

A close-up, high-angle portrait of a man with dark skin, looking slightly to the right. He is wearing a dark brown headband and a patterned headscarf with yellow and brown designs. The background is a soft, out-of-focus landscape with warm tones. The text 'ANNUAL REVIEW 2019' is overlaid on the top left of the image.

**ANNUAL
REVIEW
2019**

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REDRESS

Ending torture, seeking justice for survivors

ANNUAL REVIEW 2019

Photo CREDITS

Photo cover credits: ESA/REDRESS (2019). Several of Elizabeth Adongo's family members were killed and tortured by Uganda government soldiers during the armed conflict in Uganda. Following the loss of her family, she was raped by an LRA rebel commander and got pregnant. In search for justice, she formed a survivors' support group and, against cultural dictates, dug graves in the Obalanga massacre sites.

Page 9: Christian Als/Panos Pictures. Families of victims of enforced disappearance in Algeria demand to know where their loved ones are.

Page 11: REDRESS/ESA. Kenya Luke Alana lost several relatives and all his belongings during the Atiak massacre, in Uganda, in 1995. After rounding up hundreds of people, LRA rebels opened fire on 300 unarmed men and boys as women and young children watched in horror. Before leaving, some youth were forced to join the LRA to serve as combatants and sexual slaves. To this day, Kenya has not been able to bury his relatives properly for lack of means.

Page 13: Free Nazanin Campaign.

Page 15: Alexandra Wallace/REDRESS.

Page 17: Sven Torfinn/PANOS: Josephine M'Kanga sits at her home in a small village outside Bukavu, with all that she has left with after the conflict in the DRC.

Page 20: Carlos Spottorno/Panos Pictures. A refugee women comforts her daughter outside a train station in Tovarnik, Croatia.

Page 22: Petty Officer Kilho Park/US Navy. A detainee is escorted to his cell by guards at Guantanamo Bay.

Page 23: Jenny Matthews/Panos Pictures. Pride Festival in Peru.

Page 25: Azul Rojas Marín.

Page 26: David Rose/Panos Pictures. People hold up the image of a youth killed in street protests in Khartoum, Sudan, following the fall of President Omar al-Bashir.

Page 39: Jim Goldberg/Magnum Photos.

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REDRESS

Ending torture, seeking justice for survivors

Our vision is a world without **TORTURE**



We seek justice and reparation for survivors of torture.



Combat impunity for governments and individuals who perpetrate it.



Develop and promote compliance with international standards.



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Message from the CHAIR

Paul Lomas

“These approaches place the survivor’s interests at the centre of what we do, and we are becoming more strategic in our approach.”



Welcome to REDRESS’s 2018/9 Report, which describes much of what the remarkable team at REDRESS have accomplished over the year, seeking redress for the survivors of torture. It is long, hard work and often progress is slow. But the resilience, intelligence, expertise, hard work, good humour and attitude of the staff (and our interns and partners) have been legendary, leading to real progress over the year.

Rupert Skilbeck, our new director, sets out those developments, and the challenges in more detail in his report. Here, I will only mention a few: the work for Nazanin Zaghari-Radcliffe, still sadly, at the time of writing, incarcerated in Iran, including obtaining for her, for the first time for more than 100 years, the status of “Diplomatic Protection” (a genuine ‘first’); leading the NGO report to the UN’s Committee on the UK’s compliance with the Convention Against Torture; and the successful release of Andy Tsege.

The Board has, with Rupert, been focussed on a number of wider issues this year. They include refreshing the strategy and focussing our activities around the key areas of Justice for Torture Survivors and Effective Reparations for Victims, and around specific themes. We have also been looking closely both at our funding and at how we measure impact (to work out what went well and why and to help us work in the best way, on the right cases and projects). This work is continuing into this year. These approaches place the survivor’s interests at the centre of what we do, and we are becoming more strategic in our approach.

We were also delighted to be able to celebrate, in the autumn of 2018, 25 years of REDRESS at a wonderful celebration where

we heard distinguished speakers and could recognise again the contributions of so many people, starting with our Founder, Keith Carmichael.

Rupert joined in February 2018. On behalf of the Board, I would like to thank him for, and congratulate him on, an excellent first year. REDRESS is in good heart with focus and purpose due to his leadership. We have also seen real progress in The Hague, where we now have a stable and strong team which is both doing excellent work on specific cases and building REDRESS’s reputation with the International Criminal Court and the other organisations working in the torture field.

I want to welcome Professor Helen Duffy to the Board, a distinguished academic, practitioner and leader in the NGO field with great knowledge of the torture area. We are strengthening and expanding the Board to ensure that we have good skills and resilience at that level of REDRESS for the future. I hope to announce more new Board members during this year.

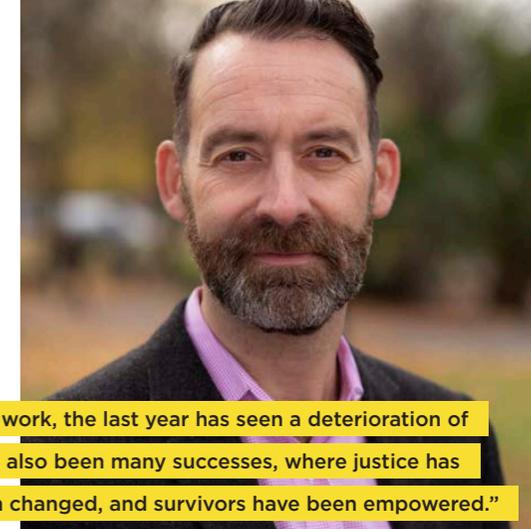
Funding for our work remains a challenge, of course – and particularly so in the current climate. We are enormously grateful to all our donors and supporters over the year. Without them, we could have achieved nothing. Thank you.

Paul Lomas

Message from the DIRECTOR

Rupert Skilbeck

“In many countries where we work, the last year has seen a deterioration of the situation. But there have also been many successes, where justice has been served, laws have been changed, and survivors have been empowered.”



This report on our activities gives details of the many victims of torture for whom we have acted during the course of the year. Their stories of survival both appal and inspire. In many countries where we work, the last year has seen a deterioration of the situation. But there have also been many successes, where justice has been served, laws have been changed, and survivors have been empowered. In all that we do we work collaboratively with national partners, who must be recognised for many of these achievements.

