



## THE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE



For the first time, Together Against the Death Penalty (ECPM) organised a Regional Congress About the Death Penalty in the Arab world (October 2012) in preparation for the World Congress in Madrid (June 2013). This Regional Congress, with fundamental implications in the international fight

against capital punishment, brought together over 12 countries from the region and 400 participants. It was a unique success in terms of political and militant involvement but also through the initiatives that it launched: the Moroccan Parliamentarian Network Against the Death Penalty, a first in the region, and the cooperation of Maghreb associations through the Maghreb Coalition Against the Death Penalty. In 2012, the Middle East and North African region was, once again, at the heart of our preoccupations. In this harsh retentionist region, where the upheaval initiated by the Arab spring had given hope for change, not one day has gone by without a capital execution. Your organisation must carry the abolitionist message there, even in the most difficult zones such as Iraq or Saudi Arabia. A major first during a World Day Against the Death Penalty, two organisations, ECPM and the Iraqi Coalition, organised a seminar about abolition with activists and Human Rights lawyers in Baghdad. At the same time, ECPM supported the organisation of debates in Jordan, Palestine, Morocco, Tunisia and all the way to Paris, France! These actions were also a chance to carry the international campaign in the context of a vote for a universal moratorium at the General Assembly of the United Nations. ECPM and its partners had the honour of being cited by Moroccan and Tunisian delegations during the vote. Lastly, ECPM remains an activist association, with the constantly reaffirmed duties of educating and raising awareness, including the project "Teaching Human Rights and abolition of the death penalty in schools" which has reached, up until now, over 4000 students in France and in numerous countries abroad. We continue to constantly rise against injustice and the violation of Human Rights, which is the use of capital punishment. That is why we participated in the creation of a support group for the Chinese Nobel Peace laureate, Liu Xiaobo, a great abolitionist author.

Thank you for your loyalty.

Raphaël Chenuil-Hazan  
Director of Ensemble contre la peine de mort

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# THE ABOLITION OF THE DEATH PENALTY IN 2012: CONTEXT, CHALLENGE AND ABOLITIONIST STRATEGIES

The Year 2012 confirms the current trend: a constant and irreversible evolution towards the universal abolition of the death penalty. If the number of worldwide executions has risen slightly (682 against 676 in 2011 according to Amnesty International, excluding China), significant progress has nevertheless been recorded. The vote for a moratorium on the application of the death penalty at the General Assembly of the United Nations in December 2012 demonstrates this with 111 countries in favour (against 109 in 2010).

Two regions in particular continue to draw the attention of the international community: Asia and the Arab world. These highly retentionist regions will be the themes of the plenary sessions of the 5th World Congress Against the Death Penalty in Madrid (Activity 1).

In Asia, India raised strong concerns legislating for the application of the death penalty for aggravated rape, whereas Japan resumed executions, discreetly and despite international pressure. China still secretly executes thousands of people and continues to fight against all forms of opposition, cultural or political. ECPM intends to reinforce its presence on this continent and will start by supporting the support group for the Nobel Peace laureate Lu Xiabo, who has been imprisoned (Activity 4).

The Arab world, susceptible to changes and tensions, is in a contrasted situation with regards to legal executions. If there is hope in the Maghreb region, due to the vote of Tunisia in favour of a moratorium at the United Nations or the dynamics of civil society and parliamentarians in Morocco (Activity 2), many doubts remain in a number of countries with suspected unofficial executions, such as Egypt. Lastly, Iran continues to implement strong political repression and we are anxiously waiting the presidential elections in June and the wave of intimidation against the opposition which could follow.

Good news for abolition in 2012 came mainly from Sub-Saharan Africa. Benin ratified the Second Optional Protocol related to the International Pact concerning civil and political rights and made its de facto abolitionist status official. Ghana seems to be moving towards the institutionalisation of this status through a constitutional amendment. Other promises of abolition, such as in the

Central African Republic or Madagascar, were slowed due to the political instability of these countries. ECPM remains vigilant concerning ambitions to establish laws that aim to make homosexuality punishable by the death penalty in certain African countries (Activity 3).

Concerning the United States, California did not abolish during the referendum in November 2012 and Connecticut became the 17th American State to abolish capital punishment. Debates are evolving overseas and despite setbacks, American abolitionists are being heard more and more. Yet, equality for all is far from being acquired, as evidenced by the lack of access to DNA testing for death row prisoners. ECPM remains committed to supporting Hank Skinner (Activity 4)!

In 2012, as in previous years, ECPM took to heart to meet the general public and went to schools, in France and abroad, in order to raise awareness among tomorrow's citizens on the subject and perhaps spark the abolitionist in all of them (Activity 3).

2012 is ending and 2013 is opening with the 5th World Congress Against the Death Penalty in Madrid, its important duty will be to tackle all these issues. This event, led in partnership with the World Coalition Against the Death Penalty and with the sponsorship of Spain, Norway, Switzerland and France, is the highlight of the international campaign, as you will read in this report (Activity 1).

And for our organisation!

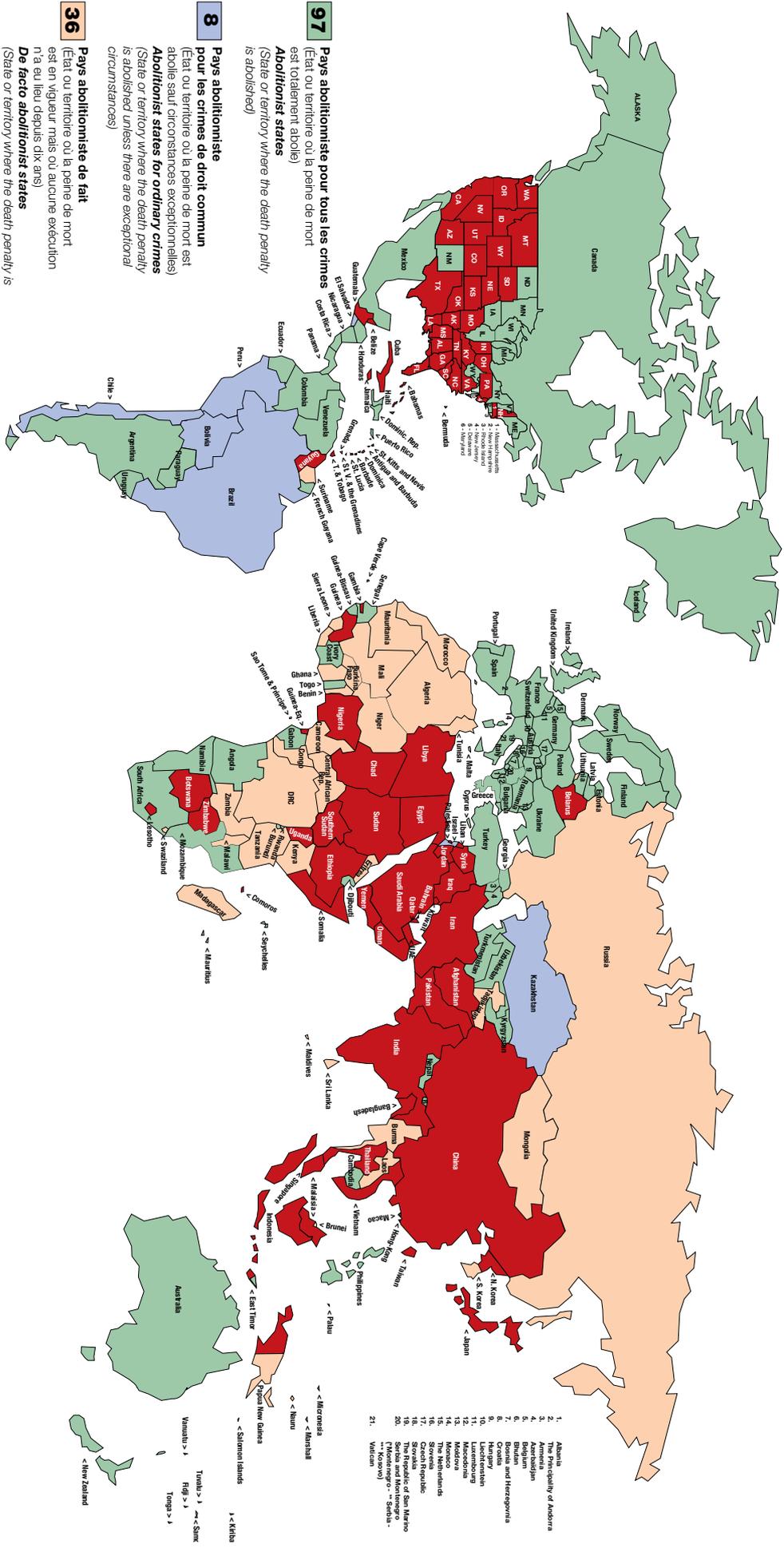
In 2012, your organisation continued to become more professional with the arrival of Desislava Raoul, head of communication, who has already led numerous missions for ECPM since the organisation's early days. ECPM also welcomed volunteers from civil society for the first time and expanded with the arrival of the team in charge of the Congresses in Rabat and Madrid. Nadège Poulain, after numerous years of cooperation in the field, wished to commit to an organisation in France. Since the start of 2012 she has been in charge of guaranteeing the efficient use of funds, as ECPM's head of finance.

