

## Internet Resources on Humanitarian Action

The intention followed in these pages is to offer a short and practical guide of different kind of resources for humanitarian action to have first line information and documentation on humanitarian scenarios around the world.

The web pages presented in the following lines are related to different kind of issues related to humanitarian action, disasters and humanitarian crisis. The selected websites have been brought together on a different basis. In the first group we have included the ones related to general information; the resources that they include are very actual and accurate information of crisis scenarios. While in the second group we have included the reference to the websites of the main specialized journals and periodicals, with online information and documents.

### A) Information resource websites

#### *Reliefweb*

<http://www.reliefweb.int>

This is the main website on information for humanitarian emergencies and disasters. It host a free on-line service with reliable and timely news and updates on all kind of information related to these topics, including country reports, news articles and also a very interesting on-line library. The website contains an impressive database of nearly 300.000 maps and documents, dated back to 1981. It also has links to other United Nations

system agencies and services related to humanitarian crisis and disasters relief. As it holds in its home web page reliefweb is «serving the information needs for the humanitarian relief community».

#### *Alertnet- Reuters*

<http://www.alertnet.org>

Based on a popular information press agency, alertnet intends to offer humanitarian news to public in general as well as specific information (on countries, emergencies and themes) to humanitarian organisations and to its members. It also offers a restricted area for humanitarian organisations and relief professionals that ask access to it (there are over 370 around the world). The website offers fast-moving information on emergencies and future emergencies.

#### *Integrated Regional Information Networks*

<http://www.irinnews.org>

Another UN system website with very concrete and specific precise information from the field. In this case, it is information from Asia and Africa. This information is brought up from grass-root level, with the aim to offer all kind of reliable information from specific field issues to other documents or reports with analysis on some themes (which are shown in the website).

*International Crisis Group*

<http://www.crisisgroup.org>

The international Crisis Group website offers information in the area of humanitarian crises, with a specific approach to field research and analysis on countries with big risk on violent conflict. This group publishes a monthly bulletin which provides precise information of the state of play in most of the conflict situations around the world. Crisis group is founded by different charitable institutions and by companies and governments (foreign affairs departments). It also has an interesting data base with all the published bulletins, as well as reports classified by regions, dates and keywords.

*The International Committee of the Red Cross*

<http://www.icrc.org>

The International Committee of the Red Cross website is also offering precise and punctual information related to humanitarian crises in the area where they develop operations of the latest news. Other information resources of the ICRC are also published in the website, such as the catalogue, including new releases, publications and periodicals.

**B) Journals and periodicals websites***Journal on Humanitarian Assistance*

<http://www.jha.ac>

The journal on humanitarian assistance is the main online open periodical on humanitarian action. Its purpose is to serve as a communication forum for practitioners and analysts, and the website and its documents are updated continuously. The journal started as a Research Project of the University of *Cambridge*, actually is hosted by the Department of Peace Studies at Bradford University.

*Forced Migration Review*

<http://www.fmreview.org>

This specialized periodical on refugees and displaced studies is an in-house journal of the Refugee Studies Centre of the University of Oxford. It is published three times a year in English, Arabic, Spanish and French. Articles are written by practitioners, researchers and displaced people. The journal can be downloaded in its acrobat version from its website.

*Humanitarian Practice Network*

<http://www.odihpn.org>

Under the umbrella of the Overseas Development Institute, the Humanitarian Practice Network offers to field workers, policymakers and anybody involved in the humanitarian sector a space where information, experience and analysis can be shared. The main activities include different type of publications, the most relevant ones are the Humanitarian Exchange magazine, Network papers and Good practice reviews. Information can be selected by region or by topics. Very complete information can be consulted after free subscription to this very complete website.

*Humanitarian Affairs Review*

<http://www.humanitarian-review.org>

This quarterly published review is edited by a non profit association, and offers a general space for public debate on front line topics of humanitarian crisis. The review is offered both in english and french, and it aims to cover the topics from a neutral point view.

*International Review of the Red Cross*

<http://www.icrc.org/eng/review>

The International Committee of the Red Cross, under its website holds a section in which debate and critical analysis on topics related to humanitarian international law as well as humanitarian action and policy is recogido in this quarterly

published journal. Information can be found by key documents, contributors and subjects. The quarterly is bilingual (English and French), and the Annual compilation can be found in other languages (Spanish, Arabic, Russian and Chinese).

#### *The Online Journal of Peace and Conflict Resolution*

<http://www.trinstitute.org/ojpcr/about.htm>

Promoted by the Tabula Rasa Institute, a US based NGO, this online journal provides a space for practitioners and academics (both teachers and students) with topics related to the reduction and resolution of conflicts. This journal is only published in internet.

#### *Refugee Survey Quarterly*

<http://rsq.oxfordjournals.org/>

A quarterly publication published by the Oxford University Press and produced by the Centre for Documentation and Research of the UNHCR. This publication is only available through subscription, although a general overview of the contents may be reviewed.

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