

# ACTIVITY REPORT

## 2014



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## A WORD FROM THE DIRECTOR



More than ever, Together Against the Death Penalty (ECPM) is committed to carry out lobbying actions and to continue its advocacy on an international scale to reach the universal abolition of the death penalty! During 2014, your association was present with international authorities in New York when the international moratorium on the death penalty was voted by the UN's General Assembly, in Geneva during the Human Rights' Committee sessions and the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) that aim to state countries' advancements in favour of the abolition of the death penalty. The means of political mobilisation used by ECPM are in constant innovation; especially in the Core Group, that supports the organisation of both World and Regional Congresses and which is formed by numerous abolitionist diplomacies that collaborate for a high-level implication of countries in this international movement.

We are proud to carry out widespread campaigns that make it possible to assess the stakes of abolition across the world. In 2014, ECPM has joined the Impact Iran Network, the first foreign association of its kind, in order to join forces and add together all our knowledge concerning the country with the highest executions / population ratio.

ECPM also supports Serge Atlaoui, who was sentenced to death in Indonesia following an unfair trial. Other than helping on this specific case, we aim to mobilise international diplomacies and civil societies through a campaign which aims to set in motion the instauration of an Indonesian moratorium on executions as a first step that might lead to abolition. In the MENA region, we have formed or helped form networks uniting parliamentarians, lawyers and members of civil society - from Lebanon to Morocco, always stressing on the fact that it is by strengthening local actors on the field that we will be able to lead efficient actions on the long run.

Last but not least, 2014 has witnessed the expansion of ECPM's educational actions that aim to teach abolition and human rights. I can thus tell you, with great pride, that it won't be long until you hear about abolition being taught at your kids' school thanks to ECPM!

Raphaël Chenuil-Hazan  
Director of Together Against the Death Penalty

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# ECPM'S NEW CHARTER

Created in 2000, Together Against the Death Penalty (ECPM) is a non-profit organisation that benefits from an administrative board, full timers, volunteers and activists carrying out and supporting actions in France or abroad that aim to fight against the death penalty, promote its universal abolition and works, on a larger scale, in favour of human rights and fundamental freedoms.

ECPM is a founding member of the World Coalition Against the Death Penalty as well as the creator and organiser of the Congresses Against the Death Penalty.

## OUR VISION

We believe in a world that is conscious of the uselessness of capital punishment in the legal system and aware of the barbarism it generates and sustains in society.

We believe in a world that will be able to reject the radical and erroneous aspects of the mere principal of justice, in a world where all citizens, politicians, men of law and religion will stand together as one and say «No» to the death penalty.

## OUR MISSION

We aim to bring together, federate and strengthen all actors -civil society working in favour of human rights, parliamentarians, politicians and men of law- and work towards a political change which will lead, both locally and globally, to the abolition of the death penalty.

As a final point, we consider that teaching and raising public awareness on the death penalty, in retentionist as well as in abolitionist countries, lies at the heart of our mission.

## OUR VALUES

Working together for all humans towards an audacious action, that will lead to the universal abolition.

### Together

As it is expressed in the association's name, ECPM deems it necessary to have its actions carried out with and by local actors who are directly concerned in the name and for the sake of collective interest.

### Humanistic

Human life is a universal value and the respect of its dignity transcends all cultural and religious specificities.

### Justice

The first of human vital rights is the right to live in dignity. This right derives from the equality of all before justice. Universal abolition can only be achieved through the recognition of a universal justice.

### Engagement

ECPM believes that reaching a point where societies are more respectful of human dignity is possible. The association pledges to work impartially and apart from any government, politic, social or moral authority.

### Audacity

ECPM places at the heart of its action its collective ability to innovate, to take risks, and to preserve its reactivity and dynamism despite all pressures in the fight against the death penalty.

The ECPM team

# YOUR ASSOCIATION WORKING AGAINST THE DEATH PENALTY

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2014 has ended on a positive note with progress regarding the vote of the international moratorium on executions at the UN's General Assembly: 117 votes in favour against 111 in 2012 during the last voting session. However, the journey to universal abolition is still long and strenuous. With capital punishments reappearing in Jordan, Indonesia and Pakistan, as well as the populist jolts reaching the Pacific islands like in Papua New Guinea and terrorist violence raging on and justify for some the use of capital punishment; our battle is unlikely to end soon! As this report is being written, ECPM is actively mobilising its efforts to support Serge Atlaoui, a French citizen sentenced to death in Indonesia. His wife Sabine Atlaoui, his lawyer Mr. Richard Sédillot and all the ECPM team would like to thank all adherents and supporters for their precious help and engagement.

## ASIA, OUR LATEST CHALLENGE.

If there's one abolitionist front line towards which we most definitely want to orient our efforts, it is certainly Asia: the first retentionist region in the world. With more than half the executions worldwide being conducted in Asia, the death penalty is applied to punish mere blood crimes, but can also be used in drug trafficking or economic crimes, to state but a few marking examples. Countries of this region seldom publish statistics regarding the death penalty.

ECPM's engagement in the region follows the logical and necessary course of actions to reach universal abolition. This goal blends audacity with the strong will to create a movement in this complex region which is rather isolated from the international dynamism aiming to abolish the death penalty.

Asia is set to be ECPM's challenge for 2015 with the organization of the Kuala Lumpur Regional Congress which is certain to represent an ideal corner stone allowing us to draw civil society to the abolitionist cause.

## ECPM'S ACTIONS IN THE REST OF THE WORLD

ECPM develops numerous projects in collaboration with its local partners in the MENA region. Many successful actions have been carried out in all three key fields: work with the civil society, creation of abolitionist parliamentary coalitions and educational activities to teach teenagers abolition.

Inspired by the successful creation of Morocco's Network of Abolitionist Parliamentarians that gathers more than 250 members, ECPM facilitates exchanges between abolitionist elected representatives especially in Tunisia and Lebanon. In addition to the expansive mobilisation in this region, your association is preparing the implementation of such initiatives in Kurdistan.

Our experience in Morocco is undeniably one of our most encouraging achievements for future initiatives. After the parliamentary network introduced a bill aiming to abolish capital punishment in Morocco, ECPM will organise in 2015 the Youth Regional Forum Against the Death Penalty in collaboration with Morocco's Coalition Against the Death Penalty.

The ECPM team



## ACTIVITY 1

# BRINGING TOGETHER ABOLITIONISTS TO IMPROVE EFFICIENCY

Toppling the last retentionist areas will require increased effort by all abolitionist actors- civil society, politicians, men of law, international institutions – and the emergence of new forms of cooperation that can carry out actions on all international, regional or local scales. ECPM's position on the international scene and the initial goal for which it was founded (bringing together abolition actors) guarantees its real added value to coordinate collective initiatives to fight for abolition. As a federator of civil society during World Congresses and coalitions against the death penalty, ECPM is today's valued partner for countries and Parliamentarians (MPs) that wish to draw up concerted lobbying strategies.