In July the trustees adopted our new strategy, which takes us through until 2020. The strategy sees REDRESS maintain our core purpose of bringing legal actions to obtain justice and reparation on behalf of survivors of torture, but adopts a strategic approach which will see us focus more on seeking to achieve an impact beyond the individual case. The strategy also identified the key areas in which we work, and set objectives for them, which are described in this report. The strategy is for three years, which will allow us to assess progress, refine the longer-term strategy, and plan for how REDRESS will grow.

The trustees also approved in early 2019 a fundraising strategy, that describes in detail how we will bring in sufficient funds to ensure the long-term financial health of the organisation. REDRESS has received core funding from several key foundations which are critical relationships for us which we would wish to maintain. We must also plan to diversify our income in the interests of resilience and stability. Through these targets we will build our core staff which will allow us to support further project staff to deliver our strategy. Later this year the trustees will consider the way in

which REDRESS will respond to this growth through a development plan. The budget approved by the trustees this year consolidates our financial position to enable us to take this forward.

Much hard work has also been done by the staff behind the scenes to upgrade many of the policies and processes that are essential for the effective operation of a charity, but which are invisible to the outside world. These include upgrading our policies on safeguarding, given the importance of ensuring the security of our vulnerable clients. All of which will put us in a strong position to develop the work of REDRESS.

The report sets out our impact over the last 12 months. These include a timely report on reparations at the International Criminal Court, responding to the situation in Sudan, and organising a consortium of NGOs to prepare a report on torture and ill-treatment in the United Kingdom for the UN Committee against Torture. Bringing legal cases is a slow process, and so staff have also spent a great deal of time working with clients and witnesses, preparing cases for submission, and responding to the Courts, for cases that may not come to fruition for some time.

The achievements set out in this report are due to the dedication of our staff, the commitment of our clients and their families, the support of our trustees, and the trust of our supporters and donors. I thank them each for their contributions, all of which enable us to do the work we need to do.

Rupert Skilbeck

Our top 10 IMPACTS

During the course of the year REDRESS brought about change in many different areas of our work.

Torture of UK citizens and dual nationals

We changed the UK government's approach when responding to dual-nationals who are ill-treated abroad. We made legal arguments to the UK Foreign Secretary to assert diplomatic protection on behalf of Nazanin Zaghari-Ratcliffe, which he did in March 2019, the first time this has happened in a human rights case. We also persuaded the UK Prime Minister for the first time to raise the torture of a British national with a foreign head of state, the Prime Minister of India.

UNCAT Review of the UK

We instigated more than 90 civil society organisations to engage in the review of the UK before the UN Committee against Torture. The resulting report exposed wide-ranging failures by the UK to meet its international obligations to prevent torture and ill-treatment, leading to many recommendations for change from the Committee against Torture.

Reparations in the Central African Republic

REDRESS worked with national NGOs to successfully advocate for the rights of victims to be included in the procedures for the Special Criminal Court, as a result of which thousands of victims of torture in CAR's brutal civil war will now be able to bring their cases to the Court to claim reparation.

Victims' Rights and Reparations at the ICC

We drew attention to the very real challenges relating to reparations and the rights of victims at the International Criminal Court (ICC) and catalyzed systemic change by bringing together key actors at the Court and Trust Fund for Victims for the first time and publishing an influential report on reparations with solid proposals for reform.



Torture of Refugees

We worked with national NGOs to encourage the Greek government to change the law so as to improve the effective investigation of the torture of refugees, which will have an impact on more than 200 cases involving allegations of torture. We also persuaded Greece to commit to making a formal apology for torturing our client Necati Zontul.

Post-Conflict Justice

We empowered victims of torture in Northern Uganda (some of whom had never previously been consulted) to articulate their views and form the first national network of victims of the conflict, to allow them to directly engage with the transitional justice processes. In Chad, we worked with national survivor groups to ensure the creation of a Trust Fund for Victims with effective rules, which will allow thousands of victims of torture and other international crimes to obtain justice and reparation. As a result of our work in Chad, 7,000 survivors are claiming reparations, and both the African Commission and the government of Chad have engaged with the question of reparations.

Anti-Torture Laws

REDRESS obtained a commitment from Ministry officials across francophone Africa to introduce new anti-torture laws that will create safeguards against torture.

LGBTI Torture

We brought the first case of torture by discrimination against an LGBTI person in the Americas to the Inter-American Court of Human Rights, raising awareness on this issue in the region, and empowering individual victims and the LGBTI community to assert their rights.

Torture and Extraordinary Rendition

We shed light into extraordinary rendition practices in Africa, pursuing the case of Kamilya Tuweni before national courts in Kenya to seek recognition for her arbitrary arrest and detention in several African countries and ill-treatment during that time. Our client Andargachew "Andy" Tsege was released by Ethiopian authorities in May 2018 after we took his case together with human rights organisation REPRIEVE to the African Commission on Human and

Peoples' Rights and the UN Working Group on Arbitrary Detention.

Universal Jurisdiction

We led a coalition of NGOs in amending proposed changes by the UK authorities that would have limited their ability to conduct investigations on the basis of universal jurisdiction.

Our strategy: **REDRESS 2020**

Our Trustees approved a new strategy in July 2018. The REDRESS 2020 Strategy maintains our core focus to provide legal assistance for individual victims of torture or in the context of international crimes.

Thematic Approach

The strategy focuses on some of the most urgent issues in areas such as torture and migration, counter-terrorism, discriminatory torture, sexual- and gender-based violence in conflict, and enforced disappearance as a form of torture.

International Justice

We are committed to addressing the problem of torture, victims' rights, and reparations in the context of international accountability, through post-conflict justice in domestic systems, universal jurisdiction, and the ICC, much of which will be led by REDRESS Nederland.

Strategic Litigation

For the first time we describe our litigation as strategic, where we have specific objectives beyond winning the case. Not all cases will be appropriate for a strategic approach, given the particular vulnerability of many torture survivors.

A Holistic Approach

Strategic litigation can take a long time and is often difficult for those involved. Our approach is holistic and victim-centred. We will seek to accompany the torture survivor, and try to support all of their needs, either by ourselves or through partners.

