

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

**LET'S TAKE ACTION FOR THE VOTE IN PLENARY
DECEMBER 2024**

On 18 November 2024, 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.3/79/L.37 **for a universal moratorium on the use of the death penalty.**

The resolution was adopted by 131 states while 36 voted against it, 21 abstained and 5 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 2022 VOTE IN PLENARY

Positive developments took place in Antigua and Barbuda, which went from a vote against to a vote in favour, as well as in Kenya, Zambia and Zimbabwe, which shifted from abstention to a vote in favour. Four states absent from the plenary session in 2022 also voted in favour of the text (Sao Tome and Principe, Seychelles, Somalia, Vanuatu).

Two states went from voting against to abstaining (Bahamas, Bangladesh). The Comoros, absent from the plenary vote in 2022, also abstained.

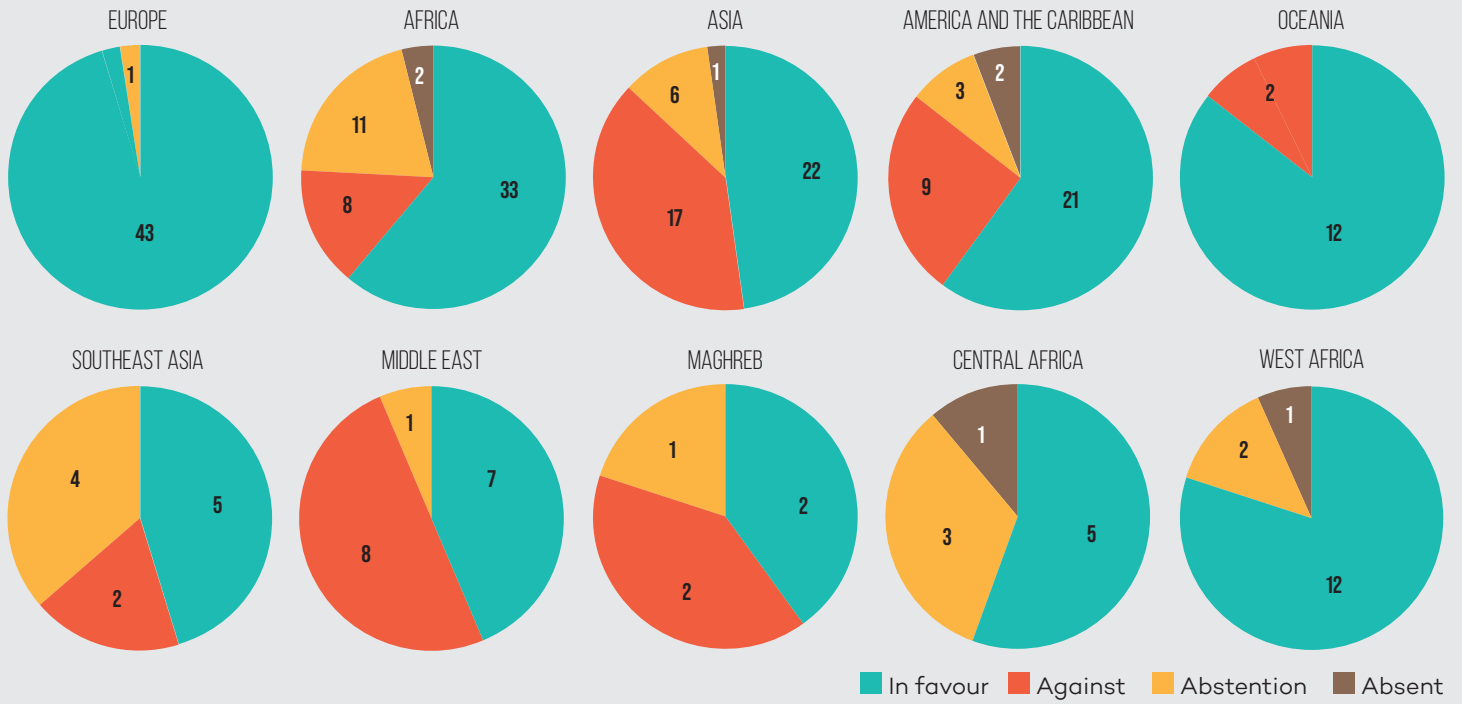
Finally, three states that abstained in 2022 chose to vote against the Resolution: Lesotho, Mauritania and Papua New Guinea. South Sudan, absent from the 2022 vote, also voted against.

The stakes of the vote on the resolution remain particularly high in view of the plenary session scheduled for December, and the mobilisation work remains decisive. In 2022, 2 states changed their vote between the 3rd Commission and the plenary session, both positively and negatively, not counting absences.

