

ANNUAL REVIEW 2023



YEARS
REDRESS
Ending torture, seeking justice for survivors

ANNUAL REVIEW 2023

This Annual Review provides an overview of the activities and achievements carried out by REDRESS from April 2022 to March 2023. However, some articles cover developments in the relevant area of work up until the date of printing.

REDRESS

Unit G01
65 Glasshill Street
SE1 0QR
London, UK
+44 (0)20 7793 1777
info@redress.org

Charity number: 1015787
Company number: 2774071

REDRESS Nederland

Spaarneplein 2, 2515 VK,
The Hague, the Netherlands
+ 31 708 919 317
Info.nederland@redress.org

Chamber of Commerce File
Registration number:
66793319
RSIN number:
8566 99 846

 [REDRESSTrust](#)
 [theREDRESSTrust](#)
 [company/REDRESS](#)
 [REDRESSTrust](#)

redress.org



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 international 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.

© Reuters/Amr Abdallah Dalsh. A graffiti of activist Khaled Said whose death after being beaten by police sparked mass protests demanding the ouster of former President Mubarak.



Ending torture, seeking justice for survivors

CONTENTS

CHAIR AND DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

STRATEGY

IMPACT AND ACHIEVEMENTS

Justice

Reparation

Dissent

Discrimination

Solidarity

COMMUNICATIONS

WHO WE ARE

FINANCE HIGHLIGHTS

SUPPORT REDRESS

6

10

12

12

16

18

20

22

24

26

28

30

© Guy Corbishley/Alamy Stock Photo



CHAIR AND DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

“REDRESS is needed now more than ever before. Torture and other forms of inhuman and degrading treatment are sadly all too frequent, both in conflicts such as Ukraine and Sudan, but also in everyday police stations, at protests, and against refugees and migrants.”

This year REDRESS celebrated 30 years since it was founded on Human Rights Day on 10 December 1992. While there have been many improvements in the legal structures and protections against torture in that time, REDRESS is needed now more than ever before. Torture and other forms of inhuman and degrading treatment are sadly all too frequent, both in conflicts such as Ukraine and Sudan, but also in everyday police stations, at protests, and against refugees and migrants.

This report presents the work that REDRESS delivered in 2022-23, and the impact that the charity achieved.

In the UK we drew attention to the problem of state hostage-taking as a form of torture and progressed political commitments to create a legal right to consular assistance. We developed a new area of work to bring



Sir Malcolm Evans
Chair

© UN Photo/Rick Barjonas

survivor communities into the heart of advocacy against torture.

Internationally we challenged torture in Sudan, Ukraine, Egypt, and elsewhere. We promoted Magnitsky sanctions as a form of interim reparations that can be used to identify perpetrators of torture and proposed new laws to allow for the repurposing of frozen assets as reparations for survivors. We challenged the torture of protesters and others who dissent in Belarus, Sudan, Zimbabwe, and

Nigeria. Through several projects we pushed for accountability and reparation for discriminatory torture, including for victims of conflict-related sexual violence in Myanmar, Chad, and Cambodia, and for survivors of LGBTIQ+ torture across Africa. We strengthened the anti-torture movement to use strategic litigation against torture and obtain reparation.

Throughout the year, REDRESS has delivered the plan for growth that the trustees agreed in 2019 and has grown to 35 staff and fellows. This careful development of REDRESS has allowed us to strengthen our capacity in areas such as finance, communications, and fundraising, to support more project staff, enabling REDRESS to deliver all the projects anticipated in the 2025 Strategy.

This means that during the year we were able to start several new projects and deliver a balanced programme of work across all of our strategic priorities, and to respond to developments such as the situation in Ukraine.

This year also saw the retirement of our Chair, Paul Lomas, as well as that of two of our long-standing trustees, Reverend Nicholas Mercer and Baroness Vivien Stern. We are enormously grateful for their dedication, expertise, and support through an important time for REDRESS. In particular, we thank Paul Lomas for helping guide the charity during a period of change and growth.



© De Sheng Lim

Rupert Skilbeck
Director

The Board was joined by Sara Hossain, Andrew Songa, and Ceri Thomas, continuing to broaden the experience amongst the trustees. We were also pleased to welcome two new Patrons: Baroness Frances D’Souza, who returns several years after her previous role as a Trustee and Director, and Lillianne Ploumen. We were very sorry to hear of the death of Dame Vivienne Westwood, also a patron of REDRESS, who had promoted the cause of human rights throughout her career.

As we mark a pivotal anniversary, REDRESS is in a strong position to build on the reputation and achievements that were carefully developed over three decades by the hard work of its staff and the commitment of the torture survivors that we represent. We look forward to consolidating our growth, and focusing on how we can better achieve justice and reparation for survivors of torture.

IN FOCUS

REDRESS CELEBRATES 30 YEARS



© Dianne Magbanua/REDRESS

By Joss Gillespie, Communications and Digital Assistant

On Human Rights Day – 10 December 2022 – REDRESS celebrated 30 years of working to end torture and seek justice for survivors.

