



| | |
|--|--|
| Subject | Guide to Country of Origin (COI) online sources |
| Author | Country Research (CR) |
| Date | February 2024 [last reviewed] |
| <p>CONTENTS</p> <p>INTRODUCTION 2</p> <p>PORTALS..... 3</p> <p>COI RESEARCH PUBLISHED BY COUNTRY RESEARCH UNITS OVERSEAS 4</p> <p> Other Governmental Sources..... 4</p> <p>UNITED NATIONS AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL AND REGIONAL BODIES .. 5</p> <p> United Nations (UN) Human Rights Council (HRC) and Human Rights Treaty Bodies 5</p> <p> UN organisations, programmes, funds, and agencies..... 6</p> <p> Regional And Intergovernmental Organisations..... 6</p> <p>NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATION (NGO) SOURCES 7</p> <p> NGO sources with international coverage 7</p> <p> NGO sources with regional coverage 8</p> <p> NGO sources addressing specific issues 9</p> <p>NEWS SOURCES 11</p> <p> News sources with international coverage 11</p> <p> News sources with a specific focus e.g. regional coverage or humanitarian focus 11</p> <p>MAPS 12</p> <p>LAW-RELATED COI..... 13</p> <p>MEDICAL COI..... 13</p> <p>COI RESEARCH PRACTICE 15</p> | |



INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this guide is to provide an overview of some useful websites for Country of Origin Information (COI) research. COI is used by decision-makers and legal advisers to aid in answering questions about the political, social, cultural, economic and human rights situations in countries of origin.

Please note that the websites included here represent a selection only, as web sources are constantly in flux and will vary depending on case-specific COI needs. Provided below are some established, reliable online sources which can be instrumental in meeting COI research needs.

When conducting COI research CR favours sources with established credentials that are recognised internationally as reputable sources of information. Often the reliability or accuracy of a single source is difficult to assess. CR recommends checking for corroborative information from a range of sources e.g. web portals, government reports, NGO reports and media reports. The websites recommended in this document are primarily grouped according to these 'source types'. Some sections cover specific subject areas, such as medical COI.

About Us

Country Research (CR) is a research unit within the Digital, Data and Insights group (part of the Ministry for Business Innovation and Employment, MBIE) that provides a COI research service to Immigration NZ decision-makers, particularly in the protection and risk areas. CR also provides a COI research service to members of the Immigration and Protection Tribunal (IPT).

CR is not resourced to provide direct research or other services to third parties. However, we may be able to assist by recommending online sources relating to particular research topics, in addition to those listed in this guide.

We can be contacted at: Amy.Turner@mbie.govt.nz – Amy Turner (National Manager, Country Research and Open Source Intelligence)



PORTALS

The following portals act as gateways to information found on other trusted websites. They compile diverse sources in a uniform way and are considered a “first port of call” for COI research.

[European Country of Origin Information Network \(ECOI\)](#)

A portal managed by the Austrian Centre for Country of Origin Information and Asylum Research and Documentation (ACCORD). As of 1 January 2019, ECOI became the leading global COI portal.

[European Union Agency for Asylum \(EUAA\)](#)

The portal is managed by the European Union Agency for Asylum (EUAA) in cooperation with the national asylum authorities of EU Member States plus Norway and Switzerland. The EUAA COI Portal provides selected COI authored by national asylum authorities, EUAA and other EU institutions.

[RefWorld](#)

A UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) portal and leading source of information specifically tailored to supporting quality refugee status determination. The site includes country information [up to Dec 2018], legal information, and policy and reference documents.

Since 1 January 2019, [ECOI](#) has served as the global go-to COI database. RefWorld now has a focus on law and policy documents.

The RefWorld site was [relaunched](#) in February 2024, “providing for a new design, improved functionalities and bringing together the English, Russian and Spanish sites on the same system. The legacy version of Refworld can still be visited on [UNHCR's Web Archive](#)”.

