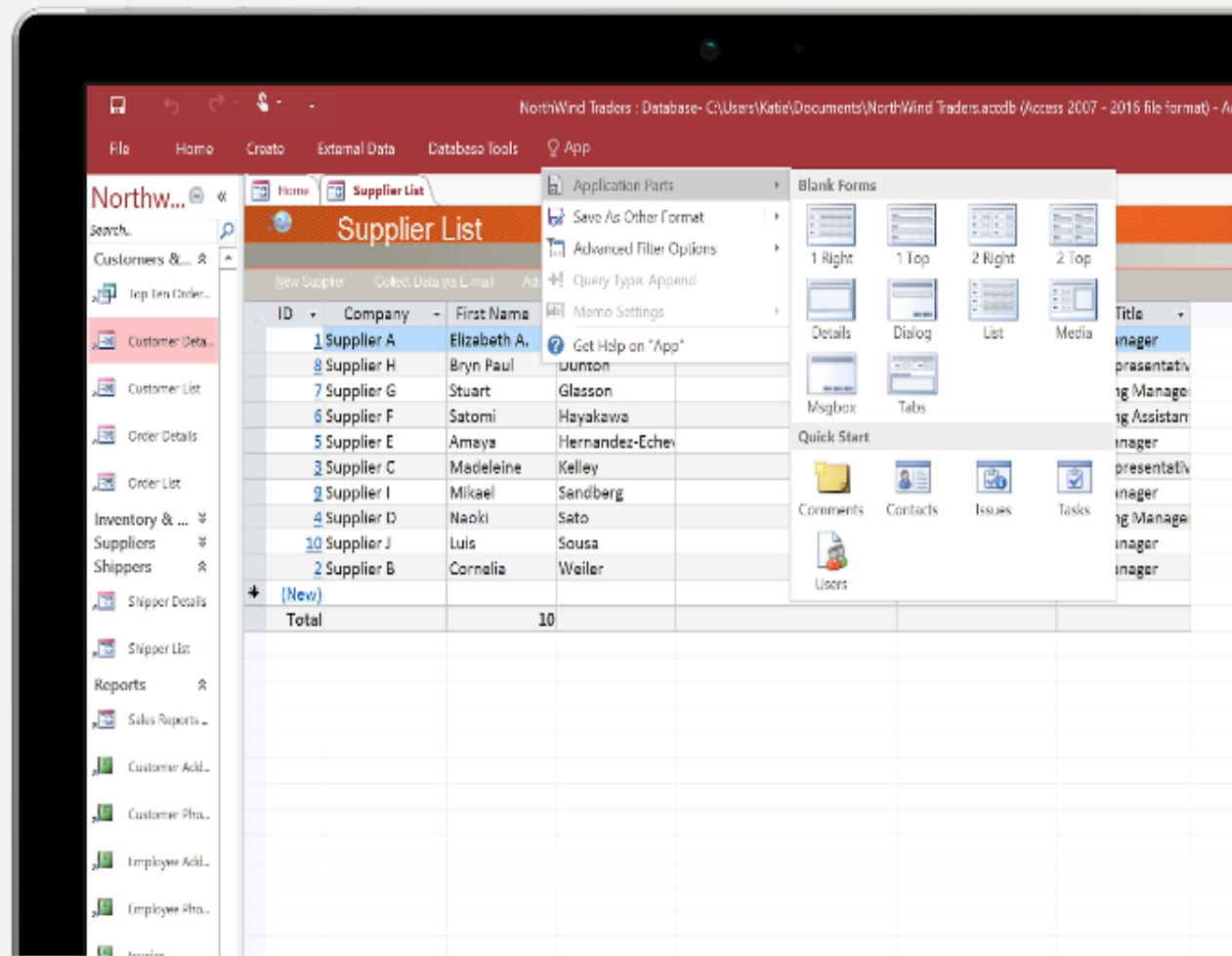
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Human rights defenders can use Uwazi for:

- Preserving and archiving evidence of ongoing human rights violations
- Managing cases for strategic human rights litigation
- Tracking complaints made to human rights institutions and advocacy organisations
- Compiling libraries of human rights laws, recommendations and court decisions
- Monitoring a human rights situation for the purposes of reporting
- Assessing progress around the implementation of human rights-related policies
- Building collective memories that support transitional justice and reconciliation
- Cataloguing a collection of campaign or advocacy materials



https://uwazi.io/en/entity/606aeg8sukt

Import bookmarks... Getting Started Ministry Hub

UWAZI

SHOWCASE

Footprints

With support from HURIDOCs, TJWG and its partners have launched an open archive of arbitrary detention, abduction and enforced disappearance cases since the 1950s.

