

Education in Danger

Monthly News Brief

June 2019

Attacks on education

The section aligns with the definition of attacks on education used by the Global Coalition to Protect Education under Attack (GCPEA) in [Education under Attack 2018](#).

This monthly digest comprises threats and incidents of violence as well as protests and other events affecting education.

It is prepared by Insecurity Insight from information available in open sources.

The [Global Coalition to Protect Education from Attack](#) (GCPEA) provided technical guidance on definitions of attacks on education.

Data from the Education in Danger Monthly News Brief is available on [HDX](#) Insecurity Insight.

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Africa

Burkina Faso

06 June 2019: In Dori, Sahel region, the University of Dori was raided by the police during a press conference. Five students were wounded and 20 others arrested amidst a dispute between students and the administration due to the refusal by the latter to postpone two exams. **Source:** [ACLED](#)¹

Burundi

12 June 2019: In Rutonganyikwa, Buhiga commune, Karuzi province, a secondary student was assaulted by Imbonerakure members for his father's CNL political party affiliation. **Source:** [SOS Medias Burundi I](#) and [SOS Medias Burundi II](#)

16-17 June 2019: In Bubogora, Murwi, Kayanza province, Imbonerakure members used clubs to attack and injure a group of teachers and CNL political party supporters. Imbonerakure members claim the CNL teachers were in possession of rifles. **Source:** [ACLED](#)¹

DRC

05 June 2019: In Rutshuru, North Kivu province, unidentified men kidnapped a teacher. No further details available. **Source:** [La Prunelle](#)

Nigeria

09 June 2019: In Bokkos, Plateau State, unidentified gunmen attacked the student hostels at the Plateau State University Campus. One male student was killed and a female student raped. **Sources:** [Daily Post](#) and [New telegraph NG](#)

South Sudan

23 June 2019: In Apet, Rumbek East County, unidentified gunmen ambushed and killed two male Ugandan teachers who were on their way to work at the Hope and Resurrection Secondary School. **Source:** [Radio Tamazuj](#)

Sudan

03 June 2019: In Khartoum, in the midst of a military crackdown on demonstrators calling for civilian rule, members of the Rapid Support Forces

deliberately attacked, looted and destroyed an unspecified number of schools. **Source:** [TNH](#)

09 June 2019: In Khartoum state, paramilitary forces allegedly stormed the University of Khartoum, killing four protesters and destroying campus property. The raid occurred days after several university groups reportedly launched a civil disobedience campaign in response to the violence instigated by the transitional military council in recent weeks. **Sources:** [Dabanga Sudan](#), [AP News](#), [The Guardian](#), [Albayan](#), [Al Jazeera](#), [Suna](#), and [University World News](#)

27 June 2019: In Khartoum, RSF paramilitaries beat and detained dozens of students at the East Nile University College, before taking them to an unknown location. It is unclear if they were later released. **Source:** [ACLED](#)¹

Asia

Afghanistan

01 June 2019: In Kabul, the detonation of a car bomb as part of a wider and complex Taliban attack caused part of the building of an unnamed primary school to collapse, wounding at least 51 students. A private war museum, which tends to host many schoolchildren, was also affected. The Taliban claimed that the intended target was a logistics and engineering unit of the Ministry of Defence. **Sources:** [Anthony Neal](#) and [The New York Times](#)

02 June 2019: In Kabul, militants claiming to be members of the Islamic State carried out a targeted bombing of a bus transporting students to the Kabul Education University of Rabbani, reportedly resulting in two dead and twenty-four injured. **Sources:** [Russia Today](#), [Al Jazeera](#), [Reuters](#), [Garda](#), [Rappler](#), and [Oman Daily Observer](#), [Channel News](#).

