

4th REGIONAL CONGRESS ON THE DEATH PENALTY IN THE MIDDLE EAST

JULY 11-12, 2023
AMMAN-JORDAN

Organised by



In partnership with



WHAT IS THE REGIONAL CONGRESS ON THE DEATH PENALTY?

ECPM has been organising World Congresses Against the Death Penalty since 2001 and they have quickly become indispensable. As well as establishing any progress or problems which have come to light on the path towards universal abolition, above all the World Congresses aim to bring together abolition actors who, at local, regional and international level, are able to contribute efficiently to erasing the death penalty from judicial and legislative arsenals. The 8th World Congress against the Death penalty was held in Berlin in November 2022. It brought together 1,000 participants and many senior political figures.

A Regional Congress has preceded every World Congress since 2012 in order to focus on a particular region in the world and adapt to its characteristics. The goal of the Regional Congress, is to support the work of civil society from the target region. Both events encourage and support collaborative action against the death penalty.

After **Rabat** (2012), **Kuala Lumpur** (2015) and **Abidjan** (2018), the 4th Regional Congress on the Death Penalty will target the Middle-East area.

ECPM is organising the 4th Regional Congress in partnership with Penal Reform International (PRI) and Adaleh Center for Human Rights Studies (ACHRS).

GOALS

THE 4TH REGIONAL CONGRESS ON THE DEATH PENALTY WILL PARTICULARLY AIM TO

- Identify the main issues in the region (rule of law, state of the justice system and prisons, traditions and religions, poverty, anti-terrorist action)
- Enable progress in this region
- Promote the exchange of good practices and the networking of legislative actors at national and regional level
- Stimulate dialogue, collective action and the emergence of initiatives by civil society actors, parliamentarians and NHRIs in the region

FOR WHOM?

- Human rights civil society
- National Human Rights Institutions
- Professional human rights penalty networks: parliamentarians, judiciary and academics
- The media
- Legal professions: lawyers, magistrates, etc.
- Political authorities, diplomats
- Schools

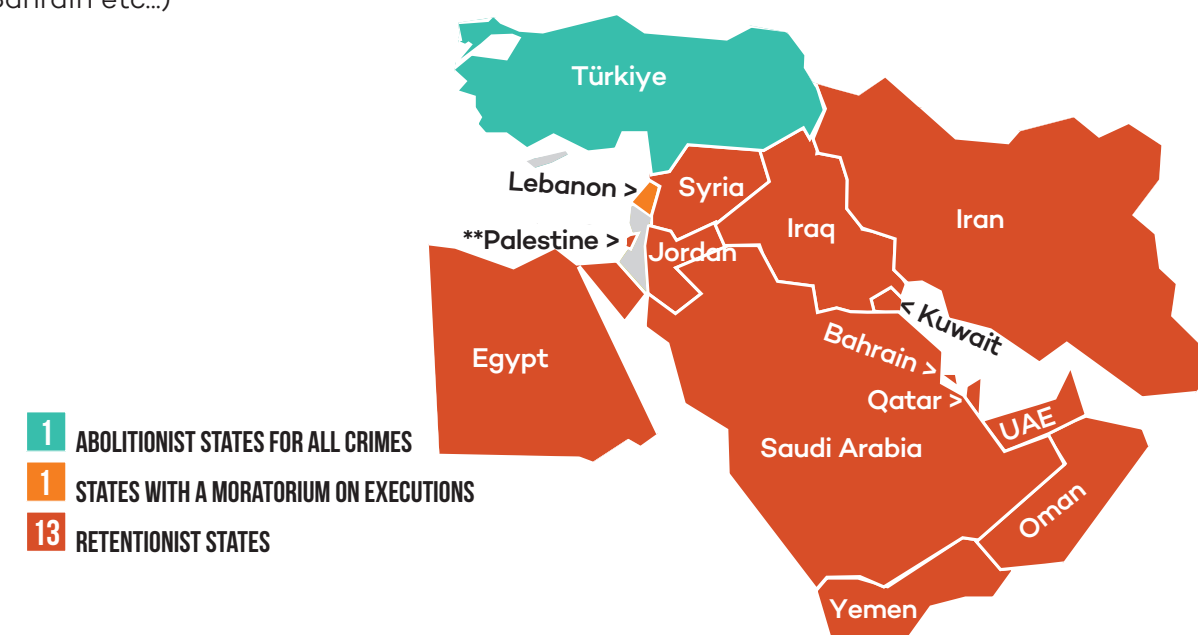
WHY THE MIDDLE EAST?

