Education in Danger

Monthly News Brief

December 2023

Monitoring by Insecurity Insight identified at least 707 attacks on education in 45 countries and territories between 01 January and 31 October 2023. In these incidents, educational facilities including schools, universities and kindergartens were damaged at least 331 times and 106 educators were killed and 214 arrested. In addition, plane and drone delivered explosives were used on 123 occasions in Myanmar (55), OPT (48), Ukraine (14), Sudan (4), Ethiopia and Yemen (one each). These air-launched weapons. usually have a wide-area effect and cause death and destruction beyond the intended target, thus having reverberating adverse effects on the education sector.

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Past editions: November; October; September: August; July; June; May; April; March; February; January; December; All

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Visit our website, join our mailing list. Get in touch to report an incident or have additional information on an incident we have reported on. The Global Coalition to Protect Education from Attack (GCPEA) provided technical guidance on definitions of attacks on education. More on definitions used by Insecurity Insight and by GCPEA. * = GCPEA incident.

Safety, security and access incidents

Incidents of threats and violence affecting the provision of education.

Africa

Burundi

10 December 2023: In Gitaba village, Rutana commune, Rutana province, a teacher from the Buta District Secondary School, was physically assaulted and taken hostage by three National Council for the Defense of Democracy- Forces for the Defense of Democracy (CNDD-FDD) members. All three were arrested the next day and released three days later. **Source:** SOS Medias Burundi

Cameroon

12 December 2023: At Ntaba Hill, in Donga-Mantung sub-division, Northwest region, a maths teacher was shot and killed in his car by Ambazonian Separatist fighters.* **Source:** Mimimefo Infos

12 December 2023: In Menchum division, Northwest region, suspected armed separatist fighters attacked the Government Technical High School (GTHS Esu). Around 15 students and two teachers were kidnapped and reportedly forced to strip. Following a military intervention, the students were

released, but the fate of the teachers remains unclear.* **Sources:** Cameroon News Agency **and** EchoDH

15 December 2023: In Oku town, Northwest region, the principal of Oku Government High School was beaten and kidnapped by an armed group dressed in military gear.* **Source:** Cameroon News Agency

Democratic Republic of the Congo
08 December 2023: In Musongati, North Kivu province, a teacher was killed by M23 fighters. **Sources:** ACLED[1] **and** Radio Moto

28 December 2023: In Masisi territory, North Kivu province, two primary school directors were killed by an unidentified armed group while returning from Goma with the salaries for their teachers. **Source:** ACLED[1] **and** Radio Okapi

Ethiopia
Around 13 December 2023: In Dollo town, Kellem wollega, Oromia region, government security forces beat and arrested an unspecified number of students and teachers of Dembi Dolo University after entering the university. The university stopped teaching and learning following a strike by students against what they called 'arrest and harassment' by government security forces.* **Source:** ACLED[1]

Kenya
25 December 2023: In Kegonga locality, Migori district, a teacher was shot and killed by police officers. Police denied claims that the death was as a result of extra-judicial killings. **Source:** Tuko

Mali
08 December 2023: In Koumbia commune, Sikasso region, JNIM militants closed all schools in the area. **Source:** ACLED[1]

Around 18 December 2023: In Banamba commune, Koulikoro region, JNIM militants closed down two schools in the area. **Source:** ACLED[1]

20 December 2023: In Toubakoura commune, Koulikoro region, JNIM militants closed down three schools in the area. **Source:** ACLED[1]

Nigeria
01 December 2023: In Ikotun town, Alimosho LGA, Lagos, a school girl was kidnapped by an unidentified armed group while on her way back home from school. **Source:** ACLED[1]

02 December 2023: At an off-campus hostel in the Larufi area, Ode-Remo, Remo North LGA, Ogun state, at least one student of the Gateway ICT Polytechnic was shot and killed and an unspecified number injured by an unidentified armed group. **Source:** Vanguard

04 December 2023: In Maiduguri city m, Borno state, the Nigerian military discovered and defused an IED planted by Islamic State or Boko Haram at the entrance of the University of MaidugurI.* **Source:** ACLED[1]

06 December 2023: In Gandu village, Lafia LGA, Nasarawa state, eight students of the Federal University of Lafia were abducted by an unidentified armed group from their off-campus hostel. All eight students were later released.* **Source:** Premium Times

06 December 2023: In Dan Musa LGA, the headmaster of the Miadabina Primary school was killed by a Katsina militia. **Source:** Linda Ikeji's Blog

07 December 2023: In Gandu village, Lafia LGA, Nasarawa state, ten students of the Federal University of Lafia were kidnapped by an unidentified armed group at their off-campus hostel. The

armed group fired sporadically in the air before taking the students away. Some victims were released on 10 December.* **Source:** The Guardian