Visit website > Read more >

https://nkfootprints.info

Import bookmarks... Getting Started Ministry Hub

FOOTPRINTS

FOOTPRINTS

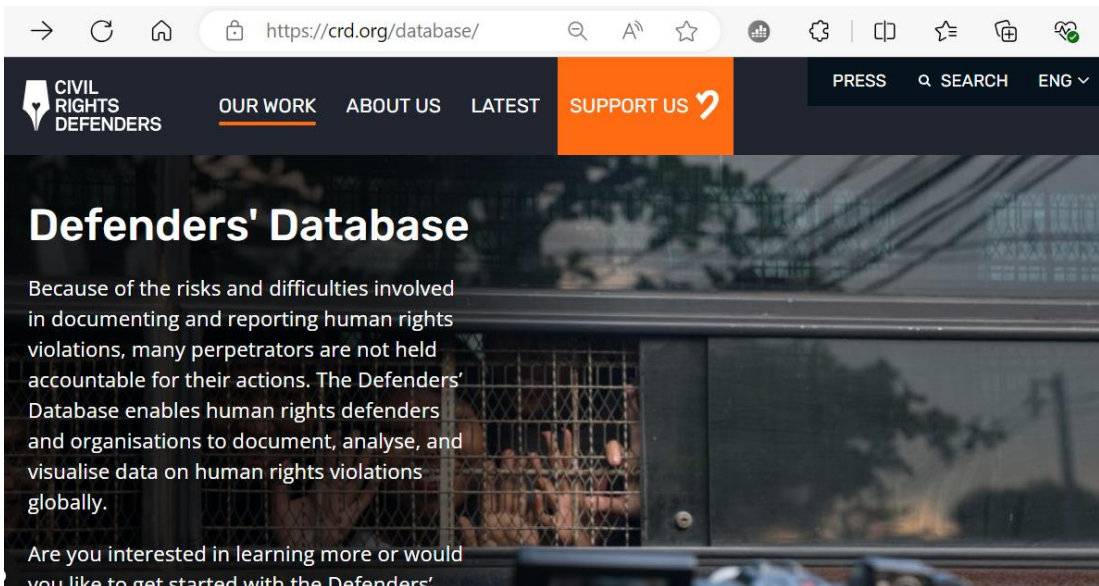
Database of those taken by North Korea

Search detention/abduction/disappearance cases

14°C Mostly sunny

Search

ENG UK 15:36 21/10/2024



Human rights violations happen every day, across the world. Because of the risks and difficulties involved in documenting and reporting violations, many perpetrators are not held accountable for their actions. We are changing this. With the help of Civil Rights Defenders' user-friendly tool, the Defenders' Database, human rights defenders and organisations can document, analyse, and visualise data on human rights violations globally.

COLLECT

Using forms based on international human rights standards, the database helps you assess what information you need to collect when documenting a human rights violation. This may include photos, audio recordings, testimonies, tips, or interviews. The forms can be adapted to your specific context and situation.



ORGANISE

Categorise and label your information in order to monitor developments and easily find exactly what you need, when you need it. All data is safely stored, encrypted, and backed up daily.

HOW IT WORKS

ANALYSE

By filtering and searching for information, you can identify connections and vulnerabilities in certain areas, or follow events linked to specific individuals or cases. Anonymised graphs and tables quickly give you an overview of trends and help you draw the right conclusions.



PRESENT

To efficiently present your data, the tool offers a variety of options – including sharing anonymised statistics online, downloading graphs and tables as images or documents, and exporting statistical reports.



https://syrianarchive.org



SYRIAN ARCHIVE

INVESTIGATIONS

THE ARCHIVE

ABOUT

DONATE NOW

عربي



COLLECT



PRESERVE



PROCESS



VERIFY



INVESTIGATE

5,024 Sources

3,578,591 Videos

650,000 Videos

8,249 Videos

2,069 Incidents

Utilise the technology
that is available

eyeWitness to Atrocities

Our vision is simple: a world where perpetrators of the worst international crimes are held accountable. We achieve this through the power of law and our cutting-edge technology.



