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**Summary**

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**Amnesty International reports & statements**

Some recent AI press releases:

**Brazil.** Government and judiciary fail Brazil’s indigenous peoples once more (6 Jan).  
http://web.amnesty.org/library/Index/ENGAMR190012006

**Cambodia.** New activist arrest as government pressures courts (5 Jan).  
http://web.amnesty.org/library/Index/ENGASA230012006

**Egypt.** Amnesty International calls for inquiry into killings and opposes threatened collective expulsions of Sudanese protesters (5 Jan).  
http://web.amnesty.org/library/Index/ENGMDE120022006

These and other press releases and reports are accessible at:  
http://web.amnesty.org/library/eng-recent/index

**Death Penalty**

**Kyrgyzstan’s** president effectively ended the use of the death penalty by extending a moratorium on the punishment until its planned abolition, reported ABC news (30 Dec).  
http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory?id=1454900

**Taiwan.** The government has not been able to fulfill its goal of abolishing the death penalty, but has lowered the number of people it executes, according to the Taipei Times (2 Jan).  
http://www.taipeitimes.com/News/taiwan/archives/2006/01/02/2003287050

**Freedom of expression**

**China.** In shutting down Beijing’s first-ever gay and lesbian cultural festival, the Chinese government violated basic freedoms and persecuted activists who are addressing the country’s AIDS crisis, Human Rights Watch and the Canadian HIV/AIDS Legal Network said (20 Dec).  
http://www.hrw.org/english/docs/2005/12/20/china12328.htm
Prisoners

**Nigeria.** The government aims to release about half of all prisoners to reduce overcrowding, according to the BBC (5 Jan).
http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/africa/4583282.stm

**USA/Guantanamo.** The number of detainees taking part in a hunger strike at the Guantanamo Bay prison camp more than doubled in the last week of 2005, reported the BBC (30 Dec).
http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/americas/4568152.stm

Torture

**USA.** Three key Republican senators condemned President Bush's assertion that his powers as commander in chief give him the authority to bypass a new law restricting the use of torture when interrogating detainees, as reported on Boston.com News (5 Jan).
http://www.boston.com/news/nation/washington/articles/2006/01/05/3_gop_senators_blast_bush_bid_to_bypass_torture_ban/

Publications

http://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140673606679233/abstract


http://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140673606679051/fulltext

http://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS014067360667904X/fulltext


http://content.nejm.org/cgi/content/full/353/24/2529

http://web.austin.utexas.edu/law_library/punishment/


Zosia Kmietowicz. UK policy to reduce skills drain from Africa is ineffective. *BMJ* 2006;332:9 (7 January).
http://bmj.bmjournals.com/cgi/content/extract/332/7532/9-a

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