

Flygtningenævnets baggrundsmateriale

Bilagsnr.:	513
Land:	Bangladesh
Kilde:	European Union Agency for Asylum (EUAA)
Titel:	Bangladesh; The protests in July and August 2024 and their aftermath
Udgivet:	15. november 2024
Optaget på baggrundsmaterialet:	21. juli 2025

COI QUERY

Country of Origin	BANGLADESH
Title	The protests in July and August 2024 and their aftermath
Reference period	15 May to 31 October 2024
Topics	1. The protests in July and August 2024 2. Aftermath of the protests and the change of government 3. Targeted violence and arrests
Date of completion	15 November 2024
Query Code	Q81-2024
Contributing EU+ COI units	N/A

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Cite as: EUAA, Country of Origin Information Query, Bangladesh: The protests in July and August 2024 and their aftermath, 15 November 2024, [url](#)

COI QUERY RESPONSE – Bangladesh

The protests in July and August 2024 and their aftermath

1. The protests in July and August 2024

1.1 Overview of events

On 5 June 2024, the Bangladesh High Court (HC) overturned a 2018 government decision to abolish a quota system for civil service jobs.¹ Consequently, the HC reinstated the quota system,² which reserved 30 % of civil service jobs for veterans of the 1971 Bangladesh's war of independence and their children and grandchildren.³ The HC's decision triggered nationwide student-led protests.⁴ On 21 July 2024, the HC issued a new judgement reducing the quota from 30 % to 5 %, ⁵ but the protests continued through July 2024 until the beginning of August 2024⁶ and eventually led to the resignation of the government.⁷

As a reaction to the reinstatement of the quota system, student-led protests started on 1 July 2024,⁸ with demands of a fair, merit-based system, as reported by Al Jazeera.⁹ According to the same source this 'countrywide movement to reform the quota system, became known as "Students Against Discrimination."'¹⁰ The protests started as a peaceful movement in universities, but 'descended into violence' by mid-July 2024 as reported by the Armed Conflict Location and Events Data Project (ACLED), when protest groups and police clashed.¹¹ According to the same source the student wing of the ruling party further escalated the violence by attacking demonstrators.¹²

¹ Daily Star (The), Cancellation of 30pc quota for freedom fighters' children in civil service illegal: HC, 5 June 2024, [url](#); Al Jazeera, What's behind Bangladesh's violent quota protests?, 16 July 2024, [url](#)

² Business Standard (The), What HC full verdict says on freedom fighter quota reinstatement, 14 July 2024, [url](#); Al Jazeera, What's behind Bangladesh's violent quota protests?, 16 July 2024, [url](#)

³ Daily Star (The), History of the quota system in Bangladesh, 10 July 2024, [url](#); Al Jazeera, What's behind Bangladesh's violent quota protests?, 16 July 2024, [url](#)

⁴ Daily Star (The), PM's Quota Remark: Late-night protests rock DU, other universities, 15 July 2024, [url](#); USIP, What's Behind Bangladesh's Student Protests?, [url](#)

⁵ Daily Star (The), SC verdict on govt jobs: 93pc on merit, 7pc from quota, 22 July 2024, [url](#); Al Jazeera, Bangladesh top court scraps most quotas that caused deadly unrest, 21 July 2024, [url](#); BBC, Bangladesh court scraps job quotas after deadly unrest, 21 July 2024, [url](#); France 24, Bangladesh's top court scales back 'discriminatory' job quota system after deadly protests, 21 July 2024, [url](#)

⁶ France 24, Protests in Bangladesh: the reasons for the rage, 6 August 2024, [url](#)

⁷ UN OHCHR, Preliminary Analysis of Recent Protests and Unrest in Bangladesh, 16 August 2024, [url](#), p. 3

⁸ Al Jazeera, What's behind Bangladesh's violent quota protests?, 16 July 2024, [url](#); Crisis Group, Bangladesh on Edge after Crushing Quota Protests, 25 July 2024, [url](#)

⁹ Al Jazeera, What's behind Bangladesh's violent quota protests?, 16 July 2024, [url](#)

¹⁰ Al Jazeera, The victory of Bangladesh's student movement should not surprise anyone, 5 August 2024, [url](#)

¹¹ ACLED, Bangladesh's July demonstrations are much larger and more violent than in 2018, 26 July 2024, [url](#)

¹² ACLED, Bangladesh's July demonstrations are much larger and more violent than in 2018, 26 July 2024, [url](#)

On 15 July 2024, Bangladesh's prime minister Sheikh Hasina called the student protesters “Razakars”,¹³ a term allegedly considered ‘offensive, describing those accused of collaborating with Pakistan's army during the 1971 liberation war’ as reported by Al Jazeera.¹⁴ Hasina’s remarks intensified protests.¹⁵

After violent clashes led to hundreds of deaths,¹⁶ the government imposed an internet shutdown on 18 July 2024,¹⁷ cutting off Bangladesh from the global network.¹⁸ The government restored the internet after 11 days.¹⁹ However, social media platforms remained restricted.²⁰

Sources recorded 67 people having been killed on 19 July 2024 alone.²¹ The week of protests was described as ‘violent week’ by BenarNews.²²

To curtail protests, on 20 July 2024, the government deployed military forces²³ and imposed a national curfew²⁴ with a shoot-on-sight order.²⁵ There were also reports of the police firing tear gas and rubber bullets against protesters.²⁶ On 25 July 2024, Amnesty International (AI) verified three video-recorded incidents of law enforcement agencies making use of ‘lethal and less lethal weapons’ while policing the protests, and actions that ‘clearly constitute unlawful

¹³ BSS, They don't feel ashamed to call themselves Razakars: PM, 15 July 2024, [url](#)

¹⁴ Al Jazeera, How Bangladesh's ‘Gen Z’ protests brought down PM Sheikh Hasina, 7 August 2024, [url](#)

¹⁵ Daily Star (The), The ‘Razakar’ back and forth: Who said what?, 15 July 2024, [url](#); AA, Bangladesh premier tried to walkback ‘razakar’ comment that triggered student protests, 26 July 2024, [url](#)

¹⁶ BenarNews, Here's what happened when Bangladesh shut internet during deadly unrest, 24 July 2024, [url](#); AA, Timeline - Unprecedented student protests force Bangladeshi Premier Hasina to flee to India, 5 August 2024, [url](#)

¹⁷ Al Jazeera, At least 17 dead as Bangladesh student protests over jobs intensify, 18 July 2024, [url](#); Reuters, Bangladesh's internet shutdown isolates citizens, disrupts business, 26 July 2024, [url](#)

¹⁸ Bdnews24.com, Internet was shutdown in Bangladesh on ‘verbal’ orders from Palak: probe report, 13 August 2024, [url](#); AP, Bangladesh imposes nationwide curfew as deadly protests over government jobs escalate, 19 July 2024, [url](#)