How we make your footage a powerful tool for justice

1



The eyeWitness to Atrocities app lets you capture photos and videos with embedded metadata to verify their authenticity in court.

2

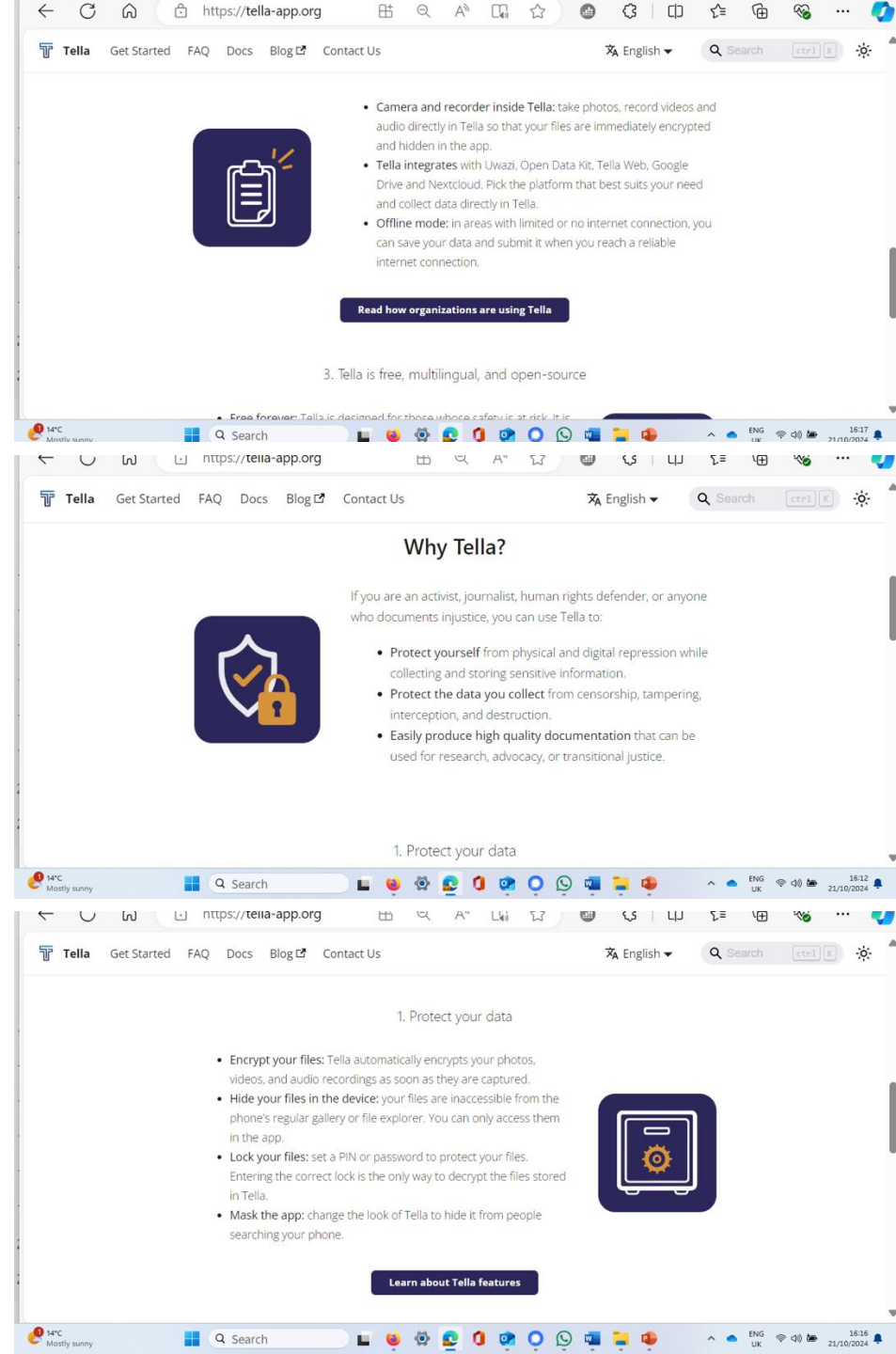
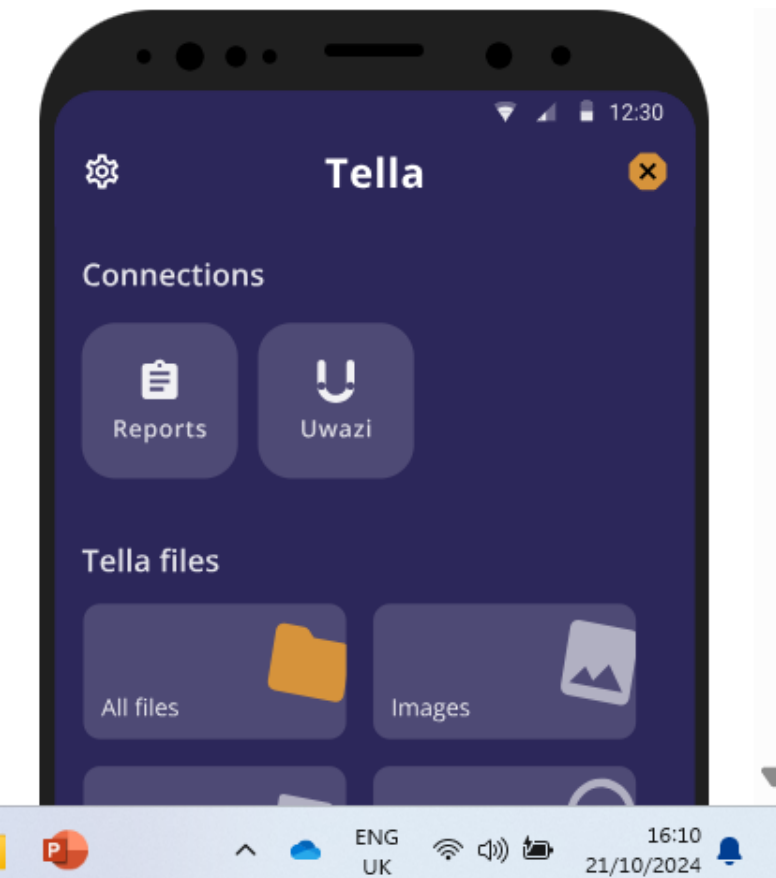


