



# ANNUAL REVIEW 2022

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This Annual Review provides an overview of the activities and achievements carried out by REDRESS from April 2021 to March 2022. However, some articles cover developments in the relevant area of work up until the date of printing.

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## **ABOUT REDRESS**

REDRESS is an international human rights organisation that delivers justice and reparation for survivors of torture, challenges impunity for perpetrators, and advocates for legal and policy reforms to combat torture. Our cases respond to torture as an individual crime in domestic and internal law, as a civil wrong with individual responsibility, and as a human rights violation with state responsibility. Our approach is strategic, so that as well as representing an individual we target the policy reasons that enabled the torture to take place, by building a campaign that uses advocacy, community engagement, and communications to influence change.

30 YEARS

# REDRESS

Ending torture, seeking justice for survivors



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# OUR IMPACT

During the year, REDRESS supported survivors of torture to obtain justice and reparation, challenged impunity for perpetrators, and advocated for legal and policy reforms to combat torture:



## **NAZANIN ZAGHARI-RATCLIFFE RELEASED**

Following a six-year campaign by REDRESS, on 16 March 2022 Iran released Nazanin Zaghari-Ratcliffe and allowed her to return home to the UK to be reunited with her husband Richard and daughter Gabriella. Her release generated significant media coverage in and outside the UK. REDRESS had worked for six years to increase pressure on Iran to free Nazanin Zaghari-Ratcliffe.



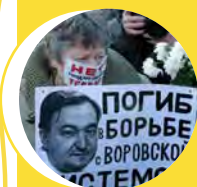
## **JUSTICE IN SUDAN**

Following calls from REDRESS and partners, the UN appointed an independent expert to investigate human rights violations arising from the October 2021 military coup in Sudan. In the months after the coup, REDRESS helped secure the release of a prominent women's rights activist who had been subjected to enforced disappearance, and with partners SIHA and PLACE prevented the corporal punishment of a 21-year-old Sudanese man. Following REDRESS' submission of evidence the US sanctioned a Sudanese paramilitary police force for its role in violence against protestors.



## **TORTURE IN SRI LANKA**

In November 2021 the UN Human Rights Committee issued a decision in the case of Asantha Aravinda, a survivor of torture from Sri Lanka who was beaten and arbitrarily arrested by the police in 2008 following a traffic accident. The decision finds Sri Lanka responsible for all the violations argued against Asantha and orders reparations, including an investigation, compensation, and measures to avoid the repetition of these events.



## **SANCTIONS IN THE UK**

REDRESS supported partners to submit 15 detailed dossiers to the UK government for the application of sanctions under the human rights and anti-corruption regimes, and placed Magnitsky sanctions on the UK political agenda by supporting the launch of a new All-Party Parliamentary Group. Following Russia's invasion of Ukraine, we highlighted failings in the UK's sanctions response, with our analysis being used by the Shadow Foreign Secretary and covered by the *Washington Post*.



## **SEIZING ASSETS FOR SURVIVORS**

REDRESS capitalised on public and political interest in repurposing Russian assets frozen under sanctions for victims in Ukraine to advocate for legal reform to facilitate this, as part of a new initiative to seize assets connected to international crimes and have them repurposed for victims and survivors.

Photos by Free Nazanin Campaign, Reuters, Indi Samarajiva CC BY 2.0, Alamy Stock, iStock, Panos Pictures, Alamy Stock, Magdulein Abaida, DC-Cam and Panos Pictures.



## ANTI-TORTURE LAWS IN AFRICA

In March 2022 we published the report *Anti-Torture Standards in Common Law Africa*, followed by a series of fact-sheets, which examine the anti-torture legal and regulatory frameworks in eight African States and recommend a number of reforms to advance the domestic legal protection and to improve States' response strategies to torture in the region.



## ENFORCED DISAPPEARANCE IN AFRICA

REDRESS published a significant report on enforced disappearance in Africa, which for the first time explores the most common contexts in which it takes place, the legal gaps that allow this practice to take place with impunity, and the legal reforms needed to eradicate it. Following work by REDRESS and its partners, the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights (ACHPR) will launch regional guidelines on enforced disappearance later in 2022.



## JUSTICE FOR WOMEN HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS

In April 2021, the UN Committee on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) issued an emblematic decision in a case brought by REDRESS finding Libya responsible for the lack of investigation of Magdalen Abaida's arbitrary arrest and torture in 2012. This is their first decision on a female human rights defender, and has strong recommendations for reforms to prevent violence against women and to promote equality in Libya.



## REPARATIONS FOR SEXUAL VIOLENCE

REDRESS developed proposals for the delivery of reparations for conflict-related sexual violence in Chad and Cambodia, which were featured by the Global Survivors Fund in a high-level side event at the UN General Assembly. In Cambodia, survivors of conflict-related sexual violence from provinces across the whole country participated in an online forum to provide their views on potential opportunities for reparations.



## LGBTIQ+ TORTURE IN AFRICA

REDRESS and the National Gay & Lesbian Human Rights Commission (NGLHRC) alerted the UN Committee against Torture in March 2022 to the discriminatory violence suffered by LGBTIQ+ individuals in Kenya as a form of torture and ill-treatment, and the shortcomings in the Kenyan legal system to respond effectively. REDRESS and Access Chapter 2 (AC2) also made a submission as part of the Universal Periodic Review of South Africa, focusing on the disproportionate violence and other human rights violations experienced by LGBTIQ+ persons in South Africa.

## THE YEAR IN NUMBERS

**+30**

strategic cases pursued by REDRESS and our national partners

**+80**

victims directly represented, and thousands more indirectly benefitted

**16**

campaigns advocated for legal and policy reforms

**21**

publications on policy and practical issues issued

**+89**

mentions in UK and international media



# MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

**“As we approach our 30th anniversary, REDRESS is in good form and good heart, with a clear agenda for the future where, tragically, there remains so much to be done.”**

In December 2022, REDRESS will celebrate 30 years. In that time, it has developed a reputation for expertise, accuracy and innovation in delivering justice and reparation for survivors of torture. In the last year, the organisation has built on that reputation with a period of planned growth, allowing us to take on new projects and the staff to deliver them. This implements the 2025 strategy and the development plan agreed by the Board.

In this report, you will see how REDRESS is delivering in the five programme areas of justice, reparation, dissent, discrimination, and solidarity. The year was particularly notable for the incredibly welcome news of the release of Nazanin Zaghari-Ratcliffe after six years of arbitrary detention in Iran and a great deal of work by the REDRESS team – our very best wishes go to her and her family. Our work on Magnitsky Sanctions and asset recovery progressed significantly, enabling us to work to target measures on those who perpetrate, authorise or profit from torture. With the Russian invasion of Ukraine, these approaches have particular importance.



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**Paul Lomas**  
Chair

This year marked the departure from the Board after many years of service of Professor Bill Bowring and Sherman Carroll, both of whom have shown extraordinary commitment to the work of REDRESS. We were saddened by the deaths of the Rt Hon the Lord Judd, a long-time Patron, and Professor David Weissbrodt, a member of our US Board of Trustees. We also welcomed two new Patrons during the year, Professor Juan Méndez and Sir Howard Morrison, both of whom bring their considerable expertise in accountability for torture to help support our work while the Board of Trustees was joined by two new members, Yemsrach Hailemariam and Evan Williams.