To respond to these changes, the organisation has relocated to more spacious premises which it shares with the World Coalition to create an abolitionist hub in the heart of Montreuil, which has welcomed the associative world.

We will now leave you to look back upon 2012 through ECPM's eyes.

Enjoy your reading!

The ECPM team



État des lieux de la peine de mort : en 2012

## ACTIVITY 1

# UNITE ABOLITIONISTS TO GAIN IN EFFICIENCY

The universal abolition of the death penalty is under way. These past forty years, the world has seen a shift from 20% to over 70% of countries which have renounced the application of capital punishment. The momentum has sped up in the past two decades thanks to the emergence of an international abolitionist movement which brings together the continuous efforts made by the political world and civil society.

Federator of civil society at the heart of the World Congress and the World Coalition, ECPM has become the privileged partner of countries for concerted action. ECPM coordinates an informal group of nine countries (Argentina, Spain, France, Morocco (CNDH), Mexico, Norway, Rwanda, Switzerland, and Turkey) whose diplomacy is involved in favour of abolition and the Congresses. ECPM is also a partner of the French campaign for abolition launched by the French Ministry for Foreign Affairs which is involved in the creation of parliamentary abolitionist networks.

Since 2011, ECPM encourages the involvement of politicians, media and associative actors to prepare the two highlights of the international abolitionist campaign which are the 1<sup>st</sup> Regional Congress About the Death Penalty in Rabat and the 5<sup>th</sup> World Congress Against the Death Penalty in Madrid. The aim of the international

campaign is to encourage abolitionists to work together to feed the abolitionist effort, encourage the vote in favour of the resolution aimed at a universal moratorium on executions of the United Nations and the ratification of international treaties.

### 1<sup>ST</sup> REGIONAL CONGRESS ABOUT THE DEATH PENALTY IN MOROCCO

Morocco, at the crossroads of the Arab-Muslim, Mediterranean and African worlds, is a key country to unite the forces of the region. The proximity with Spain and the geopolitical ties between the two countries are guarantees of genuine continuity between the two Congresses.

The 1<sup>st</sup> Regional Congress About the Death Penalty in the Middle East and North African region (MENA) was designed to shed light upon the particular situation of countries with a moratorium on executions and to identify the political, legal, sociological and religious arguments, which will make it possible to encourage them to embark on the road to abolition.

The Regional Congress in Rabat was held from the 18<sup>th</sup> to the 20<sup>th</sup> October at the National Library of Morocco. Algeria, Palestinian Authority, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco, Syria and Tunisia were represented.

1<sup>st</sup> Regional Congress in Rabat, opening ceremony, National Library of Morocco.



With 450 participants, quality political representation, international media coverage and the launch of concrete initiatives, the Regional Congress in Rabat reached its goal of being a unifying event honouring the theme of abolition in a political and civil orientated context in constant change.

### THE 1<sup>ST</sup> REGIONAL CONGRESS IN RABAT IN NUMBERS

- 500 registrations and 450 participants.
- 12 countries from the MENA region.
- 46 speakers, 8 moderators and journalists.
- 21 Human Rights organisations from 7 countries.
- 2 official ceremonies, 1 plenary session, 4 round tables.
- 3 workshops, 2 private sessions.
- 1 legal seminar.
- 30 media from Morocco and 50 journalists. at the press conference.

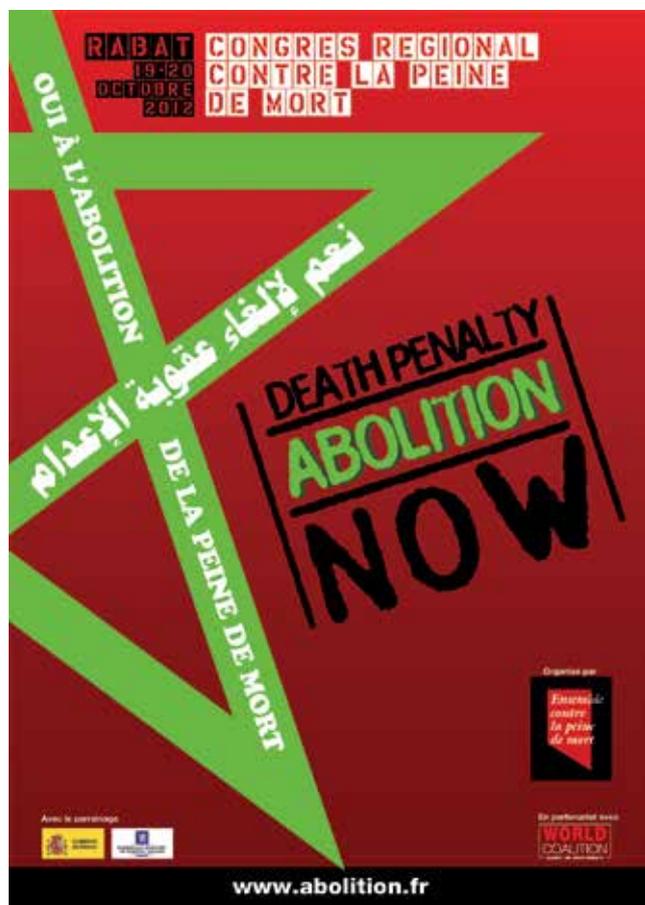
### POLITICAL INVOLVEMENT AND ABOLITIONIST ADVANCES

The political involvement was a pledge, that of engaging the governments of Islamist movements to participate in a debate that was taboo until then, and a bet, that of political awareness concerning the need for democratic change following the disruption in the region.

The Regional Congress in Rabat guaranteed high quality representation, with a few former ministers from the region, official representatives from Morocco, Tunisia, Algeria and Jordan, representatives from European countries and parliamentarians from the region, some of which come from Islamist parties, which shows the capacity of the Regional Congress to address itself to non-convinced influential personalities.

