

We are ending
the death penalty
and its legacy.
End of sentence.

We are The Death Penalty Project

The death penalty is a cruel and inhuman punishment. It discriminates against the most marginalised members of society. There is no perfect justice system: wrongful convictions and miscarriages of justice happen the world over. This means innocent people are sentenced to death or executed wherever capital punishment exists.

We fight for criminal justice reform, working alongside our partners to end the death penalty and its legacy.

What we do



We **represent and assist individuals** facing the death penalty and other cruel forms of punishment and **mount direct challenges** to the legality of capital punishment.



We **engage governments and policymakers** in constructive discussions to invigorate and influence reform.



We **commission original research** and publish resources that deepen understanding about capital punishment.



We **deliver practical training** to judges, lawyers, mental health professionals and others working within criminal justice systems.

A message from our Co-Executive Directors

As we write this message, we reflect on the achievements of the past year and look ahead to an important milestone: **2026 will mark 50 years since Simons Muirhead Burton LLP – the law firm from which The Death Penalty Project originated and which still house and support us today – began representing people facing the death penalty.**

In 1976, only 20 countries had abolished death penalty. We have come a long way. Half a century on, 124 countries have now consigned the punishment to history and the appetite for reform continues to grow.

The African continent is making great strides to end the use of capital punishment. In the last five years alone, we have contributed to abolition in **Sierra Leone, Ghana and, most recently, Zimbabwe**. In 2025, only one of the 56 countries in the Commonwealth – our geographic area of focus – carried out executions. The vast majority of Commonwealth states now hold abolitionist *de facto* status, meaning the death penalty is still permitted under their legislation but they have not executed anyone for 10 years or more. Our work continues in these states to persuade them to take the final step: full removal of the death penalty in law.

Progress also comes with challenges. Globally, executions are still on the rise, meaning fewer countries are executing more people. 2025 was marred by setbacks in Asia. In the countries in which we operate, both Taiwan and Japan returned to executing in the first half of the year. Singapore continued to wage its 'war on drugs' and executed a staggering 17 people for narcotic crime – the highest annual toll in over two decades.



Our continuing action against the death penalty would not be possible without the determined support of our funders, our country partners and the thousands of hours of time and expertise we generously receive pro bono from many lawyers, doctors, forensic experts and academics. In particular, we express our gratitude to The Death Penalty Research Unit at the University of Oxford for our ongoing and important partnership. We also extend our thanks to our dedicated and hardworking staff and our Board, Trustees and Patrons for their steadfast support and involvement.

As we look ahead to 2026, five decades on from when our organisational mission first took shape, we are more determined than ever to end the death penalty and its legacy, everywhere. We have bold strategies and ambitious work planned for the year ahead and look forward to marking our special anniversary with our collaborators and supporters. ●

Parvais Jabbar and Saul Lehrfreund

A year in snapshot

We provided direct representation or legal assistance to **20 individuals** facing the death penalty. **Three people** were not sentenced to death, and **one person** had their death sentence overturned.

We are actively working to support reform alongside our local partner organisations and wider civil society in more than **20 countries**. We held high level engagements with policymakers and diplomatic allies in **eight countries**.

We published **two reports** exploring under-researched areas of global capital punishment practice.

We delivered **three training workshops** to more than **80 people** including lawyers, judges, mental health professionals and journalists.

Legal assistance:

- We represented **77 people in 18 different countries**.
- 13 individuals were **British Nationals detained abroad**.
- We have assisted local legal teams in **two constitutional challenges** to the death penalty in **Kenya and St Kitts and Nevis**. The cases are ongoing and, if successful, could result in the death penalty being declared unlawful.

Research and reports:

- Working with our partner, The Death Penalty Research Unit at the University of Oxford, we collaborated on a number of research projects in 2025. This included a multi-year study investigating the **deterrent effect of the death penalty for drug offences in Southeast Asia**. The full findings will be published in 2026 and more information about the research can be found on page 12.
- Together, we also published our **study on abolitionist de facto states**, revealing the rationales and risks of this in-between status. Read more about this study on page 9.
- We published a report by Dr Amelia Inglis exploring how families of homicide victims in the United States experience capital punishment systems, uncovering that death sentences can **retraumatise and inflict further harm on them**. More detail on the findings can be found on page 11.
- Our research partners at the University of Dhaka, Bangladesh, collected data for a new report on the **quality and effectiveness of legal representation for people on death row**. We plan to publish this in 2026.