## NEW CHALLENGES IN ASIA FOR KUALA LUMPUR'S REGIONAL CONGRESS

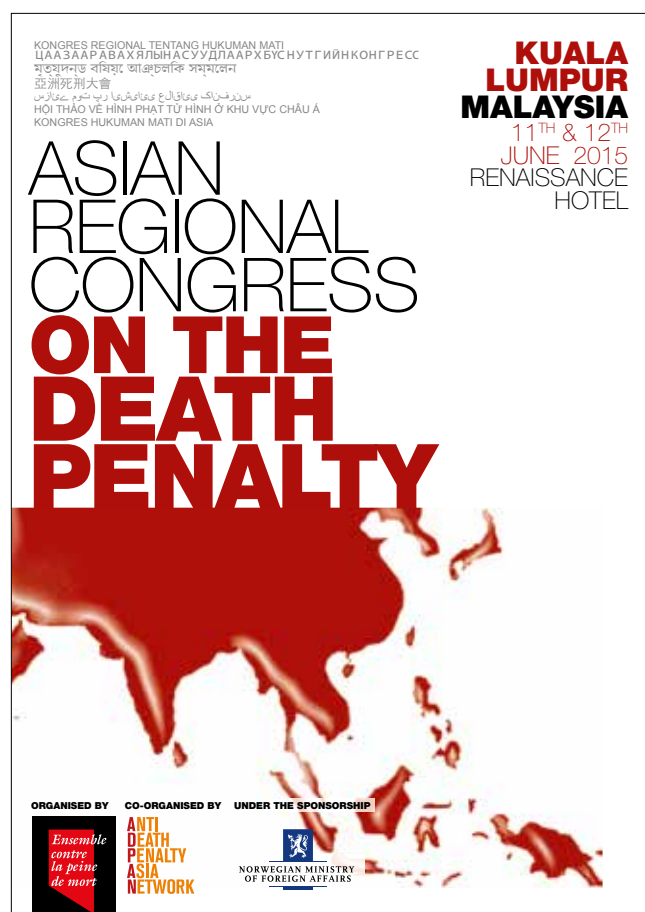
In 2015, Asia will witness its first Regional Congress on the Death Penalty in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. Asia is the first retentionist region in the world. Progress regarding the abolition of capital punishment in this region is a major stake in order to confirm an international abolitionist trend. ECPM would like to increase international pressure on this region that hasn't hosted any major death penalty related event until now.

Dealing with Asia's diverse nature will probably be the major challenge. The death penalty issue will thus be discussed in a more coherent area: East and South East Asia. ECPM is working in tight collaboration with the Anti-Death Penalty Asia Network (ADPAN) which was created in 2006 and gathers members of civil society as well as lawyers coming from 30 different countries. The first Asian Regional Congress is the perfect opportunity to support ADPAN's development by working towards the implementation of a more efficient strategy and increasing the network's popularity.

The Regional Congress will also aim to:

- favour the emergence of initiatives led by Asian MPs and civil society.
- carry out lobbying actions aimed to pressure both the Malaysian government and ASEAN.
- prepare the World Day dedicated to «Drugs and the Death Penalty».

The success of this event is very dear to the ECPM team. A project coordinator based in Paris and a Regional Coordinator based in Kuala Lumpur have been hired to take care of all the logistic aspects as well as the mobilisation of partners. A working group including 11 members of ADPAN has been created to guarantee the quality of future debates.



### OBJECTIVES OF THE KUALA LUMPUR CONGRESS

- **Target countries:** East Asia, South East Asia (19 countries: 5 abolitionists, 10 retentionists, 4 de-facto abolitionists); countries of Central Asia and the Indian subcontinent  
Awaiting 300 persons from 30 different countries.

- **Programme:** Solemn opening and closing ceremonies, one plenary session, two roundtables, 3 workshops

Poster of the Asian Regional Congress on the Death Penalty, in Kuala Lumpur.

## NEXT STOP: OSLO

The abolitionist cause is globally gaining ground across the world, thanks to new forms of collaborative actions between political, judiciary, university and community actors.

The 6<sup>th</sup> World Congress Against the Death Penalty, which is placed in the continuity of Asia's Regional Congress, follows the same logic and will represent a federating moment for the international abolitionist movement. It aims to support collaborative efforts to abolish the death penalty in order to back the international strategy that works towards the evolution of countries applying moratoriums on executions so that retentionist countries become more and more isolated. The World Congress action is also an answer to the isolation of the civil society working on a daily basis for abolition in retentionist countries.

The 6<sup>th</sup> World Congress will be organised under the sponsorship of Norway and will take place in Oslo in June 2016. The fight for the universal abolition of capital punishment is a priority for Norway that stands out thanks to the engagement of its civil society and networks as well as its actions on the international level. Norway has offered its support during all previous editions of the World Congress and is an active member of the World Commission Against the Death Penalty. It has helped ECPM create the Core Group - informal grouping of diplomats which represents a real lever of action for abolition.

In order to achieve all goals it has set, ECPM will make Oslo live to the rhythm of the abolition during the whole duration of the World Congress. Starting September 2015 and during the whole academic year, cultural and educational events will be organised in the city: movie screenings, pedagogical workshops, exhibitions, testimonies and drawing competitions. Abolition can never be taken for granted, even in abolitionist countries. Opinions voiced after Paris' tragic events in January 2015 prove the veracity of this idea.

2014 has also witnessed the strengthening of political, financial, cultural and community partnerships in order to make this 6<sup>th</sup> edition of the World Congress Against the Death Penalty a resounding success!

### OBJECTIVES OF OSLO'S 6<sup>TH</sup> WORLD CONGRESS

#### Every World Congress aims to:

- support the members of civil society in order to strengthen their role in the international strategy
- create and develop collaborative strategies in favour of abolition
- incite governments to take concrete actions
- raise public awareness and mobilise civil society in order to increase their engagement

