MOBILISATION KIT

THE DEATH PENALTY DOESN’T STOP DRUG CRIMES

WORLD DAY AGAINST THE DEATH PENALTY
0.10.15
WWW.WORLDCOALITION.ORG
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For more information:

www.worldcoalition.org
The World Day against the Death Penalty: 10 October 2015

Every year, the World Coalition Against the Death Penalty calls for local initiatives worldwide. The events involve citizens and organisations supporting the abolition of capital punishment and comprise debates, concerts, press releases or any other action which would give the global abolition claim an international boost.

This Day is aimed at both political leaders and public opinion in countries where the death penalty has or has not yet been abolished: people have to remember the meaning of abolition and pass it down through the generations.

The World Day also unifies the abolitionist movement and gives a global support to the sometimes isolated action taken by its abolitionist on the ground. It encourages and consolidates the political and general awareness of the movement against the death penalty.

Every year, World Day focuses on a different problematic aspect of the death penalty. Including failures of justice (2006), the inhumanity of the death penalty (2011) and the death penalty for drug-related offenses for 2015.

The Main Objective of the 2015 World Day

The main objective this year is to raise public awareness around the application of the death penalty for drug-related offences to reduce its use.

To achieve it, the World Coalition has developed several tools (poster, leaflet, facts and figures, detailed factsheet and mobilization kit) and will coordinates the mobilisation for 10 October all over the world.

Secondary objectives for the 2015 World Day

1) Make some noise before UNGASS on drugs!

A United Nations General Assembly Special Sessions (UNGASS) on drugs is planned for April 2016 and civil should use the opportunity of World Day against the Death Penalty and UNGASS on drugs to highlight human rights violations linked to the ‘war on drugs’, including the death penalty.

The goal is to make some noise about the unacceptable reality of the death penalty for drug-related offenses.

To do so, the World Coalition encourages its members and abolitionist worldwide to:

► get in touch with local drug policy reform and harm reduction civil society to organise events together (Contacts and a new document called “Q&A on Death Penalty and Drugs” will be provided by the World Coalition over the summer)
► publish joint statements, articles and contact the local media
► join the social media campaign
2) Convince countries that still use the death penalty for drug-related offences to abolish it

Petitions are being drafted by Amnesty International and will be circulated over the summer:

- Model letters calling on China, Iran and Saudi Arabia to reconsider the death penalty for drug crimes
- Appeals to release people sentenced to death in Singapore and/or Malaysia (to be confirmed)
- ACAT France is also planning an action on Vietnam

3) Call on UNODC to implement their 2012 position paper on Human Rights and on UN member states to attach the position paper when funding the UNODC

Officially, as an entity of the United Nations system, UNODC advocates the abolition of the death penalty and calls upon Member States to follow international standards concerning prohibition of the death penalty for offences of a drug-related nature.

A 2012 position paper on human rights goes as far as to say that: “Even training of border guards who are responsible for arrest of drug traffickers ultimately sentenced to death may be considered sufficiently proximate to the violation to engage international responsibility”.

However, this position paper has not been implemented.

European states are major funders of aggressive ‘supply reduction’ focused counternarcotics programmes run by the UNODC. All of them are abolitionists, but do not ask the UNODC to respect its own human rights guidance.

- Reprieve is preparing a memo for World Coalition members and abolitionists based in those countries to contact their authorities and ask them to release information about the UNODC programs they are funding and the UNODC 2012 Position Paper on Human Rights.
ARGUMENTS

10 reasons to abolish the death penalty:

1. No state should have the power to takes a citizen’s life.

2. It is irrevocable: no justice system is safe from judicial error and innocent people are likely to be sentenced to death.

3. It does not keep society safe: it has never been shown that the death penalty deters crimes more effectively than other punishments.

4. It is unfair: the death penalty is discriminatory and is often used disproportionately against people who are poor, mentally ill, and from racial and ethnic minorities. In some places, the imposition of the death penalty is rooted in discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation or religion.

5. Not all murder victims’ families want the death penalty. A large and growing number of victims’ families worldwide reject the death penalty and are speaking out against it, saying it does not bring back or honor their murdered family member, does not heal the pain of the murder, and violates their ethical and religious beliefs.

6. It creates more pain: the death penalty inflicts pain on the families of those on death row and causes great pain to the family members of those who have been executed.

