

REDRESS

Ending torture, seeking justice for survivors

May 2026

JUST REPARATION

Strengthening the community of practice for reparation by sharing topical developments in the field



Just Reparation is a regular roundup of news on reparation, curated by the REDRESS legal team.

This edition highlights key developments in the field of reparations, including the recent reparations order issued by the International Criminal Court (ICC) in the *Al Hassan* case; updates from the Register of Damage for Ukraine regarding new claims categories and the number of registered claims; the publication of draft reparations guidelines in Kenya; and recent initiatives concerning reparations for Indigenous victims of the Napalpí Massacre in Argentina.

The edition also features insights from the Human Rights and Justice Center, which calls for effective reparations for survivors of conflict-related sexual violence in the context of the country visit of the Special Rapporteur on Truth, Justice, Reparations and Guarantees of Non-Recurrence.

If you would like to contribute a short article for our *Community Corner* section, or if your organisation is hosting an event you would like to share with our readers or on our social media, please contact our Legal Officer, Alejandro, at alejandro@redress.org.

Give us feedback

BIG STORIES



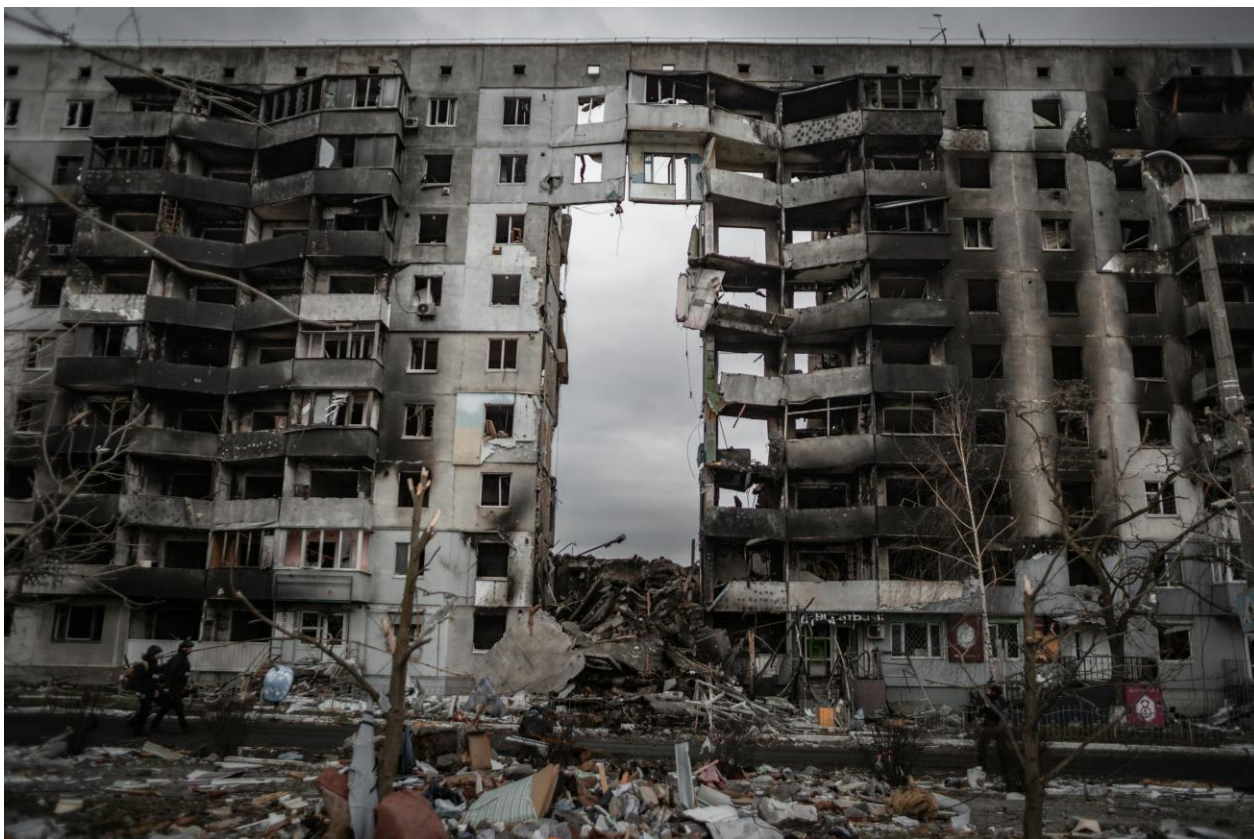
MALI

ICC Reparations Order in Al Hassan Recognises Gendered and Intersectional Harm

On 28 April 2026, Trial Chamber X of the International Criminal Court adopted a [reparations order](#) in [The Prosecutor v. Al Hassan Ag Abdoul Aziz Ag Mohammed Ag Mahmoud](#). The decision establishes reparations for approximately 65,202 victims of crimes committed in Timbuktu, Mali, during the 2012-2013 occupation of the city. The reparations order follows Al Hassan's [2024 conviction](#) for crimes against humanity and war crimes, including persecution on religious grounds, torture, and outrages upon personal dignity.

