ANNUAL REVIEW 2020

REDRESS

Ending torture, seeking justice for survivors

REDRESS
87 Vauxhall Walk
London, SE11 5HJ
United Kingdom
+44 (0)20 7793 1777
info@redress.org
Charity number: 1015787
Company number: 2774071

REDRESS Nederland
Laan van Meerdervoort 70
2517 AN, Den Haag
The Netherlands
+31 708 919 317
info.nederland@redress.org
Chamber of Commerce
File Registration Number:
66793319

@REDRESSTrust
/theREDRESSTrust

red ress.org

About
REDRESS

REDRESS is an international human rights organisation that represents victims of torture to obtain justice and reparations. We bring legal cases on behalf of individual survivors, and advocate for better laws to provide effective reparations. Our cases respond to torture as an individual crime in domestic and international law, as a civil wrong with individual responsibility, and as a human rights violation with state responsibility.

ANNUAL REVIEW 2020

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.**

CONTENTS

Message from the CHAIR

© Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer.

Paul Lomas
Chair of the Board of Trustees

"COVID has forced our staff to operate remotely but we have limited the impact with technology, so that it has not interfered with our overall mission."

Welcome to this year's Annual Report from REDRESS. Despite the tragedies of the COVID emergency, REDRESS has had a successful year and has positive plans for the coming year. Important recent highlights include:

- a major success in the area of torture targeted towards LGBT+ people in South America, leading to material behavioural change remedies in Peru, an important precedent in this area, and damages for the survivor - on which we will be building a programme of follow up work;
- the first repeat case before the European Court of Human Rights concerning CIA rendition, forcing Lithuania to explain why they have not implemented the first decision and
- holding the UK government to account for failing to provide effective support to a man who had been ill-treated in Panama, and persuading the Foreign and Commonwealth Office to introduce changes in how they operate.

We continue to work actively for the release of Nazanin Zaghari-Ratcliffe from custody and from Iran, to campaign against the immunity from torture by the UK military proposed in new UK legislation, and to work with the International Criminal Court to ensure that the interests of, and redress for, survivors of torture are central to their thinking. Our Director, Rupert Skilbeck, expands on our activities, with our particular focus on justice for survivors and holding perpetrators to account.

COVID has forced our staff to operate remotely and prevented some of the planned 'on-the-ground' activities but we have limited the impact with technology, supported by the creativity and commitment of the staff, so that it has not interfered with our overall mission.

Whilst we need to be constantly vigilant on finances, our position has improved this year with a further surplus, as last year, strengthening reserves, and we are enhancing our fund-raising capabilities to support our work more widely. We have also strengthened governance, including implementing risk and development committees. This coming year will see us adopting a revised plan for the next three-five years with a deeper focus on being strategic in what we do, and its impact, particularly as regards our litigation.

I want to pay tribute to Leah Levin, who retired as a trustee this year. Leah was a founding force for REDRESS over 25 years ago and, in one capacity or another, cared for it and saw it thorough all its different stages of development with great wisdom, insight and humanity. Whilst Leah is much missed, we are privileged to welcome to the Board three new and highly qualified trustees, Sir Malcolm Evans, Kirstin McIntyre and Philip Hodgson, each of whom has been having an important and refreshing impact.

As ever, I want to thank the staff for their unremitting hard work and enthusiasm across so many areas of activity and to Rupert for his leadership of the team. We have had a stable team working effectively across the operations in London and The Hague and with our wider partners which has really helped us increase the volume and quality of our activities.

Finally, I wanted to thank, especially and enormously, all of our supporters, partners, interns, advisors and donors. Without you, we could do nothing for the survivors of torture nor to reduce its evil in the world – sadly, there remains much still to do.

Message from the DIRECTOR

© De Sheng Lim/REDRESS.

Rupert Skilbeck
Director

"We have helped to build a new network of torture survivors in Uganda. This work demonstrates our victim-centred approach — to support survivors to be advocates in their own cause."

For many years and in many countries, REDRESS has tackled the infliction of severe pain and suffering by the police against minorities, a form of torture. In this report you will see how our advocacy in Sudan has contributed the reform of public order laws that were used by the Sudanese police to target women. We have brought cases against Libya and Kenya to challenge ill-treatment by militias and the police during demonstrations. In Peru our ground-breaking case of Azul Rojas Marín challenged how the police target the LGBT+ community because of who they are. We stand with survivors, including those in the United States of America who are also victims of police violence – torture and ill-treatment.

In the United Kingdom we continued to act on behalf of British citizens and residents who have been tortured abroad. During the year we obtained a decision from the Parliamentary Ombudsman that the Foreign and Commonwealth Office had failed to provide effective support to a man detained in Panama, and we have engaged with the FCO to change their procedures. Jagtar Singh Johal and Nazanin Zaghari-Ratcliffe remain detained or under house arrest, and our campaigning for their release continues. We intervened in the UK Supreme Court to support the argument that militias and armed groups can commit torture, and are challenging the introduction of a de facto amnesty that would effectively decriminalise torture in the UK.

During the course of the year we helped to build a new network of torture survivors in Uganda, and facilitated their advocacy to the Ugandan authorities for the introduction of a new transitional justice law that will allow for effective reparations for torture inflicted during the conflict. This work demonstrates our victim-centred approach – to support survivors to be advocates in their own cause. Through our project to draw attention to enforced disappearance in Africa as an unrecognised form of torture we have identified individual cases in four countries which exemplify the problem, while also engaging with the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights to encourage governments to reform their laws to tackle the underlying problem. This is our strategic approach that combines individual cases with law and policy reform.

Later this year REDRESS will produce a new, longer-term strategy, building on the successes of the last few years. We have begun to gradually build our team, and develop new work relating to the recovery of the assets of torturers on behalf of their victims and the use of sanctions as a form of reparation. We are excited to develop these new areas of work.

I add my thanks to our staff, trustees, clients and their families, as well as to the academics, law firms, and lawyers who are recognised in this report, and who allow us to do so much with a small team. It is thanks to them all that REDRESS has continued to thrive, despite the difficult circumstances that 2020 has brought.

Our STRATEGY

Our Trustees approved a new strategy in 2018, based on evaluations of our previous work, consultations with partners, and our own expertise. The REDRESS 2020 Strategy maintains REDRESS' core focus to provide legal assistance for individual victims of torture or in the context of international crimes.

THEMATIC APPROACH

REDRESS' work focuses on two programs relating to the way that we work (Justice for Torture Survivors and Effective Reparations for Victims), and six thematic programs (International Accountability, Sexual and Gender-Based Violence in Conflict, Torture of Refugees and Migrants, Torture in the Context of Counter-Terrorism, Discriminatory Torture, and Enforced Disappearance as a Form of Torture).

HOLISTIC STRATEGIC LITIGATION

We adopt a strategic approach to human rights litigation. This methodology means that there is a cause beyond the case, a community behind the client, and that we use a combination of civil society techniques to achieve impact, either directly or through collaboration with partners. We also seek to adopt a holistic approach, where the legal, psychological, and social needs of the survivor are provided for, and they are accompanied through the process – by REDRESS or by partners.

COLLABORATIVE PARTNERSHIPS

REDRESS has built long-standing relationships over many years with national partners in some of the key jurisdictions where we work. We propose and deliver joint projects with them that provide the support needed for national level work: legal actions, national advocacy, and community work with survivors. A key objective is that partner groups are measurably strengthened through working with REDRESS. We lead several networks relating to our work, including: the Victims' Rights Working Group (which brings together NGOs who work on the issue of victims' rights before the International Criminal Court); the UJ-info (a list-serve of NGOs who work on universal jurisdiction), and the Pan African Reparations Initiative (which pushes for regional standards and activities relating to REDRESS for human rights violations).

GEOGRAPHICAL FOCUS

Torture is a global phenomenon, and REDRESS has worked in many different parts of the world, bringing our comparative experience and extensive connections to the issue. As a specialist NGO, we support many national groups and provide technical expertise on the law of torture, bringing legal claims against torture, and reparations.

Geographical FOCUS

© David Rose/Panos Pictures. Pro-democracy protests in Khartoum, Sudan.

Our TOP IMPACTS

During the year, REDRESS brought about real change for survivors of torture.

