

RESEARCHED AND COMPILED BY THE REFUGEE DOCUMENTATION CENTRE OF IRELAND ON 31 JULY 2025

DISCLAIMER

This response was prepared after researching publicly accessible information currently available to the Refugee Documentation Centre within time constraints. All COI Query Responses re compiled in line with the Common EU Guidelines (2008) and the EUAA Methodology (2023). This response is not and does not purport to be conclusive as to the merit of any particular claim to international protection. Please refer to all documents cited.

COI QUERY RESPONSE

BANGLADESH – TREATMENT OF THE OPPOSITION

In January 2025 *Human Rights Watch* includes commenting on the: “...targeting [of] perceived Awami League supporters.”¹

A report issued in January 2025 by the *International Crisis Group* points out that “...the Awami League (AL), which had seized partisan control of much of the state apparatus, has been shunted to the political margins...”²

In February 2025 *Human Rights Watch* notes that: “An interim government, led by Nobel laureate Muhammad Yunus has pledged security sector reform. However, it has deployed security forces, including the military, for “Operation Devil Hunt,” arresting nearly 2,000 people, mostly supporters of Hasina’s deposed Awami League government.”³

A publication issued in March 2025 by *Human Rights Watch* comments on the “...targeting [of] Awami League supporters.”⁴

Human Rights Watch in May 2025 states that: “...the government, led by Nobel laureate Muhammad Yunus, is attempting to suppress the rights of supporters of the deposed leader, Sheikh Hasina, and the Awami League party.”⁵

¹ Human Rights Watch (27 January 2025) After the Monsoon Revolution, A Roadmap to Lasting Security Sector Reform in Bangladesh, p.2

² International Crisis Group (30 January 2025) Bangladesh: The Dilemmas of a Democratic Transition, p.1

³ Human Rights Watch (12 February 2025) *Bangladesh: Uphold Impartiality in Law Enforcement*

⁴ Human Rights Watch (4 March 2025) HRW Oral Statement at the 58th Session of the UN Human Rights Council

⁵ Human Rights Watch (21 May 2025) Bangladesh: Review Laws and Protect Human Rights Standards, p.1

The *Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada* issued a compilation of COI research in May 2025 on the political opposition which is include below⁶

A report published in June 2025 by the *Rights and Risks Analysis Group* states that: “At least 123 members of the Awami League and its affiliate organisations such as Swechasebak League, Chhatra League, Juba League, Matsojibi League, Krishak League etc were murdered or killed in custody from 5 August 2024, after the fall of Sheikh Hasina government...”⁷

In July 2025 *CIVICUS* states that: “...in May...the interim government banned all AL activities under the Anti-Terrorism Act following renewed NCP street protests...The Election Commission subsequently suspended the AL's registration, effectively barring it from future elections and decisively altering Bangladesh's political landscape.”⁸

The *Associated Press* in July 2025 includes commentary On: “Hasina's Awami League party, which authorities banned in May...”⁹

In July 2025 *ACLEd* points out that: “The interim government has banned all political activities by Hasina’s party, the Awami League (AL)...”¹⁰

Odhikar issued a report in July 2025 commenting on various human rights issues occurring during the second quarter of 2025 which is referenced and attached below¹¹

In July 2025 *Business Monitor* states that: “...political violence [is] a common occurrence in Bangladesh...”¹²

A report published in July 2025 by *Human Rights Watch* notes that: “...the interim government has used arbitrary detention to target perceived political opponents...”¹³

References

ACLEd (18 July 2025) *A year after Hasina: A defiant Awami League and rising mob violence threaten Bangladesh’s political transition — Expert Comment*

<https://acleddata.com/expert-comment/year-after-hasina-defiant-awami-league-and-rising-mob-violence-threaten-bangladeshs>

Accessed Thursday 31 July 2025

⁶ Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada (28 May 2025) Bangladesh: State and local police following the end of the Sheikh Hasina government; treatment of political opponents of the government, including low-ranking supporters and protesters (2024–May 2025)

⁷ Rights and Risks Analysis Group (6 June 2025) Bangladesh: Organised murder for membership to the Awami League and its affiliate organisations, p.4

⁸ CIVICUS (2 July 2025) Bangladesh's next chapter: progress and pitfalls in democratic reform, p.3

⁹ Associated Press (17 July 2025) Bangladeshi forces clash with supporters of ousted leader Hasina, leaving at least 4 dead