### Advances and political and militant hope born at the Regional Congress in Rabat

- Unprecedented public stances taken by representatives of the Ministry of Justice of Jordan and the Ministry of Human Rights and Transitional Justice of Tunisia;
- Official abolitionist public stance taken by the Moroccan National Council for Human Rights;
- Launch of the first abolitionist Parliamentarian Network in the Arab world (Morocco);
- An unprecedented meeting between a dozen parliamentarians from the region (Algeria, Lebanon, Egypt, Tunisia, Libya) and a joint statement concerning a commitment to structure a regional network;
- Launch of the Maghreb Coalition Against the Death Penalty which involves Algeria, Morocco, Mauritania and Tunisia; with the goal of including Libya.



The image chosen for the Regional Congress in Rabat evokes, through the choice of colours and shapes, its ties with the host country. Amazigh, another official language in Morocco, has been added to Arab and French.

They are involved with us – our associative partners:  
The Moroccan Association for Human Rights  
The Moroccan Coalition Against the Death Penalty

## PROGRAMME OF THE DEBATES

The orientation of the programme has been decided by an academic committee. A working group, made up of member organisations of the World Coalition, has ensured its implementation.

The programme was created for the MENA region, a region strongly affected by the changes associated with the Arab spring and in the context of legal systems influenced either by religious culture as an integral part of political choices, or by public opinion whose references are closely tied to religion. Its aim was to identify possible links in order to make it possible to bring together constructive exchanges between usually opposed points of view.

### Religions and the death penalty

This question allowed an evaluation on how and why religions can positively influence the abolitionist cause. For this, an expert of the Koran, a Syrian Law Professor, a Lebanese Catholic priest and a Tunisian theologian were present. Positive arguments emanated from this, which should lead to developing new tools for information and education aimed at the general public and religious schools in order to bring forward the religious principles as arguments in favour of the abolition of capital punishment.

## INTERNATIONAL MEDIA COVERAGE

Important Moroccan media (TV, radio, written press) covered the Congress in Rabat. Amongst them: all the Arabic and French media from the Group Ecomedia, national Moroccan radio, the TV2M, FAB TV, TVM. On the day of the opening, the daily newspapers *Allitihad Alichtraki* and *Libération* dedicated their entire front pages to this first abolitionist event in the region.

Many foreign media filmed reports. Amongst them: Al Jazeera (52 minutes), France 24, RFI, the press agency AFP, the press agency EFE. In the context of the expansion of social networks, 13 Moroccan blogs published analyses of the event.

## THE PROGRAMME OF THE 1<sup>ST</sup> REGIONAL CONGRESS IN RABAT

- **2 plenary sessions, 2h, 150 participants**
  - The influence of international law in the region;
  - Religions and abolition in the region.
- **4 round tables, 80 to 100 participants**
  - Sentencing in the region;
  - The expectations in terms of sentences;
  - The death penalty in Moroccan law;
  - Religious interpretations and Islamic law.
- **3 workshops, 30 to 50 participants**
  - Transverse strategies and lobbying in the region;
  - Influential groups for the vote on the UN resolution;
  - Teaching abolition.
- **2 private working sessions**
  - The relevance of a regional parliamentary network in favour of abolition;
  - The creation of a Maghreb Coalition Against the Death Penalty.
- **Seminar for the legal profession of the International Bar Association Human Rights Institute.**
- **46 speakers from 12 countries**
- **Academic committee:** International academic network for the abolition of capital punishment, Law University of Oslo (department of sociology and criminology), Moroccan Organisation for Human Rights, World Coalition Against the Death Penalty.
- **Working group, 11 organisations:** Penal Reform International, Jordan; AJEM, Lebanon; ALEF, Lebanon; Tunisian, Mauritanian and Moroccan Coalitions Against the Death Penalty; Algerian League for Human Rights.

## 21 ASSOCIATIONS PRESENT, FROM THE 7 COUNTRIES OF THE REGION, HISTORICAL PARTNERS OF ECPM AND VERY ACTIVE ON THE THEME.

Ajem (Lebanon) – Alef (Lebanon) – Amnesty International Tunisian section (Tunisia) – International Association of Support for Political Prisoners (Tunisia) – Lebanese Association for Civil Rights (Lebanon) – ADWAA Rights for Democracy and Human Rights (Algeria) – Lebanese Association for Transitional Justice (Lebanon) – Association of Algerian Scholars (Algeria) – Libyan Association of Volunteers for the Observatory of Application of Human Rights (Libya) – Tunisian Bar Association (Tunisia) – Arab Centre for Justice and Legal Professions (Egypt) – Iraqi Coalition Against the Death Penalty (Iraq) – Jordanian Coalition Against the Death Penalty (Jordan) – Moroccan Coalition Against the Death Penalty (Morocco) – Tunisian Coalition Against the Death Penalty (Tunisia) – Doustourna (Tunisia) – Andalusian Institute for non Violence and Tolerance (Egypt) – Algerian League for the Defense of Human Rights (Algeria) – Organisation Against Torture in Tunisia (Tunisia) – Arab Organisation for Penal Reform (Arab) – Egyptian Organisation for Human Rights (Egypt).

## ON THE ROAD TO MADRID...

It's official! The 5<sup>th</sup> World Congress Against the Death Penalty will take place in the Palacio Municipal of Madrid, from 12 to 15 June 2013. Spain, Norway, Switzerland and France are its Sponsor States. The Congress in Madrid receives strong political support. In order to encourage the commitment of countries, a Core Group, guarantor of political involvement is now effective. It is made up of nine countries and of the International Commission Against the Death Penalty. Numerous Ministers from abolitionist and retentionist countries as well as 4 Nobel Prize winners for Peace have already confirmed their participation.

ECPM has not forgotten the activist soul of the World Congress. In Madrid, Spanish civil society is lining up to participate in the debates and get the general public involved. ECPM has established strong contacts to create successful involvement of citizens at the Congress with Organisations for Human Rights, cultural associations and Bar Associations. The World Coalition Against the Death Penalty, a privileged associative partner, is bringing together its 140 members from all over the world.

The Congress in Madrid will be an important step in the development of initiatives launched at the Regional Congress in Rabat, such as the Maghreb Coalition and the Moroccan Parliamentarian Network, which must serve as an example for the creation of similar networks.

The debates will be set up as plenary sessions, round tables and workshops according to precise needs:

- 2 plenary session designed to evaluate the situation of the death penalty in two key geographical zones, the MENA and Asia regions;
- 11 round tables created to share tools and bring together the abolitionists best suited to implement them;
- 8 workshops with an interactive dimension to strengthen strategies for action.

2012 saw the consolidation of political and associative partners and the definition of the orientation of the programme of the debates.

### AMBITIONS OF THE CONGRESS IN MADRID

- The World Congress Against the Death Penalty has four general aims, which are the very essence of this international event:
  - Enhance capacity building of local abolitionists ;
  - Develop mutual strategies in favour of the abolition of the death penalty;
  - Reinforce the political impact on retentionist countries / make concrete commitments;
  - Involve public opinion for greater civic awareness.
- Three days of debates: opening ceremony, debates, solemn closing ceremony, final march;
- 1500 people expected every day;
- Geographical diversity: over 90 countries represented from all continents;
- High level political representation with over 50 diplomatic delegations;
- An intense and eclectic academic and cultural programme;
- Over 200 000 web references and over 1000 articles in over 30 countries;
- Funding for 20 journalists from retentionist countries.



Logo of the 5th World Congress: the five fingers of a hand, a symbol of resistance for all death row prisoners.

## THE WORLD COALITION AGAINST THE DEATH PENALTY

Bringing together over 140 members throughout the world, the World Coalition is an essential partner of the international abolitionist movement. Founded at the initiative of ECPM, the World Coalition has been an independent association since 2012. Continuity in its management is guaranteed, as ECPM remains an elected member of its steering committee and is represented by its director at the executive bureau. ECPM plays a key role in ensuring its sustainability.