Engagement:

- Through coordinated advocacy with local partners and diplomatic allies, we reinvigorated **Nigeria's** death penalty debate. This momentum prompted the introduction of three abolition bills in Parliament in March 2025 and expanded opportunities for engagement with parliamentarians and the wider public.
- With support from the British High Commission and our partner, Ditshwanelo, we engaged with the recently elected Government of **Botswana**, offering expertise to the Ministry of Justice in its consideration of the retention of capital punishment.
- Following abolition of the death penalty in 2021, we drafted sentencing guidelines in **Sierra Leone** by invitation of the Attorney General and Chief Justice.
- At the request of the Chief Justice and the Law Reform Commission of **The Bahamas**, we provided technical assistance and supported the drafting of sentencing guidelines for serious offences. ●

Evanson Mitcham's story

Evanson Mitcham was sentenced to death for murder in 2002 and released in summer 2025. Speaking to Evanson in November, five months after his release, he remembers, to the day, how long he spent on death row during his time in prison: 16 years, 3 months, 26 days. *"If you're not strong, it will break you,"* he told us.

Evanson would know. In 2007, he was moved to the condemned cell and was read his death warrant. Describing the physical space of the cell, Evanson remembers that if *"...you look through the door, you can see the gallows"*. Having been read his death warrant, he was able to make three calls. One to his mother and two to his lawyers.

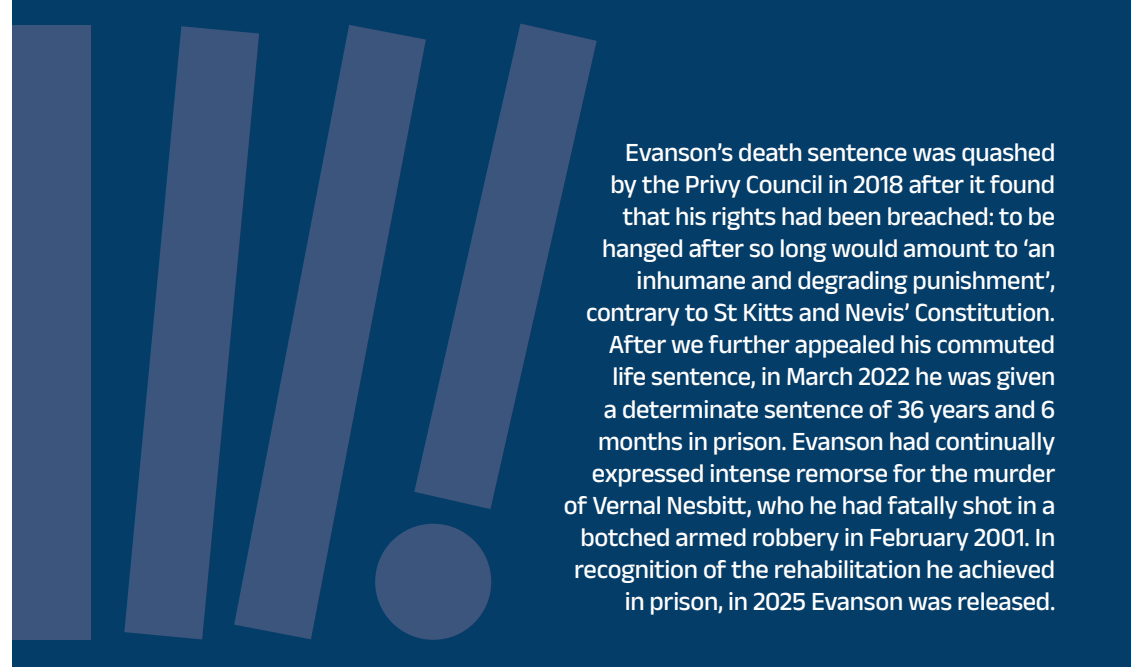
Following our last-minute application to the court, Evanson was read a stay of execution, mere hours before he was due to be hanged.

"Getting the death sentence, you get a kind of light-headed feeling. From the time they put you in the holding cell you don't want to see anybody, you don't want to hear from nobody... Your friends and family might come but you're not answering them because you're mentally depressed."



Evanson Mitcham, the day after his release, alongside his attorney, Talibah Byron-Chiverton

However, he was forced to remain living in that condemned cell for more than a decade. Given his direct view of the gallows – which he believes was a deliberate choice by the prison – Evanson witnessed the last execution in St Kitts in 2008.