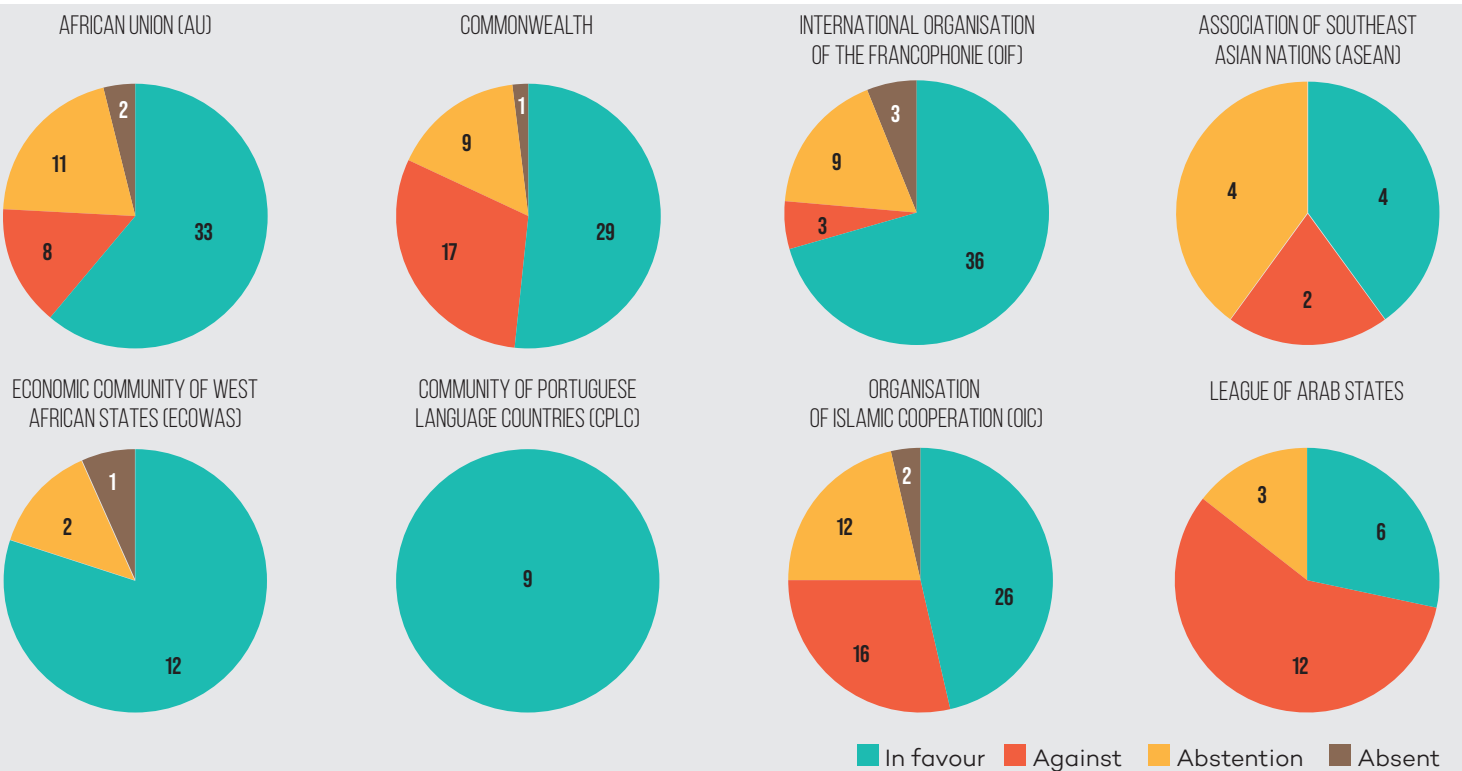
CONSISTENCY WITH COUNTRIES' SITUATIONS

- Among the 5 states absent from the vote in the 3rd Committee, 2 are abolitionist (Senegal, Venezuela) and 3 states (Afghanistan, Democratic Republic of Congo, Dominica) are retentionist, although Dominica and the DRC have not carried out executions for at least 10 years;
- Of the 36 states that voted against the resolution in the 3rd Committee, 16 have not carried out executions for at least 10 years, and are therefore not voting in line with their national situation. Among them, 13 states are considered retentionist, 2 are under a moratorium (Lesotho, Mauritania) and 1 (Papua New Guinea) abolished in 2022;
- Among the 21 abstaining states, 14 did not vote in line with their national situation, since 11 of them have not carried out any executions for at least 10 years, and 3 are abolitionist (Burundi, Gabon, Chad).

REGIONAL AND SUB-REGIONAL ANALYSES OF THE VOTE



ANALYSIS OF VOTES BY INTERGOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATIONS



Positive evolutions were recorded in most regions of the world. Once again, the main supporters of the resolution come from Europe and Africa. Asia remains the continent least favourable to the text despite positive developments in recent votes.

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