To mark our 30th anniversary, we held several events throughout the year, including [an event in The Hague](#) in June followed by another [event in London](#). We also published “30 Years of Impact” which looked back on some of the most significant achievements in REDRESS’ history, such as holding perpetrators to account, obtaining justice for survivors, establishing the right to reparation for torture, and giving survivors a voice through our survivor-centred approach.

Major milestones include campaigning to ensure that key provisions for victims were incorporated into the Rome Statute which established the International Criminal Court; focusing the attention of

the international community on sexual violence in conflict through [landmark cases](#) and [advocacy](#); litigating the first case on [LGBTIQ+ torture](#) before a human rights court, which compelled a response to discriminatory torture in the Americas; and challenging political immunities, such as those promised to the dictators General Augusto Pinochet and [Colonel Muammar Gaddafi](#).

Our anniversary celebrations in London brought together our supporters, clients and friends at Calthorpe Community Garden, to mark REDRESS’ significant milestones over the last three decades. Attendees enjoyed live jazz music from the band [Permission to Appeal](#) and a photography exhibition that offered a glimpse into survivors of torture’s perceptions of justice. The exhibition emphasised the urgency of acknowledging survivors’ struggles and their right to

redress, as well as the need for collective action to end the barbaric practice of torture once and for all.

Malcolm Evans, Chair of the Board of Trustees, recalled how REDRESS was founded by Keith Carmichael, who was tortured in Saudi Arabia in the 1980s, to help survivors of torture overcome the many difficulties to obtain reparation:

“The right to reparation existed in law, but the reality was it was so difficult to make it happen in practice. The idea of making real the idea of redress was the inspiration for the organisation and it is the work that we carry forward into our work today.”

Rupert Skilbeck, Director of REDRESS, also paid tribute to REDRESS’ clients:

“ We should recognise the work that has taken place, the commitment and energy of the family members and survivors we work with. They trusted us to take on their cases and campaigns, often for many years. They allowed us to be there in the good times and also in the incredibly frustrating times. We admire their commitment for what they are trying to achieve.”

OUR STRATEGY

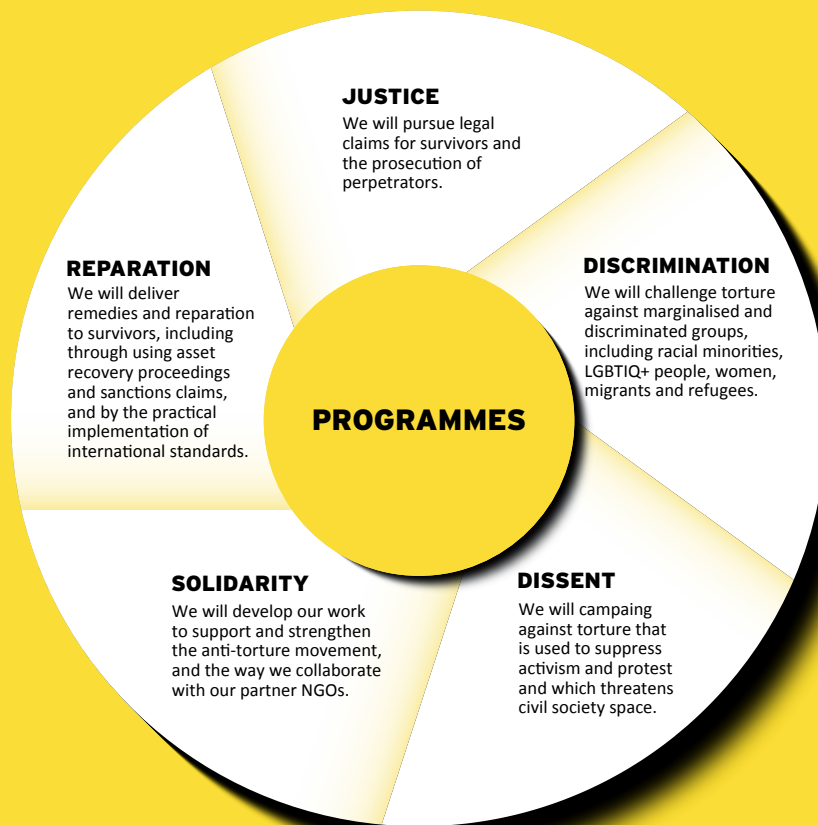
The REDRESS 2025 Strategy sets out the priorities for the charity, with specific deliverables developed each year by the staff and the board for each of the programme areas.

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

Under the 2025 Strategy REDRESS focuses its work in five programme areas.



OUR VALUES



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



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



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



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

IMPACT AND ACHIEVEMENTS



© Promsex. Azul Rojas Marín (left) during the ceremony at the Ministry of Justice and Human Rights in Peru, during which she received a public apology for her torture from the State Peru.

JUSTICE

WE PURSUE LEGAL CLAIMS FOR SURVIVORS AND THE PROSECUTION OF PERPETRATORS

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 that 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.

- **Consular assistance.** The issue of State hostage-taking, which REDRESS helped draw attention to in part through Nazanin Zaghari-Ratcliffe's case, continued to gather momentum. In April 2022, the UK Parliament's Foreign Affairs Committee opened an inquiry into the UK government's handling of State level hostage situations, while in June, a Communiqué from the G7 Lead-

ers called on Iran to end its arbitrary detention of foreign nationals for diplomatic leverage. Drawing from briefings from REDRESS, the UK Shadow Foreign Secretary, David Lammy, pledged in September 2022 that, if elected, Labour will legislate for a new legal right to consular assistance.

