

9th WORLD CONGRESS AGAINST THE DEATH PENALTY



9TH WORLD CONGRESS AGAINST THE DEATH PENALTY

PARIS • 30 JUNE - 2 JULY 2026

CULTURAL PROGRAMME

Organised by



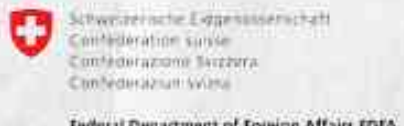
Hosted and sponsored by



Co-sponsored by



Co-funded by
the European Union



AGENDA

30 JUNE 2026

1 JULY 2026

2 JULY 2026

MAISON DE LA RADIO ET DE LA MUSIQUE

HÔTEL DE LASSAY

MORNING

AUDITORIUM 9:30 AM → 12:30 PM

OFFICIAL OPENING CEREMONY

AFTERNOON

STUDIO 104
2:00 PM → 4:00 PM
The judiciary as an actor of abolition

FOYER C
2:00 PM → 4:00 PM
Storytelling: putting the human dimension at the heart of abolitionist advocacy

FOYER B
2:00 PM → 4:00 PM
Documenting to abolish: exchange of tools and practices

AGORA
12:30 PM → 6:30 PM
ABOLITION AGORA
Civil Society Partners Area

FOYER F
12:30 PM → 6:30 PM
YOUTH HUB

STUDIO 104
4:30 PM → 6:30 PM
East Asia facing the challenge of transparency: lessons for universal abolition

FOYER C
4:30 PM → 6:30 PM
Universal abolition of the death penalty and absolute prohibition of torture: converging struggles

FOYER B
4:30 PM → 6:30 PM
From research to practice: the contribution of law clinics to abolition

EVENING

GALERIE SEINE 6:30 PM → 9:30 PM

NETWORKING EVENT

Reception

AGORA
8:30 AM → 9:30 AM

WELCOME / COFFEE

STUDIO 104
9:30 AM → 11:00 AM
Challenging the constitutionality of the death penalty before apex courts

FOYER C
9:30 AM → 11:00 AM
Professionals and death penalty: strategies to address vicarious trauma

FOYER B
9:30 AM → 11:00 AM
The war on drugs and the death penalty: a stumbling block

AGORA
9:30 PM → 6:30 PM

FOYER F
9:30 PM → 6:30 PM

STUDIO 104
11:30 AM → 1:00 PM
Socio-economic inequalities and impact of the death penalty: an overlooked reality

FOYER C
11:30 AM → 1:00 PM
Abolitionist communication in a changing media landscape: young people leading the way

FOYER B
11:30 AM → 1:00 PM
Protecting abolitionists in an increasingly hostile environment

ABOLITION AGORA
Civil Society Partners Area

YOUTH HUB

STUDIO 104
2:30 PM → 4:00 PM
The death penalty in a shifting world: how to respond to the resurgence?

FOYER C
2:30 PM → 4:00 PM
SIDE EVENT

FOYER B
2:30 PM → 4:00 PM
SIDE EVENT

STUDIO 104
4:30 PM → 6:00 PM
The death penalty as a crime against humanity: challenges and responses

FOYER C
4:30 PM → 6:00 PM
Consolidating achievements: how to prevent a return of the death penalty?

FOYER B
4:30 PM → 6:00 PM
Intersectional discrimination: lessons from the gender approach