The Chamber awarded community-based collective reparations for all victims, including rehabilitation measures such as socio-economic assistance, educational support, and psychological care. The order also includes measures of satisfaction, notably the possibility of an apology to the affected communities by Al Hassan, subject to victims' agreement. In addition to these collective measures, the Court awarded individual rehabilitation measures to certain categories of direct victims. The Court estimated the total cost of the reparations programme at €7,250,000 (approximately XOF 4.75 billion CFA francs), to be administered by the Trust Fund for Victims since Al Hassan was found indigent.

The decision reflects [several arguments](#) advanced in an [amicus curiae](#) brief submitted to the Court on 16 June 2025 by a coalition of international, regional, and national organisations. The brief analysed the full extent of the harms suffered by victims, emphasising their gendered and intersectional dimensions. Among other aspects, the reparations order recognises the intersectional harms experienced by women and girls and underscores the importance of adopting a gender-sensitive approach in the implementation of rehabilitation measures. Following the adoption of the reparations order, the Trust Fund for Victims is expected to submit a Draft Implementation Plan by January 2027.



UKRAINE

Updates on the Reparation Mechanisms

On 30 April 2026, the Register of Damage Caused by the Aggression of the Russian Federation Against Ukraine announced that, by the end of April 2026, it had recorded more than 45,000 claims across several categories of harm, including the death or disappearance of immediate family members, as well as damage to or destruction of residential and non-residential property.

At the same time, the Register opened several important new categories of claims, including B1.1, B1.2, C1.1, C1.2, and C3.1, relating to damage to or destruction of critical and non-critical infrastructure, and the destruction, loss, or damage of assets. These newly opened categories allow for the documentation of large-scale and systemic losses, including the destruction of production capacity and the disruption of entire economic sectors. Unlike previously opened categories, which primarily focused on individual harms, these claims may be submitted by the State, public authorities, municipalities, and private legal entities.

The registered claims are expected to form part of a broader international reparations framework composed of the Register of Damage, the recently established Claims Commission, and a future compensation fund. The Register's role is to receive and process claims and supporting evidence, assess their eligibility, and organise them under the relevant categories of harm. Its mandate covers damages caused by the Russian aggression against Ukraine from 24 February 2022 onwards. The Claims Commission is expected to review the registered claims and issue compensation decisions, which would eventually be implemented through the future trust fund.



KENYA

National Commission on Human Rights Publishes Guidelines for Reparation for Protesters

On 20 April 2026, the Kenya National Commission on Human Rights released [draft reparations guidelines for victims of State violence](#) linked to [protests](#) and opened a seven-day public consultation period prior to their adoption. The proposed framework represents one of the most comprehensive national initiatives on reparations in Kenya to date, providing for monetary compensation alongside psychosocial support, social services, and other non-monetary measures for victims who were killed, injured, subjected to sexual violence, or forcibly disappeared.

The initiative follows years of protest-related violence in Kenya, which resulted in deaths, injuries, and enforced disappearances, intensifying demands for accountability and redress. Previous reports documenting the scale of the abuses highlighted the urgent need for a more systematic reparations framework. In this context, the proposed guidelines seek to move beyond reliance on individual court proceedings, which have historically excluded many victims due to financial, procedural, and evidentiary barriers.

At the same time, important concerns remain regarding the implementation and credibility of the proposed reparations programme. Questions persist about the availability of adequate funding, the political will of the Kenyan authorities to implement the measures effectively, and whether victims will ultimately receive meaningful redress. Organisations such as [Amnesty International](#) have also highlighted the importance of adopting an intersectional approach to the assessment of reparations, ensuring meaningful victim participation, and preventing bureaucratic procedures from excluding victims from access to the programme.