- **Communities.** REDRESS published a ground-breaking report “Whose Justice? Reflections from UK-Based Survivors of Torture” on what justice means for survivors of torture in the UK, the result of direct consultations with survivors and their family members. Juan Méndez, the former UN Special Rapporteur on Torture and a torture survivor himself, endorsed the report in its preface. REDRESS also increased its support to survivors through the publication of a new “Guide to Justice, Accountability and Reparations for Survivors of Torture” and resources on our website. REDRESS held the first survivor-centred advocacy event in the UK Parliament, presenting a “Manifesto” drafted by survivors of torture, with their recommendations to the UK government to improve access to justice for survivors.
- **Justice for Ukraine.** REDRESS worked with partners across Europe to promote accountability for atrocities in Ukraine through legal policy research and advocacy and by supporting co-ordination for universal jurisdiction prosecutions. We supported the effective use of targeted sanctions, and promoted asset recovery for the purpose of providing reparation, including by advocating for the payment of forfeited assets into new and existing trust funds. We worked to build the effective participation of Ukrainian civil society groups at the International Criminal Court (ICC) through the Victims’ Rights Working Group (VRWG) of the Coalition for the International Criminal Court.
- **Justice in Sudan.** In May 2022, Sudan’s de facto military leaders lifted the state of emergency, after REDRESS highlighted the widespread arrests conducted under emergency powers and the risk of torture in detention through research, briefings to high-level diplomats and the media. In addition, following submissions to UN Special Procedures Mandate Holders, eight pro-democracy protestors were acquitted in criminal proceedings in Sudan in March 2023 and released. REDRESS also published the first in-depth briefing on Sudan’s rules of procedure and the exclusionary rule for torture and delivered several workshops to strengthen the capacity of our Sudanese partners.
- **Justice in Egypt.** REDRESS drew attention to Egypt’s endemic use of torture and ill-treatment by the police and State Security Services. Following oral and written submissions to the UN Human Rights Committee, the UN body concluded that torture in Egypt is widespread and systematic, and called on the Egyptian government to take several measures to address the systematic use of torture, including ending impunity for torture and halting the misuse of counter-terrorism measures against peaceful dissenters.
- **Justice in Peru.** REDRESS accompanied partners from APRODEH and relatives of the students disappeared in the emblematic case of La Cantuta in Peru, in locating the remains of their loved ones in the UK, a key element of reparation. After the remains were found in a forensic archive in Birmingham, they were returned to the families of the relatives’ victims. Forensic experts later identified the remains as those of four disappeared students in the case, closing the relatives’ 30-year search for the truth.

IN FOCUS

CENTRING SURVIVORS' VOICES



© REDRESS. Matthew Hedges, who was tortured in the UAE, and his wife Daniela.

By Camila Marin Restrepo, Communities Officer

June 26th marked the United Nations International Day in Support of Victims of Torture. To commemorate the day and strengthen the UK's response to torture, REDRESS united with UK-based survivors of torture and leading anti-torture organisations to support survivors in seeking accountability, redress, and much needed policy change.

Through detailed consultation with survivors of torture, REDRESS developed a “Survivors of Torture Manifesto”, which sets out recommendations to the UK government on how to remove the main barriers that prevent them from accessing justice and covers several priority issues including accountability, rehabilitation, asylum, and immigration.

We also published the report “Whose Justice? Reflections from UK-Based Survivors of Torture”, which for the first time canvassed the views of survivors of torture and their family members in the UK on what justice meant to them in practice and what were their key barriers to achieving it.

To advocate for policy and legal reforms, we developed the Survivor Advisory Group, an advisory group of survivors of torture and their families. Individuals with lived experience bring a range of skills and expertise, as well as the profound commitment to preventing others from experiencing what they have been through.

At REDRESS, we are committed to survivor-centred advocacy and continue to work collaboratively with survivors and anti-torture organisations, enriching and strengthening the UK's anti-torture movement.

Seeking justice and accountability through human rights mechanisms is often a lengthy process that can take several years, which can be incredibly difficult for individuals who have experienced trauma and may have social, economic or immigration challenges that they are also trying to navigate. This is why working in collaboration with survivors to build their inner confidence and trust in others, through initiatives such as our Manifesto and the Survivor Advisory Group, are so important.

As Tawanda Muchehiwa, a law student and survivor of torture from Zimbabwe, explains:

“ Ultimately, involving survivors in the anti-torture sector’s processes can lead to more effective policies, better outcomes for survivors, and a greater respect for human rights.”



© Reuters/Ahmed Jadallah.

A residential neighbourhood in Irpin, Ukraine, which was damaged by Russian shelling following the Russian invasion.

REPARATION

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.