7. It is inhuman, cruel and degrading: the dreadful conditions on death row inflict extreme psychological suffering and execution is a physical and mental assault.

8. It is applied overwhelmingly in violation of international standards: it breaches the principles of the 1948 Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which states that everyone has the right to life and that no one shall be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment. It is also in contradiction with the international trend towards abolition reflected by four votes at the United Nations General Assembly calling for the establishment of a moratorium on the use of the death penalty (resolutions 62/149, 63/168, 65/206 and 67/176 adopted in December 2007, 2008, 2010, 2012 and 2014).

9. It is inefficient: time and money are diverted from other more efficient law enforcement measures.

10. It denies any possibility of rehabilitation to the criminal.
On 10 October 2015, the World Coalition Against the Death Penalty and abolitionists worldwide mark the 13th World Day against the Death Penalty by drawing attention to the death penalty for drug crimes. While opposing the death penalty absolutely, abolitionists are also concerned to see existing international human rights standards implemented. Among these is the restriction of crimes punishable by death to the most serious crimes, limited to intentional crimes resulting in death.

**Overview of drug offences and the death penalty**

Thirty-three countries and territories have the death penalty for drug crimes, according to Harm Reduction International, a drug-focused NGO, member of the World Coalition. All but four (Cuba, USA, Sudan and South Sudan) are in Asia or the Middle East. But in most of them executions are extremely rare. Only in seven countries—China, Iran, Saudi Arabia, Vietnam, Malaysia, Indonesia and Singapore—are drug offenders known to be routinely executed.

Throughout most of the 1980s and 1990s, the number of countries enacting capital drug laws rose dramatically. In 1979, around ten countries prescribed the death penalty for drugs. By 1985, that number had risen to twenty-two and by 2000, to thirty-six. It is now considered as 33 countries. What made this rise so lamentable was that it corresponded with the remarkable global trend towards abolition of the death penalty.

**The death penalty does not protect people from drug abuse**

In the World Drug Report 2014, the UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) estimates that in 2012, there were 183,000 drug-related deaths worldwide. Drug overdose is the primary contributor to the global number of drug-related deaths, and opioids (heroin and the non-medical use of prescription opioids) are the main drug categories implicated in those deaths.

The death penalty, however, hasn’t been proven to reduce drug consumption. According to the UNODC, during the period 2003-2012, the estimated number of drug users (as a percentage of the population in the 15-64 age bracket) has remained fairly stable.

Moreover, although opioids are the main source of overdoses, marijuana traffickers make up a large number or in some countries even a majority of drug-related offenders sentenced to die. For example, according to Harm Reduction International (HRI), in Malaysia, most of drug-related offenders sentenced to death were convicted of offences related to marijuana or hashish.

**The death penalty doesn’t deter drug trafficking**

Many of offenders who are sentenced to death and executed are mere bit players in the illicit drug trade. The majority of people facing the death penalty for drug-related offences are not people at the apex of the trafficking hierarchy. They are, for the most part, poor and vulnerable people, ripe for exploitation by more senior figures.

Singapore is a compelling example of how even harsh laws against state’s drug-related crimes are ineffective in reducing trafficking. Singapore has had draconian laws for drug-related offences since 1973, and it has been one of the world’s notorious leaders in imposing the death penalty for such crimes. However, according to the European Institute for Crime Prevention and Control in 2010, Singapore’s drug-related crime rate is far worse than other countries such as Costa Rica and Turkey. The number of drugs seizures in Singapore has continued to increase in recent years. The Central Narcotics Bureau of Singapore reported record numbers of seizures in 2012. The estimated street value of the drugs seized was S$18.3 million, 14% higher than in 2011. The escalating rate of drug trafficking in Singapore shows that harsh laws are ineffective in deterring drug trafficking and access to drugs.
WORLD DAY: TAKE ACTION!

The main objective of the World Day is to encourage organisations to create events in as many countries as possible and especially in those states that maintain the death penalty.

• Call for initiatives!

