



## A REFERENTIAL ORGANISATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF THE ABOLITIONIST CAUSE

### ABOUT US

Ensemble contre la peine de mort – ECPM (Together against the Death Penalty) is an organisation that fights for the cause of universal abolition and in all circumstances of the death penalty. ECPM's objectives are to organise and support all actions that fight against the death penalty throughout the world; it strives to promote universal abolition and to advance human rights and fundamental freedoms. The organisation supports the abolitionist cause by creating and distributing publications, reports and teaching tools through public campaigns it lobbies governments on both the national and international level. Throughout the world, ECPM fights for the abolition of capital punishment, raises public awareness and promotes a humanistic view of justice. ECPM also serves to help abolitionist actors by mobilising and bringing together new abolitionists, strengthening the capacities of local actors and acting alongside them in their fight against capital punishment, and by working alongside lawyers who defend death row prisoners. ECPM's values include working together to help mankind and to take bold steps to achieve universal abolition. Created in 2000 by a handful of activists, ECPM now has a central role in the international abolitionist movement and has even been acknowledged as a key partner in the fight against capital punishment in the world. ECPM earned its legitimacy as a unifying group of the abolitionist movement because of its strong sense of ethics and values. Bringing civil society together with the World Congresses that it organises every three years and with the World Coalition Against the Death Penalty of which it is a founding member, ECPM has become the key partner with State governments for joint actions. The organisation also coordinates an informal group of nine States, the Core Group, which mobilises their diplomacies to support abolition and the Congresses. ECPM also acts to create networks with abolitionist members of Parliament.

### OUR ACTIONS

- **Uniting abolitionists from around the world**

ECPM organises the World Congresses every three years (Strasbourg 2001, Montreal 2004, Paris 2007, Geneva 2010, Madrid 2013) which bring together thousands of political representatives, civil society organisations, legal professionals or artists from both abolitionist and retentionist countries in order to develop future strategies.

- **Strengthening the capacity of local actors and acting alongside them**

Because the abolitionist fight requires success on a local level, ECPM supports forming national and regional coalitions in the Middle East, in the North Africa region and in Central Africa; it also supports the creation of abolitionist Parliamentary Networks.

- **Advocating for universal abolition**

The creation of the World Coalition Against the Death Penalty was launched by ECPM (now a founding member of its executive board) in 2002. Together, they carry out lobbying and public mobilisation campaigns to political decision-makers: a call for a universal moratorium on executions at the United Nations, the World Day Against the Death Penalty, etc. ECPM carries out judicial inquiries with its local partners and has published reports on the situation of the death penalty in Iran, Morocco, Tunisia, the United States and in the Great Lakes region of Africa.

- **Educating and raising awareness about abolition**

ECPM creates projects and educational tools for middle school and high school students in France and abroad. The organisation raises public awareness about the situation of the death penalty in the world, especially regarding minorities and vulnerable social groups, via the Abolition Newspaper, the Abolition Newsletter, its website [www.abolition.fr](http://www.abolition.fr) and social networks.

**ABOLITION  
NOW**

*Ensemble  
contre  
la peine  
de mort*

Since 2000, we have been fighting against the death penalty by uniting and rallying abolitionist forces across the world. We advocate with international bodies. We encourage universal abolition through education, and public awareness campaigns. We strengthen the capacities of abolitionist actors and act alongside them on a local scale.

2016



**ECPM IS GRANTED CONSULTATIVE STATUS WITH ECOSOC** • ECPM reaches a major milestone by obtaining consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), granting it access to UN institutions in Geneva (Human Rights Council), New York ( United Nations Headquarters and Security Council), and Vienna (UNODC-United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime).

2015



**1<sup>ST</sup> ASIAN REGIONAL SUMMIT IN KUALA LUMPUR** • Asia is the first retentionist region worldwide. The number of people executed in Asia remains higher than the total number of executions in the rest of the world. Oslo's World Summit aims to build on the Regional Congress of Kuala Lumpur in order to push its challenges to the forefront.

2015



**CAMPAIGN FOR SERGE ATLAOUI AND ALL DEATHROW PRISONERS IN INDONESIA** • When Indonesia resumes executions, ECPM carries out lobbying actions to prevent the execution of Serge Atlaoui, a French citizen sentenced to death. Following weeks of campaigning and the execution of 8 more people, he narrowly avoids death.

2013



**1<sup>ST</sup> NATIONAL NETWORK OF PARLIAMENTARIANS AGAINST THE DEATH PENALTY IN MOROCCO** • Following the Regional Congress, Moroccan parliamentarians create the 1<sup>st</sup> National Network of Parliamentarians Against the Death Penalty, bringing together 250 MPs from both chambers of Parliament. In the wake of this unique initiative, ECPM backs the creation of more networks in Tunisia, Lebanon, and DRC.

2012



**1<sup>ST</sup> REGIONAL CONGRESS IN RABAT** • ECPM organises the 1<sup>st</sup> Regional Congress in Rabat in order to lobby the highest echelons of power in a region of the world where the death penalty remains a major issue in society. As the largest anti-death penalty event to ever be held in the Arab world, the Congress brought together over 500 people and was attended by a number of high-ranking political personalities.

2010



**CAMPAIGN FOR HANK SKINNER** • ECPM carries out advocacy actions to prevent the execution of Hank Skinner. After a 15-year-long legal battle, the judge orders DNA analysis of crime scene evidence, 19 years after the facts occurred.

2009



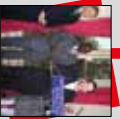
**THE OUR BODY EXHIBITION IS BANNED** • After ECPM is granted motion for summary judgement, a banning order is imposed on the *Our Body* exhibition, in which bodies of Chinese death row prisoners are exhibited. The Court of Appeal goes on to confirm the relevance of this ban in a decree which sets legal precedence.

2007



**THE CASE OF THE BULGARIAN NURSES** • ECPM lobbies presidential candidates to save 5 Bulgarian nurses and a Palestinian doctor sentenced to death in Libya for allegedly inoculating children with the AIDS virus.

2005



**HUMAN RIGHTS PRIZE FOR THE FACT-FINDING MISSION IN DRC** • For its first legal fact-finding mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), the organisation is awarded the Human Rights Prize from French Prime Minister Dominique de Villepin. Further missions will then be carried out in Burundi and in Rwanda: these countries have gone on to abolish the death penalty.

2002



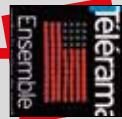
**FORMATION OF THE WORLD COALITION AGAINST THE DEATH PENALTY** • On the initiative of ECPM, the 1<sup>st</sup> World Congress leads to the formation of the World Coalition Against the Death Penalty in Rome on 13 May 2002. Today, it boasts over 150 members.

2001



**1<sup>ST</sup> WORLD CONGRESS AGAINST THE DEATH PENALTY, STRASBOURG** • ECPM positions itself as the uniting organisation for all abolitionist forces from across the world and organises the 1<sup>st</sup> World Congress Against the Death Penalty in Strasbourg. The event has since been organised every 3 years : in Montreal (2004), Paris (2007), Geneva (2010) and Madrid (2013).

2000



**CREATION OF THE ORGANISATION** • Michel Taube and Benjamin Menasse write a book, *An Open Letter to Americans for the Abolition of the Death Penalty* published by L'Écart. This is followed by a campaign, "Together Against the Death Penalty in the USA" which gathers 500,000 signatures in France. This show of strength leads to the creation of the ECPM organisation.