Client Support

As part of this holistic approach we will be developing our capacity to provide effective support to our clients by ensuring that they have access to the services they need.

Community Engagement and Outreach

Where our clients form part of a community, such as in a diaspora after conflict, we will seek to engage and support that community in the campaign and ensure impact beyond the individual claimants.

Impact

Recent research on human rights litigation has looked at the different ways in which litigation and legal advocacy can bring about change. We are working towards developing specific proposals and tools for the measurement and evaluation of our work.



Activities and **ACHIEVEMENTS**

JUSTICE FOR TORTURE SURVIVORS

REDRESS has represented scores of victims of torture to bring legal claims for justice and reparation. Many of these survivors live in the United Kingdom and have been tortured abroad or remain in detention where they continue to be ill-treated.

Through this work REDRESS is able to obtain justice and reparation for both individuals and groups. By including the cases in a strategic litigation campaign, they have a broader impact, bringing about systemic changes that increase accountability and reduce incidents of torture.

We are able to obtain different forms of reparation, such as **restitution**, to put victims in the position they would have been in but for the torture, where possible; **satisfaction**, which includes justice, fact-finding, and a proper investigation to establish the truth; **rehabilitation**, to ensure the needs of the survivor are met; **compensation**, to provide for medical costs, lost income, and moral damages; and **non-repetition**, to try to ensure that others do not suffer in the same way.

This year REDRESS

Represented more than 20 survivors based in the United Kingdom, including survivors from the Sri Lankan community in Liverpool, the Sudanese community in London, the Eritrean community in the Midlands, and the families of British citizens detained abroad.

Acted on behalf of Nazanin Zaghari-Ratcliffe, a dual UK-Iranian national arbitrarily detained and tortured in Evin prison in Tehran to bring her case to the United Nations. We also advocated on her behalf to the UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office, obtaining diplomatic protection for her in March 2019, in the first such case in more than 100 years.

Raised the case of Jagtar Singh Johal, a British citizen detained and allegedly tortured in India, at the United Nations. We advocated successfully for the UK Prime Minister to discuss his case with the Indian Prime Minister, the first time that the PM has raised a torture case with a foreign head of state.

Provided case mentoring and advocacy advice to NGOs and community organisations working with torture survivors, including the International Centre for the Rehabilitation of Victims of Torture (IRCT) and Trauma Treatment International to build our ability to provide medical and psychological support.





How diplomatic protection gives hope to Nazanin to be reunited with her family

By Charlie Loudon, International Legal Adviser
Follow Charlie on Twitter @CharlieLoudon

The UK Foreign Secretary, Jeremy Hunt, announced on 7 March 2019 a decision to grant diplomatic protection to Nazanin Zaghari-Ratcliffe, a British-Iranian mother who has been unlawfully imprisoned in Iran since April 2016.

While it is disappointing that the case reached this stage, the UK's decision to grant diplomatic protection to Nazanin gave her much-needed hope. It is something that Nazanin's family and her legal team, including REDRESS, had been requesting since November 2017.

Diplomatic protection is a formal state-to-state process under international law in which a state seeks protection and reparation for breaches of international law committed by another state against one of its nationals. It asserts that the injury to the individual is an injury to the state itself.

The UK's exercise of diplomatic protection sent a message to Iran that the UK considers Nazanin a British national, and will assert her legal rights under international law. Up until that point Nazanin's case has been treated as a consular matter – essentially a

dispute between Nazanin and the Government of Iran. Diplomatic protection has now elevated it to a formal inter-state dispute between Britain and Iran.

Given the seriousness of Nazanin's situation, the UK government's decision to grant her diplomatic protection was a reasonable step up in its strategy on her case. It should not be forgotten that this is a mother who has been unlawfully imprisoned for more than three years. She has been seeing her daughter infrequently and only in prison, and has not seen her husband since her arrest. She continues to be denied access to crucial medical treatment.

At the time of writing, Nazanin and her husband Richard had taken the heart-breaking decision to send their daughter back from Tehran to be schooled in England, something that Nazanin said left her a "desolate mother ready to burn like a desert dune". The campaign to free Nazanin has never been more urgent.

The UK government should continue to work towards gaining a private consular visit with Nazanin in prison, and ensure she receives access to independent medical treatment. Nazanin's health has declined severely since she was first arrested. Her psychological state is currently perilous, and she is suffering from significant neurological and other physical health issues. Other steps that the UK could take include imposing financial sanctions on the individuals in Iran responsible for Nazanin's detention.

Diplomatic protection is rare, but it is not unprecedented. The UK used diplomatic protection against Iran in a 1951 dispute on behalf of a British oil company. The United States also used it against Iran in response to the 1979 Tehran hostage crisis. Other countries have historically been more willing than the UK to take action to protect their nationals abroad. Just last year the United States imposed economic sanctions on Turkey in response to the detention of a US citizen, Andrew Brunson. Turkey released Brunson two months later.

Over the long run diplomatic protection should provide a formal legal process that can be used to resolve the dispute over Nazanin's case. It will hopefully be the first step towards finally ensuring that Nazanin is freed, and that she is reunited with her husband and daughter in the UK.



Yemi Hailemariam is the wife of Andargachew 'Andy' Tsege, a prominent Ethiopian opposition figure, who spent almost four years on death row in Ethiopia. During his detention, Andy was only allowed a single phone call to his family in London and he did not see Yemi or their three children until they were reunited in London on 1 June 2018. REDRESS brought jointly with NGO Reprieve Andy's case before the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights.

"Fortunately for us, Andy came home, and it was in a big part what REDRESS did in trying to secure his release"

By Yemi Hailemariam

I came to REDRESS in 2014 when my partner was abducted in an international airport in Yemen and taken illegally to Ethiopia. What I found with REDRESS is not only there were experts in trying to challenge a government like Ethiopia but the people that I dealt with were also very human.

They were working to find redress for the situation he was in, as well as also take care of us, the family that was left behind, for example, in trying to put us in touch with psychologists. They were there until the very end. Fortunately for us, he did come home, and it was in a big part what REDRESS did in trying to secure his release.

I think the hardest part during his detention was just to get a real sense of in what mental state or physical state he was, because we couldn't see him, and we could not talk to him. The second thing was trying to talk to him and pass him information because he was in the dark about what was going on and the campaign to try to get him out.

