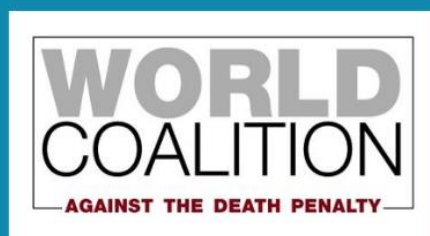




Mapping of Women on Death Row



Data Mapping: Women on Death Row

June 2023

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List of acronyms

AJEM	Association justice et miséricorde
AMDH	Association mauritanienne des droits humains
APWLD	Asia Pacific Forum on Women, Law and Development
CAT	Committee against Torture
CCDPW	Cornell Center on the Death Penalty Worldwide
CHESO	Children Education Society
CONICOPEM	Coalition nigérienne contre la peine de mort
CPJ	Culture pour la Paix et la Justice
CPR Japan	Center for Prisoner's Rights
CTCPM	Coalition nationale tunisienne contre la peine de mort
ECPM	Ensemble contre la peine de mort
EDPI	Egypt Death Penalty Index
ESOHR	European Saudi Organisation for Human Rights
FHRI	Foundation for Human Rights Initiative
FIDH	Fédération internationale pour les droits humains
ICJ Kenya	Kenyan Section of the International Commission of Jurists
IHR	Iran Human Rights
JPP	Justice Project Pakistan
LACR	Lebanese Association for Civil Rights
PRI	Penal Reform International
SHAMS	Human Rights and Democracy Media Center
TAHR	The Advocates for Human Rights
World Day	World Day Against the Death Penalty
World Coalition	World Coalition Against the Death Penalty

I. General information about the country mapping exercise

In 2021, the 19th edition of the World Day Against the Death Penalty (“World Day” on October 10) was dedicated to the invisible reality of women on death row, paving the way for new data on the issue of women sentenced to death. Many members of the World Coalition Against the Death Penalty (“World Coalition”), in preparation for 10 October, conducted research to document the situations of women facing the death penalty around the world. To systematize the information collected and have a global understanding of women sentenced to death, the World Coalition conducted a data systematization exercise.

This short report presents the main conclusions of this country exercise. These findings are a compilation of existing data available to the World Coalition Against the Death Penalty and its members organization up to December 2022.

Some details on the methodological approach

All the information in this report comes from analyses of the events carried out by the members of the World Coalition up to and through World Day 2021 (e.g., reports, webinars, radio spots, publications on social networks, etc.). It also contains an analysis of press articles published on or around World Day 2021. To ensure that the data was up to date, additional consultations were held with members of the World Coalition and additional literature research was conducted (primarily of press articles). When those consultations and media searches revealed no new information, data from the Cornell Center on the Death Penalty Worldwide (CCDPW) were used.¹

Amnesty International’s annual reports on death sentences and executions are the primary source for data on the global death row population. When Amnesty International did not have disaggregated data on a death row population, we used data from the Cornell Center on the Death Penalty Worldwide or World Coalition members from the country in question. To ensure methodological consistency, we have used data from corresponding years and sources to calculate the percentage of women on death row, wherever possible.

Regarding countries’ death penalty status, we used Amnesty International's 2022 classification² which highlights 55 retentionist countries and 23 abolitionist in practice countries.³

This exercise was limited to an analysis of quantitative and qualitative data on women sentenced to death worldwide (numbers, profile, crimes committed, etc.), but an in-depth analysis of penal and penitentiary systems, cultural and social gender norms, including the level of gender equality, would be necessary to strengthen the understanding of the link between gender and the death penalty.

For the country mapping analysis, the retentionist and abolitionist in practice countries were divided into four categories: countries where we know there are women on death row; countries where we do not know if women are on death row; countries where there are fewer than three people on death row and no women on death row; and countries where there are more than three people on death row but no women on death row.

Countries where we know there are women on death row include those for which we have both accurate and

¹ The database (<http://deathpenalty-worldwide.org>) and the following reports were used: Cornell Center on the Death Penalty Worldwide, *Judged for More Than Her Crime: A Global Overview of Women Facing the Death Penalty*, (September 2018), available at: <https://deathpenaltyworldwide.org/publication/judged-more-than-her-crime/> ; Cornell Center on the Death Penalty Worldwide, *No One Believed Me: A Global Overview of Women Facing the Death Penalty for Drug Offenses*, (September 2021), available at: <https://deathpenaltyworldwide.org/publication/no-one-believed-me-a-global-overview-of-women-facing-the-death-penalty-for-drug-offenses/>

² Amnesty International, *Global Report: death sentences and Executions*, (2022), available at <https://www.amnesty.org/en/documents/act50/6548/2023/en/>

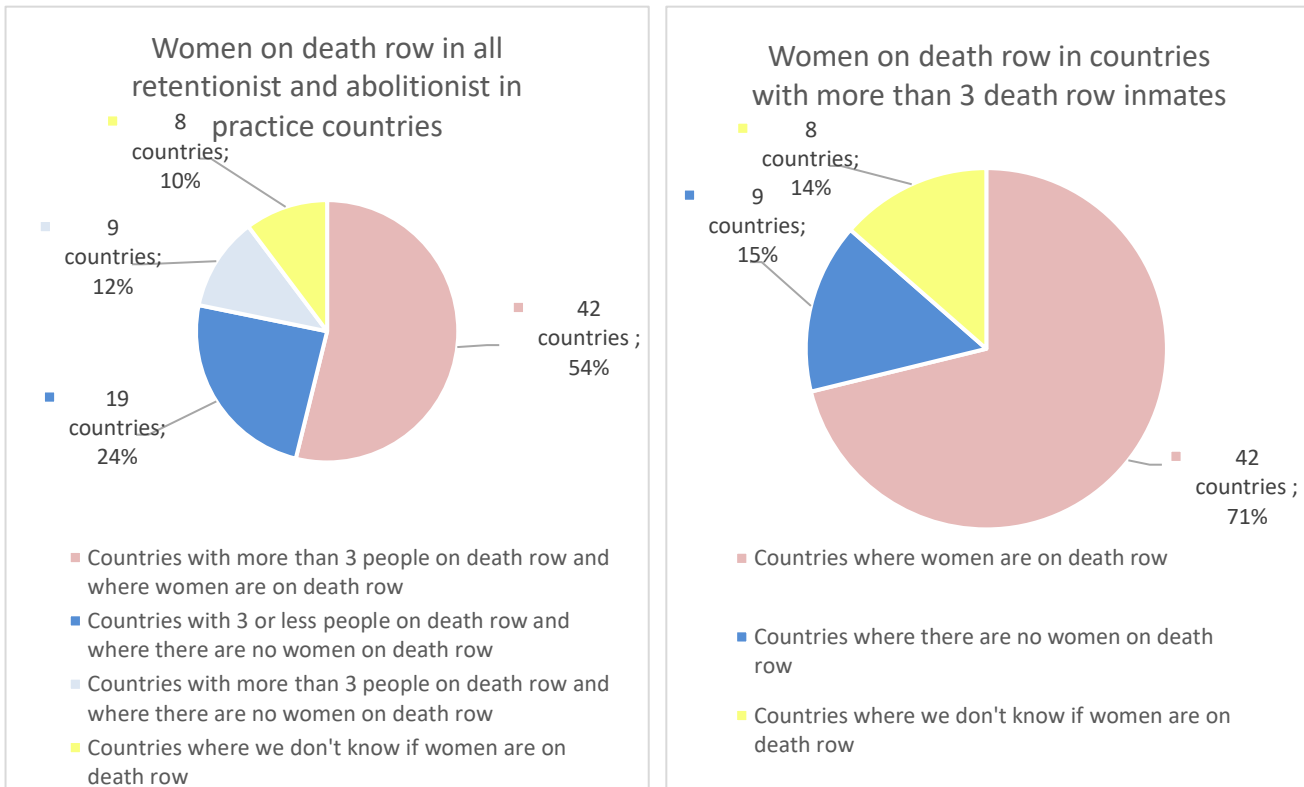
³ According to Amnesty International, abolitionist in practice countries refer to countries that retain the death penalty for ordinary crimes such as murder but can be considered abolitionist in practice in that they have not executed anyone during the last 10 years or more and are believed to have a policy or established practice of not carrying out executions. Retentionist countries refer to countries that retain the death penalty for ordinary crimes.

inaccurate data on the number of women on death row. This category includes all countries for which we have information on at least one woman on death row or on a recent execution. These are all countries where there are more than three (3) people on death row. Countries where we don't know if women are on death row refer to countries for which we do not have reliable data indicating that a woman is on death row or has recently been executed, but where, due to (1) the number of people on death row, (2) the crimes punishable by death and (3) recent and past convictions, women may be on death row. These are all countries where there are more than three (3) people on death row.