[ReliefWeb](#)

A portal on humanitarian crises around the world. Administered by the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA). Includes reports, articles, and an extensive [map/infographic](#) section.



COI RESEARCH PUBLISHED BY COUNTRY RESEARCH UNITS OVERSEAS

[Canadian Immigration and Refugee Board \(IRB\)](#)

Published research from Canada's Country of Origin Information unit. Includes National Documentation Packages (by subject area), Recent Research, and Responses to Information Requests.

[Danish Immigration Service](#)

“The Immigration Service’s Country of Origin Information Division collect and analyse background information on conditions in the applicants’ countries of origin.” The majority of [reports](#) are written in Danish, some select products are written in English.

[Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs Country reports](#)

Available on the Netherlands government website; some reports have been translated into English. Use the [search function](#) to find reports by country and topic. (COI report titles generally include the standard phrase ‘country of origin information report’.)

[Norwegian Country of Origin Information Centre \(Landinfo\)](#)

“The Norwegian Country of Origin Information Centre – Landinfo – is responsible for collecting, analysing and presenting country of origin information to the Norwegian Immigration Authorities.” Landinfo’s reports and query responses are originally written in Norwegian. Selected products are translated into English and made available on these webpages.

[United Kingdom Home Office \(UKHO\) - Country policy and information notes](#)

These publications provide country of origin information (COI) as well as analysis of COI and policy guidance intended for UK Home Office decision-makers.

Other Governmental Sources

[CIA World Factbook](#)

Published by the United States Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), the World Factbook contains overviews of 266 countries and other entities, including general information on geography, people and society, government, economy, communications, transportation, military, and transnational issues.

[Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade \(DFAT\): Country Information Reports \(Australia\)](#)

“Country Information Reports are prepared by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) for protection status determination purposes only. They provide DFAT’s best judgment and assessment at time of writing and are distinct from Australian Government policy with respect to the countries in question. The reports provide a general, rather than an exhaustive country overview.”

[United States Department of Justice - Country Conditions Research](#)

“The Country Pages are compiled and updated by the [United States Department of Justice Executive Office for Immigration Review] EOIR Law Library and Immigration Research Centre



(LLIRC). All content is compiled from publicly available documents that report on aspects of country conditions that have relevance in removal hearings before Immigration Judges and the Board of Immigration Appeals.”

[United States Department of State \(US DOS\) annual reports](#)

The US State Department publishes the following annual reports (these can also be found on [ECOI](#)):

[Country Reports on Human Rights Practices](#): These reports “cover internationally recognized individual, civil, political, and worker rights, as set forth in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other international agreements.”

[International Religious Freedom Reports](#) Each country report “describes the status of religious freedom, government policies violating religious belief and practices of groups, religious denominations and individuals, and U.S. policies promoting religious freedom in nearly every country and territory throughout the world. The report covers the period between January 1 and December 31 of the previous calendar year.”

UNITED NATIONS AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL AND REGIONAL BODIES

A selection of international organisations that report on matters relevant to COI.

United Nations (UN) Human Rights Council (HRC) and Human Rights Treaty Bodies

The **[Committee against Torture](#)** monitors the implementation of the International Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment. States parties must report every four years.

[Committee on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women \(CEDAW\): country reports](#)

The Committee monitors the implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women. Select a state from the drop-down list to see its reports.

The **[Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination](#)** monitors the implementation of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination.

The **[Committee on the Rights of the Child](#)** monitors the implementation of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.