Reuniting as a family has been beautiful and it gets better every day. It was a very gradual process, it's now calmer, more normal, mundane. The things that we have enjoyed the most doing as a family since Andy has come back is just the ordinary stuff, like I can leave the house and he can take care of dinner; simple things like going to our children's musical recitals or their plays; having somebody to share if there are any issues with the children.

The work that REDRESS did made a big difference, because Ethiopia was not signatory to any of the other international conventions but they were signatory to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights. Also, the African Union is based in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, so politically it had a lot more weight to get a provisional measure out of the African Commission. It was actually the only institution that the Ethiopian government actually engaged with.

International **ACCOUNTABILITY**

International conflicts and civil wars often involve largescale situations of torture, sometimes amounting to war crimes and crimes against humanity, with groups of survivors who seek justice and accountability.

REDRESS acts on behalf of victims of international crimes to ensure that they are properly represented in the criminal justice process and that they can obtain reparation.

We work to set up justice mechanisms after conflict, and advocate for the rights of victims of torture in domestic courts, special tribunals, and the International Criminal Court in the Hague. We also encourage national prosecutors to use the principle of Universal Jurisdiction to prosecute perpetrators who travel abroad.

This year REDRESS progressed work in three areas.



ICC

We published a report in February 2019 into the way in which the ICC and its various institutions provide reparations, *No time to wait: Realising Reparations for Victims before the International Criminal Court*. The report makes a series of recommendations for reform. We engaged key stakeholders during the ICC Assembly of States Parties in December 2018 on important issues of concern to victims. As coordinator of the Victims' Rights Working Group (VRWG) we organised together with other NGO partners a series of 'lunch talks' with the diplomatic community in The Hague to demonstrate the importance of victims' rights during the 20th anniversary of the Rome Statute. We intervened in the Saif Gaddafi case to argue that the ICC should not recognize the de facto amnesty that he was granted in Libya for crimes against humanity.

Post-Conflict Justice

Together with our national partners the Association Tchadienne pour la Défense des Droits de l'Homme we have continued to represent 7,000 victims of Hissène Habré in **Chad** in a case brought to the African Commission to enforce a domestic reparations decision in their favour. In the **Central African Republic**, we worked to ensure the rights of victims were included in the Rules of Procedure and Evidence of the Special Criminal Court. We have litigated in **Sudan** to challenge the failure to investigate torture perpetrated by the intelligence services against human rights defenders and opposition leaders. In **Uganda** we assisted victims to establish the first national network of victims of the conflict in Uganda, and empowered them through victims' forums and policy dialogues to participate in the transitional justice process and raise their concerns directly.

Universal Jurisdiction

We advocated to the Metropolitan Police for action against a torture perpetrator who was known to be travelling to the UK. We led a coalition of NGOs in amending proposed changes by the UK authorities that would have limited their ability to conduct investigations on the basis of universal jurisdiction. We coordinated a group of UK-based universal jurisdiction litigators in London and a group of European litigators in The Hague, sharing experiences and identifying opportunities for collaboration. We facilitated a meeting of European NGOs and the Dutch War Crimes Prosecutors Office to identify potential cases. We undertook research in The Netherlands on the mechanisms by which diaspora groups (particularly Syrians) can engage with the prosecution authorities, and research on how victims' rights under EU law are respected. In March 2019 we published with Trial International and other NGOs the Universal Jurisdiction Annual Review 2019.

Effective reparations for **VICTIMS**

International standards on the rights of victims of torture are often ignored, and some governments seek to water down hard-won protections. Civil society must push for the development of new standards, the effective implementation of existing legal protections, and guard against any backsliding.

REDRESS has helped to develop national laws and international standards that make it easier to provide for reparation and punish perpetrators, including anti-torture laws around the world, the UN Basic Principles on the Right to a Remedy, and critical interpretations of the Convention against Torture.

This year REDRESS

Intervened in several cases before domestic and regional courts to strengthen the interpretation of key international standards relating to torture and reparation such as in a case brought by hundreds of survivors of attacks at a tea plantation of a major international company in Kenya during the post-election violence in 2007.

Led a consultation with more than 90 civil society organisations to prepare a shadow report on the UK's adherence to the UN Convention against Torture, which was presented to the UN Committee against Torture in May 2019. The report led to key recommendations for change by the Committee, which echoed our concerns.

Brought together legislators from more than 16 Francophone African countries to develop proposals for writing anti-torture laws.

Worked alongside a team of international contributors, in a global effort to update the Istanbul Protocol. First published in 1999, the Protocol establishes United Nations standards on the state obligation to investigate torture and other ill-treatment. The 2020 version of the Protocol will include updates that address the role of health professionals in different documentation contexts and provide guidance to states on implementing the Protocol.

Published a report on evidence obtained by torture that identifies the reforms that need to be made to the international legal framework, and which makes recommendations for individual case development.

Conducted research on how to trace the assets of torturers, with a view to building our capacity to seize their assets to pay reparations to torture survivors.

Conducted research to improve the way that compensation is claimed in torture cases on behalf of survivors.

Sexual violence in **CONFLICT**

Sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) is used as a weapon of war in conflicts around the world, frequently leaving women and girls, men and boys, without access to a remedy, while perpetrators benefit from impunity.

REDRESS has worked with NGOs in Sudan, Kenya, Uganda, DRC, Nepal, Peru, and other countries to ensure the effective documentation of SGBV to bring legal claims against perpetrators before national, regional, and international courts and tribunals. REDRESS has also contributed to the development and strengthening of international standards, with a focus on victims' right to redress for conflict related SGBV.

This year REDRESS

Published two guides on the documentation of sexual violence in conflict for Myanmar and Sri Lanka, to help strengthen the evidence base for bringing perpetrators of sexual violence in conflict to justice.

Engaged in several cases in Kenya to identify responsibility for sexual violence, and also the responsibility of a major international company for allegedly failing to protect its workers.

Continued to litigate cases of sexual violence in Nepal and advocate for the implementation of reparations for victims, including in the landmark Purna Maya case, concerning a victim of multiple rapes by Nepali soldiers during the armed conflict in Nepal.

Followed up our 2017 report on sexual exploitation by UN peacekeepers with a new report which identifies cases challenging such exploitation, which will be published in 2019.