Footage transmission and storage ensures a secure chain of custody for legal evidence.

3



eyeWitness compiles received footage into dossiers for investigators.



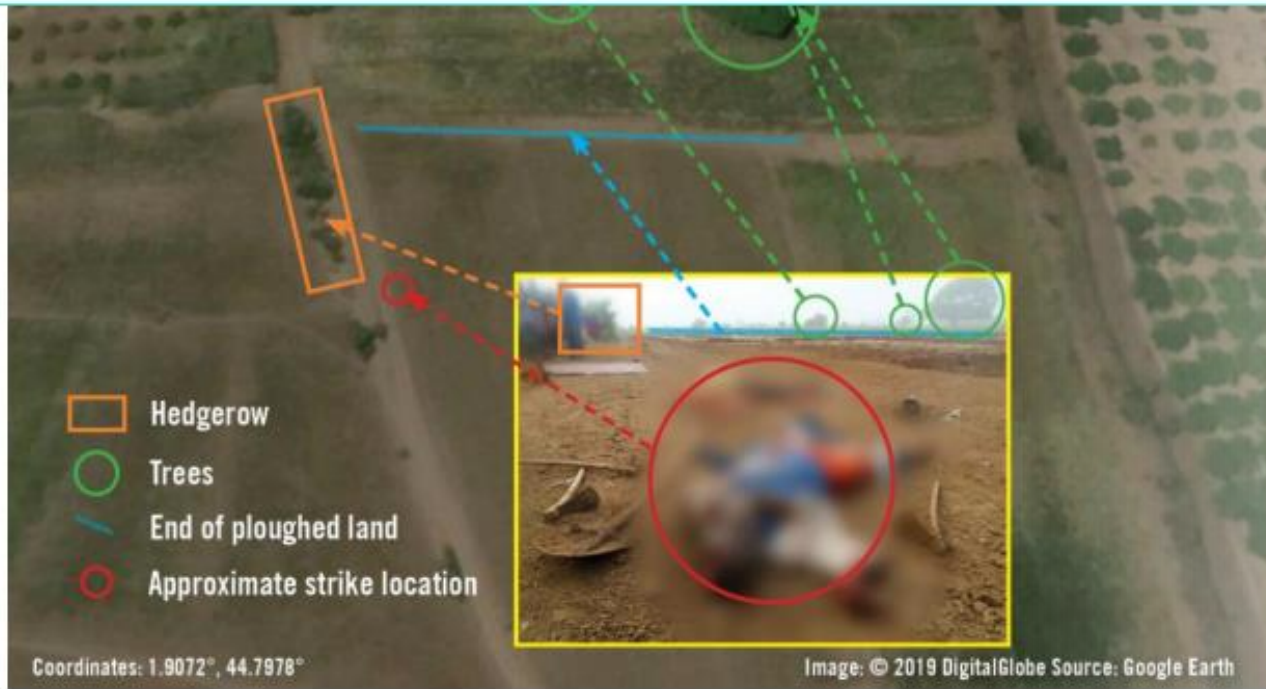
[Home](#) > [Latest](#) > [News](#) > The latest Tella app lets Uwazi users document violations safely and while offline