Photo by: Jorge Lascar CC 2.0



ARGENTINA

Implementation of Reparations in the Napalpí Massacre Case: Launch of a Public Digital Archive

On 6 May 2026, the Faculty of Humanities of the National University of the Northeast (UNNE) formalised an agreement to make publicly available a digital archive of the [“Trial for the Truth” on the Napalpí Massacre](#). This agreement is part of the implementation of the reparations ordered in the 2022 judicial ruling on behalf of the massacre victims. The archive will be accessible openly to the public, constituting a concrete reparative measure aimed at victims, their families, and society as a whole.

This initiative is situated within the historical context of the Napalpí Massacre of 19 July 1924, in which approximately 400-500 Indigenous Qom and Moqoit people were killed by State forces. The massacre remained unacknowledged for decades until the 2022 truth trial, which officially recognized the events as crimes against humanity and mandated measures of symbolic and historical reparation. The digital archive compiles extensive documentation, including materials from an investigation in 2014, records of court hearings, testimonies, the judgment and its enforcement reports and historical documents including the original case files from 1924.

The significance of this development is its impact as a reparative implementation mechanism, transforming judicial recognition into accessible memory infrastructure. By enabling public access to evidence and testimonies of these atrocities, the archive

contributes to symbolic reparations and specifically, guarantees of non-repetition. The impact of this archive will depend on continued institutional support and expansion of reparation education efforts.

Photo by: Wikimedia

COMMUNITY CORNER

We like to include the perspectives and insights of lawyers, activists, survivors, and others engaged in the field of reparation in **Just Reparation**. Alongside updates on progress in specific cases, your contributions are invaluable for enriching our collective understanding and fostering meaningful dialogue within the reparation community of practice. If you would like to feature in the next edition of Just Reparation, we encourage you to submit your contributions by 20 June 2026 to alejandro@redress.org.

STILL WAITING: Nepal's Reparations Debt and the Special Rapporteur's Visit

by Ojaswi K.C., Human Rights and Justice Centre

[Fulmati Nyaya*](#), a survivor of conflict-related sexual violence (CRSV), had already filed her complaint with the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) when she was called back for a verification consultation in April 2026. She was told to appear the same day, with no consideration for the distance she would need to travel. She could not come that day. When she arrived the following day, complainants were gathered in a crowded room and asked to provide statements simultaneously, without consideration for her privacy. Her concerns about being interviewed by a male staff member and about insufficient travel reimbursement were dismissed. This is what accountability looks like in Nepal, two decades after the peace accord.



**HUMAN RIGHTS
AND JUSTICE CENTRE**

Fulmati's experience is not an exception. It is the rule. Kalyan Budhathoki was both a conflict victim and a leader who spent two decades beside survivors navigating that same institutional failure. Conflict victims' organisations [remembered him](#) as someone who stood in "every sorrow and struggle". He died on 9 April 2026 without seeing it addressed. His family is still waiting for the reparations Nepal promised. Nepal made binding commitments to people like them. It has not kept them.

Those commitments are not rhetorical. Nepal ratified the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights in 1991, binding itself to investigate serious human rights violations and provide remedies. When domestic processes fail, individuals can bring complaints directly to the Committee. Since 1991, it has issued [29 Views against Nepal](#), 24 on violations during the 1996-2006 armed conflict. The 92 people documented include victims of torture, enforced disappearances, CRSV and extra-judicial killing: 43% women, 26% children, 35% from indigenous communities. Fulmati is one of them. Not one View has been fully implemented. Only 3 of the 92 have received any compensation. Nepal's average implementation grade is "C".

That record makes the August 2024 amendment to the Enforced Disappearances Enquiry, Truth and Reconciliation Commission Act (TRC Act), 2014 important to assess. It recognized CRSV, established a reparations fund, and created a special court for serious violations. But it retained amnesty provisions declared void by Nepal's own Supreme Court in 2015. Survivors were given three months to file complaints, a window that has already lapsed. On 30 April 2026, the Supreme Court [issued a mandamus](#) order pressing the government on commitments it has not kept. The pattern is familiar: legislation announced, implemented partially, then quietly abandoned.

That pattern has outlasted every government. The Gen Z protests of September 2025 left more than 75 people dead. Human Rights and Justice Centre have [observed](#) that the culture of impunity rooted in the conflict contributed to those deaths. The Rastriya Swatantra Party (RSP), led by Prime Minister Balendra Shah, emerged from March 2026 elections with a near two-thirds majority. Unlike every government before it, the RSP has no stake in the conflict and carries none of that baggage. But the early signs are not encouraging. The TRC and CIEDP commissioners, already rejected by victims as political quota appointments, were removed by ordinance, bypassing legislative scrutiny. Transitional justice does not appear on the government's 100-point agenda. When Parliament received the Policy and Programme on 11 May, point no. 84 committed to concluding transitional justice processes as soon as possible, a commitment limited to paper. Beside it sit regulations that remain unendorsed and a commission without sitting members. The Shah government's response to the killings was no different from those of previous governments: the former prime minister and home minister were arrested within a day then released after 13 days, while officers with direct command responsibility have not been prosecuted.