The **[Human Rights Committee](#)** monitors the implementation of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

[Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights \(OHCHR\): information on treaties by country](#)

This page provides country specific information on: The ratification of international Human



Rights treaties; reporting cycles. All the documents related to a reporting cycle [i.e. State reports, concluding observations etc.]

https://www.ohchr.org/en/ohchr_homepage Select a country and choose from the Table of Contents for Universal Periodic Review, Reports by Special Rapporteur, Treaty bodies reports etc. The OHCHR website links to various human rights-related resources. Information by country can be accessed here: <https://www.ohchr.org/en/countries>

UN organisations, programmes, funds, and agencies

The sources below are a selection only. Note that relevant COI material from several UN programmes and agencies can be found on the [ReliefWeb portal site](#). For example, ReliefWeb includes information from:

- International Organization for Migration ([IOM](#))
- UN Children’s Fund ([UNICEF](#))
- UN Development Programme ([UNDP](#))
- UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization ([UNESCO](#))
- UN High Commissioner for Refugees ([UNHCR](#))
- UN Population Fund ([UNFPA](#))
- UN Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East ([UNRWA](#))
- [UN Women](#)
- World Food Programme ([WFP](#))

Regional And Intergovernmental Organisations

[Asian Development Bank \(ADB\)](#)

[Key publications and documents](#) - data-rich research, policy analysis, toolkits, guidelines, and other resources on economics and key development topics.

[Asian Development Review Series](#)

The Asian Development Review is a professional journal that presents expertise and analysis on economics, social development, poverty and other issues in Asia and the Pacific.

Search by country to find socio-economic information in the countries of Asia and the Pacific.

[Development Asia](#) An ADB initiative contains briefs and articles by country and by topics relating to Sustainable Development Goals.

[European Commission against Racism and Intolerance \(ECRI\): country monitoring page](#)

“ECRI examines the situation concerning manifestations of racism and intolerance in each of the Council of Europe member states.”

[Inter-American Commission on Human Rights \(IACHR\)](#)

The IACHR was created by the Organisation of American States. It monitors the human rights situation in its 35 member states and publishes annual reports covering each country.

[Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development \(OECD\)](#)



It aims at “establishing evidence-based international standards and finding solutions to a range of social, economic and environmental challenges” worldwide. E.g., the OECD publishes the [Social Institutions and Gender Index, SIGI](#), which provides information related to gender inequalities in 180 countries.

[United Nations Population Fund \(UNFPA\) Asia\Pacific](#)

This Asia and the Pacific Section of the UNFPA website contains publications on such topics as gender equality, human rights, HIV & AIDs, maternal health, etc.

[UN Women Asia and Pacific](#)

This region-specific section of the UN Women website contains publications relevant for Asia and the Pacific situations of women in their country of origin, migration experiences, shelter, and housing needs assessments in the countries of origin.

NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATION (NGO) SOURCES

NGO sources with international coverage

[Amnesty International](#)

The site includes reports, media releases and urgent action notices. Can search site as well as browsing by region/country, topic, resource type and content type.

[Armed Conflict Location & Event Data Project \(ACLED\)](#)

ACLED is “a disaggregated data collection, analysis, and crisis mapping project. It collects information on the dates, actors, locations, fatalities, and types of all reported political violence and protest events around the world.”

[Asylos](#)

Asylos, research for asylum, took over the [Asylum Research Centre](#) COI research work. It is UK-registered charity that conducts research for asylum claims worldwide. Asylos volunteers provide COI for legal representatives of asylum-seekers in several countries.

Its [database](#) contains recent reports on many thematic areas. Reports are mostly login only, but [some are available on ECOI.net](#).

[Asylum Research Centre \(ARC Foundation\)](#)

An organisation whose aim is “to raise standards in the production and use of COI and the refugee status determination process as a whole, to improve the realisation of asylum seekers’ and refugees’ rights and entitlements and to ensure that those in need of protection are recognised as such.”

The site includes general online [publications](#). Note that ARC closed in March 2022, but some recent reports are still published on this site. [Asylos](#) has taken over the ARC’s work.

[Freedom House](#)

Includes annual reports on freedom in the world - a “comparative assessment of global political rights and civil liberties” which includes a profile per country - and on topics such as freedom on the net, freedom of the press, and transnational repression.



[Human Rights Watch \(HRW\)](#)

Based in the US, this is one of the largest human rights NGOs in the world, with reporting from almost every country internationally.

[International Crisis Group \(ICG\)](#)

The site contains detailed reports and analysis and a monthly bulletin, Crisis Watch, which gives an overview of current and potential conflicts around the world.