¹⁹ Al Jazeera, Bangladesh restores mobile internet after 11-day blackout to quell protests, 28 July 2024, [url](#); Reuters, Bangladesh restores internet as students call off job-quota protests, 29 July 2024, [url](#)

²⁰ Al Jazeera, Bangladesh restores mobile internet after 11-day blackout to quell protests, 28 July 2024, [url](#); BenarNews, Bangladesh keeps social media sites, apps offline in wake of deadly clashes, 25 July 2024, [url](#)

²¹ BenarNews, Here's what happened when Bangladesh shut internet during deadly unrest, 24 July 2024, [url](#); Reuters, Bangladesh PM Sheikh Hasina flees, army says interim government to be formed, 6 August 2024, [url](#)

²² BenarNews, Here's what happened when Bangladesh shut internet during deadly unrest, 24 July 2024, [url](#)

²³ Al Jazeera, Bangladesh imposes curfew, deploys army as job quota protests continue, 19 July 2024, [url](#); HRW, Bangladesh: Security Forces Target Unarmed Students, 22 July 2024, [url](#); Daily Star, Timeline of student protests, 4 August 2024, [url](#)

²⁴ BBC, Bangladesh imposes curfew as protests continue, 19 July 2024, [url](#); Guardian (The), National curfew imposed in Bangladesh after student protesters storm prison, 19 July 2024, [url](#)

²⁵ AP, Bangladesh imposes strict curfew with a ‘shoot-on-sight-order’ following deadly protests, 20 July 2024, [url](#); Guardian (The), Bangladesh police given ‘shoot-on-sight’ orders amid national curfew, 20 July 2024, [url](#)

²⁶ Al Jazeera, Police fire tear gas as Bangladesh protests against job quotas rage, 17 July 2024, [url](#); BBC, Videos reveal brutality that left scores dead in Bangladesh protests, 30 July 2024, [url](#)

and unnecessary use of force.²⁷ The government relaxed the curfew on 26 July 2024²⁸ and then extended it indefinitely from 5 August 2024.²⁹

On 1 August 2024, the Awami League government accused Jamaat-e-Islami party for allegedly inciting violence during student protests and issued a ban on the party³⁰ citing party's alleged 'threat to public security'.³¹

Between 4 August 2024 and 6 August 2024, 326 people were killed during protests as recorded by Prothom Alo.³²

On 5 August 2024, Bangladesh's prime minister Sheikh Hasina resigned and fled the country to India³³ after being in power since 2019.³⁴ Following Hasina's resignation, the Parliament was dissolved³⁵ and an interim government was installed on 8 August 2024³⁶ with the Nobel Peace Prize laureate Muhammad Yunus as the leader of the interim government.³⁷

According to the Preliminary Analysis of Recent Protests and Unrest in Bangladesh report, published by the United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (UN OHCHR) on 16 August 2024, there were allegations of human rights violations being committed by security forces, and UN OHCHR further stated that security forces used unnecessary and disproportionate force when handling the situation. According to the same source there were allegations of the security forces being responsible for extrajudicial killings, mass arrests, torture, and other ill-treatment.³⁸ Other sources also reported on mass arrests.³⁹

²⁷ AI, Bangladesh: Further video and photographic analysis confirm police unlawfully used lethal and less-lethal weapons against protesters, 25 July 2024, [url](#)

²⁸ Business Standard (The), 8am-5pm curfew break in Dhaka today; DMP plans to deploy additional forces, 26 July 2024, [url](#); Bdnews24.com, Curfew relaxed for 9 hours on Friday, Saturday in Dhaka, adjoining districts, 26 July 2024, [url](#)

²⁹ Dhaka Tribune, Govt imposes indefinite curfew from 6pm Sunday, 4 August 2024, [url](#); Daily Star (The), Curfew extended indefinitely, 5 August 2024, [url](#)

³⁰ AP, Bangladesh bans Jamaat-e-Islami party following violent protests that left more than 200 dead, 1 August 2024, [url](#); VoA, Bangladesh bans Jamaat-e-Islami party following violent protests that left more than 200 dead, 1 August 2024, [url](#)

³¹ Bdnews24.com, Jamaat-e-Islami faces ban in independent Bangladesh again after half a century, 31 July 2024, [url](#)

³² Prothom Alo, 326 killed in 4-6 August, 12 August 2024, [url](#)

³³ Al Jazeera, Bangladesh army announces interim government after PM Sheikh Hasina flees, 5 August 2024, [url](#); BBC, Euphoria in Bangladesh after PM Sheikh Hasina flees country, 5 August 2024, [url](#)

³⁴ FP, Sheikh Hasina Leaves Behind Complicated Legacy, 7 August 2024, [url](#); DW, Bangladesh: Who are the key players after Hasina's ouster?, 7 August 2024, [url](#)

³⁵ Al Jazeera, Bangladesh protests updates: Parliament dissolved after Hasina resignation, 6 August 2024, [url](#); Reuters, Bangladesh Parliament dissolved, president's office says, 6 August 2024, [url](#)

³⁶ EEAS, Bangladesh: Statement by the High Representative on the new interim government, 8 August 2024, [url](#); Bdnews24.com, Nobel winner Yunus installed as interim government head to steer Bangladesh to election after uprising, 8 August 2024, [url](#)

³⁷ Guardian (The), Nobel laureate Muhammad Yunus to head Bangladesh's interim government, 7 August 2024, [url](#); BBC, Yunus sworn in as interim Bangladesh leader, 8 August 2024, [url](#)

³⁸ UN OHCHR, Preliminary Analysis of Recent Protests and Unrest in Bangladesh, 16 August 2024, [url](#), pp. 3, 7–8

³⁹ AI, Bangladesh: End punitive mass arrests and arbitrary detention of student leaders and protesters, 29 July 2024, [url](#); Guardian (The), Bangladesh arrests more than 10,000 in crackdown on protests, 1 August 2024, [url](#)

The Guardian reported that students accused law enforcement of torturing protesters while in detention⁴⁰ and the RFK noted large-scale arrests of protesters ‘while torture in custody is a norm of the law enforcement agencies.’⁴¹

On 13 August 2024 the Bangladesh Telecommunication Regulatory Commission (BTRC) confirmed that the decision to shut down internet during the protests was imposed by the Awami League government to allegedly ‘fulfil political interests’, as reported by the Daily Star.⁴² According to the findings of the probe committee on the internet blackout, former minister for Information and Communication Technology (ICT), Zunaid Ahmed Palak ordered the internet shutdown.⁴³ Reuters described the internet shutdown as ‘a tactic [...] employed previously at refugee camps and ahead of elections.’⁴⁴

On 23 August 2024, the interim government revoked the passport of the former prime minister Hasina.⁴⁵

As reported by Al Jazeera in September 2024, the interim government started Hasina’s extradition process,⁴⁶ carried out under the extradition treaty between Bangladesh and India.⁴⁷