- **Standing with Survivors.** Throughout our activities, we stood with survivors in more than 40 countries on five continents, and with anti-torture lawyers and activists all over the world.
- **LGBT+ Torture.** We secured the first ruling by the Inter-American Court of Human Rights (IACtHR) on LGBT+ torture, enhancing the rights of LGBT+ persons, and setting standards with the potential to reduce the levels of violence suffered by this group beyond the Americas.
- **CIA Rendition.** We brought the first repeat case of CIA rendition to the European Court of Human Rights (ECtHR), forcing the Government of Lithuania to explain why they have not yet investigated torture in this context as ordered by the European Court of Human Rights in its first ruling.
- **Consular Assistance.** We held the UK government to account for failing to provide effective support to a man who had been detained and ill-treated in Panama, and persuaded the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) to introduce changes in how they operate.
- **Torture by Non-State Actors.** We intervened in the UK Supreme Court to help clarify how international law responds to torture committed by militias and rebel groups.
- **Sudan Anti-Torture Reforms.** The government of Sudan introduced anti-torture reforms for which REDRESS had been advocating for many years, including amendment of the National Security Act, reform of the security services, and a commitment to ratify the UN Convention Against Torture.
- **Sudan Public Order Laws.** Following the recommendations in our 2017 report, the government of Sudan introduced changes to laws that targeted women for ill-treatment.
- **UNCAT Review of the UK.** We led a coalition of 90 NGOs that campaigned for strong recommendations from the UN Committee against Torture (CAT) relating to the United Kingdom.
- **Enforced Disappearance in Africa.** We are working with the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights (ACHPR) on the issuance of regional guidelines to eradicate EDA in the continent.
- **Uganda.** We helped create a new network of torture survivors in Uganda, who then persuaded the government to introduce a new transitional justice law.
- **Ill-Treatment in Detention.** In the Netherlands, we put the issue of ill-treatment in detention on the political agenda, through a ground-breaking report.
- **A Stronger REDRESS.** We strengthened REDRESS, increasing our income by 48% and building our reserves, while developing our brand, raising our profile, and improving the way we work.

REDRESS: THE YEAR IN NUMBERS

8 Obtained 8 judgments and decisions from courts and tribunals, all of them positive.

18 Filed 18 significant legal submissions.

70 Was featured more than 70 times in UK and international media.

3 Appeared in three court hearings (before the UK Supreme Court, IACtHR and ICC).

9 Delivered 9 social media campaigns to push for policy and law reforms.

10 Produced 10 publications on policy and practical issues.

Activities and ACHIEVEMENTS

© Abbie Trayler-Smith/PANOS Pictures.

Justice for Torture SURVIVORS

REDRESS represents victims of torture to bring legal claims for justice and reparation. Through this work REDRESS is able to obtain justice and reparations for both individuals and groups.

We obtain different forms of reparation such as restitution, to put victims in the position that 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 survivors 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.

By including the cases in a strategic litigation campaign, they have a broader impact, bringing about systemic or structural changes that increase accountability and reduce incidents of torture.

This year REDRESS continued litigation in a number of critical torture cases against Venezuela, Mexico, Panama, Sudan, Kenya, Cameroon, Libya, Sri Lanka, Nepal, The Philippines, Turkey and Lithuania and successfully changed UK policy relating to their care of UK citizens detained and tortured abroad.

Some of our achievements included:

- Intervening in the *R* v. *Reeves Taylor* case before the UK Supreme Court to clarify how international law responds to torture committed by non-state militias and rebel groups. The Court subsequently confirmed in a judgment that members of non-state armed groups may be prosecuted for crimes of torture under UK and international law.
- Using novel investigatory techniques in case-building work for future universal jurisdiction prosecutions, including against two government officials from Africa who were responsible for the torture and arbitrary detention of political opponents, human rights activists, journalists, women, minorities and other marginalised groups.
- Leading a coalition of NGOs in successfully lobbying against a change to UJ investigations proposed by the UK Crown Prosecution Service. The proposal would have narrowed the circumstances in which the Metropolitan Police investigate crimes on the basis of universal jurisdiction.

© Nicholas Tuffney.

REDRESS: OUR LITIGATION

This year, we received eight judgments and decisions.

We reached a positive outcome in all of them:

- ***X* v. *Libya:*** Admissibility decision, ACHPR.
- ***Mariam Yahia Ibrahim and Three Others* v. *Sudan:*** Admissibility decision, ACHPR.
- ***Nicholas Tuffney case:*** Findings of maladministration by the FCO and compensation award, UK Parliamentary and Health Service Ombudsman.
- ***S.L. v. Venezuela:*** Admissibility decision, Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (ICHR).
- ***Azul Rojas Marín and Other* v. *Peru:*** Judgment and reparations award, Inter-American Court of Human Rights (IACtHR).
- ***Saif Al-Islam Gaddafi case:*** Judgment, Confirming previous admissibility decision, Appeals Chamber of the ICC.
- ***Afghanistan situation:*** Judgment, Appeals Chamber of the ICC.
- ***R* v. *Reeves Taylor:*** Judgment, UK Supreme Court.

We appeared in three court hearings:

- Oral arguments at the UK Supreme Court in ***R* v. *Reeves Taylor.***
- Oral pleadings in the case ***Azul Rojas Marín and Other* v. *Peru*** before the IACtHR.
- Oral pleadings before the ICC in the ***Saif Al-Islam Gaddafi case.***

IN FOCUS

Nicholas Tuffney case

In October 2019, the Parliamentary Ombudsman upheld a complaint against the FCO made by Nicholas Tuffney, a British national who was detained and ill-treated in Panama between 2013 and 2014.

Detained on charges which he always denied and were eventually dropped, Tuffney was held for 16 months in conditions which consistently failed to meet international standards. He was initially denied permission to walk, go to the bathroom or wash his soiled clothes and at one point was chained to metal bars in full view of the passing public.

On his return to the UK, Tuffney complained to both the British Consulate in Panama and the FCO about the inadequate consular support he received during his detention but repeatedly received unsatisfactory responses. REDRESS then helped him submit a complaint (through his MP Helen Whately) to the Parliamentary Ombudsman, which investigates complaints of poor or unfair service from government departments.

The Ombudsman found multiple incidents of maladministration by the FCO. The investigation determined that Embassy staff failed to promptly and adequately respond to Tuffney's allegation of ill-treatment, should have done more to remedy his other welfare concerns and failed to inform him about what to expect as a detainee in Panamanian prisons.

The Ombudsman recommended reparations including a formal apology, financial compensation and an explanation of changes introduced by the FCO to prevent a recurrence of these failings. The FCO paid Tuffney compensation and committed to change how they operate. The complaint was only the fifth of 244 to be upheld by the Ombudsman in relation to the FCO from 2011-2018.

© Free Nazanin & Free Jaggi Campaigns.

IN FOCUS

Consular Protection Project

Some of our clients are British or dual nationals who are (or have been) held in poor conditions of detention abroad. Some have underlying health conditions, as a result of the torture, which in recent months has made them more vulnerable to a COVID-19 infection.

Our Consular Protection Project has included work in the cases of Jagtar Singh Johal and Nazanin Zaghari-Ratcliffe.

Jagtar was arrested and tortured in India in 2017, while he was in the country to get married. He is currently being held at Tihar Prison, one of the most overcrowded prison complexes in Delhi, where there have been reports of a COVID-19 outbreak.

Nazanin is a British-Iranian citizen who has been unlawfully held in Iran since 2016. She remains separated from her daughter and husband who live in the UK. REDRESS advocated for the UK government to grant her diplomatic protection, which it did in March 2019, the first time it has done so in a human rights case.

Nazanin was released on furlough in March 2020 to her parent's house as COVID-19 swept through the Iranian prison population, but the Iranian authorities have not yet decided if they will release her permanently, so she faces a continued risk if sent back to prison.

REDRESS had advocated to the UN, UK and Iranian authorities on the need to uphold Nazanin and Jagtar's legal right to medical treatment. We have highlighted how failure to provide appropriate and timely medical assistance to prisoners may amount to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment, or even torture.

In October 2019, we requested an independent expert analysis of a handwritten note Jagtar had written describing his alleged torture. The analysis, conducted by the International Rehabilitation Council for Torture Victims, the world's leading centre on the effects of torture, found 'reasonable grounds' to believe Jagtar was tortured.

