

Attacks on Health Care

Bi-Monthly News Brief

25 January-07
February 2023

Global Map On Attacks On Health Care

Explore our [Attacked and Threatened: Health Care at Risk](#) interactive global map to see incidents where health workers were killed, kidnapped or injured and incidents where health facilities were damaged or destroyed since 2016. Includes details on who the perpetrators were and the weapons used. Access the 2020-2023 dataset on [HDX](#). Registered HDX user? Follow [us](#) for the latest dataset updates. The dataset does not yet include incidents reported in this News Brief.

Past News Brief editions: [11-24 January](#); [28 December 2022-10 January 2023](#); [14-27 December](#); [All](#).

Help support the protection of health care by sharing this resource. Please copy and paste this link: bit.ly/25Jan-07Feb2023HealthBMNB

Please [get in touch](#) if you are interested in curated datasets, if you have made a public statement that you would like us to include in our Bi Monthly News Brief, to report an incident or if you have additional information on an incident we have reported on. Visit our [website](#), join our [mailing list](#), follow us on [Twitter](#).

SHCC Attacks on Health Care

The section aligns with the [definition](#) of attacks on health care used by the [Safeguarding Health in Conflict Coalition](#) (SHCC).

Africa

Burkina Faso

02 February 2023: In Tianra village, Sourou province, Boucle du Mouhoun region, a pharmacy was ransacked by suspected JNIM. Medicines and beds were taken away. **Source:** [ACLED](#)¹

08 February 2023: In Dedougou village, Sourou province, Boucle du Mouhoun region, armed men ambushed a MSF vehicle with four staff onboard, resulting in the death of driver and a logistics supervisor—both males and from Burkina Faso. The other two staff escaped without injuries. Following the attack, MSF suspended activities in the region. **Source:** [Agence d'Information du Burkina](#), [Africanews](#), [Lefaso](#) and [Minute.bf](#)

Mali

02 February 2023: Update: In Menaka town and cercle, Gao region, a WHO doctor — who was kidnapped on 23 January — has been released. **Source:** [VOA](#)

Mozambique

01 February 2023: On the N380 route, near Mitambo village, 40km south of Macomia city and district, Cabo Delgado province, an off-duty male MSF driver and two civilians were injured when the public bus they were travelling in was ambushed and hijacked by extremist rebels. **Sources:** [Cabo Ligado - ACLED](#), [Club of Mozambique](#), [KISAT.com](#), [Fox News](#), [Spectrum](#) and [The Washington Post](#)

Nigeria

29 January 2023: In Gur Lawan village, Borno state, a primary health care centre was set ablaze and medical supplies were stolen by suspected ISWAP militants when they attacked the village. **Source:** [Zagazola](#)



Somalia

06 February 2023: In Lasanod town, Sool region, mortar shells fired by Somaliland forces struck the main hospital amid clashes with local clans, causing an unspecified number of fatalities. **Sources:** [Khaatumo Media Office](#) and [Twitter](#)

South Sudan

02 February 2023: In Kajo-Keji county, Central Equatoria state, four Red Cross volunteers were picked from their houses by unidentified perpetrators, and killed alongside other community members. **Sources:** [Eye Radio](#) and [South Sudan Red Cross](#)

Asia

Afghanistan

19 January 2023: In an undisclosed location, four health workers were arrested inside a health facility. **Source:** [WHOSSA](#)²

As reported on 31 January 2023: Update: The Taliban Ministry of Public health exempted women working in the health centre from the ban imposed in December 2022 on female staff working for licensed NGOs and INGOs. **Source:** [New Age](#)

Around 30 January 2023: In Kandahar province, the Taliban Department of Vice and Virtue ordered all female employees of local clinics and health centres to abstain from work unless accompanied by male guardians (mahram). One nurse reported that the Taliban had told her to either quit her job or find a mahram to accompany her. **Source:** [ACLED](#)¹

Myanmar

Attacks on Health Care in Myanmar

For details on reported incidents between 25 January-07 February 2023, please see this [document](#). Past incident reports: [11-24 January](#); [28 December 2022-10 January 2023](#) [14-27 December](#); [All](#).