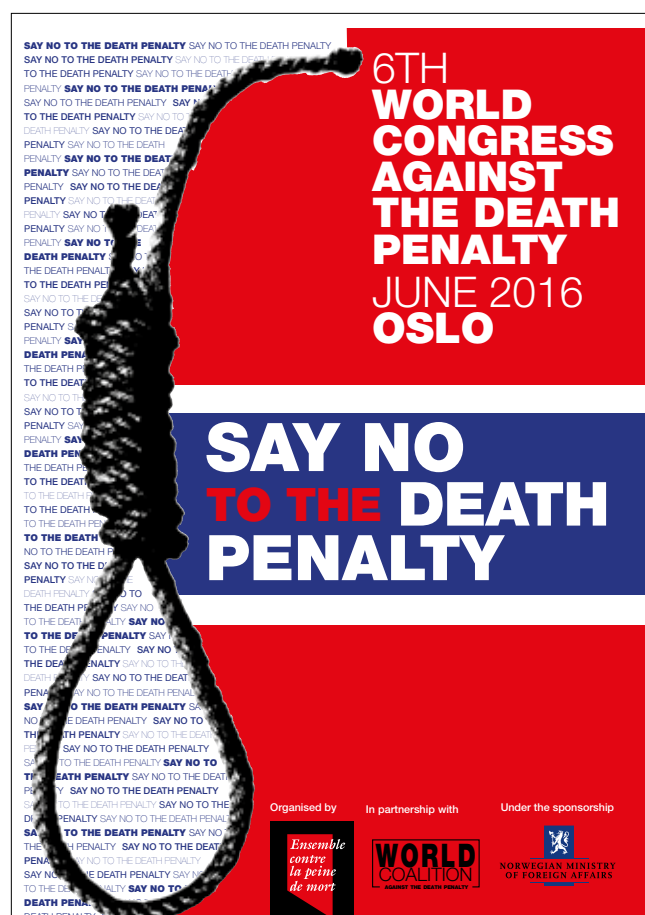
#### The Oslo Congress aims to:

- promote abolition in Asia
- back the emergence of new forms of political cooperation, especially the creation of parliamentarians' networks

1300 participants from at least 80 countries  
High level of representation: at least 50 political delegations  
Referencing: 200,000  
Articles: 1,000

#### Four days of debates:

- 2 grand ceremonies that will benefit from international media coverage
- 2 plenary sessions including one related to Asia
- 8 roundtables including two related to Asia and one to the MENA region
- 8 workshops including 2 related to Asia, 1 to the MENA region and one to parliamentarians.
- 1 "poster" session
- side events



Poster of the 6<sup>th</sup> World Congress against the Death Penalty, in Oslo.

## NETWORKS WE SUPPORT

### INSPIRING THE CREATION OF ABOLITIONIST PARLIAMENTARIAN NETWORKS

Mobilising MPs is an efficient lever of action in the fight against the death penalty. They are on the front line to call the executive authorities to take action in favour of the abolition and carry out pleas that can inspire other MPs. But MPs are often unaware of penal and judiciary measures taken by their countries and are reluctant to get involved in an action related to the death penalty.

ECPM inspired the creation of the first network of Parliamentarians Against the Death Penalty in Morocco. This one-of-a-kind network in the region now gathers 250 members that work for an official approval of the moratorium on executions and the adoption of a law that abolishes the death penalty as well as the ratification of all international treaties. Coordinator of the network Mrs. Khadija Rouissi was alongside ECPM one of the members forming the high-level panel against the death penalty in Geneva on March 5<sup>th</sup> 2014. The panel reunion was marked by declarations of UN's General Secretary Mr. Ban Ki-moon and former High Commissar for Human Rights Mrs. Navi Pillay.

Organised by ECPM, the Parliamentarian Global Action (PGA) and the Moroccan network, a seminar dedicated to parliamentarian actions in the MENA region took place on December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2014 in Rabat and gathered about 40 MPs from 10 different countries and human rights activists from Morocco. This seminar allowed parliamentarians coming from countries where the road to abolition is quite strenuous -such as Bahrain, Mauritania, Oman, Iraq and Yemen- to work together for the first time. Participants have shared their experiences and discussed the legislative difficulties regarding the death penalty. In 2014, ECPM also strengthened its partnership with the PGA, a network gathering 1300 MPs from 130 different countries.

### THE TEACHING ABOLITION INTERNATIONAL NETWORK

This network was officially created in January 2014 on the initiative of ECPM, the International Network for teaching abolition aims to facilitate and develop good shared practices, the creation of pedagogical tools, the implementation of common initiatives regarding death penalty education. The network's members are currently based in Tunisia, Lebanon, Morocco and France and ECPM is coordinating the network's activities. The school book created by the Lebanese Association for Civil Rights (LACR) in 2014 is a great example of pedagogical tools that could be used by all members of the network. A concrete collaborative action has already been carried out in 2014 with the second international drawing contest against the death penalty.

### ECPM: VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE WORLD COALITION AGAINST THE DEATH PENALTY

With more than 160 members across the world, the World Coalition is an essential partner of the international abolitionist movement. Founded on the initiative of ECPM, the World Coalition has been an independent organisation since 2012. The continuity of its management is ensured as ECPM remains an elected member of its Steering Committee and is represented by its Director on the Executive Board. ECPM plays a crucial role to guarantee the efficiency of this major international platform.

### LAWYERS' NETWORK AGAINST THE DEATH PENALTY

ECPM promotes the creation of networks gathering lawyers who work against the death penalty by proposing training sessions and its support for the creation of useful tools. In Morocco, the Lawyers' Network Against the Death Penalty has launched numerous sections across the country in 2014.

These sections allow a better mobilisation of lawyers regarding the death penalty issue in their country.



Parliamentarian seminar in Rabat on the Death Penalty in the MENA region.



## ACTIVITY 2

# STRENGTHEN LOCAL ACTORS' CAPACITIES AND HELP THEM CARRY OUT EFFICIENT ACTIONS

As the abolitionist struggle revolves around local victories, ECPM supports the development of regional and national networks against the death penalty. ECPM strengthens local partners in terms of how they operate and helps them promote abolition with the decision-makers and citizens of their countries.

### ACTING WITHIN A CHANGING ARAB WORLD

After Asia, the Arab world is the region which executes the most people. The geopolitical transition that followed 2011's Arab Spring has gave birth to new challenges for abolitionist activists in the region. The rise of political conflicts and disintegration of previous institutions is leading current authorities to take drastic penal measures in order to reassure the society and secure the new institutions. Jordan putting prisoners to death in December 2014 is an alarming sign. Moreover, the emergence of Islamic political forces, the permanent economic and social problems as well as the increased number of armed

conflicts or acts of violence in some countries make it difficult for regional initiatives against the death penalty to be heard.

Despite the current situation, ECPM continues its efforts to support and strengthen the abolitionist movement in the MENA region. Actions are carried out in collaboration with local organisations that have gained the necessary experience to organise and implement their advocacy strategies: the Moroccan, Tunisian and Lebanese national coalitions, the Moroccan Organisation for the Human Rights, the Lebanese Association for Transitional justice, the Lebanese Association for Civil Rights, the Algerian League for Human Rights. These actions aim to strengthen the impact of these associations on ongoing political reforms. Their success mainly relies on associations' capacity to defend and mobilise key decision-makers with the help of strong networks, relevant information and adapted arguments.

ECPM supports more specifically the Moroccan, Lebanese and Tunisian Coalitions in their national advocacy work by initiating lobbying actions carried out before local authorities and international organisations, by facilitating the sharing of experiences and expertise with the international abolitionist movement and by initiating educational campaigns for both students and citizens.

