

# RESOLUTION FOR A UNIVERSAL MORATORIUM ON THE USE OF THE DEATH PENALTY

**LET'S TAKE ACTION FOR THE VOTE IN PLENARY  
SCHEDULED IN DECEMBER 2022**

On 11 November 2022, the Third Committee of the United Nations General Assembly, which works specifically on human rights issues, voted by a very large majority in favour of the resolution A/C.3/77/L.44 **for a universal moratorium on the use of the death penalty.**

**The resolution was adopted by 126 States while 37 voted against it, 24 abstained and 6 did not take part in the vote.** This represents the highest number of positive votes ever recorded since the submission of the first resolution at the General Assembly in 2007.

## MAIN DEVELOPMENTS COMPARED TO THE 2020 VOTE IN PLENARY

**Positive developments took place in Ghana, Liberia and Myanmar since they went from abstaining to voting in favour.** Three States which were absent during the 2020 plenary session voted in favour of the text (Solomon Islands, Palau, Somalia). Two States changed from a negative vote to an abstention (Uganda and Papua New Guinea). And two other States moved backwards by voting against the resolution although they had abstained in 2020: Yemen and Lesotho.

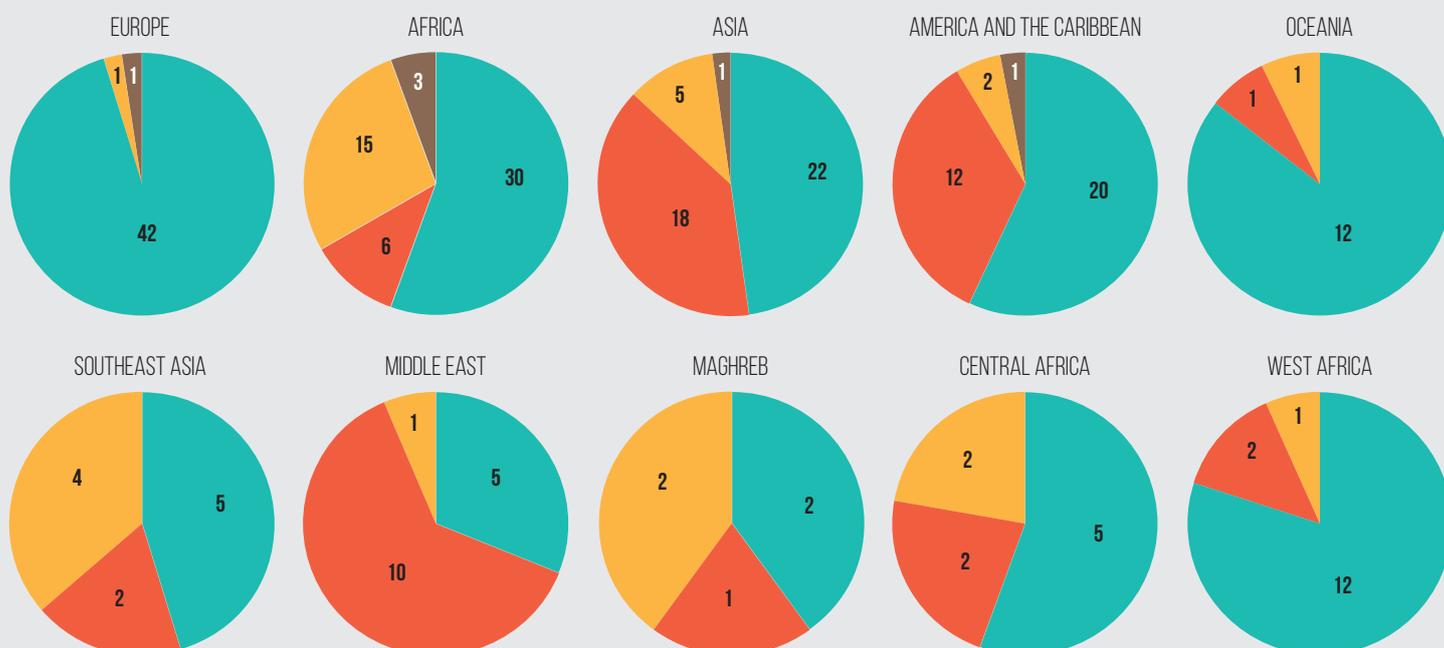
The stakes of the vote are still particularly high in view of the upcoming plenary session in December and the outreach around the resolution remains therefore crucial. In 2020, 4 States had changed their vote between the 3rd Committee and the plenary session, both positively and negatively.