Around 18 December 2023: In Zamfara state, a lecturer was kidnapped from the state college of education and later tortured and killed by a Zamfara militia. Two million was reportedly paid by the victim's family before he was killed. **Source:** Nigerian Tribune

27 December 2023: In Old Barracks, Kokona LGA, Nasarawa state, a lecturer at the Nasarawa State University was kidnapped by an armed group who raided his home. He was rescued the following day after the police engaged the armed group in a firefight in Ogba Forest. The police arrested a student in connection with the attack. **Source:** The Guardian

Somalia
30 December 2023: In Bar-Sanguun village, Kismaayo, Lower Juba region, a primary school and a Jubaland police post were destroyed by RPGs fired by al-Shabaab.* **Source:** ACLED[1]

Sudan
As reported on 02 December 2023: In Khartoum, the Soba University Hospital was stormed and looted by the RSF. The catheterization department and all cars were looted, including ambulances and laboratory cars belonging to the University of Khartoum. The Mycetoma Research Center, the central laboratory, the examination centre, the Sati Center for laboratory research, the private wing and the administrative square were destroyed.* **Source:** Sudan Violations

As reported on 03 December 2023: In Omdurman, Khartoum state, an English language professor was killed alongside his mother and sister when the RAF fired a shell on their home. **Source:** Sudan Violations

03 December 2023: In Omdurman, Khartoum state, a doctor and lecturer at the Faculty of Pharmacy, her two sons and her parents were killed by an artillery shell that fell on their house. **Sources:** Dabanga Sudan **and** Personal Communication

07 December 2023: In Omdurman, Khartoum state, Al-Hara 76 Girls School was shelled by the RSF, causing an unspecified number of injuries.* **Source:** Sudan War Updates

25 December 2023: In Wad Madani, Al Jazirah state, a researcher at the Institute of Economic and Social Studies and professor at a number of Sudanese universities was shot and killed in his home by the RSF. **Source:** Sudan Violations

Asia

Bangladesh
03 December 2023: In Dhaka, a first year student of Dhaka University was assaulted by Bangladesh Chhatra League activists at the Biyah Ekattar Hall until he fell unconscious. **Source:** New Age

Myanmar
11 October 2023: In Amarapura town, township and district, Mandalay region, a CDM-affiliated female teacher was arrested by junta forces. **Sources:** Chindwin News Agency **and** Mizzima

13 October 2023: In Kawkareik town, township and district, Kayin state, a basic education high school was hit by an armed drone, killing a student and injuring three others.* **Sources:** Eleven Media Group**,** Popular News Journal **and** RFA Burmese

13 October 2023: In Yesagyo town and township, Pakokku district, Magway division, ammunition was seized from a basic education school.* **Sources:** Fifty-Two News**,** PCT News**,** People Media **and** Popular News Journal

14 October 2023: In Yesagyo town and township, Pakokku district, Magway division, a large number of weapons reportedly stored by PDF in a school was seized by the junta forces.* **Sources:** PCT News **and** People Media

01 December 2023: In Namkham town and township, Mu Se district, Shan state, a school was damaged when Myanmar military airstrikes hit the area.* **Sources:** Delta News Agency **and** RFA Burmese

05 December 2023: In Zeekone town and Kanbalu township, junta forces were stationed at a school.* **Source:** DVB News

06 December 2023: In Shwebo town and township, Shwebo district, Sagaing region, junta forces were stationed inside the Shwebo University campus.* **Source:** DVB News

06 December 2023: In Mrauk-U town, township and district, Rakhine state, about 8 Military Council members spent the night at the Middle Market School.* **Source:** Narinjara

06 December 2023: In Myaing town and township, Pakokku district, Magway region, the local PDF attacked junta forces positioned at a school's gates.* **Sources:** Burmese DVB**,** Myaelatt Athan **and** Myanmar Pressphoto Agency

10 December 2023: In Tamu town, township and district, Sagaing region, a school was destroyed in Myanmar military airstrikes.* **Sources:** Ayeyarwaddy News **and** Halls

11 December 2023: In Shwenyaung, Shan state, Shwenyaung High School No. 9 was closed after a bomb was found in the schoolyard.* **Source:** MeKong News

11 December 2023: In PatheinGyi township, Aungmyethazan district, Mandalay region, three teachers of the Cooperative College were sent threatening mobile phone messages.* **Source:** Eleven Media Group

11 December 2023: In Naukkalaywa village, Thaton township, Mon state, two men who arrived on a motorcycle brought a threatening letter with a bullet to a basic education middle school demanding shutdown.* **Sources:** Eleven Media Group **and** NP News**.**