### STRENGTHENING AND ORGANISING THE MOROCCAN ABOLITIONIST MOVEMENT

ECPM works since 2007 towards a progressive abolition of the death penalty in Morocco; a battle fought hand in hand with the country's media, community, men of law, political and legislative actors.

Strengthening the capacities of Morocco's Coalition Against the Death Penalty lies at the heart of our action. The Moroccan Coalition has significantly reviewed its methods of governance through the drafting of founding



"We congratulate ourselves on the debate on the death penalty led by the civil society and many parliamentarians and jurists. It will allow going further into this problematic". Extract from Mohammed the 6th's message read by the minister of Justice and Freedoms at the opening ceremony of the Marrakech Human Rights Forum. That was the first time the King directly mentioned the death penalty in one of his speeches.

ECPM's actions in the MONA region.



## 2<sup>ND</sup> WORLD FORUM FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

Thanks to the Moroccan Coalition's lobby actions, death penalty was one of the main subjects that were discussed during the second World Forum for Human Rights that was held in Marrakech. A workshop dedicated to detention circumstances of death row prisoners helped raise participants' awareness.

The mere fact that the World Coalition could officially speak out during the opening of this event proves that the death penalty represents a major issue for the country.

documents (operational charter, internal regulations) and the organisation of general assemblies which were attended by 150 people and several official figures - ambassadors and representatives from the Moroccan Government.

The legitimacy and reliability of actions taken by the Moroccan Coalition have given it a new aura, confirmed by its election to the World Coalition Steering Committee. The Moroccan Coalition official website [www.tudert.ma](http://www.tudert.ma), which has been launched in 2014, is the first platform related to the issue of the death penalty in Morocco.

## SUPPORTING THE TUNISIAN COALITION AGAINST THE DEATH PENALTY

Despite the fact that the new Tunisian constitution does not officially state in favour of death penalty abolition, Tunisia is the first Arab country to be ruled since 2011 by a president who openly portrays himself as an abolitionist man and uses his prerogatives to turn capital punishments into imprisonment. Tunisia and Algeria have both voted,

in 2012 and 2014 in favour of an international moratorium on executions at the UN's General Assembly.

This national abolitionist trend leads ECPM to support the Tunisian Coalition in order to strengthen its role as a unifier of local abolitionist activists and organisations, strengthen its human, financial and technical resources and intensify its lobbying and educational actions.

In September 2014, Tunisian abolitionists have gathered for the first time during two days and discussed the actions and strategies that should be implemented for the fight for abolition to gain ground in Tunisia during the Death Penalty Conference that was co-organised by ECPM. More than 250 persons, activists and members of civil society from 12 different countries have participated to the debates and numerous former death row prisoners or death row prisoners' relatives, including the family of Maher Manai symbolic figure of ECPM's death row investigation have shared their testimonies in the presence of Tunisian media and politicians. This event has helped increase the Tunisian Coalition's visibility, mobilise its members on a national level and contributed to emphasise on the avant-garde position the Maghreb activists hold in the region.

Following October 2014's legislative elections, the Tunisian Coalition and ECPM have initiated lobbying actions in order to establish a network of abolitionist parliamentarians in Tunisia. Efforts and contact made should lead to the organisation of a workshop in Tunis, start of 2015, gathering around 20 MPs who will launch this network. ECPM and the Tunisian Coalition have set a plan based on this action in order to increase the Coalition's national scope of actions, strengthen its capacity to carry out lobbying actions in parliament and develop its educational programmes. 2014 also gave us the opportunity to organise two cycles of educational activities with the collaboration of the Tunisian Coalition Against the Death Penalty and the Arab Institute for Human Rights.



Cultural events during the Regional conference in Tunis on September 2014.

National conference at the House of Lawyers in Beirut on January 2014.

## **ASSIST THE REGION'S OLDEST ABOLITIONIST CIVIL SOCIETY IN LEBANON**

ECPM has organised a national conference at the Maison des Avocats de Beyrouth on January 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>, 2014, in collaboration with the Lebanese Association for Civil Rights and the Barreau de Beyrouth. This event gathered more than 250 persons including members of civil society, political figures and the Lebanese Minister of Justice. Discussions have revolved around teaching abolition and educating the young generations. Ten interventions organised with the support of ECPM helped reach 258 students and the lawyers' network taught law students how to defend a prisoner that is likely to be sentenced to death. The manual used during this training session was edited by the World Coalition Against the Death Penalty. These actions have helped rejuvenate the Lebanese Coalition. A manual, based on these experiences and aimed at teachers was edited in both French and Arabic. It will lie at the heart of teachers-aimed trainings and will help increase awareness raising of the younger generation. The implication of the Barreau de Beyrouth has helped the creation of new and promising partnerships between the Barreau de Paris and the Lebanese Coalition in order to strengthen the legal defence of Lebanese prisoners that are condemned to death and base their action on trials where strategy and media coverage prevail in order to help the abolitionist cause gain ground. The

Batonnier de Paris has joined the Lebanese association Justice et Misericorde on May 20<sup>th</sup>, 2014, to defend a 24-year-old Syrian sentenced to death, the youngest death row prisoner in Lebanese history.

## **SUPPORTING ABOLITIONISTS IN CENTRAL AFRICA**

In this region, where economic and social problems and human rights violations are increasing, the development of a movement in support of abolition remains a major challenge for ECPM, as it is for the international community. ECPM has supported the work of the Congolese Coalition against the Death Penalty since its creation and the Central and East African Coalition, coordinated by ECPM. The association also works with the region's abolitionist MPs.

In 2015, ECPM aims to intensify its actions in support of abolitionist actors of this key region in order to achieve abolition of the death penalty in Africa. Following the Burkina Faso coup d'état, the regional parliamentary seminar that was planned to take place in this country will be hosted by another country of the region.

### **ECPM'S ACTIONS IN THE REGION**

- 1 Regional Congress (Rabat, 2012) and 1 Regional Conference (Tunisia, 2014) with 450 participants and 21 Human Rights organisations from 12 of the region's countries;
- 200 activists from more than 14 countries in the region, 1 Plenary Session and 3 roundtables at the Madrid World Congress;
- Establishment of the first Parliamentary Network against the Death Penalty in Morocco with 250 members. Submission of a draft abolitionist law on 7 November 2013;
- 2 national conferences bringing together 200 participants: Tunisia, Algeria (in partnership with the National Consultative Commission to Promote and Protect Human Rights);
- 2 investigations in death row, more than 2,000 copies published: Morocco, Tunisia;
- More than 2,700 pupils and students made aware of the issue via more than 80 school sessions: Morocco, Lebanon, Tunisia;
- More than 310 activists trained in advocating for abolition: Morocco, Tunisia, Lebanon, Palestinian Territories;
- 8 press conferences in 4 countries: Morocco, Tunisia, Lebanon, France – Iran;
- Sustained action for the World Day: Morocco, Lebanon, Tunisia, Iraq and Jordan;
- Organisation of official political appointments with senior figures from the target countries: Morocco, Tunisia, Lebanon, Algeria, Palestinian Territories;
- 5 educational tools in Arabic for a wide audience;
- First comic strip on the death penalty in French and Arabic;
- First website on the Moroccan abolitionist movement: [www.tudert.ma](http://www.tudert.ma).
- 9 partnership agreements with abolitionist organisations from 5 countries: Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia, Lebanon and Iraq.