As we approach our 30th anniversary, REDRESS is in good form and good heart, with a clear agenda for the future where, tragically, there remains so much to be done. But we would not be so without the extraordinary commitments and dedication of our talented staff, who constantly and consistently deliver the results, or our funders and wider supporters without whom nothing would happen. Thanks indeed, are due to all of them for making REDRESS happen.



# MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

**“My thanks go to our national partners and our pro bono partners, who have helped us deliver such innovative and impactful projects around the world.”**

This Annual Review sets out the achievements of REDRESS in the past year. My thanks go to our national partners and our pro bono partners, who have helped us deliver such innovative and impactful projects around the world. The staff of REDRESS have kept their energy and focus, delivering extraordinary work despite the ongoing challenges of a global pandemic.

You will see many achievements in this report. We continued to work for justice for survivors of torture in the UK and elsewhere, including through a ground-breaking decision on the torture of a female human rights defender in Libya. We promoted reparations for survivors of conflict-related sexual violence, and developed cases to seize the assets of perpetrators of torture. We launched a new initiative to ensure that Magnitsky sanctions in the UK are effective, and to document the widespread torture of protesters



© De Sheng Lim

**Rupert Skilbeck**  
Director

in Belarus in August 2020. We put enforced disappearance in Africa on the agenda as a form of torture used against those who dissent, and raised LGBTIQ+ torture as a problem with proposals for reform. We developed the capacity of the anti-torture movement to use strategic litigation to challenge torture.

We have built our team during the year, adding new capacity to enable us to respond to urgent developments and develop innovative projects, while maintaining our core programmes. We have recruited new staff to deliver policy advocacy and engage with survivor communities, enhancing the way that we work with exciting plans for the future.

REDRESS is in a strong position as it celebrates 30 years, ensuring this important work will continue.

# OUR STRATEGY

The REDRESS 2025 Strategy sets out the current priorities for REDRESS. As set out in this report, good progress has been made in delivering several key initiatives. These have included a new initiative to seek to recover the assets of perpetrators of torture to be paid as reparations to their victims, more policy advocacy in the UK, building our capacity to engage with survivor communities in the UK, and providing support and solidarity with our partners around the world to strengthen the anti-torture movement.

## OUR VISION AND MISSION

The vision of REDRESS is a world without torture. Our mission is to deliver justice and reparation for survivors of torture, challenge impunity for perpetrators, and advocate for legal and policy reforms to combat torture.

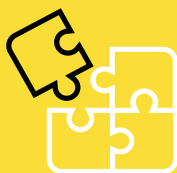
## OUR PROGRAMMES

The vision of REDRESS is a world without torture. Our mission is to deliver justice and reparation for survivors of torture, challenge impunity for perpetrators, and advocate for legal and policy reforms to combat torture.



## OUR VALUES

Through our values we project an organisational culture that respects survivors, values partnerships, and ensures expertise. During the year we have consulted with survivors on their understanding of what is meant by justice, and recruited a Communities Officer who will enable us to take this work forward. We have developed several new projects where we collaborate with partner NGOs, and we have further developed our procedures for ensuring high quality work.



### A survivor-centred approach

REDRESS prioritises the interests and perspectives of survivors in our cases and campaigns.



### Collaborative partnerships

REDRESS works in partnership with national civil society groups in the countries where we operate.



### Expertise and innovation

REDRESS maintains expertise through high standards for research and litigation, and by the constant engagement of staff with national and international experts, academics, and practitioners.

## OUR METHODS



### Holistic Strategic Litigation against Torture

With this method we represent individual clients but also use legal cases to challenge the underlying problem. We adopt a holistic approach, ensuring referrals for psycho-social support and accompanying survivors through the legal process. We provide training and mentoring to partner NGOs on this technique.



### Policy Advocacy

We work with partners to deliver campaigns at the national, regional, and international level to advocate for policy reform for reparation and for the introduction of anti-torture laws and safeguards. This work includes detailed research to inform our conclusions and recommendations and engaging with survivor communities to involve them in the campaign.



### Communications and Media

We support our litigation and policy advocacy through press and social media, to influence stakeholders, draw attention to the issues, ensure that survivors have a voice, and to raise our profile to enhance our influence.

# ACTIVITIES AND ACHIEVEMENTS



## JUSTICE

© Free Nazanin Campaign  
Nazanin Zaghari-Ratcliffe was held hostage in Iran for six years.

## WE PURSUE LEGAL CLAIMS FOR SURVIVORS AND THE PROSECUTION OF PERPETRATORS

There are many torture survivors in the UK, both citizens and refugees. We bring legal claims on behalf of survivors based in the UK, ensure referrals for their psycho-social support, engage with their communities, and conduct advocacy to push for policy changes to improve their situation and address the underlying causes of torture. We encourage national authorities to prosecute perpetrators. At the same time, we deliver international projects challenging torture in particular jurisdictions.

### KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

- **Consular protection for survivors of torture.** Under this project we campaign for improvements in the way the UK government supports British citizens and residents who are tortured abroad. On 16 March 2022, Nazanin Zaghari-Ratcliffe returned to the UK after the UK paid a £400 million debt that it owed to Iran and following a six-year campaign by REDRESS. Our activities during the

year included media work, and advocacy to the United Nations and the UK government. In the case of Jagtar Singh Johal, a British citizen imprisoned in India, the UN Working Group on Arbitrary Detention (WGAD) found, based on evidence collected by REDRESS, that Jagtar had been arbitrarily detained and tortured, and called for his immediate release.

- **Universal Jurisdiction.** We encourage the prosecution authorities in the UK and the EU to prosecute cases of torture under the principle of Universal Jurisdiction, and act as observers to the EU Genocide Network and the UK War Crimes network. During the year we developed a new project to explore the obstacles that are preventing justice in such cases, which will produce a report with recommendations for reform. In February 2022 the UK Metropolitan Police announced the arrest of a suspect in the 2000 murder of Sri Lankan BBC journalist Nimalarajan Mylvaganam.
- **UK Advocacy.** We engage with the UK government and parliament on issues relating to our mandate. This year we continued our advocacy on consular assistance, and

in March 2022 made a submission to the United Nations under the Universal Periodic Review of the UK. We also started a new project working with Freedom from Torture to engage with survivor communities in the UK to develop survivor-led policy advocacy on key issues.

- **Justice in Sudan.** We have worked for 20 years on highlighting impunity for torture in Sudan, and encouraging legal and policy reforms. The military coup in October 2021 put a halt to ongoing reform initiatives. Our activities during the year included accountability efforts, engaging with the ICC and other bodies; further work on sanctions, including the submission of several confidential files to the US, UK and EU, including on specific police units; casework, including intervening in several high-profile cases with partners; policy analysis on issues such as the need for domestic accountability; and policy advocacy to key international partners (including the UK, US, and EU) and UN bodies.