Torture of refugees and **MIGRANTS**

Refugees and migrants are often survivors of torture. Many are also ill-treated as they make their way to Europe, and on other migration routes.

REDRESS works on cases involving the torture of refugees and migrants, including cases concerning migration routes in Sudan and Libya. We use our expertise on torture to influence international standards on issues such as non-refoulement and on domestic policies on the treatment of asylum seekers.

This year REDRESS

Worked to respond to the widespread torture and ill-treatment of refugees in Greece, by advocating at the Council of Europe for law reform and encourage accountability and reparations for their abuse.

Advocated to the Greek authorities for implementation of the judgment of the European Court of Human Rights in *Necati Zontul v. Greece*, obtaining a commitment from Greece to make a formal apology to Zontul and other victims of torture and ill-treatment.

Worked with refugees who were tortured in Libya to seek justice and accountability for them.

Developed a free online training course for community organisations in the UK who work with refugees and migrants, to help explain the legal standards on torture, which has been taken by hundreds of people.

Conducted research in the Netherlands on the ill-treatment of detained migrants, and published a report on the rights of victims of crimes in detention in March 2019, making specific recommendations to relevant stakeholders to ensure full compliance with the rights of victims.

“I hope my case can become an example for Greece, the EU and the world”

In 2001, Necati Zontul, a Turkish man, was travelling on a boat with other migrants when he was intercepted by Greek coastguards. The passengers were detained in a disused school in Crete, and a week into their detention, a coastguard trapped Necati in a toilet and raped him with a truncheon, while another guard kept lookout.

Following a flawed investigation and prosecution of the coastguards responsible, REDRESS helped Necati to bring a case against Greece at the European Court of Human Rights (ECHR). In 2012, the ECHR found in favour of him recognising that rape can be a particularly cruel form of torture, and that Greece did not adequately punish the perpetrators or afford redress to Necati.

After REDRESS filed a submission in October 2018 with the Committee of Ministers, the body responsible for supervising the implementation of ECHR’s decisions issued a decision in December 2018 urging Greece to implement the court’s decisions in Zontul case and several other cases. The Committee also called on Greece to reform its law on torture to comply with its international obligations to prevent and prosecute torture. The decision also noted that the Greek government would seek to apologise formally to the victims of torture and ill-treatment.

“Receiving an apology is important because those responsible are recognising their fault and sending the right signal that this kind of ill-treatment should never happen again. I hope my case becomes an example for Greece, the EU and the world.”

“For me, the judgment of the European Court of Human Rights meant that the truth had finally come up and those responsible needed to take responsibility for their crime.”

“To have REDRESS working behind me was important because it was possible to get to the bottom of my case. They investigated what really happened, allowing the truth to come out.”



Counter- **TERRORISM**

Since 2001 there has been an increase in the use of counter-terrorism legislation to challenge the absolute prohibition of torture. Governments around the world – in democracies and dictatorships – have tortured people in the interests of ‘national security’.

REDRESS works with other NGOs to maintain the international human rights standards applicable during counter-terrorism situations, including rendition, administrative detention without trial, and government crack-downs.

This year REDRESS

Has continued to litigate cases at the European Court of Human Rights relating to extraordinary rendition by the CIA, building on a decade of litigation for accountability. Our case against Lithuania concerning the alleged torture of Mustafa al-Hawsawi, who is currently at Guantánamo Bay, has now been communicated to the government who have been required to respond.

In the UK we worked with other NGOs to encourage the government to undertake an independent judged inquiry into allegations of collusion in torture by UK officials.

Shed light into extraordinary rendition practices in Africa. We pursued the case of Kamilya Tuweni before national courts in Kenya to seek recognition for her arbitrary arrest and detention in several African countries and ill-treatment during that time, and the case of Andy Tsege at the African Commission.



Discrimination and **TORTURE**

In many cases, people are tortured because of who they are – because they are a human rights defender, a woman, because of their ethnicity, or because they are gay. International law is clear that when people are ill-treated for a discriminatory purpose, it amounts to torture.

REDRESS represents and advocates on behalf of victims of discriminatory torture at national, regional and international levels. This has included litigating on behalf of Sudanese human rights defenders in and outside of Sudan, building the capacity of partner organisations to litigate sexual violence against women, and collaborating with human rights defender networks to strengthen their skills to document and litigate torture and related abuses.

This year REDRESS

Submitted an updated petition to the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights in the case of Olivier Acuña Barba, a journalist tortured in Mexico. We requested Mexico to grant individual reparations as well as measures to prevent torture against journalists in the country.

Worked with lawyers in Peru to bring the case of *Azul Rojas Marín* to the Inter-American Court, the first case of torture by discrimination against an LGBTI person to come before the Court.

Continued to litigate cases of torture of Human Rights Defenders in the Horn of Africa.

Engaged with civil society organizations around the world to draft an international protocol on due diligence standards to investigate threats and attacks against human rights defenders.



The importance of the Azul Rojas Marín case for LGBTI rights in the Americas

By Alejandra Vicente, Head of Law at REDRESS
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After a long legal battle, the case of Azul Rojas Marín reached the Inter-American Court of Human Rights on 27 August 2019, the first time the Court has considered a case of discriminatory torture against an LGBTI person.

Azul's case was finally heard by judges at the Americas' highest human rights court, 11 years and six months after she was arbitrarily detained by members of the Peruvian National Police, and subsequently ill-treated, tortured and raped with a police baton in a police station in Casa Grande.

Azul had been walking home in the early morning of 25 February 2008, when Peruvian National Police officers stopped her in order to carry out an identify check. What followed was an assault lasting six hours, which included her rape and during which police officers used physical and verbal violence against her, using denigrating expressions referring to her sexual orientation (at the time she identified as a gay man).

Although Azul filed a criminal complaint for rape, abuse of authority and torture with the Peruvian authorities, to this day those responsible have not been properly prosecuted or pun-



ished in Peru. The Peruvian State not only failed to comply with its duty to investigate the facts promptly, but throughout the investigation, Azul was disparaged, and her credibility was questioned causing her to be revictimized during the gathering of evidence and in the decision-making process that led to the dismissal of the complaint for the crime of torture.