II. Results of the country mapping on women on death row

Data on the presence of women on death row

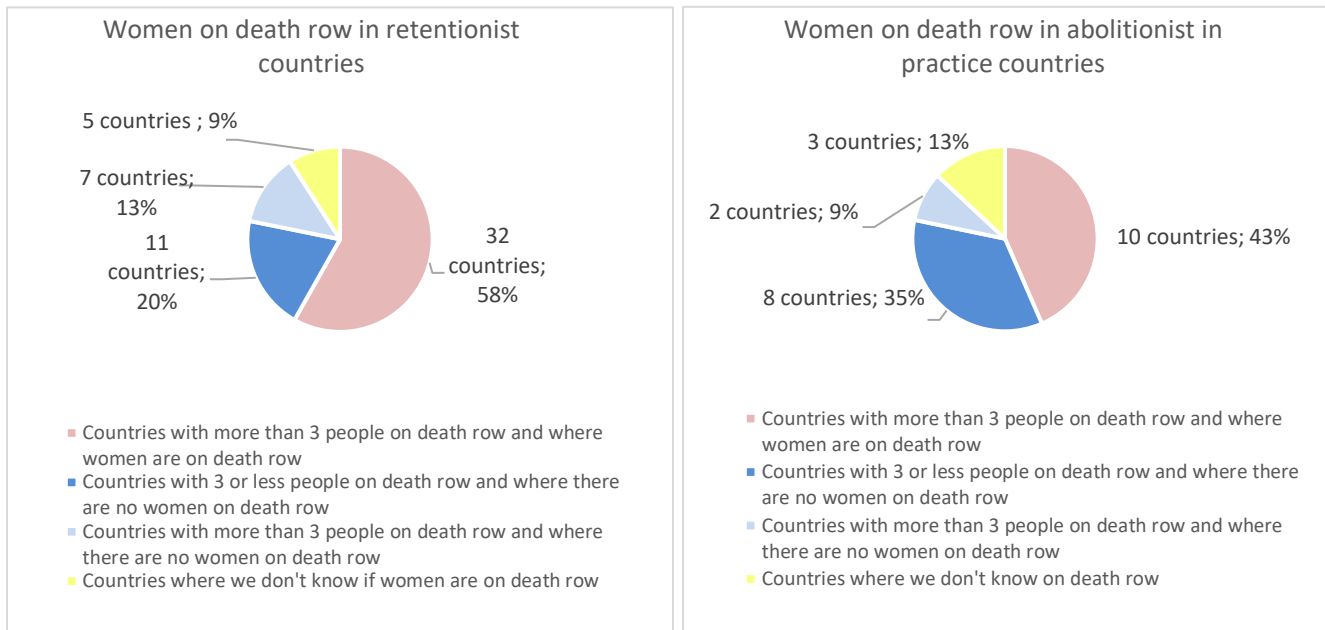
Based on the results of the data systematization, in December 2022, among the 78 retentionist and abolitionist in practice countries, we know that women are on death row in 42 countries (54%). **Among 59 retentionist and abolitionist in practice countries with more than three people on death row⁴, 71% (32 retentionist and ten abolitionist in practice countries) have women on death row.** It is necessary to note that within this dataset, there are still eight countries (five retentionist and three abolitionist in practice) for which we have no clear information about women on death row, which could change the total percentage of countries with women on death row (more information below).



These results allow us to observe that women on death row are present in most countries that retain the death penalty with a minimum number of prisoners on death row. Indeed, when a retentionist or abolitionist country in practice has no women on death row, it is often because there are no or very few people on death row.⁵

⁴ This includes the 42 countries where there are women on death row, the 8 countries where we don't know if there are women on death row and the 9 countries with more than 3 people on death row where there are no women on death row.

⁵ There are some exceptions which are detailed in the following section "information about countries where there are no women on death row", see *infra*, p. 11.



The percentage of countries where women are on death row is slightly higher in retentionist countries than in abolitionist countries in practice. Indeed, among the 23 countries in this category, ten countries (43%) have women on death row, while among the 55 retentionist countries, 32 countries (58%) have women on death row. However, as highlighted in the graphs, the percentage of countries with more than three people on death row and no women is higher in retentionist countries than in abolitionist-in-practice countries. Seven (13%) of the retentionist countries with more than three people on death row don't have any women on death row in comparison with two countries (9%) for abolitionist in practice countries. A more detailed analysis (as found in the next section, "Information about countries where there are no women on death row"), demonstrates that these retentionist countries also have few people on death row or have recently had women on death row.

Our analysis illustrates the challenges in gathering data on women sentenced to death. In the following eight countries (five retentionist and three abolitionist in practice), classified as "we don't know," we were not able to obtain reliable information to verify whether there are women on death row: Afghanistan⁶, Algeria, Laos⁷, Libya⁸, Palestine⁹, Somalia¹⁰, South Korea¹¹ and Syria¹². Information on death sentences of women (see *supra*, footnotes 6 to 10), crimes punishable by death and the number of people on death row suggest that there may currently be women on death row, but further information is needed to confirm or deny it.

⁶ There is no precise data on the number of people on death row in Afghanistan. We know that two women have been executed in 2016 but we have no more recent information. There is a strong possibility that women are on death row, but we don't have the data to confirm this.

⁷ In Laos, access to data is restricted. However, according to the Cornell Center on the Death Penalty Worldwide, in 2010, one woman was on death row. Available at: <https://deathpenaltyworldwide.org/database/#/results/country?id=40#fn-19262-J58U83E482873>. We do not know if this sentence has since been commuted.

⁸ In 2009, Amnesty International reported that three women were being held on death row in the women's section of Jdeida prison. We do not know if these sentences have since been commuted. Information from Amnesty International, *Libya of Tomorrow: What Hope for Human Rights?* (2010), available at: <https://www.amnesty.org/en/documents/mde19/007/2010/en/>.

⁹ According to the Human Rights and Democracy Media Center (SHAMS), women are frequently sentenced to death but see their sentences are most often commuted quickly. We were unable to obtain a view of the situation in 2022. SHAMS, *A statement for immediate release, On the international day against the death penalty: "courts of Gaza Accelerate the pace of human rights violations"*, (2021), available at: https://www.shams-pal.org/eng/wp-content/uploads/2021/pressRel/press10_10_2021.pdf.

¹⁰ Woman stoned to death in Somalia because she married 11 men, claims extremist group, The Independent, <https://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/africa/al-shabab-somalia-woman-stoned-death-married-men-a8343901.html>, May 9, 2018. This may suggest that other women may be on death row but we have not been able to obtain more up-to-date data and information on women on death row..

¹¹ No official gender-desegregated figures are available for death row prisoners in South Korea which prevents us from affirming that there are no women on death row.

¹² For Syria, because of the ongoing conflict, it's not possible to access accurate data on death sentences or judicial executions.

Among the 42 countries where women are currently on death row, there are 12 retentionist countries¹³ without precise data on the exact number of women on death row. These countries include some of the biggest executioners in the world, such as China, Iran, Iraq, North Korea, Oman, Saudi Arabia, Vietnam, and Yemen.¹⁴ For most of these countries, this dearth of data is not specific to women¹⁵. Barriers to obtaining accurate data include, among others, limited access to death row information, difficulty accessing prisons housing death row inmates, lack of transparency in the criminal justice system, and lack of in-country civil society organizations with whom we are in contact. We also note the absence of a specific number of women on death row in countries such as, Singapore, and Sudan, where we have estimates of the number of people on death row but which do not include gender-disaggregated information.

One reason for the lack of death row data on women may be a lack of awareness of the importance of collecting and publishing gender-specific data. Indeed, this was noted on World Day 2021, when various members of the World Coalition expressed that collecting gender-specific data was not part of their practice.

¹³ The 12 countries where we know women are on death row but where we don't know how many, are the following: Saudi Arabia, China, North Korea, Iraq, Iran, Qatar, Myanmar, Singapore, Sudan, Vietnam, Yemen, and Oman.

¹⁴ For the ranking of executing countries see Amnesty International, *Global Report: Death Sentences and Executions, 2022*, (2023), available at: <https://www.amnesty.org/en/documents/act50/6548/2023/en/>

¹⁵ Amnesty International, *Global Reports: Death Sentenced and executions, from 2012 to 2022*, available at <https://www.amnesty.org/en/>

Information about countries where there are no women on death row

Based on the results of the mapping, there is a high probability that there are no women on death row in 28 retentionist and abolitionist countries in practice (18 retentionist countries and 10 abolitionist in practice countries).

In 19 of these countries, the number of people on death row is three or less¹⁶:

- In 14 countries, there is no one on death row¹⁷;
- In five countries, there is one person on death row (Belarus, Brunei, Eswatini, Grenada and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines¹⁸).

Among retentionist and abolitionist in practice countries with more than three people on death row, **there are only nine countries (7 retentionist and 2 abolitionist in practice) where there are most likely no women on death row**. These countries are the following¹⁹:

Retentionist countries:

- Bahrain (more than 41 persons on death row²⁰);
- Barbados (5 persons on death row²¹);
- Botswana (7 persons on death row²²);
- Comoros (12 persons on death row²³);
- Gambia (13 persons on death row²⁴);
- Trinidad and Tobago (43 persons on death row²⁵);
- Zimbabwe (61 persons on death row²⁶).