Myanmar

13 June 2019: In Ywar Haung Taw village, Mrauk-U township, Rakhine state, Myanmar Army soldiers fired indiscriminately at an unnamed school amid a wider assault on the village, exposing 30 students and between seven and 10 teachers to grave danger. **Source:** [The Irrawaddy](#)

Europe

Ukraine

13 and 17 June 2019: In Zolote- 5/Mykhailivka, Luhanska region, School #4 reportedly came under gunfire. It is not known whether the school was deliberately targeted or whether the bullet marks were the result of stray bullets from nearby fighting. The school has reportedly been damaged ten times since the beginning of January. **Source:** [Humanitarian Response](#)

24 June 2019: In Donetsk city, Donetsk region, shells reportedly landed near School #103, damaging its windows and walls with shrapnel. **Source:** [Humanitarian Response](#)

Middle East and North Africa

Algeria

02 June 2019: In Algiers, police employed violent force to suppress students from holding peaceful demonstrations calling for democratic reform in Algeria. **Sources:** [TSA-Algerie](#), [Huffpost Maghreb](#), [Algerie 360](#), and [El Watan](#)

Israel

24 June 2019: In Eshkol, Sha'ar HaNegev or Sdot Negev regional councils, an incendiary balloon from neighbouring Gaza landed on an unnamed kindergarten, causing no casualties. **Source:** [The Jerusalem Post](#)

Occupied Palestinian Territories

31 May 2019: In West Bank, the Israeli Defence Ministry has planned to auction two prefabricated classrooms donated by the EU to Palestinian schoolchildren, after the Israeli Civil Administration dismantled and confiscated them in October 2018. **Source:** [The Guardian](#)

Syrian Arab Republic

01 June 2019: In Bsaqla village, Idlib governorate, alleged Syrian regime warplanes fired missiles near Martyr Yahya al Hasan Primary School, partially destroying its building and damaging its furniture. **Sources:** [SNHR](#)

03 June 2019: In Heesh village, Idlib governorate, alleged Syrian regime warplanes fired missiles near Martyr Fajr al Ismail School, killing one person and destroying the school building. **Source:** [SNHR](#)

04 June 2019: In Sfuhun village, Idlib governorate, alleged Syrian regime warplanes fired missiles near Sfuhun School for boys, partially destroying its fence and damaging its furniture. **Source:** [SNHR](#)

04 June 2019: In Khan Sheikhoun city, Idlib governorate, alleged Syrian regime missile launchers shelled near to Ahmad Ta'an Primary School, partially damaging the building and fence. **Source:** [SNHR](#)

08 June 2019: In Um Neir village, Idlib governorate, alleged Syrian regime warplanes fired missiles on Um Neir Primary School, partially destroying its fence as well as damaging the building and furniture. **Source:** [SNHR](#)

08 June 2019: In Sfuhun village, Idlib governorate, alleged Syrian wing warplanes fired missiles near Sfuhun School for girls, partially damaging the building and furniture. **Source:** [SNHR](#)

09 June 2019: In Morek town, Hama governorate, alleged Syrian regime warplanes reportedly fired missiles near Morek High School for girls, partially destroying its building and damaging its furniture. **Source:** [SNHR](#)

10 June 2019: In Heesh village, Idlib governorate, alleged Syrian regime warplanes fired missiles on al Owda Primary School, partially destroying its building and damaging its furniture. **Source:** [SNHR](#)

11 June 2019: In Tbaish village, Idlib governorate, alleged Syrian regime warplanes fired a missile on Tbaish Primary School, killing one person and partially damaging the school's fence. **Source:** [SNHR](#)

13 June 2019: In Sfuhun village, Idlib governorate, alleged Syrian regime warplanes fired missiles near Sfuhun School for boys, partially damaging the school fence. **Source:** [SNHR](#)

14 June 2019: In Ihsem village, Idlib governorate, alleged Syrian warplanes reportedly fired missiles near Ihsem Secondary School for girls, partially damaging the building. **Source:** [SNHR](#)

14 June 2019: In Kafr Zita city, Hama governorate, alleged Russian warplanes reportedly fired a missile near al Reefiya School, partially destroying the building and fence. **Source:** [SNHR](#)