Nepal's transitional justice failures have been documented for years by human rights organisations, UN bodies, victim groups and civil society, including domestically. The most recent instance is a [joint letter](#) to Prime Minister Shah from Human Rights Watch, Amnesty International and the International Commission of Jurists, dated 1 May 2026. It has received no response. It is into this silence that [Bernard Duhaime](#), the UN Special Rapporteur on Truth, Justice, Reparations and Guarantees of Non-Recurrence, arrives in June. For survivors like Fulmati, who have waited two decades for compensation that has not come, it is one of the few mechanisms Nepal cannot entirely dismiss.

But it will mean something only if the report reflects what it finds on the ground. A visit that treats consultations as evidence of their quality, or legislation as evidence of political will, will not reach the people it is meant to serve. And a government that treats the visit as an occasion to perform rather than to act will not reach them either.

The RSP alone has what no previous government could claim: distance from the conflict and the freedom to act on it. The question Duhaime should put plainly is not whether the opportunity exists. It does. The question is whether this government understands that Fulmati, and the thousands like her, will not survive another cycle of it being wasted. Kalyan did not.

** Fulmati Nyaya's account is shared with her knowledge and consent.*

OTHER STORIES

MEXICO

Rights Commission Seeks
Reparations After Abigail Hay's
Death in Salina Cruz Custody

[Read more](#)



SPAIN

UN Experts Praise Spain's New
Truth Commission as Historic Step
Toward Justice

[Read more](#)



NEPAL

HRW and Rights Groups Press
Nepal's Government on Justice and
Rule of Law

[Read more](#)



PALESTINE

Gaza reconstruction must address occupation and discrimination, say UN experts

[Read more](#)



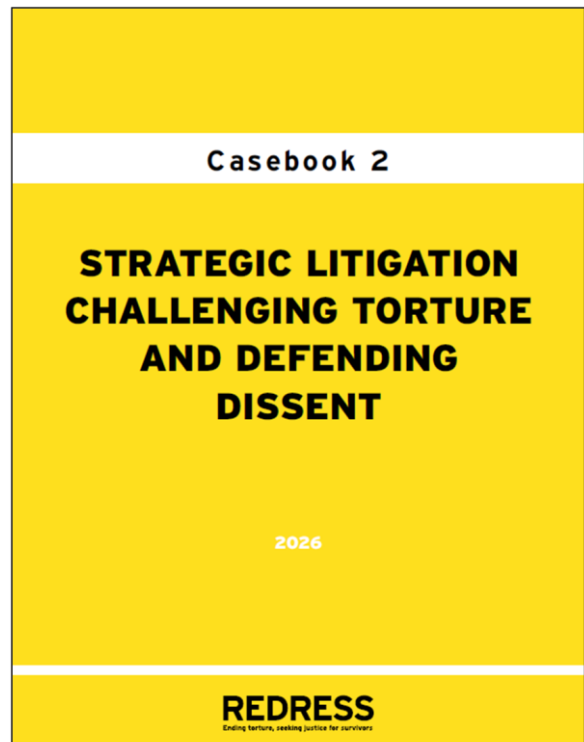
WEEKEND READS

Casebook 2: Strategic Litigation Challenging Torture and Defending Dissent

by REDRESS

This Casebook catalogues leading cases against torture used to silence dissent, intimidate human rights defenders and journalists, and target protesters and political dissidents. It covers cases across the globe that used strategic litigation and that serve as examples of the potential of creative litigation to transform the law, prompt policy reforms, and trigger broader practical changes. It tells the stories of 26 cases brought before different jurisdictions such as the IACtHR, the ACHPR, the ACtHPR, the ECOWAS Court, the ECtHR, and UN treaty bodies and Special Procedures, including the CEDAW Committee and the UN WGAD.