Abolitionist in practice countries:

- Liberia (17 persons are on death row)²⁷;
- Mali (more than 8 persons are on death row)²⁸.

Among these countries, several have had women on death row recently even if they don't anymore²⁹. This was

¹⁶ In the Caribbean, because of their colonial history, many countries have the Privy Council (formal body of advisers to the sovereign of the United Kingdom) as final instance. For these countries, any death sentence is commuted to life imprisonment after 5 years if the execution has not taken place (see the case of *Pratt v A-G for Jamaica*). Access to accurate data is therefore limited. In addition, as explained by Greater Caribbean For Life, data on death row inmates is often collected and published by the state, which raises questions about its accuracy (information shared by email). Too see more on the Pratt v A-G for Jamaica case: *Judicial Committee of the Privy Council, Pratt v A-G for Jamaica*, (1993), available at: <http://www.bailii.org/uk/cases/UKPC/1993/1.html>

¹⁷ These countries are Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Belize, Cuba, Dominica, Jamaica, Lesotho, Saint Lucia, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Eritrea, Malawi, Russia, Tajikistan, Tonga. As noted in the Cornell Center on the Death Penalty Worldwide database, in Tajikistan, and Russia women can't be sentenced to death. This is also the case for Belarus. Information is accessible at: <https://deathpenaltyworldwide.org/database/>

¹⁸ Amnesty International, *Global Report: Death Sentenced and execution, 2022*, (2023), available at: <https://www.amnesty.org/en/documents/act50/6548/2023/en/>

¹⁹ This number could increase depending on whether there are women on death row in the 8 countries classified as "we don't know". More details on the number of people on death row in these countries can be found in the annex.

²⁰ Amnesty International, *Global Report: Death Sentenced and execution, 2022*, (2023), available at: <https://www.amnesty.org/en/documents/act50/6548/2023/en/>

²¹ *Ibid.*

²² *Ibid.*

²³ *Ibid.*

²⁴ *Ibid.*

²⁵ *Ibid.*

²⁶ *Ibid.*

²⁷ *Ibid.*

²⁸ *Ibid.*

²⁹ *Ibid.*

the case in the 2000s at least for Bahrain³⁰, Gambia³¹, Mali³², Trinidad and Tobago³³, and Zimbabwe³⁴ have had women on death row since 2000 (see footnotes for details). In Trinidad and Tobago, like other Caribbean countries, because the judicial systems are overburdened, accused persons often spend years in pre-trial detention before their case is reviewed or they are released on bail. Thus, it is possible that there are accused women who are awaiting trial and may be sentenced to death in the near future.³⁵

Thus, we observe that the countries where there are no women on death row are mainly countries where there are few or no prisoners on death row. 19 of the 28 countries where there are no women on death row are countries where there are fewer than three people on death row. In a majority of the remaining 9 countries, women have been on death row recently. This allows us to confirm that women are currently or have recently been on death row in most countries where there are at least 3 people on death row.

³⁰ In Bahrain Yeshiwork Zewdu, a maid and migrant worker was on death row in 2000. BBC News, Ethiopian Girl on Death Row in Bahrain, <http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/africa/1067483.stm>, Dec. 12, 2000. According to SALAM for Democracy and Human Rights, there is no more women on death row since at least 2011. Email correspondence from SALAM for Democracy and Human Rights, 3 December 2022.

³¹ In 2012, a Senegalese woman was executed in Gambia. More details at: Bubacarr Sowe, Gambia's executed inmates named, The Gambia Dispatch, (August 2012), available at: <http://gambiadispatch.com/2012/08/24/gambias-executed-inmates-named>

³² At least 5 women were under sentence of death in 2021, including 3 for terrorism. The three sentenced to death for terrorism has been pardoned, one of the remaining women on death row has died and the last one has had her sentence changed to life imprisonment. Information shared by email by ACAT Mali June 8, 2023.

³³ In Trinidad and Tobago, according to CCDPW data-base, in March 2009, six women were on death row and in June 2013, one woman was on death row. Information available at: <https://deathpenaltyworldwide.org/database/#/results/country?id=80#fn-22258-N90D82G145341>. However, according to The Advocates for Human Rights in 2023, the Deputy Commissioner of Prisons stated that there were no women on death row. TAHR, Trinidad and Tobago's Compliance with the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women Suggested List of Issues Prior to Reporting Relating to the Death Penalty, 86th Session, (January 2023).

³⁴ In Zimbabwe, Prisons Deputy Commissioner of Human Resources Fadzayi Mupure reported in 2018 that two women might be on death row. Robert Tapfumaneyi, *81 death row inmates await execution in Zimbabwe*, New Zimbabwe, <https://www.newzimbabwe.com/81-death-row-inmates-await-execution-in-zimbabwe/>

³⁵ Information shared by email by Greater Caribbean For Life in 2023.

Data on executions of women

The results of the mapping inform us that the countries where we know that women have been executed in the last ten years are the 14 following: Afghanistan, China, Egypt, Gambia, Indonesia, Iraq, Iran, Jordan, Kuwait, North Korea, Oman, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, and the United States³⁶.

Among these countries, we can differentiate between those who regularly execute women sentenced to death, meaning at least once a year, and those who do so sporadically, meaning less than once a year.

China, Iran, Iraq, and Saudi Arabia execute women on a regular basis³⁷ and are among the top ten executioners in the world. Indeed, in recent years, China executed at least approximately 20 to 100 women per year (1% to 5% of its estimated total executions)³⁸ and Iran executed at least 164 women between January 2010 and October 2021 (2.57% of its executions, on average)³⁹. Iraq executed 17 women between 2004 and 2014⁴⁰, and Saudi Arabia executed 31 women between 2010 and 2021 (2.5% of total executions).⁴¹

Afghanistan⁴², Egypt⁴³, Gambia⁴⁴, Indonesia⁴⁵, Jordan⁴⁶, Kuwait⁴⁷, North Korea⁴⁸, Oman⁴⁹, Somalia⁵⁰ and the United States⁵¹ have executed women sporadically.

³⁶Amnesty International, Global Reports: Death Sentenced and executions, from 2012 to 2022, available at <https://www.amnesty.org/en/>

³⁷ *Ibid.*

³⁸ Cornell Center on the Death Penalty Worldwide, *Judged for More Than Her Crime: A Global Overview of Women Facing the Death Penalty*, (September 2018), available at: <https://deathpenaltyworldwide.org/publication/judged-more-than-her-crime/>

³⁹ Iran Human Rights, *Women and the Death Penalty in Iran*, (10 October 2021). Available at: <https://iranhr.net/en/articles/4910/>

⁴⁰ U.N. Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights and U.N. Assistance Mission for Iraq Human Rights Office, *Report on the Death Penalty in Iraq*, (October 2014). Available at: http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Countries/IQ/UNAMI_HRO_DP_10Oct2014.pdf

⁴¹ ESOHR and Reprieve, *Bloodshed and Lies: Mohammed bin Salman's Kingdom of Executions*, (February 2023), available at: <https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=web&cd=&ved=2ahUKewjtpX9zoP9AhXwUqQEHU4WAg8QFnoE-CA4QAQ&url=https%3A%2F%2Freprieve.org%2Fwp-content%2Fuploads%2Fsites%2F2%2F2023%2F01%2FBloodshed-and-Lies-Mohammed-bin-Salmans-Kingdom-of-Executions.pdf&usq=AOvVaw2SCAYtECh0NjpJ6tFfrMKW>

⁴² Rod Nordland and Jawad Sukhanyar, *Taliban Publicly Execute Two Women in Northern Afghanistan*, The New York Times, (2016), available at: <https://www.nytimes.com/2016/05/08/world/asia/taliban-publicly-execute-two-women-in-northern-afghanistan.html>

⁴³ Hands Off Cain, *Egypt Executes Six, Two of Whom Were Women*, (2018), available at: <http://www.handsoffcain.info/notizia/egypt-executes-six-two-of-whom-were-women-40305364>

⁴⁴ Amnesty International, *Executions in the Gambia Giant Leap Backwards*, (2014). Available at : <https://www.amnesty.org/en/press-releases/2012/08/executions-gambia-giant-leap-backwards>

⁴⁵ According to LBH Masyarakat, 5 women have been executed between 2004-2015. Information shared by email March 27, 2023.