Past analysis reports: [April and September 2022](#); [1 February 2021 to 10 January 2022](#); [1 January to 31 March 2022](#).

Explore our [Attacked and Threatened: Health Care at Risk](#) interactive global map to see documented incidents in Myanmar since 2016. Includes details on who the perpetrators were and the weapons used. Access the dataset on [HDX](#). The dataset does not yet include incidents reported in this report. Registered HDX user? Follow [us](#) for the latest dataset updates. Join our [Myanmar](#) mailing list for regular updates.

Europe

Ukraine

Attacks on Health Data in Ukraine

The 01 January 2016-25 January 2023 data on incidents of violence against or obstruction of health care in Ukraine is now available for download on [HDX](#) or to explore on our [interactive map](#).

Our data includes available information on who the perpetrators were and what weapons were used. We are currently carrying out a verification process against other sources.

Middle East North Africa

Israel

27 January 2023: In Jerusalem, a 59-year-old Ukrainian female nurse was killed in a terrorist attack by a Palestinian man outside a synagogue. **Source:** [NEWSru](#)

Occupied Palestinian Territories

26 January 2023: In Jenin Camp, Jenin city and governorate, West Bank, Israeli forces conducted a raid targeting Palestinian Islamic Jihad militants, during which teargas leaked into a paediatric

hospital ward, causing women and children inside to suffer from breathing problems. **Source:** [Times of Israel](#)

Syrian Arab Republic

26 January 2023: In Al Sina'a area, Deir-ez-Zor city, sub-district, district and governorate, the Head of the Deir-ez-Zor Nurses Union was kidnapped by gunmen in a van. He was released two days later. **Source:** [SOHR](#)

Yemen

29 January 2023: In Ibb city and governorate, the Dar ash Shifa private hospital was stormed and taken over by Houthi forces. **Source:** [ACLED](#)¹

Around 29 January 2023: In Taizz city and governorate, the Yemeni-Swedish Hospital for Motherhood and Childhood was stormed by gunmen who beat up health workers and threatened to kill the facility director. Hospital staff went on strike on 29 January in response to the attack. **Source:** [ACLED](#)¹

The Americas

Colombia

Around 31 January 2023: In Guatemala department, Cauca state, two Venezuelan men working promoting a health care campaign were shot and killed by unidentified armed individuals. **Source:** [ACLED](#)¹

Haiti

26 January 2023: In Carrefour neighbourhood, Port-au-Prince, three armed men entered the MSF-supported Raoul Pierre Louis Hospital, seized a patient suffering from a gunshot wound at the Emergency Room, and executed him outside. In response to the murder, MSF suspended its activities in the hospital. **Source:** [MSF](#)

Mexico

26 January 2023: In Nuevo Necaxa, Puebla state, the Director of Clinic Number 18 of the Mexican Social Security Institute (IMSS) was shot and injured by armed individuals. **Source:** [ACLED](#)¹

Global Health Insecurity

These events affect the provision of health care but are not directly conflict related. These include events perpetrated by patients, relatives of patients, private individuals and criminals as well as significant strike action or protests by health care personnel.

Africa

Mozambique

04 February 2023: At Namicopo neighbourhood, Nampula city, the Namiepe Health Centre suffered an attempted theft by a 40-year-old man who broke into the hospital ward and tried to steal medicines and other supplies, allegedly for fellow insurgents. He was caught by the police and taken to the 5th precinct police station in Nampula city. **Source:** [Club of Mozambique](#)

Nigeria

25 January 2023: In Nnewi city, Nnewi North LGA, Anambra state, the association of Resident Doctors of the Nnamdi Azikiwe University Teaching Hospital commenced a five-day warning strike over the persistent assault of its members. All medical services at the institution were shut down. **Source:** [Punch](#)

South Africa

19 January 2023: In Magogo area, Nkandla town, King Cetshwayo district, KwaZulu-Natal province, protesters attacked a team of health care workers and vandalised their mobile clinics, setting one of them on fire. **Source:** [The Citizen](#)

19 January 2023: In Nkandla town, King Cetshwayo district, KwaZulu-Natal province, a health inspector was held hostage by angry protesters, as the former was on the way to the Monyane Clinic.