12 December 2023: In Pale town and township, Yinmabin District, Sagaing region, a CDM-affiliated teacher and her husband were killed in an Myanmar military airstrike. **Source:** Myanmar Pressphoto Agency

13 December 2023: In Thayet Chaung town, Dawei district, Tanintharyi region, a recently opened school was burned down by junta forces.* **Source:** Network Media Group

14 December 2023: In Pa Lu Za Wa village and village tract, Ye-U township and district, Sagaing region, a school, a station hospital, a rural health centre, a monastery and houses were damaged by Myanmar military attack helicopters.* **Source:** Myanmar Pressphoto Agency

15 December 2023: In Namhsan town and township, Kyaukme district, Shan state, a school was destroyed in a fire caused by a Myanmar military airstrike.* **Sources:** The Irrawaddy News **and** Towards Media

15 December 2023: In Tonzang town and township, Tedim district, Chin state, a basic education high school was set on fire by suspected PDF members.* **Sources:** Ayeyarwaddy Times**,** PCT News**,** Eleven Media Group**,** Shwe Phee Myay News Agency

15 December 2023: In Seik Phyu town and township, Pakokku district, Magway region, a primary school was damaged in a Myanmar military airstrike.* **Sources:** Midland Voice - Myaelatt Athan

16 December 2023: In Paung Yin town and township, Mawlaik district, Sagaing region, a school was damaged in a Myanmar military helicopter attack.* **Sources:** Myaelatt Athan **and** Mandalay Free Press

18 December 2023: In Matupi town and township, Matupi district, Chin state, a school was damaged in a Myanmar military airstrike.* **Source:** The Mindat Post

19 December 2023: In Kawkareik town, township and district, Kayin state, Karen National Liberation Army (KNLA) attacked Military Council soldiers stationed inside a burned down school.* **Source:** Mizzima

19 December 2023: In Paletwa town, township, and district, Chin state, two female teachers and a nurse were injured in artillery shelling during armed clashes between the Myanmar military and the Arakan Army. **Source:** Ayeyarwaddy Times

20 December 2023: In Kyaikmaraw town, of the Mon State administrative division, a school was destroyed by Myanmar military shelling.* **Source:** Independent Mon News Agency

21 December 2023: In Tigyaing town and township, Katha district, Sagaing region, a school was shelled by Myanmar military forces, killing one person.* **Source:** Khit Thit Media

21 December 2023: In Myaing town and township, Pakokku district and Magway region, the police seized weapons of the PDF stationed in a school.* **Sources:** Fifty-Two News, PCT News and People Media News

22 December 2023: In Matupi town, township and district, Chin state, two non-CDM teachers and four students have been arrested by the Military Council. **Source:** Zalen Info

23 December 2023: In Phyu town and township, Taungoo district, Bago region, a primary school teacher and another woman were shot by gunfire of an unidentified origin. **Sources:** Eleven Media Group **and** Phyu Township

23 December 2023: In Kyaukse town, township and district, Mandalay region, a school principal and two village administrators were reportedly killed by the PDF. **Source:** People Media News

25 December 2023: In Myinmu town and township, Sagaing district and region, a school was shelled four times by police and junta soldiers.* **Source:** Khit Thit News

26 December 2023: In Katha town, township and district, Sagaing region, two Myanmar military airstrikes hit a middle school.* **Source:** BBC Burmese

27 December 2023: In Natogyi town and township, Myingyan district, Mandalay region, two students were injured and a soldier killed when a PDF drone strike hit junta soldiers stationed at a school.* **Sources:** Khit Thit News

27 December 2023: In Namtu town and township, Kyaukme district, Shan state, a kindergarten burned down due to artillery fire of an unidentified origin.* **Source:** RFA Burmese

28 December 2023: In Kawkareik town, township and district, Karen state, the KNLA and PDF joint forces attacked the local police station and junta soldiers stationed in a school.* **Sources:** Karen Information Center **and** Khit Thit News

29 December 2023: In Namtu town and township, Kyaukme district, Shan state, a teacher was killed in a Myanmar military airstrike. **Source:** Shwe Phee Myay News Agency

30 December 2023: In Mongngawt town, Kyaukme township, a school damaged by a fire caused by Myanmar military airstrikes.* **Source:** Khit Thit News

30 December 2023: In Chaung-U town and township, Monywa district, Sagaing region, a teacher was arrested by junta forces. **Source:** Midland Voice - Myaelatt Athan

Pakistan

05 December 2023: On Warsak Road, Peshawar city, KPK province, suspected TTP militants detonated an IED outside Peshawar Public School injuring seven, including four children.* **Source:** ACLED[1]

28 December 2023: In Kotka Mumbati Barakzi area, Bannu city, KPK province, suspected TTP militants attacked a government higher secondary school for girls, setting the science lab and equipment ablaze and leaving a warning note at the school gate. The school was closed for winter break.* **Source:** ACLED[1]