With 148 countries and territories having abolished the death penalty in law or in practice and a number of countries practicing fewer executions, abolition appears to be a universal trend. However, certain regions are still strongly resisting and continue to extensively use the death penalty.

Out of the 15 targeted countries, 3 have been observing a moratorium on executions for at least 5 years: Jordan, Lebanon and Palestine.

TARGETED COUNTRIES

- Those which observed a moratorium in the past years (Jordan, Lebanon, Palestine) or abstained on the UNGA resolution calling for a universal moratorium on the application of the death penalty (United Arab Emirates)
- Retentionist countries where progress has been possible in the past, and/or could be considered and/or where civil society is active (Iran, Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Egypt, Qatar, Bahrain etc...)



THE 4TH REGIONAL CONGRESS ON THE DEATH PENALTY

Date: July 11-12, 2023

Duration: 2 days

Location: GRAND HYATT AMMAN, 6 Hussein Bin Ali Street, Amman, Jordan

Number of participants: around 200 participants from at least 15 countries

Structure: An opening session, 1 plenary, 4 roundtables, 5 workshops and a closing session

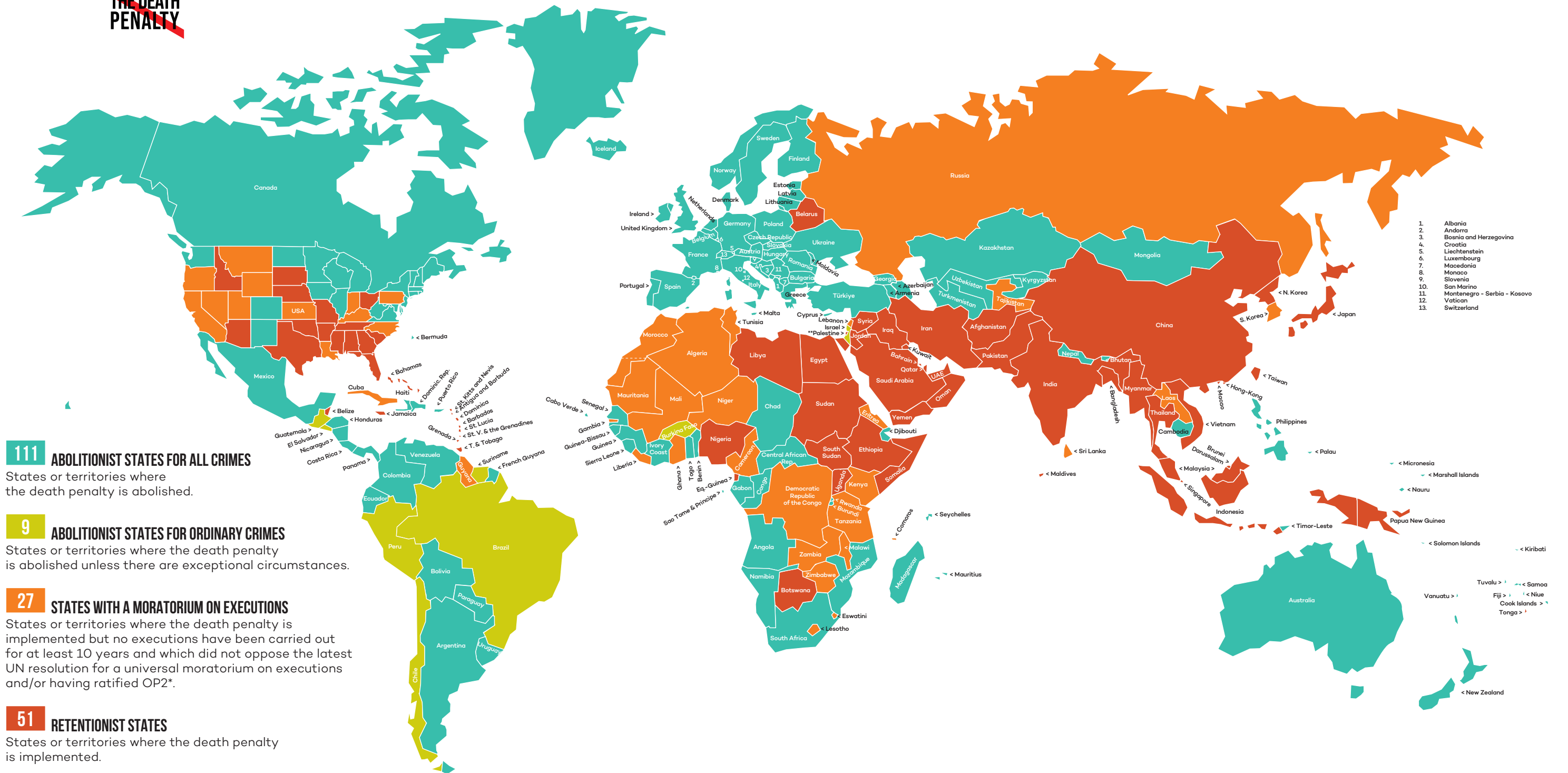
Organiser: ECPM – Ensemble contre la peine de mort (Together against the death penalty)