## ACTIVITY 3

# ADVOCATING FOR UNIVERSAL ABOLITION

ECPM carries out campaigns that defend the abolition of death penalty wherever it deems its actions represent an added value: discrete diplomacy, media mobilisation, creating reports, promoting international treaties etc. ECPM's action adapts itself to the defended cause and is elaborated in collaboration with partners who are experts in the field in order to guarantee the campaigns' success.

## INCITING GOVERNMENTS TO TAKE CONCRETE ACTIONS

### CONCERTED LOBBYING ACTIONS IN COLLABORATION WITH ABOLITIONIST COUNTRIES

Based on previous World Congresses that have proved the efficiency of diplomatic levers for high-level representation, ECPM animates an informal group of support for political mobilisation in favour of abolition: the Core Group. Its goals are to insure high-level political participation in both Regional and World Congresses, to sponsor the integration of the fight for abolition in member states' political affairs.

Targeting all continents, the Core Group gathers diplomatic representatives from Argentina, Mexico, France, Norway, Spain, Switzerland, Turkey, Rwanda, and Monaco. Thanks to ECPM and the Core Group's combined efforts, ministers coming from abolitionist as well as retentionist countries participate in the international debate in favour of abolition and are able to openly express their opinion during the organised Congresses.

### ECPM'S ACTION IN FAVOUR OF INTERNATIONAL TREATIES

The death penalty is not officially prohibited by international law. However, numerous international instruments limit its usage, principally the International Covenant for Civil and Political Rights, the European Commission for Human Rights and the American Convention on Human Rights. Every two years, the UN's General Assembly votes a resolution in favour of an international moratorium on executions. The Universal Periodic Review (UPR), a mechanism used by the UN's Human Rights Council, regularly examines all 193 member states' situation regarding human

rights by focusing on their engagement and obligations on the matter.

In collaboration with its partners, ECPM carries out lobbying actions among political authorities in order to promote these international instruments and insure countries respect the engagements they took during UPR meetings. In 2014, ECPM has carried out a lobbying action during the 20<sup>th</sup> Human Rights Council meeting related to Iran, Iraq and Egypt's UPRs by spreading notes which enabled diplomats to analyse exhaustively these countries' position regarding death penalty.

ECPM also conducted a lobbying action at the United Nations in New York as part of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Preparatory Committee vote in favour of a moratorium on executions. With MOHR, its Moroccan partner, ECPM met many UN diplomats and encouraged them to vote in favour of this text. With 6 additional countries supporting the resolution, we can proudly say this work paid off.

Finally, in the framework of the Global Coalition campaign, the director of ECPM met with the Haitian political class (Ministers of Foreign Affairs and Justice, "Ombudsman"), encouraging them to ratify the second Optional ICCPR Protocol.

## CONDITIONS OF DETENTION ON DEATH ROWS

ECPM conducts investigative missions in retentionist countries' death rows. These studies are carried out by multidisciplinary teams and are intended to identify the situation on death row according to international standards and to raise awareness on specific cases of prisoners who did not have access to a fair trial. They are one of the ECPM advocacy tools for a prison reform and allow confronting the local judicial authorities and policy makers, in order for them to confirm to these standards. ECPM published 6-finding missions (Rwanda, Burundi, Democratic Republic of Congo, Prize for Human Rights of the French Republic in 2005, USA) including two recently in Tunisia and Morocco. In 2014, ECPM and its Moroccan and Tunisian partners forwarded the recommendations made in the reports to the government and prison institutions and continued raising local activists and citizens' awareness on the situation prisoners live in inside death row in their countries.

## THE IRANIAN CAMPAIGN: RAISING AWARENESS ON THE ALARMING SITUATION OF THE DEATH PENALTY

In partnership with Iran Human Rights, an Iranian exiles association based in Norway, ECPM publishes an annual report on the state of the death penalty in Iran. The 7<sup>th</sup> edition was launched in London in the House of Lords at Westminster, in the presence of parliamentarians and international associations. The report was then presented



at the Palais des Nations in Geneva with the UN Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Iran, Dr. Ahmed Shaheed, and the Nobel Peace Prize Dr. Shirin Ebadi.

On the occasion of the UPR on Iran in 2014, ECPM published the Cahiers de l'Abolition "Iran: la peine de mort en question", a new book that brings together the analyzes of the most recognised experts concerning the status of capital punishment in this country.

## RESPOND TO THE URGENCY OF A DEATH SENTENCE AND SUPPORTING THE ABOLITION ADVOCATES

ECPM aims to help those sentenced to death and advocates of abolition when the association deems its assistance may be useful. ECPM does not replace lawyers for the target countries but puts its expertise at the service of the cause and the intervention always adapts to it: International mobilisation campaign, legal or diplomatic support.

### TOGETHER, LET'S SAVE SERGE ATLAOUI

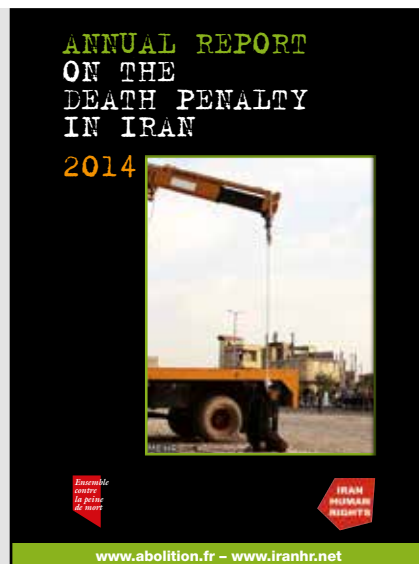
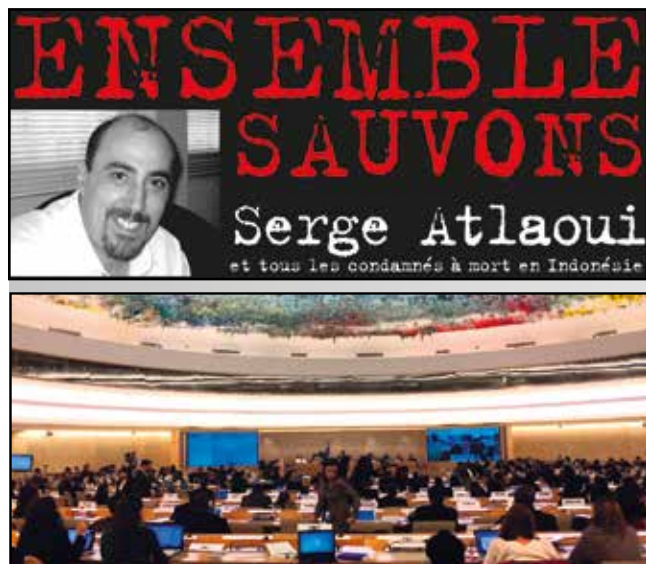
While writing this report, we have many reasons to be more worried than ever about Serge Atlaoui, French citizen sentenced to death in Indonesia. Early this year, ECPM has launched a broad international mobilisation campaign - political, media and citizens - to support Serge Atlaoui and other sentenced to death in Indonesia. The campaign received support, soliciting eighteen French associations defending human rights and the cities of Paris and Metz.