## THE CAMPAIGNS OF THE WORLD COALITION AND THE IMPACT ON THE PROGRESSION OF ABOLITION

The collaborative work of abolitionists is speeding up the movement in favour of universal abolition. It has contributed to abolition in law in Gabon, Illinois and in Connecticut, abolition for all crimes in Latvia, the formalisation of a moratorium in Mongolia and Oregon, the reduction of fields of application in China and Vietnam, the removal of the obligatory death penalty in Bangladesh, Guyana and Kenya.

## WORLD DAY AGAINST THE DEATH PENALTY

The World Coalition brings together civil society throughout the world thanks to tools in 7 languages. The theme chosen for the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of World Day launched 440 initiatives in 76 countries and 372 articles in 92 countries!

## 20P CAMPAIGN

The Second Optional Protocol related to the International Pact concerning civil and political rights, frequently referred to as 20P, is the only international treaty which prohibits executions. Since 2005, the World Coalition has been developing a campaign to ratify this protocol:

- Ratification of the protocol by Brazil, Kyrgyzstan and Benin, signature by Madagascar;
- Ratification of the two regional protocols by target countries: Latvia (protocol 13 at the European Convention for Human Rights), Dominican Republic (protocol at the American Convention for Human Rights).

## MORATORIUM CAMPAIGN

The World Coalition coordinates the advocacy work of civil society for the vote of the resolution of the General Assembly of the United Nations, related to the adoption of a moratorium on the application of the death penalty (resolution 67/176).

111 votes in favour, 41 against and 34 abstentions in 2012, meaning 2 more favorable votes than in 2010.

## ECPM'S ACTIONS IN FAVOUR OF A UNIVERSAL MORATORIUM ON EXECUTIONS

2012 was once again an occasion (after 2007, 2008 and 2010) to bring abolition to the heart of the United Nations, thanks to the vote for a universal moratorium on executions during the General Assembly in December.

ECPM was present in this campaign. As of 27 September 2012, ECPM's director participated in an international lobbying mission in the context of the high level meeting (20 ministers and 40 delegations) co-organised by France and Benin alongside the United Nations General Assembly in New York with the presence of Laurent Fabius and his Beninese counterpart, Nassirou Arifiri Bakoe.

On 20 December 2012, the United Nations General Assembly voted in favour of a moratorium on the use of the death penalty:

- 111 countries voted in favour (109 in 2010)
- 41 countries voted against (41 in 2010)
- 34 countries abstained (35 in 2010)

For the first time, Tunisia voted in favour of this text following the lobbying undertaken by ECPM during the months preceding the vote and during the Regional Congress in Rabat. Furthermore, during a plenary session, the Moroccan Delegation mentioned the Regional Congress in Rabat, as a marker for evolution in the country.

The Central African Republic also voted positively in favour of the resolution. Lobbying was undertaken there by ECPM in the context of the Kigali and Kinshasa conferences.

Launch of the French campaign for the abolition of the death penalty in New York alongside the United Nations General Assembly, in the presence of ECPM's director.



## ACTIVITY 2

# REINFORCE CAPACITY BUILDING OF LOCAL ABOLITIONISTS

### ACCOMPANYING THE ARAB WORLD THROUGH THE CHANGES

With a 50% increase in executions in 2011 compared to 2010, the Arab world is, after Asia, the region that executes the most.

Leaning upon the reorganisation of political and civic arenas, ECPM is developing a regional programme which favours a progressive approach towards abolition and targets twelve countries with different levels of involvement: Algeria, Morocco, Tunisia, Lebanon, Jordan, Egypt, Iraq, Palestinian Territories, Libya, Syria, Yemen and Iran. Reinforcing abolitionist civil society, networking, high level advocacy and legal investigative missions are the key words.

Actions are led in collaboration with local organisations: National Coalitions from Morocco, Tunisia, Lebanon and Iraq, The Moroccan Organisation for Human Rights, Lebanese Association for Transitional Justice, Algerian League for Human Rights, Leader Organisations (Palestinian States), Iran Human Rights...

ECPM is supported by the Swedish, English, and French cooperations and by the European Union in Morocco and Lebanon.

### ECPM IN MOROCCO

Since 2011, ECPM has been coordinating the project for the reinforcement of capacity building of the Moroccan abolitionist movement in partnership with the Moroccan Organisation for Human Rights and in association with the Moroccan Coalition Against the Death Penalty.

Since 2011, ECPM's actions in Morocco are:

- A local team made up of 3 people;
- 2 General Assemblies and 20 steering committees from the Moroccan Coalition;
- 500 people present at the cycle of conferences "Constitution and right to life", in Rabat, Tangier, Fez and Marrakech;
- 1000 youths benefited from thirty presentations in schools in Casablanca, Kenitra, Fez, Marrakech, Meknes, Rabat, Salé and Tangier;
- 500 participants at the Regional Congress organised in the Rabat National Library;
- Creation of the first Moroccan Parliamentarian Network Against the Death Penalty, supported by over 200 parliamentarians, from all persuasions;
- Conducting an investigative mission on Moroccan death row;
- Around 800 people present at the sit-in organised for the World Days in 2011 and 2012;
- 5 press conferences and reactions in national and regional media.



Gathering in Morocco for the 10th World Day Against the Death Penalty.

## REINFORCE AND STRUCTURE ABOLITIONIST CIVIL SOCIETY IN NORTH AFRICA: NATIONAL COALITIONS AT THE EMERGENCE OF A MAHGREB COALITION

In 2012, ECPM accompanied the Tunisian and Moroccan Coalitions towards the definitions of their governance and their advocacy.

In Tunisia, one year after the Jasmine Revolution, the Tunisian Coalition, officially recognised by the authorities in June, went through a turning point with, at stake, the maintaining of its activist actions in a radically changing environment. Continuous dialogue between ECPM and the Tunisian Coalition made it possible to create strong ties and to undertake mutual actions for the first time, like in February with the conference cycle in the presence of Antoinette Chahine organised in a number of Tunisian cities. By building upon this first success, ECPM and the Tunisian Coalition co-organised, in June 2012, in partnership with the International Commission Against the Death Penalty, a national conference, which contributed to reinforce the visibility of local militants at the heart of the Tunisian public sphere.

In Morocco, in keeping with the actions undertaken in 2011, the Moroccan Coalition developed its educational programme through the creation of teaching tools and the organisation of approximately 30 educational presentations in 8 Moroccan cities. 1 000 copies of its bilingual teaching guide, including activity sheets and quizzes have been shared with educational clubs for citizenship in Moroccan educational institutions.

In Algeria, despite a less dynamic and more restrictive context, a few Human Rights organisations have expressed their desire, during ECPM's mission in April 2012, to boost the debate and commit to a National Coalition.

During the Regional Congress in Rabat, ECPM encouraged the integration of Moroccan, Tunisian and Algerian

abolitionists in the international movement. The Tunisian Coalition expressed its desire to cooperate more strongly with the international abolitionist movement and a first consensus was reached for the creation of an Algerian Coalition. The idea of a Maghreb Coalition Against the Death Penalty was launched. A fact sheet was elaborated in order to prepare its first general assembly, scheduled at the Congress in Madrid.

## ENCOURAGE POSITIONS TO MOVE IN FAVOUR OF THE 67/176 RESOLUTION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

In December 2012, the 4<sup>th</sup> vote of the resolution of the General Assembly of the United Nations concerning the adoption of a moratorium on the application of the death penalty (resolution 67/176), took place.

ECPM eased the coordination of lobbying actions with the Moroccan and Tunisian political authorities: in Tunisia, by organising a number of meetings in the Constituent Assembly with the Presidency of the Republic and the main ministers of the Government and in Morocco, through hearings with the interministerial delegate for Human Rights, the Minister of Justice and presidents from the two chambers of Parliament.