In 2009, Azul brought her case before the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, with the legal assistance of REDRESS and two Peruvian organisations: the Center for the Promotion and the Defense of Sexual and Reproductive Rights (Promsex) and the National Coordinator of Human Rights (CNDDHH).

Four LGBTI people are murdered every day in Latin America and the Caribbean. At least 1,300 have been murdered in the region in the past five years.

The Commission found that because of the nature and manner in which the violence was exercised, there was particular cruelty connected with how her sexual orientation was perceived by the police officers, so that what happened should be understood as discriminatory torture. It recommended that Peru adopt a series of reparation measures to redress both the material and moral damage suffered by Azul and her mother, including measures of 'satisfaction' (including public apologies), rehabilitation, a prompt and effective investigation of the facts, non-repetition measures, and compensation.

On 22 August 2018, the Commission submitted the case to the jurisdiction of the Inter-American Court, after finding that the Peruvian State had failed to adopt the proposals for comprehensive reparation ordered in favour of Azul and her mother.

The Azul case presents a historic opportunity for the Peruvian State to eradicate from its institutional practices systematic violence against LGBTI people and for the Court to set an important precedent for the protection of LGBTI people in the region and the world.

While parts of South America have made progress on LGBTI rights in the past decade, including laws allowing same-sex couples to marry and adopt children, violence against the LGBTI community remains rife. According to new research released in August 2019 by the Regional Information Network on Violence against LGBTI People in Latin America and the Caribbean, a regional network of gay rights groups, four LGBTI people are murdered every day in Latin America and the Caribbean, and at least 1,300 have been murdered in the region in the past five years.

The judgement in the Azul case, which is expected in early 2019, may help set an important precedent as it will allow the Inter-American Court to establish standards regarding cases of physical, psychological and sexual violence, including torture, committed by State security agents against LGBTI persons. It may also deepen its jurisprudence on the duty of due diligence in criminal investigations, preparation of evidentiary material and punishment of those responsible for cases of violence committed against LGBTI people.

EVENTS



On 11 July 2018, against the backdrop of the visit of US President Donald Trump, we held a discussion with torture survivors at the Frontline Club in London, 'Breaking the Legacy of Torture: from Northern Ireland to the Age of Trump'. Francie McGuigan, one of the surviving Hooded Men, spoke publicly in London for the first time about the torture he suffered in Northern Ireland during The Troubles. Also speaking were the former UN Special Rapporteur on Torture Juan Méndez and several of our clients.

On 3 April 2018, we held jointly with Amnesty International UK Section and our client Richard Ratcliffe 'One Night of Freedom', a comedy night in solidarity with Nazanin Zaghari-Ratcliffe at Conway Hall in London on the second anniversary of her detention in Iran. The event brought together some of the biggest names in British comedy including Sara Pascoe, Al Murray, Mark Steel and Shappi Khorsandi. The event was sold-out with around 350 people attending and it received significant media coverage.



On 4 October 2018 REDRESS marked its 25th anniversary with an event at the Middle Temple Hall in London, which featured a keynote speech by the former president of the International Court of Justice Dame Rosalyn Higgins, and live performances from the award-winning refugee torture survivor music collective Stone Flowers, and comedian Shappi Khorsandi.

Enforced disappearance in AFRICA

In many conflicts in Africa, from the Algerian civil war in the 1990s, Libya under Gaddafi, Sudan during the civil war, and Zimbabwe under Mugabe, opponents of the government or people just in the wrong place at the wrong time have disappeared. The victims of these enforced disappearances are often tortured, and their families are left behind with no information on the whereabouts or fate of their loved ones – a separate act of ill-treatment.

This year, REDRESS started a new project with partners in Algeria, Sudan, Zimbabwe, and Libya to support human rights lawyers and victims' groups to bring cases challenging enforced disappearance as a form of torture. The project will empower victims to speak about their own experiences, highlight the problem with the African Union and specific governments, and encourage the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights to adopt comprehensive guidelines on enforced disappearances in Africa.

Publications and REPORTS

We published four major reports during the course of the year, together with numerous briefing papers, including *Fostering Victims' Rights in the Proposed Crimes Against Humanity Convention*, *Making Sense of Reparations at the International Criminal Court* and *Victim Participation after 20 years of the Rome Statute: A few reflections*.



COMMUNICATIONS

The nature of REDRESS' work, particularly regarding legal processes, is often difficult to convey to non-legal audiences. Casework is sensitive and often confidential, and the nature of the horrific crimes means that it is often not possible to make this information publicly available.

Our social media presence rose throughout last year across all platforms, with 9% more visitors to our website and 16% new followers on Twitter and Facebook. During this period, we also launched several new communication materials, including a newly redesigned digital newsletter.

Two key aims of our communications work are to raise awareness and understanding of survivors' experiences, rights and needs and increase REDRESS' engagement and collaboration with relevant agencies, partners and networks.

REDRESS received more than 50 media mentions, with positive media coverage contributing to a change in media and public perceptions in the case of Jagtar Singh Johal, with front-page coverage of his torture in India in the UK. Media coverage also contributed to a better understanding of how diplomatic protection can be used to strengthen support for British nationals at risk of torture abroad and included an editorial in *The Daily Telegraph* published in January 2019 calling on the UK government to grant diplomatic protection to Nazanin Zaghari-Ratcliffe.

Throughout this year we implemented a multi-pronged Communications strategy which increased public awareness of our work, our cause, and the clients who are at the centre of it all. We focused on high profile public events, growing our social media presence, diversifying our communications materials across platforms, and increasing quality media coverage of our work.



THE TIMES

Britain is 'ignoring torture of Scots Sikh' Jagtar Singh Johal

5 January 2019

A lawyer who fought for justice for the Guildford Four and Birmingham Six has accused the British government of ignoring evidence that a Scottish terrorism suspect has been tortured in India.

Gareth Peirce claims that the British authorities are secretly colluding with India's counterterrorism agency in the investigation into Jagtar Singh Johal, a Scottish Sikh who is being held in connection with the murder of Hindu nationalists in 2016 and 2017.

The Telegraph

Giving Nazanin Zaghari-Ratcliffe diplomatic protection is the least ministers can do

14 January 2019

Nazanin Zaghari-Ratcliffe has been in prison in Iran since April 2016, accused of trying to overthrow the regime, a preposterous charge to be levelled against the young British mother who was on holiday visiting relatives.