## IMPACT IRAN

Impact Iran is an association that works for the respect of human rights in Iran and encourages the Iranian government to take into account the concerns of International Community about the human rights violations committed in this country. ECPM engages with partners such as Impact Iran to strengthen the scope of lobbying actions carried out to improve human rights and the status of the death penalty in the country. Alongside Impact Iran, ECPM supports abolitionist activists and Iranian reformers in their efforts to progress in their fight against the death penalty.

## JUSTICE FOR HANK SKINNER!

Because his case is emblematic of the failure of American justice, ECPM calls for «Justice for Hank!». And still mobilises the public in order to support his family. The association especially thank Sandrine Ageorges Skinner, Hank's wife, and member of the ECPM board for her testimonies which are particularly appreciated by the press and for her active participation in the Teaching Abolition programme.



Campaign in support of Serge Atlaoui and the other people sentenced to death in Indonesia.

Yearly Report on the death penalty in Iran. ECPM - Iran Human Rights.

25<sup>th</sup> session of the Human Rights Council: focus on the death penalty in the United Nations.

## ACTIVITÉ 4

# TEACHING ABOLITION OF THE DEATH PENALTY

### EDUCATING CITIZENS ON HUMAN RIGHTS AND ABOLITION

#### ECPM MEETS THE FRENCH YOUTH

After 34 years of abolition in France, the issue continues to divide citizens and particularly the younger generation. At an age when the distinction between revenge and justice is being acquired, education for the abolition of the death penalty is particularly necessary. ECPM thus continues its educational activities in colleges and the least favored French schools in collaboration with teachers and in order for students to commit to human rights and develop a more independent way of thinking regarding death penalty.

In 2014, nearly a thousand students were educated and engaged with their teachers in class projects such as the Drawing Competition. School interventions by ECPM aim to get young people to think about the abolitionist arguments, inform them of the international status of the death penalty and make them finger the human reality behind this complex issue by meeting an abolitionist witness, former death row prisoner or their relatives.

In the spring of 2014, thanks to the presence of Ahmed Haou, the cycle of interventions naturally focused on the situation in Morocco. With the start of a new school year, discussions revolved around the United States thanks to the presence of Curtis McCarty.

Beyond secondary education, ECPM is also involved in university. The association continues to tutor students of the Sorbonne and, for the second consecutive year, it animates course modules on the life cycle of the project within the Master II in Humanitarian Law and Human Rights of Evry.

#### EDUCATING BEYOND OUR BORDERS

With the support of the Teaching Abolition International Network, ECPM carries out actions:

In Tunisia, where a Teaching Abolition caravan traveled the country to meet students involved in clubs for human rights. 15 interventions took place in schools in five regions with 324 students a cycle of interventions in French high schools in Tunis was also organised with the participation of Sandrine Ageorges Skinner. This first experiment helped identify the relevant axes to raise awareness of the younger generation in Tunisia.

In Morocco, in partnership with the Moroccan Organisation for Human Rights which runs many educational interventions, ECPM went to meet the pupils accompanied by Curtis McCarty.

In September 2014, all members of the Education Network benefited from the Regional Conference held in Tunis to meet and decide together which would be the first project to implement. The 2<sup>nd</sup> International drawing contest «Draw me abolition» initiated by ECPM, was thus open to young Lebanese, Moroccans and Tunisians.

#### LAUNCHING OF THE ECPM RELAY GROUP IN ILE-DE-FRANCE

2014 witnessed the launching of a relay group of volunteers taking over ECPM's educational activities



2<sup>nd</sup> drawing contest against the death penalty.



One of the winner slogans of the slogan contest organised by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs International Development in partnership with ECPM, for pupils in junior high schools and high schools in France and abroad.

ECPM intervenes with pupils in the presence of Curtis Mc Carthy and Sandrine Ageorges-Skinner.

## OUTSTANDING INITIATIVES FOR THE WORLD DAY AGAINST THE DEATH PENALTY 2014

### In France

three prestigious venues for a landmark event. World Day 2014 was alternately held at the National Council of the bars, the International Organisation of the Francophonie and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for two 9<sup>th</sup> Grades classes from Villeuneuve la Garenne, the law students from the Sorbonne and Evry and a dozen of young activists from Morocco, Tunisia, Lebanon and Cameroon, who gathered in this special day for an opportunity to discuss, share and imagine their role as citizens for a future without death penalty. Accompanied by professionals and diplomats, young people have simulated the Ranucci trial and the negotiations at the United Nations in favor of a moratorium on executions, under the leadership of the Ambassador for Human Rights Patriziana Sparacino-Thiellay.

Other success and highlight of the event: the testimony of former American sentenced to death Curtis McCarty who invariably marked spirits. The Day ended at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs where young people were able to demonstrate their commitment in the presence of head of French diplomacy Laurent Fabius and former Justice Minister Robert Badinter.

### Abroad

In Costa Rica, ECPM participated in the person of its spokesman Richard Sédillot, to the World Conference on "the universal abolition of the death penalty", organised by the International Institute of Human Rights and the Permanent Representation of France to the Council of Europe. In Cameroon, mobilisation for the abolition took place at a conference organised by the Sant'Egidio Community of Douala, in collaboration with our partner Droit et Paix, while in Ghana, lawyer Anne Souléliac represented ECPM in a conference organised in partnership with the French Embassy.

across the Ile-de-France region. Bringing together a dozen of volunteers coming from various backgrounds, this group is a token of ECPM's will to go back to the activist beginnings which defined it that lets it widen its scope of actions in the region. The relay group members meet up every two months and follow special sessions dedicated to pedagogy and death penalty in order to carry out school interventions and new awareness-raising campaigns. And that's only the beginning: in 2015, ECPM aims to implement other relay groups in other regions across France.