⁴⁶ Andrew Buncombe, Sajida al-Rishawi, *Jordan 'executes female Isis suicide bomber' – hours after pilot Muath al-Kasaesbeh is burned alive*, The Independent, (2015), available at: <https://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/middle-east/sajida-al-rishawi-jordan-says-it-has-executed-female-militant-sought-by-isis-hours-after-promising-10022091.html>

⁴⁷ Human Rights Watch, *Kuwait, First Executions in 4 Years*, (2017), available at: <https://www.hrw.org/news/2017/01/26/kuwait-first-executions-4-years>, Jan. 26, 2017

⁴⁸ Chris Graham, Meet Hyon Song-wol, *North Korea's 'Spice Girl' whose execution was greatly exaggerated*, The Telegraph, (2018), available at: <https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2018/01/21/meet-hyon-song-wol-north-koreas-spice-girl-whose-execution-greatly>

⁴⁹ Amnesty International, *Global Report: Death Sentenced and execution, 2020*, (2021), p10. available at: <https://www.amnesty.org/en/documents/act50/3760/2021/en/>

⁵⁰ See *infra*, p. 10.

⁵¹ In United States, 16 women have been executed since 1976, when the death penalty has been reinstated by the Supreme Court. Cornell Center on the Death Penalty Worldwide, *Judged for More Than Her Crime: A Global Overview of Women Facing the Death Penalty*, (September 2018).

Over the last ten years, according to Amnesty International, 37 countries have carried out executions, including 14 (38%) that have executed women. Of the 22 countries that have carried out executions in the last ten years but have not executed women, 16 countries have women on death row: Bangladesh, India, Japan, Malaysia, Myanmar, Nigeria, Pakistan, Qatar, Singapore, South Sudan, Sudan, Taiwan, Thailand, United Arab Emirates, Vietnam, and Yemen. This suggests that in general, women on death row are less likely to be executed than their male counterparts. As highlighted by the Cornell Center on the Death Penalty's 2018 report, India, for example, has not recently executed any women.⁵² However, it is possible that women have been executed in these countries, but data have not been collected. Indeed, there is still a significant lack of gender-specific data. This is true for data on executions and death sentences.

Chart 4: Gender analysis of execution in the last 10 years



In general, the data demonstrate that the countries that conduct the most executions overall are also the main executioners of women. In countries that execute women on a regular basis, women constitute between one and five percent of the overall executions in the country⁵³.

⁵² Cornell Center on the Death Penalty Worldwide, *Judged for More Than Her Crime: A Global Overview of Women Facing the Death Penalty*, (September 2018), page 10, available at: <https://deathpenaltyworldwide.org/publication/judged-more-than-her-crime/>.

⁵³ *Ibid.*

Data on the countries with the most women on death row

Although we do not have accurate data on the number of women on death row in the retentionist countries that execute the most (including China, Iran, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, and Yemen) and others such as North Korea, Vietnam, and Qatar, it is likely that there are many women on death row in these countries because of existing data on past executions of women and the number of people on death row⁵⁴.

In addition to these countries, our analysis shows that the 15 other countries with the most women on death row are, in descending order, the followings:⁵⁵

Table 1: List of countries with the most women sentenced to death in descending order (excluding countries that execute the most)

Rank	Country	Statute	Number of women on death row, year ⁵⁶	Number of people on death row, year ⁵⁷
1	Malaysia	Retentionist	129, 2021	1314, 2021
2	Egypt	Retentionist	80, 2020	1670, 2020
3	Nigeria	Retentionist	61, 2021	3036+, 2021
4	United States	Retentionist	53, 2022	2276, 2022
5	Bangladesh	Retentionist	37, 2021	1800+, 2021
6	Thailand	Retentionist	25, 2021	177, 2021
7	Kenya	Abolitionist in practice	22, 2022	656, 2022
8	Pakistan	Retentionist	22, 2022	3226, 2022
9	Jordan	Retentionist	20, 2021	120+, 2021
10	India	Retentionist	15, 2022	539, 2022
11	Sri Lanka	Abolitionist in practice	12, 2022	1000+, 2022
12	Indonesia	Retentionist	11, 2021	569+, 2021
13	Myanmar	Retentionist	9, 2022	119, 2022
14	Japan	Retentionist	8, 2022	116, 2022
15	Tanzania	Abolitionist in practice	6+, 2022	491+, 2022

⁵⁴ Amnesty International, Global Reports: Death Sentenced and executions, from 2012 to 2022. Available at [https:// www.amnesty.org/en/](https://www.amnesty.org/en/)

⁵⁵ This list does not include countries for which we do not have accurate data on the number of women on death row, namely Afghanistan, Saudi Arabia, China, North Korea, Iraq, Iran, Qatar, Singapore, Sudan, Vietnam, Yemen, Oman. More details on data can be found in appendix, *infra* p. 22.

⁵⁶ For more information on sources, see Appendix 1.

⁵⁷ For methodological consistency, data for the overall death row population have been indicated for the year for which we have data on women on death row. For more information on sources, see Appendix 1.

Among the countries for which we have accurate data (which, as discussed, excludes countries that execute the most), the 15 countries with the highest **proportion** of women on death row are the following:

Table 2: List of countries with the highest proportion of women on death row in descending order (excluding countries that execute the most)

Rank	Country	Statute	Percentage of women on death row, year	Number of women on death row, year	Number of people on death row, year
1	United Arab Emirates	Retentionist	18,18%, 2021	2, 2021	11+, 2022
2	Jordan	Retentionist	16,67%, 2021	20, 2021	120+, 2021
3	Thailand	Retentionist	12,82%, 2021	25, 2021	177, 2021
4	Niger	Abolitionist in practice	12,5%, 2022	1, 2022	8+, 2022
5	Guyana	Retentionist	11,11%, 2021	3, 2021	27, 2021
6	Malaysia	Retentionist	9,65%, 2022	129	1337
7	Kuwait	Retentionist	9,26%, 2020	5, 2020	54, 2019
8	Myanmar	Retentionist	7,56%, 2022	9+, 2022	119, 2022
9	Japan	Retentionist	6,9%, 2022	8, 2022	116, 2022
10	Lebanon	Abolitionist in practice	5,66%, 2020	3, 2020	53, 2020
11	Maldives	Abolitionist in practice	5%, 2021	1, 2021	20, 2021
12	Egypt	Retentionist	4,79%, 2020	80	1670, 2020
13	Ghana	Abolitionist in practice	3,49%, 2022	6, 2022	172, 2022
14	Kenya	Abolitionist in practice	3,35%, 2022	22, 2022	656, 2022
15	Tunisia	Abolitionist in practice	2,94%, 2022	4, 2022	136, 2022

These data demonstrate that, as would be expected, a majority of countries with the most women on death row and the highest percentage of women on death row are retentionist countries. There are, however, some exceptions like Niger, Lebanon, Kenya, or the Maldives, both being abolitionist in practice countries where the number of women sentenced to death and/or the percentage of women on death row is high. In Kenya, gender-based violence is a constitutive element of the profiles of women sentenced to death and of the circumstances leading to the crimes. Most women are sentenced to death for murder committed in the context of gender-based violence⁵⁸. We also observe that among the three countries (in addition to the countries that execute the most) that have the most women on death row, Malaysia⁵⁹, and Nigeria, are countries that provide for the mandatory death penalty in their legislation.

Furthermore, we observe that the countries with the most people on death row and women on death row are not necessarily the countries with the highest percentage of women on death row. Indeed, some countries with few death row inmates, such as Niger, Guyana, or the Maldives, are included in the list of countries with a high proportion of women on death row.

Some countries have a particularly high proportion of women. According to the Cornell Center on the Death Penalty Worldwide, women make up an average of 1-5% of the overall death row population.⁶⁰ As the above data shows, some countries have a higher percentage.

⁵⁸ World Coalition Against the Death Penalty, *Reflecting on the links between the death penalty and gender-based violence*, (2022), available at: <https://worldcoalition.org/2022/11/25/reflecting-on-the-links-between-the-death-penalty-and-gender-based-violence/>

⁵⁹ At the date of data collection and the writing of this report (December 2022), Malaysia still had the mandatory death penalty. Since then, the mandatory death penalty has been abolished. The Compulsory Death Penalty Abolition Act 2023 was gazetted on June 30.

⁶⁰ Cornell Center on the Death Penalty Worldwide, *Judged for More Than Her Crime: A Global Overview of Women Facing the Death Penalty*, (September 2018), available at: <https://deathpenaltyworldwide.org/publication/judged-more-than-her-crime/>.

Data on the profiles of women sentenced to death and the crimes they have committed

Although the theme of World Day 2021, “Women and the Death Penalty,” resulted in the collection of new data in many countries, we note that **this new data is mainly quantitative**. In most cases, research on the number of women sentenced to death has not led to more qualitative information, such as profiles of women sentenced to death or the crimes for which they have been sentenced. The main source of data on this subject remains the exhaustive work carried out by the Cornell Center on the Death Penalty Worldwide systematized in its 2018⁶¹ and 2021⁶² reports, as well as some reports of World Coalition members on the situation in their country.

It is interesting to note that in certain countries with women on death row, where we were unable to collect qualitative information on women on death row, such information is available for men. This confirms the lack of attention to the collection of gender-disaggregated data.