These collaborative initiatives contributed to a positive vote by Tunisia. Although Morocco abstained once again, the action undertaken by ECPM and the Moroccan Coalition was praised. ECPM also led a plea in the West Bank and Lebanon.

## CREATION OF THE FIRST ABOLITIONIST PARLIAMENTARIAN NETWORK IN MOROCCO

With the help of ECPM and the Moroccan Coalition, the first Moroccan Parliamentarian Network Against the Death Penalty was officially announced by Nouzha Skhali, spokesperson of the network and representative of the Party of Progress and Socialism (PPS), during the closing ceremony of the Regional Congress in Rabat. The



Plenary session,  
 Influence of interna-  
 tional law in the region,  
 Regional Congress in  
 Rabat



## SUPPORT ABOLITIONISTS IN CENTRAL AFRICA

In the continuation of its action in the region since 2004, ECPM has supported the creation of the Regional Coalition of East and Central Africa during the regional conference on abolitionist strategies in Central Africa (Kinshasa, 30 and 31 March).

Organised by ECPM and the Congolese association Culture for Peace and Justice (CPJ), with the support of the International Organisation for French-speaking countries (OIF), Spain and France, this major event was marked by the participation of 150 students, journalists, lawyers, magistrates and abolitionists from nine countries of the region (Burundi, Cameroon, Congo-Brazzaville, Kenya, Uganda, DRC, Rwanda, Tanzania and Chad).

During the opening session, the ministers of justice and foreign affairs of the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) officially acknowledged, for the first time, the irreversibility of the moratorium on executions implemented since 2003 and scratched the surface of abolition in law. These declarations, along with those made by the Central African Minister of Justice, affirming that his country would soon abolish, confirm the tendency of the African continent towards abolition.

Coordinated by Mr. Liévin Ngondji (DRC) and Doreen Namyalo (Uganda), the new Regional Coalition organised its first concrete action for the 10th World Day, during the 14th summit of La Francophonie. On the theme "The abolition of the death penalty, one of the values of La Francophonie", the Central African Coalition organised a conference in presence of Hugo Sada, delegate for peace, democracy and Human Rights at the OIF, Raphael Nyabirungu, Chief of Staff to the Minister of Justice of DRC and of Didier Aplogan, Minister of Sports in Benin. The

aim was to encourage French-speaking countries to vote in favor of the 4th resolution of the United Nations. The establishment of a Francophonie Day Against the Death Penalty was also suggested.

ECPM made it easier to organise lobbying meetings with ministers of justice and foreign affairs from DRC and participated in a visit to the Kinshasa penitentiary in which most death row prisoners are incarcerated. The association is preparing an update of the investigative mission, which it had undertaken in this prison in 2005.

## PERSPECTIVES ON THE ASIAN CONTINENT

Following the resumption of executions in India on 21 November, the Anti Death Penalty Network (ADPAN) held its 3rd advisory meeting in Hong Kong, in the presence of ECPM. Created in 2006 and made up of 57 organisations and 11 individual members from 26 countries, ADPAN is, to this day, the largest regional abolitionist network.

Through its involvement in ADPAN, ECPM marks its willingness to orientate itself further towards the Asian continent which executes more people than the rest of the world. Asia will be in the spotlight at the next World Congress in Madrid where a strong delegation from ADPAN will be present. ECPM also plans to undertake its next legal investigative mission on the Asian continent.



Master Liévin Ngondji (second from the right) coordinator of the Central and East African Coalition welcomed by the French President during the 16th summit of Francophonie.

## ACTIVITY 3

# RAISE AWARENESS AND TEACH THE ABOLITION OF THE DEATH PENALTY

### TEACHING CITIZENS ABOUT HUMAN RIGHTS AND THE ABOLITION OF THE DEATH PENALTY

#### ECPM OUT TO MEET FRENCH YOUTH

Supported by the Minister of National Education, ECPM is pursuing its educational programme for Human Rights and the abolition of the death penalty in French schools. Linked to civics, French, literature and society, history, English or art educational programmes, ECPM designs its presentations with the teaching staff and offers courses adapted to the programme.

In 2012, a thousand students were made aware of the freedom of press (press week) and of the Moroccan situation. During the programme celebrating the 10<sup>th</sup> World Day, students got involved in civic actions adapted to their capacities through two class projects:

- Project of Franco-Moroccan correspondence: the class of literature and society of the Gustave Courbet high school (Belfort) began a correspondence with the Human Rights club from the Moulleh Youssef high school (Rabat). An information pack and a Quiz enabled students to increase their knowledge, debate and correct themselves.

- “Draw me the abolition”: Franco-Spanish drawing contest organised in partnership with Poster for Tomorrow. The thirty winning posters will be exhibited at the Congress in Madrid. 271 students benefited from the graphic design class with the training for professional design.

Eight classes from six institutions were involved in these projects.

Moved by a subject with which they were not familiar, a number of students wished to correspond with witnesses and stated that they had become abolitionists!

“ECPM’s presentation makes it possible for students to understand and think about the current and former greatest human challenges of the world. It is a rewarding thing to do for oneself.” Tenth grade student, Jeanne d’Arc high school, Montrouge.

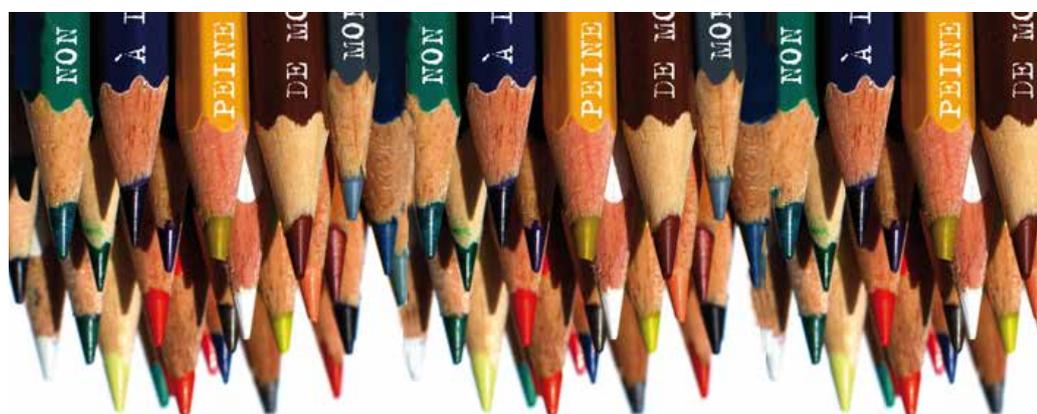
“I’d really like to thank the speakers from ECPM because thanks to them I understood that the death penalty is useless, especially since the witness, Ahmed Haou, comes from my country of origin (Morocco).” Eighth grade student, André Malraux middle school, Asnières-sur-Seine.

#### EDUCATING BEYOND OUR BORDERS...

“Educating for Human Rights and the abolition of the death penalty” is crossing the borders to meet the youth: In Spain with “Dibujame la abolicion/Draw me the abolition” for five Madrilenian classes (150 students).

In Morocco with the Moroccan Coalition Against the Death Penalty, there are 315 high school students and 230 students made aware thanks to the screening of the films “Honk!” and “Moments in the life of Hank Skinner”. The creation of an educational guide made it possible for Moroccan teachers to discover the teaching approach of the Moroccan Coalition.

In Tunisia with the Tunisian Coalition, approximately one hundred youths attended the conferences organised in the cultural centres in Ain Draham, Tunis and Sousse.



CONCOURS DE DESSIN FRANCO-ESPAGNOL  
POUR LES COLLÉGIENS ET LYCÉENS

DESSINE-MOI L'ABOLITION

Image of the Franco-Spanish drawing contest “Draw me the abolition”. The thirty winning posters will be exhibited in Madrid.