[Read the Casebook](#)



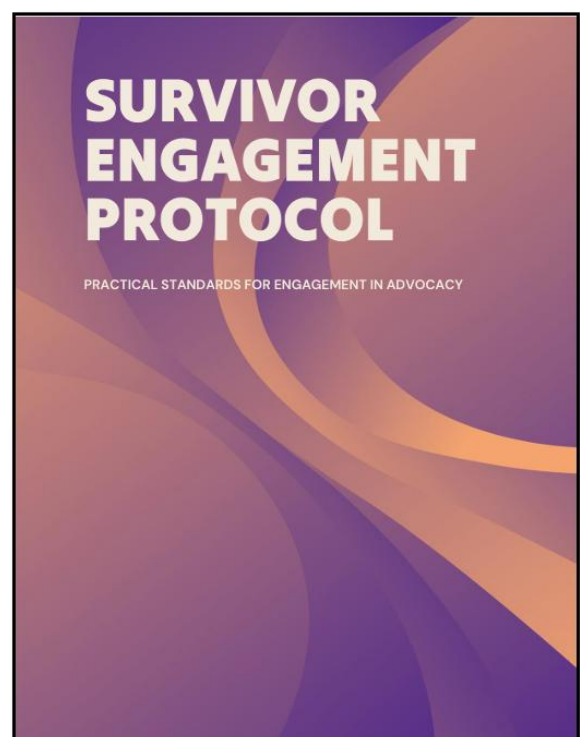
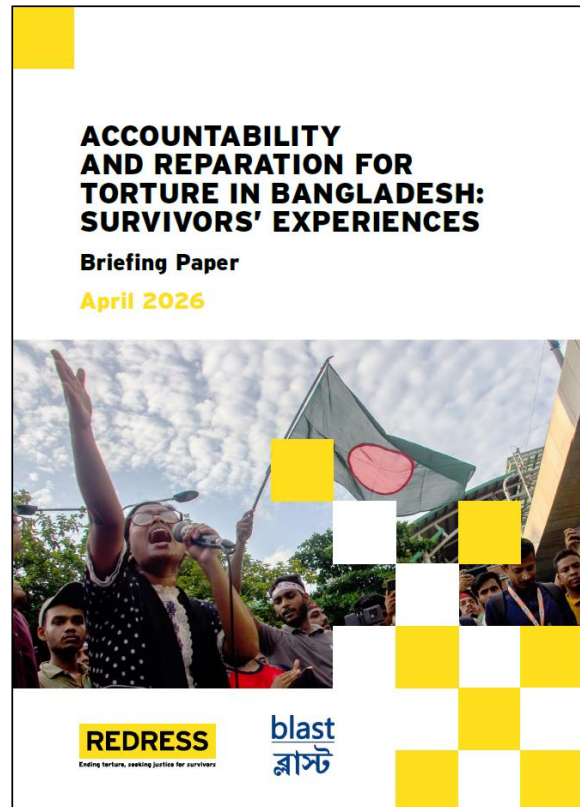
Briefing Paper: Accountability and Reparation for Torture in Bangladesh: Survivors' Perspective by REDRESS

This briefing paper presents the perspectives of survivors of torture and other serious human rights violations during Bangladesh's July/August 2024 uprising. It examines their experiences, priorities, and barriers related to justice, accountability, and reparation, to inform survivor-centred reparation initiatives aligned with international human rights standards. The information in this briefing is based on 2025 interviews with 80 survivors conducted by the Bangladesh Legal Aid and Services Trust (BLAST) using UN-based tools adapted to Bangladesh. The interviews documented violations suffered, survivor profiles, justice priorities, and expectations of reparation.

[Read the briefing](#)

Survivor Engagement Protocol: practical guidelines for organisations and institutions engaging with survivors and victims in events, conferences, advocacy initiatives, capacity-building and other non-judicial spaces by Women's Initiatives for Gender Justice, Grace Agenda, Synergy for Justice, Tallawah Justice for Women

Existing guidelines address survivor protection, documentation, and policy engagement. However, a practical gap remains in detailed operational guidance for survivor-centred participation in advocacy and policy spaces. This Protocol addresses that gap by providing concrete operational standards and step-by-step checklists covering the logistical, financial,



security, and psychosocial dimensions of engagement, from initial contact to travel, compensation, follow-up, and institutional accountability. Among others, his Protocol sets out standards for responding to concerns raised by survivors in their interaction with your organisation, guidance on repairing harm, and how to strengthen institutional learning.