Europe

Ukraine

02 December 2023: In Novoekonomichne, Donetsk oblast, educational infrastructure and three houses were damaged in Russian shelling in the area.* **Source:** ACLED[1]

02 December 2023: In Halytsynivka, Donetsk oblast, educational infrastructure and three houses were damaged in Russian shelling in the area.* **Source:** ACLED[1]

04 December 2023: In Kherson city and oblast, a kindergarten was damaged and a civilian injured in Russian shelling.* **Source:** ACLED[1]

12 December 2023: In Kherson city and oblast, an educational facility and residential buildings were damaged and three civilians wounded in Russian shelling.* **Source:** ACLED[1]

13 December 2023: In Dniprovskiy district, Kyiv city, a kindergarten was damaged in a nighttime attack by Russian forces using S-400 missiles.* **Sources:** Obozrevatel

13 December 2023: In Dniprovskiy district, Kyiv city, as a result of the night attack by the Russian forces with S-400 missiles, the windows of a school were broken.* **Sources:** Obozrevatel

15 December 2023: In Donetsk - Kalininskiy, Donetsk oblast, a school and a warehouse were damaged when Ukrainian Forces shelled Russian DPR Forces with multiple launch rocket systems (MLRS).* **Source:** ACLED[1]

22 December 2023: In Odessa city and oblast, a school was damaged when Ukrainian military forces intercepted six Russian drones and remnants of one drone hit the school.* **Source:** ACLED[1]

29 December 2023: In Odessa city and oblast, a school, a residential complex and houses were damaged when Russian forces conducted a rocket strike with an airborne X-59 missile on the area. Five civilians were killed and 32 were wounded.* **Source:** ACLED[1]

30 December 2023: Near Beryslav city, Kherson oblast, educational infrastructure and administrative buildings were damaged in Russian shelling.* **Source:** ACLED[1]

30 December 2023: In Kharkiv city and oblast, a kindergarten, administrative buildings and a hotel were damaged when Russian forces carried out drone strikes and launched 'S-300' and 'Iskander-M' missiles on the area. At least 28 civilians and a British journalist were injured.* **Source:** ACLED[1]

31 December 2023: In Mykhailivka city, Kherson oblast, educational infrastructure and administrative buildings were damaged in Russian shelling.* **Source:** ACLED[1]

Middle East and North Africa

Iraq

08 December 2023: In Soran city and district, Erbil governorate, Kurdistan region, a fire of unidentified origin broke out at a residential building, killing two men, including a professor at Soran University, and four women. **Source:** The New Arab

Israel
04 December 2023: In Ganei Tikva town, HaMerkazb district, shrapnel from an intercepted Hamas rocket fired from Gaza fell next to a school, damaging it.* **Source:** ACLED[1]

21 December 2023: In Tel Aviv city, fragments from intercepted Hamas rockets fired from Gaza fell on a school and several other locations in the city.* **Source:** ACLED[1]

27 December 2023: In an unspecified location, Israeli high school students assaulted a school principal after he shared a Haaretz article calling for more humanitarian aid in Gaza. Students reportedly brought Molotov cocktails to try to attack the staff member. **Sources:** Quds News Network **and** Quds News Network II

As reported on 30 December 2023: In Tel Aviv-Yafo municipality, an Israeli school principal was summoned to a hearing before suspension for sharing an article that humanised Gazan civilians on her social media, subsequently becoming a target of a media hate campaign. Tensions escalated within the school, students were reportedly brought Molotov cocktails in an attempt to assault her. **Sources:** Haaretz**,** Quds News Network **and** Personal Communication

Lebanon
24 December 2023: In Taybeh town, Marjayoun governorate, an Israeli drone struck a school.* **Source:** Al Mayadeen

Occupied Palestinian Territories
Gaza Strip
01 December 2023: In Gaza governorate, a journalist and university professor was killed, alongside several family members, when Israeli forces bombed their home. **Source:** Quds News Network

01 December 2023: In Jabalia city, North Gaza governorate, Israeli forces attacked a UN school housing displaced people, causing an unspecified number of injuries.* **Source:** Quds News Network

As reported on 02 December 2023: In Deir al-Balah city and governorate, an UNRWA school was hit by an Israeli airstrike, killing a child.* **Source:** War Monitor

02 December 2023: In Al-Maghazi Refugee Camp, Deir al-Balah governorate, two people were killed and an unspecified number injured after an UN school housing displaced people was hit with three artillery shells.* **Sources:** Personal Communication **and** Quds News Network