© Free Nazanin Campaign  
First Zaghari-Ratcliffe family selfie after they were reunited.



## IN FOCUS

### NAZANIN IS FINALLY HOME WITH HER FAMILY

By Eva Sanchis, Head of Communications

 [sanchis.e](https://twitter.com/sanchis.e)

On 16 March 2022 Nazanin Zaghari-Ratcliffe, a victim of torture and hostage-taking in Iran for nearly six years, was finally allowed to leave Iran and return home with her husband and eight-year-old daughter in the UK.

REDRESS, which has acted as legal representatives for Nazanin and her husband, Richard Ratcliffe, since 2016, celebrated the end of a terrible ordeal that started when she was detained at Tehran airport on 3 April 2016 after visiting family with her then one-year-old daughter.

Nazanin was tried and convicted twice in Iran of unfounded charges, and despite being innocent, she spent four years in prison in poor conditions of detention, including more than eight months in solitary confinement, and a year under house arrest with an ankle tag.

While celebrating her release, we must not forget the deep injustice perpetrated by Iran. The systematic hostage-taking of innocent foreign nationals for diplomatic leverage by Iran and other states must not be allowed to continue. Six years is a devastatingly long time for a family to be separated, and it is concerning that it took so long for the UK government to secure Nazanin's release.

REDRESS has urged the UK government to learn lessons from this case and to reassess its policies on consular protection of its citizens tortured or at risk of torture abroad, and on hostage taking. Most recently in July 2022, our Director Rupert Skilbeck and barrister Tatyana Eatwell (who supported our work in the case, along with John Dugard SC, and Alison Macdonald QC), gave oral evidence to this effect to the UK parliament's Foreign Affairs Committee for their inquiry into state level hostage situations.





© IStock

Richard Ratcliffe on his 16 day of hunger strike in 2021 in support of his wife Nazanin.

# INTERVIEW

## RICHARD RATCLIFFE

### We must recognize these cases as “hostage cases”

**We spoke with Richard Ratcliffe following Nazanin’s release. Below are his reflections on what changes are needed so what happened to Nazanin does not happen to anyone else.**

#### **How are you, Nazanin, and your family all coping since she was released?**

Life is obviously much easier now that big battle is done. But also you do only realise when it is over all the different ways in which you were manifesting stress, all the different quirks and coping strategies that need to be laid to rest.

And catching up with each other is still a journey - adjusting all to each other, catching up with the passage of six years, and learning to make plans for the future again.

The nightmares haven’t gone away, but gradually we are getting back to normal again.

#### **You have questioned the handling of state hostage situations by the UK. What are three key policy or legal changes you would like to see to protect others?**

I think the main three things would be: First, recognition. Recognising cases as hostage cases rather than insisting on using other words to pretend they are something else.

The US government has a list of US citizens held hostage or “wrongfully detained” by foreign governments for leverage. The UK should have the same - with clear criteria. Second, reporting to parliament: UK hostage policy is very opaque. In the US they report to Congress annually on their progress and trends in hostage cases. I think the Foreign Office should be doing something similar to Parliament. Third, accountability. At present the UK does not take accountability seriously for hostage cases. It has not used its Magnitsky sanctions powers to challenge state hostage-taking, it does not yet have an equivalent of the Levinson Act in the US, which empowers the government to get people home, but also to go after the bad guys and deal with the moral hazard in hostage-taking. It will need both of these if state hostage-taking is not to continue to grow

#### **You want to enshrine a right to consular protection in UK law, instead of leaving consular assistance to the discretion of the Foreign Office. Why do you feel this is important?**

Because discretionary government is always unfair government. It means that government chooses to help based on lobbyists and media pressure. In the end we were able to generate that pressure and now Nazanin is home. But there are plenty of others you have never heard of who weren’t so lucky.



# REPARATION

© Mohamed Nureldin Abdallah/Reuters  
Demonstrators protest against the prospect of military rule in Sudan in 2021.

## WE DELIVER REMEDIES AND REPARATION FOR SURVIVORS

REDRESS works to secure the delivery of effective reparation for survivors of torture, including through compensation and the introduction of practical measures to implement international standards for satisfaction, rehabilitation, non-repetition, and restitution.

Through litigation and policy advocacy we develop and implement national legal frameworks that deliver reparations for individuals and communities. This work includes developing asset recovery and sanctions as a way to deliver reparations, promoting reparations in specific tribunals including the International Criminal Court, and implementing the UN Basic Principles on the Right to Reparation.

### KEY ACHIEVEMENTS


- **Magnitsky Sanctions.** We focus on ensuring the effective use of the human rights and anti-corruption sanctions mechanisms in the UK, as a form of reparation. During the year we made several submissions to the UK authorities to sanction those involved in torture, and assisted in the filing of 15 other submissions. We trained a further 100 NGO representatives, making a total of 350 who have been trained in the last two years. Five individuals were sanctioned under the anti-corruption regime, and the UK government imposed sanctions on one individual following a submission made by REDRESS. We recruited a legal officer to develop this work further. We supported the launch of a new All-Party Parliamentary Group on Magnitsky Sanctions (APPG on Magnitsky Sanctions), providing the secretariat and organising briefings. In response to the war in Ukraine, we published key information on the UK response that was picked up by parliamentarians and the press.
- **Asset recovery.** We continued to develop legal claims to seize the assets of perpetrators of torture and other human rights abuses and have them repurposed for victims. This included financial investigations, the development of civil claims, and making a submission to the National Crime Agency seeking the confiscation of assets connected to an international criminal network which supported war crimes. We also advocated for the inclusion of asset recovery provisions on the development of a new Mutual Legal Assistance treaty on the investigation and prosecution of international crimes.
- **Legal standards for reparation.** We push for legal and policy reforms to implement measures of non-repetition, enhance accountability, and deliver reparation. This included working with the Convention against Torture Initiative (CTI) to produce a new report, *Anti-Torture Standards in Common Law Africa*, and launching it online with the participation of experts and the Hon. Commissioner Maya Sahli-Fadel, vice-chair person of the ACHPR, as part of a new advocacy initiative to key governments on the continent. We submitted amicus curiae briefs on reparations in cases from Guatemala, the European Court of Human Rights, and the International Criminal Court (ICC).



## IN FOCUS

### REPURPOSING PERPETRATORS' ASSETS FOR VICTIMS

By Leanna Burnard, Legal Advisor

 [Leanna Burnard](#)

During this year, REDRESS [has continued to pursue](#) legal and advocacy avenues to challenge the financial impunity that some high-profile perpetrators of torture enjoy, by taking action to seize their corrupt assets and, where possible, using them to provide reparations to their victims. This work is part of a new initiative under our Reparations programme in REDRESS's 2025 strategy.

Following Russia's invasion of Ukraine on 24 February, REDRESS [has been advocating](#) for the UK government to confiscate Russian assets frozen within the UK and repurpose them to address victims' urgent needs and to uphold their rights to reparations, including rehabilitation.