1.2 Violence during the protests

Some sources have referred to the violent suppression of the protests in July and August 2024 as the ‘July massacre’.⁴⁸ According to UN OHCHR, which referred to public media reports and reports from the protest movement, over 600 people were killed between 16 July–11 August 2024, although stating that the death toll is ‘likely an underestimate’ as information collection was hindered due to the curfew and internet shutdown. Among those killed were protesters, bystanders, journalists, and members of the security forces, as well as 32 children. Thousands of people were believed to have been injured. Most deaths and injuries were attributed to the security forces and the Awami League’s student wing, according to the same source.⁴⁹

⁴⁰ Guardian (The), Bangladeshi students allege police torture after protests crackdown, 23 July 2024, [url](#)

⁴¹ RFK Human Rights, Bangladesh: Brutal Crackdowns on Student Protesters Resulting in Fatalities Warrant Accountability, 18 July 2024, [url](#)

⁴² Daily Star (The), Internet blackout had no legal basis, 20 August 2024, [url](#)

⁴³ Business Standard (The), Palak, NTMC ordered internet shutdown during student protests: Probe report, 13 August 2024, [url](#); Bdnews24.com, Internet was shutdown in Bangladesh on ‘verbal’ orders from Palak: probe report, 13 August 2024, [url](#)

⁴⁴ Reuters, Bangladesh’s internet shutdown isolates citizens, disrupts business, 26 July 2024, [url](#)

⁴⁵ France 24, Bangladesh ex-PM Hasina has diplomatic passport revoked after fleeing to India, 23 August 2024, [url](#); Daily Star (The), Revocation of red passports: A new reality for Hasina in India, 23 August 2024, [url](#)

⁴⁶ Al Jazeera, Bangladesh taking steps to extradite former PM Hasina from India, 9 September 2024, [url](#)

⁴⁷ India, Ministry of External Affairs, Extradition Treaty with Bangladesh, 2013, [url](#); India, Ministry of External Affairs, Extradition Treaty with Bangladesh, 2016, [url](#)

⁴⁸ New Age, Justice, legal accountability needed for July massacre, 6 August 2024, [url](#); Business Post (The), Teachers for terming killings ‘July Massacre’, 29 July 2024, [url](#); Prothom Alo, 66 children, teenagers among killed, 17 August 2024, [url](#)

⁴⁹ UN OHCHR, Preliminary Analysis of Recent Protests and Unrest in Bangladesh, 16 August 2024, [url](#), pp. 3, 6–7

On 29 August 2024, the Health Adviser to the interim government, Nurjahan Begum claimed that '[...] more than a 1 000 people were killed and over 400 blinded during the recent anti-discrimination movement.'⁵⁰

On 24 September 2024, the interim government published a list of 708 people killed in nationwide protests between July and August 2024.⁵¹ The local human rights organisation, Ain o Salish Kendra (ASK), recorded 885 deaths between 16 July and August 2024 during the Student Movement of Anti-Discrimination.⁵²

On 17 October 2024, the Bangladesh International Crimes Tribunal (Bangladesh-ICT) issued an arrest warrant against Hasina for alleged crimes against humanity committed during the July-August 2024 uprising.⁵³ As reported by the Daily Star '[...] over 60 complaints of crimes against humanity and genocide have been filed against Hasina and many of her party men with the [Bangladesh-] ICT investigation agency and the prosecution team.'⁵⁴ Hasina was ordered to appear in court on 18 November 2024.⁵⁵

2. Aftermath of the protests and the change of government

2.1 The interim government and its reforms

The interim government is composed of Muhammad Yunus as the leader of the government, nominated by the military and student leaders⁵⁶ and its cabinet of advisers represented by, *inter alia*, former high-level government officials, lawyers, academics, human rights activists, and student activists.⁵⁷ According to an independent global think tank Observer Research Foundation (ORF), the Awami League is not represented in the cabinet.⁵⁸ As reported by the Deutsche Welle (DW), the primary mandate of the interim government is '[...] to ensure free and fair elections.'⁵⁹ Yunus reportedly claimed that elections '[...] will take place as soon as reforms in the election commission, judiciary, civil administration, and security forces are made.'⁶⁰ As of 31 October 2024, no elections date was announced by the interim government.

⁵⁰ Daily Star (The), Over 1,000 killed during student-led protests: health adviser, 29 August 2024, [url](#); Reuters, More than 1,000 killed in Bangladesh violence since July, health ministry chief says, 29 August 2024, [url](#)

⁵¹ BSS, Govt publishes list of 708 martyrs killed in July, August uprising, 24 September 2024, [url](#); Bangladesh, Directorate General of Health Services, Medical record, n.a., [url](#)

⁵² ASK, Death of Student Movement of Anti-Discrimination, 16 July - August 2024, 1 October 2024, [url](#)

⁵³ Daily Star (The), ICT issues arrest warrants against Hasina, 45 others, 17 October 2024, [url](#); Dhaka Tribune, International Crimes Tribunal issues arrest warrant for Hasina, 17 October 2024, [url](#); Al Jazeera, Bangladesh court seeks arrest of ex-PM Hasina for 'crimes against humanity', 17 October 2024, [url](#); HRW, Bangladesh: Arrest Warrant for Sheikh Hasina, 22 October 2024, [url](#)

⁵⁴ Daily Star (The), ICT to begin trial for July-August 'massacre' on Thursday, 15 October 2024, [url](#)

⁵⁵ HRW, Bangladesh: Arrest Warrant for Sheikh Hasina, 22 October 2024, [url](#); DW, Will India extradite Sheikh Hasina to Bangladesh?, 22 October 2024, [url](#)

⁵⁶ Guardian (The), Nobel laureate Muhammad Yunus to head Bangladesh's interim government, 7 August 2024, [url](#); BBC, Yunus sworn in as interim Bangladesh leader, 8 August 2024, [url](#)

⁵⁷ AA, Fact Box - Who is who in Yunus-led transitional government in Bangladesh, 9 August 2024, [url](#); Daily Star (The), Advisers to the interim government, 9 August 2024, [url](#)

⁵⁸ ORF, Interim government: The faces of change in Bangladesh, 29 August 2024, [url](#)

⁵⁹ DW, Bangladesh: Is the interim government delaying elections?, 27 August 2024, [url](#)

⁶⁰ DW, Bangladesh: Is the interim government delaying elections?, 27 August 2024, [url](#)

Within the reference period of this COI query response (15 May to 31 October 2024), the interim government took the following decisions:

- 13 August 2024: cancelled the National Mourning Day,⁶¹ commemorating the assassination of the former president of Bangladesh (and Sheikh Hasina's father⁶²) Sheikh Mujibur Rahman⁶³ also referred to as Bangabandhu - Father of the Nation.⁶⁴
- 28 August 2024: lifted the ban on Jamaat-e-Islami party.⁶⁵
- 29 August 2024: signed the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearances⁶⁶ and enacted an Enforced Disappearance Inquiry Commission to investigate enforced disappearances between 1 January 2010 and 5 August 2024.⁶⁷
- 9 September 2024: revoked the 2009 Father of the Nation Family Members' Security Act.⁶⁸ The law was providing special protection and privileges to the family members of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.⁶⁹
- 28 September 2024: dissolved a committee mandated to revise the textbooks under the National Curriculum and Textbook Board.⁷⁰ Transparency International Bangladesh (TIB) expressed concern about the government's decision.⁷¹ As stated by the TIB Executive Director Iftekhar Zaman '[...] the cancellation of the coordination committee represents concession to fundamentalism and communalism but also betrays the very aspirations of New Bangladesh for a non-discriminatory, non-communal, and democratic future.'⁷²
- 30 September 2024: made an announcement that cases related to speech-based offences filed under cyber laws, including the 2006 Information and Communication Technology (ICT) Act, the 2018 Digital Security Act (DSA), and the 2023 Cyber Security

⁶¹ Daily Star (The), No national holiday on August 15, 13 August 2024, [url](#); Dhaka Tribune, August 15 public holiday to be cancelled, 13 August 2024, [url](#)

⁶² Britannica, Biography, Mujibur Rahman, 21 October 2024, [url](#)

⁶³ Daily Star (The), We must turn sorrow into strength to take Bangladesh forward, 15 August 2024, [url](#)

⁶⁴ University of Dhaka, Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, 2024, [url](#)

⁶⁵ Al Jazeera, Bangladesh's interim government lifts ban on Jamaat-e-Islami party, 28 August 2024, [url](#); Dhaka Tribune, Jamaat, Shibir ban lifted, 28 August 2024, [url](#); Business Standard (The), Ban on Jamaat, Shibir to be withdrawn on Tuesday: Lawyer claims, 27 August 2024, [url](#)

⁶⁶ AI, Bangladesh: Signing of Convention on Enforced Disappearances is a much welcome first step, 30 September 2024, [url](#); Dhaka Tribune, Bangladesh joins UN convention on protection from enforced disappearances, 29 August 2024, [url](#); Daily Star (The), Bangladesh signs UN treaty on enforced disappearances, 29 August 2024, [url](#)

⁶⁷ HRW, Bangladesh: Government Sets up Disappearances Inquiry, 28 August 2024, [url](#); Prothom Alo, 5-member commission formed to detect victims of forced disappearance, 27 August 2024, [url](#); Business Standard (The), Bangladesh forms commission to identify victims of forced disappearance, 27 August 2024, [url](#)

⁶⁸ Daily Star (The), Bangabandhu's family protection law abolished, 9 September 2024, [url](#); Dhaka Tribune, Law providing special security to Bangabandhu's family abolished, 9 September 2024, [url](#)

⁶⁹ Daily Bangladesh, Special security to Bangabandhu's family members repealed, 9 September 2024, [url](#); Daily Star (The), Bangabandhu family to get more security, free utility, foreign treatment, 25 May 2015, [url](#)

⁷⁰ Prothom Alo, Textbook coordination committee dissolution draws flak, 30 September 2024, [url](#); Daily Star (The), Revising textbooks: Govt dissolves committee in face of flak, 29 September 2024, [url](#)

⁷¹ Business Standard (The), Textbook review committee cancellation: Interim govt complicity with radicals worrisome, TIB says, 30 September 2024, [url](#)

⁷² Business Standard (The), Textbook review committee cancellation: Interim govt complicity with radicals worrisome, TIB says, 30 September 2024, [url](#)

Act (CSA) are revoked⁷³ and people in custody under such cases will be released through legal procedures.⁷⁴ Sources reported that as of September 2024, there were 1 340 ongoing cases related to speech offences, including 461 cases under investigation, while 879 under trial in the country's eight cyber tribunals.⁷⁵ The speech offence cases included 279 filed under the ICT Act, 786 under the DSA, and 275 under the CSA.⁷⁶ International organisations and activists demanded a repeal of the CSA.⁷⁷

- 4 October 2024: formed five commissions, including Public Administration Reform Commission, Anti-Corruption Reform Commission, Judiciary Reform Commission, the Electoral System Reform Commission and the Police Reform Commission.⁷⁸ Each commission will include a student representative.⁷⁹
- 5 October 2024⁸⁰ and 19 October 2024⁸¹: initiated a round of discussions with political parties on state reforms.
- 7 October 2024: enacted the Constitution Reform Commission to review and evaluate the constitution.⁸² Some academics, researchers, and journalists expressed the need for recognition of pluralism and inclusivity of Bangladesh in the constitution, as reported by Dhaka Tribune.⁸³ According to Robayet Ferdous, professor in the Department of Mass Communication and Journalism at Dhaka University, the constitution 'does not reflect the pluralistic and multicultural reality of Bangladesh.'⁸⁴

As reported by Dhaka Tribune, a new political party called Bangladesh Popular Party was launched on 23 September 2024, which pledges 'to protect the democracy and sovereignty of Bangladesh.'⁸⁵

2.2 Reform of the justice system

⁷³ Daily Star (The), Cyber laws: Govt to withdraw cases filed over 'speech-based' offences, 30 September 2024, [url](#); BSS, 'Speech offence' cases under cyber acts to be revoked: ministry, 30 September 2024, [url](#)

⁷⁴ Dhaka Tribune, Speech offence cases under cyber laws to be withdrawn, arrestees to be released, 30 September 2024, [url](#); Daily Star (The), Cyber laws: Cases over 'speech-based' offences to be scrapped, 30 September 2024, [url](#)

⁷⁵ Dhaka Tribune, Speech offence cases under cyber laws to be withdrawn, arrestees to be released, 30 September 2024, [url](#); Business Standard (The), Government to withdraw cyber law cases, detainees to be released, 30 September 2024, [url](#)

⁷⁶ New Age, Bangladesh to withdraw 1,340 DSA, CSA, ICT cases due to making remarks, 30 September 2024, [url](#); Daily Star (The), Cyber laws: Cases over 'speech-based' offences to be scrapped, 30 September 2024, [url](#)

⁷⁷ Daily Star (The), RSF urges Yunus to repeal CSA, ICT Act, 10 October 2024, [url](#); Daily Star (The), Activists demand immediate repeal of Cyber Security Act, 8 October 2024, [url](#); Business Post (The), Experts for new law repealing Cyber Security Act, 8 October 2024, [url](#); AI, Bangladesh: Interim Government must restore freedom of expression in Bangladesh and repeal Cyber Security Act, 8 September 2024, [url](#)

⁷⁸ BSS, Govt. constitutes five reform commissions, 4 October 2024, [url](#)

⁷⁹ BSS, Govt. constitutes five reform commissions, 4 October 2024, [url](#)