Information from the CrisisWatch bulletins is available in a [database](#), which can be browsed by country and time period.

[International Federation for Human Rights \(FIDH\)](#)

The site contains reports and media releases. It is searchable and can be browsed by region and issue. Issues covered: human rights defenders; women's rights; migrants' rights; LGBTI rights; international justice; globalisation and human rights; death penalty; terrorism, surveillance and human rights.

[World Organization against Torture \(OMCT\)](#)

The site focuses on information about "torture, summary executions, enforced disappearances and all other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment."

Search filters can be applied to limit search results by country, year, information type (e.g. reports and publications, events) and activities (e.g. monitoring protection mechanisms, urgent campaigns).

NGO sources with regional coverage

[Asia Foundation](#)

The Asia Foundation has headquarters in San Francisco (USA) and is a non-profit international development organisation focused on good governance, women's empowerment and gender equality, economic growth, environment and climate action. Check the [publications](#) section or use the search function to locate material.

[Asian Human Rights Commission \(AHRC\)](#)

An independent, non-governmental body, founded in 1984 by a group of jurists and human rights activists in Asia. It seeks to promote greater awareness and realisation of human rights in the Asian region, and to mobilise Asian and international public opinion to obtain relief and redress for the victims of human rights violations. Their website is searchable and contains news and more in-depth resources. Has separate country pages, issues pages and campaigns pages.

[MENA Rights Group](#)

MENA Rights Group is a "Geneva-based legal advocacy NGO defending and promoting fundamental rights and freedoms in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region. Adopting a holistic approach, [they] work at both the individual and structural level."

[\[Pacific Community\] Human Rights and Social Development](#) (HRSD)

Human Rights and Social Development is a division of the Pacific Community, which brings together previous Social Development Programme and Regional Rights Resource Team.



HRSD “provides culturally and contextually grounded technical assistance to advance human rights, gender, social inclusion, youth development, and cultural development.”

[Pacific Data Hub](#)

The portal contains dashboards and tools to represent data related to various topics, such as gender, population, Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), health and a geospatial data exploration tool.

NGO sources addressing specific issues

[Article 19](#)

An NGO with a focus on freedom of expression and freedom of information (Article 19 of the United Nations Declaration of Human Rights), which is supported by a wide range of government and non-government donors. The Article 19 website contains publications ranging from urgent press releases to in-depth legal analyses.

[Christian Solidarity Worldwide \(CSW\)](#)

CSW operates in more than 20 countries across Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Middle East, with a focus on defending, upholding and promoting the right to freedom of religion or belief. CSW takes a particular interest in the issue of apostasy. The website contains press releases, articles and some mission reports, in-depth papers etc. The longer reports contain citations and well-documented information.

[Committee to Protect Journalists](#)

An independent, non-profit organization founded in 1981 that promotes press freedom worldwide. Material on the site available back to the mid-1990s. The website contains a dashboard and a database of killed, missing and imprisoned journalists and other attacks on the Press.

[Development Policy Centre](#)

Based at the Crawford School of Public Policy at the Australian National University the Development Policy Centre (Devpol) “is a think tank for aid and development serving Australia, the region, and the global development community. It undertakes independent research and runs a [Devpolicy Blog](#), which contains aid and development analysis, research and policy comment, with global coverage and a focus on Australia, the Pacific and Papua New Guinea.

[Forum 18](#)

An NGO with a focus on freedom of religion or belief. Places covered are Central Asia, the South Caucasus, Russia and Belarus, as well as Turkey and China.

[Institute for Security Studies \(ISS\)](#)

The ISS focuses on human security in Africa, and combines research, policy analysis, technical assistance and training. Its focus areas include conflict, peace and security analysis, gender and human security, and crime and criminal justice. The ISS’s [Crimehub](#) is a regularly updated source of information and analysis on crime, violence and the functioning of the criminal justice system in South Africa.



