

Amnesty International began campaigning for an end to the death penalty in 1977. We continue to call on all states to abolish this cruel, inhuman and degrading punishment. Following pressure from Amnesty International, the UN adopted the Convention against Torture in 1984. Although 147 countries have ratified the Convention, torture remains widespread and we continue to investigate reports of torture worldwide.

LAST YEAR WE DOCUMENTED SPECIFIC CASES OF

**TORTURE  
AND OTHER  
ILL-TREATMENT IN**

**98**  
COUNTRIES

IN 1977, ONLY 16 COUNTRIES HAD ABOLISHED THE DEATH PENALTY FOR ALL CRIMES.

**TODAY THAT  
NUMBER HAS  
INCREASED TO**

**96**

ALMOST

**2/3**

OF PEOPLE IN THE WORLD  
DO NOT HAVE ACCESS TO

**JUSTICE**

EVEN WHERE JUSTICE SYSTEMS EXIST, THEY ARE OFTEN CORRUPT OR DISCRIMINATORY.

IN 2010 AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL INVESTIGATED

**UNFAIR  
TRIALS IN**

**54**  
COUNTRIES

50  
YEARS



**AMNESTY  
INTERNATIONAL**

Amnesty International is a global movement of more than 3 million supporters, members and activists in more than 150 countries and territories who campaign to end grave abuses of human rights.

Our vision is for every person to enjoy all the rights enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other international human rights standards.

We are independent of any government, political ideology, economic interest or religion and are funded mainly by our membership and public donations.

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# HUMAN RIGHTS FACTS AND FIGURES 2011

During Amnesty International's 50-year existence, we have worked to promote human rights globally. This includes the right to freedom of expression, which has evolved into an internationally recognized right. Despite this, some states continue to undermine freedom of expression using various laws and justifications. Some states punish anyone who criticizes the king or the head of state. In some countries it is a crime for women to wear a full-face veil. Elsewhere, women are punished if they do not cover their heads.

In 2010, Amnesty International recorded and investigated human rights abuses in 157 countries and territories worldwide. Our research shows that the need for individuals to stand together to protect human rights is as great as ever.

IN THE PAST YEAR, AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL WORKED ON CASES OF

**UNLAWFUL RESTRICTIONS OF  
FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION IN** **89**  
COUNTRIES

WE HAVE BEEN CAMPAIGNING  
**ON BEHALF OF  
THOSE IMPRISONED FOR  
THEIR BELIEFS  
SINCE 1961.**

WE ARE CURRENTLY  
CALLING FOR  
RELEASE OF  
PRISONERS  
OF CONSCIENCE IN **48**  
COUNTRIES