Among the 42 countries where we know women are currently on death row, based on the documentation analyzed, **there are only 24 (57%) for which we have fairly accurate information about the main crimes committed by the women on death row**. These 24 countries are the following: China, Egypt, Ethiopia, Ghana, India, Indonesia, Iran, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Malaysia, Niger, Nigeria, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Tanzania, Thailand, Tunisia, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, the United States, and Vietnam.

The following table summarizes the main crimes for which women have been sentenced to death in the 24 countries for which we have fairly accurate information on the topic.

Country (sorted alphabetically):	Main crimes committed by women on death row:	Source of information
China	Murder and drug offense	CCDPW
Egypt	Murder	EPDI ⁶³
Ethiopia	Murder	CAT
Ghana	Murder (most of the time in relation to gender-based violence)	ACAT Ghana
India	Murder (in many cases in relation with gender-based violence)	CCDPW and Project 39-A
Indonesia	Drug offense and murder (often related to gender-based violence) In Indonesia, most of these women were convicted together with male co-defendants.	CCDPW
Iran	Murder (most of the time in relation to gender-based violence) and drug offense	IHRNGO
Japan	Murder	CrimeInfo
Jordan	Murder (most of the time in relation to gender-based violence)	CCDPW

⁶¹ *Ibid.*

⁶² Cornell Center on the Death Penalty Worldwide, *No One Believed Me: A Global Overview of Women Facing the Death Penalty for Drug Offenses*, (September 2021), available at: <https://deathpenaltyworldwide.org/publication/no-one-believed-me-a-global-overview-of-women-facing-the-death-penalty-for-drug-offenses/>.

⁶³ Egypt Death Penalty Index, available at: <https://egyptdeathpenaltyindex.com/>.

Kenya	Murder (most of the time in relation to gender-based violence)	ICJ Kenya
Malaysia	Drug offense	CCDPW
Niger	Murder	CONICOPEM
Nigeria	Murder (most of the time in relation to gender-based violence)	CCDPW
Pakistan	Murder, terrorism, and drug trafficking	JPP
Saudi Arabia	Murder	ESOHR
Singapore	Drug offense	CCDPW
Sri Lanka	Murder (most of the time in relation to gender-based violence) and drug offense	CCDPW and Human Rights Office in Kandy
Tanzania	Murder	CHESO
Thailand	Drug offense	CCDPW
Tunisia	Murder and witchcraft	CTCPM
Uganda	Murder	PRI Uganda and FHRI
United Arab Emirates	Drug offense	CCDPW
United States	Murder (in many cases in relation with gender-based violence)	CCDPW
Vietnam	Drug offense	CCDPW

Identifying the crimes committed by women on death row allows us to refine our analysis of the factors that explain the high number/percentage of women on death row. As highlighted by the previous table, the two main crimes for which women are sentenced to death are the crimes of murder and drug trafficking.⁶⁴ Countries with a mandatory death penalty for murder or that do not recognize gender-based violence as a mitigating circumstance are more likely to have a high number and rate of women on death row. Also, countries that severely criminalize drug trafficking, such as those in the Gulf and Southeast Asia, have a high proportion of women on death row⁶⁵. Often living in economic precarity, women are more likely to be involved at the lowest, most exposed levels of the drug trade and are thus most vulnerable to arrest for related offenses that carry the death penalty. Other factors that may contribute to women's death sentences include the judicial system in place, as well as socio-economic and cultural factors that affect the realization of women's human rights, including access to justice⁶⁶. However, further analysis is necessary to strengthen our understanding of the death penalty for women.

⁶⁴ Ibid.

⁶⁵ Cornell Center on the Death Penalty Worldwide, *No One Believed Me: A Global Overview of Women Facing the Death Penalty for Drug Offenses*, (September 2021), available at: <https://deathpenaltyworldwide.org/publication/no-one-believed-me-a-global-overview-of-women-facing-the-death-penalty-for-drug-offenses/>

⁶⁶ Cornell Center on the Death Penalty Worldwide, *Judged for More Than Her Crime: A Global Overview of Women Facing the Death Penalty*, (September 2018), available at: <https://deathpenaltyworldwide.org/publication/judged-more-than-her-crime/>

Concluding observations

From this country mapping, we draw the following conclusions:

- Of the 59 retentionist and abolitionist in practice countries with more than three death row inmates, 71% (32 retentionist and 10 abolitionist in practice) have women on death row;
- Women are slightly more present on death row in retentionist countries than in abolitionist countries in practice;
- The countries with the highest numbers and highest rates of women sentenced to death are mostly retentionist countries (rather than abolitionist in practice);
- The countries that execute the most women are also the countries that execute the most people in general, namely China, Iran, Iraq and Saudi Arabia;
- In some countries, there is insufficient access to gender-specific data on the death row population, which prevents us from knowing how many women are on death row, if any. Research is needed to determine the presence or absence of women on death row in the 8 countries for which the situation remains unknown, and to determine how many women are on death row in 12 countries. In countries that execute women, there is also a lack of information on the profile of the women executed and the nature of the crimes attributed to them;
- Qualitative data on women's crimes and profiles is limited, especially when compared to existing data on men's crimes and profiles on death row. This could be partly explained by the lack of attention paid to gender-specific abolitionist work, and confirms the need to promote in-depth research and analysis on these issues;
- The factors that explain the greater or lesser presence of women on death row are not yet clear, and further analysis is necessary. This analysis should include, but not be limited to, an analysis of the gender distribution of the general prison population, police practices, gender equity, and the type of offences for which women are imprisoned, etc;
- Further research is also needed on trans and gender non-conforming people in relation to the death penalty. Indeed, information on this topic is very limited so far⁶⁷. In addition, available “gender-specific data” in some countries may be purely binary (men and women) and disaggregated based on sex assigned at birth, not gender identity, effectively excludes transgender and gender-diverse people from data.

⁶⁷ World Coalition Against the Death Penalty, FIACAT, The Advocates for Human Rights, Cornell Center on the Death Penalty Worldwide, *Fact sheet on trans people facing the death penalty*, (2021), accessible sur : https://worldcoalition.org/document/primer-on-transgender-individuals-facing-the-death-penalty/trans-rights-and-death-penalty-factsheet_v1-0-2/

Appendix

Appendix 1: Table on women sentenced to death in abolitionist in practice and retentionist countries, in alphabetical order.

	Women on death row	Number of women on death row, date and source of update ⁶⁸	Known women executed in the past ten years	Known executions in the past ten years ⁶⁹	Total number of people on death row, date and source of update	Most common charges of women sentenced to death ⁷⁰	Estimated percentage of women on death row ⁷¹
Retentionist countries							
Afghanistan	NO INFIRMATION ⁷²	NA	YES ⁷³	YES	976, 2021, CCDPW	NA	NA
Antigua and Barbuda	NO	NA	NO	NO	0, 2022, Amnesty	NA	0%
Bahamas	NO	NA	NO	NO	0, 2022, Amnesty	NA	0%
Bahrain	NO	NA	NO	YES	41+, 2022, Amnesty	NA	0%
Bangladesh	YES	37, 2021, CCDPW	NO	YES	1800+, 2021, Amnesty	No information	2,06%, 2021
Barbados	NO	NA	NO	NO	5, 2022, Amnesty	NA	0%
Belarus (women can't be sentenced to death according to the law)	NO	NA	NO	YES	1, 2022, Amnesty	NA	0%
Belize	NO	NA	NO	NO	0, 2022, Amnesty	NA	0%

⁶⁸ As specified in the methodology section, CCDPW data can be found on their database (deathpenaltyworldwide.org) or in their reports published in 2018 and 2021. Cornell Center on the Death Penalty Worldwide, *Judged for More Than Her Crime: A Global Overview of Women Facing the Death Penalty*, (September 2018), available at: <https://deathpenaltyworldwide.org/publication/judged-more-than-her-crime/> and Cornell Center on the Death Penalty Worldwide, *No One Believed Me: A Global Overview of Women Facing the Death Penalty for Drug Offenses*, (September 2021), available at: <https://deathpenaltyworldwide.org/publication/no-one-believed-me-a-global-overview-of-women-facing-the-death-penalty-for-drug-offenses/>. When data are not from CCDPW, the source is specified in a footnote.

⁶⁹ Amnesty International, Global Reports: Death Sentenced and executions, from 2012 to 2022. Available at <https://www.amnesty.org/en/>

⁷⁰ All information from the Cornell Center on the Death Penalty Worldwide regarding the crimes committed by women are extracted from the reports published in 2018 and 2021. Cornell Center on the Death Penalty Worldwide, *Judged for More Than Her Crime: A Global Overview of Women Facing the Death Penalty*, (September 2018), available at: <https://deathpenaltyworldwide.org/publication/judged-more-than-her-crime/> and Cornell Center on the Death Penalty Worldwide, *No One Believed Me: A Global Overview of Women Facing the Death Penalty for Drug Offenses*, (September 2021), available at: <https://deathpenaltyworldwide.org/publication/no-one-believed-me-a-global-overview-of-women-facing-the-death-penalty-for-drug-offenses/>. When data has a source other than CCDPW, the source is specified in a footnote.