Earlier this year, after it was reported that £2.5 billion funds from the sale of Chelsea Football Club by Russian oligarch Roman Abramovich might be earmarked for a charitable foundation to aid victims of the war in Ukraine, [REDRESS wrote](#) to the UK government urging it to engage civil society, including victim and survivor groups, in the repurposing of those funds.

REDRESS further highlighted the opportunity for the UK to have a profound impact on the lives of victims, in a [joint briefing](#) with partners (CIFAR, International Lawyers Project, RUSI, and Spotlight on Corruption) which estimated that the amount of Russian assets frozen within the UK to date was likely to be at least one hundred times the £400 million the UK has so far committed in support to Ukraine.

An interlinked initiative by REDRESS has sought to secure financial accountability for torturers by imposing sanctions upon them following the introduction of human rights (Magnitsky) sanctions in the UK in 2020.

In March 2021, after REDRESS submitted a dossier of evidence to the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) implicating various Chinese officials and entities in widespread human rights abuses against the Uyghur population in China, the UK government sanctioned four Chinese officials and one entity. In September 2021, REDRESS and the Free Nazanin campaign, submitted a new dossier to the FCDO asking it to impose Magnitsky sanctions on ten Iranian officials involved in the arbitrary detention of foreign nationals for diplomatic leverage.

Since October 2021, REDRESS has also been [acting](#) as the secretariat of a new cross-party group of MPs and Peers, working to use targeted sanctions to prevent the UK from becoming a haven for the worst human rights abusers and kleptocrats. The All-Party Parliamentary Group on Magnitsky Sanctions, which is co-chaired by the former Deputy Leader of the House of Commons, Chris Bryant MP, and the former Secretary of State for Work and Pensions, Sir Iain Duncan Smith MP, has sought to raise the profile of Magnitsky sanctions in Parliament and examine situations where they may be appropriate.

During a Parliamentary debate in December, the APPG named several actors who it said should be subjected to human rights sanctions, including in relation to the genocide of the Uyghurs in China; the state hostage-taking of individuals including Nazanin Zaghari-Ratcliffe in Iran, and the violent military coup in Sudan. The APPG has also called on the UK government to increase its use of Magnitsky sanctions.





© Alamy Stock photo/Reuters

An Algerian mother points to a picture of her disappeared son at SOS Disparus office in Algiers.

# DISSENT

## WE CHALLENGE TORTURE USED TO SUPPRESS ACTIVISM AND PROTEST

Torture is used with impunity against human rights defenders, journalists, lawyers, protesters and activists, particularly climate and environmental defenders, often taking the form of police brutality. With more authoritarianism, such torture has increased, including through the inappropriate use of emergency powers.

Activists are often disappeared, which makes it easier for torture to take place. The use and threat of torture against those who dissent closes down civil society space, making it even more difficult to hold governments to account. We use strategic litigation to highlight the issue, determine responsibility, and push for policy reform.

### KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

- **Enforced disappearances in Africa.** REDRESS has worked with partners across Africa to challenge the enforced disappearance of those who dissent, and to bring attention to the problem. In November 2021 the ACHPR held a validation workshop for regional guidelines on enforced disappearance, following a drafting process that was facilitated by REDRESS, with the Guidelines later adopted in May 2022. Our partners in Algeria, Libya, Sudan, and Zimbabwe delivered policy advocacy which

included the ratification by the government of Sudan of the UN Convention against Torture and the Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearances (ICPPED) in August 2021. We published a major report *The Forgotten Victims: Enforced Disappearance in Africa*, and a *Practice Note on Strategic Litigation of Enforced Disappearances in Africa*.

- **Torture and protest.** REDRESS helped launch a new initiative to collect, consolidate, verify, and preserve evidence of torture allegedly committed by Belarusian authorities and others in the run-up to the 2020 presidential election and its aftermath, working together with Dignity and Belarusian partner NGOs. We supported a team of Nigerian lawyers in a claim before the ECOWAS Community Court of Justice seeking accountability for the Lekki tollgate massacre in Lagos in October 2020, and submitted a sanctions claim to the UK authorities on the same facts.
- **Human Rights Defenders.** We are developing work in this area, and supported the drafting of the Esperanza Protocol that was launched in December 2021, setting out standards for effective investigations of threats against human rights defenders.

© Alamy Stock photo/Reuters  
Zimbabwean healthcare workers hold a vigil to protest over the disappearance of Peter Magombeyi, the leader of their union, in 2019.



# IN FOCUS

## A NEW TOOL AGAINST ENFORCED DISAPPEARANCES IN AFRICA

By Julie Bardèche, Legal Advisor

🐦 [JulieBardeche](#)

Enforced disappearances have been prevalent in Africa since colonial governments used them to suppress local populations. The practice continues to be widespread, used by state and non-state actors as a tool to stifle dissent and political opposition, as well as in the context of migration and mass displacement.

Put outside the protection of the law, victims of enforced disappearances are frequently tortured and often killed. Their families suffer immensely, without knowing what happened to their loved ones. States' denial of their use and a lack of official data makes it hard to know the full magnitude of this practice on the continent. However, data gathered by the UN Working Group on Enforced and Involuntary Disappearances (UNWGEID) highlights the extent of the problem. The UN body has, since 1980, received over 4,000 claims from victims in Africa.

In May, the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights, Africa's main human rights body, announced the adoption of the [first African instrument](#) aimed to eradicate and prevent enforced disappearances, and to improve the situation of victims. The Guidelines for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearances in Africa were adopted at the Commission's 71st Ordinary Session in Banjul, The Gambia.

The adoption of the Guidelines followed efforts of REDRESS and partner organisations working in Africa (Zimbabwe Lawyers for Human Rights, MENA Rights Group, Lawyers for

Justice in Libya and the African Centre for Justice and Peace Studies) to bring the issue of enforced disappearances to the attention of key stakeholders, including the need to do more to secure justice and accountability to victims.

As part of a three-year project on enforced disappearances, our organisations published several detailed reports with recommendations for legal and policy reforms, including [The Forgotten Victims: Enforced Disappearances in Africa](#). We also supported the work of the African Commission by convening several expert workshops and events, in which many regional and international experts participated. Participants included Gabriela Citroni and Aua Balde, members of the UNWGEID; Bernard Duhaime and Houria El-Slami, former members of the UNWGEID; the late Christof Heyns, former member of the UN Human Rights Committee and Matar Diop and Olivier de Frouville, members of the UN Committee on Enforced Disappearances. This work also benefited from invaluable assistance by a pro bono team at Linklaters led by Charalampos Dimoulis, Emma Kate Cooney and Liberty Brown.

The new guidelines are not intended to replace existing standards and obligations contained in relevant international treaties and instruments. On the contrary, they seek to reinforce those international treaties and instruments and encourage African Union Member States to ratify them as a positive measure to prevent enforced disappearances on the continent, providing a crucial tool in the fight against this heinous practice.



# DISCRIMINATION

© Robin Hammond/Panos Pictures  
Ishmel and Gabriel (not their real names) were tortured by a vigilante group in Nigeria who suspected them of being gay.