Evanson's death sentence was quashed by the Privy Council in 2018 after it found that his rights had been breached: to be hanged after so long would amount to 'an inhumane and degrading punishment', contrary to St Kitts and Nevis' Constitution. After we further appealed his commuted life sentence, in March 2022 he was given a determinate sentence of 36 years and 6 months in prison. Evanson had continually expressed intense remorse for the murder of Vernal Nesbitt, who he had fatally shot in a botched armed robbery in February 2001. In recognition of the rehabilitation he achieved in prison, in 2025 Evanson was released.

Reflecting on his time in prison, Evanson hopes that conditions will improve one day. He describes making it through the years on death row by dividing the time into more manageable chunks. Six months here, a year or two there – setting short goals for himself. Nevertheless, Evanson's time in prison was characterised by habitual violence and cruelty from the officers. *"They see it as just pure punishment, they make your life more miserable than anything."*

Families need a pass to visit a death row prisoner. Evanson received 15-to-20-minute visits once a month, usually from his mother. It is these visits, he says, which kept him going during his time on death row. *"If you have nobody to come see you, the authorities take advantage of you in the prison. They lock you away, take your rights because they don't want you to spread what you know."*

Hearing support for the death penalty was hard during the years in custody, but not uncommon. Ultimately, Evanson thinks that people support the death penalty because they cannot imagine themselves, or

individuals that they know, in the situation he found himself. Compassion and knowing a condemned prisoner's story should be at the heart of abolitionist sentiment, in Evanson's view. With a wry smile, Evanson recounted to us how lyrics in his favourite type of music, calypso, even have a pro-death penalty sentiment at times.

Shortly after entering prison, Evanson's son was born. In counting the time he would spend in prison, he resolved to be a free man by the time his son was 20. While he missed that date, they celebrated his son's 24th birthday *together* in October 2025.

Evanson no longer plans his time in manageable sections. He is looking forward to the future and is planning on setting up a business, using construction skills he acquired in prison. Recently, he has helped his old masquerade dance troupe organise a music festival – he performed with them in November 2025 at Port Zante in Basseterre. When asked if they played calypso, Evanson doesn't answer, but laughs. ●

Exposing the political and unlawful use of the death penalty in St Kitts and Nevis

In 2025, prosecuting authorities in St Kitts and Nevis attempted to seek the death penalty for our client, Trevern Edwards. This was an arbitrary threat and in response, we are challenging the legality of the death penalty through the courts.

A troubling track record of executions

Having not carried out an execution since 2008, the United Nations categorises St Kitts and Nevis as abolitionist *de facto*. The entire Caribbean falls into this category.

In the four decades since independence, St Kitts has executed three people. They had each been convicted of serious crimes but were killed before they managed to exhaust their rights of appeal.

Simeon Ible was executed in 1985, when the death penalty was the automatic punishment for murder. He was a paranoid schizophrenic, who had not been able to communicate with his lawyer before, or during, trial.

In 1998, David Wilson was executed after the Court of Appeal found that he had been a secondary party to murder. His co-defendant had his conviction and death sentence quashed.

Most recently, Charles LaPlace was executed in 2008. Also executed before he had the opportunity to bring a final appeal, his executioner reported to the press that he spent the final eight hours of his life, with his hands and feet tied, rendered incontinent with fear.

Taking arbitrariness to court

This year, the state notified Trevern Edwards that they would be pursuing a death sentence upon his conviction for murder.

After many months of anguish and uncertainty, the prosecution then reversed this decision a matter of days before Trevern was due to be sentenced. This was based on political rather than legal factors: when withdrawing the application for the death penalty, the prosecution explained that it was because they were unwilling to damage diplomatic relationships and risk overseas development funding.

To challenge the inherent arbitrariness of the capital punishment regime in St Kitts and Nevis, we have initiated legal proceedings on Trevern Edwards' behalf to contest the legality of the death penalty in St Kitts and Nevis.

The challenge focusses on the country's track record of a disregard for human rights in the application of the death penalty, the cruel and inhuman method of hanging, as well as the clear politicisation of individual cases, which should render the punishment unlawful under the constitution.

The court is likely to rule on the constitutionality of the death penalty in 2026. ●

The absence of executions must not be mistaken for true abolition

Abolitionist *de facto*: the 'grey area' between retention and abolition

Today, 42 states fall under the category of abolitionist *de facto* (ADF). Each of these countries has not carried out an execution in ten or more years but keeps capital punishment in law – along with its associated risks and harms. In the 30 countries in which we work, 21 are classified as ADF.