⁸⁰ Daily Star (The), Interim govt to hold dialogue with major political parties on Oct 5, 2 October 2024, [url](#)

⁸¹ Business Standard (The), Govt to hold new round of dialogue with political parties on 19 Oct, 15 October 2024, [url](#)

⁸² Daily Star (The), Govt finalises full commission to reform constitution, 7 October 2024, [url](#); Dhaka Tribune, 9-member constitution reform commission announced, 7 October 2024, [url](#)

⁸³ Dhaka Tribune, Speakers: Ethnic minorities must be recognized in the Constitution, 9 October 2024, [url](#)

⁸⁴ Dhaka Tribune, Speakers: Ethnic minorities must be recognized in the Constitution, 9 October 2024, [url](#)

⁸⁵ Dhaka Tribune, Bangladesh Popular Party launched, 23 September 2024, [url](#)

On 25 September 2024, the Supreme Court launched a helpline, providing guidance on litigation services and filing complaints.⁸⁶

Under article 98 of the Bangladesh's constitution,⁸⁷ on 8 October 2024, the government appointed 23 new judges to the HC, raising the number to 101.⁸⁸ The new judges took oath on 9 October 2024 and started their tenure.⁸⁹ On 16 October 2024, 12 judges appointed under Awami League government were placed on leave by the Chief Justice of HC amidst students' demonstration on the HC premises.⁹⁰

2.3 Reform of the law enforcement

While on 22 August 2024 three senior police officers, including two additional inspectors general of police were sent on forced retirement,⁹¹ on 27 August 2024 five police officials sent to retirement by the Awami League government were reinstated.⁹² As reported by the Daily Star, the reinstated police officials had been put on forced retirement by the Awami League government citing "public interest."⁹³

Established on 4 October 2024, the Police Reform Commission aims to develop a proposal to change the police into a 'pro-people force'.⁹⁴ The appointed members of the Commission include Chowdhury Rafiqul Abrar, the president of Odhikar, a prominent local human rights organisation.⁹⁵

2.4 Accountability for conduct by law enforcement under the previous government

Since its establishment in August 2024 and within two weeks of operations, the inquiry commission for enforced disappearances received 400 complaints, mostly filed against Detective Branch (DB), Rapid Action Battalion (RAB), Directorate General of Forces Intelligence (DGFI) and Counter Terrorism and Transnational Crime (CTTC).⁹⁶ Moreover, the Commission

⁸⁶ Dhaka Tribune, Supreme Court launches helpline for filing complaints, 25 October 2024, [url](#); Bdnews24, Supreme Court introduces helpline for litigants' service, 25 October 2024, [url](#)

⁸⁷ Bangladesh, The Constitution of the People's Republic of Bangladesh, 1972, [url](#), art. 98

⁸⁸ Business Standard (The), 23 additional judges at HC take oath, 9 October 2024, [url](#); Daily Star (The), High Court gets 23 new judges, 9 October 2024, [url](#)

⁸⁹ Dhaka Tribune, 23 new High Court judges take oath, 9 October 2024, [url](#)

⁹⁰ Business Standard (The), CJ sends 12 judges appointed under AL govt on leave amid protests, 16 October 2024, [url](#); Daily Star (The), Student protest on SC premises: 12 HC judges barred from judicial work, 17 October 2024, [url](#)

⁹¹ Dhaka Tribune, 3 senior police officers sent on retirement, 22 August 2024, [url](#); BSS, 3 senior police officers sent on retirement, 22 August 2024, [url](#)

⁹² Daily Star (The), 5 police officials sent to retirement by AL govt reinstated, 27 August 2024, [url](#); Business Standard (The), 5 senior cops, sent on forced retirement during AL govt, reinstated, 27 August 2024, [url](#)

⁹³ Daily Star (The), 5 police officials sent to retirement by AL govt reinstated, 27 August 2024, [url](#)

⁹⁴ New Age, Reform commission eye for 'accountable' police force, 11 October 2024, [url](#); Dhaka Tribune, Police Reform Commission aims for time-befitting, pro-people force, 6 October 2024, [url](#)

⁹⁵ Dhaka Tribune, Who's on the Police Admin Reform Commission?, 17 October 2024, [url](#); Daily Star (The), Who are the EC search committee members? Let's find out, 31 October 2024, [url](#)

⁹⁶ Business Standard (The), Inquiry commission finds proof of Aynaghar, receives 400 complaints in two weeks, 3 October 2024, [url](#); Daily Star (The), Enforced disappearance inquiry commission receives 400 complaints in 13 days, 3 October 2024, [url](#)

confirmed the location of the detention centre and the Joint Interrogation Cell (JIC) known as Aynaghar inside the DGFI headquarters.⁹⁷ Run by the DGFI, Aynaghar also referred to as “House of Mirrors” was a detention facility where ‘victims of enforced disappearances’ were held in allegedly inhuman conditions over the last one and a half decades as reported by the Daily Star.⁹⁸ As indicated by Human Rights Watch, since 2009, Bangladeshi human rights monitors documented about 600 cases of alleged enforced disappearances.⁹⁹ The local human rights organisation Odhikar recorded 798 cases of enforced disappearances in the period 2009–June 2024.¹⁰⁰

In October 2024, the Director General (DG) of the RAB stated that the ‘Rab will never again get involved in incidents such as enforced disappearances and extrajudicial killings.’¹⁰¹ According to the DG, the ‘RAB will not be involved in [...] any unlawful actions’¹⁰² and will comply with the existing legal framework, including the internationally recognised human rights standards.¹⁰³ Moreover, the DG confirmed RAB’s cooperation with the UN fact-finding team on their ongoing investigation on alleged human rights abuses in Bangladesh.¹⁰⁴

As reported by sources in the July 2024 EUAA Bangladesh report, the former government used law enforcement as a tool for its own agenda, and *inter alia* the RAB committed human rights abuses such as extrajudicial killings, enforced disappearances, and torture.¹⁰⁵

Key figures within the previous government gave their tacit approval for abuses ‘at the very least.’ According to one RAB whistleblower interviewed by DW, operations went ahead after being ‘explicitly sanctioned from above’, including from the Ministry of Home Affairs or the Minister of Home Affairs.¹⁰⁶

On 11 September 2024, during the 57th regular session of the UN Human Rights Council, the Asian Forum for Human Rights and Development (FORUM-ASIA) and Amnesty International expressed concern about the existence of systems that have long enabled human rights violations [in Bangladesh] and impunity for these violations and the lack of public confidence in state institutions.¹⁰⁷

⁹⁷ Business Standard (The), Aynaghar inside DGFI headquarters, has 22 cells: Inquiry commission, 4 October 2024, [url](#); BenarNews, Bangladesh finds infamous ‘secret’ detention center at intelligence agency HQ, 3 October 2024, [url](#)