Wherever you are: in Africa, America, Asia, Oceania or Europe
Whoever you are: NGO, teacher, lawyer, local representative, member of parliament, artist, reporter, religious leader, citizen
Whatever your plans are: Debates, concerts, press conferences, demonstrations, petitions, educational and cultural activities…

• 10 things you can do to end the death penalty

1. Organize a public debate or a movie screening with exonerees, murder victims’ families, and experts, to raise awareness on the reality of the death penalty
   See Practical Worksheet n°1, 2, 5 and 6
2. Organise an art exhibition (photos, drawings, posters) or a theatre performance
   See Practical Worksheet n°4 and 10
3. Organise a demonstration, a ‘sit-in’, a ‘die-in’, a ‘flash mob’…
   See Practical Worksheet n°3 and 5
4. Join events prepared for the abolition of the death penalty worldwide
   To know what has been organized, visit: www.worldcoalition.org/worldday
5. Sign petitions against the death penalty and encourage others to sign
   See Material for the World Day in this mobilisation kit
6. Follow the social media campaign on Facebook and Twitter: #nodeathpenalty
   See Practical Worksheet n°9
7. Mobilise the media to raise awareness on the issue of the death penalty
   See Practical Worksheet n°7 and 8
   Here is a guide to help you write to the editor! http://bit.ly/cYDWoI
8. Write to a prisoner on death row.
9. Donate to the World Coalition against the Death Penalty or another group working to end the death penalty.
10 Practical Worksheets to help you:

1. **How to organise an event at a university**
   - Contact the university and suggest organising activities for World Day (it can be anything from a 1 hour session during a class, to a two-day conference on the death penalty).
   - If you are in contact with the law school, you may organise something for law students with lawyers defending people on death row for example.
   - Make sure you agree on what the university is ready to commit to (providing a room, on campus information, official statement by the dean, etc.).
   - Pay attention to security regulations within the university, opening hours (especially on weekends) and safety measures, including its insurance policy.
   - Make sure you have sufficient materials (posters, leaflets, information sheets, etc.).
   - Advertise the event and make sure the size of the room allows for a large amount of participants if desired.

*Many events for World Day are organised in universities, which usually provide rooms free of charges and encourage students to attend. In 2013, this was the case in Trinidad & Tobago, Puerto Rico, and Hong Kong.*

2. **How to organise a film festival on the death penalty**
   - Plan your event in advance (at least two months before);
   - Contact cinemas and other organisations in your country;
   - Choose a theme for the festival with a catchy title;
   - Choose a dozen films about the theme with a variety of countries and cultures (European, American, Asian films, etc.), content and subject matter (cases of innocence, the world of prisoners sentenced to death, social pressure faced by victims’ families, political executions, the abolitionist movement, the social and economic stakes, etc.), and genre (blockbusters, art house films, documentaries, etc.). You will find a list of films on the death penalty in this World Day mobilisation kit;
   - Arrange subtitles if the films do not already exist in your language;
   - Organise debates after the films to encourage discussion with the audience. Invite experts, academics and directors to interact with the audience and explore their impressions of the film and their opinion of the death penalty.

*Since 2004 Taiwan Alliance to End the Death Penalty has organised a film festival on the death penalty every three years.*

3. **How to Organise a Flash Mob**

A Flash Mob is a group of people who assemble suddenly in a public place, perform an unusual and sometimes seemingly pointless act for a brief time, and then disperse.

*Photo: Flash Mob in Paris, October 10, 2010*

   - A month in advance find a rousing piece of music and choreography which is easy to follow while still retaining meaning. If needed, ask for help from a choreographer.
   - Work on the choreography with a small group to see if it works. It should last between 2 to 5 minutes.
   - Find a busy place where the Flash Mob will take place. If need be, make an official request to use it.
   - When the choreography is working well, ideally two weeks in advance, film yourselves and put a tutorial online for people to start practising at home.
   - Start to publicise the event, using social media such as Facebook and Twitter but also through the usual channels (emails, newsletters, etc.)
Before the official Flash Mob, plan two meetings with a sufficiently large group to be able to initiate the movement on the day.

Choose the date, if possible depending on the weather (it always works better if the sun is shining).

Announce the exact time and place only a few days beforehand to maintain suspense (particularly if you do not have official authorisation).

You can also choose a dress code.

Plan access to electricity or a generator and speakers so that the music is loud enough.

Scrupulously respect the time and place of the meeting.

Film the Flash Mob and put the video online quickly (if possible the same day) to create buzz on the internet.

At the end, if you want, explain why you have organised the event and be ready to answer questions from journalists.

4. How to Organise an Exhibition of “Poster for Tomorrow”

Find a place for the exhibition, for example a well-known art gallery, museum, garden or square, a public place, a university, a library, an underground station, a shop window, etc.