Source: [The Citizen](#)

Asia

Bangladesh

31 January 2023: In Dhaka, a broker of the Pabna General Hospital beat a female intern nurse at the female unit of the medicine ward, after the latter asked him to continue an argument with a patient outside. Other nurses were also beaten when they resisted the angry broker. In response to the assault, intern nurses of the hospital abstained from working for at least the next three days until their demands were implemented. **Sources:** [New Age I](#) and [New Age II](#)

06 February 2023: In Barisal city, district and division, an employee of the Sher-e-Bangla Medical College Hospital slapped and sexually assaulted a female nursing student. In response to the assault, nursing students staged a demonstration outside the Emergency Department, prompting the hospital authorities to suspend the perpetrator pending a probe. **Sources:** [New Age](#)

Europe

Belgium

31 January 2023: In Brussels, over 10,000 workers of hospitals and nursing homes protested to demand better working conditions and more pay. **Sources:** [Euro Integration](#) and [US News](#)

Finland

28 January 2023: Russian Killnet members carried out cyber distributed denial-of-service (DDoS) attacks on the web resources of several medical institutions, including the Hospital District of Helsinki and Uusimaa (HUS), for their support to Ukraine, causing technical problems to their external website. Exceptionally, the attack also impacted the internal network and services of the HUS. Similar attacks were perpetrated against medical organisations based in Germany, Norway, Poland, The Netherlands, the United Kingdom, and the United States. **Sources:** [Guild Hall](#), [Prostomob](#) and [Slovo i Dilo](#)

The Netherlands

30 January 2023: Russian Killnet members carried out cyber distributed denial-of-service (DDoS) attacks on the web resources of 31 medical institutions, including the Groningen University Medical Centre, for their support to Ukraine. **Sources:** [Guild Hall](#), [Prostomob](#), [RBC](#) and [Slovo i Dilo](#)

United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

20 January 2023: In Leeds city, Yorkshire and the Humber region, England, a 27-year-old male student nurse was found with a homemade pressure cooker bomb and a blank-firing pistol outside the maternity ward of the Saint James' University Hospital, where he worked. Police arrested him on the spot, and on 27 January, the perpetrator appeared in court, where he was accused of plotting a terror attack. **Sources:** [BBC](#), [Daily Mail](#), [Sky](#) and [The Independent](#)

Middle East North Africa

Islamic Republic of Iran

31 January 2023: In Amol city, Central bakhsh, Amol county, Mazandaran province, local authorities shut down a pharmacy after its owner refused to comply with the request of a clergyman to wear a hijab, and her staff refused to serve him. **Source:** [The Epoch Times](#)

Occupied Palestinian Territories

23-26 January 2023: Across West Bank cities, a four-day strike of around 37,000 workers demanding a monthly pay increase from UNRWA forced clinics, schools, and some municipal services to remain shut. **Sources:** [International Business Times](#), [The New Arab I](#), [The New Arab II](#) and [The New Arab III](#)

The Americas

United States of America

15 January 2023: In Peoria city and county, Illinois state, an unidentified perpetrator threw a Molotov cocktail into the Illinois Planned Parenthood clinic, causing a fire that caused significant damage to the building. **Source:** [AP](#) and [The Hill](#)

30 January 2023: Russian Killnet members carried out cyber distributed denial-of-service (DDoS) attacks on the web resources of at least 18 medical institutions for their support to Ukraine. Visit [Healthcare Innovation](#) for a list of affected facilities. **Sources:** [Guild Hall](#), [Prostomob](#), [RBC](#) and [Slovo i Dilo](#)

¹ Armed Conflict Location & Event Data Project (ACLED) [database attribution policy](#). Accessed 09 February 2023.

² [WHOSSA](#) Accessed 09 February 2023

This Bi-Monthly News Brief comprises threats and violence as well as protests and other events affecting the delivery of and access to health care. It is part of the Attacks on Health Care project by Insecurity Insight. It is prepared from information available in local, national and international news outlets and online databases. The incidents reported are not a complete nor a representative list of all events that affected the provision of health care and have not been independently verified. All decisions made, on the basis of, or with consideration to, such information remains the responsibility of their respective organisations.

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