- **Sanctions.** In response to pressure from MPs supported by REDRESS and other NGO partners, the UK government improved the operation of its sanctions regime by increasing the size of the Foreign, Development, and Commonwealth Office's sanctions team, simplifying the legislative framework, and improving mechanisms for international coordination. In a debate in Parliament, the UK All-Party Parliamentary Group on Magnitsky Sanctions, supported by REDRESS, identified 31 perpetrators from seven countries to be sanctioned. This was informed by REDRESS' report "UK Magnitsky Sanctions: Stuck in First Gear?" Subsequently, two individuals identified by the APPG were sanctioned by the UK for their involvement in the invasion of Ukraine. In December 2022, the UK announced

further sanctions against several perpetrators who had been signalled for sanctions by civil society organisations collaborating with REDRESS and the UK Anti-Corruption Coalition. The UK Foreign Secretary also committed to taking more decisive action through the use of targeted sanctions.

- **Asset recovery.** Responding to a question drafted by REDRESS for the UK Foreign Affairs Committee, the then UK Foreign Secretary Liz Truss confirmed her support for using frozen Russian assets as reparations for victims of war crimes in Ukraine. REDRESS published a briefing and worked with MPs to press the UK government to explore ways of legally confiscating Russian assets frozen under sanctions. We also briefed government officials and the Labour Party on our draft law to enable the confiscation of assets frozen under sanctions for repurposing as reparations for survivors.
- **International standards.** REDRESS and partners launched the new "Belfast Guidelines on Reparations in Post-Conflict Societies", addressing the implementation gap between the rights and principles set out in international law and the delivery of reparations to victims. REDRESS and the Convention against Torture Initiative held a workshop in The Gambia to encourage the government to investigate and prosecute torture. An anti-torture bill was subsequently passed by the Gambian Parliament.

IN FOCUS

USING PERPETRATORS' ASSETS TO FUND REPARATIONS



By Natalia Kubesch, Legal Officer

All survivors of torture must receive effective reparations for the suffering inflicted on them. This can take the form of compensation or the implementation of practical measures.

As part of a new initiative under our 2025 Strategy, REDRESS has continued to pursue legal and advocacy avenues to challenge the financial impunity that some high-profile perpetrators of torture enjoy. This includes taking action to seize their corrupt assets and, where possible, using them to provide reparations to their victims.

Following Russia's invasion of Ukraine in 2022, REDRESS has been working with partners in Ukraine and around the world to explore routes to deliver reparations to victims affected by the conflict in Ukraine. As part of this work, we have called on the UK government to repurpose Russian assets frozen within the UK to address victims' urgent needs and to uphold their rights to reparations, including rehabilitation.

Since the announcement in March 2022 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 has pressed the UK government to engage with victims and take the steps necessary to make this foundation operational.

We have also developed and advocated for a novel legal basis to overcome the challenges of confiscating assets in the UK, given that currently UK law does not provide the tools needed to confiscate and repurpose assets frozen under sanctions.

In addition, as part of this project, we have continued to raise awareness of the reparations landscape in Ukraine and increased the capacity of civil society and survivors to engage in the reparations mechanisms available or being created. This also includes working on an interlinked initiative, which seeks to strengthen the capacity of civil society and other actors to submit sanctions submissions under the UK framework in relation to the Russia-Ukraine conflict and assess the impact of sanctions.



© Reuters/Christian Hartman. Human rights activists protesting over human rights violations in Egypt.

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 tightens 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.

- **Enforced Disappearance in Africa.** REDRESS filed emblematic cases related to enforced disappearance in Zimbabwe, Kenya, and Sudan, to secure justice to victims and develop regional caselaw on the issue. Following three years of work led by REDRESS and partner organisations from Algeria, Libya, Sudan, and Zimbabwe, in May 2022 the African Commission adopted regional guidelines on enforced disappearance, the first African instrument aimed at eradicating and preventing enforced disappearances, and to improve the situation of victims.
- **Pro-democracy protests in Sudan.** Following submissions by REDRESS and partners to the UN Spe-

cial Rapporteur on Torture and the UN Working Group on Arbitrary Detention in March 2023, eight pro-democracy protestors in Sudan, who were tortured while in detention, were acquitted in criminal proceedings and released from detention.

- **Clamp down on civil society in Belarus.** We worked with the International Accountability Platform for Belarus (IAPB) to document the widespread and systematic torture against protesters in the run-up to the 2020 presidential election and its aftermath, helping advance accountability efforts and justice for victims. We encouraged prosecutions under universal jurisdiction and facilitated collaboration between national and international human rights groups working on Belarus. Evidence provided to the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights contributed to the findings of this report, presented to UN Human Rights Council in March 2023, that the human rights violations in Belarus may constitute crimes against humanity.
- **Lekki Toll massacre in Nigeria.** We challenged the torture and unlawful killings that took place at the Lekki toll gate protest in Nigeria in 2020, when the Nigerian army and police opened fire on peaceful, unarmed protestors gathered there. We supported Magnitsky Sanctions against the perpetrators, and a legal challenge at the ECOWAS Community Court of Justice.

IN FOCUS

CHALLENGING TORTURE TO SUPPRESS DISSENT

By Julie Bardeche, Legal Advisor

🐦 @JulieBardeche

REDRESS continues to challenge the use of torture as a tool to suppress dissent in several countries, including Sudan, Egypt and Belarus.