More than six months are often required to reserve prestigious places such as temporary exhibition spaces in museums but two or three months would suffice for a public place. Unusual places are often very interesting but the procedure can be more complicated.

To guarantee your chances of success, be organised in advance and get to know the managers of the exhibition area, suggesting they sponsor the project.

Contact the World Coalition for electronic copies of the posters.

Print the posters depending on where they will be exhibited (if outside cover them in protective plastic, if in a museum think about hanging, etc.).

Prepare the official opening of the exhibition, if possible with an distinguished speaker who can talk about the death penalty (contact the World Coalition if necessary).

Invite the media, your network of activists, engaged artists, academics, students, and those in the artistic scene, etc.

Prepare the exhibition and don’t forget to prepare drinks and a buffet.

If you have informed the press, prepare a press kit with information about the exhibition, the Poster for Tomorrow competition and the World Day Against the Death Penalty.

5. How to Organise a Conference with Police Officers, Victims’ Families and Exonerees

Plan your event in advance (at least two or three months) so that you have time to contact these people and ensure that they are available.

Define your target audience (general public, media, lawyers, students, etc.) and the scope of the event (a select group of twenty people, fifty, or one hundred people or more).

Define the theme of your debate/conference/discussion.

Make sure the project is clear and realistic - you will have more chance of interesting participants and will increase your chances of success.

Contact the World Coalition to find out who to contact to invite the speakers you want.

Once you have their agreement, fix the place and date of the conference.

One month in advance, send out invitations and begin to publicise the event on your website, by talking to your networks, etc.
One week in advance, send out a press release with the exact place, date and time, the theme of the conference and the name of the participants. If you are aiming for the general public, think about printing posters and displaying them around the conference location.

The day before the event send the press release to the media again and ensure that all your contacts will indeed be present. Often, telephone reminders guarantee the availability of those who are interested but have busy diaries.

6. Working with victims: a guide for activists

It is important to incorporate an awareness of victims’ family members’ experience, perspective, and testimony into anti-death penalty materials and activities because:

► Every death penalty story is also the story of a crime that occurred. A death penalty story does not begin with an execution or a death sentence or even with an arrest. It begins with a murder victim’s loss of life and the devastating impact that that loss has on the surviving family members. Including victims’ stories when talking about the death penalty is the right thing to do.

► The common assumption is that all victims’ family members support the death penalty. We cannot expect to abolish the death penalty without presenting an alternative view. Victims’ voices have a powerful effect — lawmakers have voted against the death penalty as a result of hearing victims’ testify for abolition. Including victims’ stories when working for abolition is strategically wise and is essential to bringing new people into the abolition movement.

Here are a few suggestions. We encourage activists to consult with MVFHR for further guidance.

► In educational or political materials about the death penalty or about a particular prisoner’s case, acknowledge the original murder. Give the victim’s name. For example, instead of saying “Eric Jones, who is facing a death sentence,” say “Eric Jones, who was convicted of the murder of John Smith, is now facing a death sentence …”

► Realize that victims’ family members who oppose the death penalty will have many different reasons for holding that view. Don’t assume that their reasons are all the same. In particular, don’t assume that opposing the death penalty is the same as forgiving the offender.

► Let victims’ family members speak for themselves. Work with them to develop their statements for specific situations, but don’t put words in their mouths or pressure them to say something they are not comfortable saying.

► Invite victims’ family members to be an integral part of your anti-death penalty efforts and activities.

► Know that the best person to reach out to a victim’s family member is another victim’s family member. MVFHR can help with this.

► Support legislation, programs, and services that help to meet the needs of victims’ family members in the aftermath of a murder. Build relationships with victims’ groups and demonstrate that your work against the death penalty is rooted in a desire to prevent murder in all cases.

From MVFHR’s Website: http://www.mvfhr.org/working-victims-guide-activists
7. How to Guarantee Good Media Coverage of your Events
► Forge links with local journalists interested in the subject: throughout the year follow local media coverage and find the media outlets and journalists who often raise the theme of the death penalty. Also, find out how they discuss it: what news section, what angle, etc.
► Contact them in the summer or September to tell them about the World Day Against the Death Penalty (so that they put it in their diaries) and your event as a way of making yourself known.
► Try to become their yardstick for the subject by always responding quickly to journalists and providing them with reliable information, particularly that provided by the World Coalition.
► To maximise your chances of success, organise an event with one or two witness accounts. Journalists like to use personal stories and, if you provide them with the opportunity, they will talk about your event.
► Send out a press release a week before your event with the exact place, date and time, the title of the event, the names of the participants, a brief description of your event and a paragraph on the World Day (you can use the press release provided by the Coalition).
► Specify that participants will be available for interview at the event.
► Send it again the day before the event if you have not had confirmation from journalists who might be interested.
► Only hold a press conference if you have something specific to announce (a position taken following an execution in your country, abolition of the death penalty for some crimes, etc.).