We have continued to inform the UN Special Rapporteur on Torture, and the Indian and UK authorities about Jagtar's situation, reiterating the need for a medical examination and independent investigation into the allegations of torture.

The UK government does not currently accept any legal obligation to assist UK nationals abroad, even when they are being ill-treated or tortured. Following the publication of our *Beyond Discretion* report in 2018, REDRESS has continued to advocate before the UK government so a right to consular protection is enshrined in UK law.

REDRESS is working on Nazanin's case with pro bono support from John Dugard SC, Alison Macdonald QC and Tatyana Eatwell.

Watch a film on Jagtar's story:
https://youtu.be/kKmV6hlQmP0

Watch a video on Nazanin's story:
https://youtu.be/ZYzXc83TuGo

© Tom Pilston/PANOS Pictures. As victims from war-struck Syria and Iraq took refuge in Europe, universal jurisdiction cases have increased significantly.

Universal JURISDICTION

In a globalised world, perpetrators of torture are often found in other countries, far from the scene of the crime, where they can be prosecuted under the principle of universal jurisdiction.

International law requires states to cooperate to ensure that individuals accused of torture and other international crimes do not escape justice. The principle of universal jurisdiction recognises that some crimes are so heinous that every state has an interest in seeing that justice is done, it is not only an issue for the state where the crimes took place.

REDRESS promotes the use of universal jurisdiction around the world, with a particular focus on the rights of victims. We are a member of the Eurojust Genocide Network; we facilitate a universal jurisdiction working group in London, which brings together organisations and practitioners working on universal jurisdiction, and manage a Universal Jurisdiction Listserv mailing list, which provides subscribers with the latest updates about new developments in this area.

This year REDRESS intervened in the UK Supreme Court to clarify the international law on prosecuting torture as a universal jurisdiction crime. We undertook investigations and case-building for future prosecutions. We led international and domestic coalitions of NGOs to influence the development of the laws, policies, and practices that facilitate universal jurisdiction cases around the world, including at the Eurojust Genocide Network, UK War Crimes Network and International Law Commission.

© Courtesy BBC.

IN FOCUS

The Agnes Reeves-Taylor case

In June 2017, the Metropolitan Police Service arrested Agnes Reeves-Taylor, the ex-wife of former Liberian President and convicted war criminal Charles Taylor, on torture and conspiracy to commit torture charges.

The charges, relating to her role in the National Patriotic Front of Liberia (NPFL) during the first Liberian civil war in 1990, were brought using the international law principle of universal jurisdiction, marking only the fourth occasion that this principle has been used in UK court proceedings.

The case was referred to the Supreme Court on appeal, in relation to a narrow but important point of law: what does 'person acting in an official capacity' mean in section 134(1) of the Criminal Justice Act 1988, which implements the UK's international legal obligations under the UN Convention Against Torture?

REDRESS intervened in proceedings to argue for a broad definition of the term 'person acting in official capacity', covering individuals acting for non-State armed groups with de facto control over civilian populations.

In a judgment issued on 13 November 2019, the Supreme Court found that any individual acting for an organisation or body which exercises 'functions normally exercised by governments' should be deemed as 'acting in an official capacity' and can therefore be prosecuted for crimes of torture under UK and international law.

The Agnes Reeves-Taylor case was later dismissed due to a lack of evidence that the NPFL exercised government control at the time of the alleged crimes. However, the Supreme Court decision remains an important confirmation that members of non-State armed groups in control of government functions, such as ISIS and the Taliban, may be prosecuted for crimes of torture under UK and international law.

Some of our achievements included:

- Intervening in the *R* v. *Reeves Taylor* case before the UK Supreme Court to clarify how international law responds to torture committed by non-state militias and rebel groups. The Court subsequently confirmed in a judgment that members of non-state armed groups may be prosecuted for crimes of torture under UK and international law.
- Using novel investigatory techniques in case-building work for future universal jurisdiction prosecutions, including against two government officials from Africa who were responsible for the torture and arbitrary detention of political opponents, human rights activists, journalists, women, minorities and other marginalised groups.
- Leading a coalition of NGOs in successfully lobbying against a change to UJ investigations proposed by the UK Crown Prosecution Service. The proposal would have narrowed the circumstances in which the Metropolitan Police investigate crimes on the basis of universal jurisdiction.

© Morris Carpenter/PANOS Pictures. UK juvenile detention center.

Effective Reparations for SURVIVORS

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 UN Convention against Torture.

This year REDRESS built a new project which traces the assets of perpetrators, in order to seize them as reparations for their victims, and undertook preliminary research with specialist financial investigators in a number of cases. We developed research on the delivery of reparations, on evidence obtained by torture, on compensation for torture, and on the medical documentation of torture for the forthcoming updated *Istanbul Protocol*.

Some of our achievements included:

- Leading a coalition of 90 NGOs in the review of the UK's record under the Convention against Torture.
- Launching a new initiative to try to seize the assets of torturers on behalf of survivors and developing a practical framework to aid NGOs in identifying models for financial accountability for perpetrators of torture.
- Drawing attention to the problem of evidence obtained by torture or ill-treatment through developing a new resource for the Convention against Torture Initiative (CTI), as part of its series of implementation tools, *Non-admission of evidence obtained by torture and ill-treatment: Procedures and practices,* which builds on our report *Tainted by Torture* (produced jointly with Fair Trials).

© Shutterstock.

IN FOCUS

UK Torture Review

As UK faced UN scrutiny, a civil society report exposed UK's widespread failures to tackle torture and ill-treatment

By Alejandra Vicente, REDRESS Head of Law
Follow Alejandra Vicente on Twitter @AVicente_Carr

In May 2019, the UK's record on torture and ill-treatment was reviewed by the UN Committee against Torture in Geneva. This happens every four years for each of the 164 State Parties to the Convention against Torture, which the UK signed up to in 1988. Since the last review in 2013 the situation has not improved, but in many areas has in fact deteriorated.

Last year, REDRESS alongside Liberty, Freedom from Torture, Children's Rights Alliance for England, Children in Wiles, and Disability Rights UK led a consultation with 90 NGOs from across England and Wales and produced a joint 'shadow' report to the UN Committee against Torture that set out the evidence. It made for difficult reading for the UK government.

It exposed a culture of hostility, that denies the dignity of the individual through, for example, the deliberate creation of a 'hostile environment' against refugees and migrants. The UK is the only country in Europe with no upper time limit for immigration detention, where many of the detainees are survivors of torture. In prisons, there is more use of solitary confinement, more prisoner violence, and more deaths in custody.

A culture of disbelief and denial

It also exposed a culture of disbelief. This means that when vulnerable survivors of torture present their claims for refugee status, supported by expert medical evidence, Home Office assessors take a different view. On average, 40% of their decisions are then reversed by the courts, which rises to 70% in some regions.

And it laid bare a culture of denial. Allegations of torture in Northern Ireland, in Iraq, and through collusion with other states, are not being properly investigated, particularly when it comes to finding out who in Whitehall or elsewhere gave the orders. Thousands of cases of ill-treatment in Iraq have been closed without full investigation since 2017. This failure to investigate extends to universal jurisdiction, where there are hundreds of suspects in the UK but few if any prosecutions, due to limited resources and the use of immunities.

There is undoubtedly a connection to austerity. If you cut services to the bone, then the authorities have to find cheaper ways to maintain order. If there are less police officers to deploy, then the police feel that they have to protect themselves with tasers, which control by the infliction of severe pain, and which are used three times more often on minorities. If you cut prison staff by 25% then they have to resort to old-school methods to maintain order, such as locking people up and using solitary confinement against difficult teenagers.

Ensuring the UK doesn't ill-treat people is undoubtedly a complex process, given the huge range of public life that is impacted. The government delegation to Geneva includes civil servants from all the nations and from many different departments. In 2015 the government abandoned a cross-government anti-torture strategy that was able to identify common goals, set targets, and monitor compliance. It is essential that this structure is re-established if we hope to see improvements the next time the UK is examined in Geneva, and a culture that prioritises human dignity.

"[We] would like to place on record our thanks to both you and REDRESS team for the successful delivery of the project [UK Torture Review Project] and the positive impact it has had. Your integrity and professionalism throughout the project has also been appreciated. We hope to hear from you again in relation to future projects we offer."