Since 2021, REDRESS has been co-leading the International Accountability Platform for Belarus (IAPB). This innovative civil society platform led by Belarusian and international organisations has been collecting evidence on human rights abuses committed during the 2020 presidential election and its aftermath, and preserving it in digital archives to ensure that it will be available one day to hold perpetrators of these abuses accountable.

To date, the IAPB has collected information and evidence from over 2,300 survivor-victims and witnesses and over 750,000 open-source intelligence files. Given that there is no reasonable prospect for justice in Belarus for victims, preserving this evidence is crucial.

The IAPB also provided information and evidence to the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, which contributed to its findings, presented to the UN Human Rights Council in March 2023, that human rights violations in Belarus may constitute crimes against humanity. The documentation shared with the UN High Commissioner included 180 cases of sexual and gender-based violence, which led to the finding that sexual and gender-based violence has been committed in Belarus.



“ We are working hard to make sure that every testimony, every snapshot in the chronicle of the crimes committed by the Belarusian regime against its own people is preserved for international evaluation and future prosecution of the perpetrators.”

Pavel Sapelko, Representative and Lawyer of IAPB co-lead, Belarusian NGO Human Rights Centre “Viasna”.

REDRESS has also documented the international humanitarian law violations which have happened in Sudan since the recent armed conflict started in April 2023. These violations include the targeting of journalists, lawyers and human rights defenders by the warring parties. The analysis was conducted with the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS). Shortly after this report, an international independent Fact-Finding Mission was established to investigate the international crimes committed in Sudan.

More recently, we drew attention to the endemic use of torture by authorities in Egypt through submitting a detailed legal analysis to the UN Committee against Torture which found the Egyptian authorities’ use of torture is so widespread and systematic as to amount to a crime against humanity. The analysis was conducted in collaboration with the Egyptian Initiative for Personal Rights (EIPR), the Egyptian Commission for Rights and Freedoms (ECRF), Dignity, the Committee for Justice (CFJ) and the International Commission of Jurists (ICJ).



© Reuters/Temilae Adelaja.
A Nigerian gay couple targeted
by the anti-gay laws in Nigeria.

DISCRIMINATION

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 against minorities, including women, LGBTIQ+ individuals, refugees, migrants, and those facing multiple forms of discrimination.

- **Sexual and gender-based violence.** REDRESS, together with our national partner Advocacy Forum Nepal, obtained an important decision by the UN Human Rights Committee in favour of the family of Reena Rasaili, a 16-year-old who was killed and tortured, including by being raped, by the Nepalese army in 2004, during the internal conflict. The Committee found Nepal responsible and ordered significant reparations, including compensation to the family and legal reforms.
- **Reparations for conflict-related sexual violence.** REDRESS interviewed activists from Myanmar and others working with victims of conflict-related sexual violence on challenges and avenues for reparations, which formed the basis of our report with the Global Survivors' Fund, "Beyond Survival", the first comprehensive report to identify opportunities for reparations for survivors of conflict-related sexual violence in Myanmar. REDRESS also joined an event with the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia, where the scope for a residual mechanism to deliver reparations for survivors

of conflict-related sexual violence was discussed. REDRESS and the Global Survivors' Fund held an event in October during the ordinary session of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights, which provided a platform for survivors to advocate for their rights before the Commission, persuading Commissioners to make a public pledge on the right to reparation for survivors of conflict-related sexual violence in Africa.

- **LGBTIQ+ torture.** We launched a cutting-edge report "UNEQUAL Justice: Accountability for Torture Against LGBTIQ+ Persons in Africa", highlighting the torture of LGBTIQ+ people in Africa and the challenges victims face securing accountability. The former UN Independent Expert on sexual orientation and gender identity, Víctor Madrigal-Borloz, considered it "an extremely important contribution to the knowledge stock available to the international community" in this area. The Government of Peru finally realised one of the substantive reparations ordered by the Inter-American Court of Human Rights in the case of Azul Rojas Marín, a transgender woman who was tortured by Peruvian police. During a public ceremony in November 2022, the State of Peru formally recognised its responsibility for Azul's torture, apologised to her and committed to implementing other parts of the judgment, such as developing a protocol for effective investigations into LGBTIQ+ violence.



IN FOCUS

DISCRIMINATORY TORTURE

By Renata Politi, Legal Officer

 @PolitiRenata

In many countries, discriminatory laws and deeply rooted attitudes often expose LGBTIQ+ persons to violence, which can amount to torture and other ill-treatment.

International law is clear that when violence is used against a person for a discriminatory purpose it can amount to torture, if the violence is severe, intentional, and committed with the involvement of a State official.

Torture against LGBTIQ+ persons can take many forms, including physical and sexual abuse, forced medical examinations, conversion therapy practices, 'corrective' rapes and other forms of harassment.

Under the UN Convention against Torture, States must investigate allegations of torture and other ill-treatment. However, torture against LGBTIQ+ persons often goes unpunished. National authorities frequently fail to recognise discriminatory motives, treating such cases as ordinary cases of violence or assault.

Knowing if the torture was motivated by discrimination is crucial for LGBTIQ+ victims to access justice, obtain reparations, and address the root causes of such discriminatory violence.