¹⁰ ACLEd (18 July 2025) *A year after Hasina: A defiant Awami League and rising mob violence threaten Bangladesh’s political transition — Expert Comment*, p.1

¹¹ Odhikar (24 July 2025) Quarterly Human Rights Report, April-June 2025

¹² Business Monitor (28 July 2025) Bangladesh Conflict Risk Analysis, p.1

¹³ Human Rights Watch (30 July 2025) Bangladesh: Year since Hasina Fled, Rights Challenges Abound, p.1

Associated Press (17 July 2025) *Bangladeshi forces clash with supporters of ousted leader Hasina, leaving at least 4 dead*

<https://advance.lexis.com/bisnexishome/?pdmfid=1519360&crid=f2c6c139-d995-4946-b557-277b80e311cf>

This is a subscription database

Accessed Thursday 31 July 2025

Business Monitor (28 July 2025) *Bangladesh Conflict Risk Analysis*

<https://advance.lexis.com/bisnexishome/?pdmfid=1519360&crid=f2c6c139-d995-4946-b557-277b80e311cf>

This is a subscription database

Accessed Thursday 31 July 2025

CIVICUS (2 July 2025) *Bangladesh's next chapter: progress and pitfalls in democratic reform*

<https://www.ein.org.uk/members/country-report/bangladeshs-next-chapter-progress-and-pitfalls-democratic-reform>

This is a subscription database

Accessed Thursday 31 July 2025

Human Rights Watch (30 July 2025) *Bangladesh: Year since Hasina Fled, Rights Challenges Abound*

<https://www.hrw.org/news/2025/07/30/bangladesh-year-since-hasina-fled-rights-challenges-abound>

Accessed Thursday 31 July 2025

Human Rights Watch (21 May 2025) *Bangladesh: Review Laws and Protect Human Rights Standards*

<https://www.hrw.org/news/2025/05/21/bangladesh-review-laws-and-protect-human-rights-standards>

Accessed Thursday 31 July 2025

Human Rights Watch (4 March 2025) *HRW Oral Statement at the 58th Session of the UN Human Rights Council*

<https://www.hrw.org/news/2025/03/04/hrw-oral-statement-58th-session-un-human-rights-council>

Accessed Thursday 31 July 2025

Human Rights Watch (12 February 2025) *Bangladesh: Uphold Impartiality in Law Enforcement*

<https://www.hrw.org/news/2025/02/12/bangladesh-uphold-impartiality-law-enforcement>

This is a subscription database

Accessed Thursday 31 July 2025

Human Rights Watch (27 January 2025) *After the Monsoon Revolution, A Roadmap to Lasting Security Sector Reform in Bangladesh*

https://www.hrw.org/sites/default/files/media_2025/01/bangladesh0125web.pdf

Accessed Thursday 31 July 2025

Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada (28 May 2025) *Bangladesh: State and local police following the end of the Sheikh Hasina government; treatment of political opponents of the government, including low-ranking supporters and protesters (2024–May 2025)*

<https://www.irb-cisr.gc.ca/en/country-information/rir/Pages/index.aspx?doc=459033&pls=1>

This is a subscription database

Accessed Thursday 31 July 2025

International Crisis Group (30 January 2025) *Bangladesh: The Dilemmas of a Democratic Transition*,
<https://www.crisisgroup.org/asia/south-asia/bangladesh/bangladesh-dilemmas-democratic-transition>

Accessed Thursday 31 July 2025

Odhikar (24 July 2025) *Quarterly Human Rights Report, April-June 2025*

https://odhikar.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/07/HR-Report_April-June_2025_English.pdf

Accessed Thursday 31 July 2025

Rights and Risks Analysis Group (6 June 2025) *Bangladesh: Organised murder for membership to the Awami League and its affiliate organisations*

<https://www.rightsrisks.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/06/BangladeshALOrganisedMurder.pdf>

Accessed Thursday 31 July 2025

Sources Consulted

Amnesty International

BBC News

Electronic Immigration Network

EUAA

European Country of Origin Information Network

Freedom House

Google

Human Rights Watch

Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada

Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre

International Crisis Group

Lexis Nexis

Minority Rights Group International

New Humanitarian

Online Newspapers

Refugee Documentation Centre Query Database

Reliefweb

United Kingdom Home Office

UNDP

UNHCR Refworld

UN Treaty Body Database

United States Department of State

World Bank

Contact Information

Refugee Documentation Centre

Legal Aid Board

48/49 North Brunswick Street

Dublin 7

Ireland

Email: research@legalaidboard.ie