Equality and Human Rights Commission of England and Wales.

Conflict-Related TORTURE

© Espen Rasmussen/PANOS Pictures. Mohamed reveals scars on his back that he claims were inflicted by the Syrian Army after they arrested him.

© ESA/REDRESS. Survivors of the Abia Massacre sit in a school whose walls have been painted to depict scenes of the conflict in Uganda, in memory of their war experiences.

International conflicts and civil wars often involve large-scale commission 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 also 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 (ICC).

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

REDRESS has worked with NGO partners in Sudan, Kenya, Uganda, the 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' rights to redress for conflict-related SGBV.

This year REDRESS continued to promote the right to reparations at the ICC through advocacy, and intervened in the Saif Al-Islam Gaddafi case on the question of amnesties, as well as in the Palestine and the Afghanistan situations. We advocated for reparations for the 7,000 victims of the former Chadian dictator Hissène Habré and the victims of torture in Kenya. We advocated for law reform in Sudan at the African Commission. In Uganda we set up a new victims' network, and supported them to advocate for the introduction of a new transitional justice law.

Some of our achievements included:

- Continuing to be a critical voice on reparations and victims' issues at the ICC and engaging with its staff and leadership to promote the findings of a significant report critiquing its reparations mandate, *No Time to Wait: Realising the Rights to Reparations for Victims at the ICC.* The Trust Fund for Victims has since indicated that it has started to work to address many of the recommendations in the report.
- Intervening in several significant cases at the ICC, including the Saif Al-Islam Gaddafi case, and the Afghanistan and the Palestine situations.
- Helping bring Sudan closer to justice for torture committed during the Al-Bashir regime, through a new report on the necessary changes, *A Way Forward? Anti-Torture Reforms in Sudan in the Post-Bashir Era,* advocacy to key international actors, training Sudanese lawyers and continuing ongoing strategic litigation.
- Publishing a new report on litigating sexual abuse against children by UN peacekeepers, *Litigating Peacekeeper Child Sexual Abuse,* and bringing together activists and lawyers to discuss potential litigation.
- Together with Ugandan partners (Emerging Solutions Africa and the Uganda Victims' Foundation) advocating before the Parliament in Uganda and the Justice, Law and Order Sector for the passing of the long-awaited Transitional Justice Policy, which the Cabinet of Uganda passed in June 2019. The new Policy aims to address justice, accountability and reconciliation needs in post-conflict Uganda. We continue to work with victims to ensure the policy translates into effective responses for victims and their communities.

© ESA/REDRESS.

IN FOCUS

Patrick Ocen, from Victim to Advocate in Uganda

By Tom Davies,
REDRESS' Media Intern

Patrick Ocen was one of over 12,000 children who were born in captivity or abducted by the Lord's Resistance Army during the war in Uganda. These children were often trained as child soldiers or became 'wives' for rebel militants. When Patrick's mother tried to flee with him and his twin sister, they were captured, and his mother and sister were both killed. Aged 12, he managed to escape, walking for three weeks from South Sudan to Uganda with little food or water. Patrick is now the Youth Representative of the Uganda Victims and Survivors Network in Acholi.

As a child born into captivity, which difficulties have you faced since the end of Ugandan conflict?

When we came back, it was very hard for us to access land. Another difficulty was education. Some of us came back without a parent and it was hard for us to go to school, and accessing education remains a challenge up until now. There were also children who returned with bomb pellets in their bodies, but it was very hard for them to find the money to pay for access to health care. Many of us also felt a loss of identity, because we found it hard to trace the background of our own people.

It is over 13 years since the Ugandan conflict ended, yet many victims of the conflict are still waiting for justice. Why do you think it has taken the government so long to act?

I think there is a gap in communications between the government, victim communities, political leaders and cultural leaders. People are divided. People are not coming together. And whenever victims raise their concerns, it is very hard for their pleas to be heard, because there is no connection between cultural leaders and the government, between politicians and the government in power. This makes it very hard for the victim community to get reparations and access to justice.

What specific steps does the Ugandan government need to take to support victims of the conflict and provide them with the justice they deserve?

They need to accept that even government soldiers participated in atrocities in the north, as well as the rebels. Victims need to be compensated in various ways. Some people need to be taken back to school. Some people whose animals were taken need to be compensated. Some people who have lost relatives need to be compensated. Some people need land to be located for them, the people who don't have family, who don't have anything.

How can the Uganda Victims and Survivors Network pressure the government to take these steps and ensure that victims have a voice in the transitional justice policy?

This network is creating a lot of awareness for everyone. The voice of the voiceless is being heard through this network. When the voice of the voiceless is being heard, it can be taken to the government and the government will see what best can be done.

Watch a film with Patrick Ocen:
https://youtu.be/2bKxqr6lzFA

© ESA/REDRESS. The Speaker of Parliament in Uganda, Rebecca Kadaga (in the centre), joins victims of the conflict during the launch of the Uganda Victims and Survivors Network.

WATCH IT

First National Victims Network Launched in Uganda

The Uganda Victims and Survivors Network (UVSN) was launched during a high-level policy conference in Kampala in September 2019, which was attended by the Speaker of Parliament in Uganda, Rebecca Kadaga.

The creation of the UVSN was the culmination of a series of victims' forums and policy dialogues carried out by REDRESS and its Ugandan partners (Emerging Solutions Africa and the Uganda Victims' Foundation) in 2018 and 2019 in war-affected regions in Northern Uganda.

Over 300 victims and grassroots organisations came together for this project. The network provides a platform for direct, victim-led engagement with policymakers.

Watch a film about the Uganda Victims and Survivors Network:
https://youtu.be/bYAShvipeEI

© UN Photo/Logan Abassi.

IN FOCUS

International Legal Systems Failing Child Victims of Peacekeeper Sexual Abuse

By Charlie Loudon, REDRESS' International Legal Advisor
Follow Charlie on Twitter @CharlieLoudon

The widespread and enduring problem of sexual exploitation and abuse by peacekeepers has been well documented over recent years, with many of the most disturbing cases involving children. Both troop-contributing countries and the United Nations have been largely unable to prevent abuse, prosecute the perpetrators or provide redress to the victims.

The mechanisms intended to prevent, prosecute and remedy abuse have received much scrutiny, but comparatively little focus has been placed on litigation, which victims occasionally turn to when the troop-contributing countries and UN mechanisms fail. Its extent, its effectiveness, the obstacles it faces, and the further opportunities available are the focus of a new report published this year by REDRESS and Child Rights International Network (CRIN).

Despite the focus on peacekeeper child sexual abuse from an academic and policy perspective, litigation has been a relatively underused tool by the lawyers and NGOs seeking to address this issue. Extensive research by REDRESS and the law firm White & Case located fewer than 10 court cases concerning peacekeeper child sexual abuse.

Obstacles to accountability and redress

The report confirms that peacekeeper child sexual abuse regularly goes unpunished, and the victims are in most cases left without any form of reparations. Suspected perpetrators are either not convicted or are subjected to lesser sanctions than their crimes merit, whilst victims consistently do not receive the full reparations to which they are entitled.

The case studies identified a number of main obstacles that prevent the perpetrators of child sexual abuse from being held to account, and that prevent victims from obtaining redress. These included the poor quality of investigations, the exclusive jurisdiction of troop-contributing countries, the blocking of criminal proceedings by Status of Forces Agreements or immunities and a lack of transparency in prosecution processes.

A range of reforms are required to remove these obstacles to accountability and redress. These include improving the speed and quality of investigations and adopting a more victim-centred approach; making troop-contributing countries' laws and criminal procedures suitable for prosecuting crimes overseas; increasing transparency and victim participation in prosecutions; suspending the deployment of peacekeeping troops from countries that are unable or unwilling to prosecute child sexual abuse; and addressing commonly held misunderstandings of the immunity of those associated with the UN.

Read the full blog piece on the *Oxford Human Rights Hub blog*.

© Drawing from a immigration detainee in the Netherlands.

Combating DISCRIMINATION

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 severely harmed 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. We seek to raise awareness about this problem, improve standards of protection for these especially vulnerable groups, and identify the specific reparations that are needed.