In September 2025, at the Human Rights Council in Geneva, we launched a new report examining ADF status. The study, produced with our partner, The Death Penalty Research Unit, is the outcome of a two-year research project. It uncovers the practices and rationales of countries that occupy the grey area between retention and abolition. Until now, there has been limited research or international scrutiny into the ADF concept or on its effects. A state that does not execute is considered to be closer to abolition and therefore less deserving of close attention and criticism.

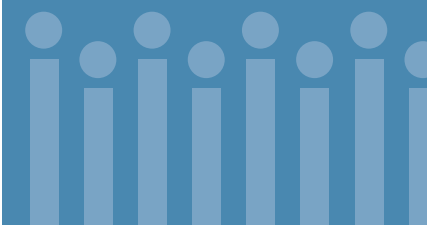


Presenting our report at the Human Rights Council in Geneva.

The report indicates that relying on this apparent proximity to abolition – and therefore the belief that full abolition is inevitable – is misguided. For ADF states, retaining capital punishment in its laws can be beneficial to complement “tough on crime” and other punitive rhetoric to satisfy perceived public demand. And, at the same time, a lack of executions can be seen as beneficial to a state's reputation internationally, as it sidesteps criticism which may be directed at retentionist countries.

The findings also show the risks of *de facto* abolition becoming an attractive destination point, rather than a step on the path towards permanent legal abolition. The symbolic use and political convenience of staying in this *de facto* grey area encourages the stalling of full legal abolition. ●

70% of ADF states still hold prisoners on death row – an estimated total of 2,850 individuals – with the true figure likely far higher.



**READ THE
FULL REPORT**

The legacy of the death penalty

The harms of capital punishment systems are also present in countries that have abolished in law: outlawing the punishment is just the beginning of dismantling the legacy of the death penalty. This is why our work in post-abolition states is also critical. Our activities include working to close remaining death rows, assist with the development of new guidelines for sentencing serious crimes and deliver training to the judiciary.

Sierra Leone, Ghana and Zimbabwe have all recently abolished the death penalty for ordinary or all crimes. As part of our post abolition work in Sierra Leone, we have supported the Attorney General in drafting new sentencing guidelines for former capital offences and continue to advise the government on their adoption into law in the coming year. We are also continuing to promote the adoption of the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, which would signal a firm and irreversible commitment to abolition at the international level.

Building on our previous judicial training, we will also be collaborating with the Attorney General to hold further training events in 2026, including simulated live sentencing exercises to help prepare judges for implementation of the new framework.

In Ghana, where abolition for ordinary crimes was achieved in 2023, we have been continuing to engage with MP Francis-Xavier Sosu, who sponsored the abolition bill. Together, we are promoting the expansion of abolition to cover military crimes and the offence of treason, as well as the adoption of the Second Optional Protocol.

During a visit to Accra in November 2025, we held constructive meetings with the

legal advisor to the President, the Attorney General, the Human Rights Committee of Parliament, and key diplomatic missions. These engagements focused on furthering Ghana's post abolition milestones and advocating for the commutation of the outstanding sentences of those still on death row. We anticipate that the President will address these commutations in the first half of 2026.

Zimbabwe officially outlawed the death penalty in December 2024. We continue to work with our partner Veritas, who in the year since abolition have been pursuing the resentencing of approximately 48 people who are still on death row. ●



The death penalty can deepen trauma for victims and their families

In countries that continue to impose death sentences, a common justification is that the punishment is necessary or beneficial for victims of crime and their families.

On both sides of the death penalty debate, there is broad agreement that supporting families of victims – often referred to as co-victims – in the aftermath of a traumatic crime is critical. Yet much of the debate has historically relied on assumptions about their views, rather than empirical evidence.

Our newly published report, authored by Dr Amelia Inglis of the University of Oxford, addresses this gap. Drawing on a series of in-depth, qualitative interviews with families of murder victims in the United States, the research offers rare, nuanced insights into how death sentences are experienced by co-victims. The findings challenge the assumption that capital punishment is either necessary or beneficial for co-victims in two key ways.

Firstly, despite claims by retentionists that the death penalty is necessary for healing, the findings show that the process can instead inflict additional harm. Co-victims are frequently retraumatised by prolonged and often unavoidable delays, as extensive but necessary procedural safeguards and appeals unfold over many years.