8. How to Write a Press Release
► Use letterhead paper if you have it.
► Start with a short but explicit title.
► Put the notice “FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:” with the date of the public release.
► Include the name of your organisation.
► The 1st paragraph is the introduction. It is the most important paragraph as journalists may not read beyond it. It answers the following questions: Who, What, Where, When and should attract the attention of journalists.
► The 2nd and 3rd paragraphs are an explanation of this 1st paragraph. They answer the questions why and how and provide the context, stakes, and a brief historical background.
► The 4th paragraph gives quotes, facts and figures. It is important to give some materials to the journalists. They will need a quote for their article, so if you give it to them, they are more likely to use your press release. It is also important to give them accurate figures and reliable sources. By doing so, you make their work easier and increase your chances of receiving coverage.
► Put your contact information at the end of the press release with your first and last name, title, email and phone number.
► Finish with a brief description of your organisation.
► The statement should not exceed one page. A long press release could discourage journalists and not be read at all.

9. How to promote World Day on Social Media
► Accept the Facebook invitation for the World Day, or create your own event, and share it with your friends!
► From October, 1st, contribute to Facebook by posting loads of messages! Below are some sample messages that can be used to promote the campaign:
  o What does the death penalty means to you? Learn from a new perspective and share your story! www.facebook.com/worldcoalition
  o Check out the 10th World Day against the Death Penalty. Download posters, share with friends, have your say and more. www.worldcoalition.org/worldday
  o Let's End the Death Penalty. What are you are doing to combat this inhumane treatment? Join the discussion and the event on Facebook page
► Use Twitter as a forum, with #nodeathpenalty. Below are some sample tweets that can be used to promote the campaign.
Spread the word! 10th World Day against the Death Penalty on 10/10/2015! worldcoalition.org/worldday #deathpenaltyday

Let’s End the #deathpenalty visit worldcoalition.org/worldday to say #nodeathpenalty

What does the #deathpenalty means to you? Learn from a new perspective and share your story! http://on.fb.me/biD2ed #nodeathpenalty

Check out the #nodeathpenalty World Day: Download posters, share with friends, have your say and more. worldcoalition.org/worldday

- Using Facebook and Twitter in other languages or using other social networks? Post messages in your own language on any social networks!

10. How to set-up an Art Exhibit depicting Works about the Death Penalty

► Art exhibits are an out-of-the-norm way to generate public debate about the death penalty, which is why they can be so effective! This is an option for artists and non-artists alike.

► Start by looking through the World Coalition’s database section ‘Tools’, subsection ‘Working With Artists’ (http://www.worldcoalition.org/tools.html) to get a better understanding of how the death penalty is depicted in art. During your research, write down the questions or comments that occur to you when looking at any given work. Below are examples of questions or comments:

  o How does this art work make me feel? Why?
  o How does this work depict the death penalty? In what way is it framing the death penalty debate?
  o What human aspect does this art work reveal in relation to the death penalty?
  o Does this work change the way I consider the death penalty? Why or why not?

► Decide if your gallery is going to consist of your own artwork or artwork of others. Follow the appropriate steps below depending on your answer.

► Create your own art:

  o Either by yourself or with friends, using your preferred medium (paint, pens, pencils, clay, photography, etc) find what speaks to you the most about the practice of the death penalty and express it as a work with art.
  o Depending on your medium, allow sufficient time for drying. Consider writing a sentence or two on what inspired you to create this specific work of art and why, or what the work represents.
  o If you have a hard time coming up with ideas, talk to your friends for ideas or use other art works as inspiration. However, be careful NOT to plagiarize another’s artwork. If you would like to use another artist’s work in your gallery, proceed to the next step.