02 December 2023: In Al-Falouja area, Jabalia city, North Gaza governorate, a Palestinian academic and physics scientist was killed, alongside his family in an Israeli airstrike. **Sources:** Personal Communication**,** The New Arab **and** The Palestinian Information Centre

02 December 2023: In Jabalia Refugee Camp, North Gaza governorate, the President of the Islamic University of Gaza was killed along with his family in an Israeli airstrike. **Sources:** Personal Communication **and** Quds News Network
03 December 2023: In Jabalia Refugee Camp, North Gaza governorate, ten people were killed and 20 injured when the vicinity of Al Fakhoura UNRWA School was hit at about 15:00.* **Source:** OCHA Flash 59

03 December 2023: In Khan Yunis governorate, a UNRWA school sheltering nearly 3,800 IDPs was hit following a suspected Israeli strike nearby, killing four IDPs and injuring seven.* **Source:** OCHA Flash 60

03 December 2023: In Deir Al Balah governorate, a UNRWA school sheltering about 6,170 IDPs was damaged after it was hit by a suspected Israeli strike.* **Source:** OCHA Flash 60

04 December 2023: In al-Darraj neighbourhood, Gaza, at least 50 civilians were killed and hundreds injured when Israeli airstrikes hit the UN-run Salah Ad-Din School and Martyr Assad Saftawi School

housing displaced people.* **Sources:** NDTV, Personal Communication I, Personal Communication II, Quds News Network, Wafa and War Monitor

04 December 2023: In Beit Lahia city, North Gaza governorate, Israeli forces bombed a UNRWA school housing displaced people, killing an unspecified number of people.* **Sources:** War Monitor I and War Monitor II

As reported on 05 December 2023: In Beit Lahia city, North Gaza governorate, Israeli forces bombed the vicinity of the Khalifa School housing displaced people.* **Source:** Quds News Network

05 December 2023: In Ma'an area, Khan Yunis city and governorate, Gaza Strip, a school was bombed by Israeli warplanes, killing an unspecified number of people.* **Source:** Personal Communication

06 December 2023: In Khan Yunis governorate, five UNRWA schools housing displaced people were evacuated following orders by Israeli forces to the facilities managers. **Source:** OCHA Flash 61

07 December 2023: In Jabalia city, North Gaza governorate, the bodies of an unspecified number of displaced people killed by Israeli forces were scattered in a school yard. **Sources:** Quds News Network

As reported on 07 December 2023: In Gaza governorate, an English language professor at the Islamic University of Gaza was killed when a targeted Israeli airstrike hit his sister's home, killing also his siblings, nephews, and nieces. **Sources:** Personal Communication I, Personal Communication II, The New Arab and War Monitor

07 December 2023: In Beit Lahia project area and city, North Gaza governorate, Israeli forces besieged the Awni Harthani School housing displaced people. Three people, including a child, were killed.* **Source:** Personal Communication

07 December 2023: In Beit Lahia project area and city, North Gaza governorate, an unspecified number of male civilians were rounded up, detained and stripped of their clothing by Israeli forces from a UN school housing displaced people.* **Source:** The New Arab

07 December 2023: In Beit Lahia project area and city, North Gaza governorate, hundreds of Palestinians, including a 48-year-old UNRWA school director, were detained by Israeli forces in a school housing displaced people. The detainees were stripped, tied, and transferred to an unknown location for investigation of links to Hamas.* **Sources:** PCHR, Personal Communication I, Personal Communication II and OCHA Flash 62

08 December 2023: In Jabalia city, North Gaza governorate, Israeli forces launched smoke and white phosphorus bombs at a UNRWA school.* **Sources:** Quds News Network I, Quds News Network II and Quds News Network III

08 December 2023: In Gaza, an Israeli airstrike hit the Dahyan School, killing six Palestinians.* **Source:** Personal Communication

08 December 2023: In Beit Lahia city, North Gaza governorate, 10 people were killed, and 15 injured inside the besieged Khalifa School.* **Sources:** Quds News Network and The New Arab

08 December 2023: In Khan Yunis city and governorate, an Israeli airstrike hit a school housing displaced people.* **Source:** Quds News Network

08 December 2023: In Jabalia Refugee Camp, North Gaza governorate, hundreds of IDPs were kidnapped from Yamn Saeed Hospital, Abu Hussein School and other facilities. **Source:** Personal Communication

08 December 2023: In Shujjaiya neighbourhood, Gaza city and governorate, an unspecified number of Palestinians were arrested by Israeli forces in Moen Bsiso School. **Source:** Personal Communication

08 December 2023: In the Remal neighbourhood, Gaza city and governorate, dozens of civilians were arrested, stripped off their clothes and assaulted by Israeli forces in the Christian Holy Family School housing displaced people.* **Source:** Personal Communication