This year REDRESS obtained a leading judgment on LGBT+ torture from the Inter-American Court of Human Rights, and intervened in the European Court of Human Rights on the same issue in a case against Azerbaijan. We continued litigation against Sudan, and welcomed their reform of discriminatory public order policies for which REDRESS had advocated for years. We drew attention to the torture of refugees and migrants, and delivered a major policy research report on the ill-treatment of migrants in detention in the Netherlands.

© PROMSEX.

IN FOCUS

Discriminatory Torture of an LGBT+ Person

By Chris Esdaile, REDRESS' Legal Advisor
Follow Chris on Twitter @ChrisEsdaile

In March 2019, the Inter-American Court of Human Rights, the ultimate authority on human rights in the Americas, issued a landmark judgment in the case of Azul Rojas Marín. The ruling enhances the rights of LGBT+ persons and sets standards with the potential to reduce the levels of violence suffered by this group in the Americas and beyond.

The case was litigated for 11 years by REDRESS, the Center for the Promotion and Defense of Sexual and Reproductive Rights (PROMSEX) and the Coordinadora Nacional de Derechos Humanos (CNDDHH).

Azul Rojas Marín is a transgender woman, who at the time of the events identified as a gay man. She was detained late at night on 25 February 2008 by members of the Peruvian police while she was walking home. They insulted her and made derogatory remarks about her sexual orientation. She was forcibly taken to a police station and kept there for almost six hours, although her detention was not officially registered. During her detention, she was stripped naked, beaten repeatedly and anally raped with a police baton.

In its ruling, the Inter-American Court found Peru responsible for the torture and sexual violence suffered by Azul and ordered Peru to redress the damage to her and her late mother, who had supported Azul in her search for justice. Significantly, it also ordered Peru to adopt measures to tackle structural discrimination, and to protect other members of the LGBT+ community from similar violence, the need for which Peru had contested during the litigation.

The *Azul Rojas Marín and Other* v. *Peru* case is the first case of discriminatory torture ever decided a by human rights court. Crucially, it enhances the protection of LGBT+ persons from violence and discrimination. Through this case, the Inter-American Court has developed the concept of "violence motivated by prejudice".

It has also concluded that discrimination based on sexual orientation can lead to the arbitrary detention of LGBT+ people; it has developed its understanding of discriminatory torture, and it has set specific due diligence standards to ensure the effective investigation of these cases.

The case of Azul is not an isolated decision to protect LGBT+ rights in the Inter-American human rights system. Both the Inter-American Commission and the Inter-American Court have been at the forefront of the protection of LGBT+ rights. However, the Azul case goes a step further and complements other key European Court of Human Rights cases such as *M.C and A.C* v. *Romania and Identoba* and *Others* v. *Georgia.*

In those cases, the European Court found violations of the prohibition of torture and ill-treatment and discrimination in relation to some of the participants' involvement in peaceful LGBT+ demonstrations, considering the States' failure to protect demonstrators from homophobic violence and the lack of effective investigations.

The decision is also a wake-up call for States, at a time when some governments responded to COVID-19 by adopting a gender-based alternating lockdown schedule, which took into account only the sex that appears in identity documents, and led to allegations of discrimination.

The finding that the arbitrary detention of LGBT+ persons can be inferred when there are signs of discrimination and no other apparent reason for the detention could be crucial to combat arbitrary arrests of LGBT+ people around the world, for reasons based on a person's sexual orientation or gender identity, including in the context of COVID-19.

Some of our achievements included:

- Obtaining the first judgment on LGBT+ torture from a human rights court in the *Azul Rojas Marín and Other* v. *Peru* case.
- Fulfilling our long-standing policy objective, the repeal of Sudan's Public Order Laws, which discriminated against and targeted women due to gender, resulting in ill-treatment and torture.
- Bringing attention to the ill-treatment of migrants in detention in the Netherlands.

"I have no words to describe how I feel. After all that I have been through, finally a court believes me. I only wish I could have been able to share this joy with my mother, who was always alongside me in my efforts to report the crime and find justice."

Azul Rojas Marín,
after learning of the judgment.

Watch this story on YouTube:
https://youtu.be/qfx1DF1J2gI

© Omer Jasoor/SIHA Network.

IN FOCUS

A Way Forward in Sudan

By Julie Bardeche, REDRESS' Legal Advisor
Follow Julie on Twitter @Julie Bardeche

The regime of former Sudanese President Omar al-Bashir had a long history of using torture to silence critics, and perpetrators operated with impunity. The ousting of Al-Bashir in April 2019 moved Sudan into an era of fast-paced change under a transitional government, presenting an opportune moment to implement effective anti-torture reforms, for which REDRESS and its partners in Sudan have advocated for years.

To capitalise on this critical juncture in Sudanese history, a joint report by REDRESS and the African Centre for Justice and Peace Studies (ACJPS) provided a roadmap for eradicating torture in the post-Bashir era. Published in December 2019, the report identified practical and effective recommendations for Sudan to comply with its international obligations to prevent, investigate and prosecute torture and provide victims with reparations.

Our concerted, long-term advocacy in Sudan has seen some clear results this year. In November 2019, a series of public order laws, ostensibly designed to protect public morality, were repealed. Our 2017 report, *Criminalisation of Women in Sudan: A Need for Fundamental Reform,* showed that these laws effectively controlled women's engagement in public life and disproportionately targeted them for torture and ill-treatment, including flogging. Announcing the reforms, Prime Minister Abdalla Hamdok called the laws "an instrument of exploitation, humiliation, violation and aggression on the rights of citizens".

Since the publication of our roadmap in December, the transitional government has also committed to further reforms which will move Sudan closer towards complying with its international human rights obligations. These include strengthening legal protections against torture, removing immunities to prosecution for members of the Sudanese security services, mandating a Commission to reform the Sudanese legal system, and a commitment to ratify the UN Convention Against Torture and the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearances.

© Kumbirai Mafunda. The family of Itai Dzamara, a journalist and vocal critic of Robert Mugabe who disappeared in 2015 in Zimbabwe, holds a vigil.

Enforced Disappearance IN AFRICA

The practice of enforced disappearances has been widespread in Africa since colonial times. In more recent decades, State and non-State actors have used enforced disappearances to suppress peaceful dissent, under the pretext of fighting terrorism and conducting security operations as well as in the context of migration and mass displacement.

The victims of enforced disappearance 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.

REDRESS is currently implementing a project to combat enforced disappearances in the continent with four partners in Africa (the African Centre for Justice and Peace Studies, Lawyers for Justice in Libya, MENA Rights Group and Zimbabwe Lawyers for Human Rights).

This year REDRESS supported human rights lawyers and victims' groups to bring cases challenging enforced disappearances; empowered victims to advocate for justice on their own behalf, and raised awareness about the problem with the African Union, relevant UN bodies and specific governments.

©Ivor Prickett/PANOS Pictures.

IN FOCUS

Enforced Disappearances in Libya

Some of our achievements included:

- Drawing attention to the problem of enforced disappearance in Africa as a form of torture, through a social media campaign on the International Day of the Victims of Enforced Disappearance. The campaign featured infographics, visuals and victim testimonies from Libya, Algeria, Zimbabwe and Sudan and reached over 45K people.
- Engaging with African Union and UN expert groups to highlight the issue, including working together with the Working Group on Death Penalty, Extra-Judicial, Summary or Arbitrary Killings and Enforced Disappearances of the ACHPR to organise a panel during the main session of the African Commission to discuss the situation of enforced disappearance in Africa.
- Collaborating with partners to develop strategic litigation on enforced disappearances in Sudan, Zimbabwe, Libya and Algeria, and to produce studies for each of these countries identifying the extent of the problem and the legal gaps that prevent these countries from effectively addressing, investigating, prosecuting and providing reparations to victims of enforced disappearances.

On 17th July 2019, Seham Sergewa disappeared. She has not been seen since. The Libyan MP was at home in Benghazi when armed men stormed her house, beat her teenage son, shot her husband in the leg and abducted her. The disappearance of Sergewa has received international attention, on account of her status as a politician, human rights defender and vocal critic of the Libya's military strongman Khalifa Haftar, but it is only one of thousands of cases of enforced disappearance in the country.