⁷¹ The percentage of women on death row was calculated on the basis of data on the total number of people on death row for the year for which we have data on women on death row. For example, if the data on the number of women on death row is for 2021, we calculated the percentage of women based on the data for the overall population on death row for 2021. If this rule has not been followed, this is indicated in a footnote.

⁷² There is no precise data on the number of people on death row in Afghanistan. We know that two women have been executed in 2016 but we have no more recent information. There is a strong possibility that women are on death row, but we don't have the data to confirm this.

⁷³ Cornell Center on the Death Penalty Worldwide, *Judged for More Than Her Crime: A Global Overview of Women Facing the Death Penalty*, (September 2018), available at: <https://deathpenaltyworldwide.org/publication/judged-more-than-her-crime/> (citing data published in The New York Times in 2016 and the Telegraph in 2012).

Botswana	NO	NA	NO	YES	7, 2022, Amnesty	NA	TBD
China	YES ⁷⁴	NO INFORMATION	YES	YES	+, 2022, Amnesty	Murder and drug offence, CCDPW	NA
Comoros	NO	NA	NO	NO	12, 2022, Amnesty	NA	0%
Cuba	NO	NA	NO	NO	0, 2022, Amnesty	NA	0%
Democratic Republic of the Congo	YES	3, 2022, CPJ ⁷⁵	NO	NO	166+, 2022, Amnesty	NA	1,8%, 2022
Dominica	NO	NA	NO	NO	0, 2022, Amnesty	NA	0%
Egypt	YES	80, 2020, EDPI ⁷⁶	YES ⁷⁷	YES	1670, 2020 CCDPW, EPDI ⁷⁸	Murder, EDPI	4.79%, 2020
Ethiopia	YES	2, 2022, TAHR ⁷⁹	NO	NO	124, 2022, TAHR	Murder, CAT ⁸⁰	1.61%, 2022
Gambia	NO	NA	YES ⁸¹	YES	13, 2022, Amnesty	NA	0%
Guyana	YES	3, 2021, Amnesty ⁸²	NO	NO	27, 2021, Amnesty	No information	11,11 %, 2021
India	YES	15, 2022, Project 39-A ⁸³	NO	YES	539, 2022, Amnesty	Murder, Project 39-A ⁸⁴	2.78%, 2022
Indonesia	YES	11, 2021, CCDPW	YES ⁸⁵	YES	569+, Amnesty 2021	Murder and Drug offence, CCDPW	1,93%, 2021
Iraq	YES ⁸⁶	NO INFORMATION	YES ⁸⁷	YES	7900+, 2022, Amnesty	No information	NA

⁷⁴ There is no precise data on the number of people on death row in China, but there are many reports of women being sentenced or executed in the past, confirming that women are on death row in China every year. The Cornell Center on the Death Penalty Worldwide estimates that China executes between 20 and 100 women a year (1-5% of the estimated total number of executions).

⁷⁵ Information shared face-to-face in June 2023 at the World Coalition General Assembly.

⁷⁶ The Egypt Death Penalty Index lists 75 women whose death sentences have been confirmed by the court of the first instance and 5 women whose death sentences have been confirmed in absentia by the court of the first instance. We can also mention that 57 women received a preliminary death sentence. The Egypt Death Penalty Index is available at: <https://egyptdeathpenaltyindex.com/>.

⁷⁷ Hands Off Cain, *Egypt Executes Six, Two of Whom Were Women*, (2018), available at: <http://www.handsoffcain.info/notizia/egypt-executes-six-two-of-whom-were-women-40305364>

⁷⁸ The Egypt Death Penalty Index lists 1670 people including 1085 whose death sentences have been confirmed by the court of the first instance and 585 whose death sentences have been confirmed in absentia by the court of the first instance.

⁷⁹ TAHR, Ethiopia's Compliance with the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment: The Death Penalty, 76th Session

⁸⁰ Committee Against Torture, *Replies of Ethiopia to the list of issues in relation to its second periodic report* (2023) UN Doc., CAT/C/ETH/RQ/2

⁸¹ We can note that Gambia already executed women as in 2012. Amnesty International, *Executions in the Gambia Giant Leap Backwards*, <https://www.amnesty.org/en/press-releases/2012/08/executions-gambia-giant-leap-backwards/>, Aug. 24, 2012.

⁸² Amnesty International, *Global Report: Death Sentenced and execution*, 2021, (2022), available at: <https://www.amnesty.org/en/documents/act50/5418/2022/en/> We don't know if in 2022 these 3 women are still on death row.

⁸³ Information shared by email in November 26, 2022.

⁸⁴ Ibid.

⁸⁵ LBH Masyarakat, Research Report to the Cornell Center on the Death Penalty Worldwide, Sep. 25, 2017, mentioned in Cornell Center on the Death Penalty Worldwide, *Judged for More Than Her Crime: A Global Overview of Women Facing the Death Penalty*, (September 2018), available at: <https://deathpenaltyworldwide.org/publication/judged-more-than-her-crime/>

⁸⁶ Cornell Center on the Death Penalty Worldwide database (updated in 2019). Accessible at: <https://deathpenaltyworldwide.org/database>

⁸⁷ U.N. Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights and U.N. Assistance Mission for Iraq Human Rights Office, *Report on the Death Penalty in Iraq*, (October 2014), available at: http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Countries/IQ/UNAMI_HRO_DP_1Oct2014.pdf.

Iran	YES ⁸⁸	NO INFORMATION	YES ⁸⁹	YES	5000+, 2019, CCPDW +, 2022, Amnesty	Murder and drug offense, IHNRGO ⁹⁰	NA
Jamaica	NO	NA	NO	NO	0, 2022, Amnesty	NA	0%
Japan	YES	8, 2022, CPR Japan ⁹¹	NO	YES	116, 2022, Amnesty	Murder, CrimeInfo	6.9%, 2022
Jordan	YES	20, 2021, CCPDW	YES ⁹²	YES	120+, 2021, CCPDW	Murder, CCPDW	16.67%, 2021
Kuwait	YES	5, 2020, Reprieve ⁹³	YES ⁹⁴	YES	54, 2019, CCPDW 24+, 2022, Amnesty	No information	9.26%, 2020 ⁹⁵
Lebanon	YES	3, 2020, ECPM, AJEM and LACR ⁹⁶	NO	NO	53, 2020, ECPM AJEM and LACR ⁹⁷	NA	5.66%, 2020
Lesotho	NO	NA	NO	NO	0, 2022, Amnesty	NA	0%
Libya	NO INFORMATION	NA	NO	NO	18+, Amnesty, 2022	NA	NA
Malaysia	YES	129, 2021, CCPDW	NO	YES	1314, 2021, CCPDW	Drug offense, CCPDW	9.65%, 2021
Myanmar	YES	At least 9, 2022, APWLD ⁹⁸	NO	YES	119, 2022, Amnesty	NA	7.56%, 2022 ⁹⁹
Nigeria	YES	61, 2021, Nigerian Correctional Service ¹⁰⁰	NO	YES	3036+, 2021, Amnesty	Murder, CCPDW	1.93%, 2021

⁸⁸ There is no precise data on the number of people on death row in Iran, but there is ample information of examples of women being sentenced or executed in the past that confirm that women are on death row in Iran every year. The Cornell Center on the Death Penalty Worldwide, report that dozens of women are on death row in Iran (2018 report). According to Iran Human Rights, between January 1, 2010 and October 10, 2021, at least 164 women were executed.

⁸⁹ Iran Human Rights, *Women and the Death Penalty in Iran*, (10 October 2021), available at: <https://iranhr.net/en/articles/4910/>

⁹⁰ Ibid.

⁹¹ Information shared during a call of the Gender Working Group of the World Coalition Against the Death Penalty in December 2022.

⁹² Andrew Buncombe, Sajida al-Rishawi, *Jordan 'executes female Isis suicide bomber' – hours after pilot Muath al-Kasaesbeh is burned alive*, The Independent, (2015), available at: <https://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/middle-east/sajida-al-rishawi-jordan-says-it-has-executed-female-militant-sought-by-isis-hours-after-promising-10022091.html>

⁹³ Reprieve, Continuously updated list of prisoners sentenced to death in Kuwait from 2010 to today, last updated July 21. Mentioned in Cornell Center on the Death Penalty Worldwide, *No One Believed Me: A Global Overview of Women Facing the Death Penalty for Drug Offenses*, (September 2021), available at: <https://deathpenaltyworldwide.org/publication/no-one-believed-me-a-global-overview-of-women-facing-the-death-penalty-for-drug-offenses/>

⁹⁴ Human Rights Watch, *Kuwait, First Executions in 4 Years*, (2017), available at: <https://www.hrw.org/news/2017/01/26/kuwait-first-executions-4-years>, Jan. 26, 2017

⁹⁵ Percentage calculated using CCPDW's Kuwait overall population data for 2019, as Amnesty International does not specify data for 2020 and 2021.

