

MEDIA TOOLKIT

DEATH PENALTY IN 2008

THE JOURNEY TOWARDS GLOBAL
ABOLITION CONTINUES

AMNESTY
INTERNATIONAL



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Amnesty International opposes the death penalty in all cases without exception regardless of the nature of the crime, the characteristics of the offender, or the method used by the state to kill the prisoner.

In 1977, when Amnesty International began monitoring the worldwide application of the death penalty, only 16 countries had abolished the death penalty for all crimes. As of 31 December 2008, that figure stands at 92 and more than two thirds of all countries in the world have abolished the death penalty in law or practice.

Amnesty International has been monitoring developments around the use of the death penalty and campaigning for its abolition for more than three decades. At the beginning of each year the organization releases its annual figures on the worldwide application of the death penalty, based on the information available.

THIS MEDIA TOOLKIT CONTAINS:

- Death sentences and executions in 2008 (ACT 50/003/2009)
- List of abolitionist and retentionist countries in 2008 (ACT 50/002/2009)
- List of ratifications of international treaties on the abolition of the death penalty (ACT 50/001/2009)
- Amnesty International press release, 24 March 2009
- List of Amnesty International spokespeople

This toolkit is available to download at:
www.amnesty.org

For more information visit:
www.amnesty.org/en/death-penalty

Amnesty International is an independent worldwide movement of people who campaign for internationally recognized human rights to be respected and protected. It has more than 2.2 million members and supporters in over 150 countries and territories.

Published by:
Amnesty International, International Secretariat
Peter Benenson House, 1 Easton Street
London WC1X 0DW, United Kingdom

© Amnesty International Publications 2009

Index: ACT 50/004/2009
Original language: English
Printed by Amnesty International, International Secretariat, London, United Kingdom

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Front cover image: Campaigners in Ohio hold a day of action at the Ohio Statehouse in Columbus, Ohio, USA. © 2009 Joseph L. Harris