The latest Tella app lets Uwazi users document violations safely and while offline

Tella and Uwazi are joining forces for improved security, better functionality, and more reliability of human rights information.

By [HURIDOCs Team](#) on 1 July 2022

Satellite imagery is accessible and VERY useful:



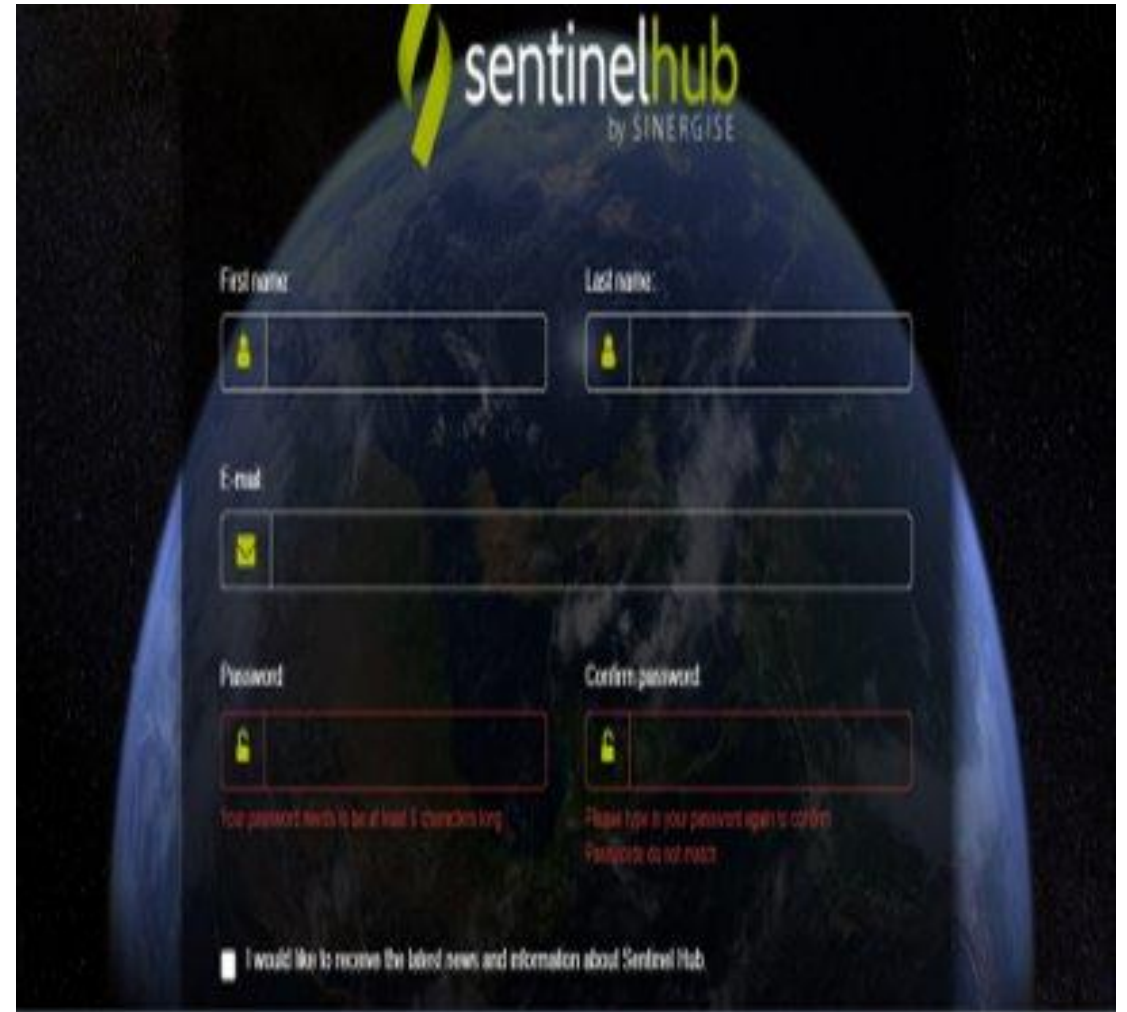
For example, Amnesty used this image, originally shared by Al-Shabab sources, as evidence of civilian casualties in Somalia - but only after extensive verification and analysis.