REDRESS works across different regions, including in Africa, to bring attention to the torture of LGBTIQ+ people and identify policy and law changes needed

to increase access to justice, focusing on the need to investigate the discriminatory purpose behind the violence against LGBTIQ+ people.

As part of this work, in May 2022 we launched the report "Unequal Justice", which sheds light on the violence and torture suffered by LGBTIQ+ people in eleven countries in Africa and the challenges that victims face to secure accountability for these crimes. More recently we have published a briefing paper with partners and the support of Allen & Overy, that sets out the relevant international standards concerning the duty to investigate discriminatory torture against LGBTIQ+ persons.

During the year, we also worked with our partners Promsex and CNDDHH on the implementation of the landmark judgement from the Inter-American Court of Human Rights in the case of Azul Rojas Marín, a transgender woman who was raped by Peruvian police. In November 2022, the State of Peru finally realised one of the substantive reparations ordered by the Court, formally apologising to her during a public ceremony.

In addition, we have strengthened the capacity of activists, practitioners, and lawyers through facilitating workshops on holistic strategic litigation against LGBTIQ+ torture, and together with partners, we have raised awareness of LGBTIQ+ violence as torture through submissions to UN bodies, policy briefings and advocacy.



© Ivo Rodrigues/CC BY NC SA 2.0.
Pride Parade in Portugal.

SOLIDARITY

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.

- **Istanbul Protocol.** Together with partners, REDRESS participated in the launch of the updated Istanbul Protocol, the global standard for documenting and investigating torture and ill-treatment. The launch followed six years of revisions and drafting, during which REDRESS helped revise the section on legal standards. Our work was featured in [The Lancet](#).
- **Workshops on Strategic Litigation.** REDRESS held four online workshops for partner NGOs in Africa, Asia and Latin America, covering case management, digital security, and evaluation of impact. We also delivered workshops in South Africa and Malawi on strategic litigation against LGBTIQ+ torture, in collaboration with our partners Access Chapter 2 and CEDEP, to enhance the strategic litigation skills of our partners and to mentor potential individual cases and campaigns. In February 2023, we hosted a workshop in Istanbul for Sudanese lawyers, doctors, and trauma specialists covering effective investigations of torture.
- **Legal Practice.** REDRESS published two further Practice Notes to share good practice relating to legal claims against torture, one on “[Case Management and Digital Security](#)”, and one on the “[Evaluation of Strategic Litigation of Torture](#)”. We developed a new project to enhance the reparations practice of our solidarity partners around the world, to encourage better outcomes for survivors involved in strategic litigation.

IN FOCUS

STRENGTHENING THE ANTI-TORTURE MOVEMENT



By Peace Amito, Programme Manager

As part of our Solidarity programme, REDRESS has developed an initiative to enhance the reparations practice of our solidarity partners around the world and encourage better outcomes for survivors involved in strategic litigation.

This initiative builds on previous work carried out by our [Solidarity programme](#), through which REDRESS seeks to further the global movement against torture through the mutual sharing of expertise among colleagues and other NGOs.

As part of this work, REDRESS has produced nine practice notes and accompanying training materials on holistic strategic litigation. Each practice note draws on REDRESS's extensive experience working with this method, and benefits from comprehensive case studies. The [practice notes](#) are aimed at providing resources to assist lawyers, activists, and medical professionals bring legal challenges that have a broader societal impact outside of the individual case.

Our two most recent practice notes focus on evaluating the impact of strategic litigation against torture and on good practices for case management,

including key principles digital security. Previous practice notes covered 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.

As part of this initiative, REDRESS has also held several anti-torture litigation workshops for partners NGOs in Africa, Asia and Latin America. In addition, we have organised workshops on strategic litigation against LGBTIQ+ torture in South Africa and Malawi, with our partners Access Chapter 2 and CEDEP, and hosted a workshop in Istanbul for Sudanese lawyers, doctors, and trauma specialists on effective investigations of torture.


Our Solidarity programme also seeks working in collaboration with partners through networks and we are currently developing microsites that can serve as a hub for partners around the world to exchange expertise on strategic litigation against torture and to access these resources more easily.

COMMUNICATIONS

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

During the year, our media work drew attention to the plight of those taken hostage for diplomatic leverage, the use of torture to suppress dissent, and the need to bring survivors of torture into the heart of advocacy against torture, among other issues.

+70 
mentions in UK and international media

+230,000 
people reached through 21 campaigns on social media

+250,000 
users engaged through the website


UK sanctions regime for fighting corruption accused of failures

2 May 2022
An expanded UK sanctions regime that took effect last year and is intended to tackle global corruption and illicit money entering Britain