## THEY ARE INVOLVED ALONGSIDE ECPM

In 2012, with ECPM, they told their stories all over the world and participated in a sharing of cultures:



**Antoinette Chahine**, former death row prisoner from Lebanon, shares with the students her account and testifies on the importance of international involvement for death row prisoners. Conference programme in Tunisia, February 2012.



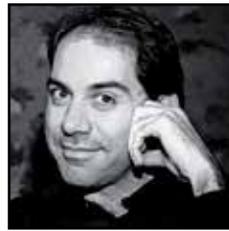
**Ahmed Haou**, former death row prisoner from Morocco, makes it possible for students to discover that one can be sentenced to death for political reasons. Presentation programme linked to the 10<sup>th</sup> World Day Against the Death Penalty from 1 to 5 October 2012.



**Sandrine Ageorges-Skinner**, wife of Hank Skinner (sentenced to death in Texas), can testify about the discriminatory nature of the death penalty in the United States. Presentation programme linked to Human Rights from 19 to 20 January 2012.



**Joaquin José Martínez**, former death row prisoner (from Spain) in Florida. The students can discover the inhumane living conditions on death row in the United States. Presentation programme linked to Human Rights from 19 to 20 January 2012.



**Kianoush Ramezani**, exiled Iranian cartoonist, a witness of the difficulties faced by journalists in countries where freedom of expression is not guaranteed, going so far as to incur the death penalty. Presentation programme linked to freedom of the press from 26 March to 4 April 2012.



**Claude Guillaumaud-Pujol**, academic, specialised on the United States and co-founder of the support group for Mumia Abu-Jamal, testifies about the discriminatory nature of the United States legal system through Mumia Abu-Jamal's case. Presentation programme linked to Human Rights from 12 to 14 January 2012.



*"Honk!" at the Paris Bar Association for World Day and in the context of the continuous training of lawyers. Over 350 lawyers attended the debate organised by ECPM in the presence of the directors and the president of the Bar Association.*

## GET INVOLVED WITH ECPM AGAINST THE DEATH PENALTY AND DISCRIMINATIONS

No homosexuals on the gallows! Fête de l'Humanité, Cities for Life...in 2012 your organisation was committed on all fronts.

At the initiative of ECPM, the city of Paris joined the 1600 cities united in the movement Cities for Life - Cities Against the Death Penalty, initiated by Sant' Egidio. On 30 November, for its first participation, Paris lit up Victor Hugo's house in red and launched the event in the presence of ECPM and Robert Badinter.

For its 8<sup>th</sup> participation in the Gay Pride march, ECPM paraded with its chariot with the colours of the ten countries which sentence to death for homosexuality (Afghanistan, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, Iran, Mauritania, Nigeria (Northern states), Pakistan, Somalia, Sudan and Yemen). Thanks to its 40 volunteers, ECPM gathered over 3000 signatures for the petition "Liberia / Uganda, Homophobia kills, the fight continues" denouncing draft laws aimed at establishing capital punishment for crimes of homosexuality. ECPM pursued this involvement by sharing a video of this event online in order to encourage users to sign the petition.

The Fête de l'Huma was, as anticipated, a militant success with over 5000 signatures for current affairs petitions (Tunisia, Belarus) and 2000 special edition Congress in Rabat abolition newspapers were handed out.

## PUBLICATIONS FOR ABOLITION

ECPM is developing a rigorous editorial policy and is sharing its message on all medias to reach as many people as possible: website, newsletter, newspaper, social networks. The publications back up the interventions in schools and enhance the choice of educational tools available for teachers.

### ON PAPER, THE ABOLITION JOURNAL

10 000 copies are printed free of charge by Ouest France. Within eight or sixteen pages, the Journal de l'abolition (abolition journal) gives information about current news concerning abolition and encourages involvement against the death penalty. It is sent to the press, to decision makers, is distributed during actions undertaken by the association and is available for download on abolition.fr.

Number 16 of the Journal de l'abolition was dedicated to the Regional Congress in Rabat with a special case: "The Mediterranean, on the road to abolition?" dedicated to the restraints and perspectives for evolution in the region. Full of analysis and interviews, this edition was published in three languages: French, English and Arabic.

### THE ABOLITION NEWSLETTER

Sent out on a monthly basis to 30 000 subscribers, the Mail de l'abolition chooses its subjects according to their universal outreach and the implication that they have on the worldwide debate. It gives information about abolitionist actions undertaken by ECPM and its partners.

### WEBSITE DEDICATED TO THE CONGRESSES

The Congresses in Rabat and Madrid have their own websites in the official languages of the Congresses and host countries, to guide participants and the press as they discover the events.



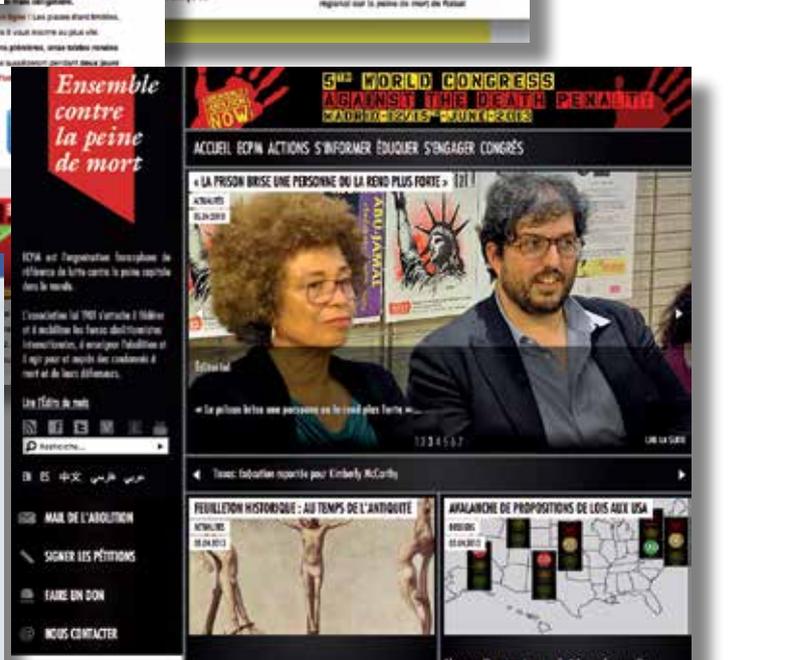
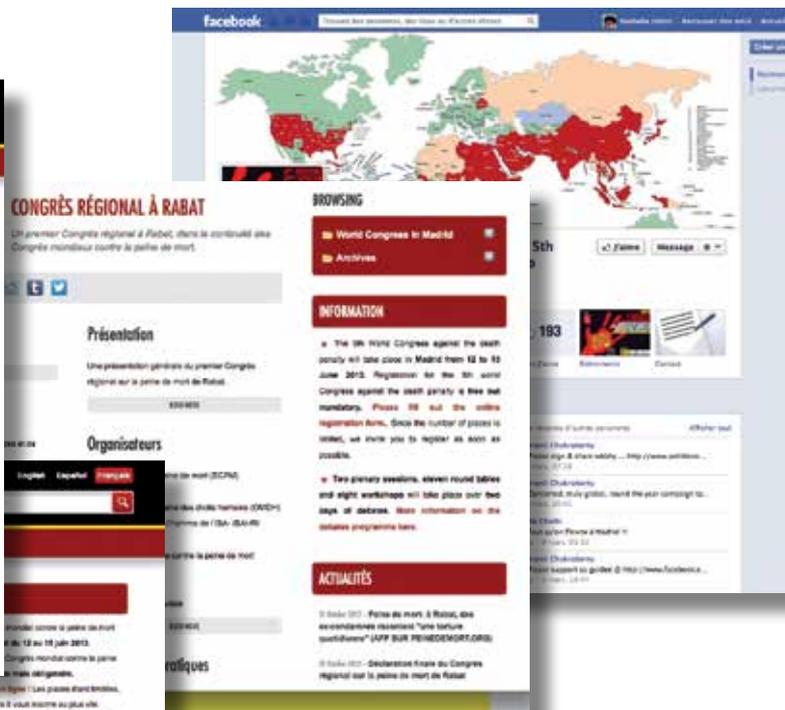
8th participation of ECPM at the Gay Pride with its chariot "No homosexuals on the gallows!".