[Institute for the Study of War \(ISW\)](#)

The Institute for the Study of War advances an informed understanding of military affairs through research, analysis, and innovative education for civilian leaders. The website contains reports, analysis and maps of current conflicts.

[International Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans and Intersex Association](#)

A “worldwide federation of more than 1,600 organisations from over 150 countries and territories campaigning for lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans and intersex human rights.”
Periodic reports include: [State-Sponsored Homophobia](#); [Trans Legal Mapping](#); [Intersex Legal Mapping](#).

[Médecins Sans Frontières \(MSF\) \(Doctors without Borders\)](#)

MSF is an international, independent medical humanitarian organisation. Publications include evaluations, critical reviews and guidelines detailing MSF activities and research.

[Minority Rights Group International \(MRGI\)](#)

Focuses on disadvantaged minorities and indigenous peoples. The site contains in-depth reports as well as a [directory](#) that provides profiles of minorities and indigenous peoples.

[Musawah](#)

Musawah is a Malaysia-based organisation which describes itself as “a global movement for equality and justice in the Muslim family.”

[OutRight Action International](#)

Formerly known as the International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission. The website contains publications on various topics relating to LGBTIQ rights.

[Physicians for Human Rights \(PHR\)](#)

PHR investigates and documents human rights violations using its core disciplines - science, medicine, forensics, and public health.

[Reporters Without Borders \(RSF\)](#)

RSF is an independent NGO, based in Paris, with consultative status with the United Nations, UNESCO, the Council of Europe and the International Organization of the Francophonie (OIF).

[Save the Children Child Rights Resource Centre](#)

The Resource Centre is an e-library that hosts information on the work of Save the Children. The topics include child protection, child poverty, child education, child health and nutrition, child disability and inclusion.

[Transparency International](#)

A global coalition against corruption. The site contains country profiles and conducts annual reports such as the corruption perceptions index.

[War Resisters' International \(WRI\)](#)

WRI describes itself as "a global pacifist and antimilitarist network". The site contains information on conscription and conscientious objection (first published in 1998, not all updated).



NEWS SOURCES

| |
|--|
| News sources with international coverage |
| Al Jazeera |
| Associated Press (AP) |
| BBC News |
| DW [Deutsche Welle] |
| The Economist |
| Guardian (UK) |
| Inter Press Service |
| Reuters |
| World Newspapers Links to numerous individual online newspapers, listed by country. |
| News sources with a specific focus e.g. regional coverage or humanitarian focus |
| AllAfrica News and information on African countries from over 140 African news organisations on a range of topics, including sustainable development, governance, business, and technology. |
| Asia Pacific Report Independent Asia Pacific news and analysis Non-profit venture between Multimedia Investments Ltd and Café Pacific Media in collaboration with Asia Pacific Media Network. |
| Caucasian Knot An online media outlet founded by the NGO Memorial, with a focus on the Caucasus region. |
| The Diplomat A magazine that focuses on the Asia Pacific region in relation to geo-political trends; defence and intelligence environment, human security and development; arts, social trends and popular culture. The site permits 5 free articles per month without a subscription. |
| Eurasianet News organisation based at Columbia University’s Harriman Institute (New York City) that reports on political, economic, environmental, societal and security-related developments in Eastern Europe (including Russia), Central Asia, South Caucasus, Türkiye and Southwest Asia. |
| Foreign Policy US-based analysis and reporting on global affairs. A limited number of articles per month are accessible without a subscription. |
| Insight Crime A think tank and media organisation that focuses on organised crime and security in the Americas. Provides information relating to geo-political developments, drug trafficking organisations and militias in Central and South American countries. |
| Institute for War & Peace Reporting (IWPR) “IWPR gives voice to people at the frontlines of conflict, crisis and change.” Coverage is of |



selected countries within the Middle East, Eurasia, Latin America, Asia and sub-Saharan Africa.