Secondly, the report highlights that families of murder victims do not hold uniform views, and that their needs and perspectives can shift over time. The death penalty fails to accommodate this diversity or evolution of co-victims' opinions. The findings show that capital punishment systems can cause further trauma to those they claim to support. The report calls on states to develop a sensitive criminal justice response to heinous offences that does not risk inflicting harm on all those who come in contact with it. ●



**READ
THE FULL
REPORT**

Sarah (not her real name), as both a victim-survivor and a witness to her father's murder, was required to attend every trial of the defendant, describing the experience as "ten and a half years of trials of hell".

"Please don't make me and my family go through this again. I'm gonna have to testify again. Oh, my God. I have to go look at the pictures. I have to go through every detail of watching the knife go into my father..."

Why is research so important for our work?

A lack of transparency, polarised attitudes and unchallenged misconceptions about the death penalty can lead to misinformed policymaking and public debate. Covering issues such as public opinion, deterrence and the socioeconomic status of people on death row, we commission, support and publish independent academic research that deepens understanding about capital punishment. We use this empirical evidence to fuel constructive dialogue about criminal justice policy with decision-makers.

Drug crime, punishment and policy

Death sentences and executions for drug offences are on the rise around the world. In 2025, 34 countries retained the death penalty for drug offences.

More often than not, retentionist governments rely on weak assumptions about the deterrent effect of capital punishment to justify the harsh sentences handed down to individuals, particularly those convicted of drug trafficking. In countries across Southeast Asia, where decades-long 'wars on drugs' have been waged by governments, the continuing and incredibly active drugs trade suggests that this highly punitive approach has failed.

With our lead partner, The Death Penalty Research Unit, we have co-directed a multi-year research study examining the use of the death penalty for drug offences in Southeast Asia, with funding from the UK Economic and Social Research Council. The findings will be published in 2026 and are already shaping our advocacy with governments and institutions across Asia.

Our research focuses on Indonesia, which has one of the highest rates of death sentences for drug offences in the region. Alongside researchers at Atma Jaya University, the study explores who is on death row, and the factors that influenced their decisions to commit drug offences, as well as the decision-making of those who may have resisted involvement in serious offending or avoided discovery.

From November 2025, we began sharing our early findings with civil society, policymakers,



Presenting our early findings in Jakarta, Indonesia

and key actors in criminal justice systems across Indonesia, Malaysia, and Singapore. These conversations are particularly timely: Indonesia's new penal code comes into force in 2026; Malaysia is embarking on reforms to its capital punishment framework and Singapore executed three people convicted of drug offences in just eight days in October 2025 – bringing the annual number of drug related executions to 17.

Against this regional backdrop of diverging death penalty trends, engaging those who shape policy and practice across all three countries is essential – and increasingly urgent. Over the coming year, we will publish this research in full. ●

The research team conducted in-depth interviews in ten prisons with 197 individuals on death row and 36 individuals serving life sentences for drug offences. There is no other comparable dataset on death row in any other Asian country.

Azra's story

Azra*, a British national, enjoyed travelling all her life, sharing snapshots of food, landscapes, and strangers turned friends with her followers on social media. On a trip to Taiwan in 2024, Azra, who had never been in trouble with the law, was arrested for possession of drugs, and faced the threat of a death sentence.

Prior to travelling to Taiwan, Azra spent a week in Cambodia, where she met a man and the pair planned to travel together to Kaohsiung City. He gave her a computer bag, stating it contained a laptop and several books, and that he would meet her at the airport for their flight to Taiwan. When the day came, he didn't appear. After making several attempts to contact him, Azra proceeded with her journey and took the computer bag with her.

She first travelled without issue through Ho Chi Minh City. But upon arrival at Kaohsiung Xiaogang Airport in Taiwan, routine security checks revealed that the computer bag contained 3 kilograms of heroin and 2.5 kilograms of crystal meth concealed within an inner compartment. Azra was immediately arrested, though she maintained that she was unaware that she had been carrying the drugs.

Azra had never been arrested before, let alone in a foreign country. The weight of the situation – and the unfamiliar language and legal system before her – was terrifying. She was told that she faced the prospect of a death sentence. We became involved in her case in November 2024 to ensure she had proper legal representation and that the specific circumstances of her case – including the unique vulnerabilities foreign nationals can face abroad – were handled with fairness and due process.

In 2025, we provided support to 13 British nationals, including Azra, who were detained overseas and facing the death penalty.