► Contact the artist(s) whose works you intend to display.

  o If you decide to use other’s artwork instead to complete your art gallery, pay careful attention to not plagiarize their work.
  o Make the effort to research the artist and their works related to the death penalty. If the artist had a specific message he or she wanted in relation to their work make sure to share it.
  o If you visit many artist’s websites, their contact information is readily available. If your gallery is to appear in a public space, contact the artist asking permission to show their work. Make sure you explain why you are using their artwork, for what purpose, and in what way you will display it (how you will obtain their artwork, etc)

► Gather either your own artworks or works from another artist. Either on a wall or on cardboard dividers, hang your works of art up, eye level, along with a small description explaining the work. If you have prepared your gallery digitally, make sure your projector/screen is big enough for your audience to comfortably see the piece. If your art works are sculptures, make sure to have tables prepared.

► After the showing of the exhibit, offer a discussion, where people can talk about the artwork they saw. Make sure to use the questions and comments you wrote down in your initial research to generate discussion.
10 Tips for a successful event:

1. **Plan** it at least a month in advance, more if you need to rent a room, invite speakers or contact us for an art exhibition.

2. **Try to include** several local NGOs or well known people to make it a bigger event with no additional costs or efforts.
   - To know what is organised in your city, [www.worldcoalition.org/worldday](http://www.worldcoalition.org/worldday)
   - To contact members of the World Coalition in your country: [www.worldcoalition.org/Member-organizations](http://www.worldcoalition.org/Member-organizations)

3. **Contact local media** a week in advance and again two days before the event.
   - See Practical Worksheet n°9

4. **Use the Internet** and social networking tools to spread the words.

5. **Contact us** to promote your event on our website and on Facebook page.

6. A few days before, **advertise it in the streets** (posters, leaflets with title, time and place of your event).

7. **Tell everybody**, your friends, your family, even your grandma!

8. **Be ready to counter pro death penalty arguments** (use our “10 reasons to end the death penalty” in the first part of this kit).

9. **Be nice** to people, even if they disagree!

10. **Take pictures** and write a short report (and send it to us).
• Material for the 13th World Day

For World Day, the World Coalition has produced some materials; they are all available on its website: [www.worldcoalition.org/worldday](http://www.worldcoalition.org/worldday)

**Poster of the World Day**
For organisers of events, copies of the poster are available at no cost from the Secretariat of the World Coalition (contact@worldcoalition.org).

**Information Leaflet**
The leaflet of the 2015 World Day provides information on the death penalty for drug crimes. It also gives arguments against the death penalty.
For organisers of events, copies are available at no cost from the Secretariat of the World Coalition (contact: contact@worldcoalition.org).

**Facts and figures on the death penalty**
Up-to-date information on the application of death penalty around the world in 2014 and 2015.

**Detailed Factsheet on the death penalty for drug crimes**
The detailed fact sheet provides a comprehensive overview of the death penalty and drug crimes. It provides useful definitions, arguments, and a summary of the development of international and domestic law.

**Q&A on Death Penalty and Drugs**
The World Coalition encourages its members and abolitionist worldwide to get in touch with local drug policy reform and harm reduction civil society to organise events together. Contact details and a new document called “Q&A on Death Penalty and Drugs” will be provided by the World Coalition over the summer.

**Petitions**
Petitions are being drafted by Amnesty International and ACAT France and will be circulated over the summer:

- Model letters calling on China, Iran and Saudi Arabia to reconsider the death penalty for drug crimes
- Appeals to release people sentenced to death for drug crimes in Singapore and/or Malaysia (to be confirmed)
- Action on Vietnam

**Memo for European abolitionists**
Repprieve is preparing a memo for World Coalition members and abolitionists based in those countries to contact their authorities and ask them to release information about the UNODC programs they are funding and the UNODC 2012 Position Paper on Human Rights.
It should be available over the summer.
• Reports about drug offences and the death penalty

• Websites on the death penalty
  • World Coalition Against the Death Penalty [www.worldcoalition.org](http://www.worldcoalition.org)
  • Death Penalty Worldwide Database: [www.deathpenaltyworldwide.org](http://www.deathpenaltyworldwide.org)
  • Hands Off Cain information website [http://www.handsoffcain.info/](http://www.handsoffcain.info/)

Please refer to the Coalition members’ website and get in touch with them using the contact details you will find here: [www.worldcoalition.org/Member-organizations](http://www.worldcoalition.org/Member-organizations).