## WE CHALLENGE TORTURE USED AGAINST MARGINALISED AND EXCLUDED MINORITIES

Torture is often used against minority groups, knowing that they may be powerless to respond, further marginalising them. REDRESS uses strategic litigation to challenge discriminatory torture used against such minorities including women, LGBTIQ+, refugees, migrants, and those facing multiple forms of discrimination.

### KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

- **Sexual and gender-based torture.** REDRESS worked on studies on the delivery of reparations for survivors of conflict-related sexual violence (CRSV) in four countries (Chad, Bangladesh, Myanmar, and Cambodia) in a project with the Global Survivors Fund, publishing country reports on Chad and Cambodia. In April 2021, CEDAW issued an emblematic decision finding Libya responsible for the lack of investigation of Magdulein Abaida's arbitrary arrest and torture in 2012. This is the first decision issued by the CEDAW on violence against a female human rights defender, as well as the first decision related to the MENA region. REDRESS worked with law firm Three Crowns to support the work of the UN Human Rights Council Advisory Committee in their drafting of a report on gender equality in UN bodies.
- **LGBTIQ+ torture.** REDRESS is working with national partners in Malawi, Uganda, South Africa, and Kenya to focus attention on this form of discriminatory torture, developing plans for advocacy and litigation, and supporting them in advocacy efforts, e.g. to the UN Committee against Torture. We have continued implementation of the judgment of the Inter-American Court in Azul Rojas Marín, and in September 2021 we submitted with our Peruvian partners an update to the Court on the limited progress made towards implementation.
- **Torture of refugees and migrants.** In June 2021, REDRESS and Lawyers for Justice in Libya submitted a complaint to the UN Human Rights Committee in a case against Libya that illustrates the current shortcomings in Libya's legal and institutional frameworks and practices that continue to result in widespread torture of migrants and asylum seekers.



© Courtesy Magdulein Abaida  
Women's rights activist Magdulein Abaida campaigning in Libya before she was forced to flee the country.



# IN FOCUS

## EMBLEMATIC DECISION FOR WOMEN'S HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS

By Chis Esdaile, Legal Advisor

[ChrisEsdaile](#)

After the fall of the Libyan leader Muammar Gaddafi in 2011, Magdulein Abaida and other Libyan women actively campaigned for gender equality to be enshrined in the new Libyan constitution.

It was not long after, in August 2012, that Magdulein was abducted from her hotel room in the Libyan port city of Benghazi by five men belonging to the Martyrs of 17 February Brigade, a militia group affiliated with the Libyan government.

After her release, following five days of threats, insults and physical beatings at different compounds ran by the government and this militia, Magdulein continued to receive death threats, saying that she would be killed if seen out in public. Fearing for her life and unable to continue her human rights' work, she was left with no other option than to leave her home country and seek asylum in the UK.

A decade later, REDRESS celebrated [an important decision](#) in favour of Magdulein. In April, the UN Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), the UN body of experts that monitors implementation of the main global treaty on women's rights, found that Libya violated Magdulein's rights in Libya. An earlier complaint filed by REDRESS before the Libyan Prosecutor General, urging him to investigate the allegations, had gone unanswered.

The decision of CEDAW is unprecedented. It is the first to be made on gender-based violence against a human rights defender, and the first made in response to an individual complaint from the Middle East and North Africa region.

In their decision, CEDAW requested that Libya provide Magdulein with reparations, prosecute those responsible, and take steps to address gender-based violence and discrimination against women committed by public officials and non-State actors in Libya.

**"I'm so proud to have played a part in setting a legal precedent for women and human rights defenders. It's a huge relief to have received this type of recognition of the injustices I suffered."**

Magdulein Abaida



[Watch a film about Magdulein's story](#)



# SOLIDARITY

© ESA/REDRESS  
Members of the Uganda Victims and Survivors Network  
at its launch in Kampala in 2019.

## WE SUPPORT AND STRENGTHEN THE ANTI-TORTURE MOVEMENT

For 30 years REDRESS has worked with anti-torture NGOs across the world, many of which operate in extremely difficult circumstances. These are mutually beneficial relationships. We work to ensure that these relationships are effective and collaborative partnerships, and that both REDRESS and our partners are strengthened by the process. This work also includes engaging the anti-torture movement through networks, building its resilience, promoting the use of holistic strategic litigation as an effective technique against torture through training and mentoring, encouraging our volunteers, and working with academic experts.

### KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

- **Promoting strategic litigation against torture.** We work to develop and promote the practice of strategic litigation against torture as a critical civil society response. In July 2021 we launched seven practice notes on holistic strategic litigation against torture, which provide a valuable resource for our partners who are working against torture around the world. We produced and launched 15 training modules with accompanying PowerPoint presentations and videos covering different issues to support practitioners delivering workshops on strategic litigation against torture. REDRESS staff also participated in several litigation workshops.
- **Solidarity Networks.** REDRESS supports several key networks to strengthen the anti-torture movement. Activities this year have included support for the Victims' Rights Working Group of the Coalition for the International Criminal Court, the Pan African Reparations Initiative, the Universal Jurisdiction Advocacy Group, the Coalition of International NGOs against Torture, and the GQUAL Initiative campaigning for gender equity in the human rights field.



Download the training materials at [redress.org/resources/training](https://redress.org/resources/training)

# IN FOCUS

## CHALLENGING TORTURE THROUGH HOLISTIC STRATEGIC LITIGATION

By Alejandra Vicente, Head of Law

🐦 [AVicente\\_Carr](#)

In May, REDRESS launched a new series of practice notes on holistic strategic litigation. These practical guides aim to help lawyers, activists, and medical professionals bring legal challenges that have a broader impact outside of the individual case. They fall under our [Solidarity programme](#), through which REDRESS seeks to further the global movement against torture, by a mutual sharing of expertise with colleagues and other NGOs.

Holistic strategic litigation combines case-work with other civil-society techniques such as advocacy, media, communications, and activism to ensure there is impact after the judgment, a community behind the client, and a cause behind the case. This could be through a change to policy, law, or general attitude that would help deter and prevent human rights abuses.

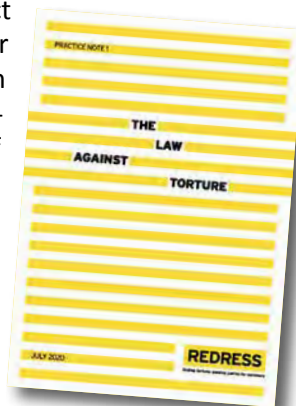
It also enables a survivor to advocate for their own cause and assist legal teams to facilitate this through the provision of psychological, social, and medical help for the duration of the litigation process. Each practice note draws from REDRESS's extensive

experience working with this method, and benefit from comprehensive case studies.

Seven practice notes are already available on the REDRESS website. They cover the law against torture; holistic strategic litigation against torture; implementation of judgments; the Istanbul Protocol; enforced disappearances in Africa; working with child victims of trauma; and facilitating strategic litigation workshops.

These practice notes go hand-in-hand with training modules developed by REDRESS, videos and PowerPoint presentations to deliver workshops on strategic litigation against torture. The training materials are available on a dedicated page on the REDRESS website: [redress.org/resources/training](https://redress.org/resources/training)

We are grateful to the UN Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture as well as the Matrix Causes Fund for their support on these projects. We hope they will aid lawyers and activists in putting together legal challenges that will help bring justice to survivors and shape the global movement against torture.