⁹⁸ Daily Star (The), Inside the Aynaghar, 21 August 2024, [url](#)

⁹⁹ HRW, World Report: Bangladesh, 2024, [url](#)

⁹⁹ HRW, World Report: Bangladesh, 2024, [url](#)

¹⁰⁰ AI, Bangladesh: Signing of Convention on Enforced Disappearances is a much welcome first step, 30 August 2024, [url](#)

¹⁰¹ Daily Star (The), Rab will never get involved in enforced disappearances, killings anymore: DG, 7 October 2024, [url](#)

¹⁰² Business Standard (The), RAB won’t be involved in disappearances, extrajudicial killings: DG, 7 October 2024, [url](#)

¹⁰³ BSS, RAB to comply with laws in future: DG, 8 October 2024, [url](#); Daily Star (The), Rab will no longer get involved in killings: DG, 8 October 2024, [url](#)

¹⁰⁴ Business Standard (The), RAB won’t be involved in disappearances, extrajudicial killings: DG, 7 October 2024, [url](#)

¹⁰⁵ EUAA, Country of Origin Information Report – Bangladesh: Country Focus, July 2024, [url](#), p. 33

¹⁰⁶ DW, ‘Death squad’: Inside Bangladesh’s Rapid Action Battalion, 4 March 2023, [url](#)

¹⁰⁷ AI, Bangladesh: Joint Oral Statement at the 57th regular session of the UN Human Rights Council, 11 September 2024, [url](#)

More information on conduct of law enforcement agencies under the previous government is available in the [EUAA COI report: Bangladesh – Country Focus 2024](#).

3. Targeted violence and arrests

On 19 August 2024, a group of international organisations released a joint letter requesting the UN Human Rights Council to investigate the violent incidents in July and August 2024 and to monitor the situation in Bangladesh.¹⁰⁸ A UN fact-finding team arrived in Bangladesh on 14 September for a month-long visit.¹⁰⁹

3.1 Journalists

Some journalists reporting on July-August 2024 protests were killed,¹¹⁰ attacked,¹¹¹ and arrested by police.¹¹² As indicated by the Coalition For Women In Journalism (CFWIJ), women journalists were subjected to alleged targeted attacks by ‘police, opposition party supporters, and protestors.’¹¹³

According to Reporters Without Borders (RSF), Committee to Protect Journalists (CPJ), and International Federation of Journalists (IFJ) South Asia Media Hub, two journalists were killed during the protests in July 2024,¹¹⁴ while Voice of America (VoA) reported on five killed journalists in July and August 2024.¹¹⁵ According to RSF, 250 journalists were injured in the former government’s crackdown on the protests.¹¹⁶

After the fall of Sheikh Hasina, journalists were targeted by protesters¹¹⁷ with the UN and RSF requesting the interim government to protect journalists.¹¹⁸ Sources reported on arrest and

¹⁰⁸ HRW, Joint Letter: Requesting urgent action towards UN human rights monitoring and investigation in Bangladesh, 19 August 2024, [url](#); OMCT, Joint Letter: Requesting urgent action towards UN human rights investigation in Bangladesh, 19 August 2024, [url](#)

¹⁰⁹ Prothom Alo, UN fact-finding team to stay a month in Bangladesh, 16 September 2024, [url](#); Daily Star (The), July uprising: UN probe team to arrive September 14, 12 September 2024, [url](#)

¹¹⁰ VoA, 5 journalists killed, dozens injured covering Bangladesh protests, 21 August 2024, [url](#); RSF, Deadly protests in Bangladesh: RSF demands authorities shed light on death of journalist Mehedi Hasan, 19 July 2024, [url](#)

¹¹¹ VoA, 5 journalists killed, dozens injured covering Bangladesh protests, 21 August 2024, [url](#); IFJ, Bangladesh: Two journalists arrested and harassed, 27 August 2024, [url](#)

¹¹² IFJ, Bangladesh: Two journalists arrested and harassed, 27 August 2024, [url](#)

¹¹³ CFWIJ, Bangladesh: Women Journalists Face Targeted Attacks in Bangladesh Uprising, 5 August 2024, [url](#)

¹¹⁴ IFJ, Bangladesh: Two more journalists killed, hundreds injured as riots rage, 31 July 2024, [url](#); CPJ, 2 Journalists Killed in Bangladesh, 19 July 2024, [url](#); RSF, Deadly protests in Bangladesh: RSF demands authorities shed light on death of journalist Mehedi Hasan, 19 July 2024, [url](#)

¹¹⁵ VoA, 5 journalists killed, dozens injured covering Bangladesh protests, 21 August 2024, [url](#)

¹¹⁶ RSF, Bangladesh: RSF calls on the head of the interim government to end the longstanding repression against journalism, 15 October 2024, [url](#)

¹¹⁷ RSF, Political crisis in Bangladesh: RSF calls on the interim government to protect journalists, 9 August 2024, [url](#); Dhaka Tribune, Khulna Awami League leaders go into hiding, 10 August 2024, [url](#); New Age, United Nations calls for journalists’ safety in Bangladesh, 22 August 2024, [url](#)

¹¹⁸ RSF, Political crisis in Bangladesh: RSF calls on the interim government to protect journalists, 9 August 2024, [url](#); New Age, United Nations calls for journalists’ safety in Bangladesh, 22 August 2024, [url](#)

charges of journalists affiliated with the former government.¹¹⁹ On 29 August 2024, over 24 journalists were charged with crimes against humanity and genocide¹²⁰ for allegedly ‘[...] publishing false news to instigate the genocide and crimes against humanity committed by the then government and law enforcers’ as reported by the Daily Star.¹²¹ RSF condemned the ‘outrageous’ charges and called it a form of ‘judicial harassment’ and ‘purge’ of journalists perceived as affiliated with the former government.¹²²

On 15 October 2024, RSF called on the interim government to abolish the CSA and drop charges against media professionals under repressive laws (including the CSA, the DSA, and the ICT) of the former government that were used to suppress critical voices.¹²³ According to the same source, there were at least seven media professionals awaiting trial under cybersecurity laws.¹²⁴

To ensure freedom of press,¹²⁵ the interim government announced the creation of the Mass Media Commission on 17 October 2024.¹²⁶

More information on the treatment of journalists under the previous government is available in the [EUAA COI report: Bangladesh – Country Focus 2024](#).