• Filmography

  **Documentary films**
  • “Clean up” [http://www.sebastianmez.com/cleanup.html](http://www.sebastianmez.com/cleanup.html)
  It’s his job to clean this special room, an execution chamber at a state prison in the United States. Everytime there is an execution, he has to recover this place as it was before. This experimental short film gives an abnormal view on the death penalty.
  • “the Final 24 Hours” [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wkbI4EcOs9U](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wkbI4EcOs9U)
  The Discovery Channel documentary about what happens, minute by minute, the 24 hours before the condemned of Death Row leave the world.
  • China Death Row Discovery and Documentary [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KJT3US--CE8](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KJT3US--CE8)
  Capital punishment in the People’s Republic of China is usually administered to offenders of serious and violent crimes, such as aggravated murder, but China retains in law a number of nonviolent capital offenses such as drug trafficking. The People’s Republic of China executes the highest number of people annually, though other countries (such as Iran or Singapore) have higher per capita execution rates.
  • “Killing time” [http://www.vanhoewijk.nl/killing-time.html](http://www.vanhoewijk.nl/killing-time.html)
  No one pays much attention when the road outside the prison is cordoned off. It lasts for just an hour. The relatives of the victims and the prisoner, the guards in the towers, the ministers, the few journalists, the handful of demonstrators; everyone has their own way of killing the last few hours of Elroy Chester’s life. In a cinema direct style, Killing Time documents the killing of time during the hours leading up to the execution. Killing Time is about passing time and about the pain of having to watch someone die.
Film by Werner Herzog (2011)

We do not know when and how we will die. Death Row inmates do. Werner Herzog embarks on a dialogue with Death Row inmates, asks questions about life and death and looks deep into these individuals, their stories, and their crimes.

• Honk! … to stop executions [http://www.honk-lefilm.com/](http://www.honk-lefilm.com/)
Film by Florent Vassaux and Arnaud Gaillard (2011)

At the heart of the United States, Based on the numerous absurdities of the death penalty, the film shows through these three characters how this death sentence generates pain, unfairness, violence and inefficiency in the heart of the American society.

Film by Steve Mims and Joe Bailey Jr. (2010)

In 1991, Cameron Todd Willingham’s three daughters died in a Corsicana, Texas house fire. Tried and convicted for their arson murders, Willingham was executed in February 2004 despite overwhelming expert criticism of the prosecution’s arson evidence. Today, Willingham’s name has become a call for reform in the field of forensics and a rallying cry for the anti-death penalty movement.

• In Prison My Whole Life (2007)
British film directed by Marc Evans (film 93 minutes)

This documentary immerses us in the heart of the American prison system by addressing the case of Mumia Abu-Jamal, a black journalist convicted of killing a police officer, who is still on death row. The story is told by a young British man (William Francom) who was born on the day of Mumia’s arrest.

• 999 060 (2006 - 30 minutes) : OV (English) with French subtitles
Interview of Farley Matchett.

Movies

Nomi Kanjuro (Takaaki Nomi) is a master less samurai on the run after throwing away his sword for good. He has with him his headstrong 9-year-old daughter Tae (Sea Kumada). A bounty is soon placed on Nomi Kanjuro and 3 assassins go after the score. When Nomi Kanjuro is eventually captured and placed in front of the local feudal lord (Jun Kunimura) he is given a choice. A boy prince has been grieving ever since the death of his mother. Nobody has been able to make the boy smile. Nomi can attempt to make the boy smile within 30 days or he must commit seppuku (suicide). – Asianmediawiki

Belgium movie, in French with English subtitles

William Lamers, 40 years of age, an anonymous criminal condemned to death for murder, is about to be executed. The procedure is taking place in general indifference: neither the family of the sentenced, nor his victims’ attend the execution. Only a journalist from a cheap local tabloid is present to witness the “show.” However, what should typically be a routine and banal procedure rapidly evolves into an absolute nightmare for Karl Raven, the director of the prison. When asked if he has any last words, the condemned begins to talk. Very quickly, this story becomes a political issue and attracts a lot of media attention. And everyone becomes mesmerized by the story of this condemned man turned into a modern Scheherazade.

Chinese movie by Diao Yi Nan

Night train tells the story of Wu Hongyan, a woman in charge of the execution of death row prisoners in Western China.


American movie by Jamie Foxx

Redemption tells the story of Stan “Tookie” Williams, founder of the Crips (an L.A. street gang). Story follows his fall into gang-banging, his prison term, and his work writing children’s novels encouraging peace and anti-violence resolutions which earned him multiple Nobel Peace Prize nominations.