15 June 2019: In al Bara village, Idlib governorate, alleged Syrian regime warplanes fired a missile on Martyr Hasan al Mdawar Primary School, partially damaging the building and entrance as well as damaging the furniture contained within. **Source:** [SNHR](#)

16 June 2019: In Deir Senbul village, Hama governorate, alleged Syrian regime forces reportedly fired shells near Deir Senbul Primary School, partially destroying its fence as well as damaging the building and furniture. **Source:** [SNHR](#)

19 June 2019: In Ma'aret Harma, Idlib governorate, alleged Syrian regime warplanes fired a missile near Mu'aweya Bin Abi Sufyan School, partially destroying the building and damaging its furniture. **Source:** [SNHR](#)

23 June 2019: In Jozef village, Idlib governorate, alleged Syrian regime warplanes fired missiles near a primary school, partially destroying its fence. **Source:** [SNHR](#)

26 June 2019: In Kafr Sajna village, Idlib governorate, alleged Syrian regime warplanes reportedly fired a missile near Martyr Wahid al Yousef Primary School, partially damaging its building. **Source:** [SNHR](#)

The Americas

Chile

05 June 2019: In Ñuñoa, Metropolitana Region, police officers and students violently clashed during a demonstration on the campus of the Metropolitan University of Education Sciences. The students were protesting against a number of education reforms by the government. **Sources:** [Russia Today](#), [Sputnik Mundo](#), [El Mostrador](#), [MSN](#), and [Publi Metro TV](#)

Arrests, detentions and imprisoned

The section aligns with the definition of attacks on education used by the Global Coalition to Protect Education under Attack (GCPEA) in [Education under Attack 2018](#).

Europe

Turkey

12 June 2019: In Istanbul, a male lecturer at Istanbul Bilgi University was sentenced by a Heavy Penal Court to one year and three months imprisonment on charges related to terrorism. The charges are related to her endorsement of a petition criticizing state and military actions in the Kurdish parts of Turkey. **Sources:** [Bianet](#), [Academics for Peace](#), and [TIHV](#)

13 June 2019: In Istanbul, three female scholars – a Boğaziçi University PhD candidate, an Istanbul Bilgi University research assistant, and a Boğaziçi University scholar – were sentenced to imprisonment by a Heavy Penal Court on charges related to terrorism. The former two scholars were sentenced to 15 months imprisonment, and the latter was sentenced to two years and six months imprisonment. The charges are reportedly related to their endorsement of a petition criticizing state and military actions in the Kurdish parts of Turkey. **Sources:** [Bianet](#) and [Euronews](#)

Education in Danger safety, security and access incidents

Aid in Danger

These events go beyond the definition used by the GCPEA to cover a wider range of events that affect the provision of education including events perpetrated by students, private individuals and criminals as well as significant strike action or protests by students.

Africa

Ethiopia

General: In Amhara, Tigray and other regions, deadly violence amongst students in university campuses has become a recurrent problem, much of which appears to be motivated by extremist ethnic politics. **Sources:** [Africa News](#) and [Borkena](#)

24 May 2019: In Debre Markos city, Misrak Gojjam zone, Amhara region, unidentified perpetrators attacked

three students at the Debrem Markos University in what appears to be an ethnicity-related assault. Seven suspects have since been in police custody. **Source:** [Borkena](#)

25 May 2019: In Debre Markos city, Misrak Gojjam zone, Amhara region, students of the Debre Markos University staged a protest on campus to demand, *inter alia*, the release of arrested students. **Source:** [Borkena](#)

26 May 2019: In Debre Markos city, Misrak Gojjam zone, Amhara region, unidentified perpetrators killed a student at the Debre Markos University for unascertained reasons. This incident led to the university suspending classes until further notice. **Sources:** [Borkena I](#), [Borkena II](#) and [Borkena III](#)

