

DEATH PENALTY NEWS

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 1 Easton Street
 London WC1X 0DW
 United Kingdom

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A QUARTERLY BULLETIN ON THE DEATH PENALTY AND MOVES TOWARDS WORLDWIDE ABOLITION

NEWS INDEX FOR 2004

COUNTRY	DATE	SUBJECT
Afghanistan	June	First execution since fall of Taleban
Belarus	June	Constitutional court ruling
Bhutan	June	Abolition in Bhutan
China	December	Proposed reforms
India	December	First known execution since late 1990s
Indonesia	December	Three people executed
Iran	December	Child executions continue
Iraq	December	Death penalty reinstated
Japan	June	83-year-old prisoner has request for retrial rejected nearly 13 years after submission of application
	December	Two people executed while parliament in recess
Malawi	June	President commutes 79 death sentences, maintains moratorium
Mexico	June	President submits proposal to abolish death penalty
Pakistan	December	Juvenile death penalty could resume
Senegal	December	Abolition in Senegal
Samoa	June	Abolition in Samoa
Sri Lanka	December	Death penalty to be reactivated
Tajikistan	June	Moratorium under consideration
Turkey	December	Abolition in Turkey
USA	June	US Supreme Court to review decision to allow execution of children Lethal injection - Prisoners challenge lethal injection processes in their states Execution of the mentally ill – at least two prisoners with histories of mental illness executed Innocence – North Carolina and Illinois free two prisoners from death row
	June	Int'l Court of Justice ruling in the case of Mexico v. USA found that the USA had violated Article 36 of the Vienna Convention in 51 cases out of 52 New Hampshire – Governor vetoes bill to raise

COUNTRY	DATE	SUBJECT
USA (cont/)	December	<p>minimum age at which a person can be eligible for the death penalty</p> <p>Maryland – Resumes executions after six years</p> <p>Innocence – Five prisoners released from death row during 2004</p> <p>Indiana – First commutation of death sentence to life imprisonment</p> <p>Texas – US Supreme Court overturns death sentence</p> <p>Texas – State leads US in executions</p>
Viet Nam	June	Government makes reporting and dissemination of statistics on death penalty a state secret
Zambia	June	President commutes death sentences, maintains moratorium
OTHER		
Doctors and lawyers oppose child executions	December	Statements by members of medical and legal professions released opposing the use of the death penalty against child offenders
UN	June	<p>Increase in co-sponsors for death penalty resolution</p> <p>Latest yearly supplement to quinquennial report on capital punishment</p>
World Congress	December	Abolitionists from around the world meet in Montreal
World Day	December	Took place on 10 October with events in over 15 countries