[The New Humanitarian](#) (formerly IRIN News)

Independent non-profit news organisation specialising in covering crises and disasters. The website notes that the name change in 2019 was to “signal our move from UN project to independent newsroom and our role chronicling the changing nature of – and response to – humanitarian crises.”

[Pacific Islands News Association \(PINA\)](#)

PINA represents the interests of media professionals in the Pacific region. Draws on news reports and analysis around the region from journalists, student journalists and academics.

[Radio Free Asia](#)

“RFA is a private, non-profit corporation that broadcasts news and information to listeners in Asian countries where full, accurate, and timely news reports are unavailable.”

[Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty](#)

“RFE/RL journalists report the news in 21 countries where a free press is banned by the government or not fully established.” Covers Russia, Central Asia, Caucasus, Balkans, Iran, Iraq, Afghanistan and Pakistan.

[Radio New Zealand International](#)

Coverage of the Pacific region.

MAPS

Maps are often useful for putting information in “physical context”.

[Perry-Castañeda Library Map Collection \(University of Texas\)](#) Note the website is archived as of 2021 and is no longer being updated but contains a large collection of maps.

[National Geographic Map Maker interactive](#)

Can turn on and off markers such as rivers, grid lines, border country names, large cities, small cities etc. and add layers for data on population, economy etc.

[ReliefWeb maps and infographics](#)

The source provides a list of maps and infographics, which can be refined by country, theme, date, and other filters.

[United Nations Maps & Geospatial Services](#)

The website contains general maps, maps by thematic areas, and map archives.



LAW-RELATED COI

[Fighting Domestic Violence](#)

A Pro bono project by Baker McKenzie law firm on behalf of Global Rights for Women and Every Woman Treaty produces comprehensive and up-to-date analysis of domestic violence laws around the World.

[GloLex](#)

“GloLex is an electronic legal publication dedicated to international and foreign law research. Published by the Hauser Global Law School Program at NYU School of Law. “The guides and articles published are written by scholars well known in their respective fields.” Guides to legal systems of countries of origin can be found under “Foreign Law Research” Section.

[Law Library of Congress](#) (United States)

The collection “features research reports and other publications on a wide range of legal topics prepared by the *Law Library of Congress* in response to requests or recurring interest from Congress and other federal government entities on issues concerning foreign, comparative, and international law (FCIL).” The website offers links to many legislative, administrative and judicial bodies in countries of origin under <https://guides.loc.gov/nations-world>.

MEDICAL COI

[African Health Observatory](#)

A World Health Organization (WHO) platform for health information in the Africa Region.

[Asia Pacific Observatory on Health Systems and Policies](#)

“The Asia Pacific Observatory on Health Systems and Policies (the APO) is a collaborative partnership of interested governments, international agencies, foundations, and researchers that promotes evidence-informed health system policy regionally and in all countries in the Asia Pacific region.”

[Demographic and Health Surveys \(DHS\) Program](#)

A USAID [United States Agency for International Development]-funded program that collects, analyses and disseminates accurate and representative data on population, health, HIV, and nutrition through more than 400 surveys in over 90 countries. Its country Demographic and Health Surveys provide detailed information on maternal and child health, HIV-prevalence and violence against women, among other issues.

[European Commission Country Health Profiles](#)

A “one-stop-shop for knowledge and information on a country’s health system, put into the perspective of a cross-EU comparison” prepared by the OECD and the European Observatory of Health Systems and Services. It covers the health policy challenges and developments in each country with most recent edition from 2021.

[Health System Reviews](#)



Produced by the European Observatory on Health Systems and Policies, the Health Systems in Transition (HiT) reviews cover the World Health Organization (WHO) European region and some additional OECD countries.

[HIV and AIDS Data Hub for Asia Pacific](#)

A collaboration between UNICEF, UNAIDS, and ADB offering one-stop access to multiple sources of HIV & AIDS data, focusing on Asia-Pacific countries.

[Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation \(IHME\)](#)

The Country Profiles presented as tables and graphs provide an overview of findings from the Global Burden of Disease (GBD).

