



Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada

[Français](#)[Home](#)[Contact Us](#)[Help](#)[Search](#)[canada.gc.ca](#)[Home](#) > [Research](#) > [Responses to Information Requests](#)

RESPONSES TO INFORMATION REQUESTS (RIRs)

[New Search](#) | [About RIR's](#) | [Help](#)

09 June 2004

NPL42648.E

Nepal: Whether Maoist forces in Nepal have targeted non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and/or other human rights and community workers

Research Directorate, Immigration and Refugee Board, Ottawa

Sources consulted by the Research Directorate indicate that in 2004 Maoist forces in Nepal targeted international aid groups and non-governmental organizations (NGOs), especially those NGOs funded by the United States (BBC 10 May 2004; OneWorld.net 6 Apr. 2004; Global Security.org 13 Jan. 2004).

According to OneWorld.net, an online civil society network that supports people's media to help build a more just global society (OneWorld.net 9 June 2004), "Nepal's Maoist rebels are increasingly targeting non-governmental organizations (NGOs)" (OneWorld.net 6 Apr. 2004). This article reports that NGOs not funded by the United States have been given limited access to rural areas, but that US-funded groups such as Save the Children USA, have been forced to halt their programs in Nepal (ibid.).

The same article reports that most other NGOs continue to work in Nepal (ibid.).

Global Security.org, an organization focused on innovative approaches to the emerging security challenges of the new millennium (Global Security.org 2004) reports that Maoists have publicly targeted American-affiliated interests, including US-sponsored or supported humanitarian organizations (Global Security.org 13 Jan. 2004).

Maoists have attacked the offices of several non-governmental organizations (NGO's), their local partners, and multinational businesses working in Nepal. NGO workers report widespread harassment and extortion by rebels. Some workers have left their projects in rural areas because of concerns about possible rebel violence and in response to Maoist threats. A statement by the Maoists on October 21, 2003, threatened attacks against or disrupt of international non-governmental organizations and non-governmental organizations funded or run by "American

imperialism." (ibid.).

In a 10 May 2004 article published on the BBC Website, it was reported that three non-governmental organizations (NGOs) from Britain, Germany and the Netherlands had "indefinitely suspended projects in western Nepal due to what they say are threats by Maoist rebels" (10 May 2004). The article reported that staff of these organizations had been "subjected to persistent intimidation and extortion" (BBC 10 May 2004).

The same article reported that the United Nations World Food Programme was also leaving Nepal, as were embassies from several European countries, Canada and Japan (ibid.).

This Response was prepared after researching publicly accessible information currently available to the Research Directorate within time constraints. This Response is not, and does not purport to be, conclusive as to the merit of any particular claim for refugee protection. Please find below the list of additional sources consulted in researching this Information Request.

References

BBC. 10 May 2004. "Donors Suspend Work in Nepal." <http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/south_asia/3699833.stm> [Accessed 7 June 2004]

Global Security.org 13 January 2004. "United People's Front Peoples' War Group (PWG) Nepal Communist Party of Nepal (Maoist)." <<http://www.globalsecurity.org/military/world/para/upf.htm>> [Accessed 7 June 2004]

_____. 2004. "Mission." <<http://www.globalsecurity.org/org/overview/mission.htm>> [Accessed 9 June 2004]

OneWorld.net 9 June 2004. "About OneWorld.net." <<http://www.oneworld.net/article/frontpage/2/2333>> [Accessed 9 June 2004]

_____. 6 April 2004. Keshab Poudel. "Nepal Maoist Threats Prompt NGOs to Retreat." <<http://www.oneworld.net/article/view/83152/1/>> [Accessed 7 June 2004]

Additional Sources Consulted

Organizations, media and Internet: CNN, Communist Party of Nepal (Maoist), Department for International Development (DFID), Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit (GTZ), Global Volunteer Network, Hinduism Today, Human Rights Features, Human Rights Internet, Médecins Sans Frontières, Nepal News, Newslook, One World South Asia, Save the Children, SNV Netherlands Development organisation, South Asia Intelligence Review.


[Top of
Page](#)

[Important
Notices](#)

The attached reproduction is a copy of an official work that is published by the Government of Canada. The reproduction has not been produced in affiliation with, or with the endorsement of the Government of Canada.