STUDIO 104 6:30 PM → 8:30 PM

WITNESSES EVENT

9:30 AM → 1:00 PM

SIDE EVENTS

2:00 PM → 3:30 PM

SIDE EVENTS

GALERIE DES FÊTES 4:00 PM → 6:00 PM

CLOSING CEREMONY

Abolition Awards Presentation

OUTDOORS 6:30 PM → 8:30 PM

FINAL HAPPENING

Artistic and activist stroll

Organised by



Hosted and sponsored by



Co-sponsored by



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

Federal Department of Foreign Affairs FDFA

In partnership on the Academic Programme



CEREMONIES



PLENARIES



EVENING EVENTS



ROUNDTABLES



SIDE EVENTS



WORKSHOPS

OVERVIEW OF CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

THE SPACES

HALL SEINE

DRAW ME THE ABOLITION
EXHIBITION

GALERIE SEINE

SOUND INSTALLATION &
NETWORKING EVENT

NEF - GALERIE VÉGÉTALE

EDITORIAL CARTOON ON
DEATH PENALTY EXHIBITION
CARTOONING FOR PEACE

AGORA DE L'ABOLITION

HAKAMATA LETTERS 2

COULOIR D'EXPOSITION

ART & DEATH ROW

THE HIGHLIGHTS

OPENING CEREMONY

MAITRISE DE RADIO FRANCE
CHOIR PERFORMANCE

THE ACADEMIC PROGRAMME

GRAPHIC FACILITATION

WITNESSES EVENT

ARTS & DEATH ROW

*ÉLÉGIE POUR LA MORT D'UN
BERGER* BY BERNARD ANDRÈS,
PERFORMED ON THE HARP

CLOSING CEREMONY

DANCE PERFORMANCE
KRUMPFEST

OFF-SITE

FINAL HAPPENING

Hôtel de Lassay

ARTISTIC AND FESTIVE
MARCH FOLLOWING THE
CLOSING CEREMONY

“PORTRAITS” EXHIBITION

Hôtel de ville's railings

PRESENTATION OF THE
MAIN FRENCH
ABOLITIONIST FIGURES

OFF-SITE EXHIBITION

In 16 locations across the city

A PODCAST ON THE
DEATH PENALTY AND ITS
ABOLITION ACROSS
PARIS.

DRAWING AS A GUIDING THREAD

Cartooning for Peace

From the visual identity of the Congress to the artistic forms of expression showcased, this 9th edition of the Congress highlights the pencil line as a bridge between individual expression and universal reflection.

- ECPM is partnering with the international editorial cartoonists' network *Cartooning for Peace* to highlight the work and commitment of press cartoonists from around the world on the issue of the death penalty.
- With 20 drawings, the exhibition is set in the greened nave of the *Maison de la Radio et de la Musique*. Starting on 15 June.





DRAWING AS A GUIDING THREAD

DRAW ME THE ABOLITION

A cornerstone activity of the International Network for Education on Abolition (RIEA), supported by ECPM, the international "Draw Me the Abolition" competition engages young people aged 12 to 25 on the issue of the universal abolition of the death penalty by appealing to their creativity.

- ▣ **The 50 winning drawings from the 7th edition Seine Hall, Maison de la Radio et de la Musique**
The 50 posters selected by an international jury made up of committed professionals and human rights specialists will be exhibited during the Congress.
- ▣ **"Draw Me Abolition" at the National Assembly - Salle des Pas Perdus**
A selection of winning drawings from previous editions, created by 16 young people from 9 countries, is on display from June 29 to July 3.

DRAWING AS A GUIDING THREAD

Graphic facilitation

A graphic facilitator will visually synthesize the discussions from the two plenary sessions of the academic program, providing an accessible summary of the discussions.

- These graphics create a continuous narrative and visual thread, helping to preserve a tangible record of the discussions for wider dissemination through the Congress acts, the dedicated app, and social media.
- Graphic facilitation also helps foster engagement and attention through visual stimulation. The audience watches its own collective reflection shaping.



ARTS & DEATH ROW

The witnesses event

A traditional highlight of the World Congresses, the Witnesses Event puts the spotlight on former death-row inmates, as well as relatives and supporters of people sentenced to death.

For this 9th edition, these individuals will share their experiences of the death penalty through speeches and various forms of expression linked to artistic creation from death row.

- Introduction to the evening with the piece *Élégie pour la mort d'un berger* by Bernard Andrès, performed by harpist Etsuko Shoji, in synchronization with the projection of black-and-white photographs by Toshi Kazama.
- The witnesses event will highlight the power of art through perspectives from different countries and a plurality of artistic forms of expression.





ARTS & DEATH ROW

The exhibition

Directly connected to people on death row, an exhibition produced by ECPM with the support of *The Death Penalty Project*, *Lifespark Switzerland* and the *German Coalition Against the Death Penalty*, will be showcased in the Radio France exhibition corridor to offer a sensitive perspective on the issue.

- Behind each work, the exhibition invites visitors to discover the lived experience of a person imprisoned on death row who has chosen creation as a vehicle for emancipation.
- The diversity of techniques used reflects the diversity of individual journeys. Each chosen medium has shaped the emergence of a singular graphic universe.



ARTS & DEATH ROW

Hakamata Letters

After 46 years on death row in Japan, Iwao Hakamata was acquitted and released in September 2024. The exhibition *Hakamata Letters* was coordinated by ECPM based on the writings of Iwao Hakamata, for last November's Regional Congress in Tokyo.

