Online version



THE COALITION #123 **DEWSLETTER 02/2021

Acting for the abolition of the death penalty around the world

French version



EDITORIAL

by The Advocates for Human Rights

COVID-19 forced The Advocates for Human Rights, like many organizations, to suspend inperson advocacy. Though we can't meet face-to-face with partners and travel to the UN Offices in Geneva, the shift to remote advocacy has opened new opportunities to use technology to fight for abolition.



For the 36th and 37th Universal Periodic Reviews (UPRs), we hosted virtual side events with Coalition members to brief Human Rights Council delegates before the interactive dialogues. Delegate attendance was even better than at traditional in-person side events in Geneva. With the World Coalition and several members, we hosted live debriefings on Facebook of the UPRs of many retentionist states, including one with Greater Caribbean for Life on Saint Kitts and Nevis and Saint Lucia. In these debriefs we played video clips of recommendations and local Coalition members provided insights on the interactive dialogue. These virtual events have allowed us to amplify the voices of our partners, overcoming the many logistical challenges involved with Geneva travel. Our partners' firm grasp of local death penalty issues is persuasive with the international community. And by broadcasting the debriefings on Facebook, we hope to connect with other abolitionists and build their capacity to engage with the UN by learning from the experiences of their peers.

The Advocates has also found success with other social media platforms, such as Twitter, in our advocacy against the death penalty. We live-tweet the UPRs of target countries, increasing the visibility of death penalty issues and connecting with Council delegates.

We are eager to mobilize with our fellow abolitionists in-person, but we will continue to deploy our new technological skills in future advocacy.

Visit the World Coalition's Facebook page to watch video debriefings of the UPRs of Belarus, Jamaica, Liberia, Libya, Malawi, Maldives, St. Kitts & Nevis and St. Lucia, and the USA, with more to come soon!

LATEST **NEWS**



How Business May Contribute to Universal Abolition

Non-governmental organizations (NGOs) have long been at the forefront of the movement for human dignity, as the main, highly-specialized – and sometimes isolated – champions for social justice. However, a new generation of advocates from the private sector, whose primary center of interest or area of expertise seems disconnected from international human rights standards, has been expressing serious hopes for a fairer global society.

Louis Linel

Read full Article



246 People Removed from Death Rows in Zambia

The President of Zambia granted 246 new commutations to death row prisoners.

Louis Linel

Read full Article



Pakistan's Supreme Court Repeals Death Penalty for Mentally-III People

By commuting two death sentences, the Supreme Court of Pakistan ruled that capital punishment cannot be carried out to people with serious mental health issues.

Louis Linel

Read full Article



Calling for an Official Moratorium on the Use of the Death Penalty in Bahrain ahead of the Meeting of the Council of Paris

The World Coalition Against the Death Penalty joined 6 other human rights NGOs to call upon Bahrain to observe an official moratorium on the use of the death penalty, as the Council of Paris is expected to decide on the annual subsidy granted to the Paris Football Club whose 20% of the shares are held by Bahrain.

Americans for Democracy and Human Rights in Bahrain

Read full Article

NEW **DOCUMENTS**



The Death Penalty in 2020: Year-End Report Document published by the Death Penalty

Document published by Project 39A

Information Center

Read document

IMPORTANT **DATES**



7 to 12 March | 14th United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice

Kyoto, Japan and online

In particular, 4 side events are organized by member organizations of the World Coalition:

- Sunday 16:30 18:00 (Japan time) 204/F2 Children of Prisoners: Recent Developments, Organized by Quaker United Nations Office, Conference Room Online Only 1
- Wednesday 09:00 10:30 25/C11 Towards Abolition of Capital Punishment: Global Efforts to End Capital Punishment and Challenges Confronting Asia-Pacific Region, Organized by Japan Federation of Bar Associations, Conference Room C-2
- Wednesday 14:00 15:30 152/G13 Global Prison Trends Organized by Penal Reform International. Conference Room Online Only 2
- Friday 14:00 15:30 47/G21 The death penalty: a global perspective, Organized by Amnesty International. Conference Room Online Only 2. For more information click here, and here

9, 10 and 11 March | Human Rights Committee - 131st Session (virtual session)

16:00 - 18:00 CCPR

The Committee will review the report of Kenya Several reports are also being prepared for the United Nations