Tookie was executed by lethal injection at San Quentin State Prison, California.

• **The life of David Gale** (2003)

American movie by Alan Parker

Dr. David Gale, an advocate for eliminating the death penalty, is falsely accused of rape and murder. Once convicted, he ends up on death row in Texas himself, telling his story to a reporter.

• **The Green Mile** (2000)

American movie by Frank Darabont

Death Row guards at a penitentiary, in the 1930’s, have a moral dilemma with their job when they discover one of their prisoners, a convicted murderer, has a special gift.

• **Dead Man Walking** (1995)

American movie by Tim Robbins

A caring nun receives a desperate letter from a death row inmate trying to find help to avoid execution for murder.

**Videos**

• **“Flight”**

The animation film, created by talented volunteers of the campaign "Human Rights Defenders against Death Penalty", dwells on the topic of the cruelty and inhumanity of the death penalty in Belarus.


• **“The Death Penalty in Numbers”**

Ever wondered which country executes the most people each year? Or when capital punishment first began? Or which countries favor which methods of execution? Well, you'll find out all the answers and a whole lot more in this video!

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WLs7MCx1F4s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WLs7MCx1F4s)

For more videos, see: [http://www.worldcoalition.org/search/index?q=video&tipo=Documents](http://www.worldcoalition.org/search/index?q=video&tipo=Documents)
• Exhibitions and Art work

• « From death row »

An exhibition of the artwork of Myuran Sukumaran, an Australian man was on death row in Indonesia and facing executed, was held at Amnesty International’s London headquarters, in Shoreditch in April.


• “Parting Words”


http://www.amyelkins.com/parting-words

• “the last Supper”

The Last Supper illustrates the meal requests of U.S. death row inmates. Cobalt blue mineral paint is applied to second-hand plates, then kiln-fired by technical advisor Toni Acock.

http://greenjulie.com/last-supper/


The objective of this initiative was to use “the product of art” as a vehicle to educate common people about the history and practice of capital punishment in America and to lift societies consciousness around the idea of endowing a National Death Penalty Museum to preserve its deep history.

http://www.whodecidesinc.org/?page_id=672

• « Poster for Tomorrow »

Poster for Tomorrow is an independent, non-profit international project whose goal is to encourage people, both in and outside the design community, to make posters to stimulate debate on issues that affect us all. 2010 was dedicated to « Death in not justice » for the abolition of the death penalty worldwide.


• “The Last Meals Project”

This series visually documents the face and last meal of a convicted killer and is without question honest and true. This will be an ongoing project as executions continue to take place in the United States.

http://www.lastmealsproject.com/pages.html

• “The innocents”

The Innocents documents the stories of individuals who served time in prison for violent crimes they did not commit. At issue is the question of photography’s function as a credible eyewitness and arbiter of justice, by Taryn Simon

http://tarynsimon.com/works_innocents.php
JoIn The World Coalition

The World Coalition Against the Death Penalty

The WCADP, an alliance of more than 155 NGOs, bar associations, local bodies and unions, was created in Rome on 13 May 2002. It was founded as a result of the commitment made by the signatories of the Final Declaration of the 1st World Congress against the Death Penalty, which was organised by the French NGO Together Against the Death Penalty (ECPM) in Strasbourg in June 2001. The aim of the WCADP is to strengthen the international dimension of the fight against the death penalty. Its ultimate objective is to obtain the end of death sentences and executions in those countries where the death penalty is in force.

The WCADP is striving to achieve these by lobbying international organisations and States, organising international events, and facilitating the creation and development of national and regional coalitions against the death penalty. Since 2003, the WCADP has made 10 October the World Day against the Death Penalty.

Only organisations can join the World Coalition

In accordance with article 5 of the World Coalition’s bylaws, the Coalition welcomes organisations who are sharing the aim of the universal abolition of the death penalty.

To join us, you may fill in the application form and send it to the Secretariat of the World Coalition: www.worldcoalition.org/become-a-member

Every member of the Coalition must pay an annual subscription fee of 150 to 50 euros according to the resources of the organisation.

Contact Details

• Secretariat

World Coalition Against the Death Penalty

69 rue Michelet

93100 Montreuil, France

contact@worldcoalition.org

• List and contact details of the members of the World Coalition:

www.worldcoalition.org/Member-organizations

For more information:

www.worldcoalition.org