# COMMUNICATIONS AND MEDIA

We support our litigation and policy advocacy through press and social media, to influence stakeholders, draw attention to the issues, ensure that survivors have a voice, and to raise our profile to enhance our influence. During the year we continued to respond to the challenges of Covid-19 by enhancing our online events, enabling us to engage with civil society, survivor communities, and government policy makers.



Following the publication of a medico-legal report by REDRESS, the then Foreign Secretary Dominic Raab accepted for the first time on the BBC in May 2021 that Nazanin Zaghari-Ratcliffe's treatment amounted to torture.

**+89**   
mentions in UK  
and international  
media

**+342,000**   
people reached  
through 16 social  
media campaigns

**+199,000**   
users engaged  
through the website

**+9,400**   
people  
engaged through  
5 webinars and  
14 videos

## The New York Times

**After Six-Year Ordeal in Iran,  
Nazanin Zaghari-Ratcliffe Is Freed**

16 March 2022

Ms. Zaghari-Ratcliffe, a charity worker, was arrested and detained in Iran in 2016. She was released along with another dual citizen of Iran and the UK after the resolution of a longstanding British debt.

## The Guardian

**Liz Truss to demand immediate release  
of all UK detainees held by Iran**

19 September 2021

New foreign secretary will meet her Iranian counterpart as Nazanin-Zaghari Ratcliffe faces her 2,000th day in detention.

## The Washington Post

**Roman Abramovich, Chelsea football owner,  
sanctioned by U.K. in push to punish Russian  
oligarchs**

10 March 2022

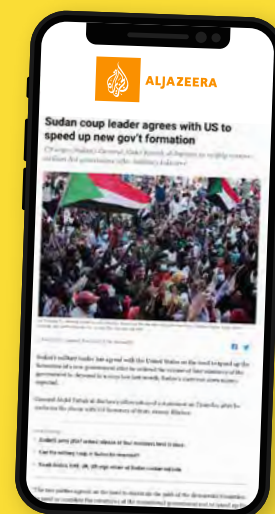
Britain on Thursday froze the assets of seven prominent Russian business executives, including Chelsea football owner Roman Abramovich,

## THE TIMES

**Lawyer of the week: Charlie Loudon,  
who acted for Nazanin Zaghari-Ratcliffe**

24 March 2022

Charlie Loudon, a legal adviser at the human rights organisation REDRESS, led the team that has acted for the British-Iranian aid worker, since shortly after her detention in 2016.



Watch our videos

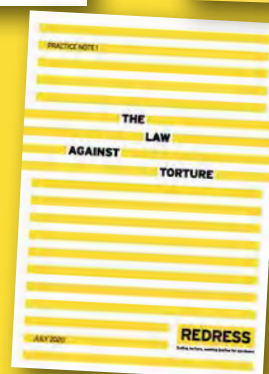
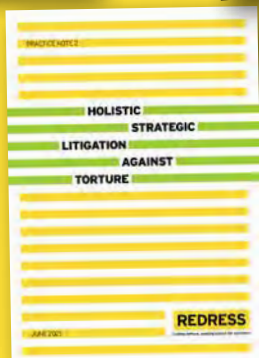
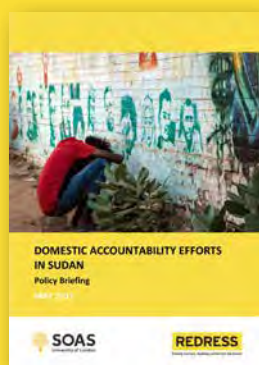


# PUBLICATIONS

Our campaigns to advocate for policy reform for reparation and for the introduction of anti-torture laws and safeguards are supported by detailed research that inform our conclusions and recommendations and engage with survivor communities. During the year we published four major reports and 17 other publications on policy and practical issues, including nine policy briefings. A selection of our publications, some of which are available in English, French and Arabic, is featured below.



To see all our publications, visit:  
<https://redress.org/resources/publications/>



# PLANS FOR THE FUTURE



REDRESS has developed some new and innovative projects under the REDRESS 2025 Strategy, some of which are currently underway, and others which will start once funding is secured:

- **New work on Ukraine, looking at both prosecutions under Universal Jurisdiction, and providing reparation for survivors through repurposing of confiscated assets.**
- **More policy advocacy in the United Kingdom to draw attention to threats to the absolute prohibition against torture, through a survivor-lead approach.**
- **A new initiative to encourage a practical approach to reparations across the anti-torture movement, including increased advocacy for prompt and effective investigations and developing good practice on compensation for torture.**
- **New projects under our Dissent programme to challenge torture against climate activists, human rights defenders, and journalists.**
- **New initiatives to challenge sexual and gender-based violence as torture, discriminatory torture by police in the EU, and the torture of migrants and refugees.**
- **New projects to provide operational support to strengthen our partners in the global south, and to enhance several key anti-torture networks.**

© Alexandra Wallace/REDRESS



# THANK YOU!

## Funders

The Trustees are grateful for the ongoing support of the Bay & Paul Foundations, Bromley Trust, European Union, John Armitage Charitable Trust, Oak Foundation, Open Society Foundations, Sigrid Rausing Trust and the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture, whose continued funding has enabled REDRESS to sustain and grow our work over this period. REDRESS would also like to extend special thanks to the Allen & Overy Foundation, Clifford Chance Foundation, Convention against Torture Initiative, David & Ruth Lewis Family Charitable Foundation, Global Survivors Fund, Joffe Charitable Trust, Kilburn and Strode, Leigh Day, Linklaters, Matrix Causes Fund, Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart, National Endowment for Democracy, Oakdale Trust, Peoples Postcode Trust, Souter Charitable Trust, Southall Trust, Three Crowns and the Victoria Wood Foundation for their support and funding during this time.

We would like to thank the runners who participated in the 2021 London Landmarks Half Marathon: Harriet Codd, Kathryn Edwards, Celeste Kmiotek, Mattias Mehmed, Richard Mehmed, Amelia Mercer, Louise Pech, Alex Sciannaca, Matt Siggins, and the 2021 London Marathon: Rachel Howell, Cara Nicholson, Joe Sheils, Lorna Thompson, Judita Ubartaitė for generously spending their time and effort on raising funds for REDRESS. We are grateful to our regular supporters and to those who have continued to promote and contribute to our Help Bring Nazanin Home campaign.