09 December 2023: In Gaza, Israeli forces raided the UNRWA-run Salah al-Din School housing displaced people. Contact with people inside was lost.* **Source:** Quds News Network

09 December 2023: In Beit Lahia, North Gaza governorate, Israeli military forces detained dozens of Palestinian men and boys from the age of 15 in a school housing displaced people. Some detainees were released and said that they were subject to ill-treatment. This was the second such incident in this location.* **Source:** OCHA Flash 64

10 December 2023: In Beit Lahia city, North Gaza governorate, Israeli forces torched the Khalifa School, destroying it.* **Sources:** Quds News Network I **and** Quds News Network II

10 December 2023: In Jabalia Refugee Camp, North Gaza governorate, Israeli airstrikes hit Al-Fakhoura School housing displaced people.* **Sources:** Quds News Network I **and** Quds News Network II

11 December 2023: In the Hamdan area, Israeli forces besieged the Palestine School housing displaced people. Women and children were expelled, whilst men were detained and investigated, some arrested.* **Sources:** Jordan News **and** Quds News Network

11 December 2023: In North Gaza governorate, Israeli forces executed babies inside an UNRWA school sheltering IDPs*. **Source:** Quds News Network

As reported on 12 December 2023: In Beit Hanoun city, North Gaza governorate, Israeli forces bombed and destroyed two UN schools.* **Sources:** Quds News Network I**,** Quds News Network II Quds News Network III **and** OCHA Flash 67

As reported on 13 December 2023: In Gaza, Israeli forces arrested the Dean of the IT Department, University of Palestine, at the Holy Family School, and executed him from point blank range after letting him walk away. **Sources:** Personal Communication **and** Quds News Network

13 December 2023: In Shujaeya area, Gaza city and governorate, 10 Israeli soldiers invaded a school and turned it into a military outpost.* **Sources:** Quds News Network **and** The New Arab

13 December 2023: In Burj al-Shaikh Radwan area, Gaza city and governorate, Israeli airstrikes hit a school housing displaced people, killing six Palestinians and wounding an unspecified number.* **Sources:** Quds News Network **and** OCHA Flash 69

13 December 2023: Near Jabalia Refugee Camp, Jabalia city, North Gaza governorate, Israeli forces shelled the UN-run Abo Hosein Boys' Primary School, killing and wounding dozens of Palestinians inside.* **Sources:** Garowe Online**,** Personal Communication **and** The New Arab

13 December 2023: In Al-Faluja area, Jabalia city, North Gaza governorate, Israeli forces shot and killed, from point-blank range, 15 Palestinian IDPs inside or near the Shadi Abo Ghazala School housing displaced people.* **Sources:** Personal Communication**,** The New Arab I**,** The New Arab II **and** Quds News Network

13 December 2023: In Ad Dahra area, Khan Yunis governorate, an Israeli military drone killed a Palestinian girl in an UNRWA school housing displaced people at about 12:30.* **Source:** OCHA Flash 69

14 December 2023: In Ad Darraj area, Gaza city and governorate, an Israeli military drone killed two Palestinians in a school housing displaced people at about 11:10.* **Source:** OCHA Flash 70

15 December 2023: In Khan Younis city and governorate, the Haifa School was struck by an Israeli drone, wounding a journalist and his colleague. Ambulances and rescue workers were prevented by Israeli soldiers from reaching them. Five hours later, the journalist succumbed to his wounds.* **Sources:** The Guardian, The New Arab I **and** The New Arab II

16 December 2023: In Gaza city and governorate, an undefined number of Palestinians were killed in an Israeli attack that hit the vicinity of UNRWA's Al Mazra'a School.* **Source:** OCHA Flash 71

16 December 2023: In Jabalia Refugee Camp, North Gaza governorate, a father, mother and their six children were reportedly killed at point black inside Shadi Abo Ghazzala School. **Source:** Personal Communication

17 December 2023: In Khan Yunis governorate, 14 Palestinian were killed and tens injured when the UN Al Hinnawy School was struck at about 11:30.* **Sources:** OCHA Flash 72 **and** Personal Communication

17 December 2023: In Khan Yunis governorate, several Israeli strikes hit UNRWA facilities sheltering IDPs. Two IDPs were killed and others, including at least three children, were injured by shrapnel due to a direct hit into these shelters or nearby strikes.* **Source:** OCHA Flash 73

17 December 2023: In Gaza city and governorate, an UNRWA school sheltering about 2,500 IDPs sustained damage due to a direct hit by a tank shelling. No casualties were reported.* **Source:** OCHA Flash 73

18 December 2023: In Al Zayton neighbourhood, Gaza city and governorate, Assabra School sheltering displaced people was damaged by Israeli forces. Several displaced residents were injured.* **Sources:** Personal Communication I **and** Personal Communication II