Labour vows to give UK citizens abroad legal right to Foreign Office help

26 September 2022
Pledge comes after repeated complaints by British prisoners abroad of Foreign Office indifference.

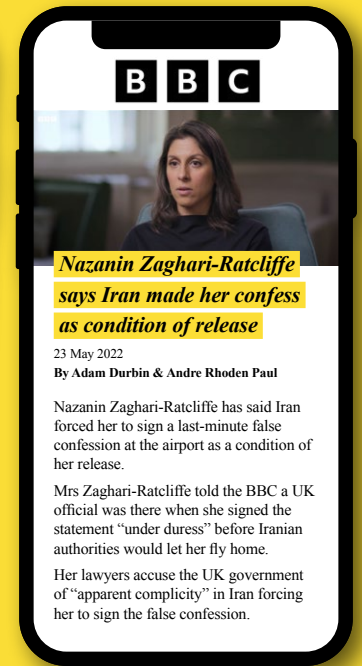
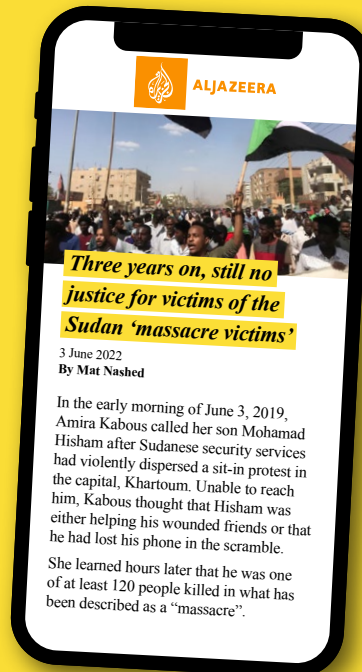


Team Biden Balks on Africa Sanctions

20 October 2022
As U.S. President Joe Biden ramps up sanctions on Russia, suspected war criminals in Africa escape unscathed.



Watch our videos



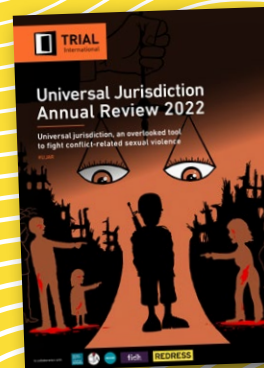
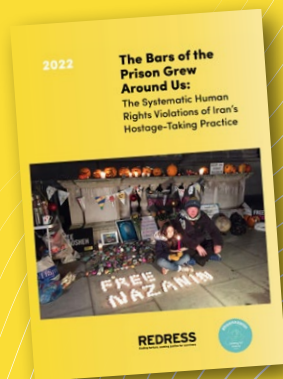
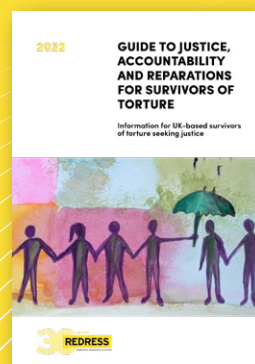
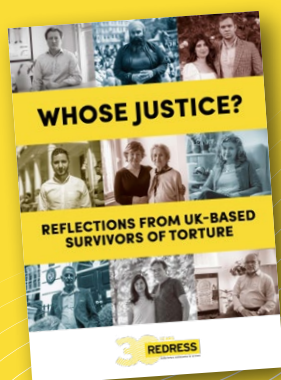
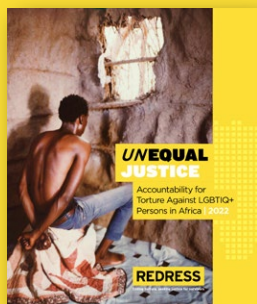
PUBLICATIONS

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 engagement with survivor communities.

During the year we published eight major reports, 14 briefings and guides, two practice notes, the 2022 Annual Review, and three REDRESS quarterly bulletins. 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/>



WHO WE ARE

Board of Trustees

Professor Helen Duffy	Rev. Nicholas Mercer (to November 2022)
Professor Sir Malcom Evans KCMG (Chair from May 2023)	Andrew Songa (from November 2022)
Yemsach Hailemariam	Ceri Thomas (from November 2022)
Sara Hossain (from November 2022)	Karen Thompson
Phillip Hodgson	Baroness Vivien Stern (to November 2022)
Kirsten McIntyre	Evan Williams
Nigel Paul Lomas (Chair) (to May 2023)	

Staff and Consultants

Samia Amao	Fundraising Assistant
Peace Amito	Programme Manager
Sheilagh Cardoso	Head of Finance
Anoushka Canagaretna	Programme Development Manager
Olivia Dehnavi	Advocacy Officer
Chris Esdaile	Legal Advisor
Joss Gillespie	Communications Assistant
Holly Huxtable	Legal Officer
Victoria Kerr	Consultant Legal Officer
Natalia Kubesch	Legal Officer
Caitlan Lloyd	Legal Officer
Natalie Lucas	Legal Officer
Dianne Magbanua	Communications and Digital Assistant
Camila Marin Restrepo	Communities Officer
Sam Murphy	Finance Assistant
Letizia Paoloni	Office Manager
Renata Politi	Legal Officer
Eva Sanchis	Head of Communications
Anna Sayko	Legal Assistant
Rupert Skilbeck	Director
Olena Tkachova	Legal Assistant
Lillie Toon	Administrative & Networks Assistant
Mark Tomlinson	Finance Officer

REDRESS Nederland Staff

Julie Bardèche	Legal Advisor
Gosia Marska	Administrative & Operations Assistant
Alejandro Rodríguez Díaz	Legal Officer
Alejandra Vicente	Head of Law