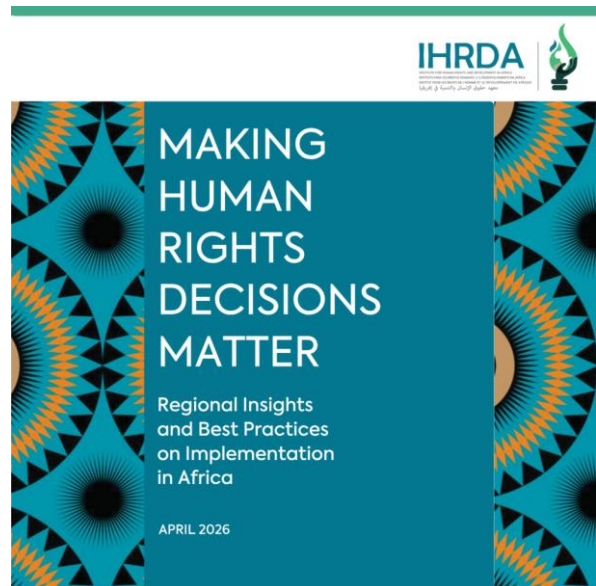
[Read the tool](#)

Making Human Rights Decisions Matter: Regional Insights and Best Practices on Implementation in Africa

by Institute for Human Rights and Development in Africa (IHDR)

This report highlights the persistent gap between human rights rulings and their implementation across Africa. Based on consultations with key stakeholders between 2023 and 2025, it finds that this gap reflects broader governance and accountability failures, including weak coordination, limited political will, and poor enforcement. Challenges include low compliance with reparations and limited victim support, while civil society remains vital in pushing accountability. The report calls for stronger national mechanisms, legal reforms, increased oversight, and more victim-centred approaches, stressing that human rights decisions only matter when they improve victims' lives.

[Read the report](#)



Syria: Learning from Iraq's Reparations Experience

by Sherizaan Minwalla, Zoe
Paris, Mustafa Haid for Justice Info

More than a year after Bashar al-Assad's fall, a central question remains: what will convince Syrians that the new state is not just the same old machinery in a different form? In post-conflict situations, legitimacy is built when survivors can approach public institutions and are treated with dignity. Reparations sit at the heart of this test.



[Read the article](#)

EVENTS

REDRESS WEBINAR SERIES

REDRESS hosts periodic webinars on reparation practices to support the anti-torture movement. These sessions share practical tips, comparative experiences, lessons learned, and other relevant insights for practitioners. They create and strengthen ties among practitioners, academics, and activists from varied backgrounds and contribute to the formation of a community of practice on reparation. Find details of previous webinar [here](#).

STRATEGIC LITIGATION: Challenging Torture and Defending Dissent

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UNITED AGAINST TORTURE

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Ending torture, seeking justice for survivors

REDRESS IN PRACTICE
WEBINAR SERIES

STRATEGIC LITIGATION: CHALLENGING TORTURE AND DEFENDING DISSENT

26 MAY 2026
TUESDAY | 3:00 PM
CET

PANEL

Hossam Bahgat
Executive Director and Founder
Egyptian Initiative for Personal Rights

Raquel da Cruz Lima
Legal Reference Center Coordinator
Artigo 19

Tamar Oniani
Chairperson
Georgian Young Lawyers' Association
(GYLA)

MODERATOR

Ana Cutts Dougherty
Consultant Lawyer
REDRESS

French, Spanish, Arabic and Ukrainian
interpretations will be available

Register at redress.org/events | Livestreamed on

REDRESS is hosting a panel discussion webinar to launch [Casebook 2: Strategic Litigation - Challenging Torture and Defending Dissent](#), highlighting how creative legal strategies have been used around the world to challenge torture employed to silence dissent. Through concrete case studies and expert perspectives, the webinar will explore the impact of strategic litigation and share practical lessons for lawyers, activists, and others engaged in anti-torture work. **It will take place on 26 May 2026 at 3pm CET.**

Speakers include:

- **Hossam Bahgat**, Egyptian Initiative for Personal Rights (EIPR), Executive Director and Founder
- **Raquel da Cruz Lima**, Artigo 19, Legal Reference Center Coordinator
- **Tamar Oniani**, Georgian Young Lawyers' Association (GYLA), Chairperson

Moderated by: Ana Cutts Dougherty, REDRESS Consultant Lawyer

The session will conclude with an interactive Q&A. Interpretation will be provided in French, Spanish, Arabic and Ukrainian.

[Register here](#)

[Here](#) are some upcoming events on strategic litigation against torture and other related topics that may be of interest to you.

If your organisation is hosting an event and would like to share it with our community of practice through this newsletter or REDRESS social media, please send the details to our Legal Officer at alejandro@redress.org.

Thank you for reading. See you next month!

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