## CONSISTENCY WITH COUNTRIES' SITUATIONS

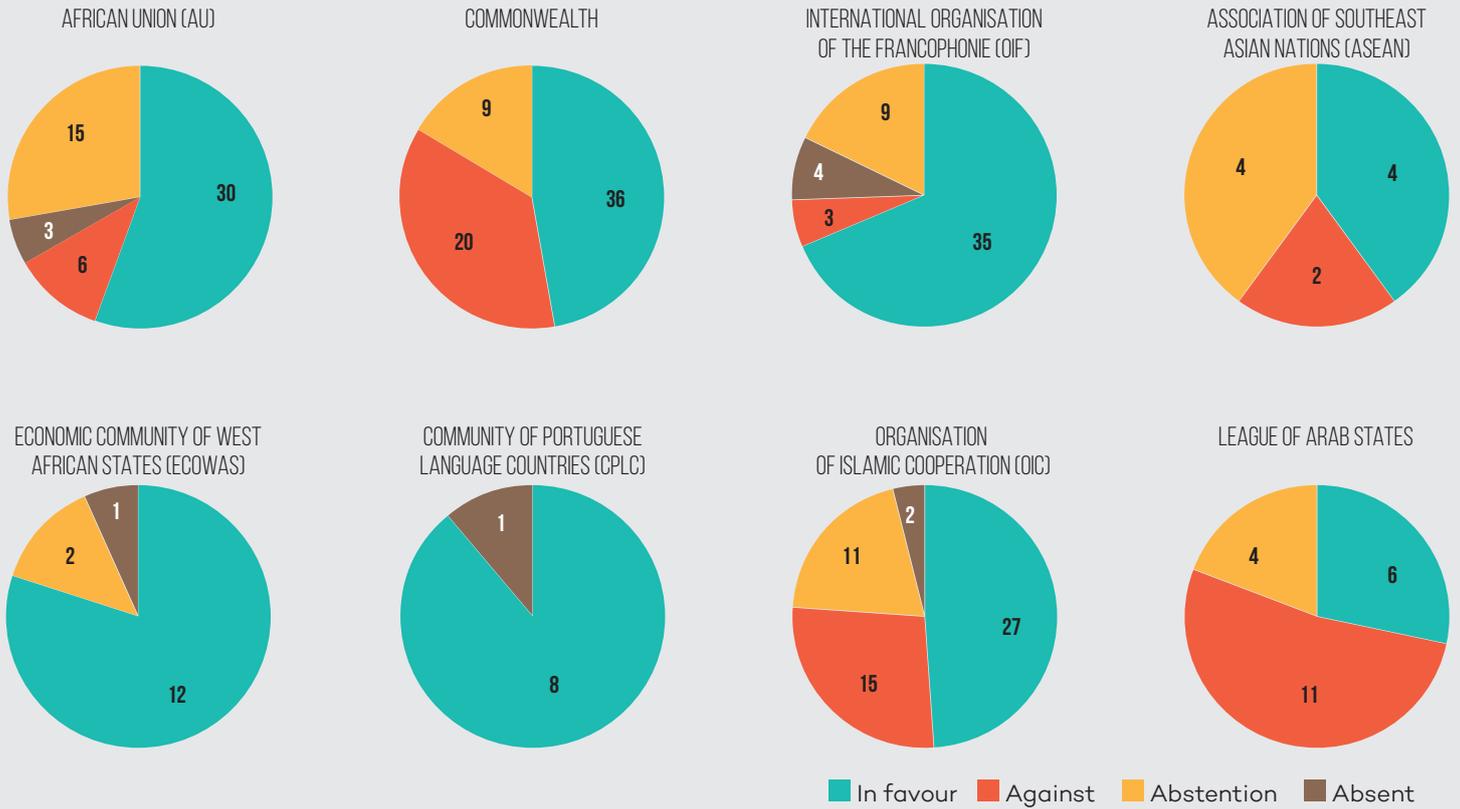
- Among the 6 States which were absent during the 3rd Committee vote, 4 States are abolitionist (Macedonia, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal and Venezuela) and 1 State (Democratic Republic of the Congo) has not carried out any execution for at least 10 years;
- Among the 37 States which voted against the resolution during the 3rd Committee, 17 States have not carried out any execution for at least 10 years and hence did not vote consistently with their situation;
- Among the 24 abstaining States, 17 did not vote in line with their situation since 14 of them have not carried out any execution for at least 10 years, 2 are abolitionist (Burundi and Gabon) and 1 State voted for the abolition of the death penalty in 2022 (Papua New Guinea).

## REGIONAL AND SUB-REGIONAL ANALYSES OF THE VOTE

■ In favour ■ Against ■ Abstention ■ Absent



## ANALYSIS OF VOTES BY INTERGOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATIONS



Positive evolutions were observed in most regions of the world. Once again, the main supporters of the resolution come from Europe and Africa. Asia remains the continent the least favourable to the text despite positive evolutions since 2020 (20 votes in favour in plenary in 2020, 22 positive votes in 3rd Committee in 2022).

Within the intergovernmental organisations, a minority of member states from OIF and AU are opposed to the text. Within the OIC and ASEAN, more than half of the states vote in favour or are abstaining. The Arab League is the only organisation registering a majority of negative votes.

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