Partners: Penal Reform International (PRI) and Adaleh Center for Human Rights Studies (ACHRS)

**EC
PM**
TOGETHER
AGAINST
THE DEATH
PENALTY

THE DEATH PENALTY WORLDWIDE 2022

**ABOLITION
NOW**





Founded in 2000, ECPM is a leading global association fighting for universal abolition of the death penalty. With a presence in a dozen countries across the world, ECPM has been conducting intense advocacy work with national and international bodies for the past twenty years, in particular by supporting local actors and by organising, every three years, the biggest abolitionist event in the world: the World Congress Against the Death Penalty. ECPM also founded the World Coalition against the Death Penalty. For more information: www.ecpm.org



Penal Reform International (PRI) is an independent international non-governmental organisation that structures its work through a policy programme, regional programmes, and a governance and strategy programme that ensures learning and impact. PRI operates globally with offices in multiple locations.

We work to promote criminal justice systems that uphold human rights for all and do no harm. We run practical human rights programmes and support reforms that make criminal justice fair and effective. Our primary objectives are to secure trials that are impartial, sentencing practices that are proportionate and promote social rehabilitation, and humane conditions of detention where alternatives to imprisonment are not possible. We continue to join efforts to abolish the death penalty, which is a cruel, inhuman and degrading punishment and a violation of the right to life. We work to ensure that when there is a moratorium or abolition of capital punishment in any given country it is replaced with humane alternatives. In view of this we challenge life imprisonment without parole. For more information: www.penalreform.org



The Adaleh Center for Human Rights Studies is a non-governmental, non-profit organization founded on September 2003 and based in Amman, Jordan.

Its mission is to enforce human rights values in Jordan and the Arab world, through building the capacity of non-governmental organizations and practitioners working in the field of human rights, democracy and justice. The center operates in accordance with all universal human rights declarations, principles, and charters issued by the United Nations.

Its vision: to create a mindful society that enjoys basic human rights and freedoms, free from discrimination and violations against human rights, and where values of dignity, freedom, equality, tolerance, and respect are widely spread.

Its objectives are:

- To elevate the respect towards freedom and human rights.
- To enhance democracy principles and the rule of law.
- To activate the role of the judiciary and to ensure its independence.
- To enhance the knowledge of the law and to ensure its independence.
- To spread awareness on human rights.
- To invigorate the human rights situation and to document human rights violations.

For more information: <https://www.adaleh-center.org/>

CONTACTS

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