[International Drug Name Database](#)

The International Drug Name Database “contains information about medications found in 185 countries around the world. The database contains more than 40,000 medication names marketed outside the USA and is presented in multiple languages.”

[Mayo Clinic](#)

Information about diseases and conditions.

[Medical Encyclopedia](#) (Medline Plus)

Includes over “4,000 articles about diseases, tests, symptoms, injuries, and surgeries. It also contains an extensive library of medical photographs and illustrations.”

[PubMed](#) (United States National Library of Medicine, NLM)

PubMed database contains more than 36 million citations for biomedical articles from MEDLINE, life science journals and online books.

[Rare Diseases Database](#)

Produced by the United States National Organization of Rare Diseases (NORD). Contains more than 1,200 reports of rare disorders “that include information on symptoms, causes, treatments, clinical trials, and sources of help such as patient advocacy organizations. Each report has a list of references, such as textbooks, articles, and government agency reports.”

[UNAIDS](#)

“UNAIDS leads the world’s most extensive data collection on HIV epidemiology, programme coverage and finance and publishes the most authoritative and up-to-date information on the HIV epidemic.” Country factsheets on the website contain data on HIV and AIDs estimates.

[US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#)

Science-based, data-driven, US service organization that protects the public’s health. **[Health Topics A-Z](#)** allows to “find diseases and conditions; healthy living; workplace safety; environmental health; injury, violence and safety, global health and more.”

[World Health Organization \(WHO\)](#)

WHO is the United Nations agency that “leads and champions global efforts to give everyone, everywhere an equal chance to live a healthy life.”

The website contains country reports with health-related information. The site can be searched, as well as browsed by country and region.

[World Health Organisation \(WHO\) Covid Dashboard](#)

The WHO dashboards illustrate data on confirmed cases, deaths and number of vaccines



administered by country.

[WHO Covid-19 Situation Report](#)

The weekly epidemiological update provides an overview of the global, regional and country-level COVID-19 cases and deaths. It also highlights key trends. “The COVID -19 Monthly Operational Update reports on WHO and *partners’ actions in response to the pandemic.*”

[WHO Mental Health Atlas](#)

“The Mental Health Atlas 2020 includes information and data from 171 out of 194 (88%) WHO’s Member States regarding the progress made towards achieving mental health targets for 2020 set by the global health community.” It includes data on service coverage, mental health integration into primary health care, preparedness for the provision of mental health and psychosocial support in emergencies and research on mental health.

COI RESEARCH PRACTICE

The following documents provide some background on COI Research, research practice and some of the pitfalls to be aware of when undertaking research.

Austrian Centre for Country of Origin and Asylum Research and Documentation (ACCORD), 2013, [Researching Country of Origin Information: A Training Manual, 2013 edition](#)

See Appendix B of this manual for additional COI sources. From the manual:

“This Appendix provides short descriptions of sources widely used in COI research. They are helpful for gaining an overview on a certain country or topic and they can act as a starting point for research. There are a number of sources that are widely used in COI research and which are considered to be generally reliable. While some of them have narrow thematic mandates, others cover a wide range of human rights issues relevant for COI research, or provide current background information on the situation in countries of origin.”

Note: ACCORD are updating the COI research training manual, with publication likely in early 2024.

European Union Agency for Asylum (EUAA) [formerly the European Asylum Support Office, EASO], June 2019, [EASO Country of Origin Information \(COI\) Report Methodology](#)

“The EASO COI report methodology builds on the Common EU Guidelines for processing COI (April 2008), the EU common guidelines on (Joint) Fact Finding Missions (November 2010) (for oral sources), and the ACCORD Training Manual: Researching Country of Origin Information (2013 Edition). This methodology is a public document and was developed for the purpose of producing and publishing different types of EASO COI reports.”

European Union Agency for Asylum (EUAA) [formerly the European Asylum Support Office, EASO], February 2023, [COI Research Guide on LGBTIQ](#)

Annex 2 of the report contains a detailed list of online sources.