**Submission to the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights: UNSG’s report to the Human Rights Council at its 57th session**

* Equatorial Guinea: Abolished the death penalty for ordinary crimes in [September 2022](https://icomdp.org/equatorial-guinea-excludes-the-death-penalty-for-ordinary-crimes-from-its-new-penal-code/).
* Ghana: Abolished the death penalty for ordinary crimes in [July 2023](https://www.theguardian.com/global-development/2023/jul/26/ghana-abolishes-death-penalty-with-expected-reprieve-for-176-condemned-prisoners).
* ICDP: Launched a report on Children, Youth and the Death Penalty at the Palais des Nations in Geneva on [6 June 2023](https://icomdp.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/MOC-2023_Public-statement.pdf). The panel featured ICDP President Navi Pillay, Vice President Ruth Dreifuss, Commissioner Marta Santos Pais, Professor Ann Skelton from the Committee on the Rights of the Child, Simon Walker from the OHCHR, Grace Agcaoili from UNICED and Laurel Townhead from Quakers. It highlights that children of parents sentenced to death endure agonizing moments of fear, pain and uncertainty, long-lasting trauma, and become encircled by stigma, and discrimination.
* India: A man sentenced to death at 12 years old due to a clerical error was freed in [April 2023](https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/if-only-theyd-checked-my-age-juvenile-on-death-row-for-28-years-walks-free/articleshow/99445097.cms), after 28 years on death row.
* Indonesia:
  + ICDP mission led by Commissioners Marzuki Darusman, Ruth Dreifuss, Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo in [September 2023](https://icomdp.org/icdp-mission-to-indonesia/), included meetings with the Minister of Law and Human Rights as well as key stakeholders and NGOs.
  + ICDP participated at an online event organized by the Institute for Criminal Justice Reform based in Jakarta, Indonesia on the occasion of the World Day against the Death Penalty in October 2023.
* Iran:
  + A man convicted for a crime committed at 17 years old was scheduled for execution on [28 May 2023](https://www.iranintl.com/en/202305267230). His four previously scheduled executions were postponed and ICDP has not been able to confirm whether this execution was carried out..
  + At least 791 individuals were executed [in 2023](https://iranwire.com/en/news/124339-at-least-14-more-executions-carried-out-in-iran/), including 25 women and two juvenile offenders.
  + At least 5 juvenile offenders were executed [in 2022](https://www.amnesty.org/en/documents/act50/6630/2023/en/).
  + A pregnant Kurdish woman was sentenced to death [in January 2023](https://www.thenationalnews.com/mena/iran/2023/01/26/iran-sentences-pregnant-kurdish-woman-to-death/) for allegedly setting fire to a portrait of former Iranian supreme leader Khomeini.
* Japan: In [January 2024](https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2024/01/18/japan/crime-legal/japan-juvenile-crime-death-), a man was sentenced to death who was 19 years old at the time of the crime, a “specified juvenile” under Japanese juvenile law.
* Malaysia:
  + Mandatory death penalty was abolished in [July 2023](https://icomdp.org/malaysia-s-mandatory-death-penalty-abolition-comes-into-effect/).
  + ICDP Mission to Malaysia led by Commissioners Ruth Dreifuss and Gloria Macapgal Arroyo in [September 2023](https://icomdp.org/icdp-mission-to-malaysia), included meetings with the Prime Ministers, Minister of Law, Minister of Health and Speaker of the House, as well as MPs.
* Malawi: ICDP carried out a mission [between 29 October and 2 November 2022](https://icomdp.org/mission-to-malawi/#:~:text=The%20International%20Commission%20against%20the,October%20and%203%20November%202022.) led by Commissioners Tsakhia Elbegdorj and Sylvie Kayitesi, meeting with the President, Minister of Justice and key stakeholders to advocate for death penalty abolition.
* Myanmar: Four executions were carried out in the country in [July 2022](https://icomdp.org/myanmar-carries-out-four-executions-the-first-in-34-years/) for the first time in 34 years.
* Saudi Arabia:
  + As of [January 2024](https://www.amnestyusa.org/urgent-actions/urgent-action-two-young-men-at-imminent-risk-of-execution-saudi-arabia-103-23-2/), two juvenile offenders were at risk of imminent execution for crimes linked to protests against the government, pending the King’s ratification of the death sentences.
  + Juvenile offenders are [still being sentenced to death](https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2023/06/saudi-arabia-imminent-execution-of-youths-would-violate-kingdoms-promise-to-abolish-death-penalty-for-juveniles/) despite a [2020 royal decree](https://www.reuters.com/article/us-saudi-rights-execution/saudi-arabia-scraps-execution-for-those-who-committed-crimes-as-minors-commission-idUSKCN2280LI/) abolishing the death penalty for juvenile offenders.
* USA:
  + On [19 January 2024](https://deathpenaltyinfo.org/news/department-of-justice-decides-against-seeking-federal-death-penalty-in-colorado-club-q-mass-shooting), the Department of Justice reached a plea deal in the case of the Colorado mass shooting days after announcing that it would seek the death sentence in the case of the Buffalo mass shooting.
  + A Texas death row prisoner committed suicide on [28 January 2023](https://deathpenaltyinfo.org/news/texas-death-row-prisoner-commits-suicide) after the Supreme Court rejected his case. Andrus suffered from affective psychosis, unknown to the jury during his trial.
  + The California Supreme Court overturned a 1992 death sentence on [2 February 2023](https://deathpenaltyinfo.org/news/california-supreme-court-grants-new-trial-in-30-year-old-death-penalty-case) on the basis that he had been allowed to represent himself despite a psychiatrist concluding that he was not able to do so due to mental illness.
  + The Texas House passed bill barring the death penalty for mentally ill defendants in [April 2023](http://www.handsoffcain.info/notizia/usa-texas-house-passes-bill-barring-the-death-penalty-for-mentally-ill-defendants-60372215).
  + Prosecutors dropped death penalty in Tennessee after brain scans showed impaired ability of defendant in [August 2023](https://deathpenaltyinfo.org/news/brain-scans-of-tennessee-man-who-admits-to-killing-eight-convince-prosecutors-to-drop-death-penalty).
  + Nitrogen gas was used as a method of execution for the first time in [January 2024](https://apnews.com/article/nitrogen-execution-death-penalty-alabama-699896815486f019f804a8afb7032900).
  + Louisiana bill to lower the age of criminal responsibility to 17 advanced in the state Senate on [22 February 2024](https://legis.la.gov/legis/ViewDocument.aspx?d=1345219) as part of tough on crime bills introduced along with an [expansion of execution methods](https://lailluminator.com/2024/02/20/louisiana-house-committee-oks-nitrogen-gas-executions-electrocutions/).
* Zambia:
  + In [August 2022](https://www.parliament.gov.zm/sites/default/files/documents/bills/The%20Children%27s%20Code%20Bill%2C%202022%20Final.pdf), the country adopted the Children’s Code Act, which explicitly prohibits applying the death penalty to children, before death penalty abolition for ordinary crimes in [December 2022](https://icomdp.org/zambia-abolishes-the-death-penalty/).
  + Mission to Zambia and Malawi by ICDP, exchanging impressions between Ministers of Justice and MPs on abolition, as well as civil society, in [October-November 2023](https://icomdp.org/important-initiative-for-high-level-delegations-zambia-and-malawi-share-experiences-on-abolishing-death-penalty/).