⁹⁶ ECPM, AJEM, LACR, *Vivants, Sans l'être: Mission d'Enquête Liban* (2020), available at: <https://worldcoalition.org/fr/document/vivants-sans-letre-mission-denquete-liban/>

⁹⁷ Ibid.

⁹⁸ Asia Pacific Forum of Women, Law and Development. *Solidarity Statement for the Nine Women Human Rights Defenders on Death Row in Burma*, (2022), available on: <https://apwld.org/statement-nine-whrds-in-burma/>

⁹⁹ This percentage is a non-exhaustive estimate, as the number of people on death row is certainly higher. The lack of access to accurate data makes it impossible to provide a correct estimate.

¹⁰⁰ Information shared by the Nigerian Correctional Service and cited in an article from Punch, (2022), available at <https://punch-ng.com/congestion-3084-males-61-females-on-death-row-in-nigeria/#:~:text=There%20are%20NO%20fewer%20than,61%20fe-males%20on%20death%20row>

North Korea	YES ¹⁰¹	NO INFORMATION	YES ¹⁰²	YES	+, 2022, Amnesty	No information	NA
Oman	YES ¹⁰³	NO INFORMATION	YES	YES	+, 2022, Amnesty	No information	NA
Pakistan	YES	22, 2022, JPP ¹⁰⁴	NO	YES	3226, 2022, JPP ¹⁰⁵	Murder and drug offence, CCDPW	0.68%, 2022
Palestine	NO INFORMATION	NA	NO	YES	238+, 2022, Amnesty	NA	NA
Qatar	YES ¹⁰⁶	NO INFORMATION	NO	YES	+, 2022, Amnesty	No information	NA
Saint Kitts and Nevis	NO	NA	NO	NO	0, 2022, Amnesty	NA	0%
Saint Lucia	NO	NA	NO	NO	0, 2022, Amnesty	NA	0%
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	NO	NA	NO	NO	1, 2022, Amnesty	NA	0%
Saudi Arabia	YES ¹⁰⁷	NO INFORMATION	YES ¹⁰⁸	YES	65+, 2022, ESOHR 21+, 2022, Amnesty	Murder	NA
Singapore	YES ¹⁰⁹	NO INFORMATION	NO	YES	50+, 2022, Amnesty	Drug offense, CCDPW	NA
Somalia	NO INFORMATION	NA	YES ¹¹⁰	YES	10+, 2022, Amnesty	No information	NA
South Sudan	YES	2, 2018, CCDPW	NO	YES	345, 2019, CCDPW	No information	0.58%, 2019

¹⁰¹ According to the Cornell Center on the Death Penalty worldwide, we don't have precise information, but it's highly likely that there are women under sentence of death, as a number of women have been executed recently. One woman was reportedly shot for distributing the Bible in 2009. In 2008, 13 women were publicly executed for attempting to flee to China. For more information : Cornell Center on the Death Penalty Worldwide, *Judged for More Than Her Crime: A Global Overview of Women Facing the Death Penalty*, (September 2018), available at: <https://deathpenaltyworldwide.org/publication/judged-more-than-her-crime/>

¹⁰² Chris Graham, Meet Hyon Song-wol, *North Korea's 'Spice Girl' whose execution was greatly exaggerated*, The Telegraph, (2018). Available at: <https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2018/01/21/meet-hyon-song-wol-north-koreas-spice-girl-whose-execution-greatly/>

¹⁰³ There is no precise data on the number of people on death row in Oman. The existence of data on the sentencing or execution of women in the past, such as the execution of a woman in 2020, leads us to classify Oman in the category of countries where there are women on death row.

¹⁰⁴ Justice Project Pakistan, *Death Penalty in Pakistan: data mapping capital punishment*, (2022).

¹⁰⁵ Ibid.

¹⁰⁶ There is no precise data on the number of people on death row in Oman. According to the Cornell Center on the Death Penalty Worldwide, women are on death row in Qatar. See: <https://deathpenaltyworldwide.org/database/> Between 2016 and 2021 at least one woman was on death row. See *Qatar's death row and the invisible migrant workforce deemed unworthy of due process*, *The Conversation*, (November 2022), available at: <https://theconversation.com/qatars-death-row-and-the-invisible-migrant-workforce-deemed-unworthy-of-due-process-191017>

¹⁰⁷ According to the Cornell Center on Death Penalty Worldwide, women are frequently executed and sentenced to death in Saudi Arabia. However, no precise data exists on the number. For more information : Cornell Center on the Death Penalty Worldwide, *Judged for More Than Her Crime: A Global Overview of Women Facing the Death Penalty*, (September 2018), available at: <https://deathpenaltyworldwide.org/publication/judged-more-than-her-crime/>. According to the Saudi European Organization for Human Rights, 30 women were executed between 2010 and 2022.

¹⁰⁸ ESOHR and Reprieve, *Bloodshed and Lies: Mohammed bin Salman's Kingdom of Executions*, (February 2023), available at:

<https://reprieve.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/2/2023/01/Bloodshed-and-Lies-Mohammed-bin-Salmans-Kingdom-of-Executions.pdf>.

¹⁰⁹ There is no precise data on the number of women on death row in Singapore, but according to the Cornell Center on the Death Penalty Worldwide, research suggests that there are women on death row and that most of them have been sentenced to death for a drug-related offense (2021 report). According to the Singapore government, two women were sentenced to death between 2017 and 2022. For more information : *Replies of Singapore to the list of issues and questions in relation to its sixth periodic report* , CEDAW/C/SGP/RQ/6, available at : https://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/15/treatybodyexternal/SessionDetails1.aspx?SessionID=2583&Lang=en

¹¹⁰ *Woman stoned to death in Somalia because she married 11 men, claims extremist group*, The Independent, <https://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/africa/al-shabab-somalia-woman-stoned-death-married-men-a8343901.html>, May 9, 2018.

Sudan	YES ¹¹¹	NO INFORMATION	NO	YES	96+, 2022, Amnesty	No information	NA
Syria	NO INFORMATION	NA	NO	YES	+, 2022, Amnesty	No information	NA
Taiwan	YES	1, 2022, TAEDP ¹¹²	NO	YES	45, 2022, Amnesty	No information	2.22%, 2022
Thailand	YES	25, 2021, FIDH ¹¹³	NO	YES	177, 2021, FIDH	Drug offense, CCDPW	12.82 %, 2021
Trinidad and Tobago	NO	NA	NO	YES	43, 2022, Amnesty	NA	NA
Uganda	YES	3, 2022, FHRI and PRI ¹¹⁴	NO	NO	135+, 2022, Amnesty	Murder, FHRI and PRI ¹¹⁵	2.22%
United Arab Emirates	YES	2, 2021, CCDPW ¹¹⁶	NO	YES	11+, 2022, Amnesty	Drug offense, CCDPW	18.18%, 2021 ¹¹⁷
United States	YES	53, 2022, CCDPW	YES ¹¹⁸	YES	2276, 2022, Amnesty	Murder, CCDPW	2.11%, 2022
Vietnam	YES ¹¹⁹	NO INFORMATION	NO	YES	1200+, 2022, Amnesty	Drug offense, CCDPW	NA
Yemen	YES ¹²⁰	NO INFORMATION	NO	YES	78+, 2022, Amnesty	No information	NA
Zimbabwe	NO	NA	NO	YES	61, 2022, Amnesty	NA	NA
Abolitionist in practice countries							
Algeria	NO INFORMATION	NA	NA	NA	+, 2022, Amnesty	No information	NA
Brunei	NO	NA	NA	NA	+, 2022, Amnesty	NA	0%
Cameroon	YES	2, 2022, Droit et Paix ¹²¹	NA	NA	250+, 2022, Amnesty	No information	0.8%

¹¹¹ There is no precise data on the number of women sentenced to death in Sudan, but Maryam Alsayed Tiyrab was sentenced to death by According to Cornell's 2018 report, Yemen's Ministry of Interior reported that of the 50 women arrested for killing their husbands in 2012, stoning for adultery in 2022, confirming the presence of women on death row. For more information, The Guardian, *Sudan woman faces death by stoning for adultery in first case for a decade* (2022), available at: <https://www.theguardian.com/global-development/2022/jul/13/sudan-woman-faces-death-by-stoning-for-adultery-in-first-case-for-a-decade>

¹¹² Information shared by email in November 4, 2022.

¹¹³ Amnesty International, *Thailand: Annual prison report*, (2022), available at: <https://www.fidh.org/IMG/pdf/thai-lande791angweb.pdf>

¹¹⁴ Information shared for the writing of the article published on the World Coalition website, *Reflection on the links between the death penalty and gender-based violence*, available at: <https://worldcoalition.org/2022/11/25/reflecting-on-the-links-between-the-death-penalty-and-gender-based-violence>. The information was reconfirmed by email on January 11, 2023.