- [Satellite Imagery for Human Rights Monitoring \(theengineroom.org\)](https://theengineroom.org)
- [The story behind the Nigeria satellite images \(amnesty.org\)](https://www.amnesty.org)
- [Tips for Using Satellite Imagery in Forensic Investigations, from Amnesty International's Evidence Lab – Global Investigative Journalism Network \(gijn.org\)](https://gijn.org)
- [Using Satellite Imagery to Expose Human Rights Abuses and Support Humanitarian Aid - Groundstation](https://groundstation.org)
- [Five Kilometres of Destruction: Satellite Imagery Reveals Extent of Damage to Civilian Convoy in Burkina Faso - bellingcat](https://www.bellingcat.com)

SATELLITE IMAGERY

The European Space Agency's Sentinel-2 provides 10-metre resolution imagery dating back to 2015. It is the best resolution imagery freely available, and is immensely helpful in seeing large scale destruction, burning, or other changes.

https://services.sentinel-hub.com/oauth/subscription?origin=EOBrowser¶m_client_id=1febe974-ca4f-44c1-9fc8-bafbd3bb4abd

The image shows a registration form for Sentinel Hub, overlaid on a background of Earth from space. The form includes fields for 'First name', 'Last name', 'E-mail', 'Password', and 'Confirm password'. Each field has a small yellow icon to its left: a person for names, an envelope for email, and a padlock for passwords. Below the password fields, there are red error messages: 'Your password needs to be at least 8 characters long' and 'Please type in your password again to confirm'. At the bottom, there is a checkbox labeled 'I would like to receive the latest news and information about Sentinel Hub'.



Amnesty International's Citizen Evidence Lab has a very useful guide to using Sentinel:

<https://citizenevidence.org/2023/03/21/summit-series-a-beginners-guide-to-sentinel-hub/>

The EO Browser of Sentinel Hub is an educational tool for people who are new to remote sensing. It provides simple cloud access to many freely available remote sensing data collections. Basic features for exploring the data can be used for free, but extra features, tools, and datasets can also be purchased separately.

<https://apps.sentinel-hub.com/eo-browser/?zoom=10&lat=41.9&lng=12.5&themeId=DEFAULT-THEME&toTime=2023-11-14T15%3A55%3A49.092Z>

Google Earth Pro is free, so is EU Sentinel 2 and NASA LandSat. For higher resolution, you have to pay

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Amnesty Part 2 - Lesson 7.4	Open Data ▾	Spatial res (m) ▾	Revisit rate (days) ▾	Delivery
Airbus Pléiades	No	0.5	1	1-4 hours
Airbus SPOT 6/7	No	1.5	1	1-4 hours
Blackbridge RapidEye	No	5	5.5	
DigitalGlobe WV2	No	0.46	1.1	1 hr- 1 wk
DigitalGlobe WV3	No	0.31	1	1 hr- 1 wk
EU Sentinel 2	Yes	10	5	Instant
NASA MODIS	Yes	500	1	
NASA/USGS LandSat 1-3	Yes	60	18	
NASA/USGS LandSat 4-5	Yes	30	16	Instant
NASA/USGS LandSat 7-8	Yes	15	16	Instant
Planet Labs	No	3	0.25	Instant