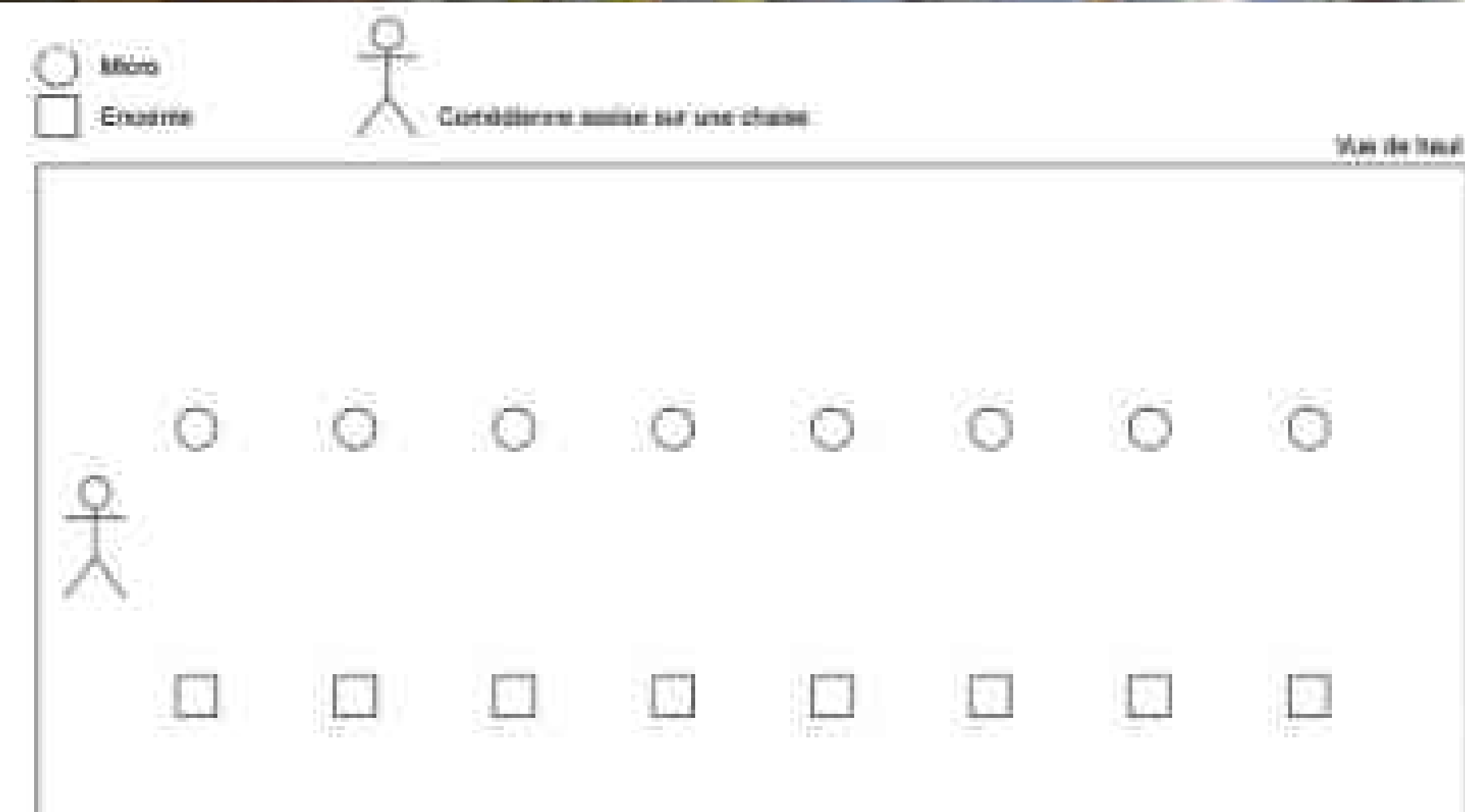
- The exhibition will be presented for the first time in France, on the glass structures of the Agora at the Maison de la Radio et de la Musique.
- The installation features fragments drawn from Iwao Hakamata's 5,000 letters, in Japanese and English.
- Hideko Hakamata, Iwao's sister, who inaugurated the exhibition in Tokyo, will be present at the World Congress in Paris.

ARTS & DEATH ROW

The sound installation

Carried by a duo of artists and sound engineers, the installation *Revivre* offers a sensory immersion evoking obsessive thoughts, in a metaphorical universe where the technical elements represent death row.