She holds dual nationality which has made it more difficult for the UK government to exercise leverage against Tehran, for whom her continued incarceration has become almost a matter of national honour in the face of global condemnation.

Future PLANS

Over the next year REDRESS will continue to deliver the objectives set out in our strategy, some of which are highlighted below:

- To provide **Justice for Torture Survivors**, we will ensure we can provide psychological and social support for our cases, develop our ability to promote best practice for claiming compensation, and launch a JTS project in the Netherlands.
- To ensure **Effective Reparations for Victims** we will follow up on the UNCAT review of the United Kingdom and demonstrate that there are effective legal avenues for tracing the assets of perpetrators.
- To push for **International Accountability** we will publish a guide on best practice for Universal Jurisdiction cases in the UK, follow up on the recommendations in our report on reparations and the ICC to encourage more direct assistance, and work to create post-conflict mechanisms that can improve the practical situation of torture survivors.
- To challenge **Sexual and Gender-Based Violence in Conflict** we will continue to seek justice and reparations for victims in Kenya, Uganda, Nepal and elsewhere, develop a program to encourage effective reparations mechanisms for survivors of SGBV, and support programmes providing counselling and psycho-social support for SGBV survivors.
- To document the **Torture of Refugees and Migrants** we will present a report to the European Parliament with recommendations on how European countries should ensure the rights of migrants that suffer violations while in detention, build on the links we have developed with UK NGOs as a result of the on-line training for community organisations, and encourage the government of Greece to amend the law against torture and conduct effective investigations.
- To prohibit **Torture in the Context of Counter-Terrorism** we will litigate the second case challenging Lithuania's collusion in the CIA rendition programme, draw attention to incidents of extraordinary rendition in Africa, and continue to put pressure on the UK to undertake a proper investigation into collusion in torture.
- To draw attention to **Discriminatory Torture** we will promote the first judgment from the Inter-American Court of Human Rights on torture by discrimination against an LGBTI person in the Americas, develop more cases on the torture of journalists, and promote an international protocol on the duty to investigate and attacks against human rights defenders.
- To counter **Enforced Disappearance in Africa** we will hold family forums and litigation workshops in four countries, publish a study on the problem of disappearance in Africa, and engage with the African Commission on the issue.

New PROJECTS

REDRESS has a number of projects envisaged in the strategy which we will develop in the next year, subject to obtaining additional support. Please do contact us if you wish to learn more about these projects.

Holistic Approach

A key feature of our new strategy is to develop a holistic approach to our litigation, that provides for all of the needs of the torture survivor. This will require greater connection with medical professionals, proper provision for psycho-social support, and the recruitment of a caseworker to provide enhanced support to the survivors.

JTS Outreach and Community Engagement

As part of this approach we want to engage our victim communities in the UK so that they understand the cases that we bring and can be advocates in their own cause. This will increase the impact of our work, and ensure more people benefit from it. This would require the recruitment of an outreach worker.

Asset Tracing and Seizure

Torturers often make money out of torture. As part of our ambition to ensure that survivors of torture receive compensation, we will be undertaking research on how we can trace their ill-gotten gains and potentially seize those assets for the benefit of their victims.

LGBTI Torture in Latin America

The case of Azul Rojas Marin will be the first time that the Inter-American Court will consider torture by discrimination against an LGBTI person in the Americas. We will develop a project to take full advantage of this historic opportunity to campaign for reform based on the findings of the case.

Implementation

We have a large number of cases where we have obtained a decision from a human rights tribunal, but the government has not implemented that decision. We will develop our ability to implement decisions through project funding to specific activities in countries such as Nepal, Sudan, and Cameroon. This will also involve developing our ability to insist on an effective criminal investigation.

Development of Universal Jurisdiction in the UK and Netherlands

We have strong links to national war crimes prosecutors, legal practitioners and refugee communities in the UK and the Netherlands. We will seek project funding to use these networks to improve the policy on universal jurisdiction prosecutions in the UK and Netherlands and build new cases for prosecution.

Networks

REDRESS co-ordinates a number of networks of human rights lawyers and activists, including a network for Universal Jurisdiction, and for victims' rights at the ICC. We also participate in a network for reparations in Africa. We would like to strengthen our ability to run these networks and share knowledge between them, through the recruitment of a network co-ordinator.

Digital Communications

We want to build our capacity to deliver digital communications in support of our work. This will ultimately require additional staff capacity, but for now we are able to start to build our expertise using consultants in a number of projects.

Evaluating our IMPACT

We have begun to develop a new evaluation methodology that looks at the impact of our work in 10 areas.

Justice

For many clients, a declaration that their rights have been violated is why they brought the case, and the finding of a violation may be sufficient satisfaction.

Truth

Courts can make definitive factual findings, which may be of crucial importance in a campaign for accountability.

Material

Specific benefit to the client through the litigation, including changes to their situation, employment, health care, education, and compensation.

Community

Beyond the individual clients, many others in a similar situation are often impacted by a decision.

The Movement

Litigation can energize the human rights movement, act as a catalyst for change, empower networks, and encourage new champions and cases.

Stakeholders

How has the litigation changed the attitudes and practice of stakeholders such as politicians, judges, and the police, a pre-requisite to change policies and laws.

Policy

What commitments to change policy (government, police, courts) have been made as a result of the litigation, including financial commitments.

Legal

Changes in legal standards brought about by the litigation, whether through caselaw or legislation.

Governance

There are actual changes to the relevant procedures, budgets, and institutions.

Social

Changes in the tolerance of and response to the particular human rights violation in the country or region concerned.

Our methodology involves producing a study at the outset of a project to identify the baseline in the most relevant areas of impact, which can then be assessed at the conclusion of the project. As a result of this work, we have also revised our case selection criteria to take impact into account. We have also changed our internal reporting to focus on achievements (or outcomes) rather than activities.

Thank YOU!

We would like to warmly thank all those who supported our work throughout 2018 and 2019, including:

- Institutional donors for their continued support and confidence in our work. Many have supported REDRESS for many years, contributing to REDRESS' stability and success.
- Patrons and individual members who supported our work with donations, volunteering and fundraising. Individuals are involved in a lot of different roles across REDRESS, in sporting events, pro-bono legal work and general events.
- Professors, students and other members of the academic community who collaborated with REDRESS through a number of human rights clinics and other projects.
- The numerous law firms, barristers, and solicitors that have supported our work over the year.