DEMONSTRATION: USING GOOGLE EARTH PRO

https://www.google.com/intl/en_uk/earth/about/

Four essential steps in documentation

1. Preparing a documentation plan
2. Implementing an adequate system to record documentation steps
3. Implementing an adequate system to record and preserve information collected.
4. Assessing and implement an adequate system for safety and security for everyone involved

**SOME OF THE THINGS THAT YOU
NEED TO THINK ABOUT *BEFORE*
YOU GET STARTED....**

1. CREATING A DOCUMENTATION PLAN

pp. 56-57 DP

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2. IMPLEMENTING A SYSTEM

Steps in recording documentation

pp. 57-58 DP

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INTERVIEWS

Next session

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PROTECT THE CONFIDENTIALITY OF THOSE YOU ENGAGE WITH

NO identifying information!

Create a name code sheet and use the codes for everything from the start.

Use it for your notes, your audio and video recordings, your transcriptions and your storage system.

Store safely as soon as possible.

Don't gossip using their names.

3. IMPLEMENTING A SYSTEM

Recording Information
Collected in a
Documentation Folder

pp 58-60 DP

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3. IMPLEMENTING A SYSTEM

Recording Information
Collected

Example: how to
record chain of
custody

pp 60-61 DP

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PREPARE IN ADVANCE!
ORDERING THE
COLLECTION

EXERCISE ON Barsalogho, Burkina Faso – DOCUMENTATION PLAN

Show video: <https://youtu.be/4IOFBzBoFDE> Up to 200 people killed in attack in central Burkina Faso [stop at 4.18]

2 groups – each to work on a documentation plan for a mission to Barsalogho – 15 minutes

Feedback – 5 mins each group = 10 mins

EXERCISE: CREATING A DOCUMENTATION PLAN

3.2.1 CREATING A DOCUMENTATION PLAN

For situations that do not involve a rapid response, it can be useful for the documentation team to prepare a plan for how they intend to conduct documentation.

The **Documentation Plan** that the team prepares should be realistic and flexible: it should be a tool for the team to have a sense of direction and to collect the team's ideas. It should also be an important preparation for risks or dangerous situations that can come up during documentation, on location, or with individuals being interviewed.

Preparing a Documentation Plan is not always possible: some documenters may observe a situation and respond in the moment. At other times, an individual may come forward to say they were the victim of a specific abuse, asking to give a statement. Some of the following questions for the Documentation Plan can also be helpful at later stages, to follow up on an allegation with further documentation or to continue documenting a pattern of violations.

The elements to be thought through include:

- **Who are the stakeholders in the situation:** Who is involved in the incident; are there public or institutional actors, private or individual actors; who is responsible for the incident and how; who is directly and indirectly affected by the incident, and how?
 - In thinking about stakeholders, it is important to protect against assumptions and attempt to be objective. To do so, it is important to consider how documenters know who the victim or the perpetrator is. In some cases, the responsibility may not be obvious—victims may be perpetrators, or perpetrators victims.

PART 2. Monitoring and Documenting Violations of Religious Freedom

- **What are the steps that could generate information:** Visiting locations, engaging with individuals.
- **Where can information be found:** Where the violation took place; where victims and witnesses were before, during, or after the violation; where potential perpetrators were before, during, or after the violation; other locations where similar violations occurred.
- **From whom information can be collected:** Which individuals could have relevant and probative information about the incident or could provide information that leads to further information about the incident; how to find, engage, and follow up with different individuals.
- **How to visit the location of the violation safely:** How to approach the location; what the team expects to find; how to approach the location without danger or damaging evidence; and prioritizing the locations to visit if there are more than one.
- **Preserving physical or documentary information:** What means will be used to securely collect or store evidence that could be found at the scene.

WARNING: DISTRESSING CONTENT



BURKINA FASO ATTACK

ALJAZEERA

UP TO 200 FEARED DEAD IN BARSALOGHO