

HUMAN
RIGHTS
WATCH

People with disabilities forgotten and in danger in the Central African Republic



Who we are

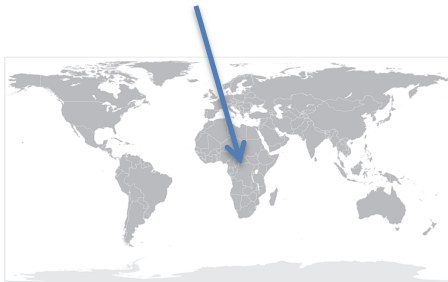
HUMAN
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We are called Human Rights Watch.



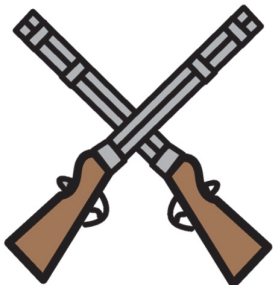
We work to make sure everyone in the world is treated fairly and gets their rights.

What is this report about?



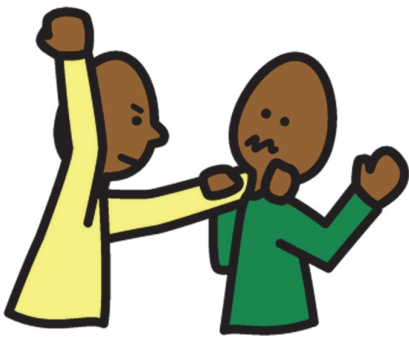
This report is about what is happening to people with disabilities in a country called the Central African Republic.

The Central African Republic is in Africa.



There has been a war in the Central African Republic since 2012.

Different groups have been fighting each other.



Many people have been hurt or killed in the fighting.



And many people have left their homes and the country because it is unsafe.

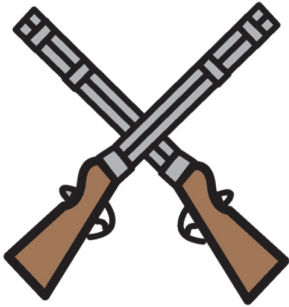


A group called the United Nations (UN) and other groups are trying to keep people safe. But there is still a lot of danger.



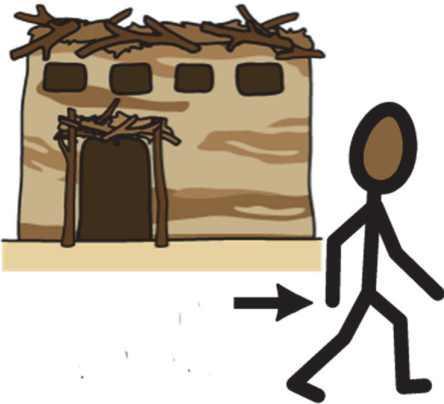
We spoke to people with disabilities in two towns in the Central African Republic where there has been a lot of violence.

What is happening to people with disabilities in the Central African Republic?



People with disabilities are in danger

There has been fighting and violence in many parts of the Central African Republic.



Some people with disabilities decided to leave home before the fighters got there.

But many stayed at home.

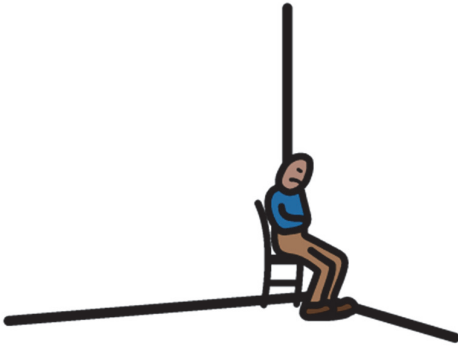


People with disabilities can find it hard to leave quickly if there is danger.

It can take them longer to move and get away.



And they may not have things to help them move, like wheelchairs or crutches.



Many people with disabilities have been left in danger because of this.



Many people with disabilities have been hurt or killed by fighters at home or as they tried to leave.

Danger after leaving home

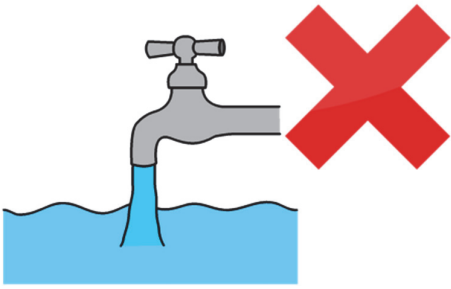


We found that it is still very unsafe for people with disabilities if they do leave home.