"In Libya, we are facing a weak judicial system and significant gaps in the Libyan legal framework, which contribute to enforced disappearances remaining a persistent and widespread pattern, in a climate of total impunity,"

explains Elise Flecher, Lawyers for Justice in Libya's Senior Programmes Officer.

Together with REDRESS and three other human rights organisations, Lawyers for Justice in Libya is implementing a project on Enforced Disappearances in Africa. Since the project started a year ago, the organisations, who are working with victims in Algeria, Sudan, Libya and Zimbabwe, have documented numerous incidents of disappearances and acts of torture in the region, aimed at suppressing peaceful dissent or those perceived to be threats.

In Libya, since 2011, the Libyan state and militias acting with the support or acquiescence of the state have disappeared thousands of people for their real or perceived political opinion or affiliations, tribal links, human rights activism or identity in a prevalent environment of impunity. The non-operational criminal justice system has increased the burden of suffering faced by families of the disappeared.

"The victims' families remain in the dark and receive no support from Libyan authorities in the search for their relatives," said Flecher. **"Consequently, the families have shown a decreasing trust in the criminal justice system to locate the disappeared and hold those responsible to account. In fact, families are extremely reluctant to go the authorities to report disappearances in the first place, because they fear retaliation from the state and their affiliated militias."**

The use of enforced disappearances is not limited to Libya. Since the 1980s, the United Nations Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances, an international expert body which examines individual cases, has received over 5,000 complaints from African countries, and the real total is likely much higher. Only 17 of 54 African countries have ratified the International Convention on the Protection of all Persons from Enforced Disappearance.

Algeria, Sudan, Libya, Zimbabwe, among other African countries, have yet to ratify the Convention, and adopt legal safeguards to prevent, prosecute and punish this crime, search for the disappeared and provide reparations to victims. The organisations are advocating for more African countries to ratify the Convention to eradicate this heinous practice once and for all from Africa.

Listen to the full interview with Elise on our special podcast on enforced disappearances, produced for the International Day of the Victims of Enforced Disappearance.

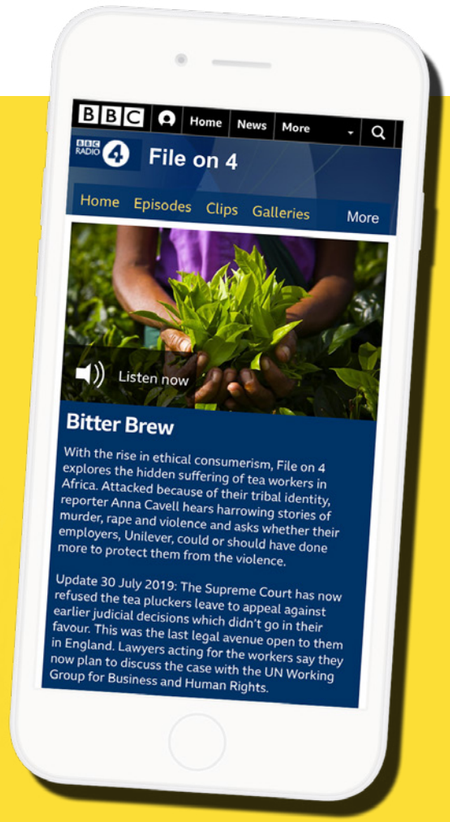
COMMUNICATIONS

The New York Times

U.K. Halts Torture Case Against Ex-Wife of Liberia's Charles Taylor

7 December 2019

The case had been viewed as an important test for those seeking to see torture in other countries punished in British courts. The country's Supreme Court decided in a landmark ruling last month that members of non state groups that exercised "the functions of government" during armed conflicts could be prosecuted in Britain.



Against the backdrop of an increase of reports of mistreatment and discrimination against migrants, refugees and other vulnerable populations and communities worldwide, a main focus of our Communications work this year continued to be raising awareness and understanding of survivors' rights and needs.

Our Communications work sought to grow our social media presence, further diversify our communication materials across platforms, and support a number of advocacy campaigns to prompt changes in law and policy.

Throughout the year, REDRESS' work was featured more than 70 times in UK and international media, and we delivered nine social media campaigns to push for reforms that reached more than 300,000 people. We brought the stories of survivors of the war in Uganda to a national audience as well as to communities in the areas most affected by the war through local radio sessions. We produced 12 new films featuring the stories of the victims we work with, including the stories of victims of the war in Uganda; detainees who have suffered violence in detention in the Netherlands and British citizens detained abroad.

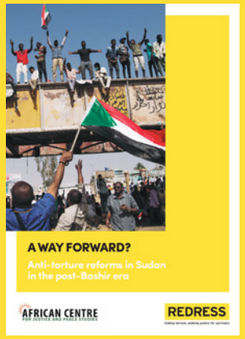
© ESA/REDRESS. Sylvia Acan (on the right), a victim of the conflict in Uganda, participates in a radio session in Soroti together with representatives from our local partners ESA and UVF.

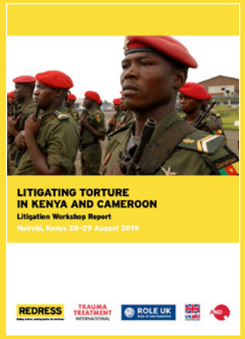
Some of our achievements this year included:

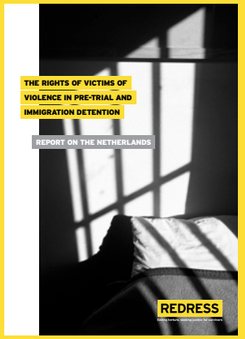
- Assisting a journalist working for File on 4, a BBC Radio 4 current affairs programme, for an edition on the *AAA* v. *Unilever* case. File on 4 aired the piece, **Bitter Brew,** on 9 July 2019, featuring powerful testimony from the victims, shining a spotlight on to the case at a crucial moment.
- Securing wide coverage in the Americas of the hearing in the Azul Rojas Marín case with over 25 influential media outlets in the region covering the case.
- Live coverage by NBS TV, a leading national TV station in Uganda, of our high-level conference in Kampala in September 2019, with NBS TV also tweeting live from the conference venue to its 453K followers.
- ***The Times*** covered in exclusive the decision of the UK Parliamentary Ombudsman to uphold the complaint of our client Nicholas Tuffney, who was tortured in Panama.
- We provided assistance for a **Long Read** piece in the *Guardian* about the Nazanin-Zaghari Ratcliffe case, which was published in January 2019.
- Following the repeal of the public order laws in Sudan, for which REDRESS had been advocating for years, our 2017 dedicated policy report was quoted in the **BBC's coverage** of the decision.
- Our intervention in the Agnes Taylor case received significant media coverage, including in ***The New York Times,*** **the BBC,** ***The Times,*** ***the Guardian*** and ***the Telegraph.***
- Our report ***Litigating Peacekeeper Child Sexual Abuse*** was featured in several academic blogs and NGO websites, including the ***Oxford Human Rights Hub*** and the ***Human Rights@Harvard Law blog.***