3.2 Members and supporters of the Awami League Party

After the fall of the Hasina-led government on 5 August 2024, sources reported on protesters vandalising the houses of senior government officials and setting their homes on fire.¹²⁷ According to local media, the protesters attacked governmental offices and private properties

¹¹⁹ CPJ, Journalists supportive of ousted Bangladesh leader targeted with arrest, criminal cases, 19 September 2024, [url](#); CIVICUS, Bangladesh: Interim government commits to human rights reforms as they release activists, protesters and investigate past crimes, 30 October 2024, [url](#)

¹²⁰ Daily Star (The), Crimes against humanity: Hasina, over two dozen journos sued in ICT case, 29 August 2024, [url](#); CPJ, Journalists supportive of ousted Bangladesh leader targeted with arrest, criminal cases, 19 September 2024, [url](#)

¹²¹ Daily Star (The), Crimes against humanity: Hasina, over two dozen journos sued in ICT case, 29 August 2024, [url](#)

¹²² RSF, Bangladesh: RSF condemns the outrageous charges of crimes against humanity brought against at least 25 journalists, 30 August 2024, [url](#)

¹²³ RSF, Bangladesh: RSF calls on the head of the interim government to end the longstanding repression against journalism, 15 October 2024, [url](#)

¹²⁴ RSF, Bangladesh: RSF calls on the head of the interim government to end the longstanding repression against journalism, 15 October 2024, [url](#)

¹²⁵ Bdnews24.com, Media Commission under active consideration, says Yunus, 11 September 2024, [url](#); Business Standard (The), Govt considering formation of Media Commission to safeguard press freedom: Chief Adviser Yunus, 12 September 2024, [url](#)

¹²⁶ Dhaka Tribune, Four new reform commissions announced, 17 October 2024, [url](#); BSS, Govt announces 4 new reform commissions, 17 October 24, [url](#)

¹²⁷ Prothom Alo, Houses of ministers, MPs attacked, torched, 5 August 2024, [url](#); Daily Star (The), Houses of 2 ministers, 9 MPs come under attack, 5 August 2024, [url](#)

of high-level officials.¹²⁸ While some Awami League members went into hiding,¹²⁹ 29 Awami League members and their families were reportedly killed.¹³⁰

Between August 2024 and October 2024, the Bangladesh Financial Intelligence Unit (BFIU) instructed banks to freeze the accounts of former high-level officials (including former finance minister, former social welfare minister, former director general of the National Telecommunication Monitoring Centre) and their family members.¹³¹

In the same period, a Dhaka court issued and imposed travel bans on former Awami League ministers and high-level officials and their families,¹³² including former director general of the National Security Intelligence and former chief of the DB.¹³³

According to VoA, immediately after Hasina's fall, many supporters of the former government fled Bangladesh for India, the United States, Canada, the U.K., Türkiye and other countries.¹³⁴

On 6 October 2024, one high-level official was detained when trying to leave Bangladesh for India.¹³⁵ Sources reported on arrests of two former ministers on 14 October 2024.¹³⁶ On 17 October 2024, the Bangladesh-ICT issued arrest warrants for 45 Awami League top officials.¹³⁷

¹²⁸ Prothom Alo, Houses of ministers, MPs attacked, torched, 5 August 2024, [url](#); Daily Star (The), Houses of 2 ministers, 9 MPs come under attack, 5 August 2024, [url](#)

¹²⁹ Dhaka Tribune, Khulna Awami League leaders go into hiding, 10 August 2024, [url](#)

¹³⁰ Dhaka Tribune, Bodies of 29 Awami League leaders, family members recovered, 7 August 2024, [url](#); Business Standard (The), 29 Awami League leaders, family members found dead in Bangladesh violence, 7 August 2024, [url](#)

¹³¹ Daily Star (The), Banks asked to freeze accounts of Abul Hasanat Abdullah, family members, 9 October 2024, [url](#); Dhaka Tribune, Bank accounts of ex-chief justice, attorney general frozen, 30 August 2024, [url](#); Bdnews24.com, Bank accounts of ex-chief justice Obaidul Hassan, former AG Amin Uddin frozen, 29 August 2024, [url](#); Daily Star (The), Freeze bank accounts of Papon, family members: BFIU, 23 August 2024, [url](#); BSS, BFIU asks banks to freeze Mustafa Kamal, Tipu Munshi's bank accounts, 22 August 2024, [url](#); Dhaka Tribune, Bank accounts of Helal Uddin, Sheikh Tonmoy frozen, 19 August 2024, [url](#); Business Standard (The), Banks ordered to freeze accounts of Sheikh Helal, Sheikh Tonmoy, 2 ex-ministers, 10 others, 19 August 2024, [url](#)

¹³² Daily Star (The), Travel ban on ex-AL MP Tanveer Imam, wife, 8 October 2024, [url](#); Daily Star (The), Travel ban on former lawmaker, NSI DG, 7 October 2024, [url](#); Daily Star (The), Travel ban issued on Naimur Rahman Durjoy, wife over corruption allegations, 3 October 2024, [url](#); Dhaka Tribune, Travel ban imposed on ex-MP Abdus Sobhan Golap, SK Sur, 2 October 2024, [url](#); Daily Star (The), 18 former ministers among 26 slapped with travel ban, 2 September 2024, [url](#); Business Standard (The), 18 former ministers, 8 MPs barred from leaving country, 2 September 2024, [url](#); Daily Star (The), Court issues travel ban on 14 former AL ministers, MPs, 29 August 2024, [url](#); Dhaka Tribune, Travel ban imposed on former 8 ministers and 6 MPs, 29 August 2024, [url](#); Daily Star (The), Travel ban issued against former DB chief Harun and his wife, 27 August 2024, [url](#); BSS, Court imposes travel ban on Harun, his wife, 27 August 2024, [url](#); Daily Star (The), Court issues travel bans on 9, including 3 former AL MPs, 16 October 2024, [url](#)

¹³³ Daily Star (The), Travel ban on former lawmaker, NSI DG, 7 October 2024, [url](#); Daily Star (The), Travel ban issued against former DB chief Harun and his wife, 27 August 2024, [url](#); BSS, Court imposes travel ban on Harun, his wife, 27 August 2024, [url](#)

¹³⁴ VoA, Fearing reprisals, Hasina's supporters flee Bangladesh, 7 September 2024, [url](#)

¹³⁵ Dhaka Tribune, Ex-minister Narayan Chandra Chanda detained while fleeing to India, 6 October 2024, [url](#); Business Standard (The), Ex-land minister Narayan Chandra Chanda arrested, 7 October 2024, [url](#)

¹³⁶ Dhaka Tribune, Ex-minister Faruk Khan arrested, 15 October 2024, [url](#); Bdnews24.com, Former Awami League ministers remanded for 2 days each, 15 October 2024, [url](#)

¹³⁷ Daily Star (The), ICT issues arrest warrants against Hasina, 45 others, 17 October 2024, [url](#); Dhaka Tribune, International Crimes Tribunal issues arrest warrant for Hasina, 17 October 2024, [url](#); Al Jazeera, Bangladesh court seeks arrest of ex-PM Hasina for 'crimes against humanity', 17 October 2024, [url](#); HRW, Bangladesh: Arrest Warrant for Sheikh Hasina, 22 October 2024, [url](#)