¹¹⁵ Ibid.

¹¹⁶ Research done by Research by Amnesty International, reported in Cornell Center on the Death Penalty Worldwide's 2021 report indicates that two women are currently on death row in the United Arab Emirates. For more information, Cornell Center on the Death Penalty Worldwide, *No One Believed Me: A Global Overview of Women Facing the Death Penalty for Drug Offenses*, (September 2021), available at: <https://deathpenaltyworldwide.org/publication/no-one-believed-me-a-global-overview-of-women-facing-the-death-penalty-for-drug-offenses/>

¹¹⁷ Percentage calculated using Amnesty International's global population data for 2022, as no data was available in the 2021 report. This percentage is a non-exhaustive estimate, as the number of people on death row is certainly higher. The lack of access to accurate data makes it impossible to provide a correct estimate.

¹¹⁸ Cornell Center on the Death Penalty Worldwide, *Judged for More Than Her Crime: A Global Overview of Women Facing the Death Penalty*, (September 2018), available at: <https://deathpenaltyworldwide.org/publication/judged-more-than-her-crime/>

¹¹⁹ There is no precise data on the number of women sentenced to death in Vietnam, but Harm Reduction International estimates that at least 14 women were sentenced to death for drug-related offenses in 2019 and at least eight in 2020, and according to the Cornell Center on the Death Penalty Worldwide, media reports indicate that several women have been sentenced to death in recent years for drug-related offenses (report 2021)

¹²⁰ There is no precise data on the number of women sentenced to death in Yemen but in 2021 a women has been sentenced to death. See : Ismaeel Naar, Al Arabiya News, *Houthi court sentences 11 Yemenis to death, including two women and a professor*, available at: [Houthi court sentences 11 Yemenis to death, including two women and a professor | Al Arabiya English](https://www.alarabiyaenglish.com/news/yemen/houthi-court-sentences-11-yemenis-to-death-including-two-women-and-a-professor-2021-11-11) Furthermore, Cornell Center on the Death Penalty Worldwide's 2018 report highlights that the Ministry of Interior reported that of the 50 women arrested for killing their husbands in 2012. Knowing that Yemen carries the mandatory death penalty for murder, the probability that women are still on death row is very high.

¹²¹ Information shared in June 2023 on the occasion of the World Coalition's General Assembly. In 2019, there were 14 women on death row according to data from the Cornell Center on the Death Penalty Worldwide.

Eritrea	NO	NA	NA	NA	0, 2022, Amnesty	NA	0%
Eswatini	NO	NA	NA	NA	1, 2022, Amnesty	NA	0%
Ghana	YES	6, 2022, ACAT Ghana ¹²²	NA	NA	172, 2022, Amnesty	Murder, ACAT Ghana ¹²³	3.49%, 2022
Grenada	NO	NA	NA	NA	1, 2022, Amnesty	NA	0%
Kenya	YES	22, 2022, ICJ Kenya ¹²⁴	NA	NA	656, 2022, Amnesty	Murder, ICJ Kenya ¹²⁵	3.35%, 2022
Laos	NO INFORMATION	NA	NA	NA	+, 2022, Amnesty	No information	NA
Liberia	NO	NA	NA	NA	17, 2022, Amnesty	NA	0%
Malawi	NO	NA	NA	NA	0, 2022, Reprieve +, Amnesty, 2022	NA	0%
Maldives	YES	1, 2021, CCPDW	NA	NA	20, 2021, CCPDW	No information	5%, 2021
Mali	NO	NA	NA	NA	48+, 2021, Amnesty 8+, Amnesty, 2022	NA	NA
Mauritania	YES	1, 2021, AMDH	NA	NA	183, 2021, Amnesty	No information	0.55 %, 201
Morocco	YES	1, 2022, Presidency of the Public Ministry ¹²⁶	NA	NA	82, 2022, Amnesty	No information	1.22%, 2022
Niger	YES	1, 2022, CONICOPEM ¹²⁷	NA	NA	8+, 2022, Amnesty	Murder, Coalition Nigérienne contre la peine de mort ¹²⁸	12.5%, 2022
Russia (women can't be sentenced to death according to the law)	NO	NA	NA	NA	0, 2022, Amnesty	NA	0%
South Korea	NO INFORMATION	NA	NA	NA	60, 2022, Amnesty	No information	NA
Sri Lanka	YES	12, 2022, Human Right Office in Kandy ¹²⁹	NA	NA	1000+, 2022, Amnesty	Murder and drug offense, Human Right Office in Kandy ¹³⁰	1.2%, 2022

¹²² Information shared during an advocacy mission to Geneva in September 2022.

¹²³ Ibid.

¹²⁴ Information shared by email on January 30, 2023 and April 24, 2023.

¹²⁵ Information shared by email in November 2022 for the writing of the article published on the World Coalition website, *Reflecting on the links between the death penalty and gender-based violence*, available at: <https://worldcoalition.org/2022/11/25/reflecting-on-the-links-between-the-death-penalty-and-gender-based-violence>.

¹²⁶ Information shared by the Presidency of the Public Ministry cited in an article from the Desk (2022), available at: <https://ledesk.ma/encontinu/une-des-deux-femmes-condamnees-a-mort-graciee-par-mohammed-vi/>

¹²⁷ Information shared by the Coalition Nigérienne contre la peine de mort cited in an article from Africa Press. (2021). Available at: <https://www.africa-press.net/niger/politique/forum-national-sur-la-peine-de-mort-un-cadre-de-plaidoyer-pour-labolition-de-la-peine-de-mort-au-niger>

¹²⁸ Information shared by email in January 2023.

¹²⁹ Information shared by email in November 2022 for the writing of the article published on the World Coalition website, *Reflecting on the links between the death penalty and gender-based violence*, available at: <https://worldcoalition.org/2022/11/25/reflecting-on-the-links-between-the-death-penalty-and-gender-based-violence>.

¹³⁰ Ibid.

Tajikistan (women can't be sentenced to death according to the law)	NO	NA	NA	NA	0, 2022, Amnesty	NA	0%
Tanzania	YES	6 ++, 2022, LHRC ¹³¹	NA	NA	491+, 2022, Amnesty	Murder, CHESO ¹³²	1.22%, 2022
Tonga	NO	NA	NA	NA	0, 2022, Amnesty	NA	0%
Tunisia	YES	4, 2022, CTCPM ¹³³	NA	NA	136, 2022, CTCPM 115+, 2022, Amnesty	Murder and Witchcraft, Coalition Tunisienne Contre la Peine de Mort ¹³⁴	2.94% ¹³⁵ , 2022

¹³¹ Information shared by email in November 2022. LHRC specify that many women are awaiting a death sentence. The number of women on death row may soon be much higher.

¹³² Information shared by email in January 2023.

¹³³ Information shared by email in January 2023.

¹³⁴ Ibid.

¹³⁵ Percentage calculated with data from the Tunisian Coalition for methodological consistency.

Appendix 2: List of countries ranked according to the presence of women sentenced to death.

List of countries which we know have women on death row

Countries for which we have precise data

Retentionist countries

1. Bangladesh
2. Democratic Republic of the Congo
3. Egypt
4. Ethiopia
5. Guyana
6. India
7. Indonesia
8. Japan
9. Jordan
10. Kuwait
11. Lebanon
12. Malaysia
13. Nigeria
14. Pakistan
15. South Sudan
16. Taiwan
17. Thailand
18. Uganda
19. United Arab Emirates
20. United States

Abolitionist in practice countries

21. Cameroon
22. Ghana
23. Kenya
24. Maldives
25. Mauritania
26. Morocco
27. Niger
28. Sri Lanka
29. Tanzania
30. Tunisia

Countries for which we don't have precise data

Retentionist countries

1. China
2. Iraq
3. Iran
4. Myanmar
5. North Korea
6. Oman
7. Qatar
8. Saudi Arabia
9. Singapore
10. Sudan
11. Vietnam
12. Yemen

List of countries that may have women on death row, but we have no information:

Retentionist countries

1. Afghanistan
2. Libya
3. Palestine
4. Somalia
5. Syria

Abolitionist in practice:

6. Algeria
7. Laos
8. South Korea

List of countries likely to have no women on death row

Retentionist countries

1. Antigua and Barbuda
2. Bahamas
3. Bahrain
4. Barbados
5. Belarus
6. Belize
7. Botswana
8. Comoros
9. Cuba
10. Dominica
11. Gambia
12. Jamaica
13. Lesotho
14. Saint Kitts and Nevis
15. Saint Lucia
16. Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
17. Trinidad and Tobago
18. Zimbabwe

Abolitionist in practice:

19. Brunei
20. Eritrea
21. Eswatini
22. Grenade
23. Liberia
24. Malawi
25. Mali
26. Russia
27. Tajikistan
28. Tonga