In 2024, we had supported our partners at the Taiwan Alliance to End the Death Penalty and the National Human Rights Commission in a challenge to the legality of the death penalty in Taiwan. The Constitutional Court's judgment resulted in the significant narrowing of the number of death-eligible offences – as well as the introduction of wider procedural safeguards.

By ruling that drug trafficking is no longer a crime punishable by death, the Constitutional Court's decision had a direct impact on Azra, who ultimately avoided a death sentence. On 18 June 2025, she was sentenced to 16 years in prison. ●

*We have changed her name to protect her privacy.

Keeping the death penalty on the agenda needs everyone

In the last year, our work in Bangladesh has widened in response to its dynamic political landscape. We have worked alongside our partners, the Bangladesh Legal Aid and Services Trust (BLAST) and the University of Dhaka, for more than a decade.

Hundreds of people are sentenced to death every year in Bangladesh, many of whom are likely to experience torture in custody. There are currently more than 2,600 people on death row.

Together, we have focused on building the capacity of professionals in the criminal justice system to ensure that fair trial standards are upheld, particularly for

individuals with mental health challenges facing capital charges. These efforts to train those at the frontline of the justice system are critical to prevent unjust outcomes, which disproportionately affect the poorest and most vulnerable.

Over the last year, we have seized new opportunities to question the future of the death penalty in Bangladesh with a wide range of interlocutors, though it remains a sensitive matter of public concern. On two visits to Dhaka, we collaborated with our partners to engage with parliamentarians, lawyers, members of the judiciary, civil society organisations, members of the international community, student activists and artists. ●

Pathways to reform

Reflecting on the pathway to reform in countries like Zimbabwe, which abolished the death penalty for ordinary crimes in December 2024, we have taken stock of the key strategies and efforts of diverse groups which made abolition possible. This year, our Executive Director Parvais Jabbar and Professor Carolyn Hoyle, Director of The Death Penalty Research Unit, co-authored an article in the Journal of Human Rights Practice, examining how a platform for policy change was built through collaborative efforts, which drew on legal strategy, capacity building, empirical research and high-level dialogue. In contexts such as Bangladesh, we are applying this theory of change model to foster spaces in which realistic steps towards reform can be considered.



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Life after death row: storytelling and photography as a tool for change

In December 2025, we held an exhibition with Bangladeshi photographer Mosfiqur Rahman Johan at Whitechapel Gallery, London. A renowned artist who has documented recent human rights abuses in Bangladesh, Mosfiqur Rahman Johan began exploring the stories of people who had been wrongfully convicted and sentenced to death. Adopting a trauma-informed approach to storytelling, he spends time with individuals who have spent years – sometimes more than a decade – in deplorable conditions of solitary confinement before being acquitted and released. The trauma and stigma attached to their experiences are the subject of his powerful and deeply personal photography. ●



© Robert Leslie

Majeda's story

Majeda Begum was accused of murder in 2007 and arrested. In custody, police officers tortured her and threatened to rape her and kill her baby, forcing her to sign a false confession. Majeda was convicted solely on the basis of her false confession, sentenced to death and detained in an unsanitary 'condemned cell' along with her 13-month-old baby, Maruf. She raised Maruf inside the prison, where he learned to walk and talk, and spent all his early childhood years.

When Majeda's innocence was finally proven, Maruf was six years old. Now free and cleared of all charges, Majeda is rebuilding her life for her children. But years of isolation, despair, and living under the constant fear of execution have left deep scars.

We are working alongside BLAST, Mosfiqur Rahman Johan and other partners to ensure that stories such as Majeda's are widely heard in Bangladesh – and inform policy change. ●

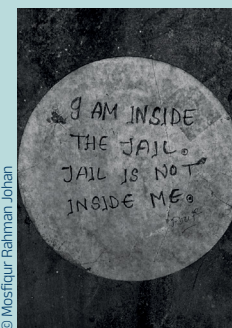


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Mosfiqur Rahman Johan sharing a platform with our patrons Anthony Gormley and Baroness Helena Kennedy.