- *Revivre* sets up a dynamic sound loop fed by the words of a woman sitting on a chair at the end of the corridor. The sound travels throughout the installation with a certain latency.
- This latency shrinks over time, making the iterations increasingly shorter, until reaching zero duration, which brings the playback directly face to face with the capture, thereby creating feedback which is the final point of the installation.





CELEBRATING ACTIVISM

The opening ceremony

To open the World Congress, ECPM wished to give a voice to the youth.

The Maîtrise du Chœur de Radio France will perform two musical sequences carefully composed around pieces selected to celebrate the abolitionist commitment and those who carry it.

- Youth is a central focus of this congress, highlighting transmission and activist legacy. To entrust the opening to young singers is to embody, from the very first minutes, this conviction: commitment is passed on, received, and perpetuated.
- A tribute to Robert Badinter will also be carried by young voices, a way of bridging those who forged the path and those who are taking up the torch.

CELEBRATING ACTIVISM

The closing ceremony

To set the rhythm of the closing ceremony, ECPM proposes to inject a note of energy and collective celebration. The 9 dancers of the Krumpfest company will take over the ceremony with a powerful and singular performance.

- Krump is a dance born in the neighborhoods of Los Angeles, driven by intense physical expressivity and a deeply communicative vitality. It is a discipline that asserts itself and brings people together, an appropriate way to conclude three days of World Congress Against the Death Penalty.
- Recently in residence at the EMKA in Créteil under the direction of Mehdi Kerkouche for their show Hype is Murda, the company places the question of corporeality as a practice of resistance, resurgence, substance and healing.





CELEBRATING ACTIVISM

The final happening

As an extension of the artistic performance of the closing ceremony, the final happening invites participants to collectively celebrate their commitment and conclude the Congress with a festive procession.

- The dancers from the closing ceremony will invite participants to join them outside the Hôtel de Lassay to begin together an artistic and festive march.
- Dancer and performer Gilles Viandier, rooted in contemporary dance, will guide the audience with his performance in a participatory approach.
- With the performance *Pantone*, the artist takes over urban spaces with a colored sheet, which he uses as a link between bodies and an invitation to movement.

STORIES OF ABOLITION

Faces of abolition

The exhibition *Faces of Abolition* will be presented on the railings of the Hôtel de Ville, from June 5 to July 15, allowing audiences to discover the French figures who have advanced the abolitionist cause.

- The exhibition will showcase ten portraits of contemporary figures and ten illustrations of historical figures.
- As an extension of the exhibition, QR codes will provide access to additional information on the ECPM website.



STORIES OF ABOLITION

Paris death penalty and abolition tour

As part of the 40th anniversary of abolition, ECPM has designed a trail through 16 major Parisian locations to trace the history of the death penalty and its abolition.

- At each location, a panel will shed light on one aspect of the history of the death penalty and its abolition in Paris.
- The exhibition will be accompanied by a 16-episode podcast. Each episode will be linked to a location, to immerse listeners in the historical narrative. Among the locations: the Hôtel de Ville, the Maison du Barreau, the Place de la Bastille, the Place de la Nation, the Panthéon...



CONTACTS

Political and Financial Mobilisation officers

Anna Levy

alevy@ecpm.org

Céleste Percher cpercher@ecpm.org

+33 1 80 87 70 23

Cultural programming officer

Alix Ibar

aibar@ecpm.org

Communications Manager

Laura Crépin

lcrepin@ecpm.org

+33 6 01 78 50 15

Press contact

Aurélie Chatelard

achatelard@ecpm.org

+33 6 19 92 03 31

Congress Coordinator

Ramla Liatouji

rliatouji@ecpm.org

+ 33 6 35 20 06 69

Congress Project Manager

Anne Savey

asavey@ecpm.org

Executive Director

Raphaël Chenuil-Hazan

rchenuil@ecpm.org

+33 6 63 86 14 40

For more information, follow us on our social media, subscribe to our newsletter [here](#) or visit our website:

www.ecpm.org



With the financial support of



In partnership of the academic programme

Hosted by

Media partnership



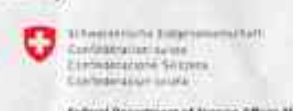
Organised by



Hosted and sponsored by



Co-sponsored by



This publication was produced with the financial support of the European Union, the Government of France and the Government of Switzerland. Its contents are the sole responsibility of ECPM and do not necessarily reflect the views of the EU, nor the above-mentioned Governments.