During the year REDRESS was also supported by Legal Fellows **Ikram Ais, Alida Baer, Alice Chan Blánaid Ní Chearnaigh, Ely Cossio, Amina Fahmy, Titiksha Mohanty, Mira Naseer, Jake Palmer, Kelsey Peden, Isabelle Terranova, Emilia Truluck, Alix Vadot.**

Patrons

The Honourable Louise Arbour CC, GOQ	Ms Caroline Moorehead CBE
Dato' Param Cumaraswamy	Sir Howard Morrison KCMG KC
Baroness Frances D'Souza	Professor Manfred Nowak
Dr Inge Genefke MD, D.M.Sc.h.c.	The Rt Rev Richard D Harries of Pentregarth
Dame Rosalyn Higgins GBE KC	Lilianne Ploumen
Dr Leah Levin	John Simpson CBE
Professor Juan Méndez	

Founder and Honorary President

Keith Carmichael



© REDRESS.
The REDRESS' team
at the London
Marathon 2022.

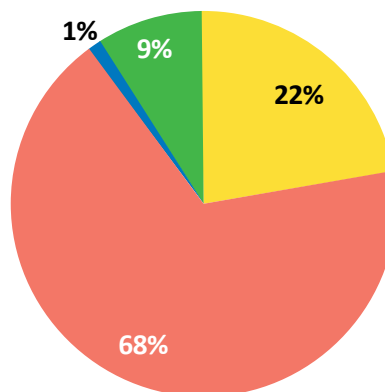
FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

INCOME 2022-23

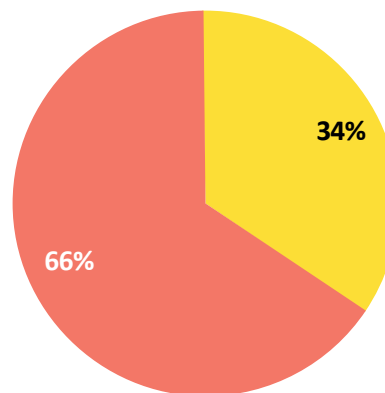
Donations and Legacies	618,330	22%
Charitable Activities	1,858,360	68%
Investment Income	3,978	1%
Gifts in Kind	248,210	9%
Total	2,728,878	100%

INCOME 2021-22

Donations and Legacies	668,574	34%
Charitable Activities	1,271,834	66%
Investment Income	190	0%
Gifts in Kind	0	0%
Total	1,940,598	100%

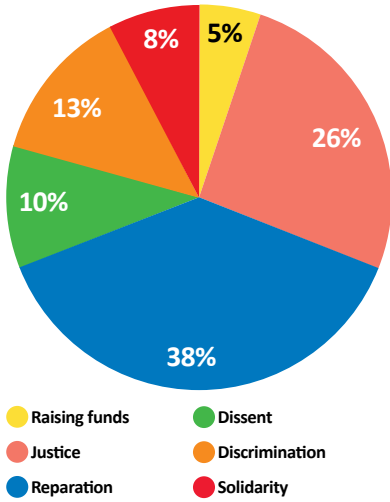


- Donations and Legacies
- Charitable activities
- Investment Income
- Gifts in Kind



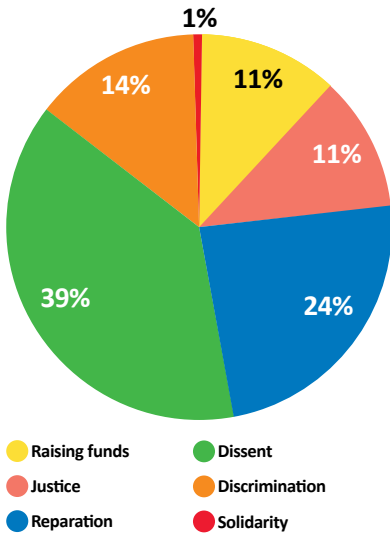
- Donations and Legacies
- Charitable activities

The financial results are for the financial year 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023. 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.



EXPENDITURE 2022-23

Raising Funds	95,179	5%
Justice	522,398	26%
Reparation	756,035	38%
Dissent	203,315	10%
Discrimination	262,852	13%
Solidarity	156,003	8%
Total	1,995,782	100%



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%
Total	1,248,180	100%

SUPPORT

REDRESS



© ESA/REDRESS. Uganda Victims and Survivors Network members.

“ I hope we can raise awareness of the injustice that survivors have experienced and shine a light on the vital need for the reparation REDRESS delivers.”

Morgan Wolfe
REDRESS team runner at the London Marathon 2022.

Support our work:
redress.org/donate



Become a supporter

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. We celebrated 30 years in 2022 and are continuing to grow our programmes.

Supporting REDRESS means helping us bring legal claims for survivors and work towards the prosecution of perpetrators. It also means standing in solidarity with marginalised individuals and movements challenging injustice by challenging torture that is used to suppress these groups. You will 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 representing clients and striving for much needed policy changes. Your donations facilitate this work to realise our vision of a world without torture.



Help share our vision for a world without torture:

-  [REDRESSTrust](#)
-  [theREDRESSTrust](#)
-  [company/REDRESS](#)
-  [REDRESSTrust](#)
-  [REDRESSTrust](#)
-  [Subscribe](#)

redress.org