19 December 2023: In Khan Yunis governorate, an Israeli military drone (quadcopter) reportedly opened fire inside Al Hanawi School at about 16:50, injuring four IDPs. The number of IDPs sheltering at the school at the time of the attack was not clear.* **Source:** OCHA Flash 74

20 December 2023: In Gaza city and governorate, Al-Mustaqbal School was hit by an Israeli airstrike killing and injuring an unspecified number of people.* **Source:** WAFA

21 December 2023: In the Sheikh Radwan neighbourhood, Gaza city and governorate, Israeli forces stormed the Dahyan School, detaining and leading men away. There are concerns about the Israeli army carrying out field executions around the Sheikh Radwan neighbourhood.* **Source:** Quds News Network

22 December 2023: In Gaza city and governorate, a professor of media and journalist along with his family members were killed when an Israeli airstrike hit their home. **Source:** Quds News Network

23 December 2023: In Nuseirat Refugee Camp, Deir al-Balah governorate, two IDPs were killed when two UNRWA schools were hit.* **Source:** OCHA Flash 77

23 December 2023: In Jabalia city, North Gaza governorate, airstrikes hit the vicinity of schools sheltering IDPs, killing and injuring tens of Palestinians.* **Source:** OCHA Flash 77

23 December 2023: In Jabalia city, North Gaza governorate, Israeli soldiers shot and killed a child in front of the Rafe'ey School. His mother was also injured.* **Source:** IMEMC

24 December 2023: In Jabalia city, North Gaza governorate, Israeli forces stormed the Al-Rafi'i School, arresting several young men and removing women sheltering inside at gunpoint.* **Source:** AA

24 December 2023: In Khan Yunis governorate, three Palestinians were killed after Israeli bombing hit the vicinity of Al Awda School.* **Source:** IMEMC

25 December 2023: In Al-Maghazi Refugee Camp, Deir al-Balah governorate, a Palestinian drama teacher was killed by Israeli airstrikes. **Source:** Middle East Eye

27 December 2023: In Al-Maghazi Refugee Camp, Deir al-Balah Governorate, civilians evacuated Al-Maghazi School as a result of continuous Israeli artillery shelling. Two people were killed and others injured. **Source:** Quds News Network **and** Roya News

27 December 2023: In Al-Maghazi Refugee Camp, Deir al-Balah governorate, at about 9:15, Israeli forces struck the UNRWA Preparatory School for Girls, killing at least five Palestinians, and injuring several others. The school was sheltering IDPs and was evacuated following the strike.* **Source:** OCHA Flash 78

28 December 2023: In Al-Bureij Refugee Camp, Deir al-Balah governorate, Israeli forces raided the Abu Helu School and detained and transferred all the male to an unknown destination.* **Source:** OCHA Flash 80

28 December 2023: In Al-Bureij Refugee Camp, Deir al-Balah governorate, Israeli forces raided the Al Bureij Girls Preparatory School.* **Source:** OCHA Flash 80

29 December 2023: In Al-Bureij Refugee Camp, Deir al-Balah governorate, at about 14:30, two IDPs were killed and another injured when a UNRWA Elementary School for Boys was hit.* **Source:** OCHA Flash 81

31 December 2023: In Deir al-Balah city and governorate, Israeli forces threw stun grenades near the Khawla School housing displaced people.* **Source:** WAFA

31 December 2023: In Gaza city and governorate, 20 displaced Palestinians were killed in an Israeli airstrike that hit Al-Aqsa University.* **Source:** Quds News Network

West Bank

04 December 2023: In East Jerusalem, a 14-year-old boy, who had earlier been released from Israeli detention in a prisoner-hostage swap between Israel and Hamas, was prevented from resuming his education at a public school. **Source:** The New Arab

As reported on 06 December 2023: In Khirbet Zanuta village, Hebron governorate, an EU-funded school and houses were bulldozed by Israeli settler.* **Sources:** BBC **and** Personal Communication

20 December 2023: In Jaloud village, Nablus governorate, Israeli forces threw sound bombs at students leaving the Jaloud Mixed Basic School.* **Source:** WAFA

26 December 2023: In Nur Shams Refugee Camp, Tulkarem governorate, a kindergarten was destroyed by Israeli forces during a military operation inside the camp.* **Source:** Quds News Network

Syrian Arab Republic

02 December 2023: In Afes village, Saraqib subdistrict, Idlib district and governorate, artillery fire by Syrian and Russian forces hit Al-Shuhadaa School full of children. A teacher and two pupils were injured. On 21 December, it was reported that the teacher had died from their injuries.* **Sources:** Personal Communication**,** SOHR **and** The White Helmets