## Interns, fellows, volunteers, and other supporters

The Trustees would like to record their appreciation for the many volunteers who willingly gave their time to the benefit of the charity. This year, REDRESS' volunteers provided invaluable support to all of our programme areas. 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 Layla Abi-Falah, Mariana Baptista, Frank Bowmaker, Jodie Chun, Beatriz Gasparian, Sophie Glickman, Zinat Jimada, Mia Kelly, Amy Kerr, Suley Wellings-Longmore, Veronica Lakhno, Bronwen Latham, Caroline Love, Sofia Menendez, Dami Ojuri, Carmen Ramírez, Andrea Rogers, Harleen Roop, Sahar Sadoughi, Lisa Schmidt, Anna Smith, Camila Teran, Renata Politi, Amela Tokic, Janna Wermeskerken and Zalikha Younas. We also want to thank our fellows Lina Abdelhafiz, Ikram Ais, Ely Cossio, Emma DiNapoli, Celeste Kmiotek, Kelsey Peden, and Alix Vadot. We are also very grateful to a number of lawyers who worked pro bono for a period of time with REDRESS: Natalia Kubesch, Caitlan Lloyd, Natalie Lucas and Fiona McKay. We are also very grateful to Vocalegal for their support with translation, Fragomen for its pro-bono support, as well as Vilmar Luiz and Marc Rechdane for their tireless work designing our materials.

## Clinical and related human rights programmes

Thank you as well to the professors and students who collaborated with REDRESS through a number of clinical and related human rights programmes. We would like to thank the law clinics that have provided substantial support this year, including the Bristol University School of Law Human Rights Implementation Centre, Cambridge University Pro Bono Project, LSE Law Clinic and LSE Pro Bono Matters, the SOAS International Human Rights Clinic, the University of Essex Human Rights Centre, University College London's Public International Law Pro Bono Project, the Law Clinic of the Université Libre de Bruxelles, the Law Faculty of the University of Groningen, the Walter Leitner International Human Rights Clinic at Fordham University School of Law, the Centre of Applied Human Rights at the University of York, The Edinburgh International Justice Initiative, and the Victims' Rights Clinic of Queen's University Belfast Human Rights Centre in the School of Law.

We would also like to thank in particular Professor Clara Sandoval, Professor Lorna McGregor, Dr Carla Ferstman, and Dr Daragh Murray of the University of Essex; Dr Luke Moffett of Queens University Belfast; Dr Lutz Oette and Professor Lynn Welchman of SOAS; Professor Kate O'Regan and Dr Annelen Micus of the Bonavero Institute of Human Rights at the University of Oxford; Professor Rachel Murray and Debra Long of the University of Bristol Human Rights Implementation Centre; Professor Frederiek de Vlamming; Dr Sam Raphael of University of Westminster; Professor Frans Viljoen and Dr Ayo Sogunro of the Centre for Human Rights of the University of Pretoria; and Professor 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); Access Chapter 2 (AC2), South Africa; African Centre for Justice and Peace Studies (ACJPS); All members of the Pan-African Reparations Initiative (PARI); All members of the CICC Victims' Rights Working Group; Amnesty International Nederland; Amnesty International UK; Amnesty International South Africa; Association for the Prevention of Torture; ATPDH (Chad); Bangladesh Legal Aid Services (BLAST); Centre for Human Rights (CHR), University of Pretoria; Center for Justice and Accountability (CJA); Centre for the Development of People (CEDEP), Malawi; Centre for the Study of Violence and Reconciliation; Chatham House; the Coalition for the International Criminal Court (CICC); City of The Hague; Civitas Maxima; CNDDHH (Peru); COFAVIC (Venezuela); Committee for the Prevention of Torture in Africa; Convention Against Torture Initiative; CORE Coalition; DefendDefenders; Dignity; ECCHR; Egyptian Initiative for Personal Rights (EIPR); Emerging Solutions Africa; En Vero (Canada); Enough Project; Ensaaf; European Centre for Constitutional and Human Rights (ECCHR); the European Implementation Network; Human Rights First;

the Global Survivors Fund (GSF); the Open Society European Policy Institute (OSEPI); the Pan American Development Foundation (PADF); and the Raoul Wallenberg Centre for Human Rights.

We are also grateful to: FIACAT; FIDH; Freedom from Torture; Free Nazanin Campaign; Genocide Network Secretariat; Global Witness; Guernica 37; Human Dignity Trust; 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; International Committee of Jurists (ICJ); International Federation of Human Rights; International Rehabilitation Council for Torture Victims; International Truth and Justice Project; Kdei Karuna (Cambodia); Kenya National Commission on Human Rights (KNCHR); Kenyan Human Rights Commission (KHRC); Legal Action Worldwide; Lawyers for Justice in Libya; Liberty; MENA Rights Group; Naripokkho (Bangladesh); National Gay & Lesbian Human Rights Commission (NGLHRC), Kenya; Nuhanovic Foundation; OMCT; Open Society Justice Initiative; Outright; Oxford Human Rights Hub; Pan African ILGA; Parliamentarians for Global Action; The People's Legal Aid Center (Sudan); Public Interest Law and Policy Group; Project Expedite Justice; PROMSEX (Peru); Reprieve; Rights and Accountability in Development (RAID); SIHA Network; Sexual Minorities Uganda (SMUG); Southern Africa Litigation Centre (SALC); The Sentry; Spotlight on Corruption; Syrian Archive; Syrian Justice and Accountability Centre; SOMO (Centre for Research on Multinational Corporations); Transitional Justice Centre; Transparency International UK; TRIAL International; United Kingdom Anti-Corruption Coalition (UKACC); Clooney Foundation for Justice; International Lawyers' Project; and Zimbabwe Lawyers for Human Rights.

We would also like to thank in particular Baroness Helena Kennedy QC; Bob Campbell-Lamerton; Brock Chisolm; Dame Rosalind Marsden; Jacqueline Moudeina; 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 investigators that have supported our work over the year. In particular, special thanks to Fiona McKay for her assistance with the Nazanin Zaghari-Ratcliffe case; Alison Macdonald QC at Essex Court Chambers; Allen & Overy; David Pretorius, Kate Shoeman, Mandisi Rusa, and Tanya Calitz at Bowmans (South Africa); Lionel Nichols at Candey; Caroline Buisman; Clifford Chance; Debevoise & Plimpton; Dentons; DLA Piper; Frans-Willem Verbaas; Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer; Gibson Dunn; Guy Vassall-Adams QC at Matrix Chambers; Hickman & Rose; Hogan Lovells; Ingrida Botyrienė (Lithuania); John Dugard SC, Steve Powles QC, Tatyana Eatwell, Megan Hirst, Tayyiba Bajwa, and Jake Taylor at Doughty Street Chambers; Julie Soweto (Kenya); Latham & Watkins; Leigh Day; Linklaters; Mbugua Mureithi (Kenya); Mintz Group; Isobel Koshiw; Rachel Scott, Genevieve Woods, and Rachel Barnes at 3 Raymond Buildings; Raedas Consulting, and its not-for-profit arm, FIND; Nat Ambrov, Crystal Vantage; Shaheed Fatima QC, Tim Otty QC, Celia Rooney, 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.



# WHO IS WHO AT REDRESS

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## Board of Trustees

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## **Founder and Honorary President**

**Keith Carmichael**



© Dianne Magbanua/REDRESS

# INTERVIEW

## with Renata Politi

### IN FOCUS

#### Working for REDRESS

As a Legal Officer at REDRESS, Renata Politi works primarily on initiatives to promote justice and accountability for discriminatory torture perpetrated against LGBTIQ+ persons, and on the implementation of anti-torture standards in Africa. Before joining REDRESS, Renata worked for six years as a criminal lawyer in Brazil and on the implementation of UN treaties. She holds an LLM on General Legal Studies focused on International Human Rights, and postgraduate diplomas in criminal law.