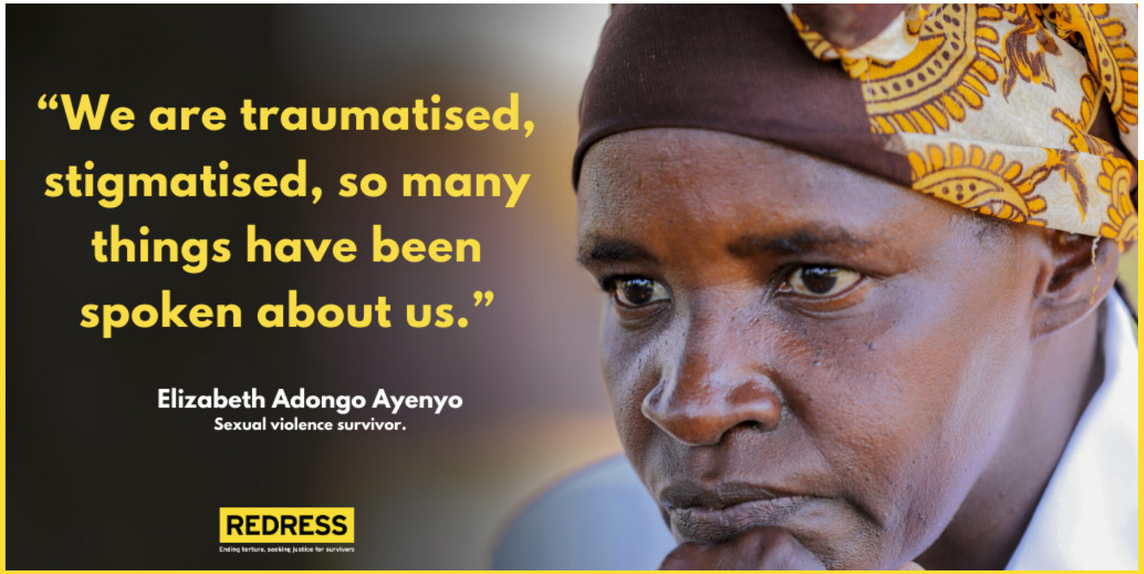
PUBLICATIONS

We issued a number of high-quality publications during the year in several languages, some on conjunction with partners, in addition to briefing notes and conference reports. They included: *The UK's Implementation of the UN Convention against Torture: Civil Society Alternative Report, Litigating torture in Kenya and Cameroon, Policy Guidance on the Rights of Victims of Violence in Pre-Trial and Immigration Detention, The Rights of Victims of Violence in Pre-Trial and Immigration Detention: Report on the Netherlands, A Way Forward: Anti-torture reforms in Sudan in the Post-Bashir era, Litigating Peacekeeper Child Sexual Abuse, Victims: Front and Centre – Conference report* and *Universal Jurisdiction Annual Review 2020.*









© ESA/REDRESS. Visual of a social media campaign to highlight the needs of victims of the conflict in Uganda.

MULTIMEDIA

- **The Azul Rojas Marín Case: Landmark Victory for the LGBT+ Community** (playlist of seven films)
- **Help Bring Nazanin Zaghari-Ratcliffe Home**
- **The Uganda Victims and Survivors Network: Bringing Victims of the Conflict Together**
- **From Victims to Advocates in Uganda and Guatemala** (playlist of four films)
- **The Unheard Stories of Victims of the Conflict in Uganda** (playlist of three films)
- **Jagtar Singh Johal's Story**
- **Death in Custody in the Netherlands**
- **Violence in Immigration Detention in the Netherlands: Gamal's Story**

Our plans for THE FUTURE

Much of our work involves ongoing litigation and advocacy to challenge long-standing situations where torture is tolerated or encouraged. In each programme area we have specific plans for projects to develop in 2020-2021, some of which are already funded, but some of which are not. This section sets out some of the planned new initiatives:

- **Justice for Torture Survivors.** In this programme we have a number of new projects in development:
  - **Community Engagement.** We are seeking funding to help us engage with survivor communities in the UK and involve them in advocacy.
  - **Policy Work.** We plan to recruit an advocacy officer to deliver campaigns on specific policy issues relating to UK policy, including sanctions, consular access, compensation for torture survivors, effective UJ prosecutions, and legal reforms to assist with asset recovery.
  - **JTS Netherlands.** We are seeking to replicate the JTS model in the Netherlands, with specific Dutch funding.
  - **Compensation.** We are working with pro bono lawyers to develop a practice note for human rights lawyers to assist them to submit claims for compensation.
- **Effective Reparation for Victims.** This work is focused on the delivery of reparations, together with some standard setting:
  - **Asset Recovery.** We are seeking to develop a pilot project aimed at improving our capacity to bring legal claims to seize illicit assets on behalf of victims of torture.
  - **Delivery of Reparations.** We are seeking to build a tech solution to assist with the practical issues relating to the delivery of reparations in post-conflict situations.
  - **Sanctions.** We are developing work to use the new human rights (or "Magnitsky") sanctions regime in the UK and EU to have the assets of torturers frozen.
  - **Implementation.** We plan to address the problem of implementation with specific programming to encourage implementation and have applied for project funding to address this.
  - **Investigations.** Related to the above, we also plan specific projects to address the failure to investigate allegations of torture and develop techniques that can be effective in instigating a response.
- **International Justice.** Our approach to international justice combines work at the ICC with post-conflict justice and universal jurisdiction prosecutions:
  - **Sudan.** REDRESS has worked for 18 years on Sudan and has several relevant cases. We seek to develop the ability of NGOs to build cases to a criminal standard through dedicated project funding.
  - **Gambia.** We are exploring whether there is a need for further support for the reparations mandate of the Truth, Reconciliation and Reparations Commission (TRRC), and asset recovery.
  - **ICC.** Our focus is on the operation of the Trust Fund for Victims, and individual cases where reparations are being considered.
  - **UJ in Africa.** We are looking to develop the ability of NGOs in Africa to instigate prosecutions using Universal Jurisdiction.
  - **Sexual and Gender Based Violence.** We engage in strategic litigation on this issue, as a form of torture, and co-published a report on sanctions and SGBV in 2020.
  - **Reparations.** We are working with the Dr. Denis Mukwege Foundation to enhance the ability of survivors of SGBV to claim reparations.
  - **Kenya.** We propose to work with ICJ-Kenya to implement national decisions relating to SGBV.
- **Discrimination.** REDRESS has many cases relating to discrimination. We would like to fully implement those decisions, through campaigns for policy reform:
  - **LGBT Torture.** We plan to develop a campaign to implement the decision in the *Azul Rojas Marín and Other* v. *Peru*. We will also do further research work in Africa on the same issue.
  - **Journalists.** REDRESS has several cases relating to the torture of journalists in countries such as Mexico. With dedicated funding we can engage with specialist NGOs to develop specific projects on this.
  - **Climate Defenders.** For many years we have taken cases relating to the torture of human rights defenders. The most ill-treated group are now climate defenders, and we will develop a specific project on this.
  - **Migration.** We continue to engage with the authorities in Greece on law reform for effective investigations into torture. We have potential clients who were tortured in Libya while making the journey to Europe. We are seeking to develop this work in 2020-2021.

Thanks to our SUPPORTERS

Funders

We are especially indebted to many of our funders, such as AB Charitable Trust; Bromley Trust; the European Union; John Armitage Charitable Trust; Open Society Foundations; Sigrid Rausing Trust; and the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture, who have continued to support REDRESS for many years. Their commitment to the organization and its aims have been very important to REDRESS' stability and success.

"AB Charitable Trust has funded REDRESS over a significant number of years and we have a great deal of respect for the work of the organisation."

REDRESS is also very grateful for support this year from: 3C Foundation; Allen & Overy Foundation; Arts and Humanities Research Council; Baring Foundation; Bay & Paul Foundations, Inc.; Bristol University; Bromley Trust; Clifford Chance Foundation; Convention against Torture Initiative; Child Rights International Network; DLA Piper; Equality and Human Rights Commission; HIVOS; Humanity United; Hogan Lovells; Joffe Charitable Trust; Knowledge Management Fund; Matrix Causes Fund; Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Netherlands; Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart; National Endowment for Democracy; ROLE-UK; Southhall Trust; and Trust Africa.

Individual donors

Individuals are involved in many different roles across REDRESS, in sporting events, fundraising, media and general support. We are indebted to each and every one of you.

We would like to thank the runners who participated in the 2019 Virgin Money London Marathon: Alex Smith, John Salmon, Nelson Goh, Ceri Chase, Edward Craven.

We are very grateful to Selina Whiteside and the whole Gibson Dunn & Crutcher UK LLP team, and Dan Leader (Leigh Day) for raising funds and walking the London Legal Walk 2019 together with the REDRESS team.

We also would like to thank the Free Nazanin campaign. We were touched by the hundreds of supporters who contributed to our 'Help Us Bring Nazanin Zaghari-Ratcliffe Home' crowdfunding campaign.

Volunteers, Interns, and other supporters

REDRESS has been fortunate to host a range of interns and volunteers from many countries, who have contributed substantially to our work.

We would like to thank in particular Alexandra Wallace, Annelies Blondé, Ashleigh Barnes, Brenden Glapion, Catherine Deveson, Charlotte Bendall, Chelsea Simpson, Dru Spiller, Emma DiNapoli, Estelle Zirn, Eugenie De Norre, Joel Herok, Matteo Polizzi, Merna Nasralla, Niki Hadjivasiliou, Piergiuseppe Parisi, Radha Bhatt, Rónán Stewart, and Sneha Yanappa.

