

Aid Security Incident Statistics

12-Month trends based on open source reported aid worker arrest, detention or imprisonment

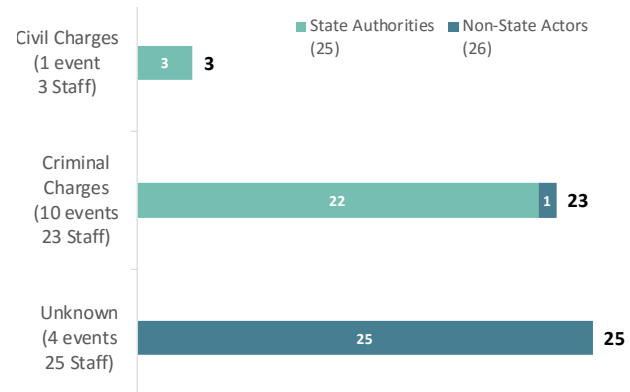
March 2015
to February 2016

Total number of aid workers detained, arrested or imprisoned, by context and perpetrator as reported in open sources

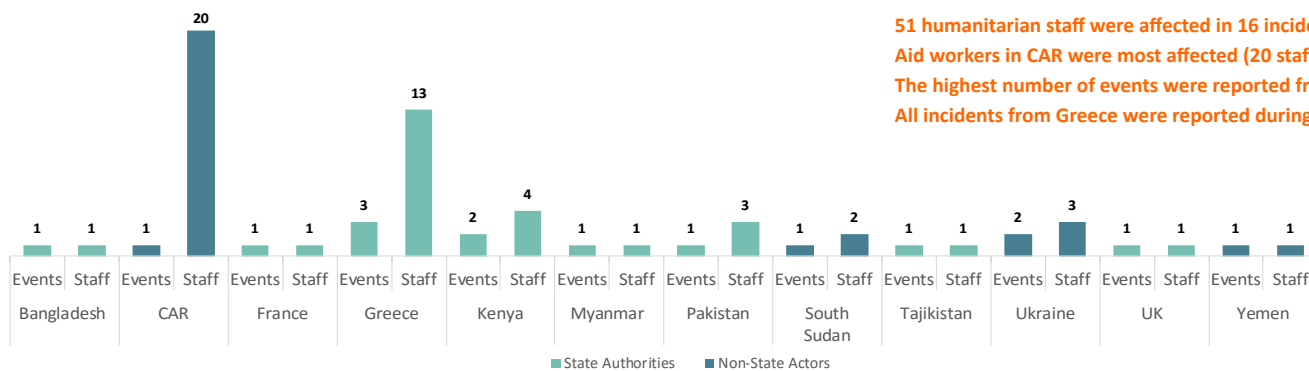
A similar number of aid workers were detained, arrested or imprisoned by Non-State Actors (NSA) as by State Authorities (SA) between March 2015 and February 2016, according to open sources (26 and 25 respectively).

25 aid workers were temporarily detained for unknown reasons by Non-State Actors in CAR (20), South Sudan (2), Ukraine (2) and Yemen (1). In Yemen, an NGO worker was detained by Al Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP) while participating in a protest. A former staff member of the International Rescue Committee (IRC) was beaten in custody following his arrest by Non-State Actors. He was accused of spying (Donets'k, Ukraine).

State bodies brought criminal charges against 22 aid workers in Greece (13), Kenya (4), Bangladesh, France, Myanmar, Tajikistan and the UK (1 each). Three aid workers were temporarily detained during a visit to an urban WASH project following a complaint by a local contractor (Sindh Province, Pakistan).



Total number of aid workers detained, arrested or imprisoned, by country as reported in open sources



51 humanitarian staff were affected in 16 incidents. Aid workers in CAR were most affected (20 staff). The highest number of events were reported from Greece (3 events). All incidents from Greece were reported during January 16.