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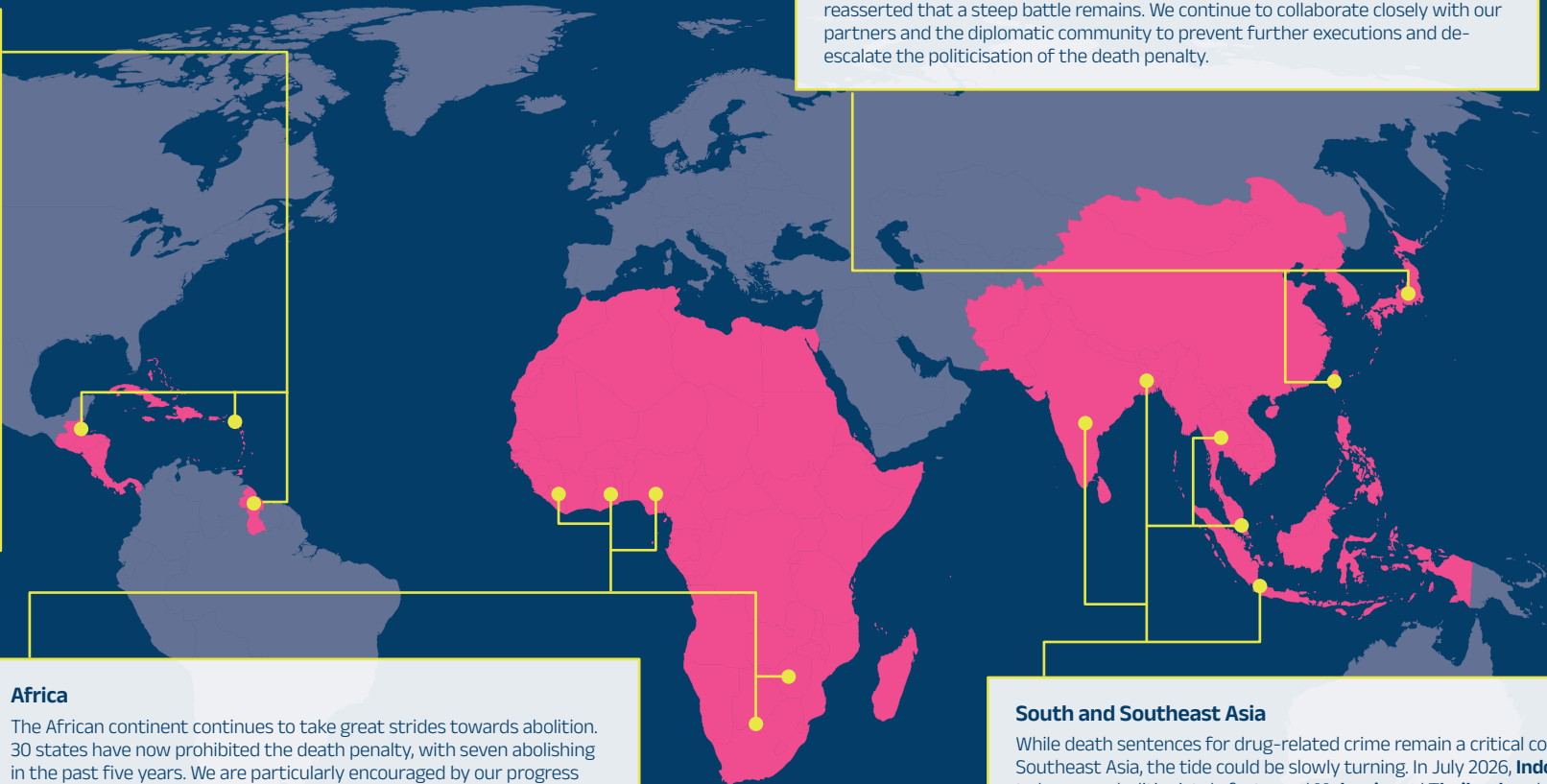
Hope, headwinds and hardline states

Mapping movement towards abolition in the places we work

The global trend continues toward the universal abolition of the death penalty. However, the world witnessed a sharp increase in the number of executions in 2025, primarily due to a small number of hardline retentionist states, including the United States, Iran, Saudi Arabia and China. Amid this terrain, read our analysis of where we expect movement in the places we work.

Central America and the Caribbean

The Caribbean, where our work first began 50 years ago, remains stalled in ADF status. Alongside legal practitioners, we continue to explore routes to full abolition. Our challenges to the legality of the death penalty in **Guyana** and **St Kitts and Nevis** could result in the death penalty being outlawed in these jurisdictions before long – and would have a wider regional effect. In **Belize**, the only country in Central America that retains capital punishment, we continue to explore avenues for reform.