05 June 2019: In Aksum city, Maekelay zone, Tigray region, ethnic-based violence between students at the Askum University led to the death of one student and the injury of 20 others. **Sources:** [Borkena \(a\)](#) and [Borkena \(b\)](#)

Kenya

19 June 2019 (DOA): Update: A Kenyan court found three suspected terrorists guilty of the April 2015 Garissa University terror attack. Sentencing has been set for 03 July. **Source:** [VOA](#)

Somalia

14 June 2019: In Hodan, Banaadir region, a teacher was killed by unknown gunmen. Motive for killing is said to be clan retaliation. **Source:** [ACLED](#)¹

Asia

Afghanistan

09 June 2019: In the Qiyaaq area, Jeghatoo district, Ghazni province, a Taliban militant shot and killed a university student. He was stopped and kidnapped while driving, and later killed in unspecified circumstances. **Source:** [ACLED](#)¹

China

04 June 2019: Police officials allegedly detained and interrogated a former Guizhou University professor of economics, apparently in relation to social media posts regarding the 1989 Tiananmen Square incident. The male professor had been expelled in 2018 from Guizhou university in retaliation for his academic work. **Sources:** [Radio Free Asia \(I\)](#), [Radio Free Asia \(II\)](#), [Epoch Times](#), and [New Tang Dynasty Television](#).

12 June 2019: In the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region, a prominent male Uyghur writer and professor at Hotan Teachers College reportedly died after his detention at a so-called "re-education camp". **Sources:** [Uighur Times](#), [VOA News](#), and [The Guardian](#)

India

19 June 2019: In Bhatpara of Barrackpore, North 24 Parganas district, West Bengal, bike-borne assailants fired at a BJP student activist. The victim of attack was taken to hospital in critical condition. **Source:** [Times of India](#)

Malaysia

25 June 2019 (DOA): In Johor state, Malaysian authorities ordered the closure of 300 private kindergartens and 100 primary and secondary schools after 75 students experienced breathing difficulties and vomiting due to air pollution in the industrial area of Pasir Gudang. **Source:** [BBC](#)

North Korea

27 June 2019 (DOA): In Pyongyang, North Korean authorities arrested and detained an Australian student of the Kim Il Sung University for unspecified reasons. **Sources:** [The Sydney Morning Herald I](#) and [The Sydney Morning Herald II](#)

Europe

Russian Federation

17 June 2019 (DOA): Russian authorities expelled a German exchange student of the Saint Petersburg State University for publishing an article about an ongoing protest movement against copper mines in the city of Chelyabinsk. **Source:** [The Moscow Times](#)

Serbia

07 June 2019: In Vojvodina province, unidentified men thought to be associated with far-right political groups reportedly attacked two students on the campus of the University of Novi Sad, apparently in retaliation for their activism against forced evictions and "investment urbanism". **Sources:** [Za krov nad glavom](#), [Moj Novisad \(I\)](#), [Moj Novisad \(II\)](#), and [N1](#)

08 June 2019: In Vojvodina province, a student activist was reportedly attacked on the campus of the University of Novi Sad shortly after attending a protest. This assault took place a day after another attack on the same campus on two student activists by a group suspected to be associated with the far-right. **Source:** [Slobodna Evropa](#)

Middle East and North Africa

Lebanon

09 June 2019: A student activist fighting against the Bisri dam project was severely beaten by five men whilst giving a tour of the Bisri valley. He sustained bruises and had part of his ear cut off. The attackers were possibly linked to a rival group of activists. **Source:** [Daily Star](#)

Syrian Arab Republic

17 June 2019: In Damascus, a male college student at the faculty of Civil Engineering in Aleppo University reportedly died at a detention centre. The student, who had been arrested in May by members of the Air Intelligence branch of Syrian regime forces, was reportedly tortured. **Source:** [SNHR](#)

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¹ Armed Conflict Location & Event Data Project (ACLED) [database attribution policy](#).