**Research Guide**

**Start your research with these three sites:**

**Country of Origin Research (Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada)**

Extensive research by Canadian government on human rights abuses in many countries.

<http://www.irb-cisr.gc.ca/Eng/ResRec/RirRdi/Pages/index.aspx>

**Refworld**

This is vast collection of country information, reports, policy documents, national legislation, maps, position papers, case law, and much more. The simplest method to access information is to use the country name and then use "filter" to refine the results. Use the advanced search screen for more targeted research. The Special Features portion of the welcome screen offers topics such as children, women, refugee status determination, and internally displaced persons (IDPs).

<http://www.refworld.org/cgi-bin/texis/vtx/rwmain?docid>=

**U.S. State Department Country Reports on Human Rights Practices**

<http://www.state.gov/j/drl/rls/hrrpt/>

**Geography and Population information:**

**CIA World Factbook**

This site has basic write-ups on the geography and history of every country. It also has updated population and election statistics. Small maps for the country write-ups can also be found here.

<https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/>

**Reports (government, IGO, NGO)**

**Trafficking in Persons Report**

This report has been produced by the U.S. Department of State since 2001 and provides a country by country summary of the trafficking situation, prosecution, and protection information.

<http://www.state.gov/j/tip/rls/tiprpt/index.htm>

**International Religious Freedom Report**

<http://www.state.gov/j/drl/rls/irf/>

**Human Rights Watch World Report**

This IGO annual report (previous years available under publications tab) summarizes conditions from around the world. There are many other useful reports available on a variety of topics, such as child domestic workers, labor conditions, forced evictions, etc. You can access a list of other reports or try searching a country name.

<http://www.hrw.org/reports/2014/01/21/world-report-2014>

**Amnesty International Annual Report**

In addition to the annual report, AI produces other country or topic specific reports.

<http://www.amnesty.org/en/annual-report/2013>

**Inter-American Commission on Human Rights Publications**

This portal provides access to many useful publications such as country reports, annual reports, and topical research reports (such as women, specific prison conditions, indigenous peoples, etc).

<http://www.cidh.oas.org/publi.eng.htm>

**Annual Report to Congress on International Religious Freedom**

This is another U.S. Department report and is produced by the Office of International Religious Freedom. It monitors religious persecution and discrimination worldwide.

<http://www.state.gov/j/drl/irf/rpt/index.htm>

**Freedom in the World (Freedom House)**

The annual Freedom in the World offers comparative data and information by country. Previous years are available under the Reports tab.

<http://www.freedomhouse.org/report-types/freedom-world#.VBhLfFd9HWc>

**U.S. Committee for Refugees and Immigrants (USCRI) Resources for Lawyers**

Good links to gang-related and domestic violence asylum claims. For more information on country reports, cases, etc, try searching the country name in the website search box. Be sure to click on the Search button to start the search.

<http://www.refugees.org/resources/for-lawyers/asylum-research/>

**UNHCR**

<http://www.unhcr.org/cgi-bin/texis/vtx/home>

**State Reports for the Convention Against Torture**

Parties to this convention are obligated to submit periodic reports providing information on their implementation of the treaty. NGOs can also submit reports and these can be very useful. Use "Find in Page" to locate your country and then click into the session to access the reports.

<http://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/TreatyBodyExternal/SessionsList.aspx?Treaty=CAT>

**UNIFEM Virtual Knowledge Centre**

This site has reports on women’s rights and abuses against women in various nations.

<http://www.endvawnow.org/>

**Newspapers**

See the “Newspaper Guide” in the Country Condition Research folder.

International Gay & Lesbian Human Rights Commission: <http://www.iglhrc.org/cgibin/iowa/home/index.aspx>