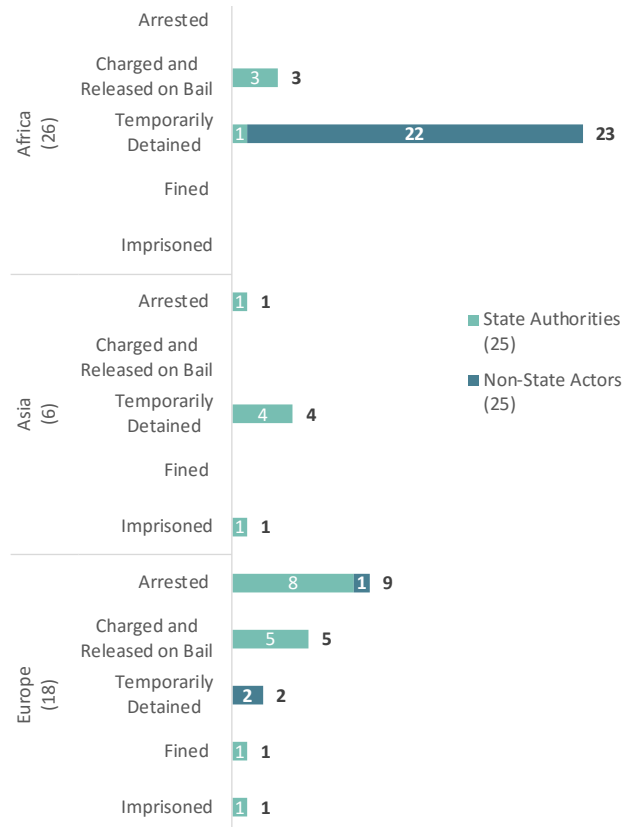
Total number of aid workers detained, arrested or imprisoned, by region and outcome as reported in open sources

In Africa, more staff were affected by actions taken by Non-State Actors than by State Authorities (22 and 4). 20 staff were temporarily detained by unnamed armed groups in Ouham Province (CAR) and two aid workers were temporarily detained for several hours alongside 15 contracted commercial trucks drivers (South Sudan). Three INGO staff were charged under the Firearms Act and bailed during Hostile Environment Individual Safety Training (Kenya).

In Asia, all staff were affected by actions taken by State Authorities (6). Four aid workers were temporarily detained by in Pakistan (3) and Tajikistan (1). A French aid worker was arrested and accused of links to terrorism (Bangladesh). Following their arrest in October 15, a Kachin aid worker was sentenced in January 16 to six months' imprisonment for sharing a picture on social media deemed to defame the Myanmar Army.

In Europe, more staff were affected by actions taken by State Authorities than by Non-State Actors (15 and 3). A British aid worker was fined 1000 Euros for smuggling an Afghan minor into the UK from Calais (France). In February 16, a British man was handed a six-year prison term after he was found guilty of diverting funds into his personal bank account for terrorism financing purposes. All actions taken by Non-State Actors were reported from Donets'k (Ukraine). On one occasion, staff were briefly detained following an office raid and closure.

25 percent of those affected were volunteers (13/51). 12/13 volunteers were affected by actions taken by State Authorities on the island of Lesbos (Greece). Of these 12, five were internationals who were arrested and charged with people smuggling while they were looking for a sinking migrant boat. They are currently awaiting trial. Seven volunteers were arrested for stealing life-jackets from a dump-site, which they intended to use as mattresses for homeless refugees. In a separate incident from Greece, a volunteer was arrested for taking a picture with a Frontex patrol boat in the background.



This document is part of the Aid in Danger project, by Insecurity Insight. It summarises selected findings from our Aid Security Monthly News Briefs which are based on open source monitoring. The events included in the Aid Security Monthly News Brief cover a wide range of aid related events and the Aid Security Incident Statistics present trend data for a selected subset of events. Data collection is ongoing and these numbers may change as new information is made available.

An aid worker is defined as an individual employed or attached to a humanitarian, UN or government aid agency. This includes staff of international and local relief and development NGOs (non-profit, for-profit and faith-based) and healthcare personnel that operate in a humanitarian context. Further included are personnel working for humanitarian mine detection or clearance as well as security guards employed or contracted by aid agencies and personnel of commercial contractors if they were subcontracted by an agency providing emergency relief but not if they were working on reconstruction projects.