As reported on 09 December 2023: In Bulbul village, Afrin District, Aleppo governorate, National Police Forces detained three teachers in a school on charges of removing the Turkish flag from a classroom during the arrival of a Turkish governor. The victims' whereabouts remain unknown**.*** **Source:** SOHR

21 December 2023: In Sarmin town, Idlib governorate, an agricultural field which is part of, and belongs to the al-Rifiya School, 'the Rural School,' was damaged when Syrian regime forces used a rocket launcher to fire multiple rockets on the area. The area is under the control of armed opposition factions and HTS. **Source:** SNHR

24 December 2023: In Ein Laruz village, Ariha district, Idlib governorate, Syrian regime forces shelled missiles and artillery shells AT Jamil Qentar Elementary School during the school hours, wounding a child.* **Sources:** SOHR I **and** SOHR II

25 December 2023: In Sarmin city, Idlib governorate, a school and other vital facilities were hit and damaged by a missile fired by Syrian regime forces on the city, killing a civilian and injuring five others, including three children.* **Source:** The White Helmets

27 December 2023: In Al-Bab city, Aleppo governorate, the Education Directorate, a courthouse, a cultural centre, a police station, and a post and shipping centre, was hit by artillery shelling by Syrian regime forces and Syrian Democratic Forces, injuring two people.* **Source:** The White Helmets

31 December 2023: In Idlib city, Idlib governorate, Iz bin Abdul Salam School, al-Thawra Health Centre, Abu Zar al-Ghafari Mosque, and the Civil Status Department were hit when Syrian regime forces used a rocket launcher to fire multiple rockets on the area. Four civilians, including two women and a girl, were wounded. The area is under the control of armed opposition factions and HTS. **Source:** SOHR

The Americas

Colombia

14 December 2023: In Manaure municipality, La Guajira department, armed and hooded individuals opened fire against the house of a Wayuu Indigenous social leader and teacher in the Samaria Wayuu community at around 5:30 am. They also fired their guns into the air and intimidated members of the community, who fled for cover from bullets. The Indigenous group had received threats in the past. **Source:** ACLED[1]

22 December 2023: In Popayan municipality, Cauca department, a group of armed and hooded Indigenous people attacked a group of teachers affiliated with the Cauca Teachers Association (ASOINCA) with machetes, firearms, and artisanal explosives, injuring a teacher. Houses were also set on fire. The attack was related to land disputes between both groups over the property. Indigenous people claim ancestral rights over the land. **Source:** ACLED[1]

22 December 2023: In the Carbonero sector, Canoas reserve, Cauca department, unidentified perpetrators killed a teacher and Indigenous social leader, his wife, and daughter inside their house. Two other Indigenous men were also killed in the Vilachi vereda. Authorities are investigating if both cases are connected. While government authorities claimed that Dagoberto Ramos FARC dissidents were likely responsible for the attack, the armed group denied any involvement and attributed it to the ELN**. Source:** ACLED[1]

Haiti

05 December 2023: In the La Tremblay neighbourhood, Croix-des-Bouquets commune, Ouest department, a teacher who is also a lawyer was kidnapped from his house by armed individuals. **Sources:** Le Nouvelliste **and** TripFoumi Enfo

06 December 2023: In the vicinity of Bel-Air suburb, Port-au-Prince town, Ouest department, approximately ten students from two congregational schools were kidnapped by armed individuals as they were commuting to school in a school vehicle.* **Sources:** AmeriqueInfo7 **and** Le National

20 December 2023: On Muller Avenue, Carrefour-Feuilles suburb, Port-au-Prince town, a social science teacher at public school was killed inside his house by armed bandits. **Sources:** Radio Télé Galaxie **and** PressLakay

Mexico

04 December 2023: In Guasave downtown, Sinaloa state, two students were beaten and forced to walk naked through the city by armed hooded men as punishment for selling electric vapes. The assault started when the perpetrators entered the Universidad Autonoma de Occidente looking for the victims. The incident was recorded and shared on social media. **Source:** BorderLand Beat

As reported on 05 December 2023: In Celaya city, Guanajuato state, five University of Guanajuato students were killed and their bodies found inside an abandoned vehicle close to the University of Guanajuato campus. **Source:** La Jornada

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This Monthly News Brief comprises reported incidents of threatened or actual violence affecting education. It is part of the Education in Danger 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 education and have not been independently verified. This document is funded and supported by the generous support of the American people through the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). The opinions expressed in it do not reflect in any way the position of USAID or the U.S. Government who are not responsible for the content expressed in this document. **Insecurity Insight. 2024. Education in Danger Monthly News Brief, December 2023. Switzerland: Insecurity Insight. bit.ly/Dec2023EduMNB**

[1] Armed Conflict Location & Event Data Project (ACLED) database attribution policy. Accessed 10 January 2024.