## 2<sup>ND</sup> EDITION OF THE "DRAW ME THE ABOLITION" DRAWING CONTEST

After the first edition's success, ECPM decided to renew this activity launched in 2013 with Spain's collaboration. This year, students from Lebanon, Morocco, Tunisia and DRC joined the French participants. Almost 350 drawings from 16 different schools and cities were sent to ECPM! Professional graphic design company Posters for Tomorrow, who had previously taken part in the first edition, teamed up with ECPM to give this year's participants personalised advice on how to realize their posters. All fifty winning drawings which will be selected by the international jury will be exhibited during upcoming Congresses to voice the young abolitionist generation's stand against death penalty.

## THEY GET INVOLVED IN ECPM'S ACTION

With ECPM, they tell their story all around the world and play a part in sharing cultures



**Antoinette Chahine**, Lebanese former death-sentenced prisoner, shares her story with the students and highlights the importance of international mobilisation for prisoners sentenced to death.



**Ahmed Haou**, a Moroccan former death-sentenced prisoner, enabled students to discover that you can be sentenced to death for political reasons.



**Sandrine Ageorges-Skinner**, wife of Hank Skinner (sentenced to death in Texas), can tell students about the discriminatory nature of the death penalty in the United States.



**Joaquin José Martinez**, a Spanish former death-sentenced prisoner in Florida. Students can discover the inhuman conditions of detention on American death row.





**Claude Guillaumaud-Pujol**, United States specialist and co-founder of the Support Group for Mumia Abu Jamal. She discussed the discriminatory nature of the American legal system through the case of Mumia Abu Jamal.



**Curtis Mc Carty**, an American former death-sentenced prisoner, cleared thanks to DNA tests, can inform students of the absurdity of the death penalty, including for those who are guilty.



**Sabine Atlaoui**, wife of Serge Atlaoui, French citizen sentenced to death in Indonesia since 2007, can let students know about the sufferings of prisoners' relatives and discover that being French does not save you from capital punishment. [ondamnation capitale](http://ondamnationcapitale.com).

## TAKE ACTION WITH ECPM

In 2014, your association has taken action on all fronts to say «No» to death penalty.

For its 10<sup>th</sup> participation in the Gay Pride, ECPM marched with its float painted in the colours of its new campaign: «The death penalty is homophobic! Stop sentencing homosexuals to death!». Despite the pouring rain, our 35 volunteers collected 500 signatures for a petition defending the right to live no matter one's sexual orientation. During the Fête de l'Humanité, about 50 volunteers helped animate the ECPM stand which met a stunning



success with nearly 1,000 participants taking part in the Selfies Against the Death Penalty initiative and sharing their pictures on social media.

ECPM participated for the first time, in partnership with students from the Sorbonne, to the Semaine pour la Solidarité Internationale organised by the city of Montreuil.

One of the slogans that won the contest launched by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Development in collaboration with ECPM. Students from all French schools in France and abroad could participate.

## OUR COMMUNICATION TOOLS

### OUR ONLINE TOOLS

ECPM's online communication policy is to reach a wide audience through its publications on the website [www.abolition.fr](http://www.abolition.fr).

ECPM also spreads the challenges related to its fight against the Death Penalty via social media. Information is shared on the official [Facebook.com/AssoECPM](https://www.facebook.com/AssoECPM) page.

The activist message and ECPM's action reach out internationally with publications in English and Arabic on [Facebook.com/Congresmondialpeinedemort](https://www.facebook.com/Congresmondialpeinedemort) and [Facebook.com/ECPMpeinedemortmondearabe](https://www.facebook.com/ECPMpeinedemortmondearabe).

Information is also shared in a more concise way via the official accounts on Twitter: [Twitter.com/AssociationECPM](https://twitter.com/AssociationECPM) (in French) and [Twitter.com/Abolition\\_2013](https://twitter.com/Abolition_2013) (multilingual), and shared by hundreds of subscribers, bloggers, journalists and political partners.

ECPM also uses the newsletter system to spread its abolitionist message. Today, the Abolition Newsletter has 21,000 active subscribers who could enjoy since 2014 the revamping of this key tool.



The death penalty is homophobic: stop sentencing the LGBTI to death!

Reconstruction of the "Ranucci" trial during the World Day against the death penalty.

## THE ABOLITION NEWSPAPER

Circulated freely, the Abolition Newspaper is produced by the ECPM team and our partner, Ouest France, generously prints 10,000 copies. It is available to download at [www.abolition.fr/fr/articles/journal-de-labolition](http://www.abolition.fr/fr/articles/journal-de-labolition)

## CORRESPONDENCE WITH A PRISONER SENTENCED TO DEATH

Because a forgotten prisoner is already half dead, ECPM has developed on its website ([abolition.fr](http://abolition.fr)), a “Prisoner Page” compiling needs in correspondence of prisoners sentenced to death and presenting their identity cards as well as action accessible to all those who want to make a little difference.

In the United States, among 3,500 prisoners sentenced to death, only a few hundred are lucky enough to have a correspondent and links with the outside world. In the rest of the world the situation is worse: in African countries it is difficult to identify the prisoners. In Japan, their names are kept secret.

484 prisoners sentenced to death from 36 countries are registered in our database:

| COUNTRY              | NUMBER OF PRISONERS |
|----------------------|---------------------|
| Algeria              | 9                   |
| Saudi Arabia         | 7                   |
| China                | 16                  |
| North Korea          | 2                   |
| United Arab Emirates | 2                   |
| United States        | 294                 |
| India                | 3                   |
| Indonesia            | 7                   |
| Iraq                 | 3                   |
| Iran                 | 5                   |
| Kenya                | 2                   |
| Japan                | 68                  |
| Malaysia             | 6                   |
| Morocco              | 3                   |
| Uganda               | 6                   |
| Uzbekistan           | 17                  |
| Pakistan             | 4                   |
| Palestine            | 2                   |
| Singapore            | 3                   |
| Sri Lanka            | 2                   |
| Trinidad and Tobago  | 2                   |
| Vietnam              | 4                   |
| Zambia               | 4                   |

Thirteen countries do not have any prisoners in the database: Bangladesh, Belarus, Egypt, Gambia, Jamaica, Kuwait, Lebanon, Nigeria, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Somalia, Taiwan, Thailand and Yemen.

### ACT ALONGSIDE ECPM:

Start **corresponding** with a prisoner sentenced to death

Join our mobilisation campaigns

Tell your friends, family and colleagues about the “Prisoner Page”.



ECPM's stand at “La fête de l'Humain”.

Selfies against the death penalty.

## ACTIVITY 5

# RUN THE ORGANISATION, OPERATION AND MANAGEMENT OF THE ASSOCIATION

ECPM remains mainly funded by grants from public bodies, principally from abolitionist states and European and French-speaking institutions. Organisation of both Regional and World Congress in Kuala Lumpur and Oslo are hoped to gather a greater diversity of funding sources for 2015. Grants supporting international multi-annual projects are stable. For the first time in 2014, a national multi-annual project -Teaching Human Rights and The Abolition of Death Penalty- was granted the same amount as an international project.