Cover of the 16th issue of the Journal de l'abolition.

## ECPM AND THE SOCIAL NETWORKS

In 2010, ECPM created its official page on facebook.com/AssoECPM which is now followed by 3885 people! Every day information is shared to give an account of the everyday nature of the fight against capital punishment and get new abolitionists involved. This news is also automatically shared via our account on twitter.com/AssociationECPM.

In 2011, ECPM helped the Moroccan Coalition Against the Death Penalty create a facebook page and then launched a bilingual Arab and French facebook.com/ECPMpeinedemortmondearabe to support abolitionists from the Arab world, with the Regional Congress in Rabat in perspective.



## ACTIVITY 4

# HELP DEATH ROW PRISONERS OUT OF ISOLATION

The fate of death row prisoners within the prison system is characterised by the type of punishment imposed: capital punishment leaves no hope for release. Moreover, their living conditions are generally more severe than for those doing time: death row, medical and social flaws, isolation and lack of appropriate food in a number of countries... ECPM supports death row prisoners by developing a model for investigative missions and by opening online, on [abolition.fr](http://abolition.fr), a “death row section” (Espace condamnés) to share calls for help and correspondence. ECPM also denounces emblematic cases of the abolitionist cause through its campaigns.

### THE DEATH ROW SECTION: A TOOL TO HELP DEATH ROW PRISONERS

Because a forgotten death row prisoner is already half dead, since 2004 ECPM has been developing, on its website [abolition.fr](http://abolition.fr), a “death row section” which lists the largest amount of death row prisoners by presenting profiles and actions accessible to all. In the United States, of the 3500 death row inmates, only a few hundred are lucky enough to have a pen pal and ties with the outside world. In the rest of the world, the situation is much worse: in African countries it is difficult to know the identity of victims of capital punishment, in Japan, death sentences are kept secret.

The “death row section” aims to relay the requests of death row prisoners from all over the world: looking for a penpal, searching for support or funding and urgent

#### ACT WITH US, A COMMITMENT, THREE POSSIBILITIES:

- Talk** about the “death row section” to your family, friends and colleagues;
- Begin a **correspondence** with a death row prisoner;
- Join us** during campaigns to support death row prisoners.

actions to protest against a programmed execution. 474 death row prisoners in 36 countries have been identified:

COUNTRY	NUMBER OF DEATH ROW PRISONERS
Algeria	9
Saudi Arabia	7
China	16
North Korea	2
United Arab Emirates	2
United States	280
India	3
Indonesia	7
Iraq	3
Iran	5
Kenya	2
Japan	68
Malaysia	6
Morocco	5
Uganda	6
Uzbekistan	17
Pakistan	4
Palestine	2
Singapore	5
Sri Lanka	2
Trinidad and Tobago	2
Vietnam	4
Zambia	4

Twelve countries only have one identified death row prisoner: Bangladesh, Belarus, Egypt, Gabon, Jamaica, Kuwait, Lebanon, Nigeria, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Somalia, Taiwan, Thailand and Yemen.

### INVESTIGATIVE MISSIONS IN THE MAGHREB REGION

In the wake of investigative missions undertaken on death rows in Great Lakes Africa (publication 2008), ECPM is preparing three inquiry missions in countries of the Maghreb: Algeria, Morocco and Tunisia. Two of them (Morocco and Tunisia) took place in 2012, under the guidance of the Franco-Tunisian journalist Samy Ghorbal, the Moroccan psychologist Ahmed Elhamdaoui and the Moroccan criminal law professor Mohammed Bouzlafa.

These studies are intended to identify the situation of death row prisoners with regards to international standards as well as to reveal the particular case of prisoners that have not had access to a fair trial.

Published in 2013, the report of the investigative missions in the Maghreb region will enable us to petition the local legal authorities to encourage them to comply with the minimum standards provided by international texts and encourage policy makers to reform the penal and penitentiary system to be in accordance with the rules.

## REACT TO THE URGENCY OF A DEATH SENTENCE AND SUPPORT THE DEFENDERS OF ABOLITION

ECPM is committed to helping and assisting death row prisoners and their lawyers.

ECPM does not replace lawyers from target countries but rather shares its expertise. The conditions for intervention are adapted to the case being defended: international campaigns for involvement, legal aid or diplomatic support.

### JUSTICE FOR HANK SKINNER!

Because his case is symbolic of the dysfunctional American justice system, ECPM calls for "Justice for Hank!"

On 6 November 2011, Hank Skinner survived his execution for the fourth time, thanks to the combined work of lawyers and of the international community. Since then, he has never ceased to fight for his right to obtain DNA testing, which could exonerate him.

Thanks to the generosity of the public and with the support of ECPM, the support fund for Hank Skinner collected the necessary funds to carry out the additional DNA tests requested by Hank and his lawyers; tests that the State of Texas refused to pay for.

### SUPPORTING THE DEFENDERS OF ABOLITION IN IRAN, CHINA AND DRC

Iran, the Democratic Republic of Congo and China were highlighted because of the radical nature of their repression with regards to the defenders of Human Rights. In these three countries, ECPM acts to protect the rights of defenders of abolition and denounce their situation through press releases and the involvement of the international community.

ECPM works in synergy with Iranian associations. In partnership with Iran Human Rights, an association of exiled Iranians located in Norway, ECPM publishes an annual report on the state of affairs of the death penalty in Iran, presenting official and non official sources but subject to crosschecks by reliable sources in Iran. In 2012, this report was launched during a press conference at the Town Hall of Paris. The World Congress in Madrid will be an opportunity to strengthen this lobbying and communication campaign by uniting abolitionists from the Iranian Diaspora and by alerting the international authorities and the general public about the situation in Iran.

### LIU XIAOBO COMMITTEE

Liu Xiaobo, Nobel Peace laureate in 2010, has been imprisoned in China since 2009. Through his texts and works, Liu Xiaobo has relentlessly fought against the death penalty in his country.

ECPM was one of the first organisations to become a member of the International Support Committee for Liu Xiaobo supported by six Nobel Prize laureates, Dr. Shirin Ebadi, Mrs. Jody Williams, Archbishop Desmond Tutu, Mrs. Mairead Maguire, Mrs. Betty Williams and Mrs. Tawakkol Karman, individuals concerned with Human Rights and intellectuals. This committee aims to inform, defend and plead in favour of the release of the first Chinese Nobel Peace laureate. ECPM calls upon all those who value the freedom of thought to join the committee in its action to obtain the release of Liu Xiaobo.



Liu Xiaobo committee, in support of the Nobel Peace laureate Liu Xiaobo, currently imprisoned in China. Jeu de Paume, Paris.