People with disabilities may end up on their own.

Or they may have to hide from fighters along the way.



Some people may not have enough water or food.

Life in the camps



Many people who did leave home have gone to live in places called camps.



Life can be hard for everyone in the camps.

But it can be much worse for people with disabilities.



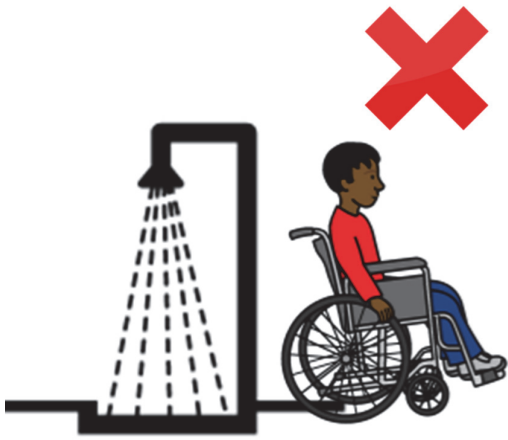
For example:

- It can be hard for people with disabilities to get food in the camps.

There are often problems at food places, like lots of people waiting and fights.



People with disabilities often get forgotten or have to wait until other people leave to see what food is left.

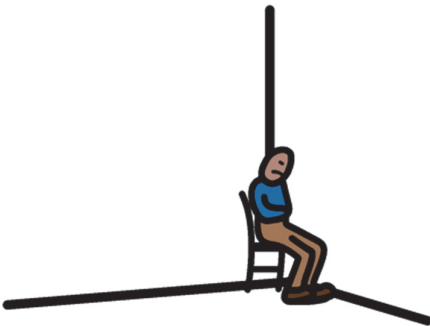


- Showers and toilets can be hard to get into and use.

For example, they may not have ramps and may be too small for wheelchairs.



- Some people with disabilities have to crawl on the ground to use the toilets and showers. This is unsafe and dirty.



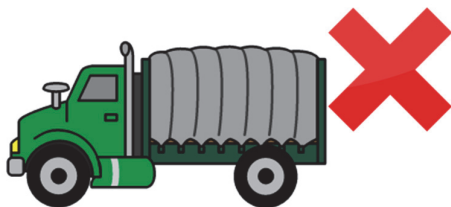
- Some people with disabilities are on their own in the camps without family to help them.

There are other problems as well. For example:



- Some camps do not have enough food, medicine or tents for people.

It can be hard to get things like this to the camps.



This is because there is fighting and some roads are unsafe.



- Other countries have not given enough money to help people in the Central African Republic.

Hope for peace



In June 2017 the Government and most of the groups who are fighting agreed to stop the fighting.

They signed a document about this.

This may help to:

- end the fighting
- make sure people who hurt or killed other people go to court because of it



What should happen next?

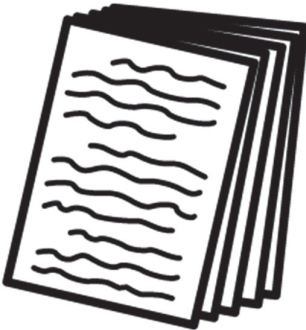


The United Nations and other groups are working hard to keep people safe.



But we think more should be done for people with disabilities.

We want the Government of the Central African Republic and groups that support people in need to:



- get better information about people with disabilities and what they need
- make sure people with disabilities get better support.



The Government should work with other countries to make a plan about this

We want the Government of the Central African Republic and groups that support people in need to:



- make sure people with disabilities have a say in plans and projects.

They should not be forgotten



- make sure people with disabilities in the camps get what they need.

For example, they should be able to get to and use showers, toilets and food places.



This may mean changing things in the camps.

For example, letting people with disabilities use these places before other people/

We want the Government of the Central African Republic and groups that support people in need to:

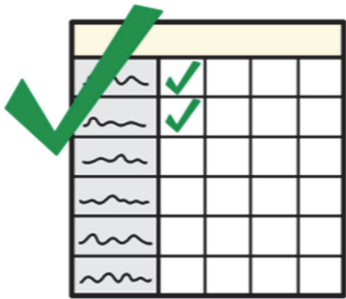


- write and talk about what is happening to people with disabilities.

This will help people know what is happening to people with disabilities and what they need



We want countries that give money to help the Central African Republic to:



- make sure the groups they give money to are doing the right things for people with disabilities



- ask for information about what is happening to people with disabilities



We also want countries to give more money to help people in the Central African Republic.