Africa

The African continent continues to take great strides towards abolition. 30 states have now prohibited the death penalty, with seven abolishing in the past five years. We are particularly encouraged by our progress in 2025 in **Botswana**, where the new government have signalled their desire for evidence based dialogue amongst a strident national death penalty debate. 3,800 people are on death row in **Nigeria**, but with elections approaching in 2027 there is an opportunity to position abolition as a priority for the next administration, building on the marked progress made this past year. We expect continued forward momentum, with recent abolitionist states **Sierra Leone**, **Ghana** and **Zimbabwe** all contributing to this dynamic discourse around criminal justice policy.

East Asia

We are concerned by the regressive steps we have seen in East Asia in 2025, which has only fuelled greater urgency to our work in the region. By resuming executions in July 2025, **Japan** has failed to learn from the grave miscarriage of justice that surfaced in 2024, which left wrongfully convicted Iwao Hakamada on death row for more than four decades. The **Taiwanese** Constitutional Court missed an opportunity to abolish the death penalty for all offences in 2024, and the execution of Huang Lin-Kai in early 2025 while an appeal was pending before the courts reasserted that a steep battle remains. We continue to collaborate closely with our partners and the diplomatic community to prevent further executions and de-escalate the politicisation of the death penalty.

South and Southeast Asia

While death sentences for drug-related crime remain a critical concern in Southeast Asia, the tide could be slowly turning. In July 2026, **Indonesia** is due to become abolitionist de facto, and **Malaysia** and **Thailand** could follow in the next two years. Armed with our new research on drugs and the death penalty, we will continue to explore this new space for reform.

In **Bangladesh**, we remain optimistic about exploring avenues for transforming criminal justice with the new government, following elections in February 2026. Though abolition in **India** in the short-term is improbable, our partners in the legal community and civil society continue to take huge strides in limiting the application of capital punishment and improving procedural safeguards.

Our supporters

The Death Penalty Project deeply appreciates the funding and support it receives from:

Our host:
Simons Muirhead Burton LLP

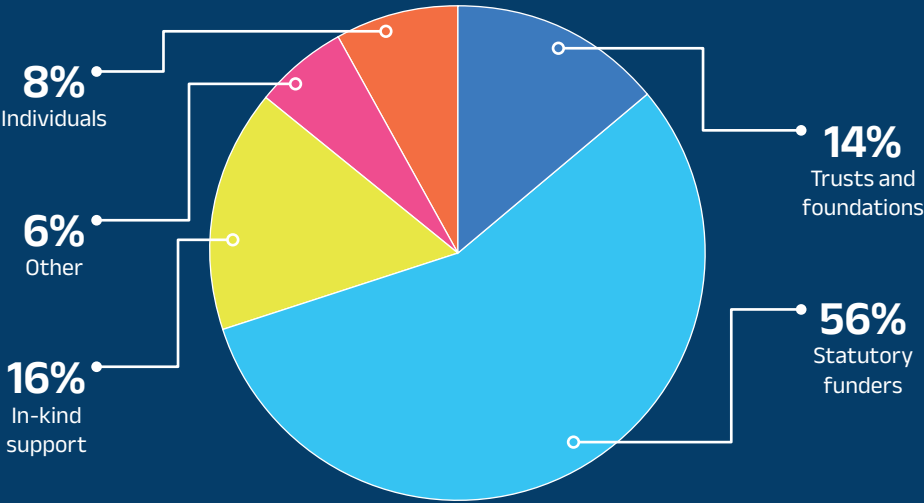
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Our people and partnerships

We are extremely grateful for the commitment of our hard-working team, as well as the support we receive from interns and volunteers.



We also extend thanks to our Trustees, Directors and Patrons for their support:

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- Andrew Rodger
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- Saul Lehrfreund MBE
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- Baroness Helena Kennedy KC
- Lord Fellowes of West Stafford
- Lu Guthrie
- Phil Hunt

Our work would not be possible without our high-impact partnerships with dedicated and tenacious civil society organisations, legal professionals and diplomatic missions. We were also very grateful to be re-elected in 2025 to the Steering Committee of the World Coalition Against the Death Penalty for another two year term, marking 12 years of involvement alongside many of our longstanding partners since joining the Committee in 2013.

Finally, we would like to thank all the barristers, medical and forensic experts, academics and other individuals who continue to support our work so generously by providing their time, services and expertise without charge. Our work would not be possible without them.

Join the movement for justice and human dignity.

END OF SENTENCE

We need you to help fuel our action against the death penalty and injustice. Set up a monthly gift to The Death Penalty Project today. Regular support from people like you gives us a reliable stream of funds we can depend on year-round, helping us to plan ahead, be bold and positively impact the lives of thousands of people in prison.



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