We would like to thank all of them.

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 AB Charitable Trust
 Al Murray
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Collaborative **PARTNERSHIPS**

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Advocacy Forum (Nepal)
African Centre for Justice and Peace Studies (Sudan)
African Centre for Torture Victims (Uganda)
All 90 UK civil society groups and experts who endorsed and/or submitted evidence to the joint civil society report to the UNCAT
All members of the Pan-African Reparation Initiative (PARI)
All members of the Victims' Rights Working Group
Amnesty International Nederland
Amnesty International UK
Amnesty International
Association for the Prevention of Torture
ATPDH (Chad)
Centre for Justice and Accountability
Centre for the Study of Violence and Reconciliation
Chatham House
Child Rights International Network
Children in Wales
Children's Rights Alliance for England (Just for Kids Law)
CICC
City of The Hague
CNDDH (Peru)
Code Blue Campaign of AIDS- Free World
COFAVIC (Venezuela)
Committee for the Prevention of Torture in Africa
CORE Coalition; Defence for Children
DefendDefenders
Dignity

Disability Rights UK
ECCHR
Egyptian Initiative for Personal Rights (EIPR)
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Enough Project
Ensaaf
European Centre for Constitutional and Human Rights (ECCHR)
European Implementation Network.

We are also grateful to our project partners who made our work possible this year:

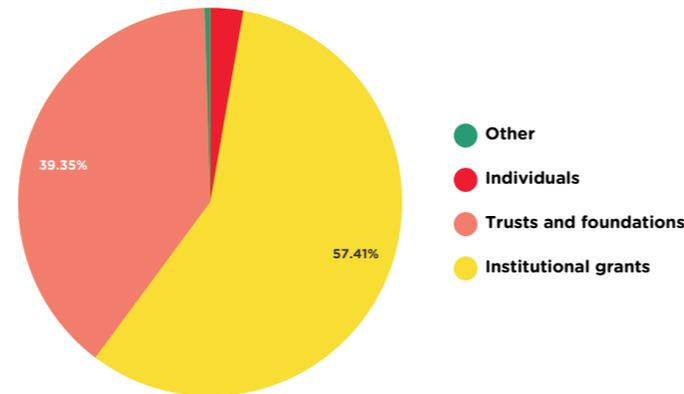
Fair Trials
FIDA Uganda
FIDH
Freedom from Torture
Genocide Network Secretariat
Greek Helsinki Monitor
Guernica 37
Human Rights Watch
ICTJ
ILGA-Europe
Independent Medical Legal Unit
Initiative for Strategic Litigation in Africa (ISLA)
Institute for human rights and development in Africa (IHRDA)
Institute for International Criminal Investigations
Institute for Justice and Democracy in Haiti

International Federation of Human Rights
International Rehabilitation Council for Torture Victims
International Truth and Justice Project
JCWI
JUSTICE
Kenya National Commission on Human Rights (KNCHR)
Kenyan Human Rights Commission (KHRC)
Legal Action Worldwide
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PROMSEX (Peru)
Reprieve
SJAC
SOMO (Centre for Research on Multinational Corporations)
Stichting LOS
The Convention Against Torture Initiative
Transitional Justice Centre
TRIAL International
Waging Peace

Financial HIGHLIGHTS

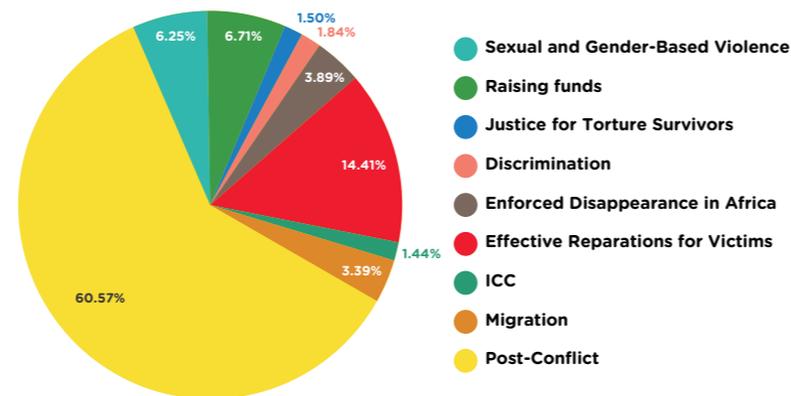
INCOME 2018-19

Individuals	34,562	2.75%
Institutional grants	721,467	57.41%
Trusts and foundations	494,571	39.35%
Other	6,167	0.49%
Total	1,256,767	100%



EXPENDITURE 2018-19

Raising funds	64,523	6.71%
Justice for Torture Survivors	14,470	1.50%
Discrimination	17,733	1.84%
Enforced Disappearance in Africa	37,393	3.89%
Effective Reparations for Victims	138,622	14.41%
ICC	13,893	1.44%
Migration	32,610	3.39%
Post-Conflict	582,427	60.57%
Sexual and Gender-Based Violence	60,088	6.25%
Total	961,759	100%



The financial results are for the financial year 1 April 2018 to 31 March 2019. The Trustees have carefully addressed the complementarities of the charity's work with other national and international organisations to assure donors that funding contributes the maximum impact to a coordinated approach to the charity's overall goals. For full details, please consult the report and financial statements available on our website.

How you can SUPPORT REDRESS

Become a regular supporter by visiting our website at redress.org/donate

Regular donations provide stability to our charity, allowing us to have more impact.

Raise funds

You can do something amazing while raising funds for torture survivors! Whether you take on a challenge or organise an event, fundraise with friends or do it alone, we will be there with you every step of the way. Find out more: redress.org/get-involved

Subscribe to our newsletters

We are proud of the work we do and we would like to share it with you. As a small charity, communicating with you via email is the fastest and most cost-effective way of keeping you informed. Subscribe here: redress.org/newsletter-signup

Join the conversation

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Follow us on Twitter, Facebook or LinkedIn and help share our vision for a world without torture.

REDRESS

Ending torture, seeking justice for survivors

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