## ACTIVITY 5

# ESTABLISH THE ORGANISATION, FUNCTIONING AND MANAGEMENT OF THE ASSOCIATION

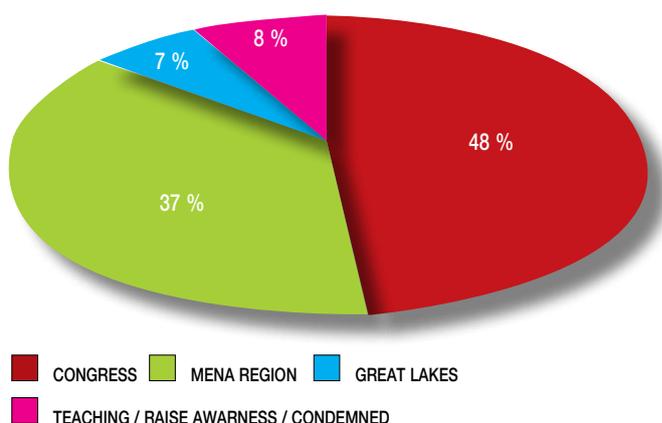
ECPM is mainly funded by public grants from abolitionist countries, European and Francophone institutions. The holding of the Regional Congress of Rabat and the perspective of the World Congress in Madrid resulted in a wider diversity of funding sources for 2012.

The grants in support of international multi-annual projects are in steady increase. Similarly, the continuation of grants made by the French Government, European governments and intergovernmental organisations allow a more long-term perspective and a reinforcement of the structure and of ECPM's staff.

The diversity of donors results in a more complex follow up on projects as well as an increase in requirements in terms of reports and auditing. The accounting firm Doucet & Beth, in charge of the financial statements of the association, carries out the audits requested by the donors. Their expertise is completed by the certification of accounts carried out by the accounting firm Schmeltz and associates. ECPM therefore guarantees accounting and financial management in keeping with the requirements of donors.

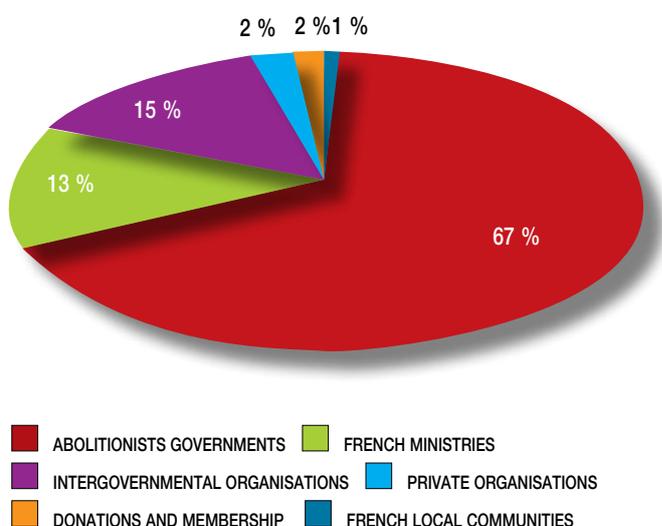
### USE OF RESOURCES PER ACTION (ESTIMATION)

Although 2012 was largely dedicated to the Regional Congress in Rabat and the preparation of the World Congress in Madrid, the association nevertheless pursued its efforts to strengthening the capacity of local associations. New projects began to complete the existing actions in the MENA region. The share of these projects on all of the actions by ECPM doubled compared to 2011 and now represent over 44% of actions.



### ANALYSIS OF THE SOURCES FOR FUNDING (ESTIMATION)

As in previous years, ECPM's resources mainly originate from grants (98%). The donations and memberships of the organisation for 2012 are close to €15 000.



## THE FOUNDING VALUES OF TOGETHER AGAINST THE DEATH PENALTY

The organisation seeks to organise and support all actions that enable the fight against the death penalty in the world and promote its universal abolition.

The association does not express any hostility towards people whose countries still apply the death penalty and is convinced that any country can do justice without resorting to the use of capital punishment.

The association does not defend individual cases. ECPM's conditions for intervention are evaluated case by case: death row prisoners that are defended must be emblematic of the cause in order to denounce a general issue.

Being "at the service of a cause": ECPM, born from the desire of a handful of militants, now occupies a central role in the abolitionist movement. The association is now a reference in the abolitionist fight as the organiser of the World Congresses Against the Death Penalty and as a founding member of the World Coalition Against the Death Penalty. ECPM earned its legitimacy as the backbone of the abolitionist movement thanks to strong values and an important sense of ethics.

Today, this recognition enables ECPM to support national Coalitions (Morocco, Tunisia...) as well as regional Coalitions (Coalition of Central and East Africa) so that they become the essential actors for abolition in their countries.

## A PROFESSIONAL ORGANISATION

ECPM's governance system is that of a professional French organisation made up of members, volunteers, and employees and governed by an annual general assembly, a quarterly administrative board and monthly offices.

## COMPOSITION OF THE BOARD IN 2012

Office:

Olivier DECHAUD (graphic layout artist), President  
Véronique MARY (neuropharmacologist), Treasurer  
Emmanuel MAISTRE (commercial executive for the press),  
General Secretary

Members:

Eric BERNARD (lawyer), Spokesperson  
Gilles DENIZOT (opera singer)  
Aicha DOUHOU (researcher)  
Claude GUILLAUMAUD-PUJOL (academic, retired)  
Sylvie LELAN (senior executive)  
Emmanuel OUDAR (entrepreneur)  
Marie-Françoise SANTARELLI (retired European civil servant)  
Richard SEDILLOT (lawyer), Spokesperson  
Nader VAHABI (academic)  
Became a member of the board in 2012:  
Fabrice PIETRE-CAMBACEDES (engineer)

## ECPM'S PERMANENT TEAM IN 2012

Raphaël CHENUIL-HAZAN, Director  
Ariane GRESILLON, Deputy Manager  
Nadège POULAIN, Head of finance  
Nicolas PERRON, Head of programmes  
Desislava RAOUL, Head of communication  
Nicolas BRAYE, Responsible of the MENA project  
Marianne ROSSI, Project Officer "Raise awareness and educate about abolition" (employment aided by the Ile-de-France region)

In 2012, ECPM will welcome the 5<sup>th</sup> World Congress Against the Death Penalty team.



### ECPM

[www.abolition.fr](http://www.abolition.fr)

mail: [ecpm@abolition.fr](mailto:ecpm@abolition.fr)

Tel: +33 1 57 63 03 57

Fax: +33 1 80 87 70 46

### Our office :

69, rue Michelet

93100 Montreuil France

### Registered office:

ECPM, 53 rue Patay  
75013 Paris

**RABAT CONGRES REGIONAL SUR LA PEINE DE MORT**  
18-20 OCTOBRE 2012

**OUI À L'ABOLITION DE LA PEINE DE MORT**

Organisé par Ensemble contre la peine de mort

**5<sup>e</sup> CONGRES MONDIAL CONTRE LA PEINE DE MORT MADRID**

WORLD CONGRESS AGAINST THE DEATH PENALTY  
世界反对死刑  
ضد عقوبة الإعدام  
CONGRESO MUNDIAL CONTRA LA PENAL DE MUERTE  
ВСЕМИРНЫЙ КОНГРЕСС ПРОТИВ СМЕРТНОЙ КАЗНИ

Organisé par Ensemble contre la peine de mort

COALITION CONTRE LA PEINE DE MORT

**ANNUAL REPORT ON THE DEATH PENALTY IN IRAN 2011**

Ensemble contre la peine de mort

Iran Human Rights

iranhr.net

**LA PEINE DE MORT NUIST GRAVEMENT À L'HUMANITÉ**

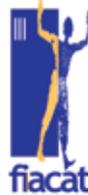
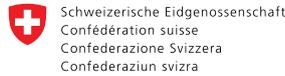
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**LA PEINE DE MORT NUIST GRAVEMENT À L'HUMANITÉ**

abolition.fr

Organisé par Ensemble contre la peine de mort

avec l'aide financière  
de l'Union Européenne



**“Those who believe  
in the deterrent effect of  
the death penalty ignore  
the human truth.  
The criminal passion  
is no more halted by  
fear of death than other  
noble passions are.”**

**Robert Badinter**



**Informez-vous  
sur l'actualité  
de la peine de mort,  
consultez notre site :**

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