We are also very grateful to the lawyers who worked for a period of time with REDRESS: Jonny McQuitty, Lorraine Smith van Lin, Lucie van Gils, Maria Vecchio, Marie Auter, Matthew McGonagle, Mennaalla Soliman, and Noemi Levy-Aksu. Thank you also to Vilmar Luiz for his tireless work designing our materials.

Clinical and related human rights programmes

We would like to thank the law clinics that have provided substantial support this year, including Cambridge Pro Bono Project; LSE Law Clinic and LSE Pro Bono Matters; the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS)'s International Human Rights Clinic; the University of Essex Human Rights Centre; University College London's Public International Law Pro Bono Project; International Human Rights Law Clinic at the University of California, Berkeley, School of Law; Law Clinic of the Université Libre de Bruxelles, and Victims' Rights Clinic of Queen's University Belfast Human Rights Centre in the School of Law.

We would also like to thank in particular Dr Clara Sandoval, Professor Lorna McGregor, Dr Carla Ferstman, and Dr Daragh Murray of the University of Essex; Dr Frank Arnold; Dr Luke Moffett of Queens University Belfast; Dr Lutz Oette (SOAS) and Prof Lynn Welchman of SOAS; Kate O'Regan and Dr Annelen Micus of the Bonavero Institute of Human Rights at the University of Oxford; Prof Rachel Murray and Debra Long of the University of Bristol, Human Rights Implementation Centre; Prof Conny Rijken; Prof Frederiek de Vlaming, and Dr Sam Raphael of University of Westminster Damien Scalia of the Université Libre de Bruxelles for their ongoing collaboration.

Civil society partners and other supporters

Special thanks are also due to civil society partners and other supporters and partners throughout the world who continue to share our vision for a world without torture and for the need to achieve justice for victims. In particular, we are grateful to Advocacy Forum (Nepal); African Centre for Justice and Peace Studies (Sudan); African Centre for Torture Victims (Uganda); 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; Aristata Capital; Association for the Prevention of Torture; ATPDH (Chad); Center 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; Civitas Maxima; CNDDHH (Peru); Code Blue Campaign of AIDS- Free World; COFAVIC (Venezuela); Committee for the Prevention of Torture in Africa; Convention Against Torture Initiative; CORE Coalition; Defence for Children; DefendDefenders; Dignity; Disability Rights UK; Egyptian Initiative for Personal Rights (EIPR); Emerging Solutions Africa; En Vero (Canada); Enough Project; Ensaaf; European Centre for Constitutional and Human Rights (ECCHR), and European Implementation Network.

We are also grateful to FIDA Uganda; FIDH; Freedom from Torture; Genocide Network Secretariat; Greek Helsinki Monitor; Guernica 37; Human Rights Watch; International Center for Transitional Justice; 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; Joint Council for the Welfare of Immigrants; JUSTICE; Kenya National Commission on Human Rights (KNCHR); Kenyan Human Rights Commission (KHRC); Legal Action Worldwide; Lawyers for Justice in Libya; Liberty; Medical Justice; Mahmoud Elsheikh; MENA Rights Group; Nuhanovic Foundation; OMCT; Open Society Justice Initaitive; Oxford Human Rights Hub; Parliamentarians for Global Action; Public Interest Law and Policy Group; Project Expedite Justice; PROMSEX (Peru); Reprieve; Southern Africa Litigation Centre; The Sentry; Syrian Justice and Accountability Centre; SOMO (Centre for Research on Multinational Corporations); Stichting LOS; Transitional Justice Centre; TRIAL International; the Uganda Victims' Foundation; Zimbabwe Lawyers for Human Rights, and Waging Peace.

We would also like to thank in particular Baroness Helena Kennedy QC; Bob Campbell-Lamerton; Brock Chisolm; Dame Rosalind Marsden; Jacqueline Moudeina; Najlaa Ahmed; Nicole Piche; Reed Brody; Sarah Fulton; Tony Wright, and Crofton Black.

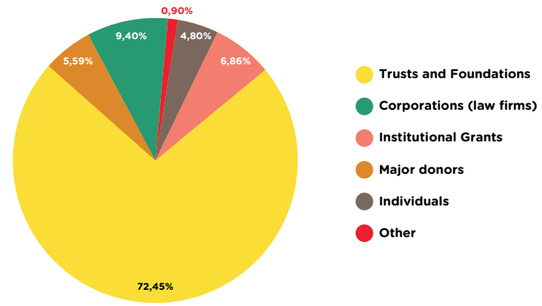
Law firms, barristers, and investigators

We would also like to warmly thank the numerous law firms, barristers, and commercial investigators that have supported our work over the year. In particular, special thanks to Alison Macdonald QC at Essex Court Chambers; Allen & Overy; Caroline Buisman; Clifford Chance; Debevoise & Plimpton; Dentons; DLA Piper; Frans-Willem Verbaas; Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer; Gibson Dunn; Hickman & Rose; Hogan Lovells; Ingrida Botyrienė (Lithuania); John Dugard SC, Steve Powles QC, Tatyana Eatwell, Megan Hirst and Jake Taylor at Doughty Street Chambers; Julie Soweto; Latham & Watkins; Leigh Day; Linklaters; Mbugua Mureithi (Kenya); Mintz Group; Prakken d'Oliveira; Rachel Barnes at 3 Raymond Buildings; Raedas Consulting, and its not-for-profit arm, FIND; Rafael Cid (Gentium, Madrid); Sam Mohochi (Kenya); Shaheed Fatima QC and Ravi Mehta at Blackstone Chambers; Shu Shin Luh, Emma Fitzsimons, Miranda Butler and Emma Nash at Garden Court Chambers; Sterling Solicitors (Nigeria); Sudhanshu Swaroop QC, Belinda McRae and John Bethell at 20 Essex Street Chambers; Three Crowns, and White & Case.

Financial HIGHLIGHTS

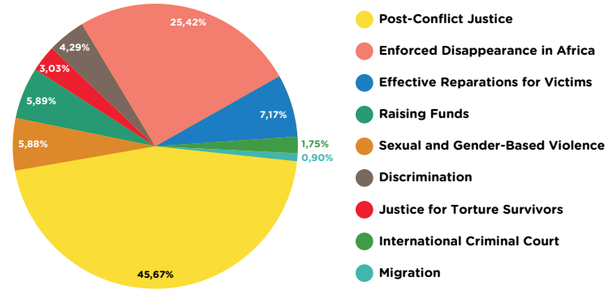
INCOME 2019-20

Individuals	**34,239**	**4.80%**
Institutional Grants	**48,877**	**6.86%**
Trusts and Foundations	**516,326**	**72.45%**
Major donors	**39,832**	**5.59%**
Corporations (law firms)	**67,000**	**9.40%**
Other	**6,429**	**0.90%**
Total	**712,703**	**100%**



EXPENDITURE 2019-20

Raising Funds	**65,598**	**5.89%**
Justice for Torture Survivors	**33,770**	**3.03%**
Disrimination	**47,719**	**4.29%**
Enforced Disappearance in Africa	**282,827**	**25.42%**
Effective Reparations for Victims	**79,758**	**7.17%**
International Criminal Court	**19,530**	**1.75%**
Migration	**9,993**	**0.90%**
Post-Conflict Justice	**508,207**	**45.67%**
Sexual and Gender-Based Violence	**65,430**	**5.88%**
Total	**1,112,832**	**100%**



The financial results are for the financial year 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020. 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.

© Marie-Anne Ventoura/Amnesty UK. Richard Ratcliffe during an event to raise funds for REDRESS and other charities supporting the Free Nazanin Campaign.

How You Can SUPPORT REDRESS

Become a regular supporter

Regular donations provide stability to our charity, allowing us to have more impact. Visit our website at **redress.org/donate**

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 to our newsletter here: **redress.org/newsletter-signup/**

> **"REDRESS has been there alongside us since the very beginning. They have always been here to help."**
>
> Richard Ratcliffe,
> husband of Nazanin Zaghari-Ratcliffe.

Share our vision

@REDRESSTrust

/theREDRESSTrust

/company/redress

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

redress.org

REDRESS

Ending torture, seeking justice for survivors