#### When did you join REDRESS?

I joined REDRESS as a volunteer in January 2021, after having completed my masters in 2020 and whilst searching for job opportunities in the UK. As many international candidates I faced the challenge of translating my several years of criminal litigation experience in Brazil, and academic accomplishments to join a niche area of international human rights, in which many employers do not sponsor in-

ternational candidates. Gladly, I was able to volunteer for a few months at REDRESS, which affirmed my aspiration to work in this organisation. Then in June 2021, I successfully applied for a Legal Officer position and started to lead REDRESS's work on justice for LGBTIQ+ torture and on anti-torture reforms in Africa.

#### Why did you want to work for REDRESS?

Besides the obvious reason that REDRESS is the international leader organisation on strategic litigation against torture, I identified myself with its commitment to promote justice through a victim-centred approach and in collaboration with grassroots organisations around the world. With grandparents from Egypt who had to flee the country due to discrimination, I was particularly interested in leading one of our projects under the Discrimination programme, focused on justice for torture against the LGBTIQ+ community.

### **How is a typical day for you at REDRESS?**

As I work on projects with different demands, my days can vary significantly. It can include a lot of reading and drafting, including submissions to the UN, legal reports and policy briefings; communicating with grassroots organisations, experts, governments of African States, and donors, as well as meetings to discuss project strategies. My days also tend to include some administrative work related to budgeting, reporting to donors and planning workshops, among other tasks. Despite the very busy routine, the work is incredibly rewarding and REDRESS's team is very fun and energetic.

### **What is the achievement that you feel most proud of?**

One of the main achievements was the release of the report *Unequal Justice*, which examines the reasons why there is little to no justice for torture against the LGBTIQ+ community in eleven African States. It is a very innovative report, which aims to be a useful tool for our partner organisations

and others in the region who are advocating for legislative and policy reforms in this area, as it outlines specific recommendations. It was particularly rewarding to receive positive feedback from our local partners and see the UN Independent Expert on Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity, Víctor Madrigal-Borloz note that the report had made a very important contribution to advance the knowledge in this area.

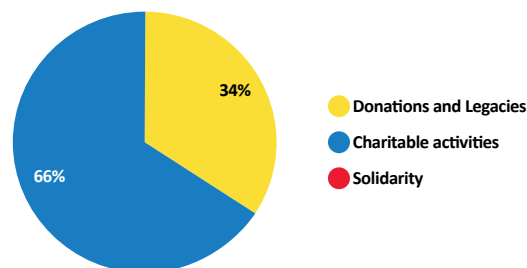
### **What advice would you give to others who want to work in this field?**

Working in the international human rights field clearly involves a lot of research, therefore, having study discipline, keeping up to date with global news, and being eager to learn more are always helpful. Having great awareness to the needs of people from different backgrounds and regions of the world, and being comfortable working with different personalities is also valuable. I would also advise young professionals to trust their own professional, personal, and academic experiences. Finally, be persistent, resilient, passionate, and keep up the mood!

# FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

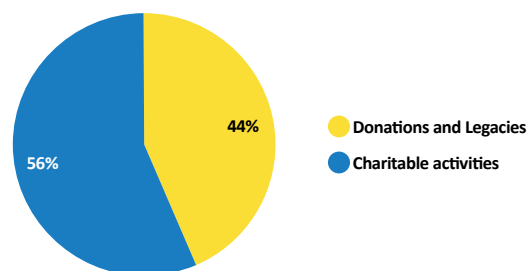
## INCOME 2021-22

Donations and Legacies	668,574	34%
Investment Income	190	0%
Charitable activities	1,271,834	66%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,940,598</b>	<b>100%</b>



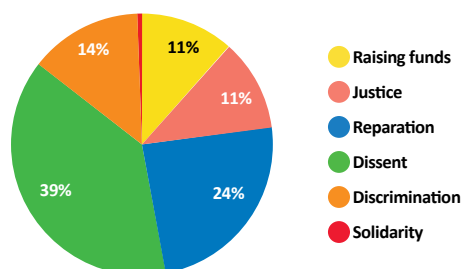
## INCOME 2020-21

Donations and Legacies	474,429	44%
Investment Income	470	0%
Charitable activities	613,973	56%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,088,872</b>	<b>100%</b>



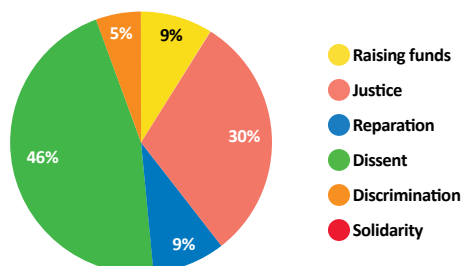
## EXPENDITURE 2021-22

Raising funds	143,346	11%
Justice	141,436	11%
Reparation	299,512	24%
Dissent	481,939	39%
Discrimination	175,382	14%
Solidarity	6,565	1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,248,180</b>	<b>100%</b>



## EXPENDITURE 2020-2021

Raising funds	88,587	9%
Justice	309,789	30%
Reparation	92,337	9%
Dissent	473,162	46%
Discrimination	54,848	5%
Solidarity	1,773	0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,020,496</b>	<b>100%</b>



The financial results are for the financial year 1 April 2020 to 31 March 2021. The Trustees have addressed the complementarities of the charity's work with other national and international organisations to assure donors that funding contributes the maximum impact with a coordinated approach to the charity's overall goals.



# SUPPORT REDRESS



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## Become a regular contributor

Since 1992 REDRESS has worked to deliver justice and reparation for survivors of torture - many targeted because of discrimination or to suppress dissent - and to promote solidarity in the anti-torture movement. As we celebrate 30 years in 2023, we are growing our programmes.

Supporting REDRESS means helping us bring legal claims for survivors and the prosecution of perpetrators. It also means standing with marginalised individuals and movements challenging injustice by supporting us challenge torture that is used to suppress these groups. You will also be strengthening the anti-torture movement, as we work in collaboration with local partners around the world, many of whom operate in extremely difficult circumstances.

It is the vital contributions of REDRESS's supporters that enable us to continue to redress torture where and whenever it occurs. Your donations facilitate this work to realise our vision of a world without torture.

**Support our work:**  
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“What does a lawyer do in situations like Nazanin's, where legal tools feel so inadequate, and justice far from reach? More than you realise: helping to navigate complex governments, keeping them honest when they stray from their obligations, or when they try to gaslight a grieving family witnessing the injustice and calling it out clear.”

“The law needs to work in quiet ways as well as sometimes needing to be loud. It makes such a difference not to walk this journey alone. Without REDRESS and the rest of our legal team, I do not think Nazanin would be home with us today. I hope others will find similar support in the injustices to come.”

**Richard Ratcliffe,**  
husband of Nazanin Zaghari-Ratcliffe



Help share our vision for  
a world without torture:



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