3.3 Religious minorities

On 6 August 2024, the European Union Delegation to Bangladesh expressed concern about 'reports of multiple attacks against places of worship and members of religious, ethnic and other minorities in Bangladesh.'¹³⁸ Upon the resignation of Sheikh Hasina, attacks on religious minorities, specifically on Hindu temples and properties, were reportedly carried out,¹³⁹ allegedly by mobs.¹⁴⁰ The violence against the Hindu community resulted in protests held in Dhaka on 9 August 2024¹⁴¹ and in Bogra on 11 August 2024.¹⁴²

Acts of violence against Hindu community, including vandalism and looting of Hindu temples, homes, and businesses continued to be reported between August 2024 and October 2024.¹⁴³ According to 'some analysts many of the attacks against Hindus are politically driven and reflect resentment against Hasina's party' as reported by AP.¹⁴⁴

There was also disinformation circulating about Hindus being targeted,¹⁴⁵ including false claims of rape and sexual harassment of Hindu women, as reported by DW,¹⁴⁶ and a cricket star having his home burnt.¹⁴⁷

More information on religious and ethnic minorities is available in the [EUAA COI Report: Bangladesh – Country Focus 2024](#).

3.4 Rohingyas from Myanmar

In his first policy speech, on 18 August 2024, Yunus promised support to Rohingya refugees living in Bangladesh as reported by Al Jazeera.¹⁴⁸ In a September 2024 meeting with the International Organization for Migration (IOM), Yunus called for an expedited resettlement

¹³⁸ European Union in Bangladesh, [X], posted: 6 August 2024, [url](#); Dhaka Tribune, EU concerned about attacks on minorities in Bangladesh, 6 August 2024, [url](#)

¹³⁹ BBC, 'There is no law and order. And Hindus are being targeted again', 6 August 2024, [url](#); Al Jazeera, Students, other Muslims protect temples, churches amid Bangladesh unrest, 7 August 2024, [url](#); Prothom Alo, Minorities' houses, worship places under attack at various places, 7 August 2024, [url](#);

¹⁴⁰ BBC, 'There is no law and order. And Hindus are being targeted again', 6 August 2024, [url](#)

¹⁴¹ Reuters, Hundreds protest in Dhaka over violence against Hindus in Bangladesh, 9 August 2024, [url](#); Economic Times (The), Bangladeshi Hindus' protest rocks Dhaka; minorities demand safety, say 'Hindu lives matter...', 10 August 2024, [url](#)

¹⁴² Dhaka Tribune, Demonstration held over attacks on Hindu communities in Bogra, 11 August 2024, [url](#); Al Jazeera, New Bangladesh government says working to 'resolve' attacks on minorities, 11 August 2024, [url](#)

¹⁴³ AP, The violence in Bangladesh after Hasina's ouster stirs fear within the country's Hindu minority, 13 August 2024, [url](#); VoA, Bangladeshi Hindus voice fear, anxiety as Durga Puja begins, 10 October 2024, [url](#)

¹⁴⁴ AP, The violence in Bangladesh after Hasina's ouster stirs fear within the country's Hindu minority, 13 August 2024, [url](#)

¹⁴⁵ DW, Fact check: False claims fuel ethnic tensions in Bangladesh, 7 August 2024, [url](#); BBC, The far-right videos distorting the truth of Bangladesh minority attacks, 18 August 2024, [url](#); Diplomat (The), Disinformation About Attacks on Minorities Threaten Stabilization Efforts in Bangladesh, 26 August 2024, [url](#)

¹⁴⁶ DW, Fact check: False claims fuel ethnic tensions in Bangladesh, 7 August 2024, [url](#)

¹⁴⁷ DW, Fact check: False claims fuel ethnic tensions in Bangladesh, 7 August 2024, [url](#); BBC, The far-right videos distorting the truth of Bangladesh minority attacks, 18 August 2024, [url](#)

¹⁴⁸ Al Jazeera, Bangladesh's Yunus promises support to Rohingya in first policy speech, 18 August 2024, [url](#)

process of Rohingyas from Bangladesh to third countries¹⁴⁹ as around 8 000 Rohingyas fled to Bangladesh in recent months¹⁵⁰ due to escalated violence in Myanmar.¹⁵¹

More information on Rohingyas from Myanmar is available in the [EUAA COI Report: Bangladesh – Country Focus 2024](#).

3.5 Mob lynching

Between 11 August and 19 September 2024, 21 people were reportedly lynched according to media sources,¹⁵² while ASK recorded 28 deaths in mob beatings between August 2024 and September 2024.¹⁵³ Although in September 2024, the interim government adopted a ‘zero-tolerance policy against extrajudicial killings, assaults, and harassment’ as reported by Dhaka Tribune,¹⁵⁴ in October 2024, JusticeMakers Bangladesh (JMBF) expressed concern about the rise in mob violence and killings¹⁵⁵ and called the government for judicial investigation.¹⁵⁶

¹⁴⁹ Reuters, Bangladesh calls for faster resettlement process for Rohingya, 8 September 2024, [url](#); DW, Bangladesh: Can West help Yunus deal with Rohingya crisis?, 17 September 2024, [url](#)

¹⁵⁰ BSS, 8,000 more Rohingyas flee to Bangladesh: Foreign Adviser, 3 September 2024, [url](#); Reuters, Thousands of Rohingya flee to Bangladesh from violence in Myanmar, official says, 4 September 2024, [url](#)

¹⁵¹ Reuters, Thousands of Rohingya flee to Bangladesh from violence in Myanmar, official says, 4 September 2024, [url](#); OWP, Bangladesh calls for faster resettlement process for Rohingya after escalating violence in Myanmar, 17 September 2024, [url](#)

¹⁵² AA, Why is mob violence surging in Bangladesh?, 25 September 2024, [url](#); Daily Star (The), Lynch mobs acting with impunity, 20 September 2024, [url](#)

¹⁵³ ASK, Mob Beating (January-August 2024), 10 September 2024, [url](#); ASK, Mob Beating (January-September 2024), 15 October 2024, [url](#)

¹⁵⁴ Dhaka Tribune, Govt adopts zero tolerance policy against mob justice, 20 September 2024, [url](#)

¹⁵⁵ New Age, JusticeMakers Bangladesh in France concerned over mob violence in Bangladesh, 7 October 2024, [url](#); JMBF, Statement: JMBF Gravely Concerned About the Recent Rise in Mob Violence and Lynchings in Bangladesh, 6 October 2024, [url](#)

¹⁵⁶ Daily Star (The), Take decisive action to halt all mob violence: JMBF, 8 October 2024, [url](#)

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AA (Anadolu Ajansı), Fact Box - Who is who in Yunus-led transitional government in Bangladesh, 9 August 2024, <https://www.aa.com.tr/en/asia-pacific/fact-box-who-is-who-in-yunus-led-transitional-government-in-bangladesh/3299524>, accessed 31 October 2024

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