Similarly, the sustainability of grants paid by France via ministries and cooperation and by inter-governmental organisations ensures a long-term vision and a strengthening of ECPM's structure as well as an augmentation in the number of employees during 2014's last trimester.

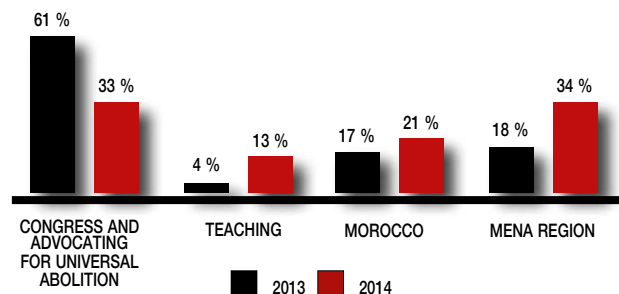
The accountancy firm Doucet & Beth, is in charge of drawing up the organisation's accounts and produces the audits required by backers. Their expertise is completed by the account certification carried out by aux Comptes Schmeltz et associés which checks that the funds are being used properly in conformity with the organisation's missions.

ECPM can therefore guarantee healthy and efficient financial management, in accordance with the strictest rules laid down by the backers and public authorities.

### USE OF RESOURCES BY ACTION (ESTIMATE)

In 2014, ECPM's action was marked by the grant aimed at its multi-annual project on Teaching Abolition. Constant efforts defending this programme so that it would be integrated to ECPM's scope of activities has paid off and allowed us to implement this project on a whole new level. It occupies thrice the place it did in 2013 with 13% in 2014 against 4% last year.

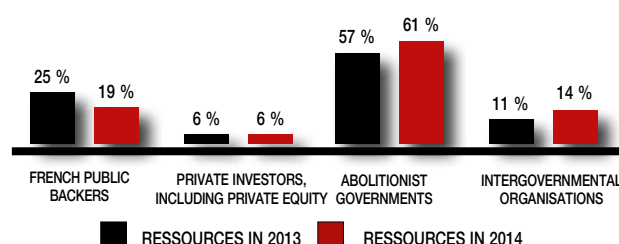
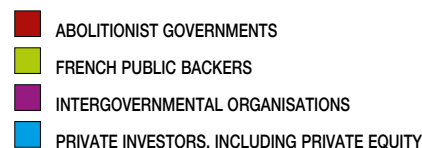
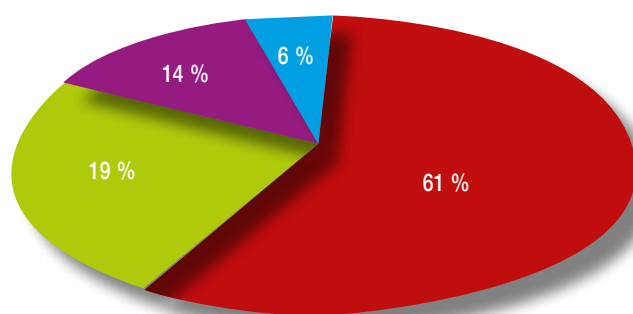
Strengthening local activists' capacities have witnessed a slight augmentation, going from 35% in 2013 to 38% in 2014. This proves the equilibrium that has settled between the association's different actions.



2014 has not witnessed any Congress, it is thus only logical that this area would benefit from a lesser amount of resources, going from 61% in 2013 -year of the Madrid World Congress Against the Death Penalty- to 33% in 2014. This gap year has mostly focused on finalising the previous World Congress and preparing the upcoming Regional and World Congresses.

### ANALYSING OUR SOURCES OF FUNDING (ESTIMATE)

2014's sources of funding are nearly identical to those of 2013: public resources reached 94% of the total sum of grants and private funds remained at 6%. Donations and membership represented 27% of private funds.





## AN ORGANISATION WORKING FOR ABOLITION AND ABOLITIONIST ACTORS

### OUR FOUNDING VALUES

The organisation aims to organise and support any action fighting against the death penalty across the world and promote universal abolition.

ECPM's vision is of a world saying "No to the Death Penalty".

ECPM's mission is to bring people together and strengthen them to work together towards universal abolition of the Death Penalty.

ECPM's values are to work together at the service of humankind and to lead an audacious action towards universal abolition of the death penalty.

### A PROFESSIONAL ORGANISATION

ECPM's system of governance is that of a professional French organisation. It is composed of members, volunteers and employees, and governed by an annual General Assembly, a quarterly Board of Directors meeting and monthly Executive Committee meetings.

### COMPOSITION OF THE MANAGEMENT BOARD IN 2013

Office:

Olivier DECHAUD (graphic designer, modeller), President

Véronique MARY (neuropharmacologist), Treasurer

Emmanuel MAISTRE (Sales executive in the press), Secretary-General

Emmanuel OUDAR (Business Manager), Deputy Treasurer

Fabrice PIETRE-CAMBACEDES (engineer), Deputy Secretary-General

Members:

Sandrine AGEORGES-SKINNER (Production Director), Representative at the World Coalition

Nicole BORVO COHEN-SEAT (ex- Senator)

Agnès BRULET (Communications Manager)

Gilles DENIZOT (lyrical artist)

Aicha DOUHOU (researcher)

Claude GUILLAUMAUD-PUJOL (retired university graduates)

Sylvie LELAN (executives)

Richard SEDILLOT (advocate), spokesperson

### PERMANENT TEAM OF ECPM

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)

ECPM wishes a warm welcome to

Camille BALLOUHEY, Administrative and Financial Assistant

Timothée DE MAILLARD, Congress Coordinator

Charlene MARTIN, Volunteer

The monthly newsletter is coordinated by Camille SARRET.

The ECPM Team would also like to thank Caroline, Casey, Charlotte, Marie, Marine, Mentewab, Miguel, Najate, Rebecca, its interns and volunteers.

#### ECPM

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Tel.: +33 1 57 63 03 57

Fax: +33 1 80 87 70 46

#### Nos locaux:

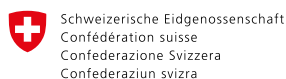
69, rue Michelet, 93100 Montreuil

#### Le siège social:

ECPM, 53 rue Patay, 75013 Paris



avec l'aide financière  
de l'Union Européenne



Ministerio de  
Relaciones Exteriores y Culto  
República Argentina



**“Assassination on the scaffold is the worst form of assassination, because there it is invested with the approval of society.”**

**George Bernard Shaw**  
*Maximes for Revolutionnaires*

**“The death penalty is contrary to all the grand thoughts and great dreams humanity has had for the past 2.000 years.”**

**Jean Jaurès**



**To know more